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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

		Wednesday Evening.
PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	4 per cent. (Sep. 22).
	Bombay	3 per cent. (July 7).
	Madras	4 per cent. (July 4).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 5/16
	6 months	1-4 15/32

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 93¾.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 1st October was Rs. 29-4-0 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 4th October was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia Bhawnagar cotton,** October delivery, Rs. 255 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **wholesale spot prices** of the undermentioned articles in Calcutta on the 5th instant were as under:—

Jute—C. D. M. and Co. (Red) Group per 400 lbs.	Rs.	49 0 0
„ M. per 400 lbs.	„	40 0 0
Rice—Ballam No. 1 per B. md.	„	4 2 0 to 4 2 6
„ Moonghy „		*Nil.*
Linseed—Bold 4% per B. md.		*Nil.*
Rapeseed—Yellow, mixed, bold, Cawnpore, 4% per B. md.		*Nil.*

The total approximate **gross earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 17th September, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,45,43,278 and Rs. 2,48,92,895, as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-1910 and 1908-1909 respectively.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market** dated the 8th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray and Co., Ld., say :—The Tientsin and Newchwang dealers began filling their orders for **Indian yarn** in the earlier part of the week and took 1,246 bales No. 10s, chiefly James Greaves Spinnings, and in addition to these the River Ports took 245 bales No. 12s. and No. 20s., thus bringing the aggregate of the week up to 1,491 bales. More business could easily be done if the Natives could only find financial assistance. The market closes steady and it is said clearances were quite satisfactory.

The following **return** shows the **number of bales of cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 36 weeks ended 8th September, 1910 :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 8th Sept., 1910.	36 weeks ended 8th Sept., 1910.	Week ended 8th Sept., 1910.	36 weeks ended 8th Sept., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American . .	22,850	1,174,400	667	170,721
Brazilian . .	—	38,711	350	2,339
East Indian . .	27	175,970	1,163	39,741
Egyptian . .	7	165,780	2,029	47,937
Miscellaneous .	7,985*	83,420†	100	6,457
Total .	30,869	1,633,281	4,309	267,195

* Including 8 bales British West Indian, 124 bales British West African, and 436 bales British East African.

† Including 6,076 bales British West Indian, 6,174 bales British West African, 11,052 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

Note.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

It is announced that the proposal for organised short-time in the **German cotton-spinning industry** has failed to meet with the requisite support from producers, and in consequence has been abandoned. It is stated that in August a considerable volume of business was booked by German spinners for new crop yarn, that is for delivery from November onwards, though it is asserted that unprofitable prices were accepted. In consequence there are wide variations between the different undertakings in respect both to present activity and future engagements. Regrets are expressed in many quarters at the failure of the short-time scheme, and the anxiety of some spinners to secure business irrespective of margins is severely criticised.

Inquiries made at the United States Embassy in London on September 12th elicited the information that instructions have been conveyed to the American Consul-General to suspend the **new American regulations in reference to textile goods** to which such strong objections had been taken and to modify others, which it is hoped will fully meet the representations made by the British Government through Mr. Bryce, the Ambassador. It was also intimated that the Consul General has been authorised to assure all shippers that samples and information furnished by them will be regarded as strictly confidential and will in no circumstances be revealed either to their competitors abroad or those in the United States. The regulation to which the London Chamber of Commerce (acting on behalf of textile exporter) took most exception was the one providing that at the beginning of every season British exporters must lodge with the American authorities duplicate samples of all the textile goods they expected to send to the United States. Exporters declared that it would be impossible to do this, and even if they could do it would be unfair to ask them to place the information at the disposal of their American trade rivals. They would be disclosing all particulars of their season's novelties months before they were shipped and be giving away what had hitherto been regarded as valuable trade secrets. An official at the American Consulate stated that the intention attributed to the new regulations has been generally misunderstood in England. Instead of the State Department at Washington wishing to hamper trade with England they desired to encourage it. So far from making the task of shippers more difficult they wished to give them every facility possible under the tariff in operation. In future exporters would only be required to forward samples with the first shipments of their goods ; for all future shipments samples would not be wanted. This, he thought, would be a great improvement on the old regulations. It was highly probable that a new circular would be issued as soon as instructions had been received from Washington.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 15th ultimo :—*United States of America*—Government confirmed improvement spring wheat, but less than unofficial indications. Threshings in north-west, according to good authority, very irregular and indicates 90,000,000 bushels less than last year for three big States. Pacific Coast shortage confirmed, but claimed that region has nearly as much wheat for disposal as year ago ; farmers hold for higher prices. Total combined wheat crop, based on official condition and yields, shows 669,000,000 bushels, compared 737,000,000 last year. Receipts still large, but reported smaller deliveries from farms. *Canada*—Latest reports indicate improved harvest weather, no change crop estimates. Winnipeg receipts liberal, but now much smaller than year ago. *Argentina*.—Good general rains effectively relieved drought ; linseed prices dropped sharply. *Australia*—Weather and crops favourable. *India*—Seeding indications favourable ; shipments only moderate. *Russia*—No change indications yield. Supplies very large, stocks increasing. *Roumania*—Some disappointment with wheat threshings, but receipts confirm large crop. Maize good crop. *Austria-Hungary*—Continued complaints wheat threshings, also complaints fruit and potatoes. *Germany*—No change general crop conditions, but east has wet weather with floods causing some damage cereals. Complaints that potatoes diseased and outgrown. *France*—Reports wheat and potatoes continue unfavourable ; oats turning out worse than expected. Very large purchases of foreign wheat recently. *Italy*—Confirmed wheat very short in south ; maize good quality, but smallish. *United Kingdom*—Harvest well advanced, condition improved, threshings irregular.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 10th September, 1910, were as follows :—Wheat, 31*s.* 11*d.* ; barley, 23*s.* 3*d.*; and oats, 17*s.* 2*d.*

The **preliminary forecast of the bhadoi crops of Bengal, 1910,** states that on an average of the five years ending 1908-09, the area under autumn rice in the territory to which the forecast relates has represented some 6·0 per cent of the total area under this crop in British India. The most important of the *bhadoi* crops is autumn rice. It occupies about 50 per cent of the total area under *bhadoi* crops. Millets and maize are cultivated chiefly in Bihar and Chota Nagpur. The rainfall was scanty in March and April. May was showery, but the fall was defective in most districts. Sowings began in normal time, but want of moisture was felt in the sowing season. Rainfall was sufficient later on and favourable weather conditions prevailed. At the end of July and beginning of August there was excessive rain and floods in North Bihar, and later on in other districts of Bihar, and the crops were seriously damaged in Darbhanga and parts of Champaran and Muzaffarpur. A certain amount of injury was also caused by floods in other districts of Bihar and in Cuttack, Angul and Puri. The weather conditions have been favourable up to date in Chota Nagpur. The area sown this year with different *bhadoi* crops is reported to be 9,248,600 acres against 9,619,400 acres of last year. The normal area under the crops now stands at 9,564,400 acres. The decrease in the area sown is attributed to want of sufficient moisture at the sowing season. Five districts, *viz.*, Burdwan, Birbhum, Khulna, Santhal Parganas, and Ranchi report a normal crop. Saran, Sambalpur, Hazaribagh, Palamau, and Manbhum report a crop between 90 and 99 per cent. Midnapur, Gaya, Bhagalpur, Balasore, Puri and Singhbhum report a crop between 80 to 89 per cent. Nine districts show an outturn between 70 and 79 per cent, and four districts (Bankura, Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Purnea) a crop between 60 to 69 per cent. Patna expects 53 per cent, Murshidabad 46 per cent, Darbhanga 49 per cent, and Monghyr 42 per cent. According to the estimates of the District Officers the outturn of the crops for the Province as a whole comes to 78 per cent. The damage caused by floods in some districts has been exaggerated and the Director of Agriculture, Bengal, estimates that the total outturn will not be less than 90 per cent of the normal.

The **preliminary forecast** of the **indigo crop** of Bengal 1910, states that with the exception of a few acres in Nadia indigo is cultivated only in Bihar districts, chiefly in North Bihar and Purnea. Sowings began at the normal time, and in the early part of the season weather conditions were generally favourable. But the defective rainfall between March to May somewhat affected the growth of the crop. In July and August excessive rain and floods caused considerable damage to the crop in the important districts of North Bihar and in Purnea. Injury by insects was caused in Muzaffarpur. The area sown this year is reported to be 113,200 acres against 107,400 acres of last year. The increase, which is greatest in North Bihar, is apparently due to the favourable weather in the sowing season. In the important districts the percentage outturn of the crop has been reported as follows :—

Champaran and Muzaffarpur . .	68 per cent.
Darbhange and Purnea . . .	50 ,,
Saran	90 ,,
Monghyr	75 ,,

The outturn of the crop in North Bihar and Monghyr works out to 68 per cent and in other minor districts in Bihar and Bengal to 59 per cent. The aggregate for the whole province comes to 67 per cent. According to the District Officers' estimate the total yield of the crop for the province as a whole comes to 20,185 factory maunds against 17,007 factory maunds of last year.

His Majesty's Consul at **Chinkiang** (Mr. G. D. Pitzipios) reports, under date 25th August that in that consular district, which includes the whole of the province of Kiangsu with the exception of the Su-Sung-T'ai Intendency and the Kiang-Ning

Prefecture, a **rice crop** up to about eight-tenths may be expected, provided that the hot sunny weather at the time of writing continued a few days longer. This estimate covers hill fields and plain fields and makes allowance for places where excess of rain has damaged the crops. H. M. Consul-General at **Chengtu** (Mr. W. H. Wilkinson) reports, under date 10th August, that the rice crop prospects throughout the province of Szechuan, generally, are very promising. Climatic conditions in the Chengtu plain have this year been exceptionally favourable; a heavy rainfall at night, followed by hot sunshine through the day, has produced crops, that at the time of writing left nothing to be desired.

The *Manchester Guardian* writes :—Despite the uncertain outlook in the **ship-building industry** as a result of the boiler-makers' lock-out, steel-makers in the North-east of England and West of Scotland are discussing the advisability of advancing the minimum official **quotations for steel materials**, or at all events for ship and boiler plates. The demand for the two latter classes of material has been very insistent of late owing to the increased output of the shipbuilding yards, and this is not the first time that the possibility of an advance has been mooted. A conference of associated steel-makers was held last week at Carlisle, when the proposed advance was fully discussed, without, however, any definite decision being come to. Doubtless the dislocation of the shipbuilding trade had a deterring effect, and it is suggested that in the meantime the associated makers are merely endeavouring to feel their way towards a higher level. Consumers contend strenuously that the existing trade conditions do not justify an advance, and their opposition is strengthened by the fact that as a result of the recent reconstitution of the Steelmakers' Association entirely new conditions will come into force with regard to the opportunity to be afforded to buyers of covering future requirements at the lower level. The quantity of material to be sold at the current prices will now be strictly limited, and moreover, if specifications are not forwarded within a stipulated time, contracts are subject to the revision of the Association. The associated makers justify their action in this direction by pointing to the many previous occasions on which their advances were completely nullified by merchants and consumers making contracts for large quantities of material immediately before the advance came into force. Even now plates are being offered by merchants at prices below the official minimum.

In view of the attention which is being attracted by **Northern Nigeria tin mining companies**, it is of interest to review the present situation, says the *Economist*. For a considerable number of years past, writes a correspondent, the Niger Company has been working alluvial tinstone in that country, but it is only during the last 18 months that the real importance of the deposits has been realised. The Niger Company in 1899 surrendered its political rights for a payment of £300,000—and for its mining rights received £150,000—in cash, and one-half of any royalties received by the Nigerian Government for 99 years on the tin exported from a certain area. It is in the Bauchi Province that the alluvial tin deposits are found, and it is said that payable tin-bearing ground exists over an area of at least 2,500 square miles. The tin-bearing district is situated on a plateau about 3,000 feet above sea level, and the climate is, comparatively speaking, good. A white man can live in the country, there is no lack of water, and the natives if properly handled will work for the European. The one serious drawback at present is the difficulty of transport. It costs £27 10*s.* per ton to handle tinstone from Bauchi to London, and until the branch line to Bauchi off the Baro-Kano line is made this figure is not likly to be diminished. However, it will be gathered from the above that for a new and undeveloped country the general conditions are by no means unfavourable, and it is confidently expected that tin mining in Northern Nigeria has a future. At the same time it is not to be expected that the production of tin from this part of the world is going immediately to assume large proportions. A considerable amount of pioneer work has to be done, and while a large number of companies and syndicates have been formed, it must be considered that many of the properties are still undeveloped. But the development of an alluvial property can be effected with more rapidity and at less cost than is the case with the more usual reef mining property. Tinstone, or the oxide of tin, is found in the form of pellets varying in size from powder to pieces as large as a hen's egg, and the mineral is incorporated with the alluvial or gravel found in the rivers, river banks, and river flats to the extent of from 3 to 11 lbs. per cubic yard. It will be readily understood that it is possible for one property to contain many hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of alluvial wash, and as this alluvial tin-stone is worth approximately 10*d.* per lb. at the present time, there is, with working costs at 6*d.* per cubic yard, a considerable margin of profit in these undertakings. And 6*d.* per yard is a very liberal figure for probable costs.

In its issue of September 12th, the *Manchester Guardian* says :—Another exceedingly quiet week has been passed in the **standard copper market**, and it would seem that all the energy of the London metal trade is just now occupied by tin. Prices of copper warrants varied scarcely at all, the highest price being £55 15*s.* and the lowest £55 7*s.* 6*d.* It seems to be agreed that the buying movement in America is now over for the present, but the completion of these purchases has no doubt relieved the minds of the American producers to a certain extent. The *Ironmonger* suggests that the market is now waiting for better conditions on the New York Stock Exchange, and that when these come a further effort to raise the price of the metal may be made in connection with copper share operations. At any rate just now there is little for the speculator to go for, and there appears to be a prospect of steady prices for a little while. The curious thing is that British consumers, more especially in the North, will not believe that copper is yet at a safe level, and consequently buy only small quantities under pressure of immediate necessity. Possibly a rise of £2 or £3 per ton would bring a good many in, but it is not likely that a fall to the same amount would induce them to buy more freely. When standard copper fell to £52 15*s.* in the early part of July they were still more afraid of it than they are now, although really at that time it was obviously within a short distance of "rock bottom."

It is notified in the *London Gazette* of the 5th August, 1910, that the Japanese Ambassador in London has informed His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that the **Japanese Government** have **denounced** the **Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and Japan**, dated the 16th July, 1894, and the Supplementary Convention and Tariff, dated the 16th July, 1895; and that these instruments will accordingly in virtue of the provisions laid down therein terminate on the 17th July, 1911.

A **Customs circular** is issued revising the existing rules regarding the **levy of duty on articles of foreign production re-imported into British India.** The following are the main portions :—It has been represented to the Government of India that the existing rules operate as a restriction on the sending of articles of foreign merchandise "on approval" to the Straits Settlements and other countries, as such articles are liable to payment of duty on reimportation. The Government of India are of opinion that a concession in favour of such articles may be made without entailing risk of loss to the Customs Revenue and they have therefore decided that articles of merchandise of foreign production taken out of the country by *bonâ fide* commercial travellers on behalf of *bonâ fide* firms having their head-quarters in British India, or sent by post or otherwise by firms in British India "on approval," shall be exempted from the payment of Customs duty on re-importation; or in the alternative such goods may at the option of the exporter be exported subject to a drawback of seven-eighths of the duty paid on them at the time of original importation, seven-eighths only of the duty payable being charged on subsequent re-importation; provided in either case that the articles not sold are re-imported within one year from the date of their exportation and that the Collector of Customs is satisfied of the identity of the articles re-imported. Exporters desiring to avail themselves of this concession will be required to submit the articles to be exported to the Customs authorities for examination, and to deposit in the Custom House a list showing against each item the value on which duty was assessed, or the invoice price at time of first importation, and quoting the number and date of the bill of entry.

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on September 8th regarding the **Hull oil market** says :—**Rape oil :** Jamba and Brown East Indian, 26*s.* 9*d.* **Soy bean oil** continues steady at 29*s.* 6*d.* spot, 29*s.* 9*d.* September-December, and 29*s.* 6*d.* January-April. The market for **linseed oil** is steady at 39*s.* 6*d.* spot, 39*s.* October-December, 37*s.* 3*d.* January-April. The exports for the week totalled 30 tons, of which Bulgaria took 1, Egypt 1, Holland 5, India 2, Norway 4, and Turkey 17 tons each. **Cotton oil.**—Refined cotton oil 30*s.* spot, 28*s.* 6*d.* November-April. Crude cotton oil 31*s.* 9*d.* spot. The exports for the week totalled 132 tons, of which Belgium took 20, Egypt 7, Germany 10, Holland 62, Sweden 1, and Turkey 32 tons each. **Lard oil** steady at 60*s.* per cwt. for best English refined, ex-mill. **Olive oil** continues very firm, but demand is limited. Spanish, ex-store, £54, and Levant £52 per tun. **Castor oil** quiet, but steady; Calcutta, ex-store, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3\frac{5}{8}d.$ per lb. **Palm oil** continues strong and active. September-October and October-November softs at £34 to £34 5*s.* Hards at £32; Accra at £32 to £32 5*s.* Benin at £33, £33 2*s.* 6*d.*, £33 5*s.*, and £33 10*s.*; Lagos at £35 5*s.* to £35 10*s.* Refined sorts continue firm. Bleached, in casks, £37 per ton, and clarified £33 10*s.* per ton. **Petroleum** steady, quiet. American 6*d.* to 7*d.* and Russian $5\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gal. **Turpentine** weaker, spot, 51*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., September-December 52*s.*, and January-April 53*s.* 3*d.* per cwt.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows :—

For the week ending 1st October, 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 2,750; 2,750; 2,825; 3,046; 3,000; 3,000; 3,000.

Benares opium—Rs. 2,750; 2,750; 2,825; 2,970 2,960; 2,960; 2,960.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 10th and 11th sales of 1910 were Rs. 2,850; 2,825; 2,900; 3,056; 3,010; 3,010; 3,010.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange, Rs. $134\frac{3}{4}$ to 135 per $100.)

Behar opium—$2,100; 2,140; 2,160 and 2,180; 2,175; 2,175 and 2,200; 2,200; 2,200.

Benares opium—On the 27th September, $2,150.

At Shanghai—(Exchange, Rs. 182½ per 100 Taels.)

Behar opium—On the 27th September, Taels 1,680.

Benares opium—On the 27th September, Taels 1,680.

For the week ending 24th September, 1910—
In the Bombay market—

On the 18th and 19th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,395 to 1,400; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,700; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,560 to 2,965; on the 20th—25th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,365 to 1,400; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,200; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,552 to 3,300.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 2,650 and 3,122; (old) Rs. 2,777 and 3,276, respectively.

The **importations of sugar into Calcutta** during the month of **September** were on a very large scale. No fewer than eleven steamers arrived with cargoes of sugar and molasses. These vessels carried 563,604 bags, of which 5,280 came from Mauritius, the balance having been shipped from Java. In addition to this as much as 164,191 packages of molasses were received, both liquid and solid. As a result Government has benefited in Customs duty on the importation of sugar in September to the extent of Rs. 5,14,368.

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 26th September, 1910:—J. N. Wood, mechanical engineer, 1533, Bolton Street, Baltimore, United States—An improved baling press. H. N. Mukerjee, Talukdar, 25, Mirzapore Street, Calcutta—A hydraulic candle stand. W. A. Lee, superintendent, Calcutta Steam Navigation Co., Ld., 38, Strand Road, Calcutta—An improved form of explosion engine. H. G. Wieder, scientific mechanician, 17, Lanark Mansions, Shepherds Bush, London—Improvements relating to sound reproducing and recording instruments. P. Santachiara, Mechanic, Rio Saliceto, Reggio Emilia, Italy—Improvements in tractors for ploughs or other agricultural implements. J. Rostron, loom overlooker, 43, North Road, Clayton, Manchester, England—An improved automatic stop-motion and take-up control devices for use with loom reshuttling mechanism. J. R. Hardy, manufacturer, Vienna, XX-2, Hoshstadtplatz 4—Improvements in and relating to coin freed mechanism. H. L. Worthington, engineer, 6, Crown Street, Sydney, Australia—A new or improved rat trap for use on ship's hawsers.

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by increased activity of the monsoon in the north-west of the Peninsula. The depression over Gujarat extending northwards has caused moderately heavy rain in east Rajputana and heavy rain in the north-west of the United Provinces, while the depression in the Central Provinces has given extensive rain in the central parts of the country. Rainfall has been nearly general in Behar, East of United Provinces, West of Central Provinces, and fairly general in Assam and the Eastern part of Central India. There have been a few falls in Eastern Bengal, Bengal Proper and West of United Provinces, but hardly any rain has occurred in the Peninsula. During the week there has been a continuous heavy rain in Bombay causing a series of landslips on the G. I. P. Railway over the Bhore Ghauts. Heavy rain is also reported to have caused some damage to life and property in Agra.

NOTICES.

INDIAN CROP FORECASTS.

SEASON 1910-11.

Dates of Publication.

THE following are the dates on which the General Memoranda on crops of the season 1910-11 are expected to be (or were) published in the *Indian Trade Journal*:—

RICE—			
First memorandum	October	27,	1910
Second ,,	December	22	,,
Final ,,	February	23,	1911
WHEAT—			
First memorandum	December	29,	1910
Second ,,	March	16,	1911
Final ,,	June	1	,,
COTTON—			
First memorandum	August	18,	1910
Second ,,	October	20	,,
Third ,,	December	15	,,
Final ,,	February	16,	1911
LINSEED, RAPE AND MUSTARD (Spring oilseeds)—			
First memorandum	December	29,	1910
Second ,,	March	16,	1911
Final ,,	June	1	,,
SESAMUM—			
First memorandum	September	1,	1910
Second ,,	October	27	,,
Final ,,	January	19,	1911
Supplementary memorandum	April	27	,,

CALLS FOR TENDERS.

Medical Stores.

THE Medical Storekeeper to Government, Lahore Cantonment, is calling for tenders up to the 2nd proximo for the supply of medical stores, surgical instruments, appliances and sundries during the year 1911-12.

Military Rations.

The Divisional Contract Officer, Burma Division, Maymyo, is calling for tenders for the supply during 1911-12 of ghi, sugar, beef and mutton.

Sleepers.

The Manager of the Eastern Bengal State Railway is calling for tenders up to the 3rd proximo for the supply of 100,000 sleepers on terms which may be obtained from him.

ENQUIRIES.

(For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.

An asterisk (*) preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.)

Silkworm Eggs.

(767).—A Consular Officer in Bombay desires the addresses of importers of silkworm eggs (Baghdad breed).

Garnets.

(768).—A Consular Officer requires the addresses of mining companies and exporters of rough garnets.

Plantain Fibre.

(769).—A concern in the Central Provinces desires to be placed in communication with purchasers of plantain fibre.

Bicycles.

(770).—A Coventry bicycle manufacturing company desires to appoint agents in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Rangoon.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

THE following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 12th October, 1910:—

Parliamentary Publications.

International Agricultural Institute: Further Papers (1910), Colonial Reports Annual—No. 648—Sierra Leone—Report for 1909; No. 78—Report on the Cayman Islands (Jamaica). Treaty Series No. 23-1910. Return of Prices of Crops, Live Stocks, etc., 1908-09.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

Austria-Hungary—Auswartiger Handel des Vertragszollgebiets VII. Juli 1910. British South Africa—Trade of the Union of South Africa, Southern and N. W. Rhodesia, etc. Canada—Crop Reporter—August, 1910; Weekly Report, September 6th, 1910. Belgium—Bulletin Mensuel du Commerce Special de la Belgique avec les pays Entrangers, en ce qui concerne les Principales Marchandises—Aout 1910. Italy—Movimento Commerciale del Regno D'italia Nell'Anno—1909—Parte Prima—I; II; and III. Mexico—Resumen de la Importacion y de la Exportacion Junio de 1910 y Ano fiscal de 1909-10; Boletin de Estadistica Fiscal Marzo de 1910. Netherlands—Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland—CXXXVI. Sweden—Sveriges Utforsel Och Inforsel ar 1909, etc. Straits Settlements—Return of Imports and Exports during the year 1909. Switzerland—Statistique du commerce de la Suisse—11 Trimestre 1910. United States of Agriculture—Agricultural Statistics, 1909; Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance of the United States—June 1910; Commerce and Navigation of the United States, 1909. Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station—Bulletin No. 21—A Study of the Composition of the Rice Plant. Press Bulletin No. 26—The Algaroba in Hawaii. Alaska Agricultural Experiment Stations—Annual Report of Alaska Agricultural Experiment Stations for 1909. Farmer's Bulletin No. 398—Farm Practice in the Use of Commercial Fertilizers in the South Atlantic States; No. 401—The Protection of Orchards in the Pacific Northwest from Spring Frosts by Means of Fires and Smudges; No. 402—Canada Bluegrass: Its culture and Uses No. 404—Irrigation of Orchards. Bureau of Chemistry—Circular No. 58—The Effect of Alcohol on Invertase; Circular No. 60—A Theory of the Influence of Acids and Alkalis on the Activity of Invertase; Bulletin No. 113—(Revised)—Injury to Vegetation and Animal Life by Smelter Wastes. Bureau of Entomology—Bulletin No. 85, Part VI—Papers on Cereal and Foreage Insects Office of Public Roads—Circular No. 92—Progress Report of Experiments in Dust Prevention and Road Preservation. Bureau of Plant Industry—Circular No. 60—Suggestions to Settlers on the Sandy Soils of the Columbia River Valley; Circular No. 61—Dry-land Grains in the Great Basin; Bulletin No. 171—Some Fungous Diseases of Economic Importance. Bulletin No. 179—The Florida Velvet Bean and Related Plants; Bulletin No. 180—Agricultural and Botanical Explorations in Palestine; Bulletin No. 181—The Curly-Top of Beets; Bulletin No. 184—The production of Vegetable Seeds. Forest Service Cir. 61 (Revised Edition)—Forest Planting Leaflet; Bulletin No. 81—The Forests of Alaska; Circular 178—The Pasturage System for Handling Range Sheep; Circular No. 180—Lumber Saved by Using Odd Lengths; Office of Experiment Stations—Circular No. 98—Progress in Agricultural Education Extension; Bulletin No. 218—Irrigation in Colorado; Experiment Station Work—Vol. III, No. 17; Experiment Station Record—July and August, No. 8—Abstract Number. Biological Survey—Bulletin No. 34—Birds of California in Relation to the Fruit Industry—Part II. Bureau of Animal Industry—Bulletin No. 39—Index—Catalogue of Medical and Veterinary Zoology—Parts 27, 28, and 29.

Indian Publications.

Bengal Chamber of Commerce—Report of the Committee of the—for the year 1909—Vol. II.—Documents and Correspondence.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

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Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1910.

TRADE OF BASRA.

IT appears from the Report on the Trade of Basra for the past year that the inadequate rainfall during the winter of 1908-09, combined with tribal disturbances which occurred on the Tigris and Euphrates at frequent intervals during the year, materially affected the harvest. The military activity of the riverain Arabs greatly interfered with the sowing of the dari and millet crops, which usually takes place when the water recedes from the flooded lands. Labour was scarce for harvesting, and, up to the beginning of 1910, scarcely any of the crop of 1909 had reached the port of Basra from up-river. Prices of all grain remained very high throughout the year in consequence of the scarcity, and the small quantity obtainable being required for local consumption there was little surplus for export.

The general prohibition of the export of grain, which had been in force since the previous autumn, was extended to March 14th and again to June 13th, when it was removed except as regards wheat and rice. Towards the end of the year the prohibition was limited to wheat only. The wilful mixture of dirt and rubbish with grain in the Amara and Montific districts is a very serious question for merchants interested in the grain trade. It is a well-established fact that lumps of mud, dirt and rubbish of every description are purposely put into the grain by the producers before it is despatched from the "Garraf" and other grain districts, in order to increase the weight of the consignment. Grain being sold in the heap it is quite impossible for the buyer to ascertain the proportion of dirt it contains before purchase. Grain heaps from Montific have in some cases been found to contain as much as 37 per cent of dirt and mud. The attention of the local authorities has been repeatedly drawn to the matter, but the unsettled state of the country has so far prevented them from taking adequate steps to remedy the abuse. The present condition of things makes it exceedingly difficult for grain merchants at Basra to arrange prices until they have thoroughly examined the shipments from up-country and a speculative element is thus introduced which hampers the market to an unwarrantable extent and necessarily prejudices the interests of all concerned.

The hopeful prospects which attended the opening of the date season were not entirely realised. The crop, though abundant and larger than that of the previous year, was smaller than was anticipated, especially as regards Hallawis. Early shipments to the United States kept up the market and prices were the same as in the preceding year. The results were unfavourable for London shippers who made sales in advance.

The outlook for 1910 is more promising as regards the harvest. The rainfall during the six months ended March 31st, 1910, has been abundant and timely and there is every likelihood that the crops will be good. It is anticipated that business may revive in consequence. An alarming feature, however, is the recurrence of tribal disturbances in the Jezireh and on the Euphrates. The Government are dealing with the question, but, so far, their efforts have not been very successful. The rainfall in Basra during the year ended December 31st, 1909, was only 3·46 inches compared with 5·88 inches in 1908, but that for the six months ended March 31st, 1910, was 6·17 inches, compared with 3·42 inches between November and April, 1908-09, an increase which encourages the most favourable anticipations for the harvest of 1910.

The total value of exports decreased by £279,968 compared with 1908. This decline is chiefly due to the bad harvest and consequent diminution in the quantity of grain exported. The exports of dates, opium, liquorice root and wool, on the other hand, show an appreciable increase. The stagnation which prevailed in the export market towards the end of 1908 continued, owing to the lack of grain, throughout the year, in spite of the fact that the Ottoman Government partially removed the embargo on agricultural produce in the month of June. Permission having been granted to export cereals to other parts of the Empire only, trade with the Red Sea ports, principally with Jeddah, revived somewhat in the latter half of the year. This decline in the export trade for so long a period is without precedent in the commercial annals of Basra. Shipments of grain abroad were practically suspended for more than eight months, and the total quantity exported shows a decrease of 89,826 tons compared with the previous year and a decrease in value of £637,125, the export in 1909 being only 36,597 tons, valued at £259,898, compared with 126,423 tons, valued at £897,023, in 1908.

The export of dates was 63,469 tons, valued at £414,700, compared with 53,470 tons, valued at £385,617, in 1908, showing an increase in quantity of 9,999 tons and of £29,083 in value. Prices were almost the same as in the previous year, namely, 360,260 and 230 shamis for Hallawees, Khadrawees and Sayers, respectively, for a kara of dates of 40 maunds. (The shami is equivalent to 1*s.* 2*d.* and the kara of dates to 54½ cwts.) The purchase-price of Hallawees, Khadrawees and Sayers was therefore 7*s.* 8*d.*, 5*s.* 7*d.* and 4*s.* 11*d.*, respectively, per cwt. These prices did not decline to any appreciable extent, although the harvest was abundant. Some uncertainty as to the date of the first sale and the anxiety shown by American shippers to fix the price, so as to pack early and despatch the fruit by the first steamer, encouraged the growers to maintain their demand for high prices. Large forward sales were made in London at a price much below those at which the market opened and heavy losses resulted on these sales. The London market subsequently improved, but this merely tended to harden prices at Basra, the first London sale having been fixed as early as September 30th. On the whole the season was disappointing so far as exporters were concerned. The quality of the fruit was excellent. After shippers' requirements had been satisfied large stocks still remained on hand, especially in Sayers, which growers were unable to dispose of even at reduced prices, the London market being glutted and those of Bombay and Suez dull. At the end of the season many growers made shipments on their own account to India, being unable to find buyers at Basra. Large stocks are still undisposed of, the quantity remaining being in excess of local requirements.

The prohibition in Persia of the use of aniline dyes has increased the demand for fast coloured carpets, and the number of bales exported was 2,884 compared with 1,141 in the previous year, showing an increase in value of £52,290.

The approximate value of imports to Basra in 1909, including goods forwarded to Baghdad, was £2,360,102 compared with £2,411,568 in 1908, showing a decrease of £51,466. Charcoal, which is imported from India, shows a decrease in quantity of 8,272 bundles and of £4,314 in value. This is due to the surplus stock in hand from the previous year. The price fell 1*s.* per bundle. The number of bales of gunnies imported from India was 10,477 as against 13,898, showing a decrease in value of £21,046. The decline was due to the embargo on the export of cereals. Gunnies are also largely used in the date trade.

It was hoped, says Mr. Consul Crow, that with the change of Government at Constantinople the new Customs buildings would be promptly completed. Instead of this the accommodation in the Custom-house is in exactly the same condition as it was 25 years ago, and the new building, begun three and a-half years ago, is still unroofed and incomplete and has not been touched since the outside walls were built. Things are even worse than before during the rainy season, as the mud roof of the old building has not been repaired for several years in anticipation of the completion of the new building. Little has been done towards dredging the creek and river around the Custom-house, which is essential to render the building a suitable place for landing and stowing cargo. For four or five months every year boats laden with cargo are unable, except at high water, to approach the Custom-house wharf owing to the accumulated deposit of silt which has not been removed for many years. This necessitates laden boats lying outside in the river exposed to the full force of the weather, waiting sometimes for several days for a tide high enough to permit them to approach. The result is that both boats and cargo are frequently damaged. It was understood that when the extra 3 per cent Customs duty was imposed this state of affairs would be promptly remedied, but the same primitive conditions continue to exist as they did a quarter of a century ago.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

The *Board of Trade Journal*, published on the 15th ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about:—

Russia.—Bill to Abolish Batoum Customs District—Proposed.

Dominion of Canada.—Customs Memo. as to Way Bills and Invoices.

Commonwealth of Australia.—Commerce Orders.

British South Africa.—Customs Decisions.

St. Vincent.—"Explosives and Petroleum Ordinance."

Netherlands.—Duty Free Admission of Alcoholic Substances for Leather and Shoe Factories.

France.—Dutiable value of Certain Tools. Prohibition of Importation of Separate Parts of Tube Feeding Bottles. Measures against the Introduction of Cholera.

Spain.—Consular Certificates of Origin required for all Imports.

Portugal-United States of America.—Most-favoured-Nation Arrangement between the above Countries.

United States of America.—Labelling of "Cordials" under the Food and Drugs Act.

Argentine Republic.—Prohibition of Importation of Adulterated Wines.

Venezuela.—Tariff Classification of Earthenware Water-closets. Tariff Modification.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, October 4th

The following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 3rd instant:—

There has been less rain during the week. No rain has fallen in Darrang and Nowgong, but falls have been fairly heavy in parts of the Chittagong division, Bakarganj and Mymensingh, and light to moderate elsewhere.

The steeping and washing of jute continue.

The transplantation of winter rice and the harvesting of *aus* rice are nearly completed.

The ploughing of fields for *rabi* crops, the plucking of tea and the sowing of pulses are in progress.

The prospects of cotton, sugarcane, tea and winter rice are good.

The average price of common rice has fallen about one per cent.

Cattle disease prevails in Goalpara, Kamrup, Darrang and the Garo Hills.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

BOMBAY.

The following excerpts are taken from the proceedings of the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the month of August, 1910:—

Risk Notes.

Read letter, dated 6th August, 1910, from the Bombay Grain Merchants' Association, regarding the procedure followed by the G. I. P. Railway in the matter of Risk Note Form A. It would appear that these forms are demanded by some up-country Station Masters without discrimination as to the condition of the goods tendered, and the Grain Merchants' Association contended that they were never intended to be used for dry goods in sound bagging. The Railway, on the other hand, maintain that Risk Note Form A was authorised for use when goods tendered for carriage were so defectively packed as to be liable to damage, and in the case of grain and seeds a single cover was, in their opinion, not sufficient to protect contents against the effects of rain and damp in the monsoon season, and it was under these circumstances that instructions had been issued to Station Masters to decline to book consignments of grain unless Risk Notes on Form A were executed.

Resolution.—The G. I. P. Railway to be addressed in the matter and informed that in the opinion of the Committee their contention that in the case of grain and seed a single cover was not sufficient to protect contents against the effects of rain and damp during the monsoon, was one that could not be accepted by the trade, as grain and seed were universally packed in single bags, and provided these were in good condition, no more could reasonably be expected.

While the Committee quite recognise the necessity of the Railway protecting itself against possible fraud they consider the Railway cannot take protection for this under Risk Note Form A which was authorised for use "when articles are tendered for carriage which are either already in bad condition or are so defectively packed as to be liable to damage, leakage or wastage in transit."

New Wharfage Rules.

Read letter, dated 27th July, 1910, from the Bombay Grain Merchants' Association complaining about the new wharfage rules of the G. I. P. Railway and asking for the co-operation of the Chamber in having the Rules either rescinded or modified.

The new Rules were in effect that goods had to be taken delivery of before closing time on the day following that on which they were available for delivery, otherwise a wharfage charge at the rate of one anna per maund or part of a maund per day or part of a day would be levied.

Resolution.—The Grain Merchants' Association to be informed that the Committee while realising the difficulties of the work at Wari Bunder, feel

that the Railway Company is now making a real effort to remedy the congestion complained of, and that it is to the interest of the trade to co-operate with them in this direction; and that the trade would undoubtedly benefit from the new Rules as the quicker deliveries that will now have to be taken will largely do away with the confusion and overcrowding which at present take place at Wari Bunder.

The G. I. P. Railway to be also addressed in the matter and informed that the Committee feel that much might be done to improve the handling and quick despatch of the traffic by greater care in the marking of goods at up-country stations, and more systematic stacking of the same prior to delivery, as the defective marking, and often non-marking, is believed to be the cause of most of the confusion and delay that ensue in Bombay.

Light Coins.

Read letter, dated 31st July, 1910, from the Government of India, in reply to the Chamber's representation regarding the working of the Bombay Currency office and the circulation of old and light coin.

The Government of India stated, that they recognise that the present office is inadequate for the work to be done in times of pressure, and that they had already taken steps with the object of securing its extension.

Regarding the Chamber's suggestion for the withdrawal at Government expense of all worn, sweated, and light coins after 30 years from the date of minting, Government stated that if such a measure were taken, rupees which bear an earlier date than 1880 would be secured by professional sweaters and the possibilities of unchecked fraud would clearly be enormous. Under the circumstances Government considered that they could not reasonably be expected to make greater concession in this direction.

Resolution.—Government to be thanked for the information supplied.

Small-pox.

Read letter, dated 8th August, 1910 from the Bombay Government, in reply to the Chamber's representation regarding the importation of small-pox into Bombay by Mussalman pilgrims returning from the Hedjaz. Government regretted that they were unable to adopt the Chamber's suggestion for the compulsory vaccination of all outgoing pilgrims as it would probably arouse resentment among the Mahomedan Community. Government also did not think it necessary to establish an Observation Camp in Bombay for the returning pilgrims.

The Haj Committee had, however, been asked to use their influence in inducing the pilgrims to have themselves vaccinated.

Resolution.—To be acknowledged and recorded.

Transmission of Gold Bullion by Post.

The Committee on 26th July, 1910, addressed the Government of India with reference to the orders that had been issued that no postal article containing gold bullion of a value exceeding rupees three hundred in all, would be permitted to be sent by means of the inland post, and requested to be informed as to the necessity for so curtailing the long-standing facilities for utilising the Post Office.

In a reply, dated 15th August, 1910, the Government of India stated that the facilities offered by the Post Office for the transmission of gold bullion through the post had been systematically abused, and numerous instances had occurred in which parcels containing gold valued at many thousands of rupees had been insured for a nominal value. The Government of India also considered that it was outside the legitimate scope of the Post Office to undertake the conveyance of large quantities of goods by parcel post. They had, accordingly, decided after a careful consideration of the question, to restrict the value of gold bullion that may be sent in one parcel to Rs. 300. This limit they considered sufficient to meet the case of the ordinary private individual who wished to despatch or receive gold through the medium of the post.

—The agricultural sub-section of the British Association devoted one of its recent meetings to the consideration of the possibilities of a **beet sugar industry in England**, and the general conclusion reached was one of guarded approval of active steps towards the foundation of such an industry. For the last 75 years experiments have been made continually in all parts of Great Britain and Ireland, and, according to the testimony of those concerned, they have proved conclusively that sugar beets may be grown as successfully as in any part of the Continent, although the attempts made up to the present have not been of sufficient size to secure results of any commercial importance. In the meantime, during the last 35 years the consumption of beet sugar in England, practically negligible before, has increased enormously. It has now reached the amount of 30,000,000 cwt. annually. It is stated, as the result of repeated experiment, that the profit to the farmer would be between £6 and £6 10*s.* per acre per annum, with the additional advantages of a local supply of cheap cattle food, the saturation lime, a sure market, and prompt payment, and, a matter of great importance, a new alternative crop. With regard to the manufacturer, it was suggested that a factory dealing the produce of about 2,500 acres would be most profitable. For the building and plant of such a factory £70,000 to £90,000 would be needed, while other expenses, including working capital, would bring the total up to £120,000. Taking the most generous estimate of the cost of roots and of conversion into sugar, it is calculated that a profit of 25 per cent might be expected with the price of sugar at 14*s.* considerably lower than it is at present.

MINING IN INDIA, PAST AND FUTURE.

Below we give some extracts from a Paper by Mr. T. H. D. LaTouche, Geological Survey of India, prepared for the Industrial Conference, Lahore :—

Mining in India is no new thing. In all parts of the country, wherever useful and valuable ores occur, traces of former activity, both in extracting the ores from the rocks and in smelting and fashioning the metals derived from them, are to be met with. A few instances will suffice to show how widespread was this activity in ancient times. The existence of old workings in the auriferous tracts of the Indian peninsula is a matter of common knowledge, and numerous references to them are to be found in the publications of the Geological Survey. Dr. Malcolm Maclaren describes the gold bearing reefs of the Dharwar series as honey-combed in places by old workings (Records, Geol. Surv., Ind., Vol. XXXIV, page 120), dating back at least as far as the thirteenth century A. D., the shafts reaching a depth of 300 feet from the surface and in one instance at least, at the Hatti mine in the Nizam's dominions, as much as 620 feet. Relics of the mills used for the crushing of the ores extracted from the shafts are still in existence, consisting of large stone crushers rocked to and fro in depressions worn in the hard surface of the bed rock adjacent to the reefs, motars and pestles grouped together in hundreds where water was available for washing out the gold, and so on. Even the vaguest tradition of these workings had died out when the mines were re-opened under modern conditions. In Chota Nagpur, similar traces of ancient gold mines have been found (Records, G. S. I., Vol. XXXI, p. 67), though not on so large a scale, and in addition old copper excavations have been traced along what is known as the Copper Belt of Singhbhum for a distance of at least 80 miles from Duarparam on the Bamini River on the west to Bhairagora on the borders of Mourbhanj (Records, G. S. I., Vol. XXXVIII, p. 35). The iron smelting industry of the Central Provinces and of Birbhum in Bengal has been carried on for ages, and still survives in the face of imported iron, mainly because the soft native charcoal-made iron is of a purer quality than that imported, and is therefore more malliable and more easily managed, by the native blacksmiths though the methods employed in its productions are of the rudest description. I need only mention the old copper mines of Sikkim, the copper and silver-lead mines of Kumaon and Kulu, and the numerous traces of old workings that are to be found in Kashmir, in Rajputana, etc., to show how widely the industry was practised in former times. It is hardly possible in fact to travel through any of the hilly tracts of the country without coming across traces of this former activity, but with hardly an exception, and those such as involve metallurgical operations of the most simple character, as for instance, iron smelting in the Central Provinces and the washing of gold dust from the river alluvium, all these enterprises have been abandoned and in many cases hardly survive in tradition.

Of metallurgical processes also, although of as rude a type as their methods of extracting and treating the ores, the ancients were by no means without knowledge. The most conspicuous instance of such knowledge is perhaps the manufacture of the famous *wootz* or steel of Southern India. For centuries this material was in demand over the whole of the civilised world, and as Mr. Ball remarks in his Manual of the Economic Geology of India (p. 340): "The famous Damascus blades had long attained a reputation for flexibility, strength and beauty before it was known that the material from which they were made was produced in an obscure Indian village, and that traders from Persia found that it paid them to travel to this place, which was difficult of access, in order to obtain the raw material." .... "There are reasons for believing that *wootz* was exported to the West in very early times—possibly 2,000 years ago." Not only was steel thus produced in Southern India for many ages, but Sir Thomas Holland has shown (Records, G. S. I., Vol. XXV, p. 147) that two distinct processes of manufacture had been devised by the natives, both of them afterwards imitated and improved upon by steel markers in Europe. One of these was the carburisation of wrought iron in crucibles, a principle not applied in England till the year 1800, when it led to the great development of steel-making for the manufacture of the celebrated Sheffield cutlery ; but the other is almost more interesting, for in the Salem District, Sir Thomas Holland found steel being made by the *decarburisation* of cast iron, thus anticipating by ages the latest developments of steel-making processes, the Bessemer and open-hearth methods.

As another instance of the anticipation of modern methods by natives of this country may be cited the manufacture of iron in the Khasi Hills of Assam, which I have myself seen in operation. The ore found there does not occur in the form of conspicuous beds or lodes, the detection of which by an uncivilised people would arouse no astonishment, but as almost miscroscopic particles disseminated through a granite, from which the Khasis obtain the ore by a rude process of hydraulic mining. In the West, it is only within recent years, that means have been devised for obtaining such fine particles of ore, which is of great purity and therefore of high value, from this class of rocks. Yet here we have the Khasis, and aboriginal tribe, using a practical method of extracting such ore for ages, and turning out a product of such excellent quality that at one time it was proposed to start smelting works on a large scale in that country.

More instances might no doubt be cited in order to strengthen the case for the ancient miners and metallurgists of this country, the smelting of copper and lead ores, the extraction of silver from the latter, the preparation of alum from pyritous shales, even now a more or less flourishing industry in the Punjab Salt Range, and so on, but it is time that I proceeded to explain what are the conclusions I propose to drawn from these well-known facts. How can we account for the arrested development of the industry, not only in modern but also in ancient times ; and is there any hope for its resuscitation on Swadeshi lines in the future ?

The usual explanation of the decline of the native mining and metallurgical industry is that it has been overwhelmed by the competition of imported metals from Europe and America, where a single blast furnace will turn out hundreds of tons of iron while the native furnace is only producing a few seers ; and there is no doubt but that this is the main cause. Mr. Ball adds the increasing difficulty of procuring the charcoal necessary for the operation of smelting by native methods, as the forests in the neighbourhood of the furnaces were used up. But this latter difficulty has also led to the extinction of the old 'bloomery' furnaces in Europe ; and with a start of several centuries in the elementary knowledge of the art, with abundance of the raw material at hand, and an overwhelming superiority in population, it cannot be said that India was ill-equipped by Nature for the struggle, when it came. It is not to some mysterious defect in the physical conditions of the country that we must look for the causes of her defeat, but to the apathy of her people. Not, however, I would ask you to observe, of those who were actually engaged in these industries, for the accounts we have of eye-witnesses of their labours show that they worked hard enough, and for a miserable pittance too, poor wretches ; but the apathy of their masters, whose only dealings with them were devoted to the squeezing out of the last pice that could be paid in royalties, while leaving them barely enough to keep body and soul together. What progress might not have been made if the discoverer of the process of making *wootz* from iron, or his descendants after him, had been encouraged to pursue his researches, for the man must have been a genius in his way. There is not an old mining field in the country where it is not absolutely clear that the miners were stopped, not by failure of the ore, but by inability to deal with the influx of water for want of such a simple piece of apparatus as the common pump. The iron furnaces of Birbhum and the Central Provinces were for years in a moribund condition for want of cheap fuel, though the vast coal-fields of Bengal were lying close by, waiting to be used. Yet it is almost inconceivable that, among so many generations of workers, one man here and there did not arise with glimmering ideas of improvement, which, if fostered, might have led to great results. The miners usually belonged to the aboriginal tribes or the very lowest castes, despised by all, and, it is not at all unlikely that, even if one of a superior class had turned his attention to the invention of improved methods and processes, he would have shared in the reproach which those whom he was trying to serve laboured under.

The question arises whether it is too late for the people of this country to take their fair share in the development of its mineral resource, a share to which they are indubitably entitled, since the minerals are one of the assets that have been conferred on them by Nature. A rough estimate shows that, even if all the dividends earned by mining companies remained in the country, which is by no means the case and even if the paid-up capital invested in such enterprises produced 20 per cent., a very liberal estimate, you would receive less than one and a half millions sterling in dividends, while about twenty-three millions have to be paid for imported metals and machinery I am convinced that at least a portion of this drain on the finances of India might have been saved, if more attention had been given in the past to the encouragement and development of the indigenous arts of mining and metallurgy ; for, it is quite possible that with less wasteful methods of smelting and the use of simple machinery and, above all, with the assistance of intellects of a higher order than the uneducated classes to whom the industry was left, could be expected to possess, many of the low grade ores of copper and other minerals, which are now found to be worth less for exploitation on Western lines, might have continued to be productive if worked by improved native methods.

It is now too late for a revival of the native industry to be effected ? Such a revival would entail an entire reversal of the aspect with which manual labour, except to a small extent agricultural labour, is regarded by the educated classes, the aristocracy of this country. And yet it is not impossible that such a revolution in ideas, a much more worthy object, though even more difficult of attainment, than a political revolution, might be brought about. Perhaps, in no period of English history was the division between the aristocracy and the workers so clearly drawn as it was in the eighteenth century, not much more than a hundred years ago. With very few exceptions, no 'gentleman' would demean himself by soiling his hands with manual labour ; but although it took many years to break down the prejudice, and even now it is not entirely extinct, there is no doubt but that, for all practical purposes, it has disappeared. Many persons in the most elevated ranks of society are the descendants of men who, in their youth, worked in mines or factories with their own hands and now no scion of even the proudest family deems it a dishonour, if his inclinations lead him in that direction, to learn mining or metallurgy, not from books alone, but by actual manual labour side by side with men of lower culture and station in life. I recall a visit I paid some years ago to one of our shipbuilding magnates in the north of Ireland, and how, soon after my arrival at his house, as I was admiring the evidences of great wealth and culture that surrounded me, the door ofmy room opened and what I can only describe as a 'grimy apparition' appeared, a figure blackened with oil and coal dust, bearing every mark of strenuous labour. This, if you please, was the son of the house, employed, not in spending his father's wealth, or even in superintending his workmen, but as one of the meanest of them

at the most insignificant tasks, learning by the sweat of his brow to file a piece of brass to a true surface. You will hardly find a house in England in which there is not a workshop of some kind, often including a turning lathe, and none where there are not at least a few carpenter's tools, with which the boys of the family may learn to use their hands, if their inclinations lead them that way. In how many households in India, of the better class, will you find a lad able even to drive a nail efficiently?

The first advance that must be made is to encourage a belief in the dignity of manual labour; to realise that it is not the dust and sweat of industrial pursuits that defile a man; but that not all the holy water of Ganges can eradicate the stains too often produced on the mind by the influences to which youths with busy brains but idle hands are subjected. Moreover, the change, if it is to be made, must come from within; not by book learning only, though I would be the last to depreciate the value of such learning, but by actual practice; for Nature will never yield her secrets to those who merely study that which has been done or thought by others; and for this reason the foundation and fostering by Government of universities and schools, however indispensable they may be, can never by themselves supply the whole of your needs. But by encouraging the smallest spark of inventive and constructive genius that may from time to time discover itself in the younger men of the coming generation, especially in those of the better and well-educated classes; and, above all, by using all your influence to discourage the idea that there is anything derogatory to personal dignity in engaging in manual labour. There are many mines and mills in India worked and managed entirely by natives, and there is nothing but the ingrained prejudice of years to prevent the owners and managers of these concerns to encourage their sons to learn by actual experience the rudiments of the work, and to fit themselves by that experience to improve upon the crude methods of the older men. It is only in some such way as this, I am convinced, that it will be possible to resuscitate the ancient native industry; and I have a strong suspicion that if the old methods could be slightly improved, so as to render them more economical in the working, the simplicity of the apparatus required, and the abundance of labour available would make it possible to set up such a number of separate works, though no doubt the outturn of each would be small, that in the aggregate the produce would have an appreciable effect upon the supply of metals, now almost entirely derived, at great cost, from outside the country. I do not think that it is as yet too late; even where the indigenous industry has completely died out, we have accounts by scientific eye-witnesses of the processes employed. It is on record that in some cases improvements tending towards economy were suggested to the workers by these eye-witnesses, but were not accepted, either because of the ingrained prejudice against innovation of any kind so characteristic of such people, or because they knew, from bitter experience, that any increase in outturn would only lead to more extortionate demands on the part of their superiors. Now, times have changed; the old workers, with their prejudices, have to a great extent disappeared; and in these days it is a recognised principle that every man is at least entitled to a fair share of the proceeds of his industry. To effect such a revolution will no doubt entail much strenuous effort and some reversal of cherished ideals, but I cannot believe that it is beyond the wit and energy of the India of the present duty to make the attempt to carry out such a revolution.

SUPPLIES AND PRICES OF WHEAT.

The following article appears in the *Times* Financial and Commercial Supplement of September 16th:—

When discussing the position of wheat in these columns on September 3rd, 1909, it was suggested that supplies for the next twelve months should be sufficient to ensure a lower rather than a higher level of values. That indication has been fully justified by events. The world's crops, as a whole, have considerably exceeded the yields then regarded as probable during the harvest year; for instead of an anticipated crop amounting to 423 million quarters, the total yield has reached 452 million quarters. In one or two cases the increase has been quite remarkable. Russia, for instance, has produced 20 millions more than was estimated, Italy and the United States four millions more each, while the yield both in France and Canada has increased by nearly three millions. India harvested two million tons in excess of the quantity realized in the previous season. There have been exceptions, as, for instance, in Hungary and Austria, which, instead of exporting wheat, had to import considerable quantities, especially from Roumania and Southern Russia.

Imports into Great Britain.

Great Britain received in all during the season 24,863,000 qrs. as against 21,516,000 qrs. in 1908-09; indeed, the past season's imports were unprecedentedly large, supplies in 1904-05 being about 500,000 qrs. smaller than during the past year. Moreover, as imports of flour, which reached 4,321,000 sacks, were much smaller than those of an average year, it follows that the English miller must have been doing better. The increase in the receipts of foreign wheat at our ports, as compared with the previous season, was 3,300,000 qrs.; but, stocks at the end of the season being only about 1½ million qrs. larger, it appears that the consumption of wheat must have expanded at much more than an average rate. It is suggested that much of this difference represents feeding, and especially the feeding of fowls. These increased supplies have made the average price of the year some 4*s.* per qr. lower. There have been few periods of real excitement; a mild one occurred when it was found

last December or January that the Argentine crop was a thorough disappointment, and again in the late spring, when the drought in North-Western America and Canada inaugurated a somewhat wild speculative movement. But speculative fervour received a check before reaching dangerous dimensions by the unexpected enormous shipments from Russia. Imports into England from this quarter represented 26 per cent of the total for the cereal year, against only 10 per cent and 8 per cent respectively in the two previous years, Canada coming next with 18 per cent. Imports from the Dominion e ceeded for the first time those from the United States, which only sent us 15 per cent.; India supplied 13 per cent., Australia 12 per cent and Argentina 11 per cent, the remaining 5 per cent being made up from various minor sources.

The cereal year was begun with the following approximate supplies (in thousands of qrs.), as compared with those for the two previous years:—

	September 1st		
	1910.	1909.	1908.
Stocks at United Kingdom ports	2,310	1,450	1,890
Stocks on the Continent	1,475	765	655
Afloat for the United Kingdom and for orders	2,350	2,065	1,925
Afloat for the Continent	2,460	1,265	1,550
Visible supply in the United States	5,050	2,095	3,210
Visible supply in Argentina	115	120	230
Total	13,760	7,760	9,460

The supplies marketed are practically double those of a year ago. The wheat in the hands of British farmers, and still to be marketed, is estimated at about six million quarters as against seven millions last year and 5,400,000 qrs., in 1908.

Crop Prospects.

Harvesting is still proceeding in various countries, but the crops are everywhere sufficiently advanced to encourage statisticians to formulate their estimates of supplies and requirements during the year 1910-11. The first in the field with a comprehensive estimate was the Statistician of the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture, and although differing materially in detail, he estimates a total supply for the current year which approaches nearly to the forecasts of some of the English experts. The Hungarian Minister of Agriculture, who issued his statement on August 31st, estimates the world's total crop at 456 million quarters. Last year on the same day he estimated for the season 1909-10 a total supply of 432 million quarters, but has now increased that total to 446 million quarters. This kind of modification has had to be effected for several years past, so that it may be assumed that this year again the estimate errs on the side of caution. London statisticians, however, have adopted still lower totals. One of the most careful of them estimates the crops as follows (in qrs., last year's figures, representing the actual results, being based chiefly on official *data*):—

Country.	1910.	1909.
United Kingdom	7,000,000	7,899,000
France	34,000,000	44,966,000
Germany	19,000,000	17,277,000
Austria-Hungary	32,500,000	22,799,000
Italy	21,500,000	23,157,000
Russia	78,000,000	97,650,000
Rest of Europe	50,630,000	41,203,000
Total for Europe	242,630,000	254,951,000
United States	82,000,000	92,148,000
Canada	13,000,000	20,843,000
Argentina	21,000,000	17,595,000
India	44,638,000	35,520,000
Australasia	10,000,000	11,258,000
Other Countries	19,500,000	19,941,000
Total	190,138,000	197,305,000
GRAND TOTAL	432,768,000	452,256,000

This estimate may have to be materially amended for since it was framed numerous indications have appeared to lead to the conclusion that the damage done by drought in Canada and the American North-West for instance, and by rains, etc., such as have occurred in France and Southern Russia, had been considerably exaggerated. As regards America and Canada, this opinion is borne out by the course of the markets in those countries. With regard to Russia, the view is quite generally held that the crop has not suffered much so far as quantity is concerned, but that the quality will be much inferior to that of last year.

The wheat market during the past three weeks has witnessed incidents which have not been known for many years. The European importing countries have had shipped to them by Russia and the Danubian countries alone more than their requirements for consumption. These imports for the three weeks reached about 2,200,000 qrs. from Russia and about 1,700,000 qrs. from the Danube, making a total of 3,900,000 qrs. Other countries have sent over 1,400,000 qrs.

The latest official report issued in the United States indicates a total crop of 669 million bushels, or 84 million quarters, and the best authorities seem agreed that even this estimate is very low. The prospects for the Argentine crop, which has just been planted, have become much brighter owing

to copious rainfalls. Australia also sends promising reports, and news from India could not well be better. The English farmer has had a very trying summer, with sunshine much below the average and rain two inches above the average; and while in the south harvesting has been fairly successful the north has a poor prospect of securing wheat suitable for the miller. France has already covered a fair proportion of her domestic deficit, but is purchasing in Germany, the Danubian countries, Russia, and the United States, and there does not at present seem any probability of the French Government consenting to reduce or suspend the import duty.

The Outlook.

The supplies likely to be available for the current harvest year may be taken to be more than equal to requirements. Stocks in the United Kingdom were nearly a million quarters larger on September 1st than at the same time in 1909; the quantity of wheat on its way to Western Europe is 1,440,000 qrs. larger than last year and 1,340,000 qrs. in excess of the quantity in 1908, while heavy shipments are expected to continue from South-Eastern Europe, one of the reasons for this acceleration being that the soft inferior grain this season is not suitable for long storage in the elevators. This circumstance also explains the urgency of offerings at falling prices, Russian grain being at present relatively below market parity, while in other years the contrary has been the case. There seems, therefore, no good reason to apprehend higher prices from natural causes in the near future.

—In their report on the **Australian wool sales,** dated Melbourne, September 9th, Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort & Co., Ld., say:—We report having held our second sale of new clip, when we submitted a large and representative catalogue of 5,105 bales, of which 5,029 bales were sold. The catalogue was, in the main, made up of wools from Central Queensland, but also embraced some well known clips from the West Darling districts of New South Wales. Some fair lines of town scoured were included as well. There was a large attendance of buyers, augmented by many operators from other centres. Throughout, the competition was very brisk, and the greasy portion of catalogue was cleared at rates fully five to seven half per cent in advance of prices ruling at our last sale in June. American buyers were still remarkable by their abstention from bidding, this section of the trade having bought so far no portion of the many thousands of bales of new clip already disposed of in various centres. The bulk of to-day's catalogue was secured by German and Home buyers. The condition of Queensland wools is showing considerable variation, some clips being equal to last year, while others compare very unfavourably. West Darling wools on the whole are well-grown, sound, and in good condition.

THE JUTE INDUSTRY.

THE particulars below are taken from the *Review of the Trade of India* for 1909-10, recently published by the Commercial Intelligence Department:—

Raw jute has in the current year been supplanted by raw cotton as the most important single article of exportation. In 1909-10 the exports of raw jute, which in 1906-07 represented 32·9 per cent of the total value of Indian raw produce, in 1907-08 23·6 per cent and in 1908-09 29·6 per cent, fell to 18·1 per cent.

In a normal year practically the whole of a season's jute comes into commercial consideration in one official year, but in accordance with the custom of the trade, the figures of home consumption and of exports in the table below are for the twelve months ending June 30th. The estimates of area, and outturn are from the Government final forecasts. The figures for the last five years have been as follows:—

Harvest.	Area Acres.	Outturn Bales (of 400 lbs.)	Statistical year.	Estimated Indian consumption Bales (of 400 lbs.)	Exports Bales (of 400 lbs).
1905	3,128,000	8,088,000	1905-06	4,040,000	4,202,000
1906	3,483,000	9,127,000	1906-07	3,432,000	4,580,900
1907	3,974,000	9,818,000	1907-08	3,763,000	4,300,500
1908	2,857,000	6,399,000	1908-09	3,696,200	4,655,600
1909	2,776,000	7,207,000	1909-10	4,392,900	4,046,000

The country consumption of jute outside the mills is assumed to be in the neighbourhood of 500,000 bales a year. Adding this to the total of the last two columns in the table above and comparing the figures thus obtained with those of the forecasts, it will be found that an excess of nearly 7 lakhs of bales in 1905-06 is made by an adverse balance of approximately the same amount in 1906-07. In 1907-08 the aggregate total is only 85 lakhs of bales as compared with the forecast estimate of 98 lakhs but there was a very large quantity held up at the end of that season, variously estimated at from 10 to 25 per cent in the principal jute-growing districts, owing to the sudden fall in prices, and the carry-over may be as much as 12 lakhs of bales. The harvests of 1908 and 1909 were clearly much underestimated. With the credit balance above assumed from the 1907-08 season, there are large differences of 12 and 17 lakhs of bales still to be accounted for. In 1908 the harvest was unusually late and the outturn much better than seemed probable when the final forecast was issued, and this made good some portion of the deficit. There has been a disposition in some quarters to regard the assumed "normal" outturn of three bales to the acre as below the mark, but the acreage figures contain much greater possibilities of error, and to the extent that they depend upon comparisons with those of previous years, a mistake once made is the more easily perpetuated. The total acreage in 1909 may

have been correctly gauged as approximately the same as in 1908, but if the shrinkage in the latter year due to the fall in prices and the counter attractions of rice growing was over-estimated, the calculation of outturn for both seasons is affected. The trade is probably correct in assuming that the area under jute in 1908 exceeded three million acres.

The following statement shows the price of jute per bale of 400 lbs. in each of the five previous years and the first week of each month of 1909-10:—

	₹	a.	p.	£	s.	d.
Average, 1904-05	36	8	5=	2	8	8
„ 1905-06	44	11	7	2	19	8
„ 1906-07	60	4	4	4	0	4
„ 1907-08	41	12	0	2	19	8
„ 1908-09	38	12	0	2	11	8
Average, 1904-05 to 1908-09	45	0	1	3	0	0
1909—April	33	8	0	2	4	8
May	31	0	0	2	1	4
June	29	8	0	1	19	4
July	30	0	0	2	0	0
August	32	0	0	2	2	8
September	35	8	0	2	7	4
October	33	8	0	2	4	8
November	34	0	0	2	5	4
December	30	0	0	2	0	0
1910—January	32	0	0	2	2	8
February	32	0	0	2	2	8
March	32	0	0	2	2	8
Average, 1909-10	32	1	4	2	2	9

Prices fell steadily from March until July, when they touched bottom level at Rs. 30 (£2) per bale, but in August and September upon reports from the jute growing districts of restricted sowings and inclement weather there was a slight recovery. Prices dropped, however, again in December, as the full extent of the new crop began to come into sight, and the year closed with buyers offering Rs. 32 (£2 2*s.* 8*d.*) per bale. The average rate for Calcutta shipments during the year was Rs. 35 (£2 6*s.* 8*d.*) as compared with Rs. 38 (£2 10*s.* 8*d.*) in 1908-09. There were renewed complaints from Dundee of watering by native balers and heavy allowances were also claimed in respect of quality, and since the year closed the 'guarantee' clause in respect of 'substitute' marks has caused a deadlock in that considerable branch of business.

A record of the export trade which is maintained in cwts. (1 cwt. = ·23 of a bale) for the last five official years is shown in the following statement, *the unit being 1,000*:—

	Quantity.	Centesimal variations.	Value.		Average value per cwt.		Centesimal variations.
	Cwts.		Rs.	£	Rs.	s.	
1905-06	14,480	100	17,12,57 =	11,417	11·83 =	15·8	100
1906-07	15,970	110	26,83,87	17,892	16·81	22·4	157
1907-08	14,192	98	17,97,28	11,982	12·66	16·9	105
1908-09	17,880	123	19,83,45	13,223	11·09	14·8	116
1909-10	14,608	101	15,08,83	10,059	10·31	13·7	88

In 1909-10 the quantity exported was less by 3,271,540 cwts. or 18·3 per cent than in 1908-09 and the value declined by Rs. 474·62 lakhs (£3,164,000) or 23·9 per cent, the decline in specific value in 1909-10 being 7 per cent.

During the year under review the United Kingdom took 5,952,049 cwts. or 712,813 cwts. less than in 1908-09, her share being 40·7 per cent of the whole. Germany took 3,264,600 cwts. or 22·3 per cent of total exports, which is 425,637 cwts. less than in the previous year. The United States' demand fell from 3,336,060 to 1,428,615 cwts. or 9·8 per cent as against 18·7 per cent of the total in 1908-09. France took 1,666,283 cwts. or 11·4 per cent, Italy 726,089 cwts. or 5 per cent, Austria-Hungary 703,446 cwts. or 4·8 per cent, and Spain 442,468 cwts. or 3 per cent, of the total.

Calcutta shipped 91·5 per cent and Chittagong 8 per cent of the total as compared with 88·4 and 11·1 per cent, respectively, the balance of less than one per cent being accounted for by shipments of Bimlipatam jute (*Hibiscus cannabinus*) from Madras ports.

EDIBLE OILS.

THE present year will probably turn out to be one of the most interesting and remarkable years ever experienced in the edible oil trade. The course of prices has been extraordinary, and will no doubt provide records for many years to come; and in some branches of the trade it seems possible that even now the highest prices of the year have not been reached. Although one or two warnings to the trade were uttered very few people at the beginning of 1910 realised what was about to happen, yet there were certain portents which ought to have been better understood. Amongst these was the steady and persistent rise in the price of bacon. Really the diminution in the supply of hog products was the beginning of the tremendous rise which has taken place in edible oils. Following upon the great restriction in the number of hogs in America, which is said to have reached 75 per cent, came the short cotton crop of 1909-10, which meant, of course, a short supply of American cotton oil; and, in conjunction with this, the comparative failure of the Egyptian crop which meant again a failure in the supplies of English edible cotton oil. The total, or very nearly total, failure of the olive crop two years ago, was another circumstance which

caused a scarcity of edible oil throughout the countries bordering on the Mediterranean, and an extraordinary demand for substitutes in the form of cotton oil or arachide oil. All these factors were well known, but the consumer seldom believes in a rise in prices until it is nearly over, and then he generally acquires a too robust faith in it.

At the present time the principal edible vegetable oil is that known to the trade as American "P. S. Y.", or prime summer yellow cottonseed oil. This oil is used mainly in the manufacture of butter substitutes and in those imitation lard products which in America are called "compounds"; a large quantity also is exported, and some goes into the market as salad oil, while some finds its way to the olive oil countries and comes back in olive oil barrels. The shortage in the cotton crop struck at the root of this great trade, and as a consequence P. S. Y. cotton oil has been steadily rising in value right through the present year. Last autumn it was worth about £30 per ton; in January, 1910, it was quoted at £37; in April from £39 to £40; but the main squeeze came last month, when sellers found that they could not fulfil their obligations and began to buy what small quantities were available in Europe and ship them back to America. The price rapidly mounted until over £50 per ton has been paid for P. S. Y. oil—a price which has never been heard of from the very beginning of the cotton-oil industry. The value of English edible cotton oil has not risen to the same height, partly because speculation in this product is not nearly so fully developed here as it is in the United States; but the finer qualities have recently been sold at over £40 per ton, and the commoner qualities at from £36 to £38. The question of immediate interest in this market is how far the arrival of seed from the present crop of cotton will be able to bring down prices, and this is a question which it is very difficult to answer. A short time ago speculators were willing to sell P. S. Y. American oil for December-April delivery at from £10 to £12 per ton below the price of spot, but recently a less bearish view has been taken of the forward market, and it is difficult to find sellers for the new year under about £37. We do not, of course, reckon the "Squeeze" price of £50 in America as a normal value even at the present moment. That applied only to the August deliveries. The factors which are about to act upon the extravagant prices of edible cotton oil are—first, the arrival of seed from the new crop in America; secondly, the recovery of the Egyptian output of cotton and cottonseed; thirdly, the success of the attempts to produce edible oil from Indian cottonseed; fourthly, the restriction in demand which is likely to follow a period of extravagant prices; and fifthly, the fact that at present prices cotton oil cannot be sent to the Mediterranean to compete with olive oil. These, all of them or some of them, are bound to act, but whether they will bring prices below the figure at which speculators are now willing to take orders for next year's delivery is a matter of uncertainty. There is, however, an enormous margin for a drop; and it is generally recognised that a time of extravagant prices prepares the way for a succeeding period of very low prices. If we look back a little to see at what prices cotton oil has been supplied we find that at the beginning of 1905 English edible cotton oil was selling at Hull at £13 10*s.* per ton, while American P. S. Y. was worth only £14 10*s.*, and prices not very much better than these were a common value for a considerable period. No one now anticipates such a fall as this would suggest.

All the other vegetable edible oils have participated in the high prices obtained for cotton oil. The edible arachide oils have been sold at £46 per tun, and fine cocoanut oil at £50. The most interesting of these other oils at the present moment is olive oil. In the early part of last year, in consequence of the failure of the 1908 crop, olive oil became exceedingly scarce, and the price rose above £60 per tun. When the new crop began to arrive the price dropped rapidly, until about £36 per tun was reached last autumn. It then became apparent that more olive oil would be required for native consumption in consequence of the higher prices for other edible oils, and the market recovered, and ranged between £40 and £44 per tun up to the end of July last. During August, however, it began to appear that some of the shipping-houses in the Mediterranean ports were in a position similar to that of the American sellers of P.S.Y. oil. They had contracted to ship and could not get the oil from the producers, and the price of olive oil began to go up. By the end of August prices had risen to over £50 per tun for shipment, and spot prices on this side ranged from £53 to £55. No doubt the producers of olive oil, many of them small growers, would not be fully aware of the situation in edible oils generally until a long while after it was quite clear to the shippers on the coast; but now they are beginning to recognise that the domestic demand will bring them all the orders they need until the new crop oil is ready for the market. It is not until December that any quantity of new oil can reach British markets, and it follows that during the next three months consumers here will be dependent upon the very small spot supplies and the dregs of the 1909 crop. A good deal of buying took place in August, but not sufficient to convey the impression that all consumers were fully satisfied, and certainly nothing like enough to lead to the conclusion that the market was supplied for three months ahead. The position, therefore, is now extremely strong, and many dealers anticipate a return to the high prices of the spring of 1909. Should these prices become current during the later autumn, when the new crop is nearly due, and should the crop prove only a moderate one, as is generally expected, some very remarkable prices for olive oil may be seen at the end of the season. Of course a good deal will depend upon the state of the market for edible cottonseed oils. A heavy fall in these would affect the demand for olive as an edible oil, although it would not touch the demand for the wool trade.—*Manchester Guardian.*

FOOD-GRAINS AND SALT.

Retail Prices of certain Food-grains and Salt at selected stations for the first half of September, 1910. (Prices are stated in annas and pies per seer of 2·06 lbs.)

	Rice, common.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jawar.	Bajra.	Ragi.	Gram.	Salt.
	a. p.	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*
BURMA—								
Rangoon	(*a*)	...	...	...	...	...	...	(*a*)
Toungoo	1 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM—								
Rangpur	2 0	2 2	...	...	...	...	...	1 1
Backerganj	1 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 11
BENGAL—								
Calcutta	2 0	1 4	...	...	...	...	...	0 10
Patna	1 5	1 3	...	...	...	...	...	0 10
UNITED PROVINCES—								
Cawnpore	...	(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)	...	(*a*)	(*a*)
Fyzabad	...	1 4	0 10	...	...	...	0 11	0 10
Meerut	...	1 4	0 10	...	...	...	0 11	0 9
PANJAB—								
Delhi	...	1 5	0 11	0 11	1 3	...	0 11	0 9
Amritsar	...	1 2	0 10	1 0	1 1	...	0 10	0 7
Rawalpindi	...	1 3	0 9	0 10	1 0	...	0 11	0 7
SIND—								
Karáchi	...	1 7	...	1 3	1 5	...	1 4	0 7
BOMBAY—								
Belgaum	...	1 10	...	1 2	1 2	...	...	0 10
Ahmadnagar	...	1 8	...	0 11	0 11	...	...	0 11
Bombay	...	(*b*) 2 3	...	1 5	1 6	...	...	0 11
Ahmadabad	...	1 6	...	1 0	1 3	...	...	0 7
CENTRAL PROVINCES—								
Jubbulpore	...	1 5	...	...	...	...	1 0	0 11
Nagpur	1 7	1 5	...	1 1	...	...	1 0	1 0
Raipur	1 5	1 4	...	...	...	...	0 11	1 0
MADRAS—								
Bellary	2 0	...	...	1 0	...	1 2	...	0 10
Madras	2 3	...	...	...	...	1 4	...	0 7
Salem	2 1	...	...	1 2	1 6	1 0	...	1 0

(*a*) Not reported. (*b*) Provisional.

—A interesting commercial reform was discussed at the recent Conference of the International Law Association—namely, a **universal law for cheques and bills of exchange.** The inconvenience and loss to international trade owing to one country having one law and one another should be patent to everyone. The French and German laws are much the same; also the English and American. The point to aim at is a mean between the Franco-German and the Anglo-American laws. The principles of English Bills of Exchange Acts have been adopted by most British Colonies, India, and the United States, and there would necessarily be some slight disturbance of trade if the existing law were altered. The United States delegate declined to discuss the proposal, but the representatives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and other Continental nations were strongly in favour of it. England's position seems to be neutral. The following are amongst the proposals accepted by the Conference and to be submitted to the International Law Conference which will meet next year at The Hague:—(1) All cheques to be payable on demand only. (2) All cheques to be deemed negotiable to order unless there are words expressly prohibiting transfer. (3) All cheques to be presented for payment within a certain fixed period from date of cheque limited by the law of the particular country in which they are payable. (4) The provisions of the British Bills of Exchange Act with regard to crossed cheques to be maintained. If the British and American authorities can arrive at an agreement before the Hague Conference next year the thing is as good as done. One obvious result will be to strengthen the position of London as the banking "clearing-house" of the world.

DATA OF TEMPERATURE, HUMIDITY AND RAINFALL FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, THE 4th OCTOBER, 1910.

	Station.	Temperature (mean of maximum and minimum). Actual.	Temperature (mean of maximum and minimum). Departure from normal.	Humidity (percentage of amount for saturation). Actual.	Humidity (percentage of amount for saturation). Departure from normal.	Rainfall. Total during week.	Rainfall. Total since 1st June.	Rainfall. Departure of latter from normal.
		°	°	%	%	"	"	"
Burma.								
Lower Burma	Mergui	78	—1	96	+6	8·9	114·9	—7·3
	Tavoy	78	—2	93	+2	10·3	178·7	+10·9
	Moulmein	81	0	91	—1	8·4	143·3	—8·9
	Rangoon	81	0	91	—2	1·1	60·0	—15·7
	Bassein	81	0	95	+3	3·2	62·2	—27·3
	Akyab	83	0	92	0	2·3	172·4	+8·8
	Toungoo	83	0	86	—4	3·5	64·9	+1·4
Upper Burma	Thayetmyo	82	—1	85	0	1·2	14·0	—12·4
	Yamethin	83	0	90	+3	0·7	24·6	+2·2
	Mandalay	87	+3	79	—4	0·5	26·6	+7·6
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Bhamo	84	+2	90	+1	0·3	70·4	+11·1
Assam	Dibrugarh	83	...	88	...	2·4	70·7	— 4·4
	Tezpur	85	...	89	...	0·1	48·6	+1·0
	Dhubri	82	+1	90	—1	0	58·0	—9·3
	Shiliong	69	...	74	...	0·9	55·7	—1·6
	Silchar	85	+3	84	—8	1·4	77·5	+1·5
Eastern Bengal	Chittagong	83	+1	85	—4	1·1	85·9	+15·3
	Barisal	83	—1	88	+1	2·3	53·4	—0·6
	Narayanganj	85	+1	83	—5	0·4	45·0	—1·3
	Mymensingh	85	+3	84	—6	0·1	58·1	—2·6
	Malda	85	+2	82	—4	0·8	43·2	—1·2
	Jalpaiguri	85	+5	81	—10	0·2	101·0	—1·2
Bengal.								
Bengal	Berhampore	85	+1	85	—3	1·0	43·9	+1·6
	Calcutta	83	0	86	0	1·2	42·0	—3·7
Orissa	Balasore	82	—1	86	—1	4·5	34·6	—12·6
	Cuttack	82	—3	88	+8	5·4	56·6	+10·3
Chota Nagpur	Sambalpur	82	—1	83	+4	1·5	61·4	+0·5
	Chaibassa	82	0	89	+7	3·7	35·1	— 6·3
	Purulia	82	...	90	+13	3·2	38·5	—6·6
	Hazaribagh	78	+1	79	+3	0·9	38·2	—7·4
Bihar	Darjeeling	61	+3	90	—1	0·5	98·7	—5·2
	Darbhanga	85	+2	85	+1	3·3	46·5	+3·6
	Patna	85	+1	87	+9	1·5	58·2	+17·0
	Motihari	84	+2	87	—1	1·4	51·5	+6·2
United Provinces.	Buxar	84	+1	88	+11	1·5	37·6	+1·7
United Provinces, East	Allahabad	83	0	87	+12	1·4	27·1	—9·5
	Bahraich	82	0	89	+11	5·6	46·0	+3·7
	Lucknow	83	0	89	+14	2·8	26·2	—8·6
United Provinces, West	Jhansi	82	—1	83	+18	0·9	32·6	—3·4
	Agra	82	—2	88	+22	10·7	30·1	+4·0
	Bareilly	80	—2	89	+11	10·5	51·3	+8·0
Punjab.								
Punjab, East and North	Delhi	79	—5	89	+30	8·5	29·2	+5·1
	Sirsa	82	—3	80	+24	0·4	10·0	—1·5
	Ambala	79	—2	80	+6	2·0	28·2	+2·0
	Lahore	85	+2	69	+9	0	11·2	—4·2
	Rawalpindi	78	0	58	—7	0	26·9	+4·3
Punjab, South-West	Multan	87	+2	61	0	0	1·6	—3·8
Kashmir	Srinagar	63	+3	84	—3	0	5·0	—3·1
North-West Frontier Province.	Peshawar	77	—1	66	+6	0	12·3	+7·5
	D. I. Khan	84	0	69	+9	0	6·4	+1·4
Sind	Jacobabad	89	+3	67	+5	0	2·3	—0·2
	Karachi	82	+2	75	—1	0	12·1	+5·5
Rajputana.								
Rajputana, West	Bikaner	84	—4	69	+11	0·1	12·9	+3·7
	Jodhpur	85	0	73	+20	0	10·1	—2·0
Rajputana, East	Udaipur	81	+1	76	+15	0·1	24·9	+5·3
	Ajmer	80	—2	85	+19	0·8	16·9	—2·7
	Jaipur	80	—3	86	+25	2·9	16·5	—7·3
	Kotah	81	—4	86	+30	3·8	30·5	+5·5
Bombay.								
Gujarat	Bhuj	88	+4	54	—15	0	20·4	+6·8
	Deesa	88	+4	68	+1	0	23·4	+0·3
	Ahmedabad	87	+1	74	+5	1·7	25·6	—6·3
	Rajkot	85	+3	84	+4	1·8	33·3	+6·3
	Veraval	79	—1	95	+15	2·5	17·3	+0·5
Konkan	Bombay	81	—1	92	+5	12·0	67·3	—4·8
	Karwar	78	—1	90	0	4·6	112·8	+1·1
Bombay, Deccan	Malegaon	80	+1	88	+15	2·2	28·7	+8·3
	Ahmednagar	77	—1	87	+9	3·5	33·7	+15·8
	Poona	77	—1	88	+8	3·0	28·6	+7·5
	Bijapur	76	—2	85	+3	1·5	20·2	+3·3
	Belgaum	71	—3	94	+8	2·2	36·4	—2·1
Central India.								
Central India, West	Neemuch	79	—1	89	+23	0·7	30·8	+2·4
	Indore	78	0	93	+16	2·0	33·1	+2·1
Central India, East	Sutna	83	+2	88	+13	2·4	34·3	—6·8
Central Provinces.								
Berar	Akola	81	0	84	+9	2·0	34·4	+5·2
Central Provinces, West	Saugor	80	+1	89	+16	1·9	36·4	—8·3
	Jubbulpore	81	+1	84	+4	1·4	37·8	—16·7
	Seoni	76	—2	93	+18	4·2	51·4	+1·9
	Nagpur	80	—2	88	+15	2·8	54·0	+10·3
Central Provinces, East	Chanda	81	—1	86	+11	1·8	47·3	—2·2
	Raipur	81	—1	87	+12	1·9	60·4	+14·9
Hyderabad.								
Hyderabad, North	Nizamabad	79	—1	86	+10	1·1	40·1	+3·8
Hyderabad, South	Gulbarga	79	—2	84	+5	1·6	30·5	+4·8
	Hyderabad	79	—1	81	+3	0·6	21·4	—3·7
	Raichur	79	—2	79	+3	0·4	18·4	—5·9
Mysore	Bangalore	72	—2	86	+2	0·2	29·0	+9·1
	Mercara	66	—3	98	+7	4·4	102·4	—3·3
Madras.								
Malabar	Cochin	80	0	81	—4	1·9	73·2	—0·6
	Trivandrum	78	0	89	+6	2·1	35·0	+7·3
Madras, South-East	Pamban	84	+1	78	—1	0	6·4	+3·8
	Negapatam	86	+2	70	—8	0	17·8	+6·7
	Coimbatore	80	0	86	0	0	6·5	+0·8
	Cuddalore	84	+2	74	—13	0·2	21·3	+3·6
	Salem	83	+1	72	—9	0	22·3	+0·9
Madras Deccan	Madras	86	+2	66	—16	0·1	18·7	+1·3
	Cuddapah	83	—1	78	+4	1·6	36·2	+16·2
	Bellary	80	—2	72	+1	0·9	15·4	+4·2
Madras Coast, North	Nellore	85	0	78	0	1·2	11·0	—1·7
	Masulipatam	83	—2	86	+2	1·0	31·1	+7·3
	Waltair	80	—3	87	+9	1·6	35·8	+13·3
	Gopalpur	81	—3	91	+10	6·1	42·4	+12·6

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 1st October, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta lbs.		183,111
	Bombay "		184,488
	Madras "		73,500
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta "		24,480
	Bombay "		2,328,805
	Madras "		...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta yds.		15,960,845
	Bombay "		3,527,133
	Karachi "		778,623
	Madras "		1,700,945
	Rangoon "		201,883

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta yds.		3,981,018
	Bombay "		3,828,555
	Karachi "		3,834,449
	Madras "		1909,915
	Rangoon "		468,432

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta yds.		3,825,263
	Bombay "		6,176,029
	Karachi "		3,562,510
	Madras "		1,544,935
	Rangoon "		1,327,737

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta cwt.		*23,739
	Bombay "		8,465
	Karachi "		17,091
	Madras "		6,762

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea cwt.		20
	Coastwise "		5,716
	By rail "		4,098
Imports into Karachi by rail	"		1,007
" " Calcutta by rail and river	"		*335

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta cwt.		*703,178
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags No.		13,762,500
	" cloth yds.		23,915,188
	Jute cwt.		581,157
	Chittagong—Jute "		45,996

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from Bombay	cwt.		26,019

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta	cwt.		*18,639
Imports into Bombay	By sea "		208
	Coastwise "		19
	By rail "		19,147
Imports into Karachi by rail and river	"		800
Exports by sea from Calcutta	"		28,327
Exports by sea from Bombay	"		25,000
Exports by sea from Karachi	"		464

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta	cwt.		*63,242
Imports into Bombay	By sea "		...
	Coastwise "		5,016
	By rail "		57,185
Imports into Karachi by rail and river	"		93,964
Exports by sea from Calcutta	"		...
Exports by sea from Bombay	"		101,985
Exports by sea from Karachi	"		104,439

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta cwt.		*182,003
Exports by sea from	Calcutta "		172,736
	Chittagong "		...
	Bombay "		16,544
	Karachi "		11,646
	Madras "		...
	Rangoon "		256,522

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta lbs.		*7,808,859
Exports by sea from	Calcutta "		7,614,284
	Chittagong "		1,560,776

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta by rail and river	cwt.		*107,198
Imports into Karachi by rail	"		515,963
Imports into Bombay By sea	"		...
Imports into Bombay Coastwise	"		6,553
Imports into Bombay By rail	"		73,017
Exports by sea from Calcutta	"		69,619
Exports by sea from Bombay	"		8,943
Exports by sea from Karachi	"		376,192

* B. N. Ry. figures not included.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta . . Cwt.	3,373,992	2,174,560	3,111,284	5,180,093	169,972	1,026,580	Not	reported.
Bombay . . "	2,536,191	1,117,028	1,667,509	2,707,503	1,174,852	2,119,613	5,222,223	12,729,009
Karachi . . "	13,132,049	13,055,899	...	645	2,759,569	4,387,661	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 1st OCTOBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From All other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	303,385	19,872	323,257
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	...	...	...
Exports by sea from Burma to Bengal				3,070,082
Exports by sea from Burma to E. B. & Assam				316,500
Exports by sea from Burma to Bombay				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Sind				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Madras				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Indian Ports, Non-Br.				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Foreign Ports				...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 1st OCTOBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon.	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	17	...	8	26	1	36	88
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	157,301	...	124,023	334,913	25,429	...	641,666
Mauritius	...	...	13,322	...	...	...	13,322
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	320	...	...	...	320
Total refined							655,396
Total unrefined							...
Grand Total							655,396

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 30th September. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 30th September. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 1st October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 1st October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	6,045	7 1·7	92,678	7 5	6,549	7 3	77,629	7 9·1
Cachar	5,105	6 0	74,183	6 1·9	5,929	6 1	80,240	5 9·7
Sylhet	3,490	6 0·4	48,953†	6 2	3,702	6 0·2	50,186	5 9·4
Darjeeling	3,836	9 4·6	46,419	9 5·2	1,761	9 10·5	42,962	10 0
Dooars	9,652	6 4·2	95,545	6 7·5	9,060	6 10·9	98,207	6 10·1
Terai	1,229	6 4·4	14,668	6 5·5	828	6 3·8	11,639	6 3·5
Chittagong	235	6 2·9	4,586	6 1	415	6 1·6	3,962	5 11·2
Chota-Nagpore	...	...	788	7 0·9	35	5 6	1,119	6 5·4
Kumaon and Kangra	...	...	2,047	6 4·8	46	6 7·2	1,576	5 9·6
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	90	6 2·3
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nepal	...	...	299	6 3·9	85	6 5	338	6 2·8
All other places	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	29,592	6 9·7	380,209†	7 0	28,410	6 10·2	367,948	7 0

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 16,937 packages Dust* sold to 30th September 5a. 7·8p.

„ 1909-10 „ 17,324 „ „ „ 1st October 5a. 8·2p.

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

†Corrected figures.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

COMMERCIAL GUIDE (MONTHLY).

	Rate. Rs. A.
Per annum	100 0
Per half-year	54 0
Per quarter	28 0
For less than 3 months :—	
To Subscribers per copy	8 0
To Non-Subscribers „	10 0
Postage for one year :—	
Abroad per copy	5 0
In India „	2 8

WEEKLY MANIFEST.

First copy per annum	100 0
„ „ „ half-year	54 0
„ „ „ quarter	28 0
Additional copy per annum	20 0
„ „ „ half-year	12 0
„ „ „ quarter	8 0
For less than 3 months :—	
To Subscribers per copy	1 0
To Non-Subscribers „	2 0
Postage for one year :—	
Abroad per copy	5 0
In India „	3 8

DAILY LISTS—IMPORTS OR EXPORTS (separately).

One copy of either per annum	65 0
„ „ „ „ „ half-year	35 0
„ „ „ „ „ quarter	20 0
For less than 3 months whether to Subscribers or Non-Subscribers, annas 5 per copy	
Postage for one year :—	
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5 0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20 0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5 0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.	

MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1 0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6 0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4 12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0 6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

		Saturday Evening.
PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	5 per cent. (Oct. 8).
	Bombay	3 per cent. (July 7).
	Madras	4 per cent. (July 4).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 5/16
	6 months	1-4 15/32

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 94-2.

The following general memoranda on crops of the season 1910-11 will appear in the *Indian Trade Journal* of the 20th instant :—

Cotton—Second General Memorandum.
Indigo—First General Memorandum.

The gist of these in tabular form will be exhibited, as usual, at the street door of the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, No. 5, Clive Street, Calcutta, on the 19th instant at 4 P.M.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 8th October was Rs. 29-4-0 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt ; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 11th October was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia Bhawnagar cotton**, October delivery, Rs. 270 per candy of 784 lbs.

The total approximate gross **earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 24th September, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,52,96,353 and Rs. 2,56,59,499, as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09, respectively.

The directors of the **South Indian Railway Company** have decided to recommend the payment of a **dividend** out of surplus profits of 45*s.* per cent which, with the guaranteed interest, will make a distribution of £3 15*s.* for the half-year, or at the rate of 7½ per cent per annum, the same as for the corresponding half of the previous year.

Mr. H. G. Hester, Secretary of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, in his exhaustive report on the past season's **American cotton crop**, states that in spite of the heavy shortage the grade of the crop has been good, averaging practically "strict middling" a bare shade under the average of the previous season, but inferior in body and strength and length of staple. The difference is probably best illustrated by the lessened weight of the bales which came in both years from the same sized gin-boxes. The money value of the crop was greater than that of any ever before produced, the total (not including cottonseed) reaching £155,778,819, compared with £136,758,898 in the season 1908-09, when the crop was 3,215,789 bales greater—the actual figures being, season 1909-10, 10,609,668 bales; season 1908-09, 13,825,457 bales. The average gross weight of the bales was 506·62 lbs., compared with 513·30 lbs. last year and 508·67 lbs. in 1907-08.

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales of cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 37 weeks ended 15th September, 1910 :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 15th Sept., 1910.	37 weeks ended 15th Sept., 1910.	Week ended 15th Sept., 1910.	37 weeks ended 15th Sept., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	22,611	1,197,011	1,166	171,887
Brazilian	—	33,711	—	2,339
East Indian	1,221	177,191	232	39,973
Egyptian	4,531	170,311	168	48,105
Miscellaneous	776*	84,196†	—	6,457
Total	29,139	1,662,420	1,566	268,761

* Including 34 bales British West Indian, 213 bales British West African, and 124 bales British East African.

† Including 6,110 bales British West Indian, 6,387 bales British West African, 11,176 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

Particulars have just been received of the shipments of **Egyptian cotton** for last season, giving the amount exported by the several shippers. Out of the total exports of 671,344 bales England received 353,548 bales, the figures for the other countries being—France, 68,521; Germany, 64,947; Russia, 50,123; Austria, 43,165 bales.

At a meeting of the **Southern Soft Yarn Spinners' Association** held at Charlotte, **North Carolina**, early in September it was decided to continue the present curtailment (which amounts to something like 40 or 50 per cent of the capacity of the soft yarn mills of the South) until October 15th, and it was further resolved that unless conditions in the market showed considerable improvement by that date the policy of curtailment would be continued until it should become effective. The latest mail advices regarding the present **Sea Island cotton** crop report that the heavy rains have resulted in some deterioration. Latterly, however, the weather has improved, and although the crop is backward, the picking is progressing favourably. It is, however, generally believed that this crop cannot equal last season's.

The **Liverpool Cotton Association** has published its **annual circular** for the season ending August 31st. The average price of American cotton was 7·86*d.* against 5·50*d.* in the season before. The highest quotation was on December 31st, when middling was quoted at 8·50*d.* per lb., and the lowest price was on September 14th, when the rate was 6·77*d.* The average weekly consumption of Great Britain during the year shows a decrease of 5,090 bales per week, or for the whole year 264,497 bales. The total weight of cotton consumed in Great Britain was 1,631,595,297 lbs. against 1,823,883,582 lbs. in 1909. The total stock held by spinners is estimated to be 58,000 bales less than last year. The stock of cotton at the ports of Great Britian on August 31st was 350,280 bales against 390,470 bales at the close of 1908-09. According to an interesting table, showing the distribution of the American crop in average periods of five years, Great Britian now absorbs 3,126,804 bales a year against 3,129,382 bales in the previous period. The figures for America are 4,989,034 bales, as compared with 4,319,228 bales. The percentage of the American crop used by Great Britain is now 25·22 per cent against 27·94 last time, whilst the figures for America are 40·25 per cent, against 38·37 per cent. The average price of fully good fair brown Egyptian was 13⅛*d.* against 8 1/16*d.* in the previous season.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market** dated the 15th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray and Co., Ld., say;—In the earlier part of the week holders of **Indian yarn**, both foreign and native, decided to meet the demand from Newchwang and Tientsin and sales amounting to 5,719 bales were made, in some instances at slight reduction in prices. The bulk of the sales, say 3,507 bales were composed of No. 10s. There are still buying orders in the market and prices at the close incline to be rather steadier. In addition to the above the River Port and Szechuen merchants have bought 1,100 bales No. 20s. We believe financial arrangements were satisfactorily made and prompt clearances are expected. Although interfered with by the weather, clearances were satisfactory.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 20th ultimo :—*United States of America*—Winter seeding favourable, increased acreage expected. Western receipts last week about same previous week and much smaller than year ago, spring wheat quantities being particularly light. Stocks increased moderately. *Canada*—Latest official estimate gives wheat crop 122,000,000 bus., against 167,000,000 last year, which latter, however, was some 35,000,000 too high. Latest private estimates vary between 110,000,000 and 125,000,000 bushels. Winnipeg receipts last week were quite moderate; but yesterday showed substantial increase. Official estimate oats crop 283,000,000 bushels compared with 353,000,000 last year. *Argentina*—Crop reports quite favourable and wheat acreage semi-official estimate 4 per cent increase, oats 10 per cent increase, linseed unchanged. *Australia*—Weather and crop news favourable. Officials give fair increases in acreage and W. Australia expected export next year fully 500,000 qrs. more than hitherto. *India*—Weather quite favourable and seeding prospects hopeful. *Russia*—Semi-official estimate shows wheat crop some 20,000,000 less than last year's and fair decreases also shown for other cereals. Arrivals at ports continue liberal, stocks increasing. Weather in South-West last week cold, with some frost. *Roumania*—Wheat receipts continue liberal, stocks increasing. Maize harvesting and ploughing proceeding satisfactory. *Austria-Hungary*—Weather favourable for fall ploughing and maize harvesting. *Germany*—Supplies native wheat larger; reports potatoes rather more hopeful. *France*—"Bulletin des Halles" estimates wheat crop 30,500,000 qrs., and import requirements of season, 10,500,000 qrs., besides North African supply, shortage other cereal crops confirmed. *Italy*—Native wheat sparingly offered. Weather favourable. *Spain*—Official estimate wheat crop 17,100,000 against 18,000,000 last year. *Sweden*—Officials report average harvest. *United Kingdom*—Harvest about finished, favourable weather, threshing irregular. *North Africa*—Exporting freely to France.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 17th September, 1910, were as follows :—Wheat, 30*s.* 11*d.*; barley, 24*s.* 3*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 6*d.*

The official *Commercial and Industrial Gazette* (St. Petersburg) publishes the following estimates, compiled by the Central Statistical Committee, of the **area under grain crops in Russia** and the probable yield in 1910, as compared with previous years :—

—	Area.		Yield.		
	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	Average 1904-8.
	1,000 Dessiatines.	1,000 Dessiatines.	Million Pouds.	Million Pouds.	Million Pouds.
Winter crops—					
Rye	26,130	25,791	1,371	1,461	1,215
Wheat	5,597	5,859	354	495	336
Summer crops—					
Rye	529	516	19	22	26
Wheat	18,581	20,453	958	1,027	637
Oats	17,128	17,532	1,038	992	842
Barley	9,946	10,544	629	716	462
Buckwheat	2,005	1,972	69	69	60
Millet	3,467	3,268	166	173	116
Maize	1,410	1,356	62	95	75

From these figures it is estimated by the Statistical Committee that the surplus of grain for human food available for export will be 1,372 million pouds, as compared with 1,017 million pouds last year. (Dessiatine=2·7 acres, 1,000 pouds=about 16 tons,) It is to be noted, however, that the above estimates were compiled from returns made in June last, and that the condition of the crops has become less favourable since that time.

In its issue of September 19th, the *Manchester Guardian* says :—Very considerable weakness developed in the **London copper market** last Thursday and Friday, and £55 per ton was again broken. This has not occurred since the end of July. The squeeze in the tin market being now practically over, there is an opportunity for speculators to turn their attention to copper, but at present they do not appear to have courage to take firm hold of the market. It remains to be seen whether the drop at the end of last week will bring buyers in with a view to taking advantage of any reaction. Consumers still hold aloof to a large extent, and it is unlikely that the present price will be considered low enough to be a temptation. The market took an unfavourable view of the American Copper Producers' returns, which certainly do not convey the impression that anything is being done to check the output. The theory is still held—or at least promulgated in influential quarters that something in the direction of reducing output will very soon be done; but the market, having waited so long for definite news of action, is rather sceptical. The *Ironmonger* reports

a better demand for refined copper, especially from the Continent, where, it is said, the electrical industries are becoming more active. It is, however, still thought that there must be a very considerable increase in the acdivity of the consuming trades, not on the Continent only, but here and in America, before the market is capable of absorbing copper at the present rate of production.

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on September 15th regarding the **Hull oil market** says:—The market for **linseed oil** is steady at 41*s.* 9*d.* spot; 41*s.* 3*d.*, October-December; 39*s.*, January-April. The exports for the week totalled 177 tons, of which America took 44, Australia 124, Norway 6, and the West Indies 3 tons each. **Cotton oil** steady, with refined cotton oil at 30*s.* 3*d.* spot, 28*s.* 9*d.* November-April, crude cotton oil 31*s.* 9*d.* spot. The export for the week amounted to 190 tons, of which America took 112, Belgium 5, Germay 39, Holland 12, Norway 1, Sweden 2, and Turkey 19 tons each. **Soy bean oil,** 30*s.* 3*d.* spot. **Rape oils**—Jamba and Brown East Indian, 26*s.* 6*d.* **Lard oil** steady at 60*s.* per cwt. for English refined ex-mill in barrels. **Olive oil** strong, but quotations continue nominal. Spanish forward from £53 and upwards. **Cocoanut oil** continues firm but quiet. English in casks, £43 per ton ex-mill terms. **Castor oil** steady, and quiet at 3⅝*d.* to 3 3/16*d.* per lb. for Calcutta on spot and 3½*d.* per lb. for forward quay terms. **Palm oil** very firm and active. September Niger, £32 10*s.*; September-October Benin at £33 17*s.* 6*d.* to £34; hards at £32 10*s.*; Accra at £32 10*s.* to £32 12*s.* 6*d.*; Lagos at £35 2*s.* to £35 17*s.* 6*d.*, but principally softs near at £35 2*s.* 6*d.* and September up to December at £35. Refined sorts firm, bleached £37 to £37 5*s.*, and clarified £34 per ton, both in casks. **Petroleum** steady. Russian 5½*d.*, and American 6*d.* to 7*d.* per gal. **Turpentine** firmer. Spot, 52*s.* 3*d.*; September-December, 52*s.* 6*d.*; and January-April, 63*s.* 9*d.* per cwt.

In his weekly price current on the **sugar market,** dated London, September 22nd, C. Czarnikow says:—A week of fine weather, especially in Central and Eastern Europe, made sellers more pressing, and at the same time Licht published approximate estimates as current in commercial circles, which showed to buyers more than a million tons excess production, and caused a further scare during which May declined from 11*s.* 4½*d.* to 11*s.* The market recovered to 11*s.* 3¼*d.*, when colder and wet weather was reported on Tuesday, and when people began to see that 500,000 tons excess came mostly from Russia, where stocks are exhausted, and where fabricants try to keep liberal final stocks, in order to obtain higher participation in their valuable Home trade. We believe that not more than 150,000 tons (out of the 500,000 tons) will displace Convention Sugar, and that if we include these in statistics we shall also have to raise our exports elsewhere to 780,000 against 630,000 against 690,000 against 660,000 against 780,000 tons, because exports from Europe were restricted by want of supplies. Besides, our European consumption is bound to expand likewise in a year of plenty. On the other hand, we cannot expect prices of 10*s.* 9*d.* instead of 14*s.* 6*d.* to attract all the Cane Sugars from Cuba (at the parity of 8*s.* 9*d.* Hamburg), nor American granulated, nor the same quantity of Mauritius, Java, etc. If we thus estimate that we might add only 250/300,000 tons next year to our present reduced final stocks, it shows that the larger part of the million tons excess will not press on the European market, that much larger stocks will be more easily held in Russia, America and here, the rest disappearing in larger exports and consumption. But it is more than doubtful whether extravagant premiums on a mysterious fancy product called Hamburg 88 per cent will again be paid for Summer delivery. That comparatively insignificant speciality, after a dull and uneventful career during October-December, is rarely seen now during nine long months, even by a privileged few, who immediately subject it to a painful bottling-up operation. Yet this inert mass is supposed to represent an enormous living, moving consumption of 10 or 12 million tons Sugar in the whole world and *bonâ fide* people deal in it, fondly imagining that they deal in Sugar of which they hold a quantity, until they find that not Sugar but paper is meant. This should be changed, and the cost of production should once more become a factor to regulate prices. But such cost depends largely on the area required and the quality of the roots. Notwithstanding present high wages, labour troubles, price of coal and of other agricultural products, we might grow a moderate quantity at low cost, but if we want full sowings we have to pay for them to avoid a rise later on. It seems now that prices of 11*s.* or less for May-August next are not extravagant, even with a fair crop, and whether we get this depends on the weather which was fine until Tuesday, then became cooler and less settled.

With reference to the **prohibition** of **exports of aniline dyed carpets** from **Persia,** a Persian correspondent states that orders have been received from Teheran allowing the export of such carpets for two years more. **Octroi duties** are said to have been introduced in **Bam** by orders from Kerman. Reports of wholesale **highway robberies** continue from most parts of the country.

The following is the production of the **Anglo-Dutch Plantation of Java** for six months to June 30th, 1910:—Rice, 6,420,832 lb.; tea, 373,822 lb.; quinine, 552,000 lb.; coffee—Liberia, 282,880 lb.; Java, 15,368 lb.; Robusta, 6,868 lb.; rubber, 11,805 lb.

The volume of *Prices and Wages in India*, 27th issue, compiled in the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, has just been published by the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, 8, Hastings Street, Calcutta, its price being Rs. 2 or 3*s.* per copy.

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a weakening of the monsoon in the Peninsula. Rainfall has been nearly general in Malabar, and fairly general in Burma and South-East Madras. There have been a few falls in Eastern Bengal and Assam, and south-east of Central Provinces.

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 3rd October 1910:—R.F. and J. Alexander & Co., Ld., thread manufacturers, Neilston, Renfrewshire, Scotland, and J. Mackie, engineer, of the same address—Improvements in and relating to machinery for winding thread, yarn, twine and the like on to cards. H. P. Rasmussen, 1, Council Street, St. Kilda, Dunedin, New Zealand—Composition for the use of electric insulating and other commercial purposes. W. L. R. Amesbury, Major, Supply and Transport Corps, Lyallpur, Punjab—Improvements in saddles for transport or other purposes. F. W. Nicholls, mechanical engineer, 14, Wellesley 2nd Lane, Calcutta—Improvements in bottle openers for aërated water bottles and the like. R. S. Mistri, lock and iron safe maker, 46, Mirganj, Allahabad—A pump for lifting water out of a well of any depth. Sir Charles H. A. F. L. Ross, baronet, Balnagown Castle, Ross-shire, Scotland—Improvements in or relating to fire-arms. Balfours Patents, Ld., Post Office Box No. 1555, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada—Improvements in and relating to spikes.

The Secretary of the **Allahabad Exhibition** informs us that the **Hewett Weaving School** of Bara Banki is exhibiting largely at the Exhibition and it is hoped will be able to show several improved types of **hand-looms** in operation, as well as other specialities of the school which are women's work, hosiery work, lace work and embroidery, but it is hoped that a good entry for the weaving competition will be secured, and, as there are many prizes for skilful work in this line, there is nothing to deter private persons or artizans from competing. The class of prizes for weavers confined to these provinces is worthy of note. Attention has been aroused in regard to the '**Chula' competition** by the very handsome prize offered, and it is quite certain that the economic benefit of saving the valuable products of the soil for use as manures by burning coal in their stead will justify a large outlay in encouraging invention and advertising its results. Travellers in the hills have noticed the free use of manure and the greatly enhanced crop return but this is gained at the cost of forest destruction and by the use of wood fuel. The object of this "Chula" competition is to stimulate the use of manure in the plains where climatic conditions will give a still larger crop than in the hills. In the hills it is customary not to plough manure into the ground, but to leave it on the surface as a sort of "Mulch" some contend (and American practice in dry tracts to some extent endorses this) that this method keeps the moisture in the soil and that the soil benefits as much as possible by the juice and washing due to rain sinking into the soil: others think that such manures should be ploughed in at once to conserve all gases in the soil. If large supplies of natural manure become available by the substitution of coal for the various fuels now in common use, this point will be one for the cultivator to decide by experiment, for there can be no great body of experience available in the plains as at present cultivated.

NOTICES.

CALLS FOR TENDERS.

Stores.

The Divisional Contract Officer, 6th Division, Poona, is calling for tenders for the supply of sugar, arrowroot, rum and brushes.

Firewood.

The Station Supply Officer, Presidency Brigade, Calcutta, is calling for tenders up to the 10th proximo for the supply of about eleven million lbs. of firewood for the use of troops at Lebong and Jalapahar.

Grain and Bran.

The Divisional Contract Officer, 5th Division, Mhow, is calling for sealed and telegraphic offers up to 24th October, 1910, for the supply of grain and bran for quarter ending 28th February, 1911. Dealers unknown to the Divisional Contract Officer should furnish references as to stability, etc., along with their offers.

ENQUIRIES.

(*For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Olive Street, Calcutta.*

An asterisk (*) *preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.*)

Ramie Ribbons.

(771).—A Madras correspondent desires to be placed in communication with purchasers of ramie ribbons.

Agency Business.

(772).—A Bombay firm desires to act as agents for English and Continental exporters of sundry goods, metals and hosiery.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

Correspondence regarding advertisements in the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be addressed to Reuter's Telegram Co., Ld., but all advertisements, blocks, etc., must be approved by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence before insertion.

Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

A full index is published as a quarterly supplement and should be filed for reference.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1910.

FOREST PRODUCTS.

IN March of last year a Committee of Forest officers met at Dehra Dun and passed a resolution in which a set of rules for the guidance of work at the Imperial Forest Research Institute, founded in 1906, was formulated for the approval of the Government of India. In that Resolution it was proposed that the programme of work at the Institute should be a triennial one, that all Conservators should be consulted as to the matters they would wish to see taken up, and that the programme should be approved by a Forest Board, consisting of representatives from all provinces with the Inspector-General of Forests at their head. In July of the same year, the Government of India circulated for the consideration of all Local Governments and Administrations the proposal to constitute a Board of Forestry on the same lines as the Board of Agriculture. The proposal having been unanimously approved by the Local Governments, the Government of India decided early this year to appoint a Board of Forestry. The first meeting of the Board was held at Dehra Dun between the 31st March and 6th April, 1910, and its proceedings, which have recently been published, contain, besides the triennial programme approved by the Board, much that will interest the commercial public.

One of the chief functions of the Board, as at present constituted, is to advise on the management and work of the Imperial Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun, and the constitution admits of officers from all provinces being brought into close touch with the work which is being carried on there. The Board also deals with any general problems connected with Forestry, whether scientific or administrative, which may be referred to it for advice. It exercises no control over the Research Institute or College, or the Forest Departments generally, nor does it in any way interfere with the functions of Local Governments. It is a purely advisory body and deliberates only on such questions as are specially brought before it by the Inspector-General of Forests who, with the sanction of the Government of India, draws up a programme for its meetings. Any resolutions that the Board may pass are submitted by the Inspector-General to the Government of India for information and orders, and Local Governments are ordinarily left to take any action on them which they may think necessary. In no case does the Government of India propose to take any action on any recommendation of the Board until the Local Government concerned has been consulted.

The subjects discussed at the first meeting covered a large field, and one of these related to the need of an agent in England to answer enquiries regarding Indian Forest products, to receive samples of timbers, etc., and to generally push the trade in forest products. The President of the Board submitted a note to form the basis of the discussion on this subject in which he suggested the appointment of a Government Forest Agent in London to whom consignments of forest products might be sent for sale. From a note written by the Imperial Forest Economist it would appear that the present method of sending samples of forest products to commercial firms in Europe, for valuation and report, did not in practice work well. Commercial firms, having their own ends to serve, did not always give the necessary information in their reports. Nor, when making enquiries regarding timber, etc., did they always give sufficient details

to enable the Economist to meet their wishes and supply the required information. Again, when forest products had to be tested or experiments on a commercial scale carried out, the Economist had usually to apply to some expert in England for information as to the best firm for the purpose, or for assistance in making the necessary arrangements. In view of these difficulties the Board considered that an Agent in England, who could personally interview commercial firms, supply information regarding (*a*) markets for various forest products, (*b*) the best firms to deal with for any particular purpose, and obtain estimates for plant required by tramways, monorails or other engineering projects, or for forest industries, would supply a much needed want.

The triennial programme approved by the Board which is printed as an Appendix to the Report, gives a list of the subjects and details of investigation to be carried on by various officers of the Institute. It may be noted that the Imperial Forest Economist has in hand several important investigations such as those connected with the suitability, for the manufacture of pulp, of woods, bamboos and grasses; the commercial valuation of certain oil-seeds; suitability of various tan barks, especially terminalias and oaks; the best method of disposing of rosin, including the preparation of a list of the industries in which it is used, with the names of the firms engaged in these industries; and the commercial possibilities of the manufacture of shellac by various processes, etc.

—A report just issued by the **Aluminium Industry Company** of Neuhausen states that the plant at Walhs which is intended for the **electrolytic production of nitric acid** and other nitrogenous compounds from the air was completed a short time ago, and has been running for some time. So far everything has worked smoothly, and the results are quite up to expectations. The demand for aluminium has recently shown a very marked revival, and as considerable improvements have been made in the manufacturing processes the present prices yield a fair profit. The United Chemical Works, Charlottenburg, report a net profit of 1,010,515 marks, against 773,745 marks last year, and a dividend of 20 per cent, against 16 per cent, is being paid. The capital is 4·25 million marks. The ammonia branch of the business has not contributed much towards the profits, as there was difficulty in obtaining raw material. The outlook is satisfactory. The Strassfort Chemical works are again paying 7 per cent. It is rumoured that the Bromine Convention may be dissolved owing to internal troubles.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

THE *Board of Trade Journal*, published on the 22nd ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about :—

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—Customs Decisions. Commerce Orders. Sanitary Towels. Drugs. Links.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—Refund of Deposits on Commercial Travellers' Samples.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—Rule under "Petroleum Ordinance."

NORTHERN NIGERIA.—Additional Customs Stations.

MALTA.—Amended Plant, etc., Regulations. Importation of Fruit, etc.

EGYPT.—Revised Valuation Tariff for Black Pepper.

RUSSIA.—Imports of White Crystal Sugar at Reduced Rates of Duty.

NETHERLANDS.—Customs Decisions.

SPAIN.—Tariff Classification of Certain Parts of Looms. Tariff Classification of Animal Charcoal. Marking of Casks Temporarily Imported for Re-exportation as Containers of National Merchandise.

ITALY.—Temporary Importation of Glucose.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY-SERVIA.—New Commercial Treaty.

URUGUAY.—Special Tax on Pharmaceutical Specialities, etc.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, October 11th.

THE following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 10th instant :—

Rainfall has been heavy in parts of the Rajshahi, Surma Valley and Assam Valley Divisions; and light to moderate elsewhere.

The harvesting of *aus* rice and jute and the transplantation of winter rice are practically completed.

Ploughing for *rabi* crops, the plucking of tea and the sowing of pulses are in progress.

The prospects of standing crops are good.

The average price of common rice is practically unchanged.

Cattle disease is reported in Malda, Goalpara, Kamrup, Nowgong and the Garo Hills.

ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The autumnal meetings of the Association of Chambers of Commerce were continued at Leeds University on September 21st, Lord Brassey presiding.

Thirteen subjects remained on the agenda, the first day having been occupied in disposing of three. One of these three dealt with the subject of banking and currency reform, and a vote by Chamber had been deferred. On September 21st Mr. E. Parkes, M.P. (London), appealed to the conference not to rush a decision on the resolution. Comparatively few of them, he said, understood the question, and he thought they would be stultifying themselves in presuming to come to a conclusion on such an important matter after an hour's discussion. He suggested that the resolution should be put down as the first subject for discussion at the March meetings.

The suggestion was unanimously approved.

Commercial Arbitration.

Mr. C. Charleton (London) moved:—"That having regard to the system of arbitration in commercial cases long and successfully administered by the London Chamber of Commerce and the Corporation of the City of London, the provision of facilities for such arbitrations and for international commercial arbitrations (including the enforcement of awards internationally) is a matter worthy of the best attention and efforts of all Chambers of Commerce at home, in the colonies, and abroad." Mr. Charleton said the experience of the London Chamber showed a noticeable increase in the number of arbitrations coming before them, and he thought there would be but one feeling on the question of enlarging the scope of commercial arbitrations. The idea of enforcing awards internationally was not new.

Mr. F. W. Cook (Dudley) seconded.

Mr. W. T. Stubbs (Manchester) suggested the addition of two words to the resolution in order to make it read "the system of arbitration in commercial cases long and successfully administered by the London 'and other' Chambers of Commerce." In Manchester, he said, they had had a tribunal of arbitration for 25 years, and it had done very good work.

The "Made in Germany" Mark.

Mr. G. H. Wright (Birmingham) proposed—"That this Association approves of the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Bill introduced by Mr. H. Staveley-Hill, M. P., and that a letter be addressed to the President of the Board of Trade urging him to advise the Government to adopt the bill or to grant facilities for its enactment during the next session of Parliament." Mr. Wright said, Mr. Staveley-Hill's bill was intended to remedy a defect in the law which permitted a foreigner to use the name of a British patent, when that patent expired, for the purpose of describing his own goods. It was also proposed to amend the provision of the law requiring a definite declaration of the origin of non-British made goods by substituting the words "not British" for "made in Germany" nor "made in France" as the case might be.

Mr. Evans Jackson (London) seconded.

Mr. F. Ashworth (Manchester) said no mention had been made of the fact that two bills to amend the Merchandise Marks Act had been introduced. Mr. Hobhouse had framed a bill which had the patronage of the Government. It was hardly likely that in one session both bills would be passed, and presumably Mr. Hobhouse's would have precedence. Why not adopt a resolution suggesting the combination of the two bills? Mr. Hobhouse's bill would give power to require further information in respect of imported goods bearing fraudulent marks. Mr. Staveley-Hill's bill contained provisions for the marking of foreign-made goods in such a way as to prevent fraudulent introduction. He supposed that approval of Mr. Staveley-Hill's bill would not necessarily commit the Chambers to approval of the drafting of the clauses, which appeared to him to be in some respects defective. He thought, too, that there would be difference of opinion as to the marking of imported goods "not British." He would prefer the words "foreign made." He moved as an amendment—"This Association approves the objects of the two bills to amend the Merchandise Marks Act introduced by Mr. Hobhouse and Mr. Staveley-Hill, and recommends the President of the Board of Trade to urge the Government to adopt the main provisions of both bills in a combined bill, and afford facilities for its passing in the next session of Parliament."

Mr. A. J. Hobson pointed out as an object of the Manchester proposal that Mr. Hobhouse's bill was a purely administrative measure to empower the Customs authorities to obtain better information as to goods which bore marks closely resembling British trade marks. It was a non-contentious bill, and would make a useful improvement in the law. Mr. Staveley-Hill's was a contentious bill, which would raise considerable friction in some quarters, and if it were tacked on to Mr. Hobhouse's bill there would be no hope of getting either.

In reply to the President Mr. Ashworth said he would not press the amendment and the resolution thereupon adopted.

A Disagreeable Form of Flattery.

Mr. S. Machin (London) introduced the question of the false marking of goods, and moved "That the Government be urged at the first available opportunity to endeavour to induce foreign powers to agree to the holding of an international conference with a view to the extension of the provisions of the Convention of Madrid, 1891 (relative to the prevention of false indications on goods), to all the commercial countries of the world." Grave abuses, he said, existed under the present system. Our two greatest competitors, Germany and the United States, were not included in the Convention, and though France was, they found foreign-made goods of all sorts sold in Paris as of English manufacture. We had our patent laws, under which patents were recognised as private property, and was not the trade mark and reputation of an English firm a private property that ought to be protected? To sell other goods as English was a fraud both on the purchasing public and the English manufacturer. The English name was a hall-mark of quality.

Mr. Stiebel (Nottingham) seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Company Failures.

An amendment of the Company Laws was asked for in the following resolution, moved by Mr. T. H. Barker (Liverpool) and seconded by Mr. Durose (Nottingham):—

"That in the opinion of this Association section 175 of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, should be amended by providing that where an order has been made in England for winding up a company by the court, the court, on the application of the official receiver should have power (whether the official receiver has made a report or not) to direct a public examination of the directors or other officers of the company as well as of any person who has taken any part in the promotion or formation of the company, or who has been a director or officer of the company, and that any person ordered to be examined under this section shall, before his examination, be furnished with a copy of the official receiver's report, if any, without cost to himself."

Mr. Durose said the responsibility at present placed on official receivers of alleging fraud before they could have a public examination into the affairs of a company was too great. If there could be public examinations without any such allegation, frauds might be disclosed which an official receiver would hesitate long before alleging.

The resolution was carried.

Commercial Tribunals.

Mr. Louis Sinclair, for the Newport Chamber, introduced the subject of tribunals of commerce, and moved "That the Association views with grave apprehension the verdicts of juries as now composed in commercial cases, and urgently represents the necessity of commercial tribunals being established where commercial cases can be tried by commercial men."

One of the complaints Mr. Sinclair made was that they found advocates giving up a case because they could get better fees elsewhere. That had been his experience, and he would guarantee the experience of many who were present. There was, he went on, no Ministry of Justice in this country. A man was appointed a judge, and there he remained whether he were good or whether he had lost his senses. He made no reflection on any judge now on the Bench; he was merely talking of the system, which did not provide a means for the removal of a judge if he became incapacitated. What he wanted to secure was that commercial cases should be tried by commercial men.

Mr. A. J. Hobson (Sheffield), who seconded, said he disagreed with some of the remarks of the mover.

Mr. Charleton (London) suggested that the resolution on commercial arbitration which had already been passed rendered this proposal unnecessary.

The motion was lost.

Gold Reserves.

The London Chamber had upon the agenda a resolution on banking and currency reform, which was moved by Mr. Faithfull Begg. It was as follows:—"In view of the fact that the growth of the aggregate liabilities, external and internal, has not been accompanied by a proportional increase of gold held by banks in the United Kingdom, and the consequent desirability of strengthening the gold reserves of the country, and, further, that an opportunity for notice to revise the existing arrangements between the Bank of England and the State will arise in March, 1911, resolved that a deputation be appointed to represent to the Government the necessity of legislative action to secure the keeping of larger gold reserves, such legislation to provide—(1) That the note issues of the Bank of England against Government debt and securities commonly called the fiduciary issue, forming as they do an undue proportion of the whole, should be reduced; (2) that a reasonable reserve in gold should be held by the Government against the deposits in the trustee and post-office savings banks; (3) that fuller and more frequent statements of the position of all banks should be published; (4) that the Bank of England should make an annual return showing the aggregate bankers' balances for each week of the preceding year."

Mr. Begg said that if these proposals were carried out the amount of the gold held by the banks in the aggregate and in detail would be known and the knowledge would be valuable. If they had a reduction of the fiduciary issue in times of monetary ease they would get more stability, and it would tend to equalise the rate of discount and prevent violent fluctuations. A gold reserve against the deposits in the trustee and post-office savings banks would be a preparation for the possible time when—as in the case of a great strike—a few millions might be wanted by the depositors. Generally the increase of knowledge would promote confidence. The burden would be shared by the Government in the first place, by the Bank of England in the second place, and by bankers generally. The present was a great opportunity for taking action, because next year the terms of the arrangement between the Government and the Bank of England would come up for revision.

Mr. J. H. Howell (Bristol), who seconded, said that three times in twenty-one years we had been tided over a critical period by the complacency of the Bank of France. If in a time of profound peace we were at the mercy of foreign speculators, what would happen if the outbreak of a European war were imminent?

Sir Albert Spicer said the circumstances which occasioned these periods of financial difficulty were largely not of our own making. They came from elsewhere, but as London was the only free gold market of the world it felt the burden of any special demand for money. Dear money hit the small commercial man heaviest and the uncertainties which it caused tended to upset business for years afterwards.

After some further discussion the resolution was put, and declared lost on a show of hands.

BLEACHING JUTE AND HEMP.

HEMP and jute fibres generally contain a much larger proportion of ligneous matters than the other vegetable fibres. Consequently to obtain unmodified fibres it is necessary to treat hemp and jute without submitting them to the action of chlorine. The treatment for bleaching these fibres, therefore, consists in many short diluted baths of peroxide of soda (3 to 4 grms. per litre), at a moderate temperature, followed by baths of sulphite or bisulphite of soda, perfectly acidified with oxalic acid. The operations are terminated before drawing by giving a bath acidulated with oxalic acid, and through this a good pure white may be obtained.

Chlorine is detrimental towards hemp and jute, inasmuch as it causes the formation of chlorinated compounds with the ligneous matter, which eventually brings about the disintegration of the fibre. A whiteness such as cannot be obtained by the ordinary methods may be produced on these fibres by submitting the hemp or the jute to a treatment in a bath of 2 to 3 grms. of carbonate of soda, at a temperature of 60 to 70 deg. C. It is often advantageous to add to this bath 10 to 20 c. c. of sulphoricinate of soda per litre. This contributes to the efficiency of the bath in wetting and opening out the fibres. The first lye is allowed to act for 2 or 3 hours, according to the quantity of material in relation to that of the liquor. The second operation consists of a bath of peroxide of soda (2 to 4 grms. per litre), at a temperature of 50 deg. C., in which the material is treated for only one hour. It is then well washed, and treated in a second similar bath, but fresh, under the same conditions. It is again washed and treated in a bath composed (for each 10 litres) of 1 litre of bisulphite of soda, 30 deg. B., and 50 grms. of oxalic acid, for about 9 to 12 hours, at a temperature of 80 to 90 deg. C. The bleaching of the fibre takes place gradually, and, when this is accomplished, the material is washed and soured with oxalic acid (1 grm. per litre), and dried.

To obtain a "full white" on jute, a second course of analogous treatement is given; one or two baths of the peroxide followed by treatment with acidified bisulphite give the white without causing any modification of the fibre. Jute fibres may be manipulated by padding in an alkaline solution of hypochlorite of soda, containing 2 grms. of available chlorine per litre, at a temperature of 30 to 35 deg. C. After washing, pad in a bath of peroxide of soda (5 grms. per litre), wash well, and pad in bisulphite of soda acidified with oxalic acid. In all these processes it has to be remembered that alkalis and alkaline compounds attack the substances of ligneous fibre according to their particular hydrolysing and saponifying activities. The totality of the ligno-celluloses is attacked. By boiling the jute fibre for one hour in a 1 per cent solution of caustic soda a loss in weight of from 10 to 12 per cent is observed. At temperatures beyond the boiling point the fibre undergoes more or less disintegration, so that it is necessary to avoid operating at too high a temperature.

A patented process (Braun's) for the bleaching of the celluloses and ligno-celluloses may be mentioned. It specifies the preparation of a 1 to 3 per cent solution of sulphurous acid, which is then neutralised with ammonia. The material is treated with this in a closed kier lined with lead, at a pressure of 4 to 10 atmospheres, for a period extending over from 10 to 24 hours. It is said that the cellulose treated by this method submits subsequently very readily to bleaching with peroxide of soda. The highly coloured fibres and those that are usually difficult to bleach, such as jute, are, after boiling, already very clear and much decolourised. A final treatment, following the peroxide, with bisulphite of soda and oxalic acid, decidedly improves the result. Sulphide of soda is also very useful in the clearing of jute.

Taken generally, the jute and hemp fibres lose in weight through bleaching from 35 to 40 per cent.—*Textile Mercury.*

—Efforts to increase the export trade in **American silks**, says the *Manchester Guardian*, do not meet with much success, disastrous results having followed attempts to push business with the South American markets. American silk manufacturers want "big runs," and are not satisfied with the smaller orders for a particular pattern which would give satisfaction to a German, Swiss, French, or English manufacturer. Their designs also do not suit the taste of South American or West Indian buyers, and it is particularly annoying to Havana importers that United States silk fabrics should have a preference of 30 per cent. Spanish houses interested in the Cuban fancy goods import trade as retailers have in the past bought largely from Paris and Hamburg. Cloths of the Shantung and Pongee class sell well in Havana, but the complaint is made that the demands of the island cannot be satisfactorily supplied under the existing fiscal system. The American output of silks, while increasing, is not of a character to suit the requirements of an export trade. It may be noted here that the output of spun silk yarn is slowly growing in the United States, and that a Rhode Island concern is doubling its plant. The trade, however, is not growing as rapidly as was expected, and the new duties cause many complaints amongst manufacturers using American spun silk yarns. English spinners still possess an important share of the business.

OIL AND SHELLAC MARKET.

IN the course of an article in its issue of September 24th 1910, the *Ironmonger* says:—Business in the oil, paint, and colour trades during September has been somewhat restricted, partly no doubt on account of the holidays and the time of year, but more particularly because of the high prices ruling in many departments of the trade. In some sections there can be no doubt whatever that prices are dangerous, and in all departments (excepting the mineral oils) the range of value is much above an average. This position occurs also at a time when other trades are not too prosperous, and it is clear that it can be maintained only by very special circumstances. It should perhaps be said that as the *Ironmonger* goes to press early in consequence of the special character of this issue, we can deal with the facts of the markets only up to an earlier date than is usual in these notes.

Linseed Oil.

The market for linseed oil was very good for about a fortnight after we last wrote, but values did not alter very much until the second week in September. It then became clear that bull speculation was being initiated, based on the comparative scarcity of supplies, and the difficulty of obtaining linseed oil at reasonable prices increased from day to day. With the exception of those consumers who were compelled to secure some oil to go on with no actual user of linseed oil has been inclined to buy lately; the market is largely in the hands of speculators, the market is largely in the hands of speculators, and the bulls have clearly obtained control. To what level they will be able to raise prices no one can say, but it is certainly wisdom on the part of all consumers to leave things alone until the campaign is over. When we last wrote linseed oil was quoted at £39 10*s.* to £40 in London, and at £38 (naked) in Hull. These prices were then considered high, if not dangerous. As we write the oil is quoted at £45 to £45 10*s.* in London, and at £43 15*s.* (naked) in Hull. There has been a rumour current for sometime that the bulls intended to force linseed oil up to £50 this autumn, and this does not seem impossible, although our experience of this class of rumour is that it is usually intended to bring in outsiders at the top of the market and thus enable the campaign to be closed successfully. There is absolutely nothing in the statistical position to justify these prices.

	1906	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports of Seed	1,092,800	1,630,586	1,589,120	1,273,751	1,097,613 qrs.
Price of oil, September 1st	£19 15*s.*	£23	£21 10*s.*	£24 2*s.* 6*d.*	£40

It will be seen that the supplies of seed are the same as they were five years ago, but the price at the beginning of the month was 100 per cent. more, and is now 125 per cent. more. The imports of linseed oil for the eight months were 27,093 tons, against 7,435 tons in 1909 and 6,346 tons in 1908. The extra 20,000 tons of oil, if converted into its equivalent of seed, would represent about 300,000 qrs., so that taking the oil and the seed imports together they are not far short of the large supplies received in 1907 and 1908.

Cotton Oil.

There has been a considerable rise in the cotton-oil market since we last wrote, although this is not quite so rampant a market as that for linseed oil. Our readers are, of course, chiefly interested in the edible qualities used in the fish-frying business, and these have been dear all through the month. The American "square" in P. S. Y. oil has thrown the demand more upon English makes of edibles, and some supplies have been shipped to America with a view of relieving the position there. Consequently English edible cotton oil has been very scarce, and good qualities have reached £37 per ton, with as much as £40 quoted for fine water-white. There has been seme edible oil made from Indian seed, of which there is an abundance, and some from soya beans, but these do not yet find much favour, and it is a little risky to supply them for cooking purposes. The difference between English edible-oil prices and the soap-oil prices has widened. It used to be £1 to £2 per ton, and it is now from £5 to £7 per ton.

	1906. Tons.	1907. Tons.	1908. Tons.	1909. Tons.	1910. Tons.
Imports of seed—					
Egypt . .	212,828	243,406	229,855	211,454	80,194
Other countries .	219,391	281,281	190,113	215,284	434,650
TOTAL .	432,219	524,687	419,968	426,738	514,844
Price, Hull, September 1st	£20 15*s.*	£27 17*s.* 6*d.*	£20 5*s.*	£22	£29 15*s.*

Rape Oil.

The market for rape oil has been rather irregular, but on the whole the tone has been firmer in sympathy with other oils. The gain in price has not been more than about 10*s.* per ton on rape and about 30*s.* on colza. The latter was and still is comparatively low, especially in face of the fact that the active season has begun. Rape is relatively cheap, but, of course, a collapse in the seed-oil markets would probably bring it down with the other oils, although possibly not to the same extent. The supplies of foreign seed are much larger than in recent years, but at the same time they are not now by any means excessive.

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports of seed .	87,842	147,696	106,328	88,961	159,915 qrs.
Price of oil, September 1st .	£29 10*s.*	£34.	£32.	£27 10*s.*	£30 10*s.*

Turpentine.

The market for turpentine has been steadily improving, and on very few days has any reaction been witnessed. The total rise since we last wrote amounts to £3 5*s.* per ton, but although the price now looks high, when considered in relation to other prices it is not so extravagant. The steadiness of the market is a feature which was entirely absent when the value was last at a similar level. The demand for Russian spirit and for substitutes consisting largely of this class of turpentine has been increasing, but Russian turpentine still keeps moderately low, and the best kinds can be bought at about £31 per ton.

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports . .	308,201	354,265	394,202	301,105	282,392 cwt.
Price September 1st. .	£46 5*s.*	£40 12*s.* 6*d.*	£27 2*s.* 6*d.*	£40 10*s.*	£51 5*s.*

HIDE AND LEATHER BUSINESS.

IN spite of the difficult conditions which have been a feature of the hide and leather trades since the opening of the year, it is a source of satisfaction to see, from the latest Board of Trade returns, that most sections are in a healthy position. As we recently pointed out in these columns, whatever disabilities the domestic hide and leather trades have been under this year, it is a fact that other nations have not been able to escape them, and a recent report from Germany states that the trade has of late been passing through trying times, and that tanners have been obliged to pass raw stock, which they badly wanted, simply because they could not get an adequate advance on the finished articles. In America and France it has been about the same, so that the British progress is perhaps all the more noteworthy. However, let us get to the figures, which, dry as they appear in the trade returns, are encouraging. Taking first the import and consumption of dry hides we find that 297,598 cwt. were imported during the first eight months of last year, as compared with 361,280 cwt. for the same period of 1910; after deducting the value of re-exports, we arrive at the fact that in British yards dry hides were tanned to the value of £471,704, and £704,299 for the two periods. In wet hides—still comparing the first eight months of 1909-10 British imports reached 466,069 and 518,995 cwt. and after deducting value of re-exports, it seems clear that in spite of dear material and low priced leather, our domestic tanners have utilised foreign wet hides to the value of £1,3 7,365 and £1,482,350 respectively. Even making a liberal allowance for advanced value, the increase strikes us as being very substantial. Less British hides, too, appear to have been shipped abroad, as exports during the first eight months of 1909 amounted to 180,653 cwt. (value £475,602), as against 126,859 cwt. (value £359,202) for the same period of the current year. Apparently our light leather tanners have also been working in more domestic sheep pelts this year mainly owing to the slow demand from the United States; anyhow, the value of exported pickled sheep and lamb pelts has declined from £351,149 to £301,822, the falling off in quantity being roughly about a million and a-half pelts.

So much for raw material; now we turn to a brief survey of exports of leather and leather goods. Under the heading of tanned, tawed or dressed leather the official figures for the first eight months of 1909-10 show that the export has advanced from 132,199 cwt. (value £1,565,393) to 144,970 cwt. (value £1,860,425). The increase seems to us to be a real cause for satisfaction, when we consider the increases in the tariff in some markets, although against these we have to place the reduction in the import duty into the United States on leather, which has in all probability been of great service to our sole leather tanners.

As usual, the shoe section is taking the premier position in the foreign trade, the value of the export having risen from £1,417,162 to £1,899,583 for the periods under review of the past and current year. The increases are general, every market without exception having increased its business with British shoe manufacturers. At present there is no means of finding out just what quantity of British shoes are finding their way into the United States, as this country is not specified; still, under the heading of "Other Countries," the values have gone up from £377,820 to £572,178, and it is highly probable the American trade may account for the bulk of the increase in this direction.

Even the harness and saddlery section seems moving in the right direction at last, and this is all the more surprising when we think of the strides which have of late years been made in mechanical traction. Still, taking the first eight months of 1909-10, we find that British business along this line had advanced from £263,027 to £293,748, the most substantial increases being with the British Colonies. For instance, South Africa's bill has gone up from £26,083 to £53,477, and Australia's from £45,234 to £56,986. Trade in saddlery with America has declined—a significant sign of financial conditions—whilst a falling off is also noticeable in the European demand. There has been an advance in the demand from South America from £24,155 to £32,387, and, as we have already stated, the total is satisfactory, all things considered. In the kindered leather belting section the export bill for the period under notice has advanced from £315,476 to £352,813, leather glove business having declined slightly, from £212,899 to £211,750, this being certainly due to the comparatively quiet American demand of late. Taking the value of exports of British leather and leather goods—not including boots—we arrive at the satisfactory conclusion that the value of the export business done has advanced from £2,615,295 to £3,037,169 for the first two-thirds of 1909-10, which in all probability constitutes a record.

It is perhaps remarkable that side by side with the increase in the working in of hides and skins, the decreased export of domestic raw goods, and the increased exports of leather and leather goods, there should be a decided advance in the imports of undressed and dressed leather. After deducting the value of re-exports, the British consumption of the former has increased from £2,369,285 to £2,501,053, whilst in dressed leather—still making the deduction for re-exports—foreign material to the value of £2,881,686 has been cut up this year in British shoe factories as compared with £2,711,477 for the same period of last year. That much of this could be made at home we have no doubt, and if the existing signs mean anything we believe we shall see this huge import bill considerably reduced.

The above, then, is a short *précis* of the eight months' hide and leather trade business as shown by the official figures; that they are satisfactory is obvious, and they point to the fact that by the end of the current year our export statistics will probably beat all existing records.—*Leather Trades Review.*

TRANSFRONTIER TRADE OF THE PUNJAB.

WE give below some particulars of the transfrontier trade of the Punjab taken from the Report on the External Land Trade of the Punjab for the years 1907-08 to 1909-10 :—

The following figures show the total trade during the last two periods of three years :—

	Value of trade.							
	Afghanistan.		*Ladakh (By Kulu route only).*		*Chinese Tibet.*		*Total.*	
	Total for 3 years.	Yearly average	Total for 3 years.	Yearly average.	Total for 3 years.	Yearly average.	Total for 3 years.	Yearly average.
IMPORTS.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1904—1907 . . .	94,491	31,497	22,44,503	7,48,168	3,70,861	1,23,620	27,09,855	9,03,285
1907—1910 . . .	44,928	14,976	5,62,142	1,87,381	7,35,192	2,45,064	13,42,262	4,47,421
EXPORTS.								
1904—1907 . . .	2,47,839	82,613	4,98,045	1,66,015	1,40,969	46,989	8,86,853	2,96,284
1907—1910 . . .	49,215	16,405	3,38,328	1,12,776	91,983	30,661	4,79,526	1,59,842

Except in the case of Tibet it is a record of collapse of which the significance can only be partially explained away by the statistical adjustments which have to be applied. The trade with Afghanistan was not registered between January 1st and October 30th, 1907, which means that the figures for the present triennium really include the exports of two years only. Moreover there can be little doubt that in the earlier triennium a good deal of traffic with Baluchistan was recorded as trade with Afghanistan, though the orders were that trade with Baluchistan was not to be registered. In the case of Ladakh trade the value of the imports has been much reduced during the last three years by the exclusion of the amount of duty in calculating the value of *charas*, and besides that, the statistical errors noted in paragraph 3 of the report for 1907-08 have to be allowed for. The same errors affect in some measure the figures for Tibet. The real trade fluctuations, as distinct from statistical aberrations, will be noticed for each country separately.

Trade with Afghanistan.

The trade with Afghanistan is hardly worth registering. The Deputy Commissioner reports that the only traders who pass through the Dera Ghazi Khan district come from Western Afghanistan and are in reality mere camel owners who visit the Punjab in the cold weather in order to graze their camels, and are quite distinct from the traders proper. They use their camels to bring in and take out a little merchandize at the beginning and the end of the cold weather. The imports are chiefly of raisins, almonds and *ghi* and the exports of rice, leather shoes and cotton piece-goods, but the last in very small quantities now-a-days. This year some 40 maunds of Indian tea has been exported and this may be the beginning of a new trade. Owing to the doubtful accuracy of the earlier figures it is useless to compare the trade of the two periods of three years. The only satisfactory feature is that in 1909-10 both imports and exports have considerably increased.

Trade with Ladakh.

The trade with Ladakh is almost entirely through Kulu, as owing to the absence of a bridge at Dankar the Spiti route from Simla is not used. The following figures shew the chief fluctuations in the imports of the two three year periods :—

	1904-07.		1907-10.	
	Maunds.	Value. Rs.	Maunds.	Value. Rs.
Horse and ponies .	No. 288	35,619	No. 255	26,885
Borax . . .	3,022	19,673	2,778	23,548
Charas . . .	6,207	18,07,120	4,700	3,04,360
Raw silk . . .	425	1,48,750	364	1,77,760
Raw wool . . .	5,547	1,59,314	588	16,865

There is no real falling off in the imports of Ladakhi borax from Puga as the imports of 1907-08 have been wrongly shown as coming from Tibet. The raising of the price of *charas* has somewhat restricted the consumption in India. There is not much change in the proportion brought in by Kulu and by Kashmir, respectively. The general decrease in the value of the *charas* is due, as already mentioned, to the exclusion of the duty. As to the imports of 1909-10, the Assistant Commissioner, Kulu, reports that the *charas* was very cheap at Rs. 40 the maund. Then a scare was started that extraction of the drug was to be stopped in Yarkand and the price rushed up to 160 rupees the maund. The story is told that the order prohibiting its extraction was issued by a local officer on his own responsibility. The order checked the sowing of

hemp generally but the more knowing cultivators sowed it, explaining that it was to be used for fibre only, and meanwhile appealed to higher authority "in the manner customary in India" against the order. Thereupon it was repudiated, and it is said that *charas* will be exported as before, so soon as the people take to sowing hemp again. As to raw silk India is not getting less from Central Asia, but more is coming in *viâ* Kashmir and less *viâ* Kulu. However, the imports even by the Kulu route were 116 maunds in 1909-10 against only 67 maunds in the preceding year. The decreases in the imports of raw wool are statistical not real, as trade recorded in the last triennium as being with Ladakh is now being correctly shown as with Tibet. Within the last three years the annual fluctuations have been small.

The following are the details of the exports :—

	1904-07.		1907-10.	
	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Coral . .	Tolahs 51,200	22,700	Tolahs 134,816	25,278
Cotton piece-goods (English) . .	2,264	3,82,145	905	1,49,800
Cotton piece-goods (Indian)	92	6,165	308	20,280
Indian tea .	3,743	54,184	2,694	58,000
Silver . .	...	2,00,165	...	45,338

The annual fluctuations in coral are violent, but the returns are on the face of them open to suspicion, as on two occasions the exact figures of one year are repeated in the next year. The only fact worth noticing is that there were very large exports in 1907-08 and 1908-09 and a slump in 1909-10. The Assistant Commissioner says 'about four years ago three men took a large consignment of imitation coral "made in Germany" to Yarkand. It sold furiously at first. But the Yarkandis found that the imitation was inflammable and they have since declined to have anything to do with coral from Kulu.' The report of the Resident in Kashmir on the Ladakh trade in 1908-09, when there was a great falling off in the amount of coral sent from Leh to Yarkand, gives a different explanation and ascribes the shrinkage in the exports to the Central Asian markets being overstocked and to Russia having put on a prohibitive duty which stopped the export of a considerable quantity of coral which used to go to Russian territory.

As to the falling off in European cotton piece-goods the Assistant Commissioner notes:—"The explanation is interesting. The officer in charge of the bonded warehouse at Hoshiarpur sees the bills of lading. It is impossible to deceive him as to their value. Merchants are afraid that income tax will be assessed on their exports according to some assumed rate of profit. They say, quite rightly that they do not see their profits till the third year after the arrival of the goods in Hoshiarpur, and that the profit is subject to innumerable risks. Consequently they prefer the Kashmir route where there is no such risk. This objection is undoubtedly one on which they should receive re-assurance. And it is to be hoped that it will be further enquired into." The reference to income tax can only be an intelligent anticipation of troubles to come for no cotton piece-goods were exported in bond *viâ* Hoshiarpur during the year. There are no signs of a decrease in the demand for European piece-goods in Central Asia, where Indian piece-goods find no sale and the decline in the exports of European piece-goods by the Kulu route probably only means that more have gone by the Kashmir route. Indian piece-goods go only as far as Leh.

The decline in the exports of Indian tea by the Kulu route to Central Asia is serious and has been continuous from 1906-07, when 2,104 maunds were exported, to 1909-10 when only 502 maunds were taken away. It was reported from Leh in 1909 that the Central Asian markets were overstocked. This and the greater popularity of the Kashmir road explain the decrease.

Trade with Tibet.

The following is the detail of the imports from Tibet :—

	1904-07.		1907-10.	
	Maunds.	Value. Rs.	Maunds.	Value. Rs.
Borax . .	3,008	33,386	6,556	87,503
Salt . . .	4,812	14,437	3,449	7,482
Raw wool . .	8,628	2,85,515	16,659	5,90,897

About two-thirds of the trade pass along the Shalkar Chango and the Shipki and Lingo Morang routes to and from the Simla district and the rest goes through Kulu by the route passing through Rukshu on to Dongtchi. The only imports by the Spiti valley to Kulu are 319 maunds of borax. The revival in the trade in borax is satisfactory. The falling off in salt is doubtless due to the cheapening of Punjab salt and the competition of Mandi salt. Moreover, it was noted last year that the Tibetan authorities now levy a royalty on salt. The salt trade is almost entirely through Nachar, salt brought by Tibetans to Patseo being apparently consumed in Lahaul and not reaching our trade post at Sultanpur. Two-fifths of the wool, which also includes *pashm*, is imported through Ladakh and three-fifths through Nachar: the latter is valued at Rs. 30 to Rs. 32-8 a maund, while the former is valued only at Rs. 25 to 30 a maund: the value of the *pashm* varies from Rs. 55 to 70 the maund. The Lahaulis who import the wool which comes through Ladakh (except for a little imported as fleeces by the Tibetans who bring their salt laden sheep to Patseo) appear to be losing the trade, whereas the Bashahris

trade free of duties and are bringing in more than formerly. They buy their wool in Chumurti on their way to Rudok and also in the districts of Rudok and Rundor (8 marches beyond Rudok).

Until recently the traders from Ladakh, Lahaul and Bashahr did not compete among themselves for wool except for that brought in from Gerze and other places beyond Nari Khorsum, but each man dealt exclusively with a number of clients to whom he advanced money and who in return dealt with no one else. Recently the Bhotias introduced competition and were assisted by cash advances from the Woollen Mills of Cawnpore in their inroads into the old preserves of the Punjab traders. However, the Punjabi traders have managed more than to hold their own, and imports of wool to the United Provinces are decreasing and to the Punjab are increasing.

The most important exports to Tibet have been as follows :—

	1904-07.		1907-10.	
	Maunds.	Value Rs.	Maunds.	Value Rs.
Cotton piece-goods, European.	341	35,120	172	23,175
Cotton piece-goods Indian.	306	17,480	243	14,860
Grain and pulse .	3,138	8,484	2,775	11,413
Brass and copper .	432	27,266	130	7,732
Indian tea . .	273	6,275	438	9,195
Treasure-silver . .	...	15,700	...	27,150

Coral and pearls are also exported in variable quantities.

The value of the exports decline year by year from 1904-05 to 1908-09, but in 1909-10 there was a considerable improvement in most commodities. Grain is what the Tibetan nomads require most and they must obtain this either from the Bhotias and the traders of the United Provinces or from the Punjab. It is apparently the comparative proximity of the grain supplies that give the Bhotia and United Provinces traders the advantage over those from the Punjab and Bashahr. The grain is exported chiefly by the Shalkar Chango route and by custom is exchanged for salt, so that the imports of salt vary in proportion to the exports of grain.

Tea.

The export of Kangra tea appears to be that part of the Tibetan trade which most require development and gives the best promise of success. The exports of tea from the United Provinces have increased a little in recent years, but the consumption of Indian tea in Western Tibet must still be only a small fraction of the consumption of Lhasa tea. Of course there are special difficulties in selling or bartering Kangra tea in competition with the official sales of China tea and also in the preparation of brick tea to suit the Tibetan taste. But one firm has discoverd the method of preparation and a little enterprise ought to enable others to discover it also. The official tea is sold at such high prices, that Indian tea ought at least to tempt by its cheapness. The Assistant Commissioner, Kulu, notes on the tea trade as follows :—"The decline in the export of tea through Sultanpur is not, so I am told, a sign that less Punjab tea is consumed in Tibet. Most of the tea exported to Tibet from the Punjab has always been consumed east of the Punjab trade routes. Kangra valley tea is still the favourite. But it is now largely exported *viâ* Almora, because the principal trade of the Punjab in tea is with Bokhara merchants whose tea market is in Amritsar. Naturally the tea is sent first to the chief market. From Amritsar what is not taken to the north-west is brought by traders from the United Provinces who carry it to Tibet through Almora. But the best tea that goes to Tibet from the Punjab is still sent *viâ* Kulu, that sent by Almora being poor stuff."

The real problem seems to be to induce the Lahauli and Bashahri traders to export tea in lieu of some at least of the silver now carried, paid to the Tibetans for their wool and *pashm* and in turn expended by the Tibetans on Lhasa tea. Perhaps something could be done by the institution of sale depôts of tea at convenient places, such as Patseo and Rampur Bashahr.

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JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

The Record of the Special Commission formed by the British Fire Prevention Committee to visit Berlin, Hamburg, and Hanover on the occasion of a Meeting of the German Professional Fire Service Association (Hamburg, 1909). Compiled by E. O. Sachs and C. Ellis Marshland. 11 × 8¾, 100 pp.

Published at the Offices of the Committee, 8, Waterloo Place.

TRADE OF PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

The following summary table has been prepared at the Board of Trade showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to June, 1910, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, *viz.*, the six months ended June. The corresponding figures for 1909 and 1908 are added for comparison :—

—	Imports (*see* Note). Six months (January-June).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* Note). Six months (January-June).		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	187,690,000	204,763,000	*209,542,000*	152,280,000	149,439,000	174,077,000
Belgium*	64,063,000	68,697,000	*74,946,000*	47,529,000	49,006,000	*53,639,000*
France	112,934,000	126,216,000	*133,290,000*	100,105,000	109,538,000	*119,015,000*
Switzerland†	28,667,000	30,307,000	*32,575,000*	20,076,000	20,845,000	22,769,000
Spain	19,184,000	*18,988,000*	*18,749,000*	17,066,000	*16,820,000*	*18,402,000*
Italy	55,928,000	63,824,000	*62,379,000*	33,670,000	35,978,000	*38,859,000*
Austria-Hungary	*52,853,000*	*54,011,000*	*58,780,000*	*46,931,000*	*45,227,000*	*47,417,000*
Egypt	11,779,000	10,277,000	10,858,000	10,959,000	11,968,000	11,199,000
United States	108,844,000	149,583,000	166,124,000	180,214,000	161,398,000	163,349,000
Japan	25,784,000	21,845,000	24,459,000	17,518,000	18,950,000	21,346,000
British India	46,412,000	37,518,000	40,169,000	45,954,000	57,549,000	77,820,000
Canada	28,892,000	33,158,000	43,219,000	19,967,000	20,010,000	23,792,000
British South Africa†	12,904,000	12,967,000	17,840,000	22,023,000	23,742,000	27,249,000
United Kingdom	258,996,000	255,099,000	279,141,000	189,993,000	176,934,000	204,586,000

* Value of *principal* articles only. † Including bullion.

A comparison of the total figures for the seven months ended 31st July is possible for five countries, follows, *viz.* :—

—	Imports (*see* Note). Seven months (January-July).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* Note). Seven months (January-July).		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	Not stated.	241,721,000	*242,394,000*	Not stated.	176,817,000	203,559,000
Belgium*	73,259,000	80,480,000	*85,213,000*	55,255,000	57,084,000	*63,453,000*
France	129,366,000	145,177,000	*151,801,000*	113,961,000	127,474,000	*137,283,000*
United States	126,851,000	173,018,000	191,164,000	201,308,000	183,699,000	186,529,000
United Kingdom	299,447,000	298,021,000	320,241,000	223,699,000	212,422,000	242,974,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade are as follows :—

—	Imports (*see* Note). Five months (January-May).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* Note). Five months (January-May.)		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia*	30,895,000	31,349,000	39,799,000	31,955,000	43,555,000	50,477,000
Mexico†	8,639,000	7,120,000	8,871,000	9,657,000	10,589,000	11,322,000
Australia†	20,089,000	19,540,000	22,810,000	23,371,000	23,993,000	29,202,000

* European, Russo-Finnish and Black Sea Frontiers. † Including bullion and specie.

Note.—The values stated for the *latest* year shown in the foregoing statements are provisional and subject to rectification. In some cases all the values are those declared by importers or exporters, as in the United Kingdom ; in others they are based on an official schedule of values which is subjected to revision after the close of each year, the values used in the current returns being those fixed in the latest completed revision. In general, the values so fixed represent the level of prices in the preceding year. The countries adopting the system of official values annually revised are :—Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, and (for imports) Germany and Switzerland. Exports from Switzerland are returned at declared values; and, since April, 1909, only about one-third of the exports from Germany have been returned at official values, the values of the remainder being declared. *The figures in italics are based, wholly or mainly, on the prices of some earlier year than that under which they are shown.* The values of the exports from Germany for the six months ended June, 1910, and for the seven months ended July, 1910, are based, in each case, partly on declared values and partly on the prices of the year 1909.

In the case of Russia, Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, *and the United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Number and particulars of Joint Stock Companies registered in each province in British India in the month of August, 1910.

No.	Class and Name.	Situation of Registered Offices.	Object.	Nominal Capital.
	I.—Banking, Loan and Insurance.			
	(*a*) *Banking and Loan.*			Rs.
1	Rangpur Bank	Rangpur, Eastern Bengal and Assam	Banking	2,50,000
2	Muffasil Bank	Gorakpur City, United Provinces	ditto	20,000
3	Triplicane Hindu Permanent Fund	Triplicane, Madras	Money-lending (mutual)	19,980
	Total, Banking and Loan	.....	.....	2,89,980
	(*b*) *Insurance.*			
4	Indian Mutual Benefit Fund	Chittagong, Eastern Bengal and Assam	Life assurance and marriage endowment	20,000
5	All India Provident Corporation	Calcutta, Bengal	Life and other insurance	20,000
	Total, Insurance	.....	.....	40,000
	Total, Banking, Loan and Insurance	.....	.....	3,29,980
	II.—Trading.			
	(*a*) *Navigation.*			
6	Indian and Peninsular Steam Navigation Company	Bombay	Ship owners and charterers of ships, etc.	50,00,000
	(*b*) *Railways and Tramways.*			
7	Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Company	Ditto	Constructing and working a tramway by electricity	1,80,00,000
	(*c*) *Printing, Publishing and Stationery.*			
8	Dacca Hrishikesh Company	Dacca, Eastern Bengal and Assam	Printing and publishing newspapers, etc.	10,000
	(*d*) *Others.*			
9	National Khondal Brother Company	Feni, Eastern Bengal and Assam	Trading in miscellaneous goods	20,000
10	Imperial Tobacco Company of India	Calcutta, Bengal	Cultivators, manufacturers of, and dealers in tobacco, etc.	1,000
11	Calcutta Dairy Farm	Ditto do	Carrying on business of dairy farm	50,000
12	Allahabad Ice Association	Allahabad, United Provinces	Manufacturing, importing and dealing in goods of all descriptions	1,00,000
13	United India Trading Company	Ahmedabad, Bombay	Merchants and commission agents	40,000
	Total, Others	.....	.....	2,11,000
	Total, Trading	.....	.....	2,32,21,000
	III.—Mills and Presses.			
	(*a*) *Cotton Mills.*			
14	Bhiwani Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills Company	Bombay	Spinning, ginning, pressing, combing, bleaching and dyeing cotton, etc.	7,00,000

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES—*contd.*

No.	Class and Name.	Situation of Registered Offices.	Object.	Nominal Capital.
	(b) Mills for Wool, Silk, Hemp, etc.			
15	Surat Silks and General Manufacturing Company	Bombay	Spinning, weaving, dyeing, bleaching yarn of silk, cotton, hemp, etc.	Rs. 50,000
	(c) Cotton and Jute Screws and Presses.			
16	Nagar Ginning and Trading Company	Ahmednagar, Bombay	Ginning and pressing cotton, etc.	1,00,000
	(d) Other Mills and Presses.			
17	Standard Mills Company	Rawalpindi, Punjab	Manufacturing flour, oil, ice, brick, surkhee, lime, etc.	2,50,000
	Total, Mills and Presses	.....	.....	11,00,000
	IV.—Tea and Other Planting Companies.			
	(a) Tea.			
18	Chincoorie Tea Company	Calcutta, Bengal	Cultivation and manufacture of tea	80,000
	(b) Others.			
19	Sethledmog (Shwegyin) Para Rubber Company	Rangoon, Burma	Cultivators and dealers in rubber, timber and other agricultural produce	4,00,500
	Total, Tea and other Planting Companies	.....	.....	4,80,500
	V.—Mining and Quarrying Associations.			
20	Indian Petroleum Prospecting Company	Rangoon, Burma	Dealing in and refining petroleum and other mineral oils and prospecting, exploring, purchasing, taking on lease or license or acquiring any petroleum or oil-bearing lands in India, Burma, etc.	3,75,000
	Total, Mining and Quarrying Associations	.....	.....	3,75,000
	VI.—Others.			
21	Vadheswaram Lift Irrigation Company	Vadheswaram, Madras	Construction of irrigating channels for watering fields fsom the Kistna Channel	20,000
	GRAND TOTAL	.....	.....	2,55,26,408

ABSTRACT TABLE OF COMPANIES REGISTERED IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1910.

		Rs.
3	Banking and Loan Companies	2,89,980
2	Insurance Companies	40,000
1	Navigation Company	50,00,000
1	Railways and Tramways Company	1,80,00,000
1	Printing, Publishing and Stationery Company	10,000
5	Trading Companies (other than those specified above)	2,11,000
1	Cotton Mills Company	7,00,000
1	Silk Mills Company	50,000
1	Cotton and Jute Screws and Presses Company	1,00,000
1	Mills and Presses (other than those specified above)	2,50,000
1	Tea Planting Company	80,000
1	Rubber Planting Company	4,00,500
1	Petroleum Mining Company	3,75,000
1	Company (other than those specified above)	20,000
21	Grand Total	2,55,26,480

INDIAN CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Total gross Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) in thousands of rupees :—

SEA CUSTOMS.	In the six months, April to September of									
	1901-02	1902-03	1903-04	1904-05	1905-06	1906-07	1907-08	1908-09	1909-10	1910-11
Imports.										
Special Import Duties.										
Arms, ammunition, and military stores	1,38	1,59	1,39	1,91	1,72	1,72	2,41	2,33	2,32	2,31
Liquors—										
Ale, beer, porter, cider and other fermented liquors	1,00	1,04	1,25	1,37	1,35	1,44	1,38	2,49	2,43	3,87
Spirits and liqueurs	31,04	32,55	35,89	36,35	38,59	34,34	44,24	45,77	45,03	51,43
Wines	1,54	1,74	1,68	1,55	1,75	1,60	1,75	1,73	1,62	2,48
Opium and its alkaloids	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	3
Petroleum	26,11	26,50	21,79	23,35	19,33	17,01	22,24	26,84	22,87	26,72
Silver, bullion and coin	15,60	21,86	17,84	22,26	15,36	21,93	26,95	35,74	31,88	96,94
Sugar (countervailing duties, 1899)	15,35	14,62	1,94	6	1	...	...	...	...	1
Sugar (countervailing duties, 1902)	—	3,12	12	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tobacco	82	86	96	1,15	1,48	1,41	1,79	1,69	2,23	13,83
General Import Duties.										
Articles of food and drink (excluding sugar)	5,85	5,75	5,97	6,72	8,10	8,16	10,16	11,58	10,32	11,02
Sugar (ordinary duties)	12,77	11,85	12,31	13,44	11,94	23,85	19,39	19,96	26,80	26,67
Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics (excluding opium and its alkaloids and tobacco), and dyeing and tanning materials	4,72	4,63	5,57	5,06	5,26	5,52	7,11	6,34	6,76	7,93
Cotton manufactures—										
Piece-goods, grey	24,79	26,90	24,01	26,60	31,44	32,99	34,07	26,64	29,22	28,60
„ white	14,99	8,53	9,65	13,91	14,18	12,03	18,84	15,50	10,78	15,33
„ coloured	11,37	10,47	13,42	15,40	15,69	15,53	18,02	19,35	12,70	19,43
Other goods	1,35	97	1,58	2,60	2,78	2,70	2,99	3,12	2,71	3,73
Metals (excluding silver, bullion and coin) and manufactures thereof	10,90	15,09	14,40	18,24	14,93	15,13	19,14	25,29	20,73	24,44
Oils (excluding petroleum)	85	84	47	46	56	1,10	1,30	78	60	74
Manufactured articles	29,17	27,83	32,55	38,42	39,45	37,95	45,58	49,10	43,17	53,58
Raw materials and unmanufactured articles	4,58	4,13	4,24	5,00	5,72	5,17	6,55	8,57	7,19	7,28
Total Imports	2,14,20	2,20,89	2,07,04	2,33,91	2,29,66	2,39,60	2,83,93	3,02,84	2,79,37	3,96,37
Excise Duty on Cotton Goods	7,60	8,03	9,25	9,06	11,42	10,96	13,64	13,68	15,06	15,94
Export Duties—										
Rice, husked or unhusked, including rice-flour	39,12	53,84	53,01	58,98	53,11	48,34	45,89	32,89	39,57	52,38
Land Customs and Miscellaneous	3,96	4,15	4,55	5,01	4,12	4,77	5,18	4,37	4,95	4,88
GRAND TOTAL	2,64,88	2,86,91	2,73,85	3,06,96	2,98,31	3,03,67	3,48,64	3,53,78	3,38,95	4,69,57

—A new design of steel furnace which follows generally the lines of the Bessemer converter, but is intended to be worked on the continuous system, has been patented. The converter is approximately an inclined cylinder with an internal arch which, whilst permitting free communication for the metal, practically divides the space above the metal into two chambers, each with its own funnel or spout for discharging the gases. The blast tuyeres are at one end, and by depressing one end of the converter their outlet is covered by the molten metal. The blast then bubbles through the metal, oxidising the impurities as in the Bessemer converter. In this case, however, the blast has only to rise through a slight depth of metal, and a low pressure is sufficient so that there is no risk of ejecting metal from the converter, as sometimes happens in the ordinary converter when trying to reduce the carbon contents. Further, owing to the large surface of metal exposed to the gases and the virtual separation of the converter into two sections, the metal in the section near the tuyeres is more completely refined than the metal in the other section. The tapping hole is just below the tuyeres, so that the fully refined metal is first drawn off. When this has been done, and before the converter is empty, the tapping hole is plugged, fresh molten, but unrefined, metal is run into the converter by way of the far chamber, and the blowing proceeded with so that the refining is a continuous process.

SPINNING AND WEAVING RETURNS.

The following statistics of cotton spinning and weaving in Indian mills in August, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of 1908 and 1909, are published by the Commercial Intelligence Department:—

No. 1.—Abstract Statement of the Quantity (in pounds) of Yarn Spun.

	Month of August			Five Months, April to August		
British India.	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
Bombay	39,444,018	36,017,147	40,024,052	190,482,095	200,021,044	194,630,879
Madras	2,864,735	4,245,814	3,773,129	15,985,147	17,819,818	17,245,729
Bengal	2,659,699	2,728,917	3,072,354	15,877,909	14,744,762	16,073,963
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh (also Ajmer-Merwara)	3,151,079	3,117,357	3,298,368	15,997,378	16,712,783	15,929,718
Panjab	1,048,698	676,821	537,888	6,170,612	4,672,173	3,237,333
Central Provinces and Berar	2,378,207	2,610,477	2,394,372	12,246,028	14,017,873	11,967,995
TOTAL	51,546,436	49,396,533	53,100,163	256,759,169	267,988,483	259,085,617
Foreign Territory.						
Native States of Indore, Mysore, Baroda(*a*), Nandgaon, Bhavnagar, Hyderabad, Wadhwan, Quilon (*b*), Kishengarh (*c*), Ujjain and Pondicherry(*d*)	2,330,747	2,835,693	2,675,340	11,648,893	15,312,446	13,887,462
GRAND TOTAL	53,877,183	52,232,226	55,775,503	268,408,062	283,300,929	272,973,079

(*a*) Statistics for August 1910 not yet received
(*b*) Mill closed since October 1909
(*c*) Mill stopped working during August 1909
(*d*) Including the production of one mill only from April 1909

No. 2.—Abstract Statement of the Quantity of Woven Goods Produced.

[*N.B.*—The weight in pounds represents the weight of all woven goods; the measure in yards represents the equivalent of the weight of the grey and coloured piece-goods]

		Month of August			Five Months, April to August		
British India.		1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
Bombay	pounds	12,702,840	14,961,983	18,804,513	58,486,276	70,100,546	77,112,477
	yards	58,929,470	64,404,709	84,440,365	262,116,618	306,361,542	341,886,954
	dozens	47,849	58,817	48,678	186,043	208,795	252,215
Madras	pounds	667,745	649,168	527,711	3,111,127	3,296,274	2,958,891
	yards	2,107,996	1,915,872	1,699,304	10,395,084	10,233,078	9,476,953
	dozens	817	1,493	2,794	3,789	5,787	9,711
Bengal	pounds	123,667	195,448	258,734	1,094,131	1,031,212	1,225,211
	yards	619,108	975,427	1,513,313	4,867,667	5,159,139	6,558,144
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh (also Ajmer-Merwara).	pounds	886,267	889,883	1,092,087	4,251,501	4,890,830	4,021,276
	yards	3,434,312	3,638,432	4,967,144	16,595,760	16,855,522	16,603,840
	dozens	3,979	4,499	3,837	13,513	24,976	18,588
Panjab	pounds	39,635	40,190	60,589	231,742	199,619	179,461
	yards	99,468	100,952	185,503	562,531	476,228	535,650
	dozens	208	...	15	2,093	1,970	54
Central Provinces and Berar.	pounds	786,120	818,346	815,335	3,593,651	4,062,243	3,994,612
	yards	3,129,505	3,187,026	3,087,824	14,351,288	15,816,022	15,377,316
	dozens	580	498	480	1,870	2,364	2,064
TOTAL	pounds	15,206,274	17,555,018	21,558,969	70,768,428	83,579,724	89,491,928
	yards	68,319,859	74,222,418	95,893,453	308,888,948	354,904,531	390,438,857
	dozens	53,433	65,307	55,804	207,308	243,892	282,632
Foreign Territory.							
Native States of Indore, Mysore, Baroda (*a*), Nandgaon, Bhavnagar, Hyderabad, Wadhwan, Kishengarh(*b*) and Pondicherry(*c*)	pounds	603,783	1,033,129	1,220,356	3,134,533	5,098,083	5,815,380
	yards	2,157,448	4,057,068	4,600,257	11,908,457	20,695,095	24,066,157
	dozens (*d*)	9,667	6,608	8,027	24,313	21,542	22,498
GRAND TOTAL	pounds	15,810,057	18,588,147	22,779,325	73,902,961	88,677,807	95,307,308
	yards	70,477,307	78,279,486	100,493,710	320,797,405	375,599,626	414,505,014
	dozens	63,100	71,915	63,831	231,621	265,434	305,130

(*a*) Statistics for August 1910 not yet received
(*b*) From August 1910
(*c*) Including the production of one mill only from April 1909
(*d*) Incomplete

DATA OF TEMPERATURE, HUMIDITY AND RAINFALL FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, THE 11th OCTOBER, 1910.

	Station.	Temperature (mean of maximum and minimum). Actual.	Departure from normal.	Humidity (percentage of amount for saturation). Actual.	Departure from normal.	Rainfall. Total during week.	Total since 1st June.	Departure of latter from normal.
		°	°	%	%	"	"	"
BURMA.								
Lower Burma	Mergui	79	0	93	+3	5·0	119·8	+5·8
	Tavoy	80	−1	91	+2	2·0	180·7	+19·5
	Moulmein	81	0	93	+3	2·1	145·4	−8·7
	Rangoon	80	−1	91	−1	3·4	63·4	−14·0
	Bassein	81	0	94	+2	2·8	65·0	−26·5
	Akyab	80	−3	94	+4	6·1	178·5	+12·8
	Toungoo	83	0	89	0	4·4	69·3	+4·0
Upper Burma	Thayetmyo	83	+1	88	+4	4·7	18·7	−8·9
	Yamethin	82	−1	93	+5	1·2	25·8	+1·4
	Mandalay	85	0	85	+2	1·8	28·4	+8·3
	Bhamo	80	−1	90	+3	2·7	73·1	+13·3
EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.								
Assam	Dibrugarh	77	...	95	...	5·0	75·7	−1·1
	Tezpur	82	...	95	...	4·5	53·1	+4·3
	Dhubri	80	0	92	+3	2·5	60·5	−7·6
	Shillong	66	...	85	...	1·0	56·7	−1·6
	Silchar	80	−2	94	+4	4·7	82·2	+4·6
Eastern Bengal	Chittagong	81	−1	90	+1	2·3	88·2	+16·6
	Barisal	84	+1	88	+4	0·4	53·9	−1·7
	Narayanganj	83	0	88	+5	0·7	45·7	−1·5
	Mymensingh	83	+1	88	0	0·7	58·8	−3·0
	Malda	81	−1	89	+6	5·9	49·1	+3·5
	Jalpaiguri	82	+2	89	0	0·5	101·5	−1·6
BENGAL.								
Bengal	Berhampore	83	0	87	+2	1·0	44·9	+1·8
	Calcutta	85	+2	85	+2	0·1	42·1	−4·7
Orissa	Balasore	84	+2	84	−3	0·1	34·7	−13·7
	Cuttack	84	0	83	+4	2·6	59·2	+12·0
Chota Nagpur	Sambalpur	83	+1	85	+8	1·2	62·6	+1·0
	Chaibassa	83	+2	82	+2	0·4	35·5	−6·4
	Purulia	83	...	84	+9	0·7	39·2	−6·7
	Hazaribagh	77	0	75	+3	1·5	29·7	−6·7
Bihar	Darjeeling	59	+2	93	+3	5·3	104·0	−1·1
	Darbhanga	81	−1	88	+6	0·9	47·4	+3·5
	Patna	81	−2	87	+13	3·5	61·7	+19·5
	Motihari	80	0	92	+7	2·4	53·9	+7·3
	Buxar	81	−1	86	+12	3·5	41·1	+4·1
UNITED PROVINCES.								
United Provinces, East	Allahabad	81	−1	77	+7	0	27·1	−10·1
	Bahraich	81	−1	87	+11	0	46·0	+3·1
	Lucknow	81	0	75	+1	0	26·2	−9·0
United Provinces, West	Jhansi	82	−1	63	+9	0·3	32·9	−3·2
	Agra	81	−2	71	+11	0	30·1	+3·9
	Bareilly	79	−1	80	+3	0	51·3	+7·7
PUNJAB.								
Punjab, East and North	Delhi	81	−2	68	+15	0	29·2	+5·1
	Sirsa	83	0	57	+8	0	10·0	−1·6
	Ambala	79	−1	77	+5	0	23·2	+2·0
	Lahore	83	+3	58	+1	0	11·2	−4·3
	Rawalpindi	77	+1	55	−7	0	26·9	+4·2
Punjab, South-West	Multan	85	+1	54	−3	0	1·6	−3·8
Kashmir	Srinagar	61	+4	82	−5	0	5·0	−3·2
North-West Frontier Province.								
	Peshawar	77	+1	64	+7	0	12·3	+7·4
	D. I. Khan	82	+1	68	+14	0	6·4	+1·4
Sind	Jacobabad	86	+2	72	+17	0	2·3	−0·2
	Karachi	80	−1	86	+20	0	12·1	+5·5
RAJPUTANA.								
Rajputana, West	Bikaner	86	−1	54	+4	0	12·9	+3·7
	Jodhpur	83	−2	59	+12	0	10·1	−2·1
Rajputana, East	Udaipur	79	−1	55	−3	0	24·9	+5·3
	Ajmer	79	−1	70	+9	0	16·9	−2·7
	Jaipur	81	−1	57	+5	0	16·5	−7·4
	Kotah	82	−3	60	+11	0	30·5	+5·4
BOMBAY.								
Gujarat	Bhuj	83	−2	72	+9	0	20·4	+6·7
	Deesa	83	−1	69	+12	0	23·4	+0·3
	Ahmedabad	84	−3	75	+16	0	25·6	−6·4
	Rajkot	80	−3	78	+5	0	33·3	+6·2
	Veraval	77	−4	88	+18	0	17·3	+0·5
Konkan	Bombay	82	0	86	+2	0	67·3	−5·3
	Karwar	79	−1	90	0	0·1	112·9	−0·4
Bombay, Deccan	Malegaon	78	−2	72	+4	0	28·7	+7·5
	Ahmednagar	77	−1	74	+4	0	33·7	+15·3
	Poona	77	−1	86	+11	0·9	29·5	+7·5
	Bijapur	79	0	75	+2	0·1	20·3	+2·3
	Belgaum	73	−2	90	+8	0·9	37·3	−2·6
CENTRAL INDIA.								
Central India, West	Neemuch	78	−1	74	+19	0	30·8	+2·3
	Indore	76	−1	77	+10	1·8	34·9	+3·6
Central India, East	Sutna	81	+1	81	+1	0·3	34·6	−7·1
CENTRAL PROVINCES.								
Berar	Akola	79	−1	72	+6	0	34·4	+4·6
Central Provinces, West	Saugor	77	−1	69	+4	0·1	36·5	−8·6
	Jubbulpore	79	+1	83	+7	0·9	38·7	−16·0
	Seoni	76	−1	76	+9	2·6	54·0	+4·1
	Nagpur	81	0	76	+11	0·3	54·3	+10·3
Central Provinces, East	Chanda	81	0	82	+11	0·1	47·4	−2·5
	Raipur	81	0	82	+10	1·3	61·7	+15·7
HYDERABAD.								
Hyderabad, North	Nizamabad	80	0	78	+8	0·8	40·9	+4·3
Hyderabad, South	Gulbarga	79	−1	77	+7	0·6	31·1	+4·9
	Hyderabad	80	+1	77	+2	0·1	21·5	−4·2
	Raichur	81	0	70	+1	0·6	19·0	−5·8
MYSORE	Bangalore	75	+1	85	+3	1·2	30·2	+8·2
	Mercara	69	−1	94	+5	0·2	102·6	−5·4
MADRAS.								
Malabar	Cochin	81	0	81	−3	1·9	75·1	−1·4
	Trivandrum	79	+1	84	+1	0·3	35·3	+5·7
Madras, South-East	Pamban	84	+1	77	−2	0	6·4	+3·0
	Negapatam	85	+2	73	−7	0	17·8	+5·5
	Coimbatore	81	+1	90	+5	0·1	6·6	−0·4
	Cuddalore	83	+1	78	−9	1·0	22·3	+3·4
	Salem	84	+2	76	−4	4·5	26·8	+3·7
	Madras	85	+1	76	−4	0·2	18·9	−0·4
Madras Deccan	Cuddapah	86	+2	69	−2	0	36·2	+15·0
	Bellary	81	0	71	+3	0	15·4	+3·1
Madras Coast, North	Nellore	87	+1	82	+5	2·5	13·5	+0·3
	Masulipatam	84	0	83	+1	1·4	32·5	+7·4
	Waltair	83	−1	82	+7	0	35·8	+11·5
	Gopalpur	83	0	90	+8	0	42·4	+10·3

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 8th October, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	54,017
	Bombay	„	204,970
	Madras	„	1,000
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	10,000
	Bombay	„	3,831,600
	Madras	„	3,400

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	16,570,016
	Bombay	„	4,377,604
	Karachi	„	89,368
	Madras	„	52,837
	Rangoon	„	255,210

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	5,597,806
	Bombay	„	5,237,683
	Karachi	„	1,425,740
	Madras	„	128,597
	Rangoon	„	608,295

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	2,438,832
	Bombay	„	6,700,359
	Karachi	„	1,209,818
	Madras	„	196,967
	Rangoon	„	1,075,154

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*...
	Bombay	„	9,491
	Karachi	„	17,434
	Madras	„	5,587

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	718
	Coastwise	„	5,030
	By rail	„	4,137
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	1,538
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*88

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*737,240
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	9,625,600
	„ cloth	yds.	24,227,659
	Jute	cwt.	615,579
Exports by sea from Chittagong	Jute	„	39,875

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from	Bombay	cwt.	34,728

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into	Calcutta	cwt.	*193
	Bombay By sea	„	113
	Bombay Coastwise	„	86
	Bombay By rail	„	13,755
	Karachi	„	298
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	13,945
	Bombay	„	45,009
	Karachi	„	...

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into	Calcutta	cwt.	*5,177
	Bombay By sea	„	...
	Bombay Coastwise	„	...
	Bombay By rail	„	36,871
	Karachi	„	26,003
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	9,043
	Bombay	„	40,133
	Karachi	„	55,131

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*26,964
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	173,153
	Chittagong	„	32,800
	Bombay	„	12,093
	Karachi	„	8,445
	Madras	„	...
	Rangoon	„	557,923

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*6,388,827
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	7,172,609
	Chittagong	„	2,887,347

WHEAT.

Imports into	Calcutta by rail and river	cwt.	*1,065
	Karachi by rail	„	421,207
	Bombay By sea	„	...
	Bombay Coastwise	„	3,218
	Bombay By rail	„	78,137
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	125,624
	Bombay	„	121,996
	Karachi	„	394,766

* Incomplete.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

		From April		From January					
		1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.
		Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta	Cwt.	3,374,051	2,300,184	3,187,150	5,194,038	973,079	1,035,623	Not	reported.
Bombay	„	2,539,413	1,239,024	1,707,457	2,752,512	1,202,950	2,159,746	5,305,543	12,763,737
Karachi	„	13,267,552	13,450,665	...	645	2,791,937	4,442,792	Not	reported.

The figure, against Calcutta, of rape and mustard seed for 1909 published last week in the above table should be 969,972.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 8th OCTOBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From All other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	101,905	...	101,905
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	...	...	...

Exports by sea from Burma to	Bengal	1,909,457
	E. B. & Assam	...
	Bombay	...
	Sind	...
	Madras	...
	Indian Ports, Non-Br.	...
	Foreign Ports	2

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 8th OCTOBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into: Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon.	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	84	...	14	88	45	...	231
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other European Countries	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Java	248,340	...	90,877	130,620	2,655	...	472,492
Mauritius	...	...	13,475	...	...	...	13,475
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	4,111	149	...	19	4,279
					Total refined		490,479
					Total unrefined		...
					Grand Total		490,479

Imports of refined sugar from Java into Karachi is 234,913 cwt., total imports from Java is 541,666 cwt. and the total imports of refined sugar and Grand total is 555,396 cwt, for the week ending 1st October 1910.

—The depression in the **Italian cotton trade** has been very acute during the past two years, remarks the *Manchester Guardian*, and short time at the rate of two days per week has been the rule for months. It is reported that the reduction in output during the first half of the current year was about eleven million kilos. Trade is still very unsatisfactory, and it is reported from Milan that the Italian Cotton Spinners' Union has strengthened its organisation, and will now be in a position to enforce united action as regards curtailment of production, and will also fix minimum selling prices and standard conditions of credit. Attempts are being made to include other powers such as the introduction of export premiums. The development of the Italian cotton industry during recent years has been remarkably rapid. Thirty years ago there were about 750,000 spindles and 30,000 looms in the country; the consumption of raw cotton amounted to only about 100,000 bales, and the imports of yarn and piece-goods amounted to 22 million kilos. During the early nineties considerable progress was made, and Italy began to attract attention as a cotton exporting country. The workpeople are intelligent, wages were low, no legal restrictions were placed on working hours until 1907, when night work was prohibited; those engaged in the business made huge profits, and capital was attracted to it. By 1907 the number of spindles had increased to about four million and looms to 128,000, the chief increase taking place about 1905, when the speculative fever, which affected all branches of Italian industries, broke out. Numerous new companies were formed, whilst the great majority of the private concerns were converted into joint-stock undertakings, the aggregate capital of the cotton companies alone being over £16,000,000. The trade depression of 1908 was seriously felt in Italy and in the foreign markets for Italian goods. Wild competition and over-production ensued amongst Italian spinners, and the whole aspect of the industry underwent a complete and rapid change. Profits gave way to heavy losses, whilst liquidations and drastic capital reductions were common. Perhaps the only satisfactory outcome of this serious state of affairs was the improvement in the organisation of the industry brought about by the imperative necessity for common action by those engaged in it and the unexpectedly long duration of the depression.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

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N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY. *REGISTERED.*

The Indian Trade Journal.

Issued by the Commercial Intelligence Department, India.

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Monday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	5 per cent. (Oct. 6).
	Bombay	4 per cent. (Oct. 6).
	Madras	4 per cent. (July 4).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 1/16
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 3/32
	3 months	1-4 5/16
	6 months	1-4 1/2

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 93-15.

The following **General Memoranda on Crops** of the season 1910-11 will appear in the *Indian Trade Journal* of the 27th instant :—

Rice—First General Memorandum.
Groundnut—First General Memorandum.
Sesamum—Second „ „
Sugarcane— „ „ „

The gist of these in tabular form will be exhibited, as usual, at the street door of the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, No. 5, Clive Street, Calcutta, on the 26th instant at 4 P.M.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 15th October was Rs. 29-0-0 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 18th October was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia Bhawnagar cotton,** October delivery, Rs. 277 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 24th September, 1910, were as follows:—Wheat, 30*s.* 2*d.*; barley, 24*s.* 2*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 3*d.*

The French *Journal Officiel* of 23rd September publishes the following estimate of the **yield of wheat in France** for 1910, together with the definitive figures for the preceding three years:—

Year.	Wheat.		
	Area under cultivation.	Production.	
	Hectares.	Hectolitres.	Quintals.
1907 . .	6,577,469	132,853,578	103,753,000
1908 . .	6,564,370	111,970,620	86,188,050
1909 . .	6,596,240	125,521,900	97,752,200
1910 . .	6,523,700	94,570,900	71,827,800

Hectare = 2·47 acres; Hectolitre = 2·75 Imperial bushels; Quintal = 220·4 lbs.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 27th ultimo:—*United States of America*—Winter seeding favourable, increased acreage again mentioned; spring wheat receipts are still very light compared with last year's. *Canada*—Official and unofficial crop estimates agree wheat deficiency compared last year's 4-5 million qrs.; some reports farmers holding but Winnipeg receipts increased sharply. *Argentina*—Weather favourable with good rains, wheat crop reported very fine and linseed improved. *Australia*—Finance Minister says wheat crop likely exceed previous records; our correspondents report good weather, crop outlook fair, think will have improved since last rains. *India*—Crop prospects considered quite hopeful. *Russia*—Weather favours movement, which continues large; stocks are increasing. *Roumania*—Ploughing and sowing hindered by cattle disease; wheat arrivals at ports liberal, and with smaller exports, stocks are increasing sharply. *Hungary*—Weather changeable, dryness wanted for the maize harvest; arrivals at Budapest light. *Germany*—Weather favourable for sowing, but much vermin about; offers native wheat smaller, big exports recently. *France*—Officials confirm big shortage wheat crop—some 12,000,000 qrs. less than last year's; growers offer sparingly much foreign being purchased. *Italy*—Revised official estimate wheat crop 19,163,000 qrs., compared with 23,900,000 last year; import requirements estimated by our agent 7,800,000 qrs., against 4,200,000 last season. *Spain*—Favourable autumn. *United Kingdom*—Crops mostly harvested in good condition, opinions wheat harvest better.

The forecasts of the **American harvests** made earlier in the year have been gradually modified. Winter wheat proved much better than anticipated, and the total number of bushels was higher than in 1909. The prospects for spring wheat in July were distinctly unfavourable, a total harvest of spring and winter wheat of not more than 600 million bushels being anticipated, as compared with 737 in 1909. In August, however, conditions improved, and the estimate rose to 658 million bushels. The September crop report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture shows a distinct improvement. The total wheat harvest is now expected to reach 669½ million bushels, and the maize and oats crops will be the greatest on record. The following are the figures given in the report mentioned, published on September 8th:—

Indicated Crops, 1910.

	Harvest of 1909.	Indicated September, 1910.
Winter wheat—		
Bushels . .	446,366 000	458,294,000
Acreage . .	28,330,000	29,044,000
Spring wheat—		
Bushels . .	290,823,000	211,239,000
Acreage . .	18,393,000	19,742,000
Total wheat—		
Bushels . .	737,189,000	669,533,000
Acreage . .	46,723,000	48,786,000
Maize—		
Bushels . .	2,772,376,000	2,943,341,000
Acreage . .	108,771,000	114,083,000
Oats—		
Bushels . .	1,007,353,000	1,055,466,000
Acreage . .	33,204,000	34,380,000
Barley—		
Bushels . .	170,824,000	151,726,000
Acreage . .	7,011,000	7,057,000
Rye—		
Bushels . .	32,239,000	32,288,000
Acreage . .	2,006,000	2,155,000

A German report on the present state of the **cotton spinning trade in Japan** states that prices are very unprofitable, and unless a very marked improvement takes place soon producers will be faced with a serious crisis. The hopes entertained after the Russo-Japanese war have not been fulfilled, and the effects of the over-production which has been going on are now being felt. The market is extremely quiet, and the exports practically nil. From **Italy** the *Manchester Guardian* learns that the Manifattura del Serio, of Milan, a cotton spinning and manufacturing company formed in 1908 with a capital of 2,700,000 lira, has disclosed a net loss of 651,790 lira, against a net loss last year of 292,818 lira. At the forthcoming general meeting the advisability of going into liquidation will be discussed. Reports from the **Continental dyeing** and **printing centres** indicate that business in that branch is pretty good. Orders are being booked at satisfactory rates, and there is every indication that the next few months will be busy. At a meeting of the **Austrian-Hungarian Calico Printers' Union,** recently held in Vienna, it was decided to advance prices of printed goods for the spring season from 6 to 8 per cent according to the class of print.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market** dated the 22nd ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co., Ld., say:—The demand for **Indian yarn** we spoke of in our last circular was maintained in the earlier part of the week and as it showed no signs of a speculative nature it was freely met and sales of fully 3,428 bales were made. Nearly all the markets bought and a pleasant revival in demand from Kiukiang can be noted. Prices kept gradually advancing and close at about one tael and a half per bale above the lowest point touched recently and it is more than likely that sales in consequence will slacken off. Clearances, as was expected, were good.

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales** of **cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 38 weeks ended 22nd September, 1910:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 22nd Sept., 1910.	38 weeks ended 22nd Sept., 1910.	Week ended 22nd Sept., 1910.	38 weeks ended 22nd Sept., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American . .	32,557	1,229,568	545	172,432
Brazilian . .	6,778	40,489	—	2,339
East Indian . .	352	178,443	81	40,054
Egyptian . .	519	170,830	1,790	49,895
Miscellaneous .	5,371*	90,039†	—	6,457
Total .	45,577	1,709,369	2,416	271,177

* Including 170 bales British East African.

† Including 6,110 bales British West Indian, 6,387 bales British West African, 11,818 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

Note.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the week ending the 8th October, 1910, were as follows:—

In the Bombay market—

On the 2nd and 3rd instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,395 to 1,400; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,200; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,525 to 3,300; on the 4th, 8th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,395 to 1,400; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,350; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,515 to 3,500.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 2,975 and 3,381; (old) Rs. 3,111 and 3,464, respectively.

The Railway Board have sanctioned the construction of a branch line of railway on the 5′ 6″ gauge from Dhakia station on the Moradabad-Chandausi branch of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway to Sambhal, a length of 14·64 miles, as an integral part of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. The line will be known as the **Dhakia Sambhal branch** of the **Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway.**

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on September 22nd, regarding the **Hull oil market,** says—The market for **linseed oil** is steady, with spot at 44*s.* 3*d.*; October-December, 43*s.* 9*d.*; January-April, 40*s.* 9*d.* The exports for the week amounted to 48 tons, of which Austria took 1, Bulgaria 2, Egypt 1, India 13, Norway 12, Turkey 12, and the West Indies 7 tons each. **Cotton oil,** refined cotton, 31*s.* spot; 30*s.* November-April. Crude cotton oil, 31*s.* 9*d.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 312 tons, of which America took 207, Germany 43, Holland 38, Norway 3, Sweden 7, and Turkey 14 tons each. The prices for cotton oil at the moment are higher than they have been for generations. This is due to the shrinkage in River Plate supplies and the competition of America. As the period of American scarcity is now rapidly being overhauled, the opinion grows that prices have seen their best. **Rape oil,** Jamba and brown East Indian, 26*s.* 6*d.* to 26*s.* 9*d.* **Soy bean oil** strong, at 34*s.* 9*d.* per cwt., and 33*s.* for naked. **Lard oil** steady, at 60*s.* per cwt. for English refined ex-mill, in barrels, **Olive oil** very firm, but demand continues limited. Spanish for shipment unchanged at £55 to £56. Candia dearer at £54. **Castor** steady and unchanged. Calcutta on spot, 3½*d.* per lb. to 3 1/16*d.* per lb. ex-store, and 3½*d.* per lb. for forward, quay terms. **Palm oil** strong, and a good demand continues. September Lagos at £36 15*s.* to £37, September-October softs at £35 15*s.*, October-November at £35 10*s.*, September-October Emoe at £36, and Benin at £34 7*s.* 6*d.*; refined sorts very firm at £34 10*s.* to £34 15*s.* for clarified and £37 5*s.* to £37 10*s.* per ton for bleached, both in casks. **Petroleum** quiet, but steady. Russian 5½*d.*, and American 6*d.* to 7*d.* per gal. **Turpentine** firm; spot, 54*s.* 9*d.*; October-December, 55*s.* January-April, 56*s.* per cwt.

According to the *South African Mining Journal* (Johannesberg) of 27th August, the **discovery of oil** is reported in the Barkly East district of **Cape Colony,** near the borders of Basutoland. The farm on which the property lies is known as Smiling Vale, and is reached by a good road from Dordrecht on the Cape Government Railway. The formation is shales and sandstones, with layers of diabase rock. Asphaltic matter was found oozing out of a 2 in. quartz vein. A borehole put down struck a reservoir of oil about 11ft. thick at a depth of 81-92 ft. The bulk of the oil is more or less congealed,

and it will be necessary to sink a shaft, as the oil is too thick to pump. An analysis of the deposit gave the following result:—kerosine 38·6 per cent, solid paraffin 8·9 per cent, and heavy lubricating oils 40 per cent. The reservoir has a covering of very fine grained sandstone, through which it would be almost impossible for the lightest oils to percolate, and it is probable that the reservoir struck is only the top of one of several which may be found. A railway in course of construction will come within nine miles of the farm, which is bounded on one side by the Karaai river.

According to the report of the Director of Agriculture of the **Federated Malay States** for 1909, the number of **rubber estates** in the Colony in that year was returned as 377, with an acreage of 500,431 acres. Of this, 196,953 acres have been planted up, divided among the different States as follows:—Perak, 68,278 acres; Selangor, 93,853 acres; Negri Sembilan, 31,945 acres; Pahang, 2,877 acres. The output of rubber in 1909 is recorded as 6,083,493 lbs., as against 3,190,000 lbs. in 1908. The output in Perak increased by 177 per cent, in Selangor by 100 per cent, and in Negri Sembilan by 40 per cent.

The **Federated Malay States** *Government Gazette* of 5th August publishes the following particulars of the **exports of cultivated rubber** from the Federated Malay States during the month of June, 1910, and during the six months ending June, 1909, and 1910:—

	January-June, 1909.	January-June, 1910.	June, 1910.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Perak . .	364,890	943,748	170,946
Selangor . .	1,657,104	3,712,158	588,309
Negri Sembilan .	441,247	619,677	119,275
Pahang . .	*Nil*	1,210	1,145
	2,463,241	5,276,793	879,675

Of the rubber exported from Selangor during June, 1910, 5,223 lbs. were produced in Perak and 81,435 lbs. in Negri Sembilan. Of the rubber exported from Selangor during the six months ended June, 1910, 32,242 lbs. were produced in Perak and 539,277 lbs. in Negri Sembilan.

The **Allahabad Exhibition** buildings have now for some time been complete and exhibits, which began to arrive on the 1st of October, are daily coming in in increasing numbers. Tents on the Camping ground are now being erected and every thing begins to assume a more finished appearance. The evening of Wednesday, the 5th October, was signalized by the complete erection of one of the units in the Power House which runs the electric installation, and some of the main avenues of the Exhibition are now brilliantly lighted at night. The blaze of light can be seen at a great distance. His Excellency the Viceroy will pay a visit to Allahabad on the 9th November in order to lay the foundation stone of the Minto Memorial Pillar and it is hoped that most exhibits will be in their place by that time. The period of entries for the competitions in connection with **industrial improvements and weaving** has been extended till the 15th November, 1910, and it is hoped to obtain a large number of entries for the handsome awards and money prizes to be won. Entries, however, in the handloom and weaving competitions have so far been practically confined to the various weaving schools in India. There is no reason why individual weavers from towns or villages should not compete successfully. The 1st edition of the **Exhibition handbook** is to appear about November 15th. The handbook is to run to nearly 400 pages and there will be 15 chapters, the first of which will be devoted to a general introduction and the second to a topographical sketch. Succeeding chapters will be devoted to the different buildings and Courts. There will be photographs of various buildings in the Exhibition. A number of pages will also be devoted to advertisements. The 1st edition will contain a general description of the Exhibition and exhibits, and the 2nd edition to be published about a month later will give a more detailed description of each exhibit.

Messrs. Whitworth, Hillyard, and Wade, Ld., of London, furnish the following particulars as to the sales of the **higher grade teas,** which should be of interest to the trade, both wholesale and retail, and to tea planters as well as to the public, inasmuch as they have never been published before. During this last season there were sold on the Mincing Lane Market, of fine and finest teas (*i.e.*, 1*s.* to 5*s.* 3*d.* per lb. in bond, to which 5*d.* duty has to be added), as follows:—

	lb.
Indian	7,681,000
Ceylon	1,322,600
China	2,400,000
Total .	11,403,600

Next season these figures will, it is expected, be considerably increased because of the greatly increased demand of late for the higher-grade teas all over the country.

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta during the week ending 10th October 1910:—B. Das, postmaster, Ballia, United Provinces—A stove

for cooking in Indian fashion. A. R. Harvey, tea planter and engineer, Loobah Tea Estate, Kanaighat Post Office, North Sylhet, Assam—Improvements in crane hooks, spring swivel hooks, and the like. M. McDonald, agricultural implement maker, Clunes, Victoria, Australia—Improvements in railway signalling mechanism. Duplex Seed Drill Co. Proprietary, Ld., No. 47, Queen Street, Melbourne—Improvements in the sowing of grain and the like along with a fertilizer. J. D. High, mechanical engineer, Lukergunj, Allahabad—An iron "choola" to consume coal as fuel and specially adapted for Indian and English cooking. H. Severin, Company Director, Sasbach, Baden, Germany—Device for extracting measured quantities of glass from smelting furnaces. T. Edwards, metallurgist, Webster Street, Ballarat—Improvements in ore roasting furnaces. P. S. Swan, engineer, 12, Clive Row, Calcutta—Improvements in electric ceiling fans.

The weather conditions in India for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a feeble depression off the Central Madras Coast. The monsoon has intensified in the south of the Peninsula, giving heavy rain off the Malabar Coast and rough seas off Ceylon. Rainfall has been nearly general in Eastern Bengal, Mysore, Malabar, Madras, Deccan, and north Madras Coast, and local in Lower Burma, Assam, Bengal, and Orissa. There have been a few falls in Upper Burma, Bombay, Deccan, east Hyderabad, and south-east Madras. During the week a heavy landslip is reported to have occurred on the Lashio Branch of the Railway in Burma.

The **price of sulphate of ammonia** has shown an advancing tendency for some time past, and is now being readily bought for delivery in the second quarter of 1911 at £12 15*s.* per ton, showing an appreciation during the past month or two of well over £1 per ton. The advance has been due in some measure to American buying, following upon the reduction of the tariff by 25 per cent, but in addition merchants who sold forward some time ago have been actively engaged in covering their contracts. The position is rendered all the stronger by the fact that two of the leading consuming countries, Spain and Japan, have not yet begun to cover their needs for next season. The outlook is regarded as distinctly promising. The production of sulphate of ammonia throughout the world amounts to about 1,000,000 tons, to which Great Britain last year contributed 349,000 tons, Germany 340,000 tons, and the United States 100,000 tons. During the past four years the British output has increased by 35 per cent, while the exports have increased during the same period by 40 per cent, amounting last year to 264,000 tons. Of the total British output of 349,000 tons, 164,000 tons was contributed by gasworks, 82,000 tons by coke-oven works, 57,000 tons by oil-shale works, 24,000 tons by producer gas and carbonising works, and 20,000 tons by ironworks. The increase has been most marked in the case of coke-oven works, the production of which in 1907 was only 53,000 tons. The domestic consumption amounts to 90,000 tons.

A St. Petersburg report draws attention to the large number of **Russian banks** which have this year considerably increased their capital. It is stated that the Azov-Don Commercial Bank intends to increase its present capital of 20 million roubles, but the new issue will not be made until early in 1911, whilst the Siberian Commercial Bank announces an increase in capital of 2½ million roubles, which will bring the capital to 15 million roubles, and follows on an increase of 2½ million roubles made earlier in the year. During the year the Disconto Bank has increased its capital by 10 million roubles, and it now amounts to 25 million roubles, the Bank of Russia has increased its capital from 30 million roubles to 40 million roubles, and the International Bank has increased its capital from 24 million roubles to 30 million roubles. It is reported that German financial houses have a considerable interest in these new capital issues. Last June the Industrial Bank of Russia increased its capital by five million roubles, and is now making a further increase of five millon roubles, which will bring the total to 25 million roubles.

At the London hide and **London leather auctions** on September 22nd, a small supply of 62,619 **Madras, Bombay, and Ceylon tanned hides** were offered (including about 14,000 calf) and 55,326 sold. There was a fair attendance of buyers, and a steady demand for most descriptions. Best Madras barely upheld last sales' rates, "light", "3rd small", and "heavy" showing ¼*d.* to ½*d.* per lb. decline. Inferior and rejection parcels sold at fully ¼*d.* to ½*d.* advance. Best calf realised firm rates, and 3rd, ditto gained ½*d.* per lb. Buffalo feathers show no change in values. Mellow Bombays were about ¼*d.* easier on average, and inferior sorts ¼*d.* to ½*d.* dearer. Ceylons brought very full prices. Stock in brokers' hands about 30,000.

NOTICES.

CALL FOR TENDERS.

Army Clothing.

The Financial Secretary, War Office, Cairo, is calling for tenders up to the 15th proximo for the supply of grey cloth, khaki drill, calico, cotton, canvas, dowlas and stiffening and wool yarn according to specifications which may be seen at this office.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "Indian Trade Journal" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

Correspondence regarding advertisements in the "Indian Trade Journal" should be addressed to Reuter's Telegram Co., Ld., but all advertisements, blocks, etc., must be approved by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence before insertion.

Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

A full index is published as a quarterly supplement and should be filed for reference.

The annual rates of subscription to the "Indian Trade Journal" including quarterly index, are Indian, without postage, Rs. 12 : with postage, Rs 13 ; Foreign, Rs. 18. Single copies, 4 annas.

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The Indian agents of the "Indian Trade Journal" are :—Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., and Newman & Co., Calcutta ; D. B. Taraporevala, Sons & Co., Bombay ; Higginbotham & Co., G. A. Natesan & Co., and Kalyanarama Iyer & Co., Madras ; Thacker, Spink & Co., Simla ; Rai Sahib M. Gulab Singh & Sons, Lahore ; and A. M. & J. Ferguson, Ceylon.

The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1910.

SEA-BORNE TRADE OF CALCUTTA IN SEPTEMBER.

Trade during September was much more satisfactory than in the month of August, and, in comparison with September of the previous year, exhibits an increase of 1·25 crores, equivalent to 10·94 per cent. The total value amounted to 12·75 crores. Both imports and exports contributed to the larger trade, the increase under the latter predominating; for, while imports expanded in value by 47 lakhs or 9·44 per cent, exports rose by 79 lakhs or 12 per cent. Actually in merchandise imports were greater in value by 55 lakhs or by 11·76 per cent, but receipts of the precious metals were on a smaller scale and, although gold improved by 6·75 lakhs, the imports of silver contracted by fifteen lakhs. On the other hand, exports benefited by larger shipments of treasure. The value of India merchandise rose by 69 lakhs or 10·62 per cent to 7·21 crores, but exports of silver to the extent of over ten lakhs caused the total value of exports to improve to 7·32 crores. With the close of September the first-half (or first six months) of 1910-11 has passed and the total figures for that period denote that, so far as the sea borne trade of Calcutta is concerned, the year has been a prosperous one, the total value amounting to 63·6 crores, an increase of 7·39 crores or 13·14 per cent. The total value of imports during the six months has risen by 1·68 crores, or by 6·99 per cent, but exports have expanded by no less than 5·7 crores, equivalent to an increase of 17·75 per cent. Imports of merchandise rose by 1·71 crores and exports by 5·38 crores; imports of treasure in total value showed but little variation on the previous year's figures, still the demand for gold increased by 18 lakhs, that for silver falling by over 20 lakhs, no doubt influenced by the higher rate of import duty. Exports of the precious metals which in 1909 were only Rs. 2,61,190 in the six months, amounted to 34 lakhs (16 of gold and 18 lakhs of silver) in value for the same period of 1910.

During September the total collections (inclusive of tea cess, Rs. 39,494) amounted to 33·53 lakhs, the only decreases of importance being Rs. 1,90,654 under salt and Rs. 40,615 under silver. The cause of a continued decline in salt revenue was explained last month. There was a marked rise in the duty collected on sugar during the month, no less than Rs. 1,84,807, the total amount realised on that article of food being Rs. 5,14,369 : 11 steamers arrived with sugar and molasses in the month, bringing 563,604 bags of sugar mainly from Java. In the present month (October) up to now seven more steamers have come to hand bringing 377,809 bags. Other increases in revenue in the month were : tobacco Rs. 96,592 and rice Rs. 59,572. For the first half of 1910-11 collections have aggregated Rs. 1·79 crores, an expansion of 18·4 lakhs. Salt alone shows a decrease amounting to Rs. 8,94,201, but this falling off was more nominal than real, being the result of deliveries against securities deposited and not against actual payments of revenue. In the six months silver gave the largest increase in revenue, amounting to Rs. 8 lakhs ; but the total duty paid in Calcutta (14 lakhs) represents but a small proportion of the actual receipts under silver, for the total Indian revenue paid on this account was as great as 97 lakhs. Next to silver, the tobacco duty exhibits the greatest expansion, being 4·63 lakhs ; rice follows with 3·34 lakhs, cotton 2·5, sugar 2·12 and liquors 1·57 lakhs.

The figures so far dealt with do not include transactions on behalf of the State. In the past six months Government importations were valued at 75·44 lakhs, a decrease of 58 lakhs or 43·54 per cent on the same period of 1909 when the total value aggregated 1·33 crore of treasure. Government imported silver valued at only Rs. 270. The great decrease in imports in 1910 was chiefly due to smaller indents for railway material : in rolling stock the value contracted by 40 lakhs. Other reductions were :—Hardware and cutlery 9 lakhs, machinery over 3 lakhs, telegraph materials over 2 lakhs, and metals 2 lakhs.

The increase in value of imported merchandise during September is almost entirely due to the abnormal imports of sugar. Inclusive of refined, unrefined, and molasses, the total quantity was 1·28 million cwts. valued at 1·17 crore, or an increase in value of 52 lakhs. Of this quantity 1,064,855 cwts. consisted of refined sugar, and, with the exception of a small import from Mauritius, Java was the supplier of practically all sugar imports in the month. Woollen goods were also in considerable demand, the value increasing by 7 lakhs. Metals, too, rose by nearly 5 lakhs owing to a greater inquiry for copper, the quantity of which rose from 9,321 to 17,411 cwts. A satisfactory feature of the import trade was the greater supply of machinery, mainly textile, resulting in an advance of 4·7 lakhs. Betelnuts, provisions, salt, liquors, apparel, glassware, and "all other" articles were in much larger request, the latter by as much as eight lakhs. Unfortunately cotton, the main contributory to the import trade, exhibited a declining business in the month, the total value falling off by 13 lakhs to 10 crores. In piece-goods the contraction was as much as 17 lakhs, with a fall of over 20 million yards. It is interesting to note that imports in the coasting trade of cotton goods rose in value from 17 to 45 lakhs. In railway material the decline was even greater and amounted to 27 lakhs. Tobacco naturally continues to decrease, the value being less by one lakh : how great the shrinkage numerically is may be gauged by the drop in cigarettes which fell from 36 to 15 millions. Mineral oil also declined by one million gallons and in value by 7 lakhs : from Burma there was also a small contraction.

Opium was the predominating factor in exports of Indian merchandise in the month, for, with a decrease of 677 in the number of chests exported, the total value rose by 33 lakhs. Movements of grain and pulse were also quite satisfactory and pulses, rice and wheat all showed considerable gains : the values rose by 4·11 and 12 lakhs, respectively, culminating in a total increase of 30 lakhs. Exports of wheat greatly improved in the month, the quantity rising from 7,357 to 233,977 cwts : London absorbed the bulk of the shipments. Exports of wheat were also considerable from the North-West and, as a result of resumed movements, the earnings of the North-West Railway, which at one time showed a deficit of over 26 lakhs, has now exhibited an increase of over 10 lakhs up to the 1st October. Hides and skins rose in value by 7 lakhs, seeds improved in value by 13 lakhs, and the increase in jute manufactures was valued at 12 lakhs. But the latter figures denote the much lower standard of value now prevailing, for, although gunny cloth declined by 3 million yards, gunny bags rose in number by more than 10 millions. Shipments of raw jute continue unsatisfactory. The quantity decreased by 245,502 cwt. and the value by 15 lakhs. The feature of the month was the publication of the final forecast. Mistaken calculations by the trade caused prices at one time to rise very suddenly, but this can scarcely account for the smaller export business, as the arrivals this season up to 14th October have been less by over seven lakhs of maunds. Other decreases were not of much importance : coal fell by two lakhs in value and tea by 10 lakhs. To foreign ports coal decreased by 1,188 tons, the largest quantity (32,875 tons) going to Ceylon, but to Indian ports there was an increase of 18,170 tons, the total amounting to 181,827 tons of which Bombay took 79,413 tons, Karachi 32,275 tons, and Rangoon 28,858 tons. High freights are reported to be interfering with coal exports. Tea shipments absorbed 27·24 million lbs., or nearly 2 million lbs. less than in September, 1909, accompanied by a decline in value of 10 lakhs. So far (that is, to the end of September) as much as 77·39 million lbs. have left Calcutta or slightly less than in 1909 ; the total value, aggregating 3·60 crores, indicates an improvement of 10 lakhs, the result of higher prices. The figures issued by the Calcutta Tea Brokers' Association show that up to the 17th October 136·8 million lbs. have been shipped from British India this season, an increase of 4·9 million lbs. Shipments to the United Kingdom have declined by 4 million lbs., but Russia has taken approximately so much more. The latest figures available (up to 5th September only) show that

Ceylon exports have shrunk by over 5 million lbs., the United Kingdom absorbing 7 million lbs. less. The average price for the year of locally sold tea is very slightly less (·4 of a pie) than that for the previous year, but with the slightest improvement in quality prices should again advance, for, considering the heavy outturn already gathered and the excessive rainfall experienced, it would be injudicious to expect a repetition of the unprecedented increase in the autumn crop which took place last season. That being so, there is a possibility in the near future of reduced shipments in comparison with those of 1909, which, combined with smaller exports from Ceylon and comparatively small stocks at Home, may influence prices in a way which investors and proprietors would appreciate.

Space forbids comments on the movements of trade so far as Calcutta is concerned in the past six months, but the following figures (000's omitted) give some indication of fluctuations, in comparison with 1909, of the more important headings in that period :—

Article.	Total value for the six months.	Increase or Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports—		
Cotton goods . . .	10,05,79	+ 85,34
Sugar	2,95,19	+ 73,65
Metals	2,63,84	+ 29,17
Machinery . . .	99,19	− 5,60
Oils, mineral . . .	73,73	+ 9,99
Hardware and cutlery, etc. .	63,31	+ 8,05
Railway materials . .	45,61	− 1,00,18
Woollens	41,33	+ 14,26
Exports—		
Jute manufactures . .	9,43,77	+ 56,15
Oil seeds	5,36,73	+2,81,30
Opium	4,95,04	+2,04,62
Tea	3,60,39	+ 9,74
Hides and skins . . .	3,39,71	+ 10,89
Grain and pulse . . .	3,28,39	+ 15,18
Raw Jute	3,08,71	− 75,48
Lac	1,08,21	− 13,95

—The following information is taken from the report for 1909 on the trade of Sierra Leone recently issued by the Colonial Office :—The **rice grown in Sierra Leone** is of fine quality and superior in nutritive properties to Indian rice. No real attempts have hitherto been made to grow rice in sufficiently large quantities for European markets, but with the introduction of rice-cleaning machinery an expanding and profitable industry might be established, as Sierra Leone is geographically situated in a much more favourable position than India for placing its products on the markets for Europe.

CROP FORECASTS.

COTTON.

Second General Memorandum on the COTTON crop of the season 1910-11

This memorandum deals with the whole of the **early** crop, and so much of the **late** crop as was sown up to the end of September.

The Director of Agriculture, United Provinces, has not given a definite estimate of the acreage sown with cotton, and no returns have been received from the Gwalior and Malwa States of Central India. The **total area** as at present reported by provinces and states other than those named above is 17,736,000 acres as against 16,852,000 acres (revised figures) reported by them at the same date last year. There is thus a net increase of 5·2 per cent in the provinces and states from which estimates have been received.

The present condition of the crop is reported to be generally good or fair, except in parts of the Panjab where excessive rain fell towards the end of September.

Estimate of the area under Cotton in October.

Provinces and States	1910-11	1909-10	1908-09.
	Acres	Acres	Acres
Bombay (*a*) and Baroda . . .	5,679,000	5,263,000	4,595,000
Central Provinces and Berar . .	4,424,000	4,166,000	4,176,000
Madras (*a*) . .	928,000	786,000	699,000
Panjab (*a*) . .	1,369,000	1,568,000	1,374,000
United Provinces .	(*b*)	1,485,000	1,347,000
Sind (*a*) . . .	237,000	245,000	275,000
Burma . . .	172,000	198,000	207,000
Bengal . . .	61,000	62,000	59,000
Eastern Bengal and Assam . . .	99,000	98,000	97,000
North-West Frontier .	31,000	43,000	42,000
Ajmer-Merwara .	39,000	45,000	40,000
Hyderabad . .	3,469,000	3,306,000	2,652,000
	(*c*)	(*c*)	
Central India . .	692,000	544,000	984,000
Rajputana . .	454,000	459,000	404,000
Mysore . . .	82,000	69,000	39,000
	(*d*)	(*d*)	
Total .	17,736,000	16,852,000	16,990,000

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets**, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the entire cotton area of India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

Bombay ***(28·6%)*** and **Baroda** ***(3·1%)***.—The total area under **early** cotton (grown in the Deccan only) is now reported to be 1,610,000 acres (including 27,000 in Native States) which is 1·4 per cent less than last year's area. The crop is

(*a*) Including Native States.
(*b*) Figures not yet available.
(*c*) Excluding Gwalior and Malwa States.
(*d*) Excluding United Provinces, Gwalior and Malwa States.

progressing well. Some injury, however, through excessive recent rains causing shedding of flowers and leaves in places is reported from certain sub-divisions of 5 districts. As regards the **late** crop, the information received is incomplete as sowings continued in parts of the Karnátak at the date of report. The estimates up to the 1st of October give a total area of 4,069,000 acres (2,784,000 being in Native States including Baroda) which is about 12 per cent over the estimate at the corresponding date of last year. The increase in area is attributed partly to favourable early rains and partly to the stimulus of high prices obtained last year. In Gujarat the sowings principally in the south were affected by the incessant rain which poured in July and August and in other places seedlings rotted through excess of moisture had to be removed and crop resown. On the whole, however, the crop is reported to be generally good at present everywhere in the district. In the Karnátak sowings were delayed in places through continuous rain but the young crop is promising.

Central Provinces and Berar ***(21·6%)***.—The total area is now estimated at 4,424,000 acres (1,240,000 in the Central Provinces and 3,184,000 in Berar) as compared with 4,166,000 acres (1,137,000 in the Central Provinces and 3,029,000 in Berar) for last year—a net increase of 6·2 per cent. Satisfactory climatic conditions during the sowing period and the high prices ruling for raw cotton account for this increase. Sowings were generally successful and germination was good ; some resowing was, however, necessary in places owing to excessive rainfall. Continuous rain in August and September somewhat damaged the crop in the important cotton growing districts but a break has now set in and prospects so far are generally good. The outturn in the Central Provinces is estimated to be 5 per cent larger than that of last year but in Berar 2 per cent less.

Madras ***(8·1%)***.—The total area sown in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of September is reported to be 855,000 acres, which is about 20 per cent above the area sown in the corresponding period of last year. The increase is attributed partly to timely and sufficient rainfall and partly to the high prices of cotton. Villages *other than raiyatwari* report a total area of 64,000 acres as compared with 60,600 acres reported at this date last year. Native States report 9,400 acres. The condition and prospects of the crop are reported to be generally fair.

Panjab ***(7·8%)*** now estimates the area sown in British districts at 1,249,000 acres as compared with 1,460,000 acres estimated at this date last year and 1,284,000 acres finally reported that year. The area reported from Native States is 120,000 acres as against 108,000 acres at this date last year and 151,000 acres finally returned that year. The condition of the crop was reported as average to good except in Kangra, Jhelum and Multan where prospects were only fair. But since the district reports were made out there has been an unusual heavy fall of rain in the eastern half of the province and some damage must have been caused thereby.

United Provinces ***(6·5%)***.—In the chief cotton-growing tracts rain was moderate in August and greatly benefited the crop, but the falls in September were rather heavy and caused some injury to flowers in places. Up to the end of September the prospects of the crop were reported to be uniformly good and an approximately normal outturn was anticipated all over the province. But there has been very heavy rain in the beginning of October which has probably caused some damage. Cotton picking has commenced and bright weather is now wanted. As regards an estimate of the area under the crop the following remarks are made by the local Director of Agriculture : "The exact area sown with cotton will be known in December when crop statements are received. The reports of selected land-owners show no modification in the estimates [which were found very discordant] of area furnished by them for the first forecast, but from the return published by the Irrigation Department up to the end of August last it appears that the irrigated area is almost the same as last year."

Sind ***(1·21 %)*** reports the total area sown up to the 1st of October to be 237,000 acres as compared with 245,000 acres reported at this date last year—a decrease of 3·3 per cent. The sowings took place seasonably in the second fortnight of June under good inundation and favourable rain. The condition of the crop is reported to be fairly good.

Burma ***(0·9 %)*** now estimates the area sown to be 172,000 acres as compared with 198,000 acres last year—a decrease of 13·1 per cent. Rainfall on the whole has not been favourable for extended sowings ; there were also some difficulties in regard to the supply and the quality of seed. The standing crops at present give fair promise, but much depends on continued rains.

Bengal ***(0·3 %)***.—The area sown with both early and late cotton is now estimated at 61,000 acres as against 62,000 acres at this date last year—a decrease of 1·6 per cent. Sowings of the late crop, however, have not yet commenced in certain districts. Since the publication of the first report in August last the weather conditions are reported to have been favourable for the growth of both early and late cotton, and the condition of the standing crop is good in most districts. Some damage, however, was done by floods to the late crop in Patna.

Eastern Bengal and Assam ***(0·3%)*** reports no change in the estimate made in August, namely, 99,000 acres as against 98,000 acres at this date last year. The season has been distinctly favourable and a good outturn is expected.

North-West Frontier Province ***(0·3%)*** now estimates the area at 31,000 acres as compared with 43,000 acres estimated at this date last year and 32,000 acres finally returned that year. Prospects of the crop are generally good so far and an average outturn may be expected.

Ajmer-Merwara *(0·2%)* now reports the acreage to be 39,000 acres as compared with 45,000 acres at this date last year—a decrease of 13·3 per cent. Prospects are reported to be fair.

Hyderabad *(14·03%)*.—The total area sown is reported to be 3,469,000 acres (2,835,000 being under early cotton) as compared with 3,306,000 acres last year—an increase of 4·9 per cent. The Khariff cotton has been damaged to some extent recently by excess of rain in places. The conditions for the Rabi cotton are favourable; and taken all round, a fairly good outturn is expected.

Central India *(4·7%)*.—The total area sown (excluding that in the Gwalior and Malwa States from which returns have not been received) amounts to 692,000 acres as against 544,000 acres last year—an increase of 27·2 per cent. The condition of the crop is reported to be generally good.

Rajputana *(1·9%)*.—The total area sown is reported to be 454,000 acres as compared with 459,000 acres for last year—a decrease of 1·1 per cent. The condition of the crop is reported to be from fair to good.

Mysore *(0·36%)* now reports 82,000 acres as against 69,000 acres returned at this date last year—an increase of 18·8 per cent. Excessive rains have damaged the crop in places.

E. SEQUEIRA,
for *Director-General of Commercial Intelligence.*

INDIGO.

First General Memorandum on the INDIGO crop of the season 1910-11

The provinces dealt with in this memorandum contain 97·8 per cent of the total area under indigo in British India, calculated on the average of the five years ending 1908-09. The average area under the crop in that period was 402,800 acres; but in 1909-10 the total acreage at this date was only 226,600 acres (revised figures). The area now reported for 1910-11 amounts to 205,800 acres, representing a net decrease of 9·2 per cent. The condition of the crop is reported to be generally fair.

Estimate of the area under Indigo in October.

Provinces	1910-11	1909-10	1908-09
	Acres	Acres	Acres
Bengal . . .	113,200	107,400	135,300
Madras . . .	31,000	44,300	35,400
United Provinces . .	26,300	31,500	30,700
Panjab . . .	35,300	43,400	36,200
TOTAL .	205,800	226,600	237,600

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets**, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the total indigo area of British India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

Bengal *(39·2%)*.—The area sown is estimated at 113,200 acres as compared with 107,400 acres last year—an increase of 5·4 per cent, attributed to favourable weather in the sowing season. But the period between March and May was marked by defective rainfall which somewhat affected the growth of the crop. In July and August excessive rain and floods caused considerable damage in the important districts of North Bihar and in Purnea. Injury by insects has also been reported from one district. The average outturn for the province as a whole is estimated at 67 per cent of the normal as compared with 60 per cent last year [Normal=20 lbs. per acre].

Madras *(31·7%)* reports the total area sown in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of August to be 30,000 acres, which is 30 per cent less than the area sown in the corresponding period of last year. The decrease is ascribed to want of timely rains and to displacement of natural indigo by the synthetic dye. The area reported from villages *other than raiyatwari* is 1,000 acres as compared with 1,300 acres returned at the same date last year. The condition of the crop is stated to be from fair to good.

United Provinces *(14·7%)*.—The total area sown is estimated at 26,300 acres as against 31,500 acres last year—a decrease of 16·5 per cent. The contraction has occurred almost exclusively in the irrigated portion of the area devoted to the crop; the unirrigated area sown is about the same as last year. Germination was good. Excessive rain in Gorakhpur is stated to have caused serious damage to the crop; elsewhere no special injury has been reported and the yield is at present estimated at about 80 per cent of the normal [Normal=18 lbs. per acre.]

Panjab *(12·2%)* estimates the area sown to be 35,300 acres as against 43,400 acres last year—a decrease of 18·6 per cent. The decrease is confined to Multan and is explained to be due to the late opening of inundation canals. The condition of the crop is reported to be average.

E. SEQUEIRA,
for *Director-General of Commercial Intelligence.*

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, October 18th.

THE following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 17th instant:—

Rainfall has been general, being heavy in parts of the Dacca, Chittagong and Surma Valley divisions, and light to moderate elsewhere. The heaviest fall (eleven inches) occurred at Hailakandi.

Ploughing for *rabi* crops is in active progress.

Sowing of pulses is still going on. The plucking of tea continues and prospects are favourable.

Winter rice, sugarcane and cotton promise well.

The average price of common rice has risen one per cent.

Cattle disease is reported in Malda, Goalpara, Nowgong, Lakhimpur and the Garo Hills.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

THE *Board of Trade Journal*, published on the 29th ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about:—

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—Customs Decisions. Form for Declaring Home Consumption a ues.

DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.—Customs Decisions.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Regulations for Prevention of Vine Disease.

SWAZILAND.—Importation of Mango Trees, Mango Fruit, etc., prohibited.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—Customs Decisions.

RUSSIA (FINLAND).—Prohibition of Importation of Firearms and Ammunition.

SWEDEN.—Dues on Exported Timber and on Wood Pulp. Restriction on Importation of Animal Products, etc.

FRANCE.—Temporary Duty-free Admission of Certain Silk Tissues. Removal of Dodder from Imported Forage Seeds.

SWITZERLAND.—Tariff Classification of Water-marked Papers.

TURKEY.—Restrictions on the Importation of Saccharine.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—Wood Pulp and Printing Paper. Customs Decisions.

COSTA RICA.—Alteration of Import Duty on Preserved Milk.

SANTO DOMINGO.—Revised Tariff of Consumption Taxes.

JAPAN.—Tariff Treatment of Goods from Korea, etc.

JAPAN (KOREA).—Corean Tariff: Coasting Trade: Open Ports.

We give the following particulars of changes interesting to Indian trade:—

FRANCE.

Certain Silk Tissues—Temporary Duty-free Admission of.

In accordance with the French Tariff Revision Law of the 29th March, 1910, temporary duty-free admission is accorded to silk pongees, corah, tussah or tussor, of extra-European origin, woven in the style of cloth, twill or serge, unbleached or simply scoured, destined for sale in France and for re-exportation within a period of not more than one year. The French *Journal Officiel* for the 13th September contains a Presidential Decree, dated the 8th September, prescribing the procedure to be followed when such tissues are presented for temporary importation.

PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

THE following are the index-numbers of the prices of forty-five commodities worked out to the month of August by Mr. A. Sauerbeck, the average of the eleven years 1867—1877 being 100:—

Average.			Monthly Numbers.	
1878—1887	= 79	February, 1895	= 60·0	
1890—1899	= 66	July, 1896	= 59·2	
1900—1909	= 73	July, 1900	= 76·2	
	...	December, 1901	= 68·4	
1883	= 82	May, 1907	= 82·4	
1896	= 61	February, 1909	= 71·9	
1900	= 75	August, 1909	= 74·9	
1902—1903	= 69	December, 1909	= 76·3	
1904	= 70	March, 1910	= 79·1	
1905	= 72	April, 1910	= 78·5	
1906	= 77	May, 1910	= 78·2	
1907	= 80	June, 1910	= 76·9	
1908	= 73	July, 1910	= 78·1	
1909	= 74	August, 1910	= 78·2	

The index-number was firmly maintained; there was, indeed, a fall for articles of food, corn being slightly lower and animal food not quite so high as in July. Sugar closed cheaper, but coffee had an important rise. On the other hand, there were various materials which showed an advance, principally tin, jute, palm oil and linseed oil, the latter moving on a very high level. American cotton, after considerable fluctuations, was quoted rather lower at the end, while Indian and Egyptian cotton were firm.

The prices and index-numbers of **silver** compare thus (60·84*d.* per ounce being the parity of 1 gold to 15½ silver=100):—

	Price.	Index-Number.
Average, 1890—1899 . .	34*d.*	= 55·8
„ 1900—1909 . .	26¾*d.*	= 44·0
„ 1893 . . .	35⅝*d.*	= 58·6
„ 1902 . . .	24 1/16*d.*	= 39·6
Lowest, November, 1902 .	21 11/16*d.*	= 35·6
End March, 1905 . .	25 13/16*d.*	= 42·4
„ December, 1906 . .	32 5/16*d.*	= 53·1
„ December, 1909 . .	24¼*d.*	= 39·9
„ July, 1910 . .	24⅝*d.*	= 40·5
„ August, 1910 . .	24 7/16*d.*	= 40·0

—The returns for **French foreign trade** during the first eight months of the current year show a total increase of £8,160,000 in the value of imports and of nearly £11,750,000 in exports. The value of manufactured goods has increased by £4,500,000 on the import side, and by nearly £6,000,000 on the export side. In raw materials the increases are respectively £3,250,000 and £4,320,000. An increase of nearly £1,000,000 is recorded in the value of postal packets. According to the estimates of the National Milling Association, the **wheat harvest** in France this year will amount to 73,280,711 quintals, as compared with a yield of 104,376,229 quintals last year. It is hoped that this shortage of 30,000,000 quintals will, to some extent, be compensated by the abundant harvest in Algeria.

RESULT OF FLANNELETTE INQUIRY.

THE report of the Committee appointed by the Home Secretary in December, 1906, to inquire into the question of the dangers arising from the use of flannelette for articles of clothing was issued on September 28th. The report is signed by the whole of the members of the Committee—Sir Mackenzie Dalzell Chalmers, Sir Malcolm Morris, Sir Horatio Shephard, Sir Thomas Bramsdon, and Dr. William H. Wilcox. The Committee point out that flannelette was introduced into the English market in 1885. The fabric, although it is nothing more than cotton with a raised surface, owes its popularity as a material for wearing apparel to the fact that it is warm, pleasant to the touch, and capable of being produced in colours so as to be hardly distinguishable from wool, to the fact that it wears well, and, above all, to the fact that it can be produced and sold at extraordinarily low prices. The popularity of the article and the importance of the trade which has grown up in the last 25 years are unquestionable facts. There is a large manufacture of flannelette in Manchester and the neighbouring districts, and it is imported in considerable quantities from Germany and Holland. In its nature, owing to the process whereby the surface of the cotton is raised, the cloth which is thus converted into flannelette must be far more liable to catch fire than the original cloth, which again is far more easily ignited than flannel. It is the raised nap of ordinary flannelettes which causes the tendency to ignite, and as the length and looseness of the nap are increased so is that tendency enhanced. To a certain extent this disadvantage has been reduced by improvements in the manufacture.

Deaths Attributed to Flannelette.

Several interesting experiments have been carried out to prove the inflammability of ordinary flannelette, and the conclusion to which the evidence indubitably pointed was that a woman or child whose skirt or dressing-gown of flannelette came into contact with fire must, unless prompt and effective measures were taken, inevitably suffer severe injury and was not unlikely to be burned to death. As to the number of deaths attributable to the wearing of flannelette, the Committee note that before 1907 such deaths were not separately classified by the Registrar General in his report On the basis of the Registrar General's figures relating to burns only, a comparison of the period before the introduction of flannelette (1882-1884) with a like period beginning with 1891 or 1905 indicates a considerable increase in the death rate per million. The rates per million for children under five and under ten, respectively were 18·6 and 26·5 for the period 1882-84, as against 24·0 and 34·2 for the period 1891-93, and 27·0 and 35·7 for the period 1905-07 It is further stated that in the judicial statistics for 1904, on the strength of figures collected from coroners at the suggestion of the Coroners' Society, the number of deaths caused by the ignition of flannelette was given as 412. The Statistical Officer of the Home Office, in reference to the ages and sexes of the persons dying from burns, notes the fact that in the case of males there was an abrupt falling-off at about the age, when male children cease to be dressed in petticoats.

In the Registrar General's returns for 1907, death attributable to or connected with flannelette were, for the first time, separately classified, and the figures based on the certificates issued by the coroners to the local registrars was 120, but, say the Committee, the accuracy of this figure is open to grave question, for according to the coroners of Manchester and Liverpool the deaths under that head in those two cities amounted to about 90 in the same year. There was also further evidence that in October and November, 1909, and January, 1910, the deaths in which flannelette played a part were no fewer than 176.

Punishment for Misrepresentation.

The Committee say that, prohibition of the sale of flannelette being out of the question, the most that can be done by enactment would be to provide for due notice being given to intending purchasers of the true character of the material offered to them by dealers in flannelette. To effect this nothing more is required than to amend the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, by adding a provision making it penal to describe as non-inflammable material which will not stand certain prescribed tests. The report proceeds, "A proposal to this effect has been made by some of the witnesses, and we have no hesitation in recommending it for adoption."

The question whether legislative protection can wisely be extended to people who suffer from their own ignorance or heedlessness and not from any fraud practised upon them is less easy to answer. It has to be remembered that there are other things in common which are just as easily inflammable as flannelette. Since no Act of Parliament can stop the carelessness in regard to positively dangerous things, which is the true cause of most accidents, it is only on the assumption that there are other articles in the market which will serve as substitutes that legislation can serve any useful purpose.

The Committee refer to the endeavours which have been made to devise special treatment for flannelette which shall render it less susceptible to fire. It appears that there is no difficulty in doing this temporarily at a very small cost. All that is needed is that a little alum or borax be used in washing articles made of the material. A process which renders the stuff comparatively uninflammable, notwithstanding repeated washings and which at the same time does not enhance the price prohibitively, is what is required. Hitherto there appears to be only one process which at all complies with these conditions, namely, Dr. Perkin's process "Non-flam". Without offering any opinion on the merits of Dr. Perkin's process the Committee cannot but say that at present it does not appear fully to satisfy the conditions above stated. "Non-flam" is not in general use, and the Committee are not in a position to say whether it or any flannelette subjected to a similar process, which must necessarily increase the cost of the article, will succeed in establishing itself in the ordinary market. There being no sufficient reason to suppose that a compulsory system of marking goods would either influence the public in their choice of material or make people more careful in avoiding the risk of fire, it would be unfair to single out for restrictive regulations one of the many more or less dangerous things that are in common use. Celluloid, for instance, as used for articles of dress or for combs and such things, is probably just as likely to cause accidents among persons to whose mind the inflammability of the material has not been brought by some ocular demonstration.

In conclusion, the Committee say :— "Legislation of the kind suggested is less justifiable in view of the fact that matters may in course of time be expected to right themselves. Great improvement has already been made in the manufacture of flannelette, and further improvements may be anticipated. There is also the possibility that new and cheaper methods of diminishing the inflammability of the material may be discovered. Having regard to these considerations, we are unable to recommend any legislation, except for the case in which there is a positive misrepresentation of the character of the goods for sale."

THE ADVANCE IN COFFEE.

THE article below is taken from the *Times* Financial and Commercial Supplement of September 23rd :—

After many years of neglect from the point of view of the speculator, the leading coffee markets of the world have during the past month or two become quite active, and prices have moved steadily upwards. The hardening process was very gradual for some time, and often interrupted; but the movement became stronger with opening of the coffee year on July 1st, although speculators still showed timidity. During August the market began to attract considerable attention, and since the middle of the month the rise in prices has been much more important, with strong active markets, often violent fluctuations but the undertone has always been confident. Good average Santos for current month's delivery, which on June 30th was quoted at 31*s.* 6*d.* and 31*s.* 9*d.*, has during the past week changed hands freely at 43*s.*, an advance of fully 33 per cent in less than three months. A similar forward movement has taken place simultaneously at Havre, Hamburg, and New York. These three centres are the principal coffee markets, for they "carry" relatively much larger stocks of Brazilian coffee than the London mart, and their machinery for trading in futures is more highly developed.

Contributory Causes.

There are several factors which have brought about the recent advance in price. In the first place the Brazilian crop now being marketted will be much smaller than the last one, which reached 3,500,000 bags at Rio de Janeiro, and 11,500,000 bags at Santos, or a total of 15,000,000. Estimates place the current crop at 11,000 000 to 12.000,000 bags, and there is an inclination to accept the lower rather than the higher figure. Secondly it is anticipated that the next crop, that of 1911-12, will also be a small one. This prediction is based on news relating to weather in Brazil. Drought is said to have been severe and harmful in the State of Sao Paulo, which is the largest producer; and frosts have occurred both in July, during the first flowering and again this month, when the principal flowering takes place. Consequently the plants are alleged to have weakened so much that the blossoms are imperfect or are being shed.

Moreover, a large demand for coffee is reported from the leading markets. Consumption has steadily increased, but the country dealers have, for a number of years past, found it advantageous to buy their supplies on the large importing markets only when they needed them, and have kept practically no reserve stocks during the many years that speculation lay dormant. Now that the interior merchants and roasters find that prices are steadily rising, they are busy securing reserve supplies. A further cause for the advance in coffee is the extraordinary rise in the Rio de Janeiro rate of exchange on London from 15$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*, early in the year to 16$\frac{5}{8}$*d*, at the end of June, and to 18$\frac{3}{8}$*d.*. in the middle of the present month. This advance from 16$\frac{5}{8}$*d.* represents a rise of over 10 per cent. Under ordinary circumstance prices of coffee in Brazilian currency should have fallen concurrently; but instead they rose from Reis 3,900 for No. 7 New York standard at the end of June to Reis 5,000 or, roughly, by 30 per cent. Shippers have therefore been obliged to raise cost and freight offers correspondingly.

Prospects.

At the moment markets are highly feverish and excited, both for exchange on London and for coffee. The rate of exchange rose last week to 18$\frac{3}{8}$*d.*, and relapsed in the course of two or three days to 17$\frac{7}{16}$ and has since rallied to 18$\frac{5}{16}$*d.* The coffee market has lately become heavily overloaded with purchases by outside speculators, who are easily frightened into unloading. Thus, fluctuations of several shillings have been witnessed recently.

The continuance of the rise in price will depend a good deal on further advices regarding the crop, and the Brazilians are past-masters in the art of mystifying one. It also depends upon the extent to which traders in Europe and America will continue to absorb coffee. Statistically the situation is expected to improve from month to month. At the beginning of September the world's visible supply was 15,250,000 bags, or some 3,000 bags smaller than at the end of July, whereas last year it had

increased by about 400,000 bags. And it must be borne in mind that out of these 15¼ million bags, fully 6¼ millions belong to the "Valorization" group of bankers, who are under obligation not to market any of it this year. The total receipts at Rio de Janeiro and Santos up to last Saturday amounted to 4,223,000 bags, as against 5,934,000 last year.

Moreover, the holding of coffee contracts as a speculative property has suddenly become fashionable among the outside public, and such a movement, aided by continued "crop-killing" cables, is not easily checked, until excesses and forced unloading spoil it.

LEAD AND COPPER.

The *Economist* writes:—Year by year the statistical information compiled by our Government and by the Governments of other countries grows more complete, and we are ever learning more as to the production and trade of the world. The fourth series of tables compiled by the Census of Production have recently been issued, and by using them in conjunction with a German statistical report on lead, copper, zinc, tin (aluminium and nickel, quicksilver and silver) we are able to fix and compare the relative importance of these metals in Great Britain and in the world as a whole.

We propose to deal first with those metals that are extracted from the earth in a pure state, and afterwards to take the alloys that are produced by their combination. The following table, taken from a recent report from Frankfort, which bases its estimates partly on figures taken from the *Economist*, shows the world's production of the elemental metals in 1909:—

	The World's Production in or Metric* Tons.	Increase + Decrease— over 1908. Per cent.	Average Yearly Increase during the last 10 Years. Per cent.
Lead	1,081,900	+2·0	3·0
Copper	844,100	+13·4	6·0
Zinc	783,200	+8·5	4·8
Tin	108,300	+0·7	4·0

* A metric ton is 1,000 kilograms, and is equal to 0·9842 of an English ton.

The estimated consumption in the same year was as follows:—

	Europe. Metric Tons.	U. S. A. Metric Tons.
Lead	684,800	365,000
Copper	451,800	318,000
Zinc	540,200	260,000
Tin	58,500	42,800

Europe showed an increased consumption in all the metals (except tin, which decreased slightly in 1907), for 1907 and 1908 over 1906, and even an increase in 1908 as against 1907. In the United States there was a decrease in every metal, with the exception of zinc, which showed a slight increase in 1907 over 1906, and did not begin to fall off until 1908. There was a continuous decrease in the consumption of the United States throughout the years 1906, 1907 and 1908, but 1909 proved a record year, while curiously enough during the same year Europe reduced its consumption of three out of the four metals, the exception being zinc.

During 1909 the reserves of copper in the United States showed only a slight increase, while the public reserves of the same metal in Europe almost doubled. The lead and zinc reserves in the United States during 1909 were believed to have diminished, and those of Europe to have increased, while the reserves of tin both in the States and Europe remained exceptionally high.

The price of lead during 1909 ranged from £12 6*s.* 10½*d.* to £13 4*s.* 4½*d.* per ton (metric); the price of copper varied between £55 18*s.* 9*d.* and £64 2*s.* 6*d.*, that of zinc between £20 18*s.*9*d.* and £23 4*s.*4½*d.* and that of tin between £123 15*s.* and £154 5*s.*

Lead.

To deal with the metal separately let us first take lead, which is the most important as regards the quantity produced. The following table compiled from figures extracted from the German return shows the production, consumption, export and import of this metal in and from the United States and various European countries during 1909:—

	Production. Metric Tons.	Consumption. Metric Tons.	Export. Metric Tons.	Import. Metric Tons.
United States	339,700	365,000	78,100	103,600
Germany	167,900	213,200	31,700	76,900
France	35,000	110,400	4,000	79,435
England	125,000	199,500	36,500	211,000
Australia	77,200	...	...	...
Spain	...	...	183,400	..

In Germany the production was 2·3 per cent higher in 1909 than in 1908, but the consumption was only ·9 per cent higher, while the consumption of France was 2·2 per cent higher. For Europe, as a whole, the consumption of lead fell from 701,100 metric tons in 1908 to 684,800 metric tons in 1909, while the production rose from 501,500 metric tons in 1908 to 505,800 metric tons in 1909. In the United States the production from home sources shows an increase of 17·5 per cent, and it should be observed that the increase of the United States is more than the increase of the whole world. The output of Australian lead was seriously curtailed owing to a strike which lasted six months, and only ended in June, 1909.

We are able to obtain more exact details as regards the production of lead in England from the Report of the Census of Production. The figures for 1907, which is the year of the census, show a production of 29,000 tons (English) of lead, an export of 7,300 tons, and an import of 10,500 tons. The imports of lead in that year amounted to 36 per cent of the quantity raised in the United Kingdom, and about 25 per cent of the lead ore raised here was exported. With regard to the manufactures of lead the Census Report gives the following details:—

	Quantity Produced. Tons.	Value. £
Pig lead	111,000	2,083,000
Manufactures—		
Returned by weight	128,000	2,630,000
Returned by value only	...	142,000
White lead	39,000	856,000
		5,711,000

The report adds that it is impossible to state precisely the value of the lead manufacturing industry of the United Kingdom taken as a whole, as it is not known what proportion of our lead manufactures came from imported pig-lead. But the above figure of £5,711,000 may be taken as a close estimate.

It should be stated that the figures showing the quantity of pig-lead produced applies only to that sold or warehoused as such, but on the basis of a voluntary inquiry it is estimated that the total quantity of pig-lead in the United Kingdom during the year 1907 was between 133,000 and 141,000 tons.

Copper.

To turn now to the next metal—copper. There has been a great decline in the price level of copper since the American crisis. This has been due chiefly to increased production—the world's production of copper having risen 6 per cent in 1908 as against 1907, and 13 per cent in 1909 when compared with 1908. This is mainly due to new mines and cheapened processes in the United States, whose mines produced 430,100 metric tons in 1908, and 498,200 metric tons in 1909, a rise of 16 per cent, while the smelting furnace production rose from 447,700 metric tons in 1908 to 528,900 in 1909, a rise of 18 per cent. The difference between the two is attributed to the increased import of copper ore. The fine copper production of the United States rose 22·4 per cent. The Montana mines, belonging to the Amalgamated Copper Company, which voluntarily worked short time in 1907 and the first few months of 1908, were run at full time in 1909, with the exception of December, when work was restricted owing to a strike. There has been a marked reduction in the cost of working the porphyry deposits in Nevada and Utah, and a further development is expected next year. The effect of the Anaconda Merger Trust on the output is not yet plain. Senator Clark having sold his interests in the Butte district to the Amalgamated group, the famous Butte Hill passes to the Anaconda Merger.

There is also, it is stated, a possibility of a rise in the quantity produced in some middle and South American States and Canada. Unless there are strikes or artificial shrinkage the whole American copper production for 1910 should show a rise of 30,000 to 50,000 tons. The effect of cheaper production and lower prices has been, of course, to make many of the older and poorer mines unprofitable.

The *Boston News Bureau* for April 12th, 1910, professes to give the costs of production of the total of refined copper produced in U. S. A., estimated at 1,400,000,000 lbs.: Under 9 cents per lb. 35 per cent; from 9-10 cents, 13·6 per cent; from 10-11, 33·9 per cent; over 11 cents per lb, 17·2 per cent. The consumption in U. S. A. has risen from 208,800 metric tons (1908) to 318,900 (1909). This rise and the increased rise in exports was insufficient to absorb the increased production and the increased import.

Europe's consumption of copper in 1909 sank to 451,800 metric tons, against 477,700 in 1908, a fall of 5·4 per cent. The import of raw copper from North America was 306,600 tons, and the reserve, in England and France must have risen. Germany's consumption of copper was 179,100 metric tons, as against 180,800 for 1908. The production rose, but the import fell by 3,000 tons. Great Britain consumed 109,100 tons (metric) in 1909, as against 127,600 in 1908, while the smelting furnace production fell 6·5 per cent.

Turning again to the Census of Production Report, we find that in 1907 the production, exports and imports of copper ore, regulus, and precipitate were as follows:—

Production. Tons.	Exports. Tons.	net Imports. Tons.
10,500	...	170,400

As regards the manufacture of pure copper goods the report states the production to be as under:—

	Value. £
Copper—Wrought or manufactured (including plates, rods, tubes, wire, etc.)	4,963,000
Copper—Sulphate	1,521,000
	5,484,000

The total production is probably rather greater than this, as some pure copper goods are classified with brass goods. The exports of copper sulphate in 1907 amounted to 45,000 tons (English) or a little over 71 per cent of the quantity manufactured in the United Kingdom.

SICILIAN CITRUS INDUSTRY.

The Italian *Gazzetta Ufficiale* of 30th July publishes the text of a law, dated 17th July, providing for the regulation of the Sicilian citrus industry. The Government is obliged by this law to present to Parliament, not later than 31st December next, a bill for the reconstruction of the administration of the "Camera Agrumaria" (the Chamber for the Sicilian citrus industry). The manufacture of citric acid is placed under the control of the Chamber. A tax is payable, on the sale of citrate of lime and concentrated lemon juice, of 3 per cent of the selling price if the goods are sold through the Chamber, and of 1 lira per 100 kilogs. and per degree of citric acid if the goods are not entrusted to the Chamber. Not later than 15th September the Ministry of Agriculture was to fix the minimum price of valuation of deposit warrants of the Chamber for the season from 1st December, 1910, to 30th November, 1911. Bank advances may by the law be made to manufacturers up to three-fourths (instead of as formerly, two-thirds) of the value so obtained of the deposit warrants. The sale price of citrate of lime and concentrated lemon juice is to be fixed by the Royal Commissioner appointed in January last to administer the Chamber. The law also contains provisions for granting special privileges to co-operative societies formed for the purpose of manufacturing the products of the citrus industry or of exporting them. It further provides that the Government may establish a special association for oranges and other similar fruit, excluding lemons.

With reference to the foregoing, H. M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. R. G. Macbean, M.V.O.) has furnished the following particulars taken from the report, recently issued, of a Government Commission appointed to advise as to the mode of fixing the "minimum price" of valuation of deposit warrants of the "Camera Agrumaria," as provided for under the law of 17th July :—

The average annual lemon crop is estimated at 50,000,000,000 fruits (8,000 citrus fruits=about 1 metric ton), of which 50 per cent. is exported as fruit, 40 per cent. is converted into citrate and essence, and 10 per cent. is consumed at home and pickled.

Citrate of lime :	Metric tons.
Estimated stock on 30th November, 1910 .	6,200
„ production, 1910-11 .	7,000
„ sales, 1910-11 . . .	5,800
„ unsold surplus, 1910-11 .	1,200

It is suggested that the "minimum price" shall be fixed at the same proportion of the gross sale price, less dues to the Chamber and cost of analysis and brokerage, as is the estimated quantity to be sold during the season in question of the estimated production during that season. Thus, the gross sale price being at present 159 lire per 100 kilogs., or 152 lire after deduction of dues to the Chamber, etc., the "Minimum price" for 1910-11= $\frac{5,800 \times 152}{7,000}$ lire per 100 kilogs. = (about) 126 lire per 100 kilogs.

COTTON INDUSTRY OF RUSSIA.

The American Consul-General (Mr. John H. Snodgrass) of Moscow has furnished the following statistics concerning the manufacture and production of cotton in Russia to his Government :—

The cotton-manufacturing industry in Russia, which had been previously a mere cottage industry, began to be organized on modern lines about 1825, and large factories sprang up soon afterwards. One large firm obtained permission to import English textile machinery in 1840, and this firm fitted up and obtained an interest in as many as 122 factories. The largest one of these was built at Narva in 1856, and contains at the present time 461,900 spindles and 3,028 looms, driven by water power. These mills produce about $6,180,000 worth of spun cotton, etc., per annum employing 5,400 hands. Another large factory, located at Yaroslav, produce about dollars 6,000,000 worth, having 277,100 spindles and employing about 10,000 hands. The largest cotton-goods producers in Russia are two firms in the Lodz district, producing about $7,725,000 per annum each and employing 253,000 spindles, 4,826 looms, and 7,000 hands, and 138,300 spindles, 4,437 looms, and 6,500 hands, respectively. There are several mills producing between $2,750,000 and $5,150,000 per annum, and these are fairly well distributed over the Empire.

Russia ranks third among European countries in the number of spindles. There are now 8,076,460 spindles being operated, of which 7,747,440 are spinning spindles and 329,020 twist spindles. In the Moscow district there are 4,805,045 spinning spindles and 29,720 twist spindles; in the Baltic provinces, 1,650,536 spinning spindles and 256,200 twist spindles; in Poland, 1,228,665 spinning spindles ard 41,900 twist spindles; in all other parts of the Empire, 63,200 spinning spindles and 1,200 twist spindles. Besides 137,964 automatic and 2,000 hand looms operated by mills, there are about 40,000 hand looms used by the peasants.

Imports of Cotton.

In 1908 the Russian mills required about $125,000,000 worth of cotton, of which $61,365,340 worth was imported, and of this, according to the Statistical Bureau of the Department of Customs, $49,900,925 worth was American cotton, imported as follows :—Direct from the United States, 272,140,032 pounds, valued at $32,421,825; *vid* German commission houses, 104,977,584 pounds, valued at $11,175,560; *vid* England, 59,187,568 pounds, valued at $6,303,600; total, 435,305,184 pounds, valued at $49,900,925.

For the first 10 months of 1909 the imports of cotton fell off to $37,772,160, of which only $28,483,105 worth was American due to the abnormal increase in price, caused by speculators in the United States. The duty on raw cotton imported into Russia is 4 roubles per pood ($2·06 per 36·112 pounds), and the total duty collected on cotton in 1908 amounted to 53,562,000 roubles ($27,584,430).

It will be seen from the foregoing that the greater part of the cotton used in the mills of Russia, especially American cotton, is bought and sold several times before it reaches its final destination, and that necessarily, even under ordinary conditions, the price of the raw product has attained abnormal proportions by the time it is delivered in the textile centres of Russia.

The Russian manufacturers assert, without qualification, that if they were able to buy at reasonable figures they would consume $100,000,000 worth of American cotton per annum. As it now stands Russia's purchase of American cotton amounts to more than its entire trade with Great Britain by several millions, and equal to considerably more than one-third of Germany's commerce with the Empire.

Value of Output.

In the following figures, showing Russia's cotton-manufacturing industry, are included manufactories of cotton goods of all kinds, as well as cotton yarn, cotton spinning and weaving, and the bleaching, printing and dyeing of cotton goods :—

Location of factories.	Number.	Annual production.	Employees.
		$	
Moscow government .	250	82,500,000	100,000
Poland . . .	170	46,350,000	49,000
Vladimir government .	131	82,500,000	120,000
St. Petersburgh government. . . .	34	26,780,000	23,000
Riazan government .	39	6,180,000	14,000
Saratov government .	44	7,725,000	12,000
Kostroma government .	33	25,750,000	32,000
All other places . .	44	25,750,000	38,000
Total .	745	303,535,000	388,000

In view of the growing demand for the raw product by the manufacturers, and of the attention that is being given to the cultivation of the plant in Central Asia, a detailed statement of its development and its prospects for improvement should be of interest and value to cotton growers of the United States, and it may as well be stated here that unless abnormal speculation is stopped in the United States and the business taken out of the hands of stock gamblers the Russian manufacturers will spend their millions in irrigation projects in Asia in order to supply the home demands and to enable them to compete in the other European markets.

Production of Cotton.

Modern history of cotton culture in central Asia commences with Russia's conquest of these countries, when trials were made with imported seed, chiefly American. First of all sea island was tried, but this could not thrive in the dry continental climate.

In the beginning of the eighth decade of last century, new trials were made with upland seed, which at once produced good results, and since then cotton culture has rapidly increased, reaching its maximum figures in 1906-07, when a crop of about 800,000 bales, of 300 pounds each, was made. This seems to be about the highest possible yield under present conditions.

Besides the Ferghana district, which produces about 144,500,000 to 252,700,000 pounds of ginned cotton, the following districts grow the staple to about the estimates given: Syr Daria, 54,000 acres, 14,444,800 pounds; Samarkand, 81,000 acres, 21,667,200 pounds; Trans-Caspia, 72,900 acres, 16,250,400 pounds; Bokhara, 130,000 acres, 32,500,800 pounds; Kiva, 81,000 acres, 27,084,000 pounds; Caucasus, acreage not given, 28,889,600 pounds all in ginned cotton. These figures refer to the crop of 1909-10 which is roughly estimated at 19,000,000 poods (361,120,000 pounds) of ginned cotton, of which about nine-tenths was produced from American seed and one-tenth from home seed.

Twenty years ago, when the production of cotton in all Russia was from 216,672,000 to 238,896,000 pounds, the mills required 541,680,000 pounds, but now, while the production has nearly doubled, the mills require 25,000,000 poods (902,800,000 pounds) The deficiency of about 500,000,000 pounds must be made up principally by American growers. Should the mills be able to buy cotton at a reasonable price their output would be appreciably augmented.

The Cotton Belt.

The cotton belt in Central Asia comprises the area between the Persian and Afghanistan boundaries, 43 degrees northern latitude, and 28 and 43 degrees eastern longitude, excluding the mountainous parts of this country. The belt lies in the plains of this area and is strictly limited to parts which can be made accessible to irrigation. A rough estimate of the area under cultivation may be put at 945,000 acres. The larger part of these, namely, about 540,000 acres, lie in the valley of Ferghana, which produces from one-half to three-fourths the entire Russian crop. Ferghana represents an oblong valley, closed in on all sides by high mountains, which only at the western end leave a comparatively small passage connecting it with the rest of the central Asian plain.

The climate in the cotton belt is dry and continental, with high summer temperatures, mild winters, and with hardly any rainfall during the crop-making months. For this reason all field work is entirely dependent on irrigation. According to meteorological statistics, the annual fall of atmospheric moisture in Ferghana amounts to 7·6 inches, in Syr Daria to 6·1 inches, and in Samarkand to 16·6 inches, while evaporation in the shade has been estimated at 39·37, 49·2, and 34·6 inches, respectively. During the months of June, July, and August the thermometer averages 124° F., and in the autumn ranges along 90° F., though frosts sometimes appear in September, having a destructive effect upon the ungarnered crops. The climatic changes are extreme, while the rains can not be depended upon; all these elemental disturbances and in equalities combine to

make the region a hazardous one in which to pursue this branch of agriculture.

In order to increase the production irrigation is absolutely required, but for the present the Government will hardly undertake any new projects. Of course, the planter is unable to do anything in that line because of the magnitude of the undertaking. The country derives its water supply from a number of rivers, among which the Syr Daria, Amu Daria, Serafshan, and Murgab are the most important, and partly from numerous brooklets passing from the mountain glaciers. It is thought that the big rivers carry enough water to double the area under irrigation.

Mill owners have been interested in the proposition to irrigate about 1,000,000 acres at Amu Daria, Syr Daria, Serafshan, and Murgan, but so far no definite procedure has been settled upon. Small plantations have been watered by the Tegned River, but for the greater part of the year there is not a sufficient stream; during the dry season the river is completely evaporated by the intense heat.

People and Labour Conditions.

The people living in the cotton belt of Central Asia represent a conglomerate of all the races and nations that in ages past have inhabited these regions, from pure Aryans to full-fledged Mongols. They all adhere to the Mohammedan faith and speak various dialects of the Tartar-Sart-Bokhara language, except in the southwestern part, where the influence of the Persian language is felt. They are an industrious, peaceful people, with a past as highly cultured as time and place and other influences would admit. To illustrate this one need only point out the remnants of wonderful architecture in Samarkand and other places or the still more wonderful system of irrigation planned, laid out and executed in far bygone days, which, for the most part, now exists and works effectively.

The people are skilled field labourers, especially the Sarts of Ferghana, and seem to have acquired by natural adaptation special talents for the duties most needed in the culture of their land inasmuch as even the most ignorant are able to determine, with the aid of the simplest imaginable instruments, the suitableness of the soil for laying out the fields for irrigation.

The field work is mostly done by the farmer and his family, sometimes with the aid of hired help who live with the family. It is difficult to precisely give wages in this case, but they are very small. When the hired help supplies his own food and lodging, wages during the planting, chopping, and picking seasons may run up to and average about 40 to 52 cents per day. The scale varies each season, with a tendency to rise. During the crop season there is generally an influx of Chinese labour from Kashgar into eastern Ferghana. There is no actually developed labour system from which it would be possible to gauge the proportion of male, female, and child labour.

From 10 to 12 hours is considered a day's work. Everything is done by hand, modern machinery not having as yet been introduced. The soil, for the most part, is turned up by the use of picks and hoes, but in some parts the primitive wooden plow is brought into use.

Cotton-Seed Products.

The first mill for the production of cotton-seed products was erected at Kata-Kurgan in 1892, consisting of two presses. In 1895 two mills of two presses each were built at Namangan; in 1902 a third mill was put up in Feltchenko, of four presses. At present there are 28 mills in active operation in Asia, the largest at Bairam-Ali, operates four presses and consumes 180,560 pounds of seed per day. The second largest is at Fletchenko, erected by a Moscow party, running five presses, with a yearly consumption of 54,168,000 pounds of seed. In Andijan, Namangan, and Chust there are three mills, consuming 144,448,000 pounds of seed per year. The aggregate consumed by all the mills in Russia is in the neighbourhood of 433,344,000 pounds of seed per year. This does not include the mill at Nigni-Novogorod, which requires 72,224,000 pounds. As the annual production of seed is not more than 866,668,000 pounds, and as the best quality is sold to the mill owners, there is left but 427,120,000 pounds of seed of very poor quality for the farmer with which to plant in 1910. It is therefore apparent that without new seed from the United States the planters cannot get along, nor can they keep up a standard as in the United States.

Egyptian seeds have been tried a number of times, but with little satisfaction, as the cost was greater than the American products and the results were poor, mixing with the domestic cotton and producing a poor hybrid. From the seed there is produced 15 per cent oil, 38 per cent oil cake, and 1½ per cent linter, the remainder being shell, which is utilized for fuel. The price of seed is 26 cents per 36 pounds. Oil sold in 1909 at $2·32 per 36 pounds, which was considered an abnormally high price for the Russian product. Oil cake is disposed of at 21 cents per 36 pounds, while linter brings from $4·12 to $5·15, a most satisfactory figure to the manufacturers. The Russian oil cake is shipped mainly to Hamburg, where it is utilized as food for animals.

The Moscow prices for oil range from $2·35 to $3·50 per 36 pounds. This is due partly to the bad crop of sunflower seeds, the prices having formerly been from $1·55 to $3·35 in the Caucasus. In addition to its use for edible purposes, the oil is also used in canned goods, such as fish, for technical purposes, in the manufacture of soap and candles, and for sizing in the cotton and woollen mills.

NEW REFERENCE BOOKS.

THE MODERN PRACTICE OF COAL MINING.
By D. BURNS and G. L. KERR. Part IV Drills and Drilling and Coal-cutting Machinery. 9½ × 6½in pp. 157-630 . . . . . 2s. net.
Whittaker.

EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Statement showing the exports of wheat and wheat-flour from British India to foreign countries in each of the six months, April to September, of the years 1905 to 1910:—

	1905		1906		1907		1908		1909		1910	
BENGAL—	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
April	169,368		9,014		12,855		3,360		272,044		341,028	
May	663,696		16,398		40,881		6,506		1,026,554		538,670	
June	631,938		29,860		42,065		5,019		748,294		508,869	
July	371,322		72,099		39,656		5,924		324,373		95,554	
August	52,489		10,967		16,770		6,310		264,333		169,455	
September	39,210		13,722		10,020		4,719		13,956		238,729	
TOTAL		1,928,023		152,060		162,247		32,138		2,649,554		1,892,305
BOMBAY—												
April	646,148		88,333		68,828		20,921		168,321		141,658	
May	881,105		167,451		166,153		42,477		716,519		361,016	
June	534,526		148,807		167,294		59,088		751,301		111,303	
July	333,117		180,630		276,581		45,589		465,304		161,979	
August	306,811		61,663		104,744		38,365		251,753		246,636	
September	349,378		72,300		107,104		68,259		64,433		206,185	
TOTAL		3,051,085		719,184		890,704		274,699		2,417,631		1,228,777
SIND—												
April	718,621		439,238		1,395,557		20,968		17,306		813,900	
May	1,542,890		1,145,804		1,341,517		14,573		212,803		765,843	
June	3,305,233		2,724,525		1,851,899		117,881		3,268,113		2,253,885	
July	2,501,383		3,178,056		2,886,485		490,141		4,831,931		2,988,364	
August	1,889,121		1,761,921		2,879,693		247,313		3,044,522		2,783,902	
September	502,399		665,183		2,775,133		467,967		416,967		1,507,237	
TOTAL		10,459,647		9,917,727		13,130,284		1,358,843		11,791,642		11,113,131
OTHER PROVINCES—												
April	110,370		136		212		90		...		135	
May	13,485		30		1		...		2,112		...	
June	4,056		37		225		3		...		31	
July	7,649		4		...		7		2,007		1	
August	268		...		6		...		2,004		30	
September	6		...		1		6		4		21	
TOTAL		135,834		207		445		106		6,127		218
TOTAL—												
April	1,644,507		536,721		1,477,452		45,339		457,671		1,296,721	
May	3,101,176		1,329,683		1,548,552		63,556		1,957,988		1,665,529	
June	4,475,753		2,903,229		2,061,483		181,991		4,767,708		2,874,088	
July	3,213,471		3,430,789		3,202,722		541,661		5,623,615		3,245,898	
August	2,248,689		1,837,551		3,001,213		292,288		3,562,612		3,200,023	
September	890,993		751,205		2,892,258		540,951		495,360		1,952,172	
GRAND TOTAL		15,574,589		10,789,178		14,183,680		1,665,786		16,864,954		14,234,431

N.B.—The figures of wheat-flour included in this statement are taken as representing 70 per cent of wheat used in its manufacture.

—Mr. A. D. Ross's paper, read before the Institute of Metals recently, upon **"Magnetic alloys formed from non-magnetic materials,"** draws attention, says the *Manchester Guardian*, to certain very interesting and little-known phenomena. Certain alloys of manganese, notably those with copper and aluminium, possess strongly marked magnetic properties, although each of the constituents taken separately is quite non-magnetic. Interesting as the bare facts concerning these alloys are, the chief interest centres round the marked change in the magnetic properties effected by subjecting them to very high and very low temperatures and to annealing and tempering. The striking changes effected by heat treatment and the discovery that other metals, including cadmium and zinc, confer magnetic properties in certain cases although themselves quite unmagnetic, suggests that magnetic properties are primarily a matter of molecular structure which may conceivably be given to a great many metals by suitable thermal and mechanical treatment. These discoveries open a very wide field of research to experimenters, and one which may conceivably yield results of great scientific and industrial importance.

DATA OF TEMPERATURE, HUMIDITY AND RAINFALL FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, THE 18th OCTOBER, 1910.

	Station.	Temperature (mean of maximum and minimum). Actual.	Departure from normal.	Humidity (percentage of amount for saturation). Actual.	Departure from normal.	Rainfall. Total during week.	Total since 1st June.	Departure of latter from normal.
		°	°	%	%	"	"	"
Burma.								
Lower Burma	Mergui	79	−1	90	+2	2·6	122·4	−6·3
	Tavoy	80	−1	86	−2	0·4	181·1	+8·8
	Moulmein	82	0	88	−1	0·6	146·1	−10·3
	Rangoon	85	+1	75	−6	0·1	63·5	−15·7
	Bassein	82	0	90	−2	2·9	67·0	−26·4
	Akyab	82	0	91	+1	1·7	180·2	+12·4
	Toungoo	84	+1	82	−7	0·5	69·8	+2·9
Upper Burma	Thayetmyo	82	0	84	−1	0	18·7	−9·9
	Yamethin	82	−1	88	+1	0·8	26·6	+1·3
	Mandalay	84	0	81	−1	0·6	29·0	+7·8
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Bhamo	77	−2	94	+11	5·2	78·3	+18·0
Assam	Dibrugarh	75	...	93	...	3·8	79·4	+1·5
	Tezpur	79	...	95	...	1·9	55·0	−5·2
	Dhubri	78	−1	90	+1	0·7	61·2	−8·1
	Shillong	65	...	86	...	3·2	59·9	0
	Silchar	77	−4	97	+8	10·0	92·2	+13·5
Eastern Bengal	Chittagong	80	−1	89	+1	2·8	91·0	+17·8
	Barisal	81	0	89	+6	4·5	58·3	+0·3
	Narayanganj	81	−1	85	+1	5·3	50·9	+2·4
	Mymensingh	78	−2	90	+2	5·2	64·0	+0·6
	Malda	80	0	88	+4	0·1	49·1	+2·3
	Jalpaiguri	80	+2	87	−1	0·9	102·4	−1·9
Bengal.								
Bengal	Berhampore	82	−1	90	+3	1·0	45·8	+1·0
	Calcutta	81	0	91	+6	4·5	46·6	−1·6
Orissa	Balasore	80	0	88	0	5·4	49·1	−16·7
	Cuttack	81	−1	86	+4	2·1	61·3	+12·0
Chota Nagpur	Sambalpur	80	−1	86	+6	1·4	64·9	+1·9
	Chaibassa	81	0	84	0	2·2	37·7	−4·8
	Purulia	81	...	86	+9	0·3	39·5	−7·3
	Hazaribagh	76	+1	71	−2	0·1	39·8	−7·8
Bihar	Darjeeling	57	+1	81	−11	0	104·0	−2·6
	Darbhanga	81	+1	88	+4	0	47·4	+2·6
	Patna	82	+1	74	−1	0	61·7	+18·5
	Motihari	81	+2	91	+3	0	53·9	+6·7
United Provinces.	Buxar	82	+1	75	+1	0	41·1	+3·6
United Provinces, East	Allahabad	79	−1	64	−7	0	27·1	−10·4
	Bahraich	79	0	83	+7	0	46·0	+2·9
	Lucknow	78	−1	68	−7	0	26·2	−9·3
United Provinces, West	Jhansi	81	−1	46	−3	0	32·9	−3·3
	Agra	80	−1	58	+1	0	30·1	+3·9
	Bareilly	77	−2	81	+4	0	51·3	+7·5
Punjab.								
Punjab, East and North	Delhi	78	−3	60	+8	0	29·2	+5·1
	Sirsa	79	−1	52	+4	0	10·0	−1·6
	Ambala	75	−3	73	+2	0	25·2	+2·0
	Lahore	76	+1	60	+3	0	11·2	−4·3
	Rawalpindi	72	−1	52	−7	0	26·9	+4·1
Punjab, South-West	Multan	81	+1	46	−9	0	1·6	−3·8
Kashmir	Srinagar	55	−1	77	−13	0	5·0	−3·5
North-West Frontier Province.	Peshawar	72	2	56	0	0	12·3	+7·4
	D. I. Khan	76	−1	61	+7	0	6·4	+1·4
Sind	Jacobabad	81	0	64	+17	0	2·3	−0·2
	Karachi	78	−2	82	+14	0	12·1	+5·5

	Station.	Temperature (mean of maximum and minimum). Actual.	Departure from normal.	Humidity (percentage of amount for saturation). Actual.	Departure from normal.	Rainfall. Total during week.	Total since 1st June.	Departure of latter from normal.
		°	°	%	%	"	"	"
Rajputana.								
Rajputana, West	Bikaner	83	−2	25	−13	0	12·9	+3·7
	Jodhpur	81	−3	38	−1	0	10·1	−2·1
Rajputana, East	Udaipur	77	−2	50	−6	0	24·9	+5·2
	Ajmer	77	−4	68	+13	0	16·9	−2·7
	Jaipur	79	−2	49	+3	0	16·5	−7·4
	Kotah	81	−3	59	+13	0	30·5	+5·4
Bombay.								
Gujarat	Bhuj	84	0	43	−14	0	20·4	+6·7
	Deesa	82	0	50	+5	0	23·4	+9·3
	Ahmedabad	85	−1	56	+3	0	25·6	−6·4
	Rajkot	83	0	64	−2	0	33·3	+6·1
	Veraval	80	−1	73	+9	0	17·3	+0·5
Konkan	Bombay	82	−1	84	+3	0	67·5	−5·6
	Karwar	79	−1	90	0	0	112·9	−2·1
Bombay, Deccan	Malegaon	77	−2	59	+2	0	28·7	+7·2
	Ahmednagar	77	0	60	−4	0	33·7	+15·2
	Poona	78	0	60	−1	0	29·5	+6·8
	Bijapur	79	+1	67	−9	0	20·3	+1·5
	Belgaum	75	0	80	−5	0·2	37·5	−3·8
Central India.								
Central India, West	Neemuch	76	−3	53	+9	0	30·8	+2·2
	Indore	74	−2	63	+5	0	34·9	+3·5
Central India, East	Sutna	78	+1	72	+5	0	31·6	−7·6
Central Provinces.								
Berar	Akola	79	0	63	+3	0	34·4	+4·1
Central Provinces, West	Saugor	76	−1	53	−3	0	36·5	−8·8
	Jubbulpore	76	0	77	+3	0	38·7	−16·4
	Seoni	75	−1	58	−6	0	54·0	+3·8
	Nagpur	79	−1	63	+1	0	54·3	+9·7
Central Provinces, East	Chanda	80	0	76	+4	0	47·4	−2·9
	Raipur	79	0	85	+11	0·1	61·8	+15·5
Hyderabad.								
Hyderabad, North	Nizamabad	79	−1	76	+5	0	40·9	+3·6
Hyderabad, South	Gulbarga	79	−1	68	−3	0·1	31·2	+4·0
	Hyderabad	79	+1	79	+5	0·5	22·0	−4·4
	Raichur	81	0	75	+3	0	19·0	−6·7
Mysore	Bangalore	74	+1	89	+5	3·4	33·6	+10·3
	Mercara	70	+1	94	+4	3·6	106·2	−4·0
Madras.								
Malabar	Cochin	81	+1	81	−5	6·3	81·4	+0·9
	Trivandrum	78	+1	87	+1	8·9	44·2	+11·8
Madras, South-East	Pamban	83	+1	78	−3	0	6·4	+0·2
	Negapatam	83	+1	80	−3	1·9	19·7	+5·2
	Coimbatore	89	0	89	+2	0·9	7·5	−1·1
	Cuddalore	82	0	81	−7	1·2	23·5	+2·1
	Salem	81	0	82	−1	4·3	31·1	+6·3
	Madras	83	+1	85	+2	0·1	19·1	−2·6
Madras Deccan	Cuddapah	83	0	76	0	0·1	36·3	+13·6
	Bellary	81	0	77	+6	1·8	17·2	+4·0
Madras Coast, North	Nellore	83	−1	86	+2	0·8	14·3	−1·0
	Masulipatam	81	−1	93	+7	2·3	34·8	+7·1
	Waltair	80	−3	91	+14	0·1	35·9	+8·1
	Gopalpur	79	−2	96	+9	6·8	49·2	+13·8

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 15th October, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	115,860
	Bombay	„	124,395
	Madras	„	262,065
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	30,000
	Bombay	„	3,603,301
	Madras	„	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	5,060,735
	Bombay	„	3,586,600
	Karachi	„	679,981
	Madras	„	1,785,576
	Rangoon	„	327,913

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	1,570,512
	Bombay	„	3,486,077
	Karachi	„	3,919,781
	Madras	„	646,946
	Rangoon	„	493,545

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	1,235,273
	Bombay	„	4,618,150
	Karachi	„	5,366,400
	Madras	„	922,312
	Rangoon	„	1,398,610

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*21,327
	Bombay	„	8,159
	Karachi	„	19,228
	Madras	„	7,386

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	75
	Coastwise	„	8,289
	By rail	„	8,354
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	4,028
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*944

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in Calcutta		cwt.	*811,913
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	3,411,350
	„ cloth	yds.	8,697,000
	Jute	cwt.	556,609
Chittagong – Jute		„	32,497

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from Bombay		cwt.	2,964

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*5,166
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	149
	Coastwise	„	...
	By rail	„	15,014
Karachi		„	6,000
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	4,017
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	27,043
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	4,248

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*35,983
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	17
	By rail	„	29,527
Karachi		„	93,786
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	2,380
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	65,438
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	23,991

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in Calcutta		cwt.	*69,815
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	240,438
	Chittagong	„	...
	Bombay	„	9,812
	Karachi	„	24,115
	Madras	„	...
	Rangoon	„	...

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in Calcutta		lbs.	*6,528,063
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	6,231,195
Chittagong		„	...

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta by rail and river		cwt.	*67,496
Karachi by rail		„	19,040
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	3,916
	By rail	„	95,460
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	17,121
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	60,712
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	334,425

* Incomplete.

EXPORTS – RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta . Cwt.	3,374,147	2,317,305	3,222,924	5,198,055	973,130	1,038,003	Not	reported.
Bombay . „	2,516,638	1,299,736	1,748,759	2,778,555	1,218,976	2,225,184	5,311,515	12,766,701
Karachi . „	13,403,561	13,785,090	...	4,893	2,822,516	4,466,783	Not	reported.*

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 15th OCTOBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	FROM Russia.	America.	All other foreign countries.	TOTAL.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	640,872	...	640,872
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	...	...	...
Exports by sea from Burma to Bengal				416,900
Exports by sea from Burma to E. B. & Assam				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Bombay				773,000
Exports by sea from Burma to Sind				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Madras				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Indian Ports, Non-Br.				176,200
Exports by sea from Burma to Foreign Ports				371,816

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 15th OCTOBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	REFINED SUGAR IMPORTED INTO Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon.	TOTAL.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	4	...	17	19	2	17	59
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	214,190	...	124,667	40,022	135	47,173	426,187
Mauritius	4,775	...	4,738	...	...	...	9,513
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total refined							435,759
Total unrefined							...
Grand Total							435,759

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

DISTRICTS.	SEASON 1910-11. Sold in sale of 7th October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 7th October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	SEASON 1909-10. Sold in sale of 8th October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 8th October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	10,329	7 0·1	103,026	7 4·5	5,032	7 3	83,561	7 8·7
Cachar	5,299	5 11·3	79,482	6 1·7	5,110	6 0·9	85,350	5 9·9
Sylhet	3,401	6 0	52,354	6 1·9	3,801	6 0·3	53,987	5 9·6
Darjeeling	3,119	9 0	49,563	9 4·9	2,996	9 7·5	45,958	9 11·7
Dooars	11,638	6 4·4	107,183	6 7·2	7,624	6 8·8	105,831	6 10
Terai	1,237	6 4·2	15,905	6 5·4	464	6 6·4	12,103	6 3·6
Chittagong	340	6 0·3	4,926	6 1	368	6 1·9	4,330	5 11·5
Chota-Nagpore	72	8 1	860	7 1·9	41	5 7	1,160	6 5
Kumaon and Kangra	14	5 3	2,061	6 4·7	92	5 10	1,668	5 9·6
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	90	6 2·3
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nepal	98	6 6	397	6 4·4	...	...	338	6 2·8
All other places	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	35,547	6 8·2	415,800	6 11·6	26,428	6 11·2	394,576	7 0

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 19,000 packages Dust* sold to 7th October 5*a.* 7·6*p.*
" 1909-10 " 18,700 " " " 8th " 5*a.* 8·1*p.*

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

NOTICE.

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" " " " " quarter	20 0
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In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5 0
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MISCELLANEOUS.

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Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4 12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0 6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

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C. P. G. D. " 1416 of 1895.
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PUBLISHED WEEKLY. REGISTERED.

The Indian Trade Journal.

Issued by the Commercial Intelligence Department, India.

VOL. XIX. No. 239.] CALCUTTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1910. [ANNAS 4.

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Wednesday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	5 per cent. (Oct. 6).
	Bombay	4 per cent. (Oct. 6).
	Madras	4 per cent. (July 4).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 3/8
	6 months	1-4 1/2

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 94-1.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 22nd October was Rs. 28-8-0 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 25th October was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia Bhawnagar cotton,** October delivery, Rs. 281 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **wholesale spot prices** of the undermentioned articles in Calcutta on the 26th instant were as under :—

Jute—C. D. M. and Co. (Red) Group	per 400 lbs.	Rs.	54 0 0
"	M. per 400 lbs.	"	45 0 0
Rice—Ballam No. 1 per B. md.		"	4 6 0
" Moonghy	"		*Nil.*
Linseed—Bold 4% per B. md.			*Nil.*
Rapeseed—Yellow, mixed, bold, Cawnpore, 4% per B. md.			*Nil.*

The Railway Board have sanctioned the construction by the Baroda Durbar of an extension of the Miyagam-Sinor Railway to Malsar—a distance of 4·65 miles. The project will be known as the Malsar extension of His Highness the **Gaekwar's Miyagam-Sinor Railway.**

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 1st October, 1910, were as follows :—Wheat, 30*s.* 1*d.*; barley, 24*s.* 4*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 4*d.*

In response to representations made by the Cape-town Chamber of Commerce, a communication has been received from the Secretary for Agriculture, **Cape Colony**, stating that at present the Government does not propose to institute a system of **grain elevators**, as it is felt that the South African export trade is not yet large enough to warrant the expenditure which would be involved.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 4th instant :—*United States of America*—Winter seeding progressing favourable conditions, except where droughty Pacific North-west ; spring wheat receipts continue relatively light but with small outgoings ; visible supply increasing good rate. *Canada*—Confirmed some damage bad harvest weather but yields some sections better than expected ; arrivals Winnipeg maintained ; stocks continue increase. *Argentina*—Weather turned cool, but no frost so far, the lower temperatures induced active speculation in linseed, which latter crop liable to frost damage this date ; wheat considered not liable frost damage now, but frost after the middle of October would be serious. *Australia*—Weather and crop news continue favourable, and prospects considered fully maintained ; shipments are liberal and fair supplies on hand. *India*—Ploughing proceeding, but much cattle disease about ; predicted that shipments continue very fair. *Russia*—The weather favours sowing arrivals large ; stocks increasing. *Roumania*—Weather favourable for sowing and maize harvest ; arrivals maintained and stocks now very large. *Hungary*—Autumn sowings and maize harvest reports favourable ; continued complaints of potatoes and fruit. *Austria*—New wheat poor quality. *Germany*—Field work progressing ; farmers' deliveries smaller; yield of potatoes unsatisfactory. *France and United Kingdom*—Weather rather too dry for sowing but favourable threshing ; supplies native wheat increased. *Italy, Turkey, Spain*—Weather favourable for seeding. *Greece*—Latest news harvest very poor, only about 40 per cent of full crop.

The British Acting Commercial Attaché at Yokohama (Mr. R. Boulter) reports that the first official estimate of this year's **rice crop in Japan** places it at 48,725,597 koku, a decrease of 3,712,065 koku, or 7·08 per cent as compared with last year. and of 312,804 koku (koku =4·96 bushels), or 0·67 per cent as compared with a normal crop. Over the greater part of the country the weather since the planting of the rice has been suitable for its growth and a crop in excess of the normal was expected, but the severe floods in August did great damage. The estimate given above is based on returns dated 27th August. The interval since then (report dated 3rd September) is the most critical period in the growth of the rice. Although there have been moderately high winds and a few storms, it is not considered that any further injury has been sustained by the rice, but on the contrary the high temperatures prevailing are thought to have been most favourable for it.

The following **return** shows the **number of bales of cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 39 weeks ended 29th September, 1910 :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 29th Sept., 1910.	39 weeks ended 29th Sept., 1910.	Week ended 29th Sept., 1910.	39 weeks ended 29th Sept., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American . .	46,786	1,275,264	1,583	174,015
Brazilian . .	—	40,489	192	2,531
East Indian . .	2,768	181,724	270	40,324
Egyptian . .	4,771	175,611	320	56,370
Miscellaneous .	501*	90,725†	24	6,489
Total .	54,426	1,763,813	2,389	273,729

* Including 36 bales British West Indian, 80 bales British West African, and 56 bales British East African.
† Including 6,149 bales British West Indian, 6,470 bales British West African, 11,874 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.
Note.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

In consequence of the continued depression of the **cotton trade in Japan**, the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association has resolved on a general curtailment of production during the next six months. The reduction will amount to 27½ per cent in the case of coarse yarns (up to 20's) and 20 per cent in the case of finer counts.

Messrs. Claflin, in their latest report on the **American dry goods trade**, say that the level of prices is undoubtedly keeping back a large volume of business in **cotton goods**. Manufacturers are still experiencing the unfortunate condition of inability to make a profit on their production, but the curtailment of output has been so general that it is gradually tending to balance the market and strengthen values. There are no immediate signs of any great revival in export business, but it is suggested that with any reopening of trade the claims on the present production would be heavy.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market** dated the 29th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co., Ld., say :—The enquiry for **Indian yarn** spoken of in our last issue was well maintained all through the week and sales of 2,262 bales were made and this amount could easily be made much larger if holders had only cared to meet the market. Prices kept steadily advancing and in some instances as much as one tael and a half per bale above last week's rates was paid but the buyers stopped and at the close the market is quiet. There is plenty of enquiry and a range of prices must be established before buying begins again as, in view of the recent sharp rise in Bombay, holders are unable to go on at present rates. Clearances were good all through the week.

In their New York cotton market letter dated September 23rd, Messrs. Hubbard Bros. and Co. make the following reference to the **bill of lading difficulty** :—"As time goes by, without a settlement between the bankers of Europe and of the United States as to the guarantee of the documents attached to drafts, the matter becomes more serious. We believe an adjustment will be reached, but as yet there are no indications of any agreement upon this question. Our national banks and, we understand, the Canadian banks are forbidden by the different banking laws from guaranteeing the validity of bills of lading. Therefore the solution is one which must call for the importation of the gold on bankers' bills or the acceptance of some compromise by the foreign bankers. A reform in the old methods was long needed ; then a bill of exchange drawn by an old-established firm with credit and a large capital did not sell for any more than that of a firm of limited means, simply because a bill of lading issued by some unknown party was attached to each draft. The New York bankers had long been warned that they would be caught by fraudulent documents, as the New York cotton merchants had been, but the warnings were laughed at ; hence these tears and this controversy, which threatens to upset the exchanges between the two continents."

His Majesty's Consul at Santiago (Mr. A. C. Kerr) reports that a **tungsten deposit** has been **discovered** in the north of **Chile.** A sample of the ore proved on analysis to contain 77·5 per cent of oxide of tungsten (=61·46 per cent tungsten). It is stated that large quantities of the mineral of this grade can be produced. Communications regarding the above should be addressed to the British Consulate, Santiago, Chile.

The following statement shows the **quantity and value of manganese ore exported** by sea from each Province of British India to countries of final destination in September, 1910 :—

Countries of final destination.	Bengal.		Bombay.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
September, 1910.	Cwts	Rs.	Cwts.	Rs.
United Kingdom	30,000	27,000	88,320	66,242
Belgium . .	20,000	18,000	90,000	84,375
France . . .	90,000	90,000	60,000	56,850
United States of America . .	...	...	266,000	1,99,500
Total .	140,000	1,35,000	504,320	4,06,967

Countries of final destination.	Madras		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwts	Rs.	Cwts.	Rs.
United Kingdom .	30,000	9,000	148,320	1,02,242
Belgium . .	...	...	110,000	1,02,375
France . .	...	...	159,000	1,46,850
United States of America . .	...	...	266,000	1,99,500
Total .	30,000	9,000	674,320	5,50,967

Writing on October 4th, the *Manchester Guardian* says :—During the past fortnight the **copper market** has been without particular interest either for speculators or consumers. In this period the highest closing price for standard warrants has been £55 5*s.* and the lowest £54 15*s.* The statistical position does not improve, and, moreover, there is some doubt whether the worst of it is known to the public. The *Ironmonger* comments upon the Continental stocks at Hamburg and Rotterdam, which are not included in the ordinary statistics of copper. These stocks are now probably not far short of 20,000 tons, and it is quite time that they were reckoned with. The temptation to juggle with figures is just now very strong for those who are anxious to prevent copper from falling any lower, but this kind of jugglery always brings its own punishment. Hamburg is in a fair way to become an important copper port, and sooner or later particulars will have to be published as to the stock of copper in warehouse there. Another important factor in producing amongst buyers a shyness of the copper market is to be found in the state of business in America. Here we have certainly been deceived —or at any rate an attempt has been made to deceive us—as to the condition of commerce in the

United States. The returns of the Steel Trust show very plainly that there has been no great recovery of trade in the metallurgical industries, notwithstanding the accounts of revival which have been transmitted to us. No further news has been received of late with regard to a combination for the reduction of output, and until something of the kind can be arranged there does not appear to be any good reason for believing that copper will advance.

The following figures represent the quantity and value of **gold and silver** imported from and exported to foreign countries into and from **British India** during the month of September, 1910 :—The total imports of gold 228,324 ozs. valued at Rs. 1,45,55,979. of these 214,137 ozs. priced at Rs. 1,37,13,586 represented bullion, 8,805 ozs. worth Rs. 5,17,272 represented sovereigns and other British gold coin, and 5,382 ozs. valued at Rs. 3,25,121 represented other coined gold. The exports of gold totalled 48,634 ozs. in quantity and Rs. 27,61,990 in value, and of these 48,103 ozs. valued at Rs. 27,31,359 represented bullion, 2 ozs. worth Rs. 137 represented sovereigns and other British gold coin, and 529 ozs. valued at Rs. 30,494 represented other coined gold. The total imports of silver were 2,388,519 ozs. priced at Rs. 43,59,497 ; of these 2,058,377 ozs. valued at Rs. 34,76,018 represented bar, 3,29,979 ozs. worth Rs. 8,86,176 represented Government of India rupees and 163 ozs. valued at Rs. 303 represented other coin. The total exports of silver were 1,356,329 ozs. valued at Rs. 35,74,421 ; of these 31,233 ozs. worth Rs. 57,381 represented bullion, 1,303,344 ozs. priced at Rs. 34,75,586 represented Government of India rupees, and 21,752 ozs. valued at Rs. 41,454 represented other coin. During the month the imports of gold amounted to 145·5 lakhs, while those of silver to 7·9 lakhs (net).

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on September 29th, regarding the **Hull oil market,** says :—The market for **linseed oil** is quiet at 44*s.* spot ; 42*s.* 6*d.* October—December ; 38*s.* 9*d.* January—April. The exports for the week amounted to 24 tons, of which America took 4, Australia 7, Germany 1, and Norway 12 tons each. **Cotton oil**—Refined cotton oil, 29*s.* 9*d.* spot, 2·*s.* 3*d.* November—April ; crude cotton oil, 30*s.* 6*d.* spot. The exports for the week totalled 115 tons, of which Belgium took 34, Germany 30, and Holland 51 tons each. **Soy bean oil,** 31*s.* 6*d.* spot. **Lard oil,** steady at 60*s.* per cwt. for best English refined. Olive strong with few sellers. Spanish for shipment, £55 to £56 per tun. Cocoanut oil quiet, English ex-mill, £42 10*s.* to £43 per ton in casks ; Ceylon, £41 10*s.* c. i. f. **Castor oil** steady, but quiet. Calcutta ex-store 3½*d.* to 3 $^{9}/_{16}$*d.* per lb. ; **palm oil** has had more inquiry. Lagos steady, but other descriptions rather lower. September and September—October deliveries, Lagos, at £37 ; Quaeboe, at £36 5*s.* ; Emoe, at £35 15*s.* ; Benin, at £34 5*s.*; and hards at £32 10*s.* transit. Refined sorts quiet at £34 10*s.* to £34 15*s.* per ton for clarified in casks. **Petroleum** steady, but quiet. American, 6*d.* to 7*d.*, and Russian 5½*d.* per gal. **Turpentine** steady at the decline. September—December 54*s.* ; January—April, 55*s.* per cwt.

Sugar statistics published in Vienna show that Europe's production in 1910 has been seven-and-a-half million tons, against six million in 1909, and exceeding the record year, 1905-06, by half-a-million. We may add that the Java crop is estimated at 1,175,000 tons as compared with 1,200,618 tons last season ; and the estimate for the Mauritius crop is 190,000 tons against 245,000 tons in the previous year.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows :—

For the week ending 22nd October, 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 3,050 ; 3,075 ; 3,100 ; 3,150 ; 3,200 ; 3,200 ; 3,200.

Benares opium—Rs. 3,025 ; 3,025 ; 3,075 ; 3,125 ; 3,175 ; 3,175 ; 3,175.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 11th sale of 1910 were Rs. 3,055 ; 3,080 ; 3,105 ; 3,155 ; 3,203 ; 3,203 ; 3,203.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange, Rs. 138½ to 141½ per $100).

Behar opium—$2,225 ; 2,200 ; 2,200 ; 2,250 and 2,275 ; 2,275 ; 2,260 ; 2,260.

Benares opium—On the 17th instant, $2,200 ; on the 19th, $2,275 ; and on the 21st, $2,260.

At Shanghai—(Exchange, no quotations received).

Behar opium—On the 18th instant, taels 1,695 and 1,700 ; on the 19th, taels 1,720.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

For the week ending 15th October, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

On the 9th and 10th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,395 to 1,400 ; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,350 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,515 to 3,500 ; on the 11th—15th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,390 to 1,395 ; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,350 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,520 to 3,500.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 3,243 and 3,381 ; (old) Rs. 3,312 and 3,464, respectively.

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by increased activity of the monsoon along the east coast of Madras and in the extreme South, while a depression appeared

over South Tenasserim. Rainfall has been nearly general in Madras ; fairly general on the Bengal coast, South-east of Central Provinces, South Hyderabad, and Malabar. There have also been a few falls in Konkon, South Bombay, Deccan, and Mysore.

Two **commercial travellers** who recently visited Baghdad on behalf of certain firms, one being a concern in Cawnpore, were unable to prove their identity owing to their not having been furnished with satisfactory proofs by their principals, and an exchange of cablegrams was necessary before Consular assistance could be given. To avoid delay British commercial travellers proceeding to Baghdad should be in a position to give proof of their representative character and of the British nationality of their firms.

The following statement shows the **quantity and value of Palmyra fibre exported** by sea from the Madras Presidency during the quarter ending September, 1910 :—

Countries to which exported.	July to September, 1910.	
	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwts.	Rs.
United Kingdom	4,054	70,572
Ceylon	862	12,601
Australia	71	979
Germany	10,979	1,72,687
Holland	1,629	27,649
Belgium	11,864	1,79,276
France	1,053	15,285
Russia	27	432
Japan	260	2,800
United States of America	600	7,300
TOTAL	31,339	4,89,581

With effect from the 1st proximo the following amendments will be made in the rules published with the Notification of the Government of India in the Department of Commerce and Industry, No. 7571-163, dated the 8th October, 1909, and the rules as amended will govern the exchange by **radio-telegraph** of public correspondence between ships at sea and the coast stations at Bombay, Calcutta, Diamond Island, Sandheads, Table Island and Victoria Point :—For Rule I substitute the following :—"1. The service at coast stations in India will be according to the hours notified for such stations in the Indian Telegraph Guide. Those coast stations at which the service is of limited duration must not close before they have transmitted all their radio-telegrams to such ships as are within their range of transmission and have received from these ships all the radio-telegrams of which notice has been given. This applies also when ships notify their presence before work has actually ceased." In Rule 6 for the words "the temporary coast station at Bombay" substitute "a coast station", and cancel the last sentence of the Rule.

The following particulars are taken from the Resolution on the Report of the Department of Agriculture, Bengal, for the year ending the 30th June, 1910 :—The operations for the improvement of **silk industry in Bengal** now conducted under the general control of a committee consisting of the Director of Agriculture, the Collector of Murshidabad, and four representatives of the principal silk firms in Bengal, have made some progress under the superintendence of Babu Apurba Kumar Ghose. The main object is to rear and distribute pure and healthy seed as widely as possible in the silk-rearing districts, through the agency of village nurseries. Six new nurseries were established during the year—three in the Murshidabad district, two in Birbhum, and one in Midnapur. Altogether there are now eighteen nurseries. The experience of the year shows that progress is being made in the eradication of the disease known as *pebrine*, which was one of the principal causes of the decline of the silk industry. The seed of the nurseries is growing steadily in popularity in the Bengal districts, and requisitions for it were received from Rajshahi and Malda in Eastern Bengal and Assam and from Belgaum, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Gwalior, and other parts of India. To meet the increasing demand two more rearing houses were added to the Central Nursery at Berhampore. The total receipts from the sale of seed amounted to Rs. 6,566 as compared with Rs. 5,874 in the preceding year, and there was a small profit on the working of the nurseries. The experiments made with Italian mulberry in the Central Nursery and those made at Calcutta in the cold storage of seed and cocoons obtained some success. A class for the training of the sons of rearers has been establishing the Central Nursery at Berhampore. The course of instruction extends over a year, and six stipends of Rs. 8 a month have been founded. There are six boys now under training. On the completion of the fishery survey of the Bay of Bengal, the control of the **Fishery Department** was, in accordance with the arrangement prevailing in most European countries, made over to the Director of Agriculture on the 15th January 1910. In future the enquiry will be confined to the inland fisheries of the Province. The present staff consists of two assistants—Mr. B. Dass and Mr. Mohsin—who have visited various fishing centres in Europe and America and have acquired a general knowledge of the functions of a Fishery Department. During the year under report these two assistants devoted their time principally to two special lines of enquiry, *viz.*, (1) experiments in the artificial propagation of carp and (2) investigation into the spawning grounds of *hilsa*. A scheme for the future conduct of the fishery opera-

tions is now under the consideration of the Government of India. Mr. C. J. Bergthiel continued his **indigo research work** at Sirsiah. No results have been obtained of sufficient finality to warrant publication.

His Majesty's Embassy at St. Petersburg reports that, according to the official *Commercial and Industrial Gazette* of 15th September, the prospects of the **Russian tobacco crop**, which earlier in the year were exceptionally good, have been adversely affected by unfavourable weather. The general condition of the tobacco plantation is still satisfactory, however, and affords ground for the expectation of an average yield as regards both quality and quantity.

It is somewhat difficult, says the *Manchester Guardian*, to obtain precise figures regarding the **timber resources** of even the better-known producing areas, and when it comes to the great unexplored forests of Canada, Finland, and Siberia the estimates might perhaps be more correctly described as guesses. But it does not require a very exhaustive study of the subject to show that the world's timber reserves are being rapidly depleted. It is affirmed that unless an energetic system of re-afforestation is adopted in the principal countries there will be an acute timber famine considerably less than a hundred years hence. During the past twenty-five years the prices of certain classes of timber have appreciated by more than 100 per cent. Pine, for instance, has doubled its c.i.f. value in less than that period. During the last thirty years the timber most largely imported into Great Britain has gone up 100 per cent in value, and in the same time the price of forests in Sweden, Canada and the United States has increased ten times. There are now only seven countries in a position to supply large quantities of timber for export, *viz.*, Austria-Hungary, Sweden, Norway, Finland and Russia in Europe, and Canada and the United States on the American Continent. The supply from Austria-Hungary, Russia, and the United States is seriously threatened by the increasing demands of a steadily growing population, and in Norway the standing timber has been greatly reduced by wasteful felling. Thus there remain but three sources of supply on which reliance can be placed for any length of time. These are Canada, Sweden, and Finland, and vast though the forest areas in these countries may seem to be they are totally inadequate to supply the world's demands for any length of time. There is also Siberia, but in the meantime, owing to the want of transport facilities, it may be regarded as outside the pale. All the other European countries are larger or smaller importers of timber. Both France and Germany have become very much larger importers than formerly. Great Britain imports timber to the value of almost five times its domestic production. The natural production of English-grown timber is estimated at between £5,000,000 and £6,000,000, whereas the imports of hewn timber alone last year amounted to £2,885,000, pit props £2,928,000, sawn or split, planed or dressed timber £15,469,000, staves £546,000, and furniture woods, etc., £1,792,000, making a gross total of £23,591,000.

NOTICES.

CALLS FOR TENDERS.

Military Rations.

The Divisional Supply and Transport Officer, 8th (Lucknow) Division, is calling for tenders up to 25th November, 1910, for the supply of beef and mutton for British troops at all military stations in the 8th Division from 1st April, 1911.

Military Stores.

The Divisional Contract Officer, 6th (Poona) Division, is calling for tenders for wool, paulins, blankets, table cloths, kerosene, coffee, and leather bed straps.

ENQUIRIES.

(For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.

An asterisk (*) preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.)

Oil Motors and Metals.

(773)—A firm in Sweden desires to appoint agents in India for the sale of oil motors, Swedish iron and steel and manufactures thereof.

Sanitary Disinfectors.

(774)—A firm of manufacturing chemists desires to be placed in communication with firms in India in a position to take up the sale of a sanitary disinfector, a sample of which may be seen at this office.

Jute, Rice, Hides, Pepper and Copra.

***(775)**—A firm in Odessa desires to be placed in communication with shippers of jute, rice, hides, black pepper and copra.

Japanese Goods.

(776)—A Japanese firm of Kobe desires to be placed in communication with importers of cotton and silk goods, glass and lampware, matting, buttons, paper, camphor, soap, toys and other Japanese manufactures.

Lock Woven Mesh.

(777)—A Liverpool shipper desires to appoint agents in Madras to handle lock woven mesh for re-inforced concrete.

Electric Furnaces, etc.

(778)—An English firm of electro-metallurgists desire to appoint sole agents in India to push their specialities among shipbuilders and repairers, iron and steel works, railway workshops and mines. These specialities include electric furnaces, hydraulic welding, special annealing plant, electro magnets, electric cutting, and every description of heating furnace and apparatus for melting, hardening, tempering, etc.

Machinery.

(779)—A firm in Bristol is desirous of appointing selling agents in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Cawnpore and other machine-using centres for gear-cutting (hobbing) machines, motor and other gears, lathe-centre grinders and core-making machines.

Oils for Soap-Making.

(780)—A San Francisco firm desires the addresses of shippers of oils suitable for soap-making, such as cocoanut, linseed, etc.

Rat Skins.

(781)—A correspondent desires to be placed in communication with purchasers of rat skins.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

The following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 2nd November, 1910 :—

Parliamentary Publications.

Colonial Reports—No. 651—Tongan Islands Protectorate—Report for 1909; No. 650—Bahamas—Report for 1909-10; No. 652—Bechuanaland Protectorate—Report for 1909-10. Railway Employment Safety Appliances—Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Reports of the Committee appointed by the Board of Trade to examine and test appliances, etc. Accounts relating to Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign countries and British Possessions—Including figures received up to 31st August 1910. Report of the Royal Commission on Trade Relations between Canada and the West Indies; Abstracts of the Returns made to the Board of Trade of Shipping Casualties, etc., for the year ending June, 1909. Report on Imports and Exports at Irish Ports, year ended 31st December, 1909. Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom—September. Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom from 1895 to 1909—Fifty-Seventh Number. Canada and the West Indies—Part III.—Minutes of Evidence, etc.—Taken in the West Indies; Part IV—Minutes of Evidence and Appendices. Return of the Deaths of Seamen and Fishermen—June 1909.

Colonial and Foreign Publications.

Austria-Hungary—Statistik des Auswartigen Handels—Im Jahre 1909—I. Band (Spezialhandel.); II Band. (Vormerkverkehr—Durchfuhr). Australia—Trade, Shipping, Migration, and Finance of the Commonwealth of—for the month of July, 1910—Bulletin No. 43. Ceylon—Customs Returns—August, 1910. Canada—The Labour Gazette—August. 1910; September Monthly Report of the Department of Trade and Commerce of—June 1910; Weekly Report—26th September, 1910. China—Report on the Working of the Imperial Post Office—1909—Part I(B) of Returns of the Trade and Trade Reports for 1909; Customs Gazette—No. CLXVI.—April-June 1910. Egypt—Bulletin Mensuel du Commerce Exterieur de L'Egypte—No. 8—Aout 1910. France—Bulletin De Satistique at de Legislation Comparee—Trente-Quatrieme Annee—Aout 1910. Documents Statistiques sur le Commerce de la France—Annee 1909; Juillet 1910; and first eight months of 1908, 1909, and 1910. Germany—Answartigen Handel—August 1910. Italy—Statistique des Superficies Cultivees, dela Production Vegetale et du Betail, etc. Movimento Commerciale del Regno D'Itali—1909—Parte Seconda (Volume I)—I; and II; Statistica del Commercio Speciale—Agosto 1910. Norway—Norges Handel, 1909. New South Wales—Statistical Register 1908 and previous years. Statistiek In—Uit En Doorvoer over het Jaar 1909—Erste Gedeelte; Statistiek ven het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden—Augustus 1910; Perth—Chamber of Commerce—Annual Report for the year ended 30th June, 1910. Russia—Commerce Exterieur de la Russie par la Frontiere D'Europe 1 Javier—1 Jillet 1910. Sudan Government—Central Economic Board. Monthly Report No. 44—August 1910. United States—Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance of the—July, 1910.

Indian Publications.

Department of Agriculture, Bengal—Notes on Agricultural shows with recommendations for future exhibitions; Research Institute, Pusa—Memoirs of—The Bud-rot of Palms in India. Forest Pamphlet No. 15—A note on the Preservation of Bamboos from the Attacks of the Bamboo Beetle or "Shot-borer". Annual Report on the Post Office of India for the year 1909-10. Annual Report of the Department of Land Records in the Bombay Presidency including Sind for the year 1908-1909. Administration Report of the Indian Telegraph Department for 1909-1910. Gazetteers of the :—Gwalior State—Volume I, Parts II, III, and IV; Central India—Volume I, Text and Tables; Bhopal States—Volume III. Rewa State—Volume IV, Indore State—Volume II; Raipur, Volume A; Bijawar State; Ajaigarh State; Charkhari State; Panna State; Samthar State; Datia State; Orchha State; Chhatarpur State; Dhar State; Sailana State; Ratlam State; Jaora State; Narsinghgarh State; Rajgarh State; Dewas State; Ali Rajpur State; Sitamau State; Jhabua State; Barwani State. United Provinces—Jhansi, Volume XXIV, Shahjahanpur, Volume XVII.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1910.

EGYPTIAN COTTON.

IN the Consular Report on the Trade of Alexandria for the year 1909 there is a Note by Mr. W. H. Cadman, B.Sc., F.C.S., on Agricultural Discoveries and Inventions, New Methods of Agricultural and Scientific Research in connection with Agriculture in Egypt in 1909. Regarding cotton he says that the past year has been a notable one in the history of Egyptian agriculture. In spite of favourable climatic conditions and a plentiful supply of water, the cotton crop, upon which the prosperity of Egypt so largely depends, was most unsatisfactory both in yield and quality. Considerable advance has been made in investigating the causes of this depreciation. In order to obtain trustworthy data to assist the Commission inquiring into the matter, the Government gave instructions to the Survey Department to make a systematic survey of the total area planted with cotton during the past season. A mean value of 1,526,600 feddans was obtained for the area under cotton in 1909. There is no indication from the statistics that land of poor quality is being cropped with cotton to any considerable extent. The change from triennial to biennial rotation, which is practised chiefly by the smaller cultivators, is considered capable of accounting for some of the decrease in yield. The Alexandria Produce Association will publish their figures for the total yield of last year's cotton crop, based on the export figures of the Customs Administration, after allowing for any cotton held over from the previous year. There will then be available for the first time reliable statistics of both yield and area.

The cotton worm and boll worm were responsible for much of the damage. The experiment, repeated last year, of substituting native inspectors for Europeans to supervise the destruction of the cotton worm was again most unsatisfactory. In future experienced Europeans will be reappointed to organise the campaign against these pests more efficiently. The Government intends making every effort within its power to prevent this valuable possession from further deterioration. A law has recently been passed requiring all cotton stalks to be uprooted before the end of December.

During the past year special attention has been drawn to the subject of the underground or subsoil water of Egypt, both by official and non-official publications. Egypt is an exceptional country in that the rainfall is seldom taken into account when agricultural projects are being discussed. In most countries the rainfall is the prime factor which governs the agricultural conditions, and in consequence endeavours are made to get rid of the superfluity of water rather than to husband a certain limited quantity. It would seem that a permanent rise of the water table has been produced by converting basin lands into perennially watered lands.

The Survey Department, the Khedivial Agricultural Society and the State Domains Administration have been experimentally investigating this matter. The general conclusion is that the rise of subsoil water caused by infiltration from high level canals or by over-watering of crops is another cause for the deterioration in output and quality of the cotton. Concisely put, "Egypt is becoming water-logged" by the rise in the level of the stagnant water, which prevents the development of the roots of the plants. The result is that, while in former years there was little or no need for drainage, at the present time drainage is urgently needed to prevent this subsoil water washing up injurious salts, ruining the bacterial flora and reducing the effective depth of soil.

Mr. W. Lawrence Balls, who is in charge of the Egyptian Mendilian Experiment Station, suggests as a possible remedy the breeding of early maturity cottons which will ripen before the water-table has risen to the plant roots. However feasible this may be in the future, it will take several years to obtain a cotton with these characteristics, so that facilities should be made for all farmers in Egypt to have their lands drained. Efficient drainage, though very costly, is justified by the recent loss per acte per annum.

It is a striking tribute to the fertility of the country that this loss, almost disregarded till last year, on a single crop is about as much as the ordinary profits which an English farmer makes on the same area in an average year.

The factors which affect the situation from the side of supply and demand, with special reference to the position of the Lancashire cotton industry, have been investigated by Mr. J. A. Todd, Lecturer on Political Economy, Khedivial School of Law, Cairo. He states that "the falling yield of recent years has raised the price to a figure which threatens the special market of Egyptian cotton with serious American competition. . . For the middle-class fabrics which form a large part of the trade the manufacturers are being compelled by the high price of Egyptian to substitute American whenever possible. . . . Spinners are beginning to devise machinery to adapt American cotton to the products for which Egyptian cotton has always been used. . . . If by any chance the quality of the Egyptian cotton crop deteriorates as seriously as the quantity has done, nothing will save the Egyptian from a fall in price to something little above that of the American. Egypt can never reach America in quantity, so that this price means to Egypt the ruin of her staple industry."

All other crops were extremely good in 1909. An increase of more than 100,000 tons of sugarcane was produced. In spite of this, more than half the raw sugar is still imported from abroad. The Agricultural Society and Domains Administration are endeavouring to improve the cereal crops by selection of better seeds.

The excellent quality of the sisal hemp produced last year indicates an opening for commercial enterprise. The plants thrive well in sandy soil and do not require much water. To ensure success, the plantations should be sufficiently large to supply locally a good sisal fibre decorticator, such as the Pons machine, which has a capacity of 10,000 leaves per hour.

CROP FORECASTS.

RICE.

First General Memorandum on the RICE crop of the season 1910-11.

THE provinces dealt with in this memorandum represent some 78 per cent of the total area under rice in British India, calculated on the average of the five years ending 1908-09.

The **total figure** for the four reporting provinces shows a net decrease of 581,900 acres or about 1 per cent as compared with that at the corresponding date in 1909.

Estimate made in October of the area under Rice.

Provinces.	1910-11.	1909-10.	1908-09.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Bengal . . .	25,681,100	26,133,600	22,419,500
Eastern Bengal and Assam	16,735,800	16,842,000	15,708,600
Madras . . .	4,450,300	4,546,500	4,046,200
Lower Burma . .	7,539,600	7,466,600	7,569,300
TOTAL .	54,406,800	54,988,700	49,773,600

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets**, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the total area under rice in British India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

Bengal *(33·3%)*.—The area sown with **autumn** (*aus*) rice is reported to be 4,708,900 acres compared with 4,752,600 acres last year—a decrease of nearly 1 per cent, attributed to defect of moisture at the sowing season. Rainfall was sufficient later on and favourable weather conditions prevailed. But at the end of July and beginning of August excessive rain and floods damaged the crop in places. According to the estimates of the District Officers the average outturn comes to 78 per cent of the normal ; but the Provincial Director is of opinion that the damage caused by floods in some districts has been exaggerated and that the outturn for the province as a whole will not be less than 90 per cent of normal [Normal=823 lbs. per acre.]

The area under **winter** (*aman*) rice, which is the main crop, is estimated at 20,821,200 acres as against 21,232,900 acres last year—a decrease of 1·9 per cent. The deficient rainfall in the early part of the season delayed transplantation in some districts, while the excessive rain in July and the early part of August caused heavy floods and consequent damage in places. The rainfall in September was generally well distributed and beneficial to the standing crop. More rain is wanted in most districts of the Burdwan Division. Injury by insects is reported from some places. According to the District Officers' report the average outturn is estimated at 90 per cent of the normal ; but the Provincial Director is of opinion that the outturn

will be about normal [Normal=1,234 lbs. per acre].

An area of 151,000 acres was reported in March last to be under **summer** (*boro*) rice, as compared with 148,100 acres in the preceding year.

Eastern Bengal and Assam (*22·32%*).—The area under **autumn** rice is estimated at 4,674,600 acres as compared with 4,651,600 acres last year. The winter months were generally dry and in a number of districts the spring rains were late in coming. As a result sowing was rather late in some places. By the end of April good showers fell and the prospects improved, but heavy floods towards the end of July and early in August caused considerable damage when the bulk of the crop was in the ear. According to the District Officers' estimate the outturn is 80 per cent of the normal, but the Provincial Director is inclined to raise it to 90 per cent [Normal=672 lbs. per acre].

The area under **winter** rice is estimated to be 11,794,700 acres as compared with 11,926,900 acres last year. Weather conditions were generally favourable during the earlier months of the season, but heavy floods appeared at the end of July and again in August and caused more or less damage to the broadcasted crop in several districts, and also did slight injury to transplanted rice partly by submerging areas already planted and partly by destroying seedlings. Weather conditions again became favourable after the disappearance of the floods, enabling transplanting operations to be resumed with vigour and making good the loss sustained by the transplanted crop. According to the District officers' reports the average outturn is estimated at 92 per cent. of the normal, but the Provincial Director is of opinion that the outturn will possibly come up to the normal [Normal=1,064 lbs. per acre].

The area cultivated with **summer** rice was estimated in March last to be 266,500 acres as against 263,500 acres in the preceding year.

Madras (*11·8%*), reports the total area sown in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of September to be 4,105,900 acres, which is 2 per cent less than the area sown in the corresponding period of last year. The area reported from villages *other than raiyatwari* is 344,400 acres as against 345,600 acres at this date last year. The condition of the crop is reported to be generally fair.

Lower Burma (*10·2%*).—The total area under rice in the fifteen chief rice growing districts is estimated at 7,539,600 acres—an increase of 73,000 acres or 1 per cent over the actuals of last year. Early rains began well but were followed by extended break which retarded operations for a time. Late rains have been generally heavy and well distributed and have proved beneficial, but floods in main rivers were unusually high and prolonged and caused some damage to crops. Standing crops are, on the whole, healthy and prospects are good.

FREDERICK NÖEL-PATON,
Director-General of Commercial Intelligence.

GROUNDNUT.

First General Memorandum on the GROUNDNUT crop of the Season 1910-11.

THIS memorandum (preliminary) is the second of the series which has included returns for the Groundnut crop in all those tracts in British India and in Bombay Native States which produce groundnut to a considerable extent. At this season no estimate of outturn is attempted. The **total area** returned is **757,300 acres** as compared with 866,500 acres in 1909; and this marks a decline of 109,200 acres or 12·6 per cent. The condition of the crop is reported to be generally fair.

Estimate of the area under Groundnut in October.

Provinces.	1910-11.	1909-10.	1908-09.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Madras . . .	539,400	567,500	(*a*)
Burma . . .	105,900	139,000	239,600
Bombay (*b*) . . .	112,000	160,000	133,000
TOTAL .	757,300	866,500	...

(*a*) Not available. (*b*) Including Native States.

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets,** following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the total reported area under groundnut in British India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

Madras (*63·3%*).—The total area sown in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of September is estimated at 529,100 acres, which is 5 per cent less than the area sown in the corresponding period of last year. The decrease is attributed to want of timely rains and to incomplete reports from certain stations in the North Arcot district. The total area reported from villages *other than raiyatwari* is 10,300 acres as against 10,900 acres last year. The condition of the crop is reported to be generally fair.

Burma (*23%*).—The total area sown in the principal groundnut producing districts is estimated at 105,900 acres as against 139,000 acres last year—a decrease of 23·8 per cent. Drought in August which was severest in the Pakokku district is mainly responsible for this decrease. Recent rain has improved the prospects of the crop which are now fair.

Bombay (*13·7%*).—The total area reported up to 1st October amounts to 112,000 acres (31,000 being in Native States), which is 30 per cent below last year's area. The decrease is general but most marked in the South Deccan where the crop is principally grown and is due partly to the deficiency of early rains and partly to non-receipt of complete information. In the North preference was given to cotton. The crop suffered at first from prolonged break in July but subsequent rains have, on the whole, been favourable and the crop is doing well everywhere except in a few talukas in the east where recent heavy rains have slightly damaged it in places.

FREDERICK NOËL-PATON,
Director-General of Commercial Intelligence.

SESAMUM.

Second General Memorandum on the SESAMUM (til or jinjili) crop of the season 1910-11

This memorandum deals with provinces containing 74 per cent of the total acreage under sesamum in British India, calculated on the average of five years ending 1908-09.

The **total figure** for all these provinces shows a net decrease of 228,700 acres or 6·7 per cent as compared with that returned at the corresponding date in 1909 and amounts to **3,170,600 acres.** The largest declines are reported by Bombay and Sind and by Madras.

Estimate of the area under Sesamum in October.

Provinces.	1910-11.	1909-10.	1908-09.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
United Provinces (*a*) .	480,000	480,000	325,000
Central Provinces and Berar . . .	972,000	943,000	790,000
Madras	381,900	473,600	357,700
Bombay and Sind (*b*) .	981,000	1,102,000	1,056,000
Bengal	194,700	225,100	197,000
Punjab	161,000	175,600	164,700
Total .	3,170,600	3,399,300	2,890,400

(*a*) For "unmixed" crop only. (*b*) Including Native States.

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets,** following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the total area under sesamum in British India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

United Provinces (*22·6%*).—The exact area sown with 'unmixed" crop is not known at present; but from the reports received from landowners it seems that the area is almost the same as in the last year when it amounted to 480,000 acres. No estimate is also possible at present of the area sown with "mixed" crop, which usually constitutes over two-thirds of the total area under sesamum in the province. The season up to the end of September was on the whole favourable especially in Bundelkhand and the eastern submontane districts where the crop is chiefly grown. In these tracts a full normal outturn is anticipated; in the rest of the province the crop is estimated at about 80 per cent of the normal. No information is yet available as to the effects of the heavy rain in October; but the crop is of relatively little importance in the area where this rain was heaviest. [Normal=280 lbs. per acre on the average.]

Central Provinces and Berar (*17·5%*).—The total area is now estimated at 972,000 acres (888,000 in the Central Provinces and 84,000 in Berar) as compared with 943,000 acres last year—an increase of 3·1 per cent. The condition of the young plants and the prospects of the crop were described as satisfactory in the first forecast. The continuous rainfall in August and September slightly damaged the crop in places, but a break has now set in. The average outturn is estimated at 111 per cent of the normal in the Central Provinces and 87 per cent in Berar. [Normal=237 lbs. per acre on the average.]

Madras (*17%*).—The total area sown in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of September is 343,700 acres, which is 22 per cent less than the area sown in the corresponding period of last year. The decrease is due to want of timely rains. The area reported from villages *other than raiyatwari* is about 38,200 acres or 2,600 acres more than the area at this date last year. The condition of the crop is reported to be generally fair.

Bombay (*7·8%*) and **Sind** (*1·4%*).—The total area sown in British districts, so far as reported, amounts to 372,000 acres (73,000 being in Sind) and that in Native States to 609,000 acres—total 981,000 acres, which represents a net decrease of some 11 per cent as compared with the area at this date last year. In Gujarat and Khandesh incessant rain in July and August did not permit fuller sowings, and in places preference was given to cotton and other kharif crops. In Sind sowings were extended, particularly in Karachi, under ample rains and favourable inundation. The crop suffered at first from incessant rain in South Gujarat and from the prolonged break in July in East Deccan and Karnatak, but subsequent rains have generally been satisfactory and the crop is reported to be doing well every where except in a few talukas in the Deccan where recent heavy rains have injured it a little in places. In Sind it is progressing fairly well.

Bengal (*5·3%*).—The total area, so far as reported, under both early and late crops, is calculated to be 194,700 acres as compared with 225,100 acres for last year—a decrease of 13·5 per cent. For the early crop, want of moisture was felt at sowing time but the later weather conditions were favourable. As regards the late crop, weather conditions have been favourable and the condition of the crop is reported to be good. According to the estimates of the District officers the outturn for the province as a whole comes to 102 per cent of the normal, but the Provincial Director considers that the outturn will not be below 110 per cent. [Normal=350 lbs. per acre.]

Punjab (*2·4%*) now estimates the area sown to be 161,000 acres as compared with 175,600 acres last year—a decrease of 8·3 per cent. The monsoon rainfall has been favourable and the condition of the crop is generally good except in Multan.

FREDERICK NOEL-PATON,
Director-General of Commercial Intelligence.

SUGARCANE.

Second General Memorandum on the SUGARCANE crop of the season 1910-11

The provinces dealt with in this memorandum contain 98·5 per cent of the total area under sugarcane in British India, calculated on the basis of the averages for the quinquennium ending 1908-09.

No change has been reported in the figures of acreage given in the August forecast for the United Provinces, Bengal, Eastern Bengal and Assam and the North-West Frontier Province. The **total area** under sugarcane for all the reporting provinces now comes to 2,083,900 acres, compared with 2,128,400 acres (revised figures) for the corresponding period of last year—a decrease of 44,500 acres or 2·1 per cent. The area is however less by 293,100 acres or 12½ per cent than the average of the five years ending 1908-09, although that average does not include the figures for Bombay Native States.

The condition of the crop is reported to be fair to good.

Estimate of the area under Sugarcane in October.

Provinces.	1910-11.	1909-10.	1908-09.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
United Provinces	1,037,600	1,055,000	1,119,400
Bengal	340,600	337,500	375,200
Punjab	383,700	403,800	365,700
Eastern Bengal and Assam	177,700	171,600	177,800
Madras	45,400	41,300	35,600
Bombay (*a*)	67,700	88,600	90,000
North-West Frontier	31,200	30,600	27,500
TOTAL	2,083,900	2,128,400	2,191,200

(*a*) Including Native States.

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets**, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the entire sugarcane area in British India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

United Provinces *(53%)*.—The reports show no modification in the estimates of area made in August, namely, 1,037,600 acres as against 1,055,000 acres last year, but it is probable that in low-lying tracts some of the area under the crop has been lost. The rainfall in August was heavy in the submontane tracts and eastern districts, causing high floods in rivers; in the rest of the province it was lighter but timely and sufficient. During September the falls were heavy and frequent. On the whole the rains have been beneficial to the crop and, except in low-lying tracts, where serious damage was caused by floods, the cane crop was generally healthy and flourishing. According to the reports received the estimate of outturn ranges between 80 and 95 per cent of the normal. [Normal=2,600 lbs. per acre.]

Bengal *(17·6%)* and **Eastern Bengal and Assam** *(8·5%)*.—No reports are furnished by these provinces in October. The figures reported in the August forecast were 340,600 acres in Bengal and 177,700 acres in Eastern Bengal and Assam, compared with 337,500 and 171,600 acres, respectively, for last year.

Punjab *(12·7%)* now reports the area to be 383,700 acres compared with 403,800 acres last year—a decrease of 5 per cent. The monsoon has been favourable. Prospects of the crop are generally above the average except in Rohtak.

Madras *(3·1%)*.—The total area planted in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of September is reported to be 42,900 acres as compared with 39,500 acres for the corresponding period of last year—an increase of 9 per cent, attributed partly to timely rains and partly to the high price of jaggery. Villages *other than raiyatwari* report a total area of 2,500 acres compared with 1,800 acres at this date last year. The condition of the standing crop is from fair to good.

Bombay *(2·4%)*.—The total area planted in British districts is now estimated at 40,200 acres, which is 27 per cent below that of last year. The decrease is attributed to deficiency of water supply in wells and channels at the time of sowing owing to the early cessation of rains last year. Native States report a total area of 27,500 acres which is 18 per cent below last year's area. The crop suffered at first from incessant rain in Gujarat and North Deccan and from the prolonged break in July in South Deccan; but subsequent rains have been favourable improving water-supply in wells and canals and the crop is doing well everywhere.

North-West Frontier Province *(1·2%)* reports no change in the estimate made in August, namely, 31,200 acres compared with 30,600 acres last year. The condition of the standing crop is so far generally good and an average outturn may be expected.

FREDERICK NOEL-PATON,
Director General of Commercial Intelligence.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, October 25th.

The following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 24th instant:

Rainfall has been light in the Assam Valley and Rajshai divisions and fairly heavy elsewhere.

Plucking of tea and ploughing for *rabi* crops are in progress.

Sowing of mustard has commenced in the Assam Valley.

Cotton promises well.

The prospects of tea, winter rice and sugarcane are fair; but there has been some damage to winter rice. The sugarcane crop is fair; but some damage by insect pests is reported from Sylhet, Goalpara, Nowgong and Sibsagar.

The average price of common rice has risen about one per cent.

Cattle disease is reported in Malda, Goalpara, Darrang, Nowgong, Sibsagar and the Garo Hills.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

THE *Board of Trade Journal*, published on the 6th instant in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about:—

NETHERLANDS.—Proposed new Customs Tariff.

COLOMBIA.—Contemplated Revision of the Customs Tariff.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—Commerce Act: Decisions. Quarantine Act: Veterinary Fees payable for Examination, etc., of Animals. Customs Decisions.

GOLD COAST.—Exportation of Immature Timber prohibited.

DENMARK.—Customs Decisions.

FRANCE.—Temporary Admission of Peas.

ITALY.—Increase of the Excise Duty on Spirits.

MOROCCO.—Duty-free Admission of Manures.

PERSIA.—Postponement or Probibition of Exportation of carpets dyed with Aniline Dyes.

COLOMBIA.—Duty on Salt Imported at Buenaventura and Tumaco.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Free Zone to be Established at Rosario.

—The **International Carbide Syndicate**, whose formation is now announced, includes 58 works, practically the whole of the European producers. Negotiations regarding a combination have been proceeding more or less continuously for over two years, but difficulties have always cropped up, chiefly on the point of output allotments. The Italian producers, who are now an important factor in the industry, have recently been the chief stumbling-block, but the accumulation of stocks in makers' hands and the continuous fall in prices, which have dropped below producing costs, have led them to modify their demands. An Austrian-Hungarian syndicate was formed a short time ago and this provided a basis for the present organisation, which includes the German, French, Swiss, Scandinavian, Austrian, Italian, and English manufacturers. It is said that the closely related ferro-silicon industry will also be regulated. The Syndicate has been formed for ten years, and the first meeting will be held in Paris later in the month. Most aluminium manufacturers are also makers of carbide, the keen depression in the aluminium industry having caused them to take up the production of carbide in order to utilise their water power, though the industry has not proved of much real assistance in helping them out of their trouble. The negotiations in connection with the Carbide Syndicate have, however, brought the aluminium producers together, and there is now reported to be every probability of the early formation of an international aluminium syndicate. The last Aluminium Syndicate was dissolved exactly two years ago owing to the growth of outside competition and the very considerable over production which took place.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

BENGAL.

WE take the extracts below from the abstract of the proceedings of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the the month of September, 1910:—

Indian Tramways Act.

It was mentioned in the Abstract for last month that the Committee had under consideration the provisions of a Bill further to amend the Indian Tramways Act, 1886. The objects of the Bill were to apply the Indian Tramways Act to monorails and to include within the provisions of that Act tramways worked by electricity. After consideration the Committee informed the Government of Bengal that they approved of the provisions of the Bill.

Indian Petroleum Act, 1899.

In the Abstract for August reference was made to an amendment of No. 16 in part III of the rules regarding the anchorage of a ship carrying petroleum at such places as the Conservator of the Port might appoint. On considering the terms of the amendment the Committee came to the conclusion that as worded the rule was obscure and that this might lead to misunderstandings and delays to steamers. They will probably suggest to the Government of Bengal that the rule should be re-framed in order to meet this objection.

Telegraph Department.

In connection with the system under which members of the public are permitted to make a deposit in advance to cover the cost of telegrams despatched by them, a proposal has been made by the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry, on which the Committee have invited the members of the Chamber to express their views. With effect from 1st April 1909 a fee of Re. 1 has been levied in respect of every 25 telegrams despatched, subject to a minimum charge of Rs. 10 per annum. Under the existing arrangements deposits are held in the form of securities on which interest is obtainable by depositors. It appears, however, that on this system telegrams cannot be stamped before despatch as the deposits cannot be operated on daily. Government have now stated that they cannot reduce the charge of Re. 1 for every 25 telegrams unless the system is changed and deposits are made in cash instead of in securities, in which case it will be possible to reduce the commission from Re. 1 to annas twelve for every 25 messages. Members of the Chamber have been invited to communicate their views generally on the deposit system from their experience of its working and particularly with reference to the proposal now put forward by Government.

In 1909 the Chamber suggested to Government that the maximum fee on any particular account in connection with the deposit system should not exceed Rs. 50 per month. The Department stated at the time that the proposal could not be adopted but that the Director General would be asked to,

report on the matter. The committee have asked Government what the position is as regards this point.

The question of the method of closing telegram envelopes is one which has been several times before the Chamber within recent years. The attention of the Committee was called to it during September by a member who forwarded several envelopes which had been delivered to him in such a state that they were opened without the slightest difficulty, and without tearing the envelopes. The Committee made enquiries and they were informed that the kind of gum used in fastening telegram envelopes has been the subject of experiment and as a result it is believed that a satisfactory gum has now been obtained which should not give trouble in future.

Australian Mail.

This matter was mentioned in the proceedings of last month in which it was stated that, after consulting members of the Chamber, the Committee informed the postal authorities that there was a considerable feeling that Monday might be fixed for the Australian mail day in every week instead of having, as under the existing system, different days in alternate weeks. The Committee have since been informed by the Postmaster General, Bengal, that the question may not be finally settled for some time but that, to save the public the inconvenience which they now experience of having to post for Australia on Sunday, the Presidency Postmaster has been instructed to despatch the Australian mail on Monday in every week as a temporary measure. A later day will be fixed subsequently if circumstances permit.

Port Undercharges and Overcharges.

There was forwarded to the Committee recently a copy of correspondence which had taken place between a member of the Chamber and the Calcutta Port Commissioners on the subject of undercharges and overcharges by the latter. It appeared from this that in the case of undercharges the parties concerned were called on to make payment of the amount undercharged but that in the case of overcharges these were only refunded on receipt of an application from the parties. The Commissioners stated that a certain number of overcharges were detected in the course of audit but that these could be more easily ascertained by the persons who had paid them. The Committee were however of opinion —from an examination of the receipt ordinarily granted by the Commissioners—that the receipt was too meagre to allow of items paid by firms being easily and accurately checked.

The Committee were agreed that the system was not equitable and they addressed the Port Commissioners regarding it. Their suggestion was that a similar procedure might be adopted to that laid down by the Indian Railways Conference Association according to which in the case of large and well-known firms an arrangement might be made whereby such firms as would be prepared to sign an undertaking to pay undercharges after delivery should also be allowed to include in the same agreement an undertaking by the Commissioners to refund all overcharges as soon as discovered, the time limit being six months in either case.

International Opium Commission.

The Board of Revenue, L. P., have forwarded copies of papers regarding the resolutions adopted by the International Opium Commission which met at Shanghai in 1909, and have invited the views of the Chamber with reference to Nos 2 and 3 of these resolutions, *viz*:—(*a*) The feasibility of enforcing, within a reasonable period, a direct and unqualified prohibition of the practice of opium-smoking; and (*b*) whether the existing regulations and methods of administration in regard to the traffic in opium are sufficiently restrictive, or whether any modifications are required in the present system of retail vend which would facilitate control of consumption.

The position as regards restrictions in the sale of opium as at present existing in Bengal and Burma has been stated by the Board of Revenue. The papers have been circulated to all members for an expression of their views.

Hoarding Advertisements.

A Calcutta firm recently made application to the Corporation for permission to put up boards for the purpose of advertisements on the sides of the principal thoroughfares in the town The Corporation had decided to consult public bodies and they invited the views of the Chamber on the subject. The Committee had before them information as to the sites which the firm referred to proposed to occupy as a first instalment and after fully considering the matter they decided to reply to the Corporation that they should be sorry to see an advertisement system on the lines indicated introduced in Calcutta.

MADRAS.

The extracts below are from minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Madras Chamber of Commerce held on the 27th September, 1910:—

Government Competition and Private Enterprise.

Read a letter, dated the 8th September, from the Upper India Chamber of Commerce, enquiring whether this Chamber is aware of any efforts having been made by the Director of Industries, Madras, to dispose of the boot-making plant at the Sembiam tannery and to restrict the operations of that institution.

Resolved to address the Director of Industries, Madras, enquiring what is being done to dispose of the boot-making plant at the tannery and whether any action has been taken to restrict the operations of that institution.

Deposit for Telegrams.

Read a letter, dated the 26th August, from the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry, suggesting certain alterations in the system of deposits for telegrams, and inviting an expression of the Chamber's opinion.

Resolved to inform Government that although the system is not generally availed of by the members of the Chamber, they do not see any objection to the alterations proposed.

Domestication of Tasar Silkworms in India.

Read letters dated the 30th August, 6th and 24th September from Miss B. Brown, of Vizianagram, together with enclosures, regarding the domestication of tasar silkworms in India.

Resolved to refer the matter to the Director of Industries, Madras, for sympathetic consideration.

PUNJAB.

At a Committee meeting of the Punjab Chamber of Commerce held at Delhi on 6th September, 1910, the following items of business came up for consideration:—

Railway Risk Notes.

Read letter from the Chairman, the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, dated Bombay. 12th August, 1910, to the Secretary, Railway Board, Simla, regarding the Risk Note Forms B and H.

Resolution.—The Railway Board, Simla, be addressed upholding the memorial of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau and the Secretary of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, Bombay, to be informed that the Committee of the Chamber are in sympathy with their representation on Risk Note Forms B and H.

Railway Grievance.

Read letter No. 5341, dated 20th August, 1910, from the Krishna Mills Co., Ld., Delhi, regarding East Indian Railway notice on the subject of loading and unloading general merchandise except coal, coke, and patent fuel.

Resolution.—The General Traffic Manager, East Indian Railway, to be addressed on the subject it being pointed out that other Railways allow 48 hours for such loading and unloading and asking that the time be extended according to their system lately in force.

The Railway Board, Simla, to be addressed on the subject of notices of arrival of consignments being sent to consignees.

UPPER INDIA.

The particulars below are taken from the Abstract of the proceedings of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce during August, 1910, just published:—

Extension of the Arbitration Act to Cawnpore.

The Committee are now in a position to proceed with the remodelling of the Chamber's Arbitration Rules which has been held in abeyance pending the issue of the Chamber's appeal for the introduction of the legislation in force in the Presidency towns and a special Sub-Committee has been appointed to undertake the task of revision. When complete the new regulations will be submitted to a General Meeting of Members for adoption.

Disposal of Light, Defective and Old Coins.

A letter was received from the Financial Department of the Government of India dated 31st July, 1910, forwarding a copy of a communication of the same date addressed to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce in reply to that Chamber's representation condemning the system under which the last holder has to bear the loss when coins are found in a state rendering them liable to be destroyed.

The Committee of this Chamber, although they had supported the Bombay Chamber's representation at the time, feel that Government has made out a strong case for non-interference with the rules at present governing the treatment of light, defective and old coins.

Guayule Rubber.

The Conservator of Forests, United Provinces, was addressed on the 3rd August, suggesting the desirability of obtaining seeds or cuttings of the guayule rubber plant, with the view of testing the suitability of the soils and other conditions in the Lower Himalayas and in some of the hilly tracts in the Punjab or Central India, for its cultivation. The Conservator of Forests has informed the Committee that he has communicated with Kew Gardens on the subject.

BURMA.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Burma Chamber of Commerce held on 25th August the following among other matters received attention:—

Disposal of Paddy Husk.

Read the following recommendations made by the meeting of Members interested which was held on the 11th August, 1910. to discuss the letter, dated 15th July, 1910, from the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner as to the best method to dispose of paddy husk (*vide* minutes of Committee meeting held on the 29th July, 1910) *viz.*:—

"It appears to the meeting that the decrease in value of the fisheries in question is due more to the increase in launch and steamer traffic in the Kanoungtoe Creek and Twante Canal than to the poisoning of the water by paddy husk, and that, apart from this, the loss of revenue incurred by Government in this way is of very minor importance compared with the enormous increase of trade that has taken place within the last few years, which must contribute considerably more revenue than the amount lost in connection with the fisheries. With regard to the method proposed in the letter for the disposal of husk, the idea of making fuel in the form of briquettes therefrom is not a new one. Experiments with this object in view have been made without success for a very considerable number of years, and on several occasions, samples have been sent to Europe for this purpose. This method would therefore appear to be out of the question at present at any rate. Burning too does not seem to be feasible. Mills at present use it for fuel, but each

mill produces such an enormous quantity that only about one-third, at the outside, can possibly be consumed, and if it could be burnt the burnt husk would be a great nuisance, as it would be blown all over the town by the wind, unless Government arranged to take it away. Government could certainly prohibit the discharge of husk into inland waterways, but to do this without some feasible method of disposal would simply throttle the most important trade of the Province, and could, therefore, hardly be entertained. The meeting has no suggestion to offer in the matter, and would suggest that the above points be laid before the Local Government who might be asked to make a further proposal. As regards the silting up of the Kanoungtoe Creek it might be mentioned that a memorial was presented about two years ago praying that the creek might be dredged, of which no notice was taken."

Resolved—That a letter be addressed to the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner in terms of the above recommendations.

Charges for Repetitions of Telegrams.

Read letter, dated 9th August, 1910, from Messrs. J. & F. Graham and Co., enclosing copies of correspondence exchanged with the Local Superintendent of Telegraphs on the subject of service repetitions. Messrs. Graham and Co. stated that they were charged Rs. 7-8 for the first word and Rs. 3 for each succeeding one, whereas, according to Regulation XVII of the 1908 Revision of the International Telegraph Convention and Service Regulations, in case of repetition asked for by the addressee, the latter must pay the full charge for each word to be repeated which includes cost of reply, from which it would appear that the cost of the service repetition should be Rs. 1-8, which was the actual charge made to addressees in Europe since 1st July, 1909, when the revised regulations came into force; also read letter addressed by the Chamber to the Assistant Accountant-General, Telegraph Check Office, Calcutta, on the subject.

Resolved—To be recorded.

Explosives.

Read General Department Notification No. 202—4 A. 11, dated the 4th August, 1910, forwarding Notification No. 4896-1 (Explosives), dated the 9th July, 1910, of the Government of India in the Department of Commerce and Industry notifying certain amendments in the above rules. These amendments had previously been before the Committee, who had objected to a proviso proposed to be added to Rule 16, which would have limited the quantity of explosives which might be possessed under a license under Rule 16 to 25 lbs. instead of 60 lbs. previously allowed, in cases where a licensed magazine from which a supply of explosives could be obtained existed within 10 miles of the place covered by the license. The proviso in question had been deleted from the present notification, which therefore called for no remark.

Resolved—To be recorded.

LATE SHIPMENT OF YARNS.

The following correspondence between the Bengal and Manchester Chambers of Commerce on the late shipment of yarns is published. In a letter dated August 11th the Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce says:—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 5th July in the above connection. The request was made, in the Committee's letter to you of 26th May, that as firms here are paying allowances for late shipment of yarns on the same scale as for cotton goods, the Manchester Chamber should recommend the inclusion of yarns amongst the goods subject to allowances for late delivery. You replied that the conditions imposed some time ago by the native merchants at Bombay, Calcutta, and Karachi applied only to piece goods, and that the question of including yarns under the arrangement was not considered.

I am directed to ask that the question should be re-submitted for the consideration of your Committee, and in doing so I am to say that there appears to be some misapprehension. So far as Bombay is concerned, the Committee understand that the practice is now universal for importing houses to pay the late shipment allowances in respect of yarns; and in Calcutta it is certainly the case that several of the leading firms of importers pay similar allowances. It was explained in the Committee's letter to you, No. 869—1909, dated the 22nd June, 1909, when the question of allowances for late shipment of piece goods was dealt with, that a beginning had been made by leading firms of importers adopting in their contracts a clause providing penalties for late shipment, and that all importers would in due course have to accede to the terms of the clause. As a beginning has been made by the leading firms also in regard to yarns it is only a matter of time for all firms to come into line, and the Committee strongly feel that it is equitable that these allowances should be agreed to as between shippers in Manchester and importers here. Before addressing you on the subject on the 26th May the Committee consulted the Piece Goods and the Yarns Sub-Committee of the Chamber, and also the Calcutta Import Trade Association, and these bodies all concurred in the views put forward. I am to add that the Committee are of opinion that there is even stronger reason why yarns should be subject to late allowances than in the case of piece goods. As you are aware, the price of yarns fluctuates in sympathy with that of raw cotton much more rapidly than does the price of cotton goods. Should, therefore, a spinner be unable to complete all his contracts for, say, August shipment within that month, it stands to reason that if the market has advanced he will naturally desire to fulfil those contracts which are of the most recent date and are the more valuable, while the importing house here with whom an earlier contract has been made has only the option of extending the shipment time or cancelling the contract. If he required the goods at once to meet his own contracts on this side he must extend the shipment time, and in consequence he already has, in the case of the leading importers, and in the case of others he will shortly have to make his constituents an allowance. It is only equitable that he should be in such a position that he can look to the Manchester exporter for reimbursement. In the circumstances I am, therefore, to express the hope that your Chamber will, on reconsideration, agree to recommend the extension of the system of late allowances to yarns.

To this the Secretary of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, in a letter dated 15th September, replies as under:—

Your letter has been considered by the India Committee of this Chamber, as you desired. In view of what has been previously stated, and of what you now write, it still does not appear to the Committee that it is incumbent on this Chamber to intervene in this matter. Moreover, no member of the Chamber has expressed a desire for such intervention. You state that according to your information the yarn-importing firms at Bombay have universally accepted liability for allowances on late shipments, also that several leading importing firms at Calcutta (where, according to the import lists, there are only six or seven firms whose import of British-spun cotton yarns are of sufficient importance to be individually recorded) have agreed to similar allowances. If this correctly represents the position in the two chief markets, and seeing that no call for interference by this Chamber has arisen here, it may be presumed that importers in India and suppliers at this end have arrived at an understanding, and consequently that no official action by the Chamber is necessary. Experience has proved that these questions are eventually settled by individual arrangement. The Chamber has no powers of compulsion, and unless its own members with sufficient unanimity express a desire for official intervention, it is futile for the Board of the Manchester Chamber to take action.

MANCHESTER-INDIAN TRADE MATTERS.

We take the following paragraph from the proceedings of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce held on the 14th ultimo:—The minutes of the India Committee referred to correspondence with the Bombay Native Piece Goods Dealers' Association on the series of recommendations adopted by the Board in January last "as necessary provisions for the protection of suppliers in this country in the execution of their contracts, which ought," the Board considered, "to be accepted as a general rule of trade." The Native Association accepted the recommendations in the main, but considered that where tardy instructions brought about a consequent delay in the execution of the order, such delay ought to be limited to the extent of the remissness in receipt of instructions. It had been explained in communications from the Chamber that delayed instruction sometimes unavoidably brought about much longer delay in execution of the order, as suppliers were obliged to take other work, the execution of which exceeded the time to which the Piece Goods Dealers' Association desire to confine their liability. The Secretary was instructed to inform the Association that the Board could not recede from their already expressed decision, and that exceptional cases of prolonged delay must occur from time to time, and, unless the clause were interpreted with sufficient elasticity, disputes between seller and buyer were inevitable. The Board adpoted the views of the India Committee.

The Bengal Chamber had suggested that yarns should be included in the conditions applicable to late shipments. It was resolved that it did not appear incumbent on the Chamber to interfere in the matter. No member of the Manchester Chamber had expressed a desire that the Chamber should intervene, and it was to be presumed that Indian importers and their suppliers had arrived at an understanding. Experience had proved that these questions were eventually settled by individual arrangement.

The question of the evidence satisfactory to Indian importers of the fact of "delivery for shipment" of indented goods had been considered by the Committee. The clause of Bombay Native Piece Goods Merchants' Association's indent conditions of 18th December last simply provides for the exhibit of the bill of lading date or of a certificate of the Manchester Ship Canal Company as evidence of the date of shipment. This does not include cases where goods are not shipped in Manchester, and the Committee suggested the amendment of the clause so as to permit of the production of "dock, railway, or shipowner's certificate of receipt for shipment" where ports other than Manchester were made use of. The Board directed that a letter should be sent to the Native Piece Goods Association in accordance with these views.

—The comparisons of rubber seed with linseed and cotton seed have led to inquiries as to the possible **commercial utilisation of rubber seeds** in the future. At present there is such a demand for seeds for planting that there is no surplus supply. The Botanic Gardens at Singapore—which is really the birth-place of the Malay rubber industry—have already furnished great quantities of seed for the plantations, but the authorities now refuse to undertake any more orders for seed before next spring, owing to the engagements already booked. But the time will not be long in arriving when there will be a large surplus of seeds from the ninety millions of trees already planted. Scientific investigation of the rubber seeds has proved that they yield a fine clear oil of good drying quality, not inferior to the best linseed oil. It has recently been suggested that, having in view the future commercial value of the seeds, it would be wise in erecting new machinery on plantations to make provision for power and space for seed-crushing machines. By doing so, the residue from the crushers—which is valuable both as cattle food and for fertilising—would be left on the estates.

A RECENT BOMBAY ARBITRATION AWARD.

The Secretary of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce has addressed the following letter, dated 15th September, to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce :—

The attention of this Chamber has been drawn to a recent arbitration at Bombay (Owen Okell V. Luxmidas Lalji), and especially to the award of an umpire appointed by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, to whom the matter was referred. the arbitrators having disagreed in their respective decisions. The survey reports, and the umpire's award, have been published in full, both in English and the vernacular, in the Journal of the *Indian Merchants' Chamber* for June, 1910, with some introductory remarks which include the following comments : "The result arrived at in this arbitration is of more than passing interest. Indeed, it may be perhaps regarded as a precedent in all future disputes."

The fact of this publication—which cannot be too strongly deprecated as a breach of privilege—and the conclusion drawn by the Editor, together with the importance of the issue involved, amply warrant an expression of opinion on the matter by this Chamber in the interest of Manchester traders. According to the decision of the umpire, a deficiency in the length of plain cotton piece goods (white) of 0.60 per cent. suffices to justify the rejection of the goods. His words are :—" I find the goods measure, on an average, 2·59 inches short of their stamped length (12 yards), and are therefore unmerchantable under the Merchandise Marks Act. I award the cancelment of the contract." I am desired to submit to you that, in the opinion of this Chamber, this decision is not warranted either by the Indian Merchandise Marks Act or by the custom of trade. The Merchandise Marks Act enacts that a false trade description must be " false in a material respect " a condition which certainly cannot apply to a deficiency of only 0.60 per cent. for, in the Rule No. 1474 of 15th November, 1891, issued for the guidance of Criminal Courts in India, it is defined that to constitute a false trade description of cotton piece goods stamped as 12 yards the deficiency shall exceed 5 inches—practically twice the shortage in the case under consideration. Only 40 pieces out of 200 in the case were examined. Assuming that these 40 pieces fairly represented the whole (which might or might not be the case), there was a technical breach of the final provision in the Rule cited above, *viz.*, " that the average length of the goods shall not be less than the stamped length, " but it is held here that the breach was too insignificant to condemn the goods as "unmerchantable under the Merchandise Marks Act." Moreover, the indentor had previously taken delivery of seven out of ten cases of the same order, which must have passed into consumption in due course, no claim having been raised. Clearly, this was a case for adjustment by granting an allowance commensurate with the nature and extent of the defect, as has been the custom of trade in hundreds of similar cases. the indentor taking delivery subject to such allowance.

On behalf of the merchants of Manchester trading with India, my Directors desire to repudiate the assumption that the outcome of this arbitration ought to be regarded as a precedent governing similar cases in the future, as suggested by the *Journal* of the Indian Merchants' Chamber. It is, of course, recognised that your Chamber has no responsibility for anything that appears in that journal.

MINERAL PRODUCTION OF INDIA DURING 1909.

Total Value.

The present summary of the returns of mineral production in India during 1909, says Mr. T. H. D. La Touche in the course of his Report of the Geological Survey of India in 1909, covers the rst year of a new quinquennial period, the returns for the five years 1904-08 having been dealt with by Sir T. H. Holland and Dr. L. L. Fermor in the Quinquennial Review. (See *Indian Trade Journal*, dated August 4th, 1910, page 123):—

A summary of the total values of minerals produced in 1908 and 1909 is given in the accompanying Table. There have again been more or less pronounced increases in the value of gold, petroleum, saltpetre and jadestone ; while manganese-ore, mica, ruby, iron-ore and diamonds, the production of which has decreased in 1908, now show signs of recovery ; but there was a decided drop in the value of coal, as anticipated by Sir T. Holland in his last year's statement, due to the depression in trade that followed the extraordinary activity of the years 1906-1908. While the sharp drop in the value of magnesite, from £2,009 in 1908 to £196 in 1909, again demonstrates how precarious is the demand for such minerals and how quickly they respond to changes in the European market. Salt, graphite, chromite, tin-ore. and amber have also suffered a decrease. The net result is that for the first time since these statistics have been published there has been a drop in the total value of mineral production, from £7,861,935 in 1908 to £7,499,228 in 1909, a decrease of 4·6 per cent. It must be observed, however, that this fall in value does not denote any serious diminution in the activity displayed in exploiting the mineral resources of the country, for it was the over-speculation of the previous years that caused the abnormal production of coal, the mineral mainly responsible for the decrease, in 1908, leaving huge stocks to be disposed of in the next year when, as a natural result, the average price per ton fell from Rs. 3-15 to Rs. 3-8.

Total Value of Minerals for which Returns of Production are available for the years 1908 and 1909.

Minerals.	1908.	1909.
	£	£
Gold	2,177,847	2,204,866
Coal	3,356,209	2,779,865
Manganese-ore (*a*)*	498,269	508,483
Petroleum	702,009	910,172
Salt (*b*)	522,794	453,630
Saltpetre (*a*)	292,758	296,838
Mica (*a*)	139,513	156,199
Ruby, Sapphire and Spinel	47,954	58,649
Jadestone (*a*)	74,402	84,450
Graphite	14,365	12,529
Iron-ore(*c*)	15,149	16,563
Tin-ore	11,015	9,645
Chromite	6,338	5,767†
Diamonds	940	1,089
Magnesite (*d*)	2,009	196
Amber	364	287
Total	7,861,935	7,499,228

(*a*) Export values. (*b*) Prices without duty. (*c*) Estimated values for provinces other than Bengal. (*d*) Estimated values.

*Exclusive of exports from Murmugao.

†Exclusive of the value of the output from Mysore.

Chromite.

The output of chromite in Mysore during 1909 amount to 4,925 tons, as against 610 tons in 1908. The value has not been reported. In Baluchistan the output for 1909 amounted to 4 325 tons, valued at £5,767, as against 4,135 tons. valued at £5,513, in 1908. The average production for the five preceding years was 4,418 tons.

Coal.

The output of coal in 1909 amounted to 11.870,064 tons against 12,769,635 tons in 1908, a decrease for the first time since the year 1882. The deficiency is accounted for by the coal-fields of Bengal alone, where it amounted to 899.100 tons, the fluctuations in other provinces of India almost exactly balancing each other. The value of the coal produced fell from £3.356,209 in 1908 to £2,779,865 in 1909 as a natural consequence of the over production of the former year. This is shown by the fact that whereas the total value has been reduced by 17 per cent., the decrease in production was only 7 per cent. The average price of the mineral fell from Rs. 3-15 per ton in 1908 to Rs. 3-8 per ton in 1909.

There was a slight further drop in the exports of Indian coal and coke during the period under review, from 659,594 tons, valued at £382,369, in 1908, to 563,940 tons, valued at £338,395 in 1909. The imports rose from 391,521 tons in 1908 to 519,988 in 1909. These do not seem to have been affected by the overproduction of previous years, but show a distinct rise except in the case of Australia, where the output was restricted owing to labour troubles.

The average daily attendance at Indian coal mines in 1909 was 119,546 against 129,173 in 1908, and the output per person employed should little change, being 99·3 for the total number and 153 tons for each herson employed below ground. There was a decided drop in the number of accidents from 178 in 1908 to 128 in 1909, and a reduction from 1·37, to 1·07, in the rate per thousand persons employed.

Diamonds.

There was little change reported in the output of diamonds in 1909, the total productions being 147·35 carats, valued at £1,089, as against 140·75 carats, valued at £940, in 1908.

Gold.

There was again a rise in the production of gold in India as shown below :—

Quantity and Value of Gold produced in India during 1908 and 1909.

Province.	1908. Quantity.	1908. *Value*	1909. Quantity.	1909. *Value.*	Average No. of persons employed daily.
	Ounces.	£	Ounces.	£	
Bombay—					
Dharwar	7,242	*27,159*	5,616	*21,331*	1,750
Burma—					
Myitkyina	7,950	*30,600*	8,445	*32,730*	290
Katha and Pakokku	150(*a*)	*600*	44	135	
Hyderabad	16,437	*62.550*	15,241	*57,416*	2,220
Jammu and Kashmir	...	...	4	*15*	Not reported.
Mysore	535,653	*2,055,567*	545,309	*2,092,605*	Do.
Punjab	195	*759*	154	*621*	329
United Provinces	3	*13*	3	*13*	Not reported.
Total	567,630	*2,177,247*	574,816	*2,204,866*	...

(*a*) Rough average estimate.

Graphite.

The production of graphite in Travancore State, whence the whole of the Indian output is derived was slightly higher than in 1908, being 3,132 tons as against 2,873 tons in the former year. The value however, shows a considerable falling off, being £21,529 in 1909 as compared with £14.365 in 1908. The average number of persons employed daily at the Travancore mines was 763 in 1909.

Iron-ore.

There was a considerable advance in the quantity of iron-ore raised in India during 1909, from 72,300 tons, valued at £15,149, in 1908, to 83,456 tons, valued at £16,513. Of the total amount, Bengal produced 72,711 tons and Burma 7,480 tons. There had been a considerable increase in the number of native furnaces worked in the Central Provinces between the years 1905 and 1908, the total rising from 276 to 626, which seems to indicate that the native smelters were making a strenuous effort to compete with imported iron, but in the year under review the number fell to 459. The shrinkage is attributed to the higher cost of labour and of working the furnaces, the payment of heavy royalties for fuel, and the competition of imported iron, though the local product is said to be superior for certain purposes.

Jadeite.

The quantity of jadeite exported from Rangoon in 1908-09, *viz.*, 4,088 cwt. valued at £84,450, was practically the same as in 1907-08, but the price of the mineral rose from £18·59 per cwt. to £20·66 per cwt. The returns from the Myitkyina District, where the jadeite mines are situated, show that the quantity extracted in 1909 was only 2,487 cwt., valued at £14,892, or £6 per cwt., in spite of the fact that the right to collect the royalty was sold for a higher sum than before. The figures furnished by the licensee are probably not reliable.

Magnesite.

Only 737 tons of magnesite, valued at £196, were mined in the Salem District, Madras, as compared with 7,354 tons, valued at £2,009, produced in 1908. The output of this mineral has been subject to severe fluctuations since the industry was started in 1902, having fallen as low as 186 tons in 1907, probably because a secure market has not yet been found.

Manganese-ore.

The returns of the production of manganese-ore are shown in the accompanying table. Four of the provinces show a decrease in output, but this is partially balanced by the rise in Bengal due to the further opening up of the deposits in the Gangpur State and in Madras, where extensive deposits are being worked in the Sandur State. The production in the districts of the Central Provinces is shown in a separate table. The exports of manganese-ore amounted to 467,276 tons as against 427,454 tons in the previous year.

The returns for labour employed in the manganese industry are not complete. In the Central Provinces the average number of persons employed; daily is reported to be 10,947; in Madras 5,451; and in Bombay 651.

Output of Manganese-ore for the years 1908 and 1909.

	1908.		1909.	
	Quantity.	*Value.* (*a*)	Quantity.	*Value.* (*a*)
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Bengal	20,000	*498,269*	55,060	*508,48*
Bombay	23,232		17,657	
Central India	13,315		10,324	
Central Provinces	431,055		381,285	
Madras	118,089		138,454	
Mysore	68,624		39,895	
TOTAL	674,315	...	642,675	...

[*a*] Represents the value of exports only.

Output of Manganese-ore in the Central Provinces during 1908 and 1909.

District.	1908.	1909.
	Tons.	Tons.
Balaghat	135,487	134,577
Bhandara	110,673	110,856
Chhindwara	49,008	17,464
Jabalpur	48	...
Nagpur	135,839	118,388
TOTAL	431,055	381,285

Mica.

The production of mica in India during 1909 shows a considerable falling off, which has affected each of the three producing provinces, Bengal, Madras and Rajputana. There was a rise in the exports of mica, from 27,572 cwt., valued at £139,513, in 1908, to 32,640 cwt., valued at £156,199 in 1909.

Petroleum.

The output of petroleum in 1909 again surpassed all previous records, amounting to 233,678,087 gallons, an increase of 32 per cent on the previous year. Practically the whole of the increased yield was due to greater activity in the Yenangyaung field in Upper Burma, all the other producing districts in that province showing a decrease. In the case of the Yenangyat, Singu and Kyaukphyu fields this is said to be due to the gradual exhaustion of the oil sands, and in Akyab to the cancellation of one of the oil leases. No oil was produced in Thayetmyo during the year.

The exhaustion of the larger fields of Yenangyat and Singu is a serious matter, for it has concentrated attention on the much smaller, but as yet more productive field of Yenangyaung, where the output increased by 34 per cent; and it is only a question of time, and that probably not very long, until this field also becomes unable to withstand the enormous drain now made upon it. In the meantime strenuous efforts are being made to discover other productive oil-fields by prospecting, but so far without complete success.

The output of the Assam oil-field shows only a slight increase, no new productive wells having been discovered in spite of active prospecting.

Ruby, Sapphire and Spinel.

The whole of the output of ruby, sapphire and spinel reported for 1909 was derived from the Burma Ruby Mines of Mogok, work at the Kashmir sapphire mines having been abandoned in 1908. The production of the Mogok mines was 205,384 carats of rubies, 13,457 carats of sapphires, and 39,463 carats of spinel, or a total of 258,304 carats, valued at £58,649, against 281,014 carats, valued at £83,505 in 1908. One thousand three hundred and eighty-five persons were employed on an average daily at the mines as compared with 1,140 in 1908.

Salt.

The production of salt during the year 1909 was somewhat less than in 1908, but is slightly higher than the average of the preceding five years. The production of rock-salt in Northern India amounted to 146,719 tons. The imports of foreign salt amounted to 460,639 tons compared with 437,887 ons in the preceding year.

Saltpetre.

The quantity of saltpetre exported during 1909 was somewhat above the average for the preceding five years being 404,946 cwt., valued at £296,838, against 358,939 cwt., valued at £265,135.

Tin-Ore.

The amount of tin ore produced in Burma was less than in the previous year, being 1,665 cwts. from Mergui and 7 cwts. from Tavoy, against 1,876 and 30 cwts. respectively in 1908. The figures show no material change, the average output of the preceding five years having been 1,635 cwts. One hundred persons are returned as having been employed daily on the average in the two districts.

TURPENTINE AND ROSIN INDUSTRY.

IT is stated in the Annual Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Western Circle of the United Provinces in the forest year 1909-10 that in the Naini Tal division numerous experiments were made by the Imperial Forest Chemist with a view to improve the quality of rosin and turpentine. From a chemical point of view the experiments were entirely successful, a far higher standard of purity being obtained, but it is by no means certain that any benefit from the commercial point of view will result, as the trade seems to prefer the older and less pure forms. It is, however, too early to speak definitely on the subject. The experimental cultivation of lac in the Dholkhand range was continued, but can hardly be said to have been successful. In Pathri it was a total failure and in Ranipur the measure of success achieved was none too great. The very low market prices obtaining for lac last year were all against the experiments. A large quantity of seed of both red gum (*Eucalyptus robasta*) and blue gum (*E. globulus*) was obtained from the Nilgiris for the cantonment and municipal forest at Mussooree and for the estates of Rai Bahadur Manohar Lal. The former was not a success, but the latter germinated profusely and started to develop in a phenomenal manner. As it is reported that these species are worked on a ten years' rotation for fuel in the Nilgiris it will be very interesting to watch the results of this experiment. The experiment mentioned in last year's report for testing the floatibility of spruce and silver-fir was completed. As only 70 per cent. of the billets arrived at Dakpathar at a cost of Re. 0-11-0 per cubic foot, the result was hardly encouraging. A full report has however been sent to Government.

The following is a detailed account of the turpentine and colophony industry carried out in the Naini Tal and Jaunsar divisions:—

	Naini Tal.	Jaunsar.
(*a*) Total number of trees tapped	1,82,849	6,000
(*b*) Total outturn of crude resin, maunds	15,922	518
(*c*) Average outturn per tree, seers	3·48	3·45

In the Naini Tal divisions the total outturn and the average yield per tree have, respectively, risen from 14,819 maunds to 15,922 maunds and from 3·22 seers to 3·48 seers as compared with the year 1908, although the number of trees tapped was less by 996. In the Jaunsar division, on the other hand, where the number of trees tapped was approximately the same as in the previous year, the outturn has decreased from 706 maunds to 518 maunds, while the average yield per tree tapped fell from 4·68 seers to 3·45 seers.

In the Naini Tal division the increase in the outturn was due to the fact that large areas in the Almora range were in their second year of tapping, when resin flows freely. In 1909 an experiment was made of putting the tapping of one or two small coupes out on contract, the contractor being paid at a fixed rate per maund, delivered at Bhawali. As this was found successful, the work on contract was further extended in 1910 and the tapping in the Sium and Ranikhet ranges and in Binsar and Garanath is being done by contractors. This not only relieves the executive and subordinate officers of considerable work, but the operation itself is also done at slightly cheaper rates.

In the Naini Tal division, where the turpentine operations are carried out on an extensive scale, the financial results were very satisfactory, the profit of the year being Rs. 38,705 as compared with Rs. 6,396 in the previous year. The result would have been still more satisfactory but for the following facts:—

(*a*) The rosin market up to March was extremely unsatisfactory and the average price realized was only about Rs. 4-1-0 per maund.

(*b*) Turpentine was found to be almost unsaleable for a long time.

The future prospects of the industry are however much brighter, as contracts have been concluded to sell the output of rosin up to March 31st, 1911, at Rs. 6-7-0 per maund, delivered at Cawnpore, and 20,000 gallons of turpentine before the same date, mostly at Rs. 2 per gallon.

In the Jaunsar division there was a very poor demand for both turpentine and colophony. The ranger of the River range went to Ambala and Delhi to try and dispose of these products, but found that merchants are able to get American and French turpentine delivered at Re. 1-8-0 per gallon wholesale. Owing, however, to large profits in the retail trade it is probable that if an agency were established there Rs. 2-4-0 per gallon could be obtained.

—The Lieutenant-Governor of Burma, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, is pleased to declare that the precise extent of the **limits of the Port of Bassein** shall be as follows, namely:—*North.*—A line drawn northeast from the south side of the entrance of the Kyaukchaunggyi Creek through the Shwemyindin Pagoda. *South.*—A line drawn west from Purian Point to the north end of Diamond Island and thence north north-west to Pagoda Point. *East and West.*—The line of high-water mark on either side of the Bassein River.

IRON-ORE IN SOUTHERN RUSSIA.

An engineering correspondent contributes the following article to the *Times* Engineering Supplement :—

The last quarter of a century has revealed that, under the flat arable lands of South-Western Russia, there are vast stores of rich hematities, with occasional surface outcrops, sufficient not only to supply the growing demands of the region itself, but also for exportation to other parts of Russia and abroad.

The most important iron-ore mining area is that of Krivoi-Rog, situated about the confluence of the rivers Saksagan, Bokavaja and Ingufetz, the last of which joins the Dnieper some eight miles east of Kherson. The ore bodies vary in thickness from 7 feet to over 400 feet, and are covered by deposits varying from 3 feet to 150 feet in depth. The workings vary from 33 feet to over 350 feet. The stratifications dip at various angles owing to the corrugations of the soil, and in some cases are almost vertical. Though no borings have been made for the purpose of determining the resources of this region the visible supply has been fixed at 90,000,000 tons, and it is opined that probable synclinals or anticlinals, to the deposits now worked will be discovered containing valuable ores in greater quantities than those already known. In the discovery of the more important deposits inferential reasoning has always played a leading part, and the best known mine, Kolatchevski, was located by Reingarten by that means, though there was no outcrop to indicate the ore stock which has since proved enormous.

The ores are singularly rich in iron, and contain only a small percentage of sulphur and, at the most, mere traces of phosphorus, while the silicates and lime present are in such quality and quantity as do not add to the refractoriness of the ore. Contracts are made for four varieties, distinguished by the miners by their appearance and kept separate—(*a*) having 66 to 69·8 units of metallic iron per cent ; (*b*) having 62 to 65 ; (*c*) having 60 to 62 ; (*d*) having 55 to 59. Enormous quantities of ore rising from 40 to 45 units have accumulated at the mines, and are considered incapable of profitable treatment, and it is remarkable that these "tailings" have not been utilized for mixing.

The mechanical condition of the ores is rising in grade with the natural alteration from quarrying to shaft workings. In the past users have objected, as in some cases they do still, to the dusty nature of Krivoi-Rog ores, but now that the top layers have been removed more consolidated ore bodies are being encountered and it will be possible to satisfy stipulation for 70 per cent. lump. Even with a preponderance of dead fines the ores have a commercial value, for they are especially suited for moulding with carbon and flux into briquettes for use in electric furnaces. The district records for 1907, which are the last obtainable, show 73 mines owned by 33 separate owners, but the South Russian Mining Congress, to which the more important concerns are affiliated, publishes in its official handbook for 1909 a list of 37 mines owned by 23 enterprises The difference may be due to lapsing of leases, amalgamations, and cessations of work in 1908. Both records agree that the ore deposits now worked in the proportion of quarry to shaft as six to one, aggregate 30,170 acres, of which 9,670 acres are owned outright and 20,500 acres are leased on royalty. The royalties vary from 1*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* per ton of ore mined.

The existing mines are capable of an annual output of at least 6,000,000 tons, but the highest figures reached were 3,514,542 tons in 1907. The average annual requirements of the Russian works are 3,000,000 tons, and the balance of production is available for export, overland to Germany and by sea to various countries, Great Britain and the United States included. It is interesting to note that the Krivoi-Rog district, which began to export in 1898 with less than 16,000 tons, has made such rapid strides in production that the 1907 exportation rose to 351,453 tons overland to Germany and 540,078 tons over sea. Examination of the conditions under which this export trade has developed indicates that the figures quoted by no means limit the possible development of the trade, but are, on the contrary, in arrear of the supplies now held back by a series of obstacles at Nikolaieff, the only present effective outlet for the output. There are various projects for fostering the export trade, the chief aiming at reducing the 166 miles of rail freight from mines to port. One proposes the saving of the spring waters of the Krivoi-Rog rivers and the installation of a small craft navigation to Kherson, and another the building of a new railway from Nikolo-Kozelsk to Kherson, thereby reducing the distance from mine-stations to port to less than 75 miles.

The general crisis in the world's markets in 1908 affected the Krivoi-Rog mining industry, and overproduction and internecine competition among the miners lowered prices to the vanishing point of profit. Under the name of "Prodarud" a combination of the principal mineowners and companies was formed in that year, and the syndicate will supply not only home, but also foreign, demands. The capital is small and the shareholders have no contract obligation but to dispose of their outputs through the syndicate. It would seem, however, that they may, on a point of law, Article 1180, Penal Code, safely disregard this obligation and make outside contracts for delivery of ore.

In the neighbourhood of Berdiansk, an Azoff port of some importance and claims to greater attention, there are enormous deposits of rich magnetite iron ore, and although many concessions have been granted only one company has conducted mining operations of any magnitude. These operations have been carried on very quietly, no casual visitors being allowed, and except that very considerable quantities of ore are carted little is to be learnt locally as to results. The deposits may be divided into three classes—magnetite, hematite, and a mixture of both. The first is the most abundant, and when in a pure state contains 72 per cent iron but the ore generally contains foreign matter by which the iron content is reduced. It occurs in a mixture of sesquioxide and protoxide of iron in proportions of 69 to 31, generally in fine-grained compact masses, occasionally coarsely crystalline and granular, but never in crystals. Where, however, it is found in contact with crystalline limestone it occurs in well-defined cubical forms. The hematite ore, less plentiful, occurs in the sesquioxide, and is brittle and compact, of a dark steely grey merging to red when earthy. Some varieties are magnetic owing to the presence of magnetite. Here abundance of undeveloped water power awaits the coming of the engineer.

In a number of other districts, notably Kertsch and Usovka, supplies of ore are known and worked, but these cannot be classed as available for export as they are needed locally.

THE OIL TRADE.

An interesting incident of the Standard Oil Company's campaign for supremacy in the world's markets is the reported determination of the French Government to retaliate on the Austro-Hungarian Government for their action in restricting the operations of the Limanavo oil concern. The French Government threatens to open French ports to petroleum from the Dutch Indies and close to mineral oils the Custom-houses on the Eastern frontier by which Austro-Hungarian petroleum enters France. This is an important new move in the greatest fight the oil trade has ever witnessed. The field of operations extends throughout Austria, Germany, Roumania, France, Italy, Great Britain, and Mexico, where the highly organised forces of the great Standard Oil Company of America are fighting practically against the world. The situation is complicated by the presence of a third belligerent, the Royal Dutch-Shell Combine, behind which are understood to be the millions of the Rothschilds, but so far as Austria, Roumania, and Germany are concerned the present hostilities are due to the efforts of the Governments to free their respective countries from the grip of the Standard Oil Company. In every case the tactics of the American concern have been to crush out the competition of domestic producers, either by depressing prices or cutting off supplies, and then when successful to recoup themselves for the temporary loss incurred by rising prices against the consumer.

The present action of the French Government is the result of a sternly-fought battle in Galicia. The attention of the Standard Oil interests was first drawn seriously to that country a few years ago when they found their monopoly of the French oil trade threatened by the advent of Galician oil. The Austrian oil-producing and refining industry had made such headway that an export trade become an absolute necessity, and France, with its very high level of prices, as a result of the Standard Oil monopoly, offered a tempting outlet. The imports of Galician oil represented only 8 per cent of the total French consumption, but it proved sufficient to upset the carefully adjusted balance of the Standard Oil Company's market there, and prices came down with a run. Démarès Frères, a Parisian concern, largely financed by French money although controlled by the Standard Oil Company, set up the Limanavo refining works in Austria, and endeavoured to secure control of the export trade with France, and incidentally of the entire Galician oil refining industry. With this end in view the Galician producers of crude oil were offered higher prices than those paid by domestic refiners, while the price of the refined article was "cut" until the refiners were left practically without any margin of profit. In their extremity the refiners sought the assistance of the Government, which eventually took steps to lessen the influence of the Standard Oil Company.

This task proved a somewhat formidable one, for on the one hand the Government had to meet the objections of the crude oil producers to the banishment of their best customer, while on the other it had to save the refiners from the danger of extermination. In addition, it had to exercise paternal care in protecting the consumer against the benevolent efforts of the domestic refiners to raise prices to what might be described as a Cartel level, and had also its own interests as the largest consumer of all in respect of fuel required for the State railways to conserve. After prolonged negotiations the Government's advisers decided that the most effective means of curbing the power of the Standard Oil Company was to restrict its railway facilities and strictly enforce the terms of its licence, by which its output was limited to a quantity which represented no more than half of that which it was actually producing. The two subsidiaries of the Standard Oil Company in Galicia were the Vacuum Oil Company and Dumarès Frères, and as a result of the steps taken by the Government both the American and French Ambassadors made representations to the Austrian Government. It appeared that the American Government was pretty much in sympathy with the efforts of the Austrian Government to restrict the operations of the great Combine, but the French Government, undeterred by the Standard Oil monopoly in its own country, apparently took a different view. That the action of the French Government in closing its Customs establishments to Austro-Hungarian petroleum will greatly embarass Galician producers is unlikely, as the domestic demand in connection with the State railways in conjunction with the German and other foreign markets will probably prove sufficient to absorb the whole of the output. The opening of French ports to petroleum from the Dutch West Indies, another phase of a complicated question too large to deal with here, but it is likely to prove a serious embarassment to the Standard Oil Company as it will permit the entry of Royal Dutch-Shell products, which have hitherto been excluded from the French markets.—*Manchester Guardian.*

FOOD-GRAINS AND SALT.

Retail Prices of certain Food-grains and Salt at selected stations for the second half of September, 1910. (Prices are stated in annas and pies per seer of 2·06 lbs.)

	Rice, common.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jawar.	Bajra.	Ragi.	Gram.	Salt.
	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.
BURMA—								
Rangoon	1 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
Toungoo	1 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM—								
Rangpur	2 0	2 2	...	...	...	...	...	1 1
Backerganj	1 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 11
BENGAL—								
Calcutta	2 0	1 4	...	...	...	...	...	0 10
Patna	1 5	1 3	0 10	...	...	...	...	0 10
UNITED PROVINCES—								
Cawnpore	...	1 4	0 9	0 10	1 0	...	0 10	0 9
Fyzabad	...	1 4	0 10	...	...	...	0 11	0 10
Meerut	...	1 3	0 9	...	...	...	0 10	0 9
PANJAB—								
Delhi	...	1 3	(a)	0 11	1 0	...	0 10	0 9
Amritsar	...	1 2	0 10	1 0	1 1	...	0 9	0 7
Ráwalpindi	...	1 2	0 8	0 9	1 0	...	0 10	0 7
SIND—								
Karáchi	...	1 7	...	1 2	1 5	...	1 4	0 7
BOMBAY—								
Belgaum	...	1 10	...	1 1	1 2	...	...	0 10
Ahmadnagar	...	1 8	...	0 10	0 11	...	...	0 11
Bombay	...	(b) 2 3	...	1 5	1 6	...	...	0 11
Ahmadabad	...	1 6	...	1 0	1 3	...	...	0 7
CENTRAL PROVINCES—								
Jubbulpore	...	1 3	...	...	...	...	0 10	0 11
Nagpur	1 4	1 2	...	0 10	...	...	1 0	1 0
Raipur	1 4	1 3	...	...	...	...	0 11	1 0
MADRAS—								
Bellary	2 0	...	...	1 0	...	1 1	...	0 10
Madras	2 3	...	...	...	...	1 4	...	0 7
Salem	2 1	...	...	1 2	1 6	1 0	...	1 0

(a) Not reported. (b) Provisional.

—Mr. Moritz Schanz's paper on **"Cotton Growing in German Colonies"**, read before the International Cotton Congress at Brussels, gives some interesting particulars as to the progress of cotton cultivation in German Colonies, more especially in Togoland and German East Africa. At the present time—the start was made in 1901—the German colonies export a little over 3,000 bales of 550 lbs. each annually, which does not go very far towards supplying the 1,500,000 bales required by Germany. Still, considerable progress is being made both in Togoland and German East Africa. An experimental station and school has been established in the former colony, at which about a hundred young natives are learning how to grow cotton, and these will presently return to their own districts and, as is hoped, become the centres of local initiative. Something of the same kind is being attempted in German East Africa, where the cotton is said to be equal, on the average, to good fair Egyptian. Unfortunately in Egypt, as the latest report of the British Cotton Growing Association demonstrates, the yield of cotton per acre is steadily declining. In the last three quinquennial periods, ending with 1906-10, the yield has been respectively 5·48, 4·67, 4·09 cantars per feddan, and the crop being delivered is the worst of all in relation to the area under cultivation. During the current year the German Government will spend some £20,000 on the promotion of cotton growing in German colonies, and the British Government has promised the British Cotton Growing Association £10,000. It may be noted that the Association is now considering the possibility of more rapid developments in the Soudan, the most promising of British dependencies for cotton growing, with the possible exception of Nigeria.

DATA OF TEMPERATURE, HUMIDITY AND RAINFALL FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, THE 25th OCTOBER, 1910.

	Station.	Temperature (mean of maximum and minimum).		Humidity (percentage of amount for saturation).		Rainfall.		
		Actual.	Departure from normal.	Actual.	Departure from normal.	Total during week.	Total since 1st June.	Departure of latter from normal.
		°	°	%	%	"	"	"
BURMA.								
Lower Burma	Mergui	80	0	87	0	0·9	123·3	—7·7
	Tavoy	81	+1	90	+4	3·1	184·2	+9·6
	Moulmein	82	0	91	+4	1·3	147·4	—10·4
	Rangoon	82	0	90	—1	1·0	64·4	—15·7
	Bassein	81	0	92	+1	0·1	67·0	—27·9
	Akyab	81	—1	93	+3	4·3	184·4	+14·3
	Toungoo	83	+1	88	—1	1·0	70·8	+2·7
Upper Burma	Thayetmyo	82	0	88	+4	0	18·7	—10·5
	Yamethin	82	—1	91	+7	2·2	28·8	+2·9
	Mandalay	83	0	87	+3	0·9	29·9	+7·6
	Bhamo	77	—1	95	+9	2·0	80·3	+19·3
EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.								
Assam	Dibrugarh	75	...	88	...	0·1	79·5	+0·6
	Tezpur	77	...	89	...	1·0	56·0	+5·8
	Dhubri	76	—2	90	+2	0	61·2	—8·6
	Shillong	61	...	86	...	0·1	60·0	—0·4
	Silchar	77	—3	92	+3	2·3	94·5	+14·5
Eastern Bengal	Chittagong	78	—1	91	+1	0·9	91·9	+17·4
	Barisal	78	—2	89	+6	3·3	61·6	+3·4
	Narayanganj	...	...	...	...	1·2	52·1	+2·9
	Mymensingh	79	0	85	—3	0	64·0	—0·4
	Malda	78	—1	85	0	0	49·1	+1·7
	Jalpaiguri	77	0	79	—8	0·5	102·9	—1·9
BENGAL.								
Bengal	Berhampore	80	0	86	0	0·1	45·9	+0·7
	Calcutta	79	—1	92	+8	1·4	48·0	—0·7
Orissa	Balasore	79	0	89	+4	0·7	40·8	—16·7
	Cuttack	79	—2	86	+7	3·0	64·3	+14·3
	Sambalpur	79	0	85	+7	1·1	65·1	+2·9
Chota Nagpur	Chaibassa	78	—1	87	+7	0·7	38·3	—4·4
	Purulia	78	...	91	+19	0	39·5	—7·7
	Hazaribagh	73	—1	68	—1	0	39·8	—8·1
Bihar	Darjeeling	53	0	76	—8	0	104·0	—3·1
	Darbhanga	78	—1	94	0	0	47·4	+2·1
	Patna	79	0	67	—7	0	61·7	+18·0
	Motihari	76	—1	87	0	0	53·9	+6·3
	Buxar	79	0	72	—3	0	41·1	+3·0
UNITED PROVINCES.								
United Provinces, East	Allahabad	74	—3	70	+1	0	27·1	—11·0
	Bahraich	75	—1	84	+9	0	46·0	+2·6
	Lucknow	74	—3	68	—3	0	26·2	—9·4
United Provinces, West	Jhansi	77	—3	39	—11	0	32·9	—3·4
	Agra	76	—3	57	+2	0	30·1	+3·9
	Bareilly	73	—2	82	+9	0	51·3	+7·4
PUNJAB.								
Punjab, East and North	Delhi	75	—3	62	+14	0	29·2	+5·1
	Sirsa	76	—1	54	+4	0	10·0	—1·6
	Ambala	71	—4	75	+6	0	28·2	+2·0
	Lahore	75	0	62	+5	0	11·2	—4·3
	Rawalpindi	69	—1	51	—14	0	26·9	+4·1
Punjab, South-West	Multan	78	0	44	—13	0	1·6	—3·8
Kashmir	Srinagar	53	0	76	—13	0	5·0	—3·6
North-West Frontier Province.	Peshawar	70	—1	62	+1	0	12·3	+7·4
	D. I. Khan	73	—2	62	+3	0	6·4	+1·4
	Jacobabad	77	—1	62	+12	0	2·3	—0·2
Sind	Karachi	78	0	79	+15	0	12·1	+5·5
RAJPUTANA.								
Rajputana, West	Bikaner	79	—3	27	—19	0	12·9	+3·7
	Jodhpur	77	—4	35	+2	0	10·1	—2·1
Rajputana, East	Udaipur	74	—3	48	—4	0	24·9	+5·2
	Ajmer	75	—1	60	+1	0	16·9	—2·9
	Jaipur	76	—1	45	—3	0	16·5	—7·5
	Kotah	77	—5	50	+5	0	30·5	+5·4
BOMBAY.								
Gujarat	Bhuj	81	—2	49	—9	0	20·4	+6·5
	Deesa	80	—1	42	—4	0	23·4	+0·1
	Ahmedabad	82	—1	49	—2	0	25·6	—6·7
	Rajkot	79	—2	55	—8	0	33·3	+6·0
	Veraval	80	—1	69	—2	0	17·3	0
Konkan	Bombay	80	—2	74	—7	0	67·3	—6·3
	Karwar	78	—1	84	—6	0	112·9	—3·9
Bombay, Deccan	Malegaon	72	—5	51	—10	0	28·7	+6·5
	Ahmednagar	72	—3	33	—28	0	33·7	+14·6
	Poona	73	—5	66	—1	0	29·5	+5·4
	Bijapur	76	—1	55	—20	0·1	20·4	+0·6
	Belgaum	73	—1	65	—11	0·1	37·6	—4·9
CENTRAL INDIA.								
Central India, West	Neemuch	73	—3	46	+8	0	30·8	+2·2
	Indore	71	—4	60	+1	0	34·9	+3·1
Central India, East	Sutna	73	—2	67	+2	0	34·6	—7·9
CENTRAL PROVINCES.								
Berar	Akola	74	—5	54	—9	0	34·4	+3·4
Central Provinces, West	Saugor	72	—3	42	—16	0	36·5	—9·0
	Jubbulpore	71	—3	74	—1	0	38·7	—17·0
	Seoni	72	—2	49	—17	0	54·0	+3·2
	Nagpur	75	—3	56	—9	0	54·3	+8·9
Central Provinces, East	Chanda	77	—1	65	—8	0	47·4	—3·4
	Raipur	76	—2	89	+18	0·7	62·4	+15·5
HYDERABAD.								
Hyderabad, North	Nizamabad	75	—3	69	—5	0·3	41·2	+3·6
Hyderabad, South	Gulbarga	78	—1	51	—18	0·4	31·6	+3·8
	Hyderabad	77	—1	82	+6	1·0	23·0	—4·0
	Raichur	79	—1	63	—4	0·1	19·1	—7·7
MYSORE	Bangalore	71	—1	88	+6	4·5	38·1	+13·9
	Mercara	68	0	94	+6	1·8	108·0	—3·7
MADRAS.								
Malabar	Cochin	80	—1	81	—3	1·6	83·0	—0·9
	Trivandrum	78	+1	86	+1	3·0	47·2	+11·8
Madras, South-East	Pamban	81	0	90	+10	2·0	8·3	—0·6
	Negapatam	80	—1	87	+4	7·3	27·1	+8·8
	Coimbatore	77	—2	89	+2	4·5	12·0	+2·0
	Cuddalore	81	0	89	0	3·6	27·1	+0·9
	Salem	79	—1	87	+5	2·7	33·8	+7·7
	Madras	81	0	90	+5	3·1	22·1	—2·6
Madras Deccan	Cuddapah	79	—3	89	+14	1·5	37·8	+14·1
	Bellary	79	—1	79	+12	0·1	17·3	+3·3
Madras Coast, North	Nellore	79	—4	92	+9	5·4	19·7	+2·0
	Masulipatam	79	—3	93	+9	6·8	41·6	+12·2
	Waltair	78	—4	87	+12	8·8	48·3	+18·6
	Gopalpur	79	—1	96	+14	5·9	55·1	+18·2

LAND TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA.

Total Value of Imports from, and **Exports** to, each country in the four months April to July of each year.

Name of Country	Imports			Exports			Total		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Lus Bela—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	1,83,514	1,85,713	2,27,839	60,421	80,604	65,741	2,43,935	2,66,317	2,93,583
Khelat—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	1,28,717	82,816	2,44,323	1,30,849	1,57,812	2,80,219	2,59,566	2,40,628	5,24,542
Persia—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	48,482	58,291	1,20,112	1,49,221	2,44,774	1,95,238	1,97,703	3,03,065	3,15,350
Afghanistan—									
Northern and Eastern (including Kabul and Ghazni)—									
North-West Frontier Province	2,62,988	4,69,760	3,31,843	44,39,331	44,39,124	36,09,427	47,02,319	49,08,824	39,41,270
Southern and Western (including Kandahar and Herat)—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	12,73,745	14,52,151	16,56,049	18,93,204	16,17,486	18,56,304	31,66,949	30,69,637	35,12,353
North-West Frontier Province	...	...	...	3,03,300	3,30,306	2,78,369	3,03,300	3,30,306	2,78,369
Panjab	...	...	...	17,357	10,166	21,775	17,357	10,166	21,775
Total	15,36,733	19,21,851	19,87,892	66,53,192	63,97,082	57,65,875	81,89,925	83,18,933	77,53,767
Tirah—									
North-West Frontier Province	1,65,986	1,41,012	1,85,342	2,00,491	1,45,478	3,89,693	3,66,477	2,86,490	5,75,035
Dir, Swat, and Bajaur—									
North-West Frontier Province	16,46,164	14,58,856	12,89,842	21,30,572	21,09,813	15,75,333	37,76,736	35,68,669	28,65,175
Buner—									
North-West Frontier Province	51,747	74,367	83,501	76,890	98,571	1,20,841	1,28,637	1,72,938	2,04,342
Waziristan—									
North-West Frontier Province	79,847	82,251	1,18,148	15,098	24,739	36,247	94,945	1,06,990	1,54,395
Kurram Valley—									
North-West Frontier Province	31,004	74,725	50,262	3,22,654	3,46,545	3,74,365	3,53,658	4,21,270	4,24,627
Ladakh—									
Panjab	...	630	...	1,22,818	51,118	63,050	1,22,818	51,748	63,050
Tibet—									
Panjab	10,326	10,129	11,113	28,837	60,232	1,07,878	39,163	70,361	1,18,991
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	18,741	31,218	41,313	3,76,482	3,08,298	2,52,899	3,95,223	3,39,516	2,94,212
Bengal	6,38,046	2,37,162	1,74,118	7,99,081	2,63,427	2,53,193	14,57,127	5,00,589	4,27,311
Total	6,87,113	2,78,509	2,26,544	12,04,400	6,31,957	6,13,970	18,91,513	9,10,466	8,40,514
Nepal—									
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	33,16,536	43,06,749	32,71,496	9,61,001	8,13,176	9,52,028	42,77,537	51,19,525	42,23,524
Bengal	99,20,094	48,78,676	74,43,634	42,48,046	32,92,511	34,21,101	1,41,68,140	81,71,187	1,08,64,735
Total	1,32,36,630	91,85,025	1,07,15,130	52,09,047	41,05,687	43,73,129	1,84,45,677	1,32,90,712	1,50,88,259

LAND TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Total Value of Imports from, and **Exports** to, each country in the four months April to July of each year—*continued.*

Name of Country	Imports			Exports			Total		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sikkim—									
Bengal	2,50,018	2,20,547	3,22,949	2,56,406	2,83,967	3,02,063	5,06,424	5,04,514	6,25,012
Bhutan—									
Bengal	5,334	2,359	4,265	5,402	1,553	3,584	10,736	3,912	7,849
Eastern Bengal and Assam	14,960	18,053	11,776	30,904	44,492	10,384	45,864	62,545	22,160
Total	20,294	20,412	16,041	36,306	46,045	13,968	56,600	66,457	30,009
Towang—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	1,104	52	89	...	...	425	1,104	52	514
Naga and Mishmi Hills—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	40,095	21,850	1,12,302	1,314	1,646	5,418	41,409	23,496	1,17,720
Duffla and Aka Hills—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	4,337	5,324	26,967	...	201	203	4,337	5,525	27,170
Western China—									
Burma	8,00,532	6,61,949	9,34,292	14,46,561	12,80,466	16,16,149	22,47,093	19,42,415	25,50,441
North Siam—									
Burma	7,64,982	12,46,460	8,90,816	9,96,907	12,11,363	9,22,319	17,61,889	24,57,823	18,13,135
South Siam—									
Burma	1,61,925	2,65,561	2,81,916	1,53,738	3,37,234	2,45,044	3,15,663	6,02,795	5,26,960
N. Shan States—									
Burma	27,10,462	36,19,368	43,77,953	24,74,382	23,77,353	24,32,533	51,84,844	59,96,721	68,10,486
S. Shan States—									
Burma	17,66,147	17,42,308	20,90,371	28,86,197	28,08,311	29,98,841	46,52,344	45,50,619	50,89,212
Karennee—									
Burma	5,27,462	7,20,353	7,03,959	4,37,828	7,21,762	4,06,260	9,65,290	14,42,115	11,10,219
GRAND TOTAL	2,48,43,295	2,20,68,230	2,50,06,590	2,49,65,292	2,34,62,528	2,27,96,927	4,98,08,587	4,55,30,758	4,78,03,517
Share of each Province in the total trade—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	16,34,458	17,78,971	22,48,323	22,33,695	21,00,676	23,97,505	38,68,153	38,79,647	46,45,828
North-West Frontier Province	22,37,736	23,00,911	20,58,938	74,88,336	74,94,576	63,84,275	97,26,072	97,95,487	84,43,213
Panjab	10,326	10,759	11,113	1,69,012	1,21,516	1,92,703	1,79,338	1,32,275	2,03,816
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	33,35,277	43,37,567	33,12,809	13,37,483	11,21,474	12,04,927	46,72,760	54,59,041	45,17,736
Bengal	1,08,33,492	53,38,744	79,44,966	53,08,935	38,41,458	39,79,941	1,61,42,427	91,80,202	1,19,24,907
Eastern Bengal and Assam	60,496	45,279	1,51,134	32,218	46,339	16,430	92,714	91,618	1,67,564
Burma	67,31,510	82,55,999	92,79,307	83,95,613	87,36,489	86,21,146	1,51,27,123	1,69,92,488	1,79,00,453
GRAND TOTAL	2,48,43,295	2,20,68,230	2,50,06,590	2,49,65,292	2,34,62,528	2,27,96,927	4,98,08,587	4,55,30,758	4,78,03,517

IMPORTS OF SUGAR.

Imports of Foreign Sugar (excluding Confectionery and Molasses) into British India in the month of September, 1910, and in the six months ending the 30th September, 1910, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous year. The statement shows so far as possible the original sources of all such sugar imported :—

Countries of production of total imports.	Share of each country in the total imports in September 1909.	Share of each country in the total imports in September 1910.	Share in the six months ending the 30th Sept. 1909.	Share in the six months ending the 30th Sept. 1910.	Countries of production of total imports.	Share of each country in the total imports in September 1909.	Share of each country in the total imports in September 1910.	Share in the six months ending the 30th Sept. 1909.	Share in the six months ending the 30th Sept. 1910.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.		Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Russia . .	...	...	22,100	...	China . . .	257	4,456	2,030	109,106
Germany . . .	384	232	49,896	3,518	Japan . . .	36	...	36	...
Holland . . .	119	52	476	492	Egypt . . .	...	...	...	4
Belgium . . .	92	72	1,032	389	Natal . . .	...	...	...	1
France . . .	...	3	107	12	Mauritius . .	130,691	75,630	925,247	1,338,210
Spain . . .	...	...	6	...	West Indies .	32	116	50	247
Austria-Hungary .	1,256	106	513,771	74,370	South America .	51	3	258	134
Straits Settlements .	168	95	1,157	445	Australia .	...	2	7	2
Java . . .	1,616,963	1,957,608	3,771,144	3,801,735	From non-producing countries—Origin unknown . .	..	1	364	229
					TOTAL .	1,750,049	2,038,376	5,287,731	5,328,894

Quantity of Beet and Cane Sugar imported by sea from Foreign countries into each province of British India in the month of September, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of the year 1909 :—

PROVINCES.	Beet Sugar.		Cane Sugar.		TOTAL.	
	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Bengal	167	75	655,176	1,115,694	655,343	1,115,769
Eastern Bengal and Assam . . .	...	...	...	1,721	...	1,721
Bombay	349	202	497,117	547,489	497,466	547,691
Sind	1,099	86	554,528	285,468	555,627	285,554
Madras	73	44	22,150	35,857	22,223	35,901
Burma	163	58	19,227	51,682	19,390	51,740
TOTAL	1,851	465	1,748,198	2,037,911	1,750,049	2,038,376

IMPORTS OF COTTON YARN.

Quantity of Cotton Yarn No. 31 and higher counts. imported by sea from foreign countries into each province of British India in the month of Seeptmber, 1910 :—

	Bengal.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Bombay.	Sind.	Madras.	Burma.	TOTAL.
	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb
Mule and water, Nos. 31 to 40 . .	102,216	...	81,857	5,000	27,500	4,000	220,573
,, ,, ,, 41 to 50 . .	3,000	...	116,782	...	56,530	...	176,312
,, ,, above No. 50 . .	96,562	...	181,835	...	52,585	...	330,982
Orange, red and other colours, Nos. 31 to 40.	178,635	...	72,400	40,943	152,875	44,200	489,053
Orange, red and other colours, Nos. 41 to 50.	...	...	4,000	...	100	27,298	31,398
Orange, red and other colours, above No. 50.	3,760	...	10,003	...	48,943	16,660	79,366
TOTAL .	384,173	...	466,877	45,943	338,533	92,158	1,327,684

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 22nd October, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	60,813
	Bombay	,,	251,011
	Madras	,,	86,305
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	90,000
	Bombay	,,	8,070,702
	Madras	,,	10,890

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	5,713,293
	Bombay	,,	6,096,864
	Karachi	,,	157,696
	Madras	,,	459,379
	Rangoon	,,	340,832

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	899,682
	Bombay	,,	4,687,710
	Karachi	,,	426,212
	Madras	,,	271,730
	Rangoon	,,	508,621

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	1,589,768
	Bombay	,,	7,016,107
	Karachi	,,	724,952
	Madras	,,	678,314
	Rangoon	,,	867,656

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*23,990
	Bombay	,,	8,497
	Karachi	,,	21,840
	Madras	,,	6,682

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	1,951
	Coastwise	,,	6,857
	By rail	,,	32,932
Imports into Karachi by rail		,,	10,898
,, ,, Calcutta by rail and river		,,	*10,142

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*994,341
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	11,219,202
	,, cloth	yds.	21,573,056
	Jute	cwt.	694,673
Exports by sea from Chittagong	Jute	,,	110,198

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from	Bombay	cwt.	40,693

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*9,468
Imports into Bombay	By sea	,,	470
	Coastwise	,,	167
	By rail	,,	10,107
Imports into Karachi		,,	2,175
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	4,437
	Bombay	,,	8,151
	Karachi	,,	...

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*32,477
Imports into Bombay	By sea	,,	...
	Coastwise	,,	12
	By rail	,,	34,095
Imports into Karachi		,,	34,170
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	3,498
	Bombay	,,	85,681
	Karachi	,,	11,970

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*96,832
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	113,661
	Chittagong	,,	2,795
	Bombay	,,	8,933
	Karachi	,,	20,883
	Madras	,,	2
	Rangoon	,,	549,056

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*7,356,940
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	7,145,023
	Chittagong	,,	2,096,530

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta by rail and river		cwt.	*84,536
Imports into Karachi by rail		,,	492,503
Imports into Bombay	By sea	,,	...
	Coastwise	,,	2,517
	By rail	,,	65,165
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	73,753
	Bombay	,,	180,209
	Karachi	,,	336,311

* B. N. Ry. figures not included.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta . . Cwt.	3,374,177	2,391,058	3,240,495	5,202,492	981,140	1,041,501	Not	reported.
Bombay . . ,,	2,554,694	1,479,945	1,797,772	2,787,706	1,271,194	2,310,865	5,318,227	12,807,394
Karachi . . ,,	13,426,900	14,121,401	...	4,893	2,854,552	4,478,753	Not	reported.

12-7-07.

X5m2, N967K N10.9

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 22nd OCTOBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From All other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	9,487	...	9,487
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	157,687	...	157,687

Exports by sea from Burma to	gallons
Bengal	...
E. B. & Assam	634,460
Bombay	...
Sind	...
Madras	...
Indian Ports, Non-Br.	...
Foreign Ports	...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 22nd OCTOBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	49	...	21	9	1	17	97
Germany	...	...	...	20	...	...	20
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	265,648	...	97,466	133,158	23,146	900	520,318
Mauritius	7,781	...	58,475	...	...	...	66,256
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	238	149	52	6,249	6,688
Total refined							593,379
Total unrefined							4,601
Grand Total							597,380

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 21st October: Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 21st October: Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 15th October: Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 15th October: Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	8,545	7 0·8	111,571	7 4·2	8,449	7 1·4	92,010	7 8
Cachar	6,804	6 0·6	86,286	6 1·6	7,619	6 11·4	92,969	5 10·1
Sylhet	5,379	6 1·8	57,733	6 1·9	4,809	5 11·2	58,796	5 9·7
Darjeeling	2,805	9 4·3	52,396	9 4·8	1,493	9 7·1	47,451	9 11·6
Dooars	11,604	6 5·3	118,787	6 7	8,338	6 9·9	114,169	6 10
Terai	1,482	6 3·4	17,387	6 5·2	821	5 11·6	12,924	6 3·4
Chittagong	215	5 11·5	5,141	6 0·9	269	6 0·6	4,599	5 11·5
Chota-Nagpore	...	...	860	7 1·9	133	7 5·8	1,293	6 6·3
Kumaon and Kangra	70	5 11	2,131	6 4·5	208	5 6·7	1,876	5 9·3
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	90	6 2·3
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	88	5 9	88	5 9
Nepal	...	...	397	6 4·4	...	...	338	6 2·8
All other places	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	36,904	6 8·2	452,732	6 11·4	32,227	6 7·8	426,603	6 11·6

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 21,647 packages Dust* sold to 21st October 5*a.* 7·5*p.*
" 1909-10 " 20,633 " " " 15th " 5*a.* 8*p.*

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

No Sale last year on 22nd October.

NEW REFERENCE BOOKS.

ENGINEERING OF TO-DAY.
A Popular Account of the Present State of the Science, with many interesting examples, described in non-technical language. By Thomas W. Corbin. 8×5¼, 364 pp. . . . . 5*s.* net.
Seeley.

THE MODERN MANUFACTURE OF PORTLAND CEMENT.
By P. C. H. West. Volume I. Machinery and Kilns. 9¾×6½, 253 pp. . . . . 12*s.* 6*d.* net.
Crosby Lockwood.

HANDLOOM WEAVING, PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL.
By Luther Hooper. With Line Drawings by the author and Noel Rooke, Also Collotype Illustrations from Ancient and Modern Textiles. (The Artistic Crafts Series of Technical Handbooks. Edited by W. R. Lethaby.) 7½×5, 323 pp. . . . . 6*s.* net.
Hogg.

LEGAL TENDER ESSAYS.
By J. C. Smith. 8¼×5½, 285 pp. . . . 3*s.* 6*d.* net.
Kegan Paul and Co.

(Essays on national economics by an acute monetary reformer, who supports "the Double Standard Money System"; author of "Intertemporary Values," "The Trust and the Gold Trust," "The National Providence," and other books; whose proposed reforms are, speaking generally, along lines of Progressive class co-operation.)

—It appears from the report of the Inspector of **Cocoanut Plantations** of the **Federated Malay States** for 1909 that the area under cocoanuts in the States is estimated at some 123,815 acres, distributed as follows:—Perak, 63,225 acres; Selangor, 25,818 acres; Negri Sembilan, 19,037 acres; Pahang, 15,735 acres. About two-thirds are probably in bearing, and the whole may be valued at 25,000,000 dollars (about £2,917,000). During 1909, 5,118 acres were opened up and planted, the greater part by members of the native community; 1,500 acres, however, were opened up by Europeans. The quantities of copra exported from each of the Federated Malay States during the last three years were as follows:—

	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Perak	32,910	49,016	56,560
Selangor	15,193	22,021	46,826
Negri Sembilan	142	285	781
Pahang	1,081	659	302
Total	49,326	71,981	104,469

A Picul is equal to 133⅓ lbs.

In spite of the efforts of the Department to induce the natives to adopt sound methods of collecting and treating the nuts, there are still many complaints of the inferior quality of the native-made copra. The Inspector considers that, in all the circumstances, the increase in cocoanut cultivation is by no means disappointing, and he is hopeful of a further extension of the industry.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

COMMERCIAL GUIDE (MONTHLY).

		Rate. Rs.	A.
Per annum		100	0
Per half-year		54	0
Per quarter		28	0
For less than 3 months :—			
To Subscribers	per copy	8	0
To Non-Subscribers	"	10	0
Postage for one year :—			
Abroad	per copy	5	0
In India	"	2	8

WEEKLY MANIFEST.

First copy per annum		100	0
" " " half-year		54	0
" " " quarter		28	0
Additional copy per annum		20	0
" " " half-year		12	0
" " " quarter		8	0
For less than 3 months :—			
To Subscribers	per copy	1	0
To Non-Subscribers	"	2	0
Postage for one year :—			
Abroad	per copy	5	0
In India	"	3	8

DAILY LISTS—IMPORTS OR EXPORTS (separately).

One copy of either per annum	65	0
" " " " " half-year	35	0
" " " " " quarter	20	0
For less than 3 months whether to Subscribers or Non-Subscribers, annas 5 per copy		
Postage for one year :—		
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20	0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1 0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6 0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4 12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0 6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

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Reserve Liability of Proprietors £1,200,000

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Bombay Agency, ESPLANADE.
Rangoon Agency, 76, PHAYRE STREET.

H. Harris, Agent.

Sir WM. BURNETT & Co., Ld.

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Interesting Particulars of our manufactures will appear on this space weekly.

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DELICIOUS COFFEE

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For Breakfast & after Dinner.
In making, use less quantity, it being so much stronger than ordinary COFFEE.
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PUBLISHED WEEKLY. REGISTERED.

The Indian Trade Journal.

Issued by the Commercial Intelligence Department, India.

VOL. XIX. No. 240.] CALCUTTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1910. [ANNAS 4.

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Monday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	5 per cent. (Oct. 6).
	Bombay	4 per cent. (Oct. 6).
	Madras	4 per cent. (July 4).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 5/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 5/16
	6 months	1-4 15/32

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 95-15.

Subscribers to this *Journal* should make arrangements in their offices for the regular scrutiny of the **Enquiries Column**, and for following up such enquiries as appear suitable. There is a steady increase in the number of enquiries received from firms of position in other countries who desire to find agents in India and who would naturally prefer to deal with a firm of high standing. But it is a rule in this Department not to suggest the name of any such firm in India unless expressly authorised to do so, the reason being that such selection might appear to give an opening for undue preference. It has been ascertained that the failure to respond to these enquiries is often due to a neglect to arrange for such a regular scrutiny of the Enquiries Column as is here suggested.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 29th October was Rs. 28-2-0 per candy of **656 lbs.**

This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 2nd November was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia Bhawnagar cotton,** October delivery, Rs. 281 per candy of 784 lbs.

The total approximate gross **earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 8th October, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,69,55,304 and Rs. 2,80,02,247 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09, respectively.

The Railway Board have sanctioned **railway surveys** being made by the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway Administration for lines of railways on the 5 feet 6 inches gauge from Rosa station on the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway to Budaon station on the Bareilly-Kasganj extension of the Rohilkhund and Kumaon Railway, a distance of about 50 miles; from Umao station on the Cawnpore branch of the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway to Madhoganj on the Madhoganj branch of the same railway, a distance of about 42 miles; and from Raighat or Atrauli stations on the Aligarh branch of the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway to Kasganj station on the Cawnpore-Achnera section of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, a total distance of about 54 miles. These surveys will be known as the Oudh and Rohilkhund extension. The Railway Board have also sanctioned a survey being made by private agency of a line of railway on the metre gauge from Koregaon, a station on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, *vid* Mahuli, to Satara city, a distance of about 10 miles. These surveys will be known as the Koregaon-Satara City Railway Survey.

Messrs. Neill Brothers are not yet ready to estimate the **American cotton crop**, which is a late one, but their circular, just issued, makes some interesting points. Regarding the movement of the crop they say:—"How little is to be predicated from these early receipts is shown by the fact that up to date the total is 297,000 bales smaller than last season, when the crop was 10,610,000, but 188,000 larger than 1906-07 when the crop was 13,511,000. The decrease compared with last year has occurred in all States but Texas, where alone the crop is early owing to droughty conditions." The ginning returns, too, only serve to suggest the lateness of the crop, and Messrs. Neill point out that an early frost would be more unwelcome than usual this year. They calculate that last year's consumption "cannot have been much less than 12,250,000 bales, and it is with that figure that calculations of the present season's requirements should be compared."

At the request of the Executive of the **Yarn Section** of the **Manchester Chamber of Commerce** it was agreed to circularise all the members of the Chamber likely to be interested urging the early adoption of the policy previously approved by the Chamber of quoting **prices in pence** and decimals of pence, in place of pence and vulgar fractions as heretofore. The Board also confirmed the resolution of the Section that the Board of Trade statistics of cotton imports should henceforth be expressed in pounds instead of hundredweights.

The statement below shows the quantity of **cotton goods calendered** and the proportion thereof to the total production in **Indian mills** in the month of August, 1910, and in the five months from April to August, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of 1909-10:—

	1909-10.		1910-11.	
	August.	Five months, April to August.	August.	Five months, April to August.
BRITISH INDIA—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	10,534,135	47,651,580	13,698,261	54,213,142
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	60·01	57·01	63·54	60·58
NATIVE STATES (excluding Hyderabad)—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	159,356	613,495	185,819	*650,154
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	29·05	22·95	21·98	16·98
TOTAL INDIA (excluding Hyderabad)—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	10,693,491	48,265,075	13,884,080	54,863,296
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	59·07	55·96	61·97	58·79

* Incomplete.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market** dated the 6th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray and Co., Ld., say:—There was again a good enquiry for **Indian yarn** from all the different outports, with the exception of perhaps Tientsin, and sales of 2,185 bales were made from stock at steadily rising prices until an advance of fully one tael per bale was established on the rates ruling a week ago. Nearly all the No. 12's were taken by Tsingtau and Newchwang, the rest of the cargo being absorbed by the River Ports. In addition to the above several large lines were arranged for on a private basis for arrival during the next two months. Clearances were good all through the week.

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales of cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports of the United Kingdom** during the week and 40 weeks ended 6th October, 1910:—

	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
	Week ended 6th Oct., 1910.	40 weeks ended 6th Oct., 1910.	Week ended 6th Oct., 1910.	40 weeks ended 6th Oct., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	53,325	1,328,589	1,318	175,333
Brazilian	—	40,489	—	2,531
East Indian	217	181,941	135	40,459
Egyptian	6,042	181,653	959	51,329
Miscellaneous	3,836*	94,561†	73	6,562
Total	63,420	1,827,233	2,485	276,214

* Including 95 bales British West African, and 239 bales British East African.

† Including 6,149 bales British West Indian, 6,565 bales British West African, 12,113 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

A **new spinning mill** under the name of Broach Industrial Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mill and also a **new spinning and weaving mill** under the name of Vishnu Cotton Mill, have started work at **Broach** and **Sholapur**, respectively.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 8th October, 1910, were as follows:—Wheat, 30*s.* 1*d.*; barley, 24*s.* 7*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 3*d.*

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 11th ultimo:—*United States of America*—Official estimates yield spring wheat confirm very poor crops some sections, but total combined wheat crop only 46,000,000 less than 1909, whilst earlier the deficit was expected to be 100,000,000. Oats and maize big crops, but linseed very poor. Rains caused some delay winter seeding, but done good Pacific North-west, condition of growing crop excellent. Primary receipts much smaller than last year's and visible supply decreasing. *Canada*—Primary receipts well maintained, but quality poorer than 1909. Stocks are increasing. *Argentina*—General rain, crop outlook considered favourable. Linseed area reported increased 5 per cent. *Australia*—Weather and crops favourable. *India*—Rain caused some delay ploughing, but plenty of time yet. *Russia*—New seedings favourable; arrivals keep large, stocks still increasing. *Roumania*—Seeding fair progress, arrivals smaller. Maize harvest good. *Hungary* and *Spain*—Rains wanted for sowing. *Germany*—Seeding reports favourable, supplies moderate. *United Kingdom*—Wheat yield estimated two bushels per acre less 1909. Seeding rains wanted. *France*—Seeding rain wanted; supplies native wheat scanty. *Italy*—Reports of seeding favourable.

Exports of wheat (not including flour) from the **United States** in the year ended June 30th, 1910, amounted to 46,679,876 bushels, compared with 66,293,244 bushels in the preceding year.

In reviewing the **Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies in the Punjab** for the year ending 31st July, 1910, the Lieutenant-Governor of that Province notes with satisfaction the various suggestive instances where small rural societies have embarked on useful schemes never contemplated at their foundation and looks forward to the co-operative movement as one means for securing the erection of farmers' **grain collecting elevators** in the great wheat exporting tracts.

The Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Statistics of the **United States** Department of Agriculture reports as follows on the **condition of the crops** on October 1st:—The condition of **maize** was 80·3, as compared with 78·2 last month, 73·8 on October 1st, 1909, and the average of the previous ten years of 78·3. The preliminary estimate of the yield per acre of **spring wheat** is 11·8 bushels per acre, against 15·9 bushels as estimated on October 1st last year and 13·2 bushels as given on October 1st, 1908. The total yield of spring wheat is estimated at 233,475,000 bushels, and compares with 290,823,000 bushels, the final Government figure of last year. The average quality of spring wheat is 94·1, as compared with 90·5 last year, 88·1 in 1908 and 88 in 1907. The preliminary estimate of the yield per acre of **barley** is 22·4 bushels, as compared with 23·9 bushels last year, 25·1 bushels two years ago, and a ten years' average of 25·7 bushels. The total crop is estimated at 158,138,000 bushels, against 170,284,000 bushels, the final Government figure of last year. The average for quality is 88·1 against 83·5 last year, 89·3 in 1908, and 88·2 in 1907. The average condition of buck-wheat on October 1st was 81·7, compared with 82·3 last month, 79·5 on October 1st, 1909, and 82·3 the average of the last ten years. The following is a synopsis of the preliminary Government estimates of the total yield of leading crops in thousands of bushels, to which

are added the final official estimates for the previous two years :—

	Preliminary estimate.	Final Estimate.	
	1910.	1909.	1908.
Winter wheat .	458,294	446,366	437,908
Spring wheat .	233,475	290,823	226,694
Total wheat .	691,769	737,189	664,602
Oats . .	1,096,396	1,007,353	807,156
Barley . .	158,138	170,284	166,756

On the basis of the Government crop report Mr. Heinzer, the statistician of the New York Produce Exchange, estimates the maize crop at 26·17 bushels per acre, against 25·8 bushels last month, or a total yield of 3,046,016,000 bushels, which compares with the final Government estimate of the crop of 1909 of 2,772,376,000 bushels.

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Writing on October 10th the *Manchester Guardian* says :—During the past week the **copper market** has been very much more active, and has shown an accession of strength, which comes as a surprise in the present condition of commercial affairs. There has been a gain of 20*s.* per ton as between the two Fridays, and standard warrants are now above £56 for the first time since the middle of August. The movement does not appear to have been connected with any distinct revival of buying amongst consumers on this side of the Atlantic although possibly it may induce some of them to reconsider matters and to replenish stocks, which must have run rather low. It was American buying which started the rise, and this led to a little scare amongst those who had sales uncovered. It seems likely that the Americans had some early information as to the figures which were going to be published by the Producers' Association, and which at the end of the week turned out to be more favourable than had been thought probable here. It is of course very difficult to prevent the leakage of information of this kind, and it would perhaps be unfair to blame the Association for it. At the same time the thing is very unsatisfactory from the point of view of operators here. Some information has come to hand regarding the restriction of output in America, and apparently efforts are to be made here and there with this object in the course of the next three months, but there is no definite news yet of any concerted scheme.

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The *Manchester Guardian* has the following interesting notes on the **silver trade** in its issue of the 14th October :—Since March 1st the price of both spot and forward silver in London has risen exactly $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per ounce, and the present quotation of $25\frac{11}{16}d.$ and $25\frac{3}{4}d.$ are not only the highest of this year, but the highest since March, 1908, when silver was quoted $25\frac{13}{16}d.$, having fallen to that point from 27*d.* recorded in January. The extent of the advance since March is thus about $10\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. In part the movement represents a natural recovery from a somewhat low level, for the average price of silver last year was $\frac{1}{2}d.$ above the lowest of this year, and in 1908 and 1907 the average was $24\frac{3}{8}d.$ and $30\frac{3}{16}d.$ respectively. The buying has been mainly for the usual quarters, India and China, but of late principally the latter. Business in India at the end of last month entered upon an active phase owing to the splendid crops there foreshadowed by the good monsoon. Indian bazaar operators have speculated heavily in the metal, partly on the theory that the demand for currency as the result of bumper crops would force the Indian Government once again to buy silver in London, and it is understood that a very large amount of the metal is locked up by Indian speculators. The ability of China to buy is due to the exceptionally good export trade now being enjoyed by that country. The ordinary crops are good, and the development of the soy bean industry increases the trade balance. There is reason to believe, too, that the financial difficulties in Shanghai reported of late, which have been brought about by unwise speculation in rubber shares, have had some effect in stimulating the Chinese demand for silver. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining advances from the banks in China importers are unable to buy goods so freely as usual, thus increasing the excess of exports over imports which is also accentuated by the necessity which many merchants and others are under of exporting as much produce as possible in order to obtain the much-needed currency. Should there be for some reason a considerable increase in imports into China the position would be changed, but it looks as though the present conditions may continue for some time longer.

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The engineering world has so often been informed of the invention of new **aluminium alloys** of great strength and lightness which have soon afterwards passed into oblivion that there was naturally some scepticism when it was announced recently that another such alloy had been invented by a chemist at the works of Vickers, Sons, and Maxim, Barrow. Some tests reported in *Engineering* seem, however, to prove the truth of the claim, at least so far as lightness and strength are concerned. The specific gravity is rather less than one-third that of cast-iron, whilst the tensile strength is equal to that of good mild steel The ductility is fairly good in moderately thick plates, but falls off in thinner sheets. There is also a yield point which in the softer material takes place at about half the maximum stress but rises to nearly the maximum stress in thin sheets. The alloy is said not to be suitable for castings, which is a pity. The atrocious name of "duralumin" has been given to the alloy.

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The series of tables and charts illustrating the variations in **Indian Price Levels** from 1861 to 1904, which was constructed by Mr. J. A. Robertson,

late Director-General of Statistics, and published in August, 1905, has been brought down to the year 1909 and just published with an explanatory note. It is available at the office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, 8, Hastings Street, Calcutta, and is priced 12 annas per copy.

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The latest addition to commercial literature of a reference character is *Dod's Business Who's Who*, which is published by the proprietors of *Dod's Peerage*, Chancery Lane, London. The aim of the book is to furnish a selected list of representative firms supplying articles of general use in England and aboard ; and there is a comprehensive index to trades forming a complete guide to the concise entries in the body of the work. The new Who's Who is printed on good paper in clear type, is strongly and neatly bound, and should prove a useful addition to commercial libraries.

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In his report on the **sugar market** dated London, October 13th, C. Czanikow, says :—The favourable warm autumn weather has continued, and Otto Licht issued the following preliminary estimates in thousand tons :—

	Germany.	Austria.	France.	Belgium.	Holland.	Convention.
1910. .	2,425	1,550	750	250	215	5,190
Tons per hectare	5·10	4·25	3·12	3·57	3·91	...
1909. .	2,013	1,230	792	247	198	4,480
Tons per hectare	4·47	3·90	3·66	3·91	3·58	...
Previous highest	2,394	1,495	1,076	328	214	5,507
	5·16	4·24	4·07	4·69	4·41	...

	Russia.	Sweden.	Denmark.	Italy.	Spain.	Roumania.	Others.	Total.
1910 .	1,675	145	90	140	60	35	15	7,350
1909 .	1,180	126	62	116	100	25	16	6,107
Previous highest	1,449	158	67	165	126	32	...	...

These figures were considered rather moderate, because Germany is mostly estimated at about 2,500,000 tons, Austria about 1,600,000 tons, France nearly as much as last year, and some Russian exporters now expect 95 million poods, 1,560,000 tons white, or 1,750,000 tons raws, of which 77 millions wanted for Home trade, Turkey, Persia, and Finland so that 18 million poods= 300,000 tons white Sugar, against *nil*, would remain for final stocks and for Western Exports. If this were so—and we should not like to put forward these figures as our own—then we need not expect much Russian Sugar in United Kingdom, because at present prices Russia has carried higher stocks than above in previous years. But we must wait for factory estimates about ten days hence.

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The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on October 6th, regarding the **Hull oil market**, says :—The market for **linseed oil** is steady, with spot at 43*s.* 6*d.*, 43*s.* 3*d.* October —December ; 39*s.* 3*d.* January—April. The exports for the week amounted to 125 tons, of which America took 3, Australia 91, India 19, and Norway 12 tons each. **Cotton oil** has remained steady with refined cotton oil at 29*s.* $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ spot ; 29*s.*, November—April. Crude cotton oil, 28*s.* 6*d.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 275 tons, of which America took 205, Belgium 5, Germany 33, Holland 29, and Sweden 3 tons each. **Rape oils :** Jamba and brown East Indian, 26*s.* 3*d.* **Soy oil** 31*s.* **Lard oil** steady ; best English refined 60*s.* per cwt. *ex* store, in barrels. **Olive oil** strong, and values continue to advance, but demand is exceedingly small. **Cocoanut oil** quiet ; English £42 10*s.* to £43 per ton ex mill in barrels. **Castor oil** steady, but continues quiet. Calcutta on spot, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3\frac{9}{16}d.$ per lb., *ex* store ; forward, unchanged. **Palm oil** dull with only moderate inquiry. Lagos spot sold at £36 12*s.* 6*d.*, October—November, softs at £34 15*s.*, Benin at £34, hards at £32 5*s.* ,and Accra at £32 10*s.* **Petroleum** steady, unchanged at $5\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gal. for Russian and 6*d.* to 7*d.* for American. **Turpentine** steady. Spot and October—December 53*s.* 6*d.*, and January—April 54*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

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The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows :—

For the week ending 29th October, 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 3,200 ; 3,175 ; 3,175 ; 3,150 ; 3,150 ; 3,140 ; 3,125.

Benares opium—Rs. 3,175 ; 3,150 ; 3,150 ; 3,125 ; 3,125 ; 3,100 ; 3,100.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 11th sale of 1910 were Rs. 3,203 ; 3,178 ; 3,178 ; 3,153 ; 3,153 ; 3,143 ; 3,128.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange, Rs. $139\frac{1}{4}$ to $141\frac{1}{4}$ per $100).

Behar opium—$2,260 ; 2,260 ; 2,275 ; 2,275 ; 2,250 ; 2,250 ; 2,250.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

At Shanghai—(Exchange, no quotations received).

Behar opium—No quotations received.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

For the week ending 22nd October, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

On the 16th and 17th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,390 to 1,395 ; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,350 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,520 to 3,500 ; on the 18th—22nd instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,385 to 1,390 ; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,350 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,520 to 3,500.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 3,243 and 3,458 ; (old) Rs. 3,312 and 3,534, respectively.

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The **exports of rice from Bangkok** during the second quarter of the present year were 332,313 tons valued at Rs. 2,44,76,154 against 235,161 tons valued at Rs. 1,77,14,422 in the corresponding period of the previous year.

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a disturbance off the North Bombay coast and in the west of the Arabian Sea. The activity of the monsoon was still chiefly confined to the South of the Peninsula, but the disturbed conditions off the South Coromandel Coast were less marked. Rainfall has been nearly general in Upper Burma, Mysore, Malabar and South-East Madras, and fairly general in Bombay Deccan and Madras Deccan. There have also been a few falls in Lower Burma. During the week serious landslips are reported to have taken place on the Nilgiri railway and floods on the East Coast line of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway. A few thunderstorms are reported to have passed over Poona, giving heavy rain.

The Governor General in Council is pleased to direct that the following Rule shall be substituted for Rule 5 of the revised Rules for the **supply of articles for the public service**, which were published with the Resolution in this Department, No. 4941-4988-102, dated the 14th July 1909 :—Rule 5.—**Special purchases in India :**—When serious inconvenience to the public service would be caused by waiting to obtain an article from England through the Director General of Stores, or when, owing to the greater promptitude of supply, an economy can be effected by purchasing in India articles which under the foregoing rules should be obtained through the Store Department, the purchase may be made in India, subject to Rule, provided that the articles are already in India at the time of order; but in such cases, if the value of the articles exceed Rs. 50, the sanctioning officer should place on record the reason which make the local purchase desirable. This record shall be available for the inspection of the Examiner of Accounts or the supervising officer when required.

The continually increasing demand for **wood pulp** for the manufacture of paper and the growing difficulty in maintaining the supply in consequence of the rapid deforestation of the spruce and fir forests of Northern Europe and America has not escaped the attention of the Director of the Forestry Court of the **Allahabad Exhibition** who sees in this a possible opportunity for the utilisation of many forest products at present of little or no commercial value. The circumstances that in Himalayan spruce and silver fir, the United Provinces possess large areas of raw material similar to that from which 75 per cent of the world's paper consumption is now being manufactured, gives the subject an additional and special interest. The Director has accordingly arranged for the erection of a special Cellulose Laboratory and placed it under the charge of a gentleman who has had considerable experience in Europe and India as a cellulose chemist and pulp and paper manufacturer. During the continuance of the Exhibition he will be engaged in the investigation of the pulp-making possibilities of such forest products as are at present of little or no commercial value. Those which survive thistest will then be subjected to the actual pulp-making process in the plant which has been specially imported from England for the purpose, and the results duly exhibited in the Exhibition. It is gratifying to note the interest which this effort of the Director has already excited in paper and pulp circles in England, America and Germany. Several urgent requests for early information as to results obtained having already been received.

The **Chinese tea** growers, in a memorandum submitted recently to the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce, at Pekin, argue that Indian tea owes its present pre-eminent position to widespread advertising, as well as to "its incessant, almost unscrupulous, exposure of the alleged impurity of China teas"; and they urge the Ministry and the high authorities in China to take immediate steps, in conjunction with the merchants, to push China teas, "so that the trade may be recovered and extended."

NOTICES.

INDIAN CROP FORECASTS.

SEASON 1910-11.

Dates of Publication.

THE following are the dates on which the General Memoranda on crops of the season 1910-11 are expected to be (or were) published in the *Indian Trade Journal* :—

RICE—			
First memorandum	October	27,	1910
Second ,,	December	22	,,
Final ,,	February	23,	1911
WHEAT—			
First memorandum	December	29,	1910
Second ,,	March	16,	1911
Final ,,	June	1	,,
COTTON—			
First memorandum	August	18,	1910
Second ,,	October	20	,,
Third ,,	December	15	,,
Final ,,	February	16,	1911
LINSEED, RAPE AND MUSTARD (Spring oilseeds)—			
First memorandum	December	29,	1910
Second ,,	March	16,	1911
Final ,,	June	1	,,
SESAMUM—			
First memorandum	September	1,	1910
Second ,,	October	27	,,
Final ,,	January	19,	1911
Supplementary memorandum	April	27	,,

ENQUIRIES.

(For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.

An asterisk (*) preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.)

Rice Bran.

(782)—A Baroda correspondent desires the addresses of importers of rice bran in Europe.

Indian Lounge Chairs, Mats and Matting.

(783)—A firm in Bulawayo desires to be placed in communication with manufacturers of lounge chairs, furniture, mats and matting.

Card Clothing.

(784)—An Oldham manufacturer of all kinds of card clothing desires to be placed in communication with cotton spinning mills or agents in a position to handle goods of his manufacture.

Lemon Grass Oil.

(785)—A Calcutta correspondent desires the addresses of merchants in India dealing in lemon grass oil.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

THE following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 9th November, 1910 :—

Parliamentary Publications.

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign countries and British Possessions—Including figures received up to 30th September, 1910. Imports—Return showing, for each of the years 1900-1909, the quantity of the Imports of the following, etc., viz :—(1) Pork, Bacon and Hams; (2) Beef and Mutton, etc.; (3) Wheat; and (4) Wheat Flour; and (5) Total of Wheat and Flour expressed in their equivalent in Grain. First Report of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs and Excise. Agricultural Statistics, Ireland, 1910—General Abstracts showing the Acreage under Crops and the Numbers and Descriptions of Live Stock in each county and province, 1909-10. Certificates of Origin—Memorandum showing the Regulations existing in British India, British Self-Governing Dominions, etc., and in Foreign countries, etc.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

Austria-Hungary—Auswartiger Handel des Vertragszolgebiets VIII—August 1910. Canada—Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department—Bulletin No. 212—Packaged Fruit; No. 213—Fertilizers 1910; and No. 214—Maple Syrup; Weekly Report—3rd October, 1910. Mexico—Boletin de Estadistica Fiscal—Numero 350—Abril de 1910. Russie—Commerce Exterieur dela Rusie par la Frontiere d'Europe—1 Janvier—1 Aout 1910. Switzerland—Rapport Annuel 1909. Spain—Resumenes Mensuales de la Estadistica del Commercio Exterior de Espana—Agosto de los anos 1908, 1909 y 1910. United States of America—Forest Service—Cir. 170—Engelmann Spruce in the Rocky Mountains; 163—The Regeneration of the Morgan Horse. Bureau of Animal Industry—Cir. 16—Officials, Organizations, and Educational Institutions connected with the Dairy interests (1910); Bull. No. 39—Index-Catalogue of Medical and Veterinary Zoology—Parts 30 and 31, and Bull 124—Methods and Standards in Bovril Calorimetry. Bureau of Soils—Bull. No 72—Barium in Soils. Bureau of Biological Survey—Cir. No. 74—Directory of Officials and Organizations concerned with the protection of birds and game, 1910. Bureau of Chemistry—Cir. No. 61—How to Kill and Bleed Market Poultry. Bureau of Plant Industry—Agricultural Conditions in Southern New York; No. 67—Seed Sterilization and its effect upon seed inoculation; No. 70—Additional notes on the number and distribution of native legumes in Nebraska and Kansas; No. 172—Grape Investigations in the Vinifera regions of the United States with reference to resistant stocks, direct producers, and Viniferas; No. 182—Ten years' Experience with the Swedish Select Oat; No. 185—Cold Resistance of Alfalfa and some factors influencing it. Forest Service—Bull. No. 82—Protection of Forests from Fire; Cir. No. 181—Consumption of Firewood in the United States. Bureau of Entomology—Bull. No. 80—Papers on Deciduous Fruit Insects and Insecticides—On the nut-feeding habits of the Codling moth; No. 82, Part V—Some Insects Injurious to Truck Crops; No. 85, Part VIII—The Cowpea Curculio. No. 87—Report on the Field Work against the Gipsy Moth and the Brown-Tail Moth; No. 124—The San Jose Scale and its Control. Department of Agriculture—Report No. 92—Progress of the Beet-Sugar Industry in the United States in 1909. Experiment Stations Work—Vol. III, No. 18;—Bull. 227—Calcium, Magnesium, and Phosphorus in Food and Nutrition; Experiment Station Record—Vols. XXII and XXIII—Nos. 3 and 4. Farmers' Bulletin—Feeding Hogs in the South; Game Laws for 1910—No. 418; No. 413—The Care of Milk and its use in the Home. Bureau of Statistics—Bull. 82—Imports of Farm and Forest Products, 1907 and 1909.

Indian Publications.

Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Chittagong for the year 1909-10. Annual Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Lower Provinces of Bengal for the year 1909-1910.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

Correspondence regarding advertisements in the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be addressed to Reuter's Telegram Co., Ld., but all advertisements, blocks, etc., must be approved by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence before insertion.

Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

A full index is published as a quarterly supplement and should be filed for reference.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1910.

COTTON SELECTION.

THE United States Department of Agriculture has recently issued a pamphlet entitled "Cotton Selection on the Farm by the Characters of the Stalks, Leaves and Bolls," which is a subject of importance to India inasmuch as it is a matter of urgency in this country as elsewhere to increase the yield of the cotton fields not only in quantity but more particularly in quality. In his introduction the writer of the pamphlet (Mr. O. F. Cook) points out that the plan of growing in separate fields the cotton that is to be used for seed has several advantages, but one of the most important is often overlooked. It is the education of the farmer himself, so that he can know his variety by its external characters even in the earlier stages of growth. The result of many experiments in the acclimatization and breeding of cotton shows that the work of selection can be made much easier and more effective by giving attention to the external characters of the plants in the field instead of waiting till the crop is ripe and depending on the seed and lint characters alone.

The advantages that have been urged for the separate seed plot are the keeping of the select stock from crossing with the general field planting, the giving of better conditions and care, the better opportunity of individual selection by having the best plants together instead of scattered in the general field, and the easier avoidance of admixture of seed by the separate picking and ginning of the cotton from the seed plot. It is possible to apply to the cotton crop the same methods of roguing that are used to maintain the uniformity of high-grade varieties of garden plants. A cabbage or a beet that shows itself inferior or that departs from the characters of its variety is not kept to grow seed, or even allowed to open its blossoms in the same field with the plants that remain "true to type." The fact that the lint of the cotton seed is the part used, instead of the leaves or the roots, easily explains why so much attention has been given to the characters of the seed and so little to those of other parts of the plant. It is not sufficient to make a seed plot and to plant in it only the seed of good plants. The plants that grow in the seed plot must all be alike if the largest and most uniform crop is to be secured. Uniformity has a direct commercial value in cotton. Experiments indicate that the failure to select the seed commonly diminishes the crop from 10 to 20 per cent below the yield that might otherwise be obtained from the same land and with the same cultivation. One of the best methods of establishing or readjusting standards of selection for a variety of cotton is to begin by a study of the behaviour of the best plants that can be found in the field. If there is doubt about the kind of plant that ought to be considered as representing the variety, it is well to look about for uniform groups of good plants. To see several good plants standing together in a row gives a more definite and useful impression of a standard that can be used in that particular field than can be secured by the study of scattered individuals. The work of selection is largely a matter of comparing a plant with its neighbours in the same field instead of with any arbitrary standard brought in from outside. Young plants of a well-selected, uniform variety growing under the same conditions follow very closely the same course of development. They have the same kind of leaves, the joints of the stalks are of the same length and the branches develop

at about the same rate and at the same height above the ground. A definite difference in any of these features is warrant for suspecting a plant and giving it closer examination. Another useful mark of distinction may be found in the hairs of the leaves or those of the leaf stems and the branches. A difference in the habit of growth or in the length of the joints is very likely to be accompanied by a difference in the amount of hairiness. A study of the characters of small-bolled and other inferior plants that are very common in unselected cotton fields will aid one in training oneself to recognize some degenerate plants in their younger stages. When the necessary skill has been acquired it is almost as easy to see and pull out the inferior plants as it would be to give this treatment to the same number of weeds that might have sprung up in the row. In the great majority of cases it is not necessary to get close to the plant or give it any very detailed examination. Indeed, it is often better to stand at a little distance so as to gain a general impression of a plant in comparison with its neighbours.

In like manner the author of the pamphlet proceeds to give hints as to the best means of selection and draws the following conclusions :—

The full possibilities of improving the cotton crop cannot be realized until the work of selection is carried out on every farm and becomes established as a regular part of the care of the crop. The only adequate alternative is the purchase of selected seed from a careful neighbour who maintains his selection and produces a uniform crop.

One of the most important advantages of the plan of raising cotton for seed in a separate field or plot is that the farmer is likely to give the plants more attention and thus become more familiar with the characteristics of the variety that the plants represent. Such familiarity is necessary in order to qualify the farmer or the breeder to establish and maintain the uniformity of the variety by selection.

Though much of the undesirable diversity of the crop can be ascribed to the mixture of varieties, it is not possible to keep any variety uniform without continued selection. Spontaneous changes to inferior characters occur even in the most uniform varieties, and if such variations are not removed the uniformity of the stock is gradually destroyed.

A farmer who knows his variety well enough can make use of the external characters for the removal of inferior plants early in the season, when this work can be done more easily and efficiently than by waiting for the lint and seed characters at the end of the season.

Attention to the external characters makes it possible to detect degenerate plants, those that will produce small bolls and inferior lint, even before they have begun to flower. The roguing out of such plants early in the season guards the uniformity of the crop by preventing the cross-fertilization of good plants with pollen of inferior individuals.

A farmer should not hope to equip himself for the work of selection merely by reading a description or looking at a picture of a variety. He should begin with a reliable stock of seed of a desirable variety and should familiarize himself with the plants as they grow in the field.

The best method of establishing a standard of selection to be applied to any particular field, seed plant, or progeny row of cotton is to fix upon groups of the most uniform and otherwise desirable plants as representing the variety in that particular place.

The cotton plant is extremely susceptible to influences of soil and climate. Each variety shows a wide range of differences under different conditions, and the proportion of degenerate plants, those that make definite changes away from the characters of the variety, is also influenced by the conditions under which the plants grow.

In addition to larger and better crops, farmers who learn the art of selecting cotton can usually gain an advantage from the sale of seed in their own localities. Seed grown in a uniform field in the same locality is always to be preferred to seed from a distance. Even a uniform stock is likely to show numerous variations when grown for the first time under new conditions.

The breeding of new varieties of cotton is possible for a farmer who learns how to carry on the necessary work of selection, but should be recognized as an entirely different undertaking from the continued selection needed to maintain the uniformity of any existing variety. Only one variety should be admitted into the same field or seed plot.

It is not desirable to increase the number of varieties in any locality unless a new type showing definite superiority can be obtained. Distinct agricultural and commercial advantages would be gained if each cotton-growing community would limit itself to a single variety.

The popular idea that persistent selection will bring about a contiuued improvement in a pure-bred variety is now questioned in the scientific world, but this does not affect the agricultural importance of selection as a means of preserving the uniformity and productiveness of varieties.

The entire pamphlet should be read by those interested in cotton selection.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

The *Board of Trade Journal*, published on the 13th ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about :

Finland.—Proposed Increase of the Duties on Leather and Leather Wares.

United Kingdom-Honduras.—Commercial Arrangement.

Dominion of Canada.—Customs Treatment of Textiles dyed in the United States on re-entry into Canada. Customs Decision respecting Artificial Silk.

Commonwealth of Australia.—Motor Cars : Value for Duty. Commerce Decision respecting marking on Cards.

Dominion of New Zealand.—Free Importation of certain infants' and invalids' foods.

Egypt.—Revised Valuation Tariff for Raw Silks.

Norway.—Stamp tax on Playing Cards.

Germany.—Duty on Port and Madeira Wines shipped from the United Kingdom.

Belgium.—Conversion of certain *ad valorem* into Specific Duties. Regulations as to Importation of Horses for Human Consumption.

Belgium-Honduras.—Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the two Countries.

France.—Application of the "Minimum" Tariff to Mineral Oils from the Dutch East Indies. Exhibits for the Forthcoming International Aerial Locomotion Exhibition at Paris.

United States of America (Philippine Islands). —Customs Classification of Silk Ribbons.

Mexico.—Temporary Free Admission of Maize into Yucatan.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, Nov. 1st.

The following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending **31st ultimo :—**

The weather is seasonable. There has been slight and scattered rain in parts of the Dacca division and on and near the hills.

Plucking of tea and ploughing for and sowing of mustard and other *rabi* crops are progressing.

Prospects of tea and sugarcane are fair ; and of cotton, winter rice and other standing crops good.

The average price of common rice has risen by 2 per cent.

Cattle disease is reported in Kamrup, Darrang, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Lakhimpore and the Garo Hills.

LEATHER INDUSTRIES REPORT.

General Conditions.

The Report on Leather Industries of the Bombay Presidency, which has been drawn up by Mr. A. Guthrie under a Government Resolution passed on 7th January of this year, was issued on October 27th.

In Chapters VII and VIII of his Report Mr. Guthrie discusses the extent to which the trades of tanning and leather manufacture are carried on throughout the Presidency the class of goods produced and the condition of the workers. Every Division shares in the industries ; the demand for indigenous goods is fairly met at a cheap rate and while the port of tanned skins and hides has greatly fallen off, especially in skins formerly used for bookbinding, this has to some extent been met by the growth of the demand for cheap goods of European pattern which, however, are supplied by a different class of tanner. There is no uniformity in the condition of the workers who are reported to be, as a body, addicted to alcoholic liquor. Where, however, co-operative Credit Societies have been established, there is a marked improvement in the general condition of the tanners. This is one of the most hopeful lines of State activity and the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies should be requested to promote the formation of such societies wherever the conditions are favourable. As noted below, the development of these societies is intimately connected with the supply of raw skins and hides to local tanners.

As pointed out by Mr. Guthrie little can be done to organize the supply of raw hides and skins. The number available from slaughterhouses near large centres is comparatively small, while the other sources of supply was widely scattered and each in itself only an insignificant quantity. There is evidence to show that in many places the local tanners are finding it difficult to compete with agents who buy on a large scale, and who, by paying advances to the classes who collect the skins of dead animals, are able to command the market. The experience of the Co-operative Credit Society established at Panvel shows, however, that the competition can be met by organization among the local tanners themselves. Owing to the increasing demand from America, which has been fostered by the recent abolition of the import duty on raw hides and skins, there is reason to believe that this competition is not likely to relax. In these circumstances, the organization of the local tanners becomes a matter of importance in order to preserve a substantial share in the supply of raw material for local manufacture, and the establishment of Co-operative Credit Societies is the best means of attaining this end.

Tanning Materials.

In Chapter IV of his report Mr. Guthrie discusses at length the various tanning materials available in this Presidency and indicates several promising lines for further action. It appears that there are several substances available, of which very little

profitable use is made in this country and which, if properly treated, could be manufactured into extracts that would find a ready sale abroad [see *Indian Trade Journal* of January, 13th 1910, page 32]. Owing to the expense and difficulty of transport, tanners in this country are restricted to the use of the raw tanning material that lies nearest at hand. Those who work on a large scale would find profitable use for such extracts, if made available in an easily transportable form and at a cheap rate, while small men, more especially those who are now endeavouring to meet the gradually increasing demand for cheap goods of European pattern, would also be assisted by a supply of cheap tanning extracts of various kinds. It is probable the supply of a cheap tanning material of this kind would encourage the formation of small factories to supply this demand.

This branch of the subject is also worthy of attention in connection with the export of tanned leather which has fallen off greatly in recent years. For instance, the trade in bookbinding leather, which was of considerable importance, has decayed owing to the unsuitable material used at the tannages. Mr. Guthrie points out that there are other materials available, the use of which would assist in recovering this trade.

Capital Required.

Government will consider further what action on their part is desirable with the view of promoting an industry in the extraction of tanning essences, either by the engagement of an expert chemist or otherwise. Meanwhile the Governor in Council desires to invite the attention of capitalists in this country to what on the evidence now available appears to be a profitable industry. Mr. Guthrie recommends that experiments should be made with the view of the introduction of exotic tanning materials of proved commercial value. This branch of the subject will be investigated by the Forest Department. Except in so far as a more varied supply of tanning material is concerned—a subject that has just been dealt with—the report shows that little can be done to improve the methods or the products of the local tanners in this Presidency. Their methods are the result of the traditional experience of centuries and are nicely adapted to the markets that they supply.

Mr. Guthrie alludes to the introduction of chrome tanned leather, more especially for irrigation well buckets and the like. He mentions several objections to its use, and even in Madras, where every endeavour has been made to popularize the use of this material it does not appear that any great measure of success has been attained. At present the Governor in Council is not disposed to enter upon costly experiments either for the introduction of the chrome process or for promoting use of leather, prepared in this way. The whole subject has been thoroughly investigated by the Government of Madras, and the results attained are widely known. It is now for the industrial classes of the country to make profitable use of the knowledge thus made available. His Excellency in Council will, however, be prepared to give careful consideration to any practical suggestions on this subject that may be brought before him.

Establishment of a School.

In a separate report Mr. Guthrie deals with the question of establishment of a school connected with the leather industry. The Governor in Council agrees with him that in present conditions there is not much scope for such an institution. It is suggested that a simple text-book might be prepared for the use in schools attended by the children of leather workers. It is not however probable that the children are assembled anywhere in primary schools in sufficient numbers to make it worthwhile attempting special teaching by means of a text-book.

In several passages in the report allusion is made to the restrictive effect of local sanitary regulations more especially in Bombay and Karachi, and in the case of Karachi the incidence of the octroi duty on raw hides and skins is said to fall unfairly on the local tanners and leather manufacturers. His Excellency in Council fully recognizes that the public health is a matter of paramount importance and no relaxation of sanitary regulations could be approved that tended to endanger it. At the same time he trusts that the well-being of the local tanners will receive due consideration. For instance it should not be impossible to so arrange that local tanners may have a permanent location so as to encourage the investment of capital in substantial structures. The Commissioner in Sind should be requested to invite the attention of the Karachi Municipality to the facts now reported in connection with the incidence of the octroi duty on raw hides and skins, and to report whether any remedial measures are feasible.

After dealing with the various aspects of the subject both from a general and from a specifically local stand-point, Mr. Guthrie makes the following recommendations :—

I—That an investigation of indigenous tanning materials be made, with the object of discovering if possible any materials more suitable than those used at present for tanning skins for export, specially with the idea of preparing a leather suitable for book-binding.

II—That a thorough investigation of the indigenous tanning materials be undertaken to discover if any are suitable for export either in their natural condition or as extract.

III—That experiments be made in the growth of exotic tanning materials of proved commercial value, such as valonia, Sicilian sumach, or quebracho. The first of these materials if available in India would be of great use in helping Indian tanners to produce a first class sole leather, whilst the others have each their peculiar value.

IV—Local authorities be recommended to frame their bye-laws in such a manner, as, while causing the minimum of inconvenience to tanners, would at the same time afford them something in the way of substantial security as regards occupancy of the premises necessary for their business, without endangering the health and welfare of the locality.

V—That the Karachi Municipality be asked to re-arrange their octroi on hides and skins and to so arrange it that the tanners are taxed no more than the exporters of raw goods.

VI—That wherever possible the local leather workers be helped by the formation of Co-operative Credit Societies.

VII—That in schools, where there are large numbers of children of the leather working classes, the elementary principles of the cure of skins and the manufacture of leather be taught, and that for this purpose a small text-book be prepared and translated into the vernaculars.

TRADE OF THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

The total volume of the trade of the States in 1909 including bullion and specie, was $122,468,036, being an advance of $4,705,620 as compared with the previous year. Excluding bullion and specie, the total value of the imports and exports was $119,598,553, equivalent at 2*s.* 4*d.* to the dollar to £13,953,164, an increase of 5·12 per cent. Of this total imports are represented by $44,215,824 and exports by $75,382,729. The following table shows the distribution of the trade in four States :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	$	$	$
Perak . .	19,942,952	36,597,993	56,540,945
Selangor . .	19,893,057	29,631,902	49,524,959
Negri Sembilan .	4,494,368	6,213,385	10,707,753
Pahang . .	1,864,221	3,380,158	5,694,379
Total .	46,194,598	76,273,438	122,468,036

All the States showed a marked increase in exports, with, except in the case of Negri Sembilan, a decrease in imports.

The total value of the imports, exclusive of bullion and specie, was $44,215,824, a decrease of $3,955,419 (=8·21 per cent), almost all of which occurred in Perak and Selangor. In class A the principal decreases appear under live stock $272,000, rice $909,000, and opium, 1,046 chests, in value $763,000. Increases occur under provisions (fresh and preserved) $159,000, arrack and samsoo $104,000, spirits $127,000. The increase of the latter in Selangor and Negri Sembilan was probably due to the knowledge that with the new year the import duty would be raised. In raw materials there was a slight increase, the main factors being coal $160,000, and oils of various kinds $168,000. Manufactured articles were imported to the value of $10,889,451, being a decline from the value in 1908 of $2,303,795. Textiles to the value of $3,540,330 were imported, the principal increases being apparel, hosiery and millinery $92,000, cotton piece goods $179,000. Ironware showed a slight increase of $28,000, but there are to be noted decreases in steel $165,000, tools and implements $34,000, motor cars and cycles $197,000, machinery $1,506,000, carriages and materials $330,000 ; railway materials declined by $,283,000, and telegraph and telephone materials by $73,000. The value of specie and bullion imported was $1,978,774 : in 1908 the value was $3,172,349.

The total value of the export trade was $75,382,729 exclusive of bullion and specie : this is an increase of $9,779,642 over 1908, equivalent to 14·91 per cent. Articles in Class A—Live Animals, Foods, Drinks and Narcotics—rose from $3,072,993 in 1908 to $3,394,496. Paddy was exported to the extent of 193,092 pikuls, valued at $387,062, almost entirely from Perak. The exports of tapioca were 226,663 pikuls, valued at $638,156, an increase in quantity but a decrease in value—those of pepper were 10,993 pikuls, valued at $129,863. The export of sugar confined practically to Perak, was 213,161 pikuls, with a value of $848,770, being an increase in quantity of 23,281 pikuls, and in value of $109,469 as compared with 1908. There was a very large increase in the export of rice, the value being $480,951 as compared with $20,138 in the preceding year. This is almost entirely due to Perak trade, where the export rose from 2,992 pikuls, valued at $13,086, in 1908, to 127,638 pikuls, with a value of $471,960. The declared value of tin and tin-ore exported was $54,894,224, a decrease of $952,016 as compared with the total for 1908 : this includes re-exports valued at $31,394.

The quantity and value of cultivated rubber exported give the wonderful increase of 92·31 per cent and 217·15 per cent respectively, the figures being 6,087,815 lbs., valued at $14,455,982, as compared with 3,165,600 lbs. with a value of $4,558,026, in the preceding year : the value of this export in 1905 was $529,126. About two-thirds of the rubber exports comes from, or passes through, Selangor, 53,103 lbs. of the rubber produced in Perak and 609,840 lbs. of that produced in Negri Sembilan being exported *viâ* Port Swettenham.

Copra increased to 104,469 pikuls, valued at $726,884. Gold bullion was exported, chiefly from Pahang, to the value of $516,222. About the same percentage of the import trade passed through the ports of the Colony as in 1908, but there was some diversion of the export trade, the percentage of direct exports to the United Kingdom rising from 1·4 in 1908 to 10 in 1909.

MANITOBA GRAIN ELEVATORS ACT.

This Act, which was assented to on March 16th, 1910, and published as a Supplement to the *Manitoba Gazette* of 2nd August, 1910, is reproduced as being of interest to grain merchants in this country :—

1. This Act may be cited as "The Manitoba Grain Elevators Act."

2. The Government of Manitoba shall have power to purchase, lease, construct, maintain and operate grain elevators at any place or places in the Province.

3. The price to be paid by the said Government for any property so purchased may be fixed by agreement between the owners and the commissioners hereinafter referred to ; but, if it be not so fixed, it may be determined in the manner and by the proceedings provided by "The Manitoba Expropriation Act," and the said commissioners shall employ valuators to report to them from time to time what would be the reasonable and fair valuation of any such property.

4. In any proceedings under section 3 hereof, for the purpose of determining the said price, the same shall be fixed at the actual value of the said property, having regard to what the same would cost if newly constructed, making due allowance for deterioration and wear and tear and all other proper allowances, but not allowing anything for franchise, good-will or prospective profits.

5. At any time within three months after the said price has been fixed or determined as aforesaid, the said Government may by notice in writing to the said person or corporation withdraw from the said purchase, first paying to the said person or corporation all costs of proceedings under section 3 hereof.

6. After the expiry of the said three months without such withdrawal the said purchase at the price so fixed or determined shall be deemed to be a contract binding upon both parties, and may be enforced by either party as such ; and upon payment of tender to the said persons or corporation of the said price by the said Government the said property so purchased shall become vested in His Majesty in the right of the Province of the Manitoba, and the said Government may forthwith enter into possession of the same.

The said Government shall have power to sell any of the said grain elevators and property at any time, also to lease the same, or any part thereof, to any municipality in the Province, upon such terms as may be fixed upon by order of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council and mutually agreed upon between the parties.

Every grain elevator so purchased, leased, constructed or otherwise acquired by the said Government under this Act shall be deemed a public work within the meaning of "The Manitoba Expropriation Act" and "The Manitoba Public Works Act."

The said Government shall have power from time to time to issue debentures or stock of the Province of Manitoba, in sums not exceeding one thousand dollars, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding four per cent. per annum half yearly, and payable at any time not exceeding forty years from date, for the purpose of raising funds required for the purposes of this Act, and such debentures or stock may be made payable at any place in the Dominion of Canada or in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or in the United States of America, and either in sterling money or Canadian Currency, and they shall have coupons attached for the payment of the interest half yearly, and such debentures shall be sealed with the great seal of the Province of Manitoba, and shall also be signed by the Provincial Treasurer, but his signature on the coupons may be lithographed.

The said Government shall have power from time to time to make such provisions and regulations as may be deemed by it advisable or necessary respecting the maintenance and operation of such elevators, the keeping of accounts, the application of funds and other matters of financial or administrative detail involved in the carrying out of the purposes of this Act.

The said Government shall have power to appoint commissioners, not exceeding three, for the purposes of this Act and may fix the salaries to be paid to such commissioners. The said commissioners when appointed shall have sole charge of the employment and dismissal of all employees or operators employed in connection with said elevators and shall have sole charge of the acquisition, construction, operation and maintenance of all said Manitoba grain elevators and property connected therewith and shall only be removable from their respective offices by order of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council made for cause, and the said Government may, upon the death of the said commissioners or any of them respectively or their resignation or removal from office, and from time to time thereafter, appoint other persons to fill their places, who shall be removable from their respective offices in the same way as the first commissioners so appointed.

(a) The said commissioners shall have full power from time to time to make such provisions and regulations as may be deemed by them advisable or necessary respecting the keeping of accounts, application of funds, control of employees, and other matters involved in carrying out the purposes for which they are appointed, the said rules and regulations to be subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

Before any commissioner enters upon the execution of his duties as commissioner he shall take and subscribe an oath in the following form :—

I.....swear that I will truly, faithfully and impartially and to the best of my skill and understanding discharge and execute the duties and powers vested in me as one of the elevator commissioners of Manitoba. So help me God.

Which oath shall be administered by a Judge of the Court of Appeal or a Judge of the Court of King's Bench for the Province of Manitoba, and shall be filed of record in the office of the Provincial Secretary.

13. (1) No member of the Legislative Assembly shall be appointed on such commission or hold or be appointed to any office of emolument under the commissioners, or shall be a party to or concerned or interested in any contract or agreement with the commissioners for any purpose whatsoever whereby he may receive any payment of money, advantage or profit from the commissioners.

(2) Any member of the Legislative Assembly who accepts any such office or is a party to, or concerned or interested in any such agreement or contract as aforesaid, shall incur the disqualifications and be subject to the penalties prescribed by sections 12, 13, and 14 of "The Legislative Assembly Act."

14. The commissioners shall by by-law frame a scale of tolls and rates of charges, with power to amend and revise the same from time to time, for the storage or warehousing of grain and other merchandise in elevators operated by the commissioners, and said tolls, rates or charges shall be as low and reasonable as possible consistent with making due provision for defraying and meeting the expenditure and requirements referred to in this Act, but in no case shall the said charges exceed the charges fixed by "The Manitoba Grain Act."

15. The commissioners shall not afford or give any preference or advantage in tolls, rates or charges or in any respect whatsoever to any person, company, firm or corporation, nor shall they subject any person, company, firm or corporation to any detriment, discrimination or disadvantage in tolls, rates or charges or in any respect whatsoever.

16. The commissioners shall afford all reasonable proper and equal facilities for the storage of grain in elevators operated by them and for the receiving, forwarding and delivery of grain stored in such elevators

17. The commissioners may store in elevators operated by them all grain offered for that purpose and may demand and receive such tolls, rates or charges for the same as they shall fix by such by-law or by-laws. All such tolls, rates or charges shall at all times be charged equally to all persons, and after the same rate in respect of such grain, and no reduction or advance in any such tolls, rates or charges shall be made either directly or indirectly in favour of or against any persons, company, firm or corporation using said elevators.

18. It shall be the duty of the commissioners to reserve space in elevators operated by them sufficient for the storage of grain that may be offered for sale on street, and the commissioners may lease all or any of such space upon such terms as to the commissioners shall seem reasonable to any person or persons desiring to purchase such grain. Save as modified by such lease, such lessees shall possess the same rights and be subject to the same regulations as shall belong to or govern an individual shipper.

19. (1) It shall be the duty of the operator in charge of each elevator operated by the commissioners to obtain from each wagon or sleigh load of grain before it has been binned, a sample thereof not less than one pound in weight for each fifty bushels or part of fifty bushels in such load; to place and secure under seal such sample in a suitable receptacle marked for indentification, which shall be retained in the elevator for a period not less than three weeks, and to forward under seal another identified sample of the said grain, not less than three pounds in weight, when requested so to do by the owner of the grain, to the office of the commissioners, where it shall be shown by the commissioners to prospective purchasers. Where a purchaser buys in quantities no less than carload units upon the basis of such sample, the commissioners shall deliver on track to his order the grain represented thereby. It shall be the duty of the commissioners to provide a room suitable for the purpose in which to exhibit said samples.

(2) The operator of an elevator operated by the commissioners shall keep accurate record of the amount and kind of grain loaded into cars from such elevators, on forms and in the manner prescribed by the commissioners.

(3) The commissioners may forward grain stored in elevators operated by them to terminal elevators to be binned with grain of the same grades, and the owner of grain in any elevator operated by the commissioners may have the same forwarded for grading by the Dominion grain inspector.

20. It shall be the duty of the commissioners wherever practicable to equip elevators operated by them with machinery for cleaning grain, and all grain shall be cleaned and binned under the direction of the owner.

21. Neither the said Government nor the said commissioners shall take any steps towards purchasing or leasing or constructing any grain elevators under this Act unless and until a petition asking for the same, signed by at least sixty per cent of the grain growers contributory to such proposed elevator, is received, which petition shall be in the following form or to the like effect:—

To the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council of the Province of Manitoba:

The undersigned grain growers, operating farms in the vicinity of.....hereby request that the Government of the Province of Manitoba purchase or lease from..... .....the elevator situated at..... .....owned by ..... and all property used in connection therewith (*or* erect a new grain elevator at .....) under the powers conferred by "The Manitoba Grain Elevators Act," and in case of elevators to be constructed we pledge ourselves to patronize such elevator so long as sufficient accommodation is provided by Government grain elevator maintained and operated there.

Dated this .....day of..... 191...

Signed by the undersigned respectively in the presence of.....

.....

Neither the Government nor the said commissioners shall act upon any such petition until they have satisfied themselves that the same has been duly signed and executed by the necessary proportion of all grain growers that would or might be contributory to any such proposed elevator when purchased, leased or constructed.

22. In this Act the words "the Government of Manitoba" or "the said Government" shall mean "His Majesty in the right of the Province of Manitoba," and the powers thereby conferred upon the said Government shall be from time to time exercised by the Lieutenant-Governor by order-in-council, and may from time to time be delegated by order-in-council, in whole or in part; and subject to such limitations, restrictions or regulations as such order or orders, or any subsequent order or orders-in-council, may provide, to the minister Public Works or to the said commissioners when commissioners have been appointed under the provisions of section 11 hereof.

23. The provisions of this Act shall have force and effect only in so far as and in relation to matters in respect of which the Legislature of Manitoba has authority to enact the same.

24. This Act shall come into force on the day it is assented to.

NEW INVENTIONS.

APPLICATIONS in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 24th October 1910:—F. H. Vick, assistant superintendent, Public Works Department, Roorkee—Improvements for automatically working falling and rising gates or shutters for overflow weirs of storage reservoirs. S. A. S. Bunting, Public Works Department, Newabgunj, Cawnpore—An improved central hollow hydraulic jack for withdrawing boring casing tubes or piles from the ground. William Simons & Co., Ld., engineers and ship-builders, W. Brown and W. Brown, directors, of the said company, all of the London Works, Renfrew, Scotland—Improvements in or relating to dredging vessels. K. Mikimoto, Merchant, 3 Shichome, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan—Improvements in the process of depositing mother-of-pearls in oysters. E. Tyer, electrical engineer, Ashwin Street, Dalston, London—Improvements in apparatus for controlling the traffic on single line railways. E. H. Archer, merchant, 20 East Cheap, London—Improved method of and apparatus for constructing chests or boxes. A. U. Alcock, Electrical Engineer, 285 Murray Street, Perth, Western Australia—Improved electric process for drying timber. F. A. Alcock—Manufacturer, 155, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, Australia—Improvements in and relating to the cushion of billiard tables. Leeds Forge Co. Ld., engineers, and R. G. Sharp, works manager, both of the Leeds Forge, Leeds, England—Improvements in railway and like wagons. J. Stone & Co., Ld., engineers, of Deptford, England, and A. H. Darker, engineer in the employ of the said company—Improvements in and connected with apparatus for the electric lighting, heating, cooling and ventilating of railway carriages and other vehicles. W. N. Dennison, mechanic, 12, Welwood Avenue, Merchantville, Camden, New Jersey, United States—Improvements in and relating to talking machines. J. C. English, mechanician, Front and Cooper Streets, Camden, New Jersey, United States—Improvements in and relating to talking machines. G. H. F. Berglund, captain in the Swedish Army, of Stockholm, Sweden—Improvements in automatic couplings for railway and the like vehicles. Felix Gain, chief engineer, La Compagnie Internationale des Wagons—Lits et des Grands Express Europeans, of 40 Rue de l' Arcade, Paris—Improvements in means for ventilating railway and other carriages. C. G. Fletcheer, secretary, Permanent Buildings, Harrison Street, Johannesburg, Transvaal—Improvements relating to golf clubs, cricket and base ball bats tennis racquets, hockey sticks, croquet mallets, and similar sporting requisites. E. R. Johnson, manufacturer, Front and Cooper Streets, Camden, New Jersey, United States—Improvements in and relating to the sound boxes of talking machines. G. Brunton and Sons, engineers, Cochin, and F. A. Cox, engineer, Cochin—Improvements in two-cycle internal combustion engines. A. D. G. Shelly, Major, Royal Engineers (Retired), Yacht, Club Chambers, Bombay—New or improved means or apparatus for keeping tatties, evaporating screens and the like continuously saturated or moist. J. Johannes, 15, Canal East Road, Calcutta—Washing lac. J. Levick, Junior, manufacturer, Metal Spinning Works, Alma Street, Aston, Birmingham, England—Improvements in folding lavatories. G. Castle, surveyor, of Ashwood, Manor Lane, Lee, London—Improvements in fire resisting floor construction, Societe Francaise des Distilleries de L'Indo-Chine, 20, rue Laffitte, Paris, France—The manufacture of rice wines of the sake type and other fermented liquors from cereals. Societie Francaise des Distilleries de L' Indo-Chine, 20, rue Laffitte, Paris, France—The treatment of leguminous matter and of soja (glycine hispida) in particular for the manufacture of sauces, condiments or food products. J. Gearon, senior, gentleman, resident of Chicago, United States—Improvements in railroad cross-ties. W. E. Wort, engineer, of Gresham Iron Works, Letchworth, Herts, England—An improved packing for railway axle-boxes and the like. T. W. A. Hood, salesman, Marion Street, Ashfield, Sydney, and T. R. M. Glenvale, Commercial traveller, King Street, Waverley, Sydney, Australia—Improved construction of neckties, scarfs or bows. E. J. Hume and W. R. Hume, enigneers, both of Adelaide, South Australia—Concrete pipes, columns, blocks and other structural material and method of and means of manufacturing the same.

—At a conference of Chambers of Commerce and representatives of the Colonies in London presided over by Lord Avebury, a resolution was passed that it was desirable to establish a **British Empire trade-mark** for the purpose of distinguishing the products of various parts of the Empire.

COTTON-GROWING IN THE SUDAN.

Lecture by Sir William Mather.

A LECTURE on "Egypt and the Anglo-Egyptian Soudan: Resources and Development, especially in Regard to Cotton" was delivered by Sir William Mather in the Town Hall, Manchester, on October 14th. The lecturer said that there were several experiments being made by the side of small rivers tributary to the Atbara and Blue Nile; but the enterprise of commanding importance was that which was being carried on at Zeidab, in the province of Berber, on the west bank of the Nile, immediately south of its confluence with the Atbara. Of the total area of the concession, which was at present about 12,000 acres, but would be extended in the near future to 40,000 there were now 3,000 acres under cotton, 3,000 under wheat, and over 2,500 under leguminous crops. The syndicate had its own ginning factory, which contained ten gins and a 250-ton baling press, supplied to them by the Cotton-Growing Association of Manchester. The actual area under cotton last year was about 720 acres, the average yield of which was 400 lb. of lint, or about 1,300 lb. of unginned cotton per acre; but there were some large areas, which had been especially well cultivated, which produced as much as 700 lb. of lint per acre. The whole crop was sold at from 6*s.* to 8*s.* more than the price then obtainable for "fully good fair" on the Alexandria market; while the seed fetched £1 per ardeb (266 lb.). At these prices the approximate average return per acre of the crop was:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
400 lb. of lint at £6 per 100 lb. . .	24	0	0
920 lb. of seed at £1 per 266 lb. . .	3	10	0
	£27	10	0

In the improved circumstances the results, confidently anticipated, would be as follows:—An average tenant, cultivating ten acres, should produce a crop of 4,500 lb. of cotton and 9,000 lb. of seed, the cost of ginning and baling, which would be £7, and that of their freight to Alexandria £17, making a total cost of £24. Taking the average net price of cotton at Alexandria last year at 1*s.* per lb., the above crop would realize £225 for cotton and £30 for seed—a total of £225. Adding to the above-named costs of ginning, baling, and freight—which amounted to £24—a sum of £40 for rent (£4 per acre, whereas similar land in Egypt was rented at nearer £12 per acre) and £30 for cultivation and picking, thus bringing the total costs to £94, the difference between the receipts (£255) and the expenditure (£94) was £161, which represented the tenant's profit on the cultivation of his land.

The Principle of Co-operation.

The foundation of success had been proved to be the principle of co-operation between native labour and the proprietors of the estate. The effect on the natives had been to develop self-respect, and it inspires them with the ambition to become tenants of the 30-acre plots, each of which one man with his family was competent to cultivate to the best advantage. It is obvious that an immediate development of cotton-growing on the same lines should be undertaken along the banks of the Nile between Zeidab and Omdurman. The treatment of 1,400 acres in the vicinity of the Zeidab plantation supported an immediate further development of the Zeidab scheme. To supply water by pumping stations at intervals over the whole area of riverain land owned by the natives for a distance of over 160 miles up stream reaching nearly to Omdurman, would result, in a comparatively short time, in bringing under cotton cultivation about 120,000 acres of the best possible land for the purpose. This area, cropped with cotton once in three years and with wheat and green crops in between would give a constant yield of value, and the cotton produced would amount to probably 180,000 kantars, or 26,000 bales per annum.

So far he had only dealt with the fringe of the vast possibilities for cotton-growing in the Sudan. The great plain known as the Gezira, which was enclosed east and west by the converging courses of the Blue and White Niles till they reached their confluence at Khartum and extended 150 miles southwards, formed the great field for cotton cultivation in the Sudan which, on competent authority, would yield 700,000 Egyptian bales per annum of the best cotton. That plain, given sufficient capital for irrigation works and ample labour, would yield as much and as good cotton as the Delta of Egypt. Its area was estimated at between three and four million acres, and, taking the lower figure, it contained about 4,500 square miles. The whole cultivable land of Egypt was only 12,000 square miles, therefore that one plain in the Sudan was one-third as large as the whole of Egypt for agricultural purposes. It was well known that wheat of the first quality could be grown in the Sudan, and as it was the best crop to cultivate alternately with cotton, the Gezira would have two most valuable products to dispose of. The railway and the Port Sudan on the Red Sea afforded already facilities for transport. The future of the Sudan's development depended on cotton. The two countries, Great Britain and Egypt, were equally concerned in the benefits that would be derived from the general development. Great Britain stood in the position of chief responsibility for providing the capital for the same reasons that Egypt stood charged with similar responsibility for the construction of all works for transport and means of internal communication in the country.

If that principle were adopted two courses would present themselves to the British Government. (1) The capital necessary might be raised on the guarantee of the British Government, and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan would be charged with carrying out the scheme of constructing the barrage and Sennar, and laying out the canalization of the Gezira for efficient perennial irrigation, according to the surveys and plans already prepared by the Sudan Government. (2) The alternative course might be that the British Government should authorize the Anglo-Egyptian Government to arrange for British capital to be found by a trustworthy syndicate in London, to carry out all the construction works necessary; to provide subsidiary requirements to give the best cotton and prepare for the market; and to undertake the development of 500,000 acres of cotton-growing land, on such conditions as would confirm the natives in their properties, and give them the full benefits of irrigation on terms to enhance the value of their labour. The land actually owned by the Government would be leased to the syndicate, and the whole area, both of native ownership and leased land, should, on using irrigation water, be assessed for taxation to yield revenue to the Government. Further, the syndicate should give a moiety of their profits to the Government for a term of years to be agreed upon, and ultimately transfer to the Government the whole of the irrigation works and their accessories when the land might become their property, but subject to the supreme control of the Government under conditions arranged.

—In their report on the **Australian wool sales**, dated Melbourne, October 6th, Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort & Co., Ld., say:—The season proper opened in this centre on Monday last, when the buying strength, augmented by several new faces, mustered in full force. Our first sale was held as usual on Wednesday, and we submitted a catalogue of 4,102 bales, of which we disposed of 3,664. The catalogue, as is usual at the earlier auctions, was largely composed of North-western, New South Wales and Riverina Wools, the principal districts represented being the Darling, Hay, and Deniliquin, together with a few smaller clips from the Goulburn Valley and Echuca centres. As far as can be judged from yesterday's offerings, the clip fully confirms previous reports, being thinner, shorter, heavier, and carrying more vegetable matter than its predecessor; and in making comparisons, these features must be borne in mind. As compared with the opening rates of last season, prices yesterday were for the generality of merino wools, 7½ to 10 per cent lower; and in the case of faulty, short, and wasty-conditioned parcels a further depreciation of 5 per cent must be recorded. The complete absence of any American competition at yesterday's auctions accounted for, in a great measure, the marked difference in price between some of the lots marketed yesterday and at the corresponding period of last year. Turning to crossbreds, the position is rather brighter, having due regard to the difference in conditions of growth, and this section of the staple can be quoted at from 7½ to 10 per cent over the opening rates of last season. This advance applies to the wools which do not come within the scope of the American demand, prices for such, as far as can be judged from the small quantity offering, will fall far short of last season's values.

ELECTRIC SMELTING AND REFINING.

AN engineering correspondent contributes the following article to the *Times* Engineering Supplement:—

Metallurgical operations in the electric furnace are conducted in entire freedom from the undesirable results of impurities or deleterious effects of the fuel used. The action takes place in a neutral atmosphere. Phosphorus and sulphur contents are easily handled, and almost absolute control of the chemical composition and temperature is obtained, a condition scarcely realizable in any other furnace. The field of the electric furnace includes both pig iron smelting and steel refining. In the former the question of economy rules, and in the latter is further emphasized by greater chemical purity of product.

For pig iron smelting the electric furnace is more or less in the development stage, but several furnaces are working. There is some difference in results, but this is due to the composition of the ores used. Our home industry is not greatly concerned with electric smelting, although there is a general impression that prices of coal and coke are about to rise, in which case electrical smelting with energy generated from coal will be an accomplished commercial fact. For the moment, however, electrical smelting is a method of commercial value to countries having large ore deposits and ample water power, but only small coal supplies.

There are two methods in vogue, one being a small blast furnace combined with electric heating, and the other furnaces of the Stassano and Heroult refining type. In the latter steel is produced direct from ore, which must be pure, with the proportions of carbon and fluxes carefully adjusted. For impure ores, such as magnetite, etc., the first type is particularly valuable. Such ores, while rich in iron, are generally high in sulphur and free from manganese, though somewhat high in titanium. Actual working results in two widely separated countries will give a fair idea of the applicability of the electric process of smelting.

In Sweden a furnace using three-phase current applied by three water-cooled electrodes in the hearth is employed as an ordinary blast. With a charge of 2 cwt. of magnetite (having 63 per cent. Fe, 1·00 per cent. Ph, and 0·025 S), 17 lb. of slaked lime, and 48 lb. of coke (81 per cent. carbon and 11 per cent. ash, with 7 per cent. water), it gave grey pig iron containing 1·75 per cent. Ph and 0·016 per cent. S. These figures mean a consumption of about 5 cwt. of coke per ton of pig iron smelted. The average cast is 2·4 tons of pig iron per e. h. p. year, with an electrode consumption of 5kg. per ton of pig produced. The cost averages 35*s.* 9*d.* with power at 50*s.* per e. h. p. year. It may be taken for granted that a 2,500-h.p. furnace working ore with over 60 per cent. of iron would produce 3 tons per e. h. p. year. The only troublesome result is the accumulation of carbon in the smelting chamber, which can be

removed only by stopping the gas supply through the tuyeres.

In California, with high-grade ore, from 1,500 to 1,970 kw. hours are required per ton of pig. Besides electrical energy to supply the heat of fusion, 800 lb. of coke are required for the reduction of the ore. Ordinary blast furnaces require 2,000 lb. of coke, and the difference in favour of the electric furnace increases as the quality of the ore decreases. Assuming the heat efficiency for coke at 25 per cent. and 75 per cent. for electricity, then electricity is cheaper than coal when one ton of coal costs twice as much as one electrical h. p. year. In a 25-days' run the furnace produced 14 tons of pig on a consumption of 0·435 kw. years per ton, and later in a 14-days' run it produced 21 tons of pig with a power consumption of 0·250 kw. years per ton. From figures obtained when working a 200-kw. furnace the estimated cost of operating a 1,500-kw. furnace for a daily production of 15 tons of pig iron would work out, inclusive of all charges, at 55*s.* per ton of pig iron. These figures, it will be noted, are higher for America than for Sweden, but nevertheless they compare favourably with "valley" production prices (62*s.*) and give a reasonable margin of profit over the average selling price of 69*s.*

It is not rash to predict that in the near future special steels will be in great demand, especially those containing one or more of the rarer metals and it is especially desirable that British manufacturers should make timely preparation to meet this demand, having definite and stringent specifications at reasonable prices, with sure ability to provide exact composition for repeat orders. The electric refining furnace offers the means of practical supply. The greatest demand will arise when railway authorities have decided on a new main-line rail in place of the existing type, so unsuited chemically and physically for the strains of increased express traffic. The German State Railway officials have recently issued a higher physical specification for electric steel rails, and while asking for a guaranteed life of ten years are exacting a tensile strength of 99,000 lb. per sq. in., against 85,000 lb. for usual basic rails. An electric steel rail rolled in the United Kingdom and containing 0·22 per cent. of phosphorus, when subjected to the Brinell hardness test, 19 mm. ball, 50 tons pressure, gave 3·7 mm. diameter impression; and with a 2,240 lb. drop test falling 25 ft. gave a deflection of 3·56 in., survived a second 25 ft. fall, and broke at a third fall of 37 ft. Some 80 lb. electric steel rails rolled in America deflected 2·5 in. with a 20 ft. drop, 3·5 in. with a 10 ft. drop, 4·2 in. with a 10 ft. drop, and broke at a fourth drop of 10 ft. Both sets of rails were made from steel refined in the electric furnace from hot charges direct from the converter, and the results attained go to show that high-class uniform steel can be made for rails in large quantities to a high specification at reasonable prices.

For the production of high-grade and medium-grade steel castings the electric furnace offers great inducements. In comparing its relative economy with fuel-consuming furnaces it must be borne in mind that a far greater efficiency is obtained from the available heat units in the electric furnace than can be the case with any fuel. Tests made in a furnace of the Rodenhauser type show an electrical efficiency of 97 per cent. This is a *maximum* and not an average, but it is far beyond the 34 per cent of the Bessemer process and the 25 per cent of the open hearth. In comparison with crucible furnaces little need be said except that in the electric furnace there is an absence of the short-lived and expensive crucible. Using ordinary turnings and waste wrought iron costing approximately 67*s.* per ton, an electric furnace, superseding a bank of 32 furnaces of six crucibles each of 75 lb capacity, produced steel castings at less than £9 per ton, saleable at £15 to £20 per ton, superior to crucible steel and having an elongation value of 25 per cent and a breaking strain of 60,000 lb. per sq. in., with a low percentage of phosphorus and sulphur (0·06 per cent and 0·03 per cent). The materials were thus cheaper than those required for crucibles, and it must be added that the consumption of furnace electrodes is considerably less than the cost of crucibles and coke. The high temperature of the cast admits of the manufacture of the most complicated parts in qualities unobtainable from crucible makes. In every works where there is any quantity of iron or steel waste the electric furnace acts in the dual capacity of refuse destructor and high-grade producer, thereby rendering the establishment self-contained and independent of outside foundries. The small converter now used in shipyards, etc., with, or instead of, the open-hearth furnace must in time be superseded by the electric furnace. This latter, being a combination of the small converter and the cupola, produces small quantities of superior quality steel from inferior materials at a relatively cheaper cost than the existing combination, which in order to prevent the "cooling off" of the converter, generally produces quantities in excess of the immediate requirement.

Malleable cast iron is a further product of the electric furnace, and is produced thereby at a much cheaper rate than by existing furnaces which require high fuel charges and special pig iron.

In regard to the manufacture of special steels and ferro-alloys, a 200 h.p. electric furnace can be made to utilize waste material in the production of high-priced tool steels. Steel works never show themselves anxious to supply small orders of homogeneous steel for cutlery, etc., and users would find that the annual saving in making or refining their own steel would be quite out of proportion to the first cost of metalling furnaces. Carbon steels for chisels, blades, and files, extra-hard steels for lathes, nickel, chrome and tungsten, and all alloy steels and case hardened types, can be produced by the electric furnace with advantage in that the absence of air-action permits production of hard-surface varieties without the usual preponderance of silicon and manganese. Shaft, gearing, and spring steels, manufactured by the electric furnace have very high physical and chemical qualities, and ordnance works find its adoption of infinite value in re-melting broken and rejected shells. Instances of the application of the electric furnace for special purposes might be multiplied, but enough has been said to give a fair idea of its commercial and technical claims to a wider use.

The cost of electric power is only a small proportion of the total production cost in an electric furnace, and amounts to 3 per cent, and 8 per cent for hot and cold charges, respectively. The idea that such furnaces are commercially practicable only where power is cheap is totally erroneous. Even with a supply as high as 1 *d.* per unit electric steel represents an economy on older methods of production. But in blast-furnace districts where other power requirements are satisfied by an outside supply, the waste gases offer a practical and economical means of developing the required power. Electric furnaces furnish an excellent lead for power supply companies, and if the furnace operations can be timed so as not to coincide with the peak loads of the supply, prices to suit both parties can easily be arranged. This has been practically effected and proved in America at Niagara, and in various power centres. The cost of the furnace and linings and the consumption of electrodes is not immediately high in any of the better known furnaces. The following are some actual figures :—

Girod furnace, 275 kw., five hours per ton of steel, lining repairs (dolomite or magnesite paste) 6*s.* electrode consumption (40 lb. ordinary retort carbon), 4*s.*, energy consumption, 960 units at ½*d.*, £2

Stassann furnace, 185 kw., four and a half hour, per ton of steel, lining repairs (£20 per lining, 33 charges), 11*s.*, electrode consumption, 2*s.* 6*d.*, energy consumption, 909 units at ½*d.*, £1 18*s.*

Kjellin furnace, 175 kw., lining repairs, 3*s.* 5*d.*, electrode consumption, 5*s.* 7*d.*, energy consumption, 800 units at ⅛*d.* (water power), 7*s.* 10*d.*

Rodenhauser furnace, 350 kw., lining repairs (ten days, 160 tons per lining), 1*s.* 6*d.*, electrode consumption, 10*d.*, energy consumption, 300 units at 1·09*d.* £1 7*s.* While the choice of a furnace must depend on local conditions and requirements, the conditions which must be satisfied by furnaces for practical purposes are :—(*a*) Good thermal efficiency and high power factor with medium output; (*b*) easy handling, regulation, and repairing; (*c*) ability to take either hot or cold charges; (*d*) constant energy consumption and capability to work with three phase supply; (*e*) ability to use low voltage; (*f*) ability to refine basic slag high in sulphur and phosphorus content; (*g*) the possession of a homogeneous bath of molten metal after refining is completed.

When pure materials are used and only smelting is required a plain induction furnace of the Kjellin type will give ideal results. But when impure materials are in the charge such a furnance is impracticable on account of its electrical disadvantages and the difficulties of getting a hot liquid slag, and the best type is a combination of the arc and the pure resistance furnance such as the Gronwall which uses the two-phase current in two vertical electrodes, the neutral being through the bottom lining. In furnaces using a combination of the arc and resistance two electrodes may be located vertically above the charge or the electrodes may be connected to one side of lining only, the molten metal serving as the other pole, and having itself connexion with an electrode immersed in it or with a conductive lining, as in the Keller furnace. In induction furnaces the charge forms the short-circuited secondary winding of a transformer and is heated by the enormous currents induced from the primary windings. The charge occupies a circular chamber, amounting to a conductive ring and secondary windings may be within, above, or below the ring, but in any case so placed as to get the *maximum* inductive effect.

Now that the fundamental principles of developing the heat have been comercially proved, though modifications of the parent types may be brought out from time to time they will not offer meterial differences in construction. It would seem that British steel makers and users are awaiting the perfection of the types abroad, and although this practice has become a fatal habit in so many of our other industries it is to be hoped that electrical smelting and refining will receive early and proper attention on the practical results already recorded.

NEW REFERENCE BOOKS.

THE STUDENTS' CATECHISM ON BOOK-KEEPING, ACCOUNTING, AND BANKING.
By F. Davey, Lecturer in Accountancy, etc., at commercial centres of the L.C.C., with an Appendix containing a graduated course of exercises and examination questions. 8¾ × 5½, xix + 442 pp. . . . . 3*s.* 6*d.*
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A TREATISE ON ORE AND STONE MINING.
By Sir Clement Le Neve Foster, D.Sc., F.R.S. Seventh edition. Revised by S. Herbert Cox. With Frontispiece and 715 illustrations. 8¾ × 6, xxx + 799 pp. . . . . 28*s.* net.
(Charles Griffin and Co, 1910.)

CANE SUGAR PRODUCTION.

Estimate of Principal Cane Crops of the world.

	Crop made.	1909-10.	1908-09.	1907-08.	1906-07.
Chief Countries supplying Europe and America—					
Java	May—Novr.	1,290,000	1,266,000	1,240,000	1,055,000
Réunion	Aug.—Jan.	40,000	37,000	39,000	43,000
United States	Sep.—Jan.	330,000	370,000	352,000	243,000
Peru	Oct.—Feb.	150,000	140,000	160,000	150,000
Brazil	" "	270,000	240,000	220,000	260,000
Demerara	" "	100,000	110,000	100,000	118,000
Surinam and Venezuela	" "	16,000	15,000	15,000	13,000
Hawaii	Dec.—April	480,000	477,000	465,000	393,000
Mexico	" "	150,000	130,000	115,000	119,000
Cuba	Dec.—June	1,800,000	1,514,000	960,000	1,427,000
Porto Rico	Jan.—June	300,000	240,000	190,000	210,000
St Domingo and Hayti	" "	69,000	62,000	50,000	55,000
Trinidad and Tobago	" "	55,000	55,000	48,000	54,000
Barbados	" "	36,000	13,000	30,000	33,000
Jamaica	" "	7,000	5,000	12,000	15,000
Antiqua and St. Kitts	" "	25,000	22,000	20,000	24,000
Other British West Indies	" "	8,000	8,000	8,000	6,000
Martinique	" "	40,000	40,000	39,000	36,000
Guadeloupe	" "	40,000	36,000	35,000	40,000
St. Croix	" "	15,000	14,000	13,000	13,000
Central America	" "	15,000	14,000	15,000	14,000
Total Tons	.....	5,236,000	4,808,000	4,126,000	4,321,000
Countries consuming own productions or exporting chiefly to East—					
Argentina	June—Oct.	130,000	164,000	109,000	117,000
Australia and Fiji	June—Novr.	220,000	235,000	280,000	247,000
British India	Dec.—May	2,150,000	1,900,000	2,050,000	2,223,000
Egypt	Jan.—June	50,000	48,000	60,000	58,000
Formosa	Dec.—June	160,000	125,000	80,000	62,000
Mauritius	Aug.—January	240,000	191,000	170,000	208,000
Natal	" "	63,000	35,000	34,000	21,000
Philippines	Nov.—Mar.	135,000	123,000	137,000	122,000
Total of Cane	.....	8,379,000	7,629,000	7,046,000	7,379,000
Beet—Europe	.....	6,185,000	6,544,000	6,562,000	6,711,000
" —United States	.....	450,000	384,000	440,000	433,000
Total Cane and Beet	.....	15,014,000	14,557,000	14,048,000	14,523,000

—A decision of considerable interest to business man was recently given by Judge Lumbley Smith at the City of London Court, in the case of Nettleton and Morris *v.* Price. The plaintiffs sued the defendant for £10 10*s.* for **non-acceptance of goods** ordered by them. The goods had been ordered by telephone, the arrangement being that half the order was to be delivered at once and the remainder three months later. The plaintiffs accepted the order and confirmed it by letter. When, however, the second half of the goods was delivered the defendant refused to take them, saying that he had already cancelled the balance of the order by telephone. Judge Lumbley Smith, in giving judgment, said that the courts had usually held that if one man of business had stated in a letter to another that he had agreed to do certain things, the other—if he intended to dispute anything—must answer by letter that he did not agree; and in this case the defendant should not have relied upon a telephone message (which might or might not have been recorded), but should have written to the plaintiffs cancelling the order and kept a copy of the letter. He gave judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs. In practice a vast number of business orders are given, accepted, and cancelled by telephone everyday, and a great many of these are never confirmed by letter. In view of the foregoing decision it behoves a careful firm to confirm by letter every order given, accept or cancelled verbally, by telephone or telegraph.

AGRICULTURAL RETURNS OF GREAT BRITAIN, 1910.

Acreage under Crops.

The following preliminary statement for 1910, of acreage under crops in Great Britain, compiled from the Returns collected on 4th June, and showing comparisons with 1909, has been issued by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries :—

	1909.	1910.	Increase.		Decrease.	
Crops.	*Acres.*	Acres.	Acres.	Per Cent.	Acres.	Per Cent.
Total area (excluding water)	*56,214,153*	56,214,153	—	—	—	—
Total acreage under all crops and grass*	*32,183,073*	32,144,095	—	—	38,978	0·1
Arable land	*14,730,668*	14,667,224	—	—	63,444	0·4
Permanent grass *—						
For hay	*4,777,388*	5,004,914	227,526	4·8	—	—
Not for hay	*12,675,017*	12,471,957	—	—	203,060	1·6
Total	*17,452,405*	17,476,871	24,466	0·1	—	—
Wheat	*1,823,498*	1,808,821	—	—	14,677	0·8
Barley	*1,664,386*	1,728,698	64,304	3·9	—	—
Oats	*2,981,877*	3,020,618	38,741	1·3	—	—
Rye	*55,566*	48,255	—	—	7,311	13·2
Beans	*313,864*	270,036	—	—	43,828	14·0
Peas	*183,910*	168,728	—	—	15,182	8·3
Buckwheat	*4,759*	4,997	238	5·0	—	—
Potatoes	*575,461*	539,684	—	—	35,777	6·
Turnips and swedes	*1,555,548*	1,565,166	9,618	0·6	—	—
Mangold	*456,490*	442,779	—	—	13,711	3·0
Cabbage	*66,854*	61,929	—	—	4,925	7·4
Kohl-rabi	*17,734*	14,480	—	—	2,854	16·1
Rape	*87,443*	81,556	—	—	5,887	6·7
Vetches or tares	*136,245*	104,546	—	—	31,699	23·3
Lucerne	*65,327*	58,505	—	—	6,822	10·4
Carrots	*11,226*	10,722	—	—	504	4·5
Onions	*3,823*	4,038	215	5·6	—	—
Flax	*295*	229	—	—	66	22·4
Hops	*32,539*	32,886	347	1·1	—	—
Small fruit	*87,116*	84,299	—	—	2,817	3·2
Clover & rotation grasses —						
For hay	*2,035,773*	2,074,206	38,433	1·9	—	—
Not for hay	*2,178,802*	2,082,211	—	—	96,591	4·4
Total	*4,214,575*	4,156,417	—	—	58,158	1·4
Other crops	*102,991*	105,567	2,576	2·5	—	—
Bare fallow	*289,141*	353,876	64,735	22·4	—	—
Orchards†	*251,336*	250,653	—	—	683	0·3

* Excluding 12,844,226 acres returned as mountain and heath land used for grazing in 1910, and 12,843,272 acres in 1909.

† Any crop or grass grown in orchards is also returned under its proper heading.

TRADE OF PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

THE following summary table has been prepared at the Board of Trade showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to July, 1910, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, *viz.*, the seven months ended July. The corresponding figures for 1909 and 1908 are added for comparison :—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Seven months (January-July).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Seven months (January-July).		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	Not stated.	241,721,000	*242,394,000*	Not stated.	176,817,000	203,559,000
Belgium*	73,259,000	80,480,000	*85,213,000*	55,255,000	57,084,000	*63,453,000*
France	129,366,000	145,177,000	*151,801,000*	113,961,000	127,474,000	*137,283,000*
Spain	21,990,000	21,555,000	*22,229,000*	19,879,000	19,556,000	*21,135,000*
Italy	65,541,000	72,721,000	*71,858,000*	38,877,000	42,029,000	*45,344,000*
Austria-Hungary	*61,436,000*	*63,212,000*	67,304,000	*54,813,000*	*53,188,000*	55,462,000
Egypt	13,756,000	12,080,000	12,595,000	11,965,000	13,117,000	12,100,000
United States	126,851,000	173,018,000	191,165,000	201,308,000	183,700,000	186,554,000
Japan	29,508,000	25,240,000	28,117,000	20,906,000	22,010,000	25,013,000
British India	53,430,000	43,938,000	46,826,000	58,367,000	67,230,000	87,205,000
Canada	33,521,000	39,316,000	50,576,000	24,719,000	24,958,000	28,582,000
British South Africa†	14,870,000	15,317,000	21,158,000	25,811,000	27,587,000	31,341,000
United Kingdom	299,447,600	298,021,000	320,241,000	223,699,000	212,422,000	242,974,000

* Value of *principal* articles only. † Including bullion.

A comparison of the total figures for the eight months ended 31st August is possible for five countries as follows, *viz.* :—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Eight months (January-August).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Eight months (January-August).		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	Not stated.	274,401,000	*274,000,000*	Not stated.	204,335,000	235,334,000
Belgium*	82,856,000	91,839,000	*97,033,000*	62,994,000	66,957,000	*71,903,000*
France	147,608,000	163,381,000	*171,489,000*	130,783,000	145,114,000	*156,916,000*
United States	145,848,000	197,412,000	219,812,000	223,975,000	206,054,000	214,066,000
United Kingdom	335,376,000	339,404,000	364,147,000	254,042,000	244,536,000	281,613,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade are as follow :—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Six months (January-June).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Six months (January-June.)		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia*	38,632,000	38,196,000	48,903,000	39,944,000	55,445,000	61,022,000
Switzerland†	28,667,000	30,307,000	*32,575,000*	20,076,000	20,845,000	22,769,000
Mexico‡	10,076,000	8,555,000	11,045,000	11,736,000	12,461,000	14,067,000
Australia‡	23,845,000	23,236,000	26,709,000	26,808,000	27,827,000	32,679,000

* European, Russo-Finnish and Black Sea Frontiers. † Including bullion. ‡ Including bullion and specie.

NOTE.—The values stated for the *latest* year shown in the foregoing statements are provisional and subject to rectification. In some cases all the values are those declared by importers or exporters, as in the United Kingdom ; in others they are based on an official schedule of values which is subjected to revision after the close of each year, the values used in the current returns being those fixed in the latest completed revision. In general, the values so fixed represent the level of prices in the preceding year. The countries adopting the system of official values annually revised are :—Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, and (for imports) Germany and Switzerland. Exports from Switzerland are returned at declared values; and, since April, 1909, only about one-third of the exports from Germany have been returned at official values, the values of the remainder being declared. *The figures in italics are based, wholly or mainly, on the prices of some earlier year than that under which they are shown.* The values of the exports from Germany for the seven months ended July, 1910, and for the eight months ended August, 1910, are based, in each case, partly on declared values and partly on the prices of the year 1909.

In the case of Russia, Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, *and the United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN SEPTEMBER, 1910.

I.—GENERAL.

THE trade returns for September, 1910, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1909, show increases in the value of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, and in the values of the **Exports** both of the **Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom** and of **Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.**

The value of the **Imports** in September was 51,600,395*l*., an increase of 2,124,120*l*., or 4·3 per cent as compared with September, 1909 ; whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 43,772,370*l*., an increase of 4,507,203*l*.

The **Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom** show an increase of 4,163,237*l*., or 12·7 per cent, as compared with September, 1909 ; whilst there is an increase of 343,966*l*., or 5·3 per cent in the **Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.**

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for September, 1910, as compared with the corresponding month of 1909 and 1908, according to the different categories of merchandise :—

Imports (Value C.I.F.*)—September.

—	MONTH OF SEPTEMBER			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO—					
A. Grain and flour	7,195,097	8,914,320	7,060,330	— 1,853,990	— 134,767
B. Meat, including animals for food	4,296,003	3,987,170	4,167,356	+ 180,186	— 128,647
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	5,574,481	5,055,632	5,451,113	+ 395,481	— 123,368
2. Dutiable	4,768,638	4,203,258	4,523,932	+ 320,674	— 244,706
D. Tobacco	550,577	578,246	425,459	— 152,787	— 125,118
Total, Class I	22,384,796	22,738,626	21,628,190	— 1,110,436	— 756,606
II.—RAW MATERIALS AND ARTICLES MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED—					
A. Coal, coke and manufactured fuel	394	679	2,546	+ 1,867	+ 2,152
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	411,459	448,723	450,036	+ 1,313	+ 38,577
C. Other metallic ores	646,513	588,373	680,286	+ 91,913	+ 33,773
D. Wood and timber	2,911,700	3,179,268	3,589,547	+ 410,279	+ 677,847
E. Cotton	1,310,120	1,331,654	2,917,596	+ 1,585,942	+ 1,607,476
F. Wool	1,596,414	1,288,811	1,619,047	+ 330,836	+ 23,233
G. Other textile materials	709,907	520,949	563,338	+ 42,389	— 146,569
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	2,399,060	2,373,659	2,631,478	+ 257,819	+ 232,418
I. Hides and undressed skins	877,937	1,027,023	1,008,113	— 18,910	+ 130,176
J. Paper-making materials	422,296	346,817	396,138	+ 49,321	— 26,158
K. Miscellaneous	1,940,109	2,709,749	2,784,088	+ 74,339	+ 843,979
Total, Class II	13,225,909	13,815,705	16,642,813	+ 2,827,108	+ 3,416,904
III.—ARTICLES WHOLLY OR MAINLY MANUFACTURED—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	672,897	660,003	754,575	+ 94,572	+ 81,588
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	2,348,724	2,269,513	2,135,170	— 134,343	— 213,554
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	317,451	328,072	431,406	+ 103,334	+ 113,955
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	118,759	100,050	178,960	+ 78,910	+ 60,201
E. Machinery	271,919	290,079	344,648	+ 54,569	+ 72,729
F. Ships (new)	22	172	4,602	+ 4,430	+ 4,580
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	163,216	177,104	187,361	+ 10,257	+ 24,145
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	827,437	873,399	927,330	+ 53,931	+ 99,893
2. Wool	785,853	813,670	731,231	— 82,439	— 54,622
3. Silk	1,028,804	1,171,293	1,062,689	— 108,604	+ 33,885
4. Other materials	452,834	567,612	606,095	+ 38,483	+ 153,261
I. Apparel	424,822	538,877	537,601	— 1,276	+ 112,779
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	809,898	869,545	876,263	+ 6,718	+ 66,365
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	1,002,767	962,333	1,006,819	+ 44,486	+ 4,052
L. Earthenware and glass	308,288	313,770	327,335	+ 13,565	+ 19,047
M. Paper	488,537	437,860	557,391	+ 119,531	+ 68,854
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron) motor cars, cycles, carts, etc.	390,700	384,365	455,704	+ 71,339	+ 65,004
O. Miscellaneous	1,795,646	1,929,611	2,004,326	+ 74,715	+ 208,680
Total, Class III	12,209,664	12,687,328	13,129,506	+ 442,178	+ 920,842
IV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND UNCLASSIFIED (INCLUDING PARCEL POST)	195,286	234,616	199,886	— 34,730	+ 4,600
Total value	48,014,655	49,476,275	51,600,395	+ 2,124,120	+ 3,585,740

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight ; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Exports** of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom for the month of September, 1910, as compared with the corresponding month of 1909 and 1908, and the increase or decrease in each principal category :—

Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom. (Value F.O.B.*)—September.

	Month of September.			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	290,868	298,798	278,194	— 20,604	— 12,674
B. Meat, including animals for food	69,785	68,532	81,396	+ 12,864	+ 11,611
C. Other food and drink	1,545,574	1,796,607	1,951,598	+ 154,991	+ 406,024
D. Tobacco	119,797	139,319	188,817	+ 49,498	+ 69,020
Total, Class I	2,026,024	2,303,256	2,500,005	+ 196,749	+ 473,981
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	3,518,324	3,259,675	3,395,355	+ 135,680	— 122,969
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	22,749	38,142	32,337	— 5,805	+ 9,588
C. Other metallic ores	7,243	4,608	5,300	+ 692	— 1,943
D. Wood and timber	7,058	6,450	10,427	+ 3,977	+ 3,369
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	275,546	447,630	356,911	— 90,719	+ 81,365
G. Other textile materials	13,994	13,299	22,393	+ 9,094	+ 8,399
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	239,831	308,691	443,053	+ 134,362	+ 203,222
I. Hides and undressed skins	116,840	133,961	115,711	— 18,250	— 1,129
J. Paper-making materials	43,070	56,793	59,594	+ 3,201	+ 16,524
K. Miscellaneous	155,324	184,927	220,563	+ 35,636	+ 65,239
Total, Class II	4,399,979	4,453,776	4,661,644	+ 207,868	+ 261,665
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,864,028	3,106,535	3,637,898	+ 531,363	+ 773,870
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	767,217	757,498	942,402	+ 184,904	+ 175,185
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	444,227	468,061	564,870	+ 96,809	+ 120,643
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	145,384	151,800	431,689	+ 279,889	+ 286,305
E. Machinery	2,413,179	2,324,643	2,469,279	+ 144,636	+ 56,100
F. Ships (new)	2,292,443	764,025	522,081	— 241,944	— 1,770,362
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	102,882	123,749	174,098	+ 50,349	+ 71,216
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	7,503,534	7,816,367	8,769,034	+ 592,667	+ 1,265,500
2. Wool	2,040,370	2,643,366	3,164,507	+ 521,141	+ 1,124,137
3. Silk	151,610	188,960	233,101	+ 44,141	+ 81,491
4. Other materials	937,230	1,132,225	1,057,351	— 74,874	+ 120,121
I. Apparel	778,603	946,487	1,198,189	+ 251,702	+ 419,586
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,208,648	1,333,699	1,528,618	+ 194,919	+ 319,970
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	323,736	373,150	397,382	+ 24,232	+ 72,646
L. Earthenware and glass	295,841	310,013	368,538	+ 58,525	+ 72,697
M. Paper	179,531	220,058	257,975	+ 37,917	+ 78,444
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron) motor cars, cycles, carts, etc.	380,297	536,387	594,676	+ 58,289	+ 214,379
O. Miscellaneous	1,877,681	2,274,362	2,699,898	+ 425,536	+ 822,217
Total, Class III	24,707,441	25,471,385	29,011,586	+ 3,540,201	+ 4,304,145
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	487,762	572,607	791,026	+ 218,419	+ 303,264
Total value	31,621,206	32,801,024	36,964,261	+ 4,163,237	+ 5,343,055

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.*—September.

Total value	£ 5,287,814	£ 6,464,143	£ 6,808,109	£ + 343,966	£ + 1,520,295

*The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

IV.—IMPORTS.—TRADE DURING THE NINE MONTHS, JANUARY—SEPTEMBER.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** of foreign and colonial merchandise during the nine months ended September, 1910, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1909 and 1908 :—

Imports (Value C.I.F.*)—Nine Months ended September.

	Nine months ended 30th September			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910, as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	53,310,226	61,752,996	57,085,138	— 4,667,858	+ 3,774,912
B. Meat, including animals for food	36,777,260	36,054,341	36,584,725	+ 530,384	— 192,535
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	50,907,685	49,828,968	53,545,170	+ 3,716,202	+ 2,637,485
2. Dutiable	34,487,590	34,750,946	39,333,397	+ 4,582,451	+ 4,845,807
D. Tobacco	3,696,786	3,647,806	3,098,282	— 549,524	— 598,504
Total, Class I	179,179,547	186,035,057	189,646,712	+ 3,611,655	+ 10,467,165
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	2,716	3,535	25,885	+ 22,350	+ 23,169
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel	3,668,417	3,640,881	4,687,280	+ 1,046,399	+ 1,018,863
C. Other metallic ores	6,786,458	6,176,419	6,683,747	+ 507,328	— 102,711
D. Wood and timber	18,350,464	17,025,268	19,730,511	+ 2,705,243	+ 1,380,047
E. Cotton	35,821,953	35,606,919	33,656,658	— 1,950,261	— 2,165,295
F. Wool	24,081,869	27,198,715	30,052,636	+ 2,853,921	+ 5,970,767
G. Other textile materials	9,669,646	8,391,193	8,659,925	+ 268,732	— 1,009,721
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	21,665,645	23,244,780	29,172,767	+ 5,927,987	+ 7,507,122
I. Hides and undressed skins	6,942,043	8,392,630	9,699,958	+ 1,307,328	+ 2,757,915
J. Paper-making materials	3,370,325	3,125,452	3,434,742	+ 309,290	+ 64,417
K. Miscellaneous	16,354,159	19,777,801	33,462,427	+ 13,684,626	+ 17,108,268
Total, Class II	146,713,695	152,583,593	179,266,536	+ 26,682,943	+ 32,552,841
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	5,550,393	5,860,808	6,508,885	+ 648,077	+ 958,492
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	18,729,324	17,829,305	17,594,163	— 235,142	— 1,135,161
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	2,722,247	2,586,262	3,264,190	+ 677,928	+ 541,943
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	905,283	921,375	1,155,579	+ 234,204	+ 250,296
E. Machinery	3,645,594	3,438,275	3,343,302	— 94,973	— 302,292
F. Ships (new)	17,785	23,576	22,335	— 1,241	+ 4,550
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	1,501,502	1,499,127	1,693,850	+ 194,723	+ 192,348
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	7,246,996	7,416,274	8,295,827	+ 879,553	+ 1,048,831
2. Wool	7,423,289	7,462,649	7,447,642	— 15,007	+ 24,353
3. Silk	9,754,116	9,839,318	10,514,234	+ 674,916	+ 760,118
4. Other materials	4,863,710	5,504,636	6,188,819	+ 684,183	+ 1,325,109
I. Apparel	3,192,372	3,881,311	3,940,551	+ 59,240	+ 748,179
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours	7,597,416	7,756,315	8,343,874	+ 587,559	+ 746,458
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	8,430,841	8,410,964	8,937,999	+ 527,035	+ 507,158
L. Earthenware and glass	2,740,384	2,719,266	2,714,212	— 5,054	— 26,172
M. Paper	4,399,253	4,125,011	4,685,204	+ 560,193	+ 285,951
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron), motor cars, cycles, carts, &c.	3,624,925	3,538,298	4,208,659	+ 670,361	+ 583,734
O. Miscellaneous	15,869,799	16,431,408	17,628,032	+ 1,196,624	+ 1,758,233
Total, Class III	108,215,229	109,244,178	116,487,357	+ 7,243,179	+ 8,272,128
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	1,669,960	1,918,509	1,911,283	— 7,226	+ 241,323
Total value	435,778,431	449,781,337	487,311,888	+ 37,530,551	+ 51,533,457

*The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

V.—EXPORTS.—TRADE DURING THE NINE MONTHS, JANUARY—SEPTEMBER.

The value of the **Exports** of home produce, and of foreign and colonial produce, during the nine months ended September, 1910, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1909 and 1908, is as shown in the following table :—

Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom (Value F.O.B.*)—Nine Months ended September.

—	Nine months ended September			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—	£	£	£	£	£
A. Grain and flour	2,616,179	2,496,922	2,380,512	— 116,410	— 235,667
B. Meat, including animals for food	593,442	563,104	658,744	+ 95,640	+ 65,302
C. Other food and drink	10,994,347	12,111,747	13,783,806	+ 1,672,059	+ 2,792,859
D. Tobacco	1,005,290	1,220,708	1,541,680	+ 320,972	+ 536,390
Total, Class I	15,205,878	16,392,481	18,364,742	+ 1,972,261	+ 3,158,884
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and manufactured fuel	31,450,639	27,520,629	28,167,104	+ 946,475	— 2,982,535
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	298,828	372,553	386,991	+ 14,438	+ 88,163
C. Other metallic ores	62,917	70,940	48,964	— 21,976	— 13,953
D. Wood and timber	78,191	84,827	87,615	+ 2,788	+ 9,424
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	2,144,693	3,247,000	3,132,701	— 114,299	+ 988,008
G. Other textile materials	197,352	152,841	248,335	+ 95,494	+ 50,983
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	2,265,881	2,326,376	3,586,424	+ 1,260,048	+ 1,320,543
I. Hides and undressed skins	1,005,645	1,355,359	1,312,729	— 42,630	+ 307,084
J. Paper-making materials	386,501	473,059	539,618	+ 66,559	+ 153,117
K. Miscellaneous	1,493,408	1,702,456	1,947,873	+ 245,417	+ 454,465
Total, Class II	39,383,455	37,306,040	39,758,354	+ 2,452,314	+ 374,899
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	28,246,022	27,826,523	31,934,994	+ 4,108,471	+ 3,688,972
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	6,551,305	6,248,235	7,626,264	+ 1,378,029	+ 1,074,959
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	4,147,822	3,869,527	4,666,223	+ 796,696	+ 518,401
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	1,339,076	1,585,424	3,034,725	+ 1,449,301	+ 1,695,649
E. Machinery	23,204,786	21,089,186	21,534,517	+ 445,331	— 1,670,269
F. Ships (new)	8,274,358	4,831,561	7,575,061	+ 2,743,500	— 699,297
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	891,868	1,022,959	1,331,533	+ 308,574	+ 439,665
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	74,687,235	69,169,407	77,812,409	+ 8,643,002	+ 3,125,174
2. Wool	22,036,903	23,054,420	28,830,244	+ 5,775,824	+ 6,793,341
3. Silk	1,271,664	1,344,249	1,680,856	+ 336,607	+ 409,192
4. Other materials	7,901,945	9,145,937	9,932,476	+ 786,539	+ 2,030,531
I. Apparel	6,69.,337	7,160,864	9,406,297	+ 2,245,433	+ 2,714,960
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	12,310,915	12,314,652	13,632,688	+ 1,318,036	+ 1,321,773
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	2,783,748	2,988,445	3,434,551	+ 446,106	+ 650,803
L. Earthenware and glass	2,79.,922	2,667,553	3,155,549	+ 487,996	+ 362,627
M. Paper	1,730,769	1,870,235	2,277,352	+ 407,117	+ 546,583
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron), motor cars, cycles, carts, &c.	4,782,572	4,534,298	5,427,510	+ 893,212	+ 644,938
O. Miscellaneous	17,014,069	18,063,554	21,677,074	+ 3,613,520	+ 4,633,005
Total, Class III	226,689,316	218,787,029	254,970,323	+ 36,183,294	+ 28,281,007
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	4,384,373	4,851,764	5,483,625	+ 631,861	+ 1,099,252
Total value	285,663,002	277,337,314	318,577,044	+ 41,239,730	+ 32,914,042

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.*—Nine Months ended September.

Total value	£ 57,714,780	£ 67,377,601	£ 78,441,288	+ 11,063,687	+ 20,726,508

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

SEA-BORNE TRADE OF INDIA.

The following is a summary of the accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India for the month of September, 1910, and for the six months, 1st April to 30th September, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of the years 1908 and 1909 :—

	Month of September			Six months, 1st April to 30th September		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
IMPORTS—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Merchandise, Private—						
Bengal	4,44,50,559	4,68,17,862	5,23,26,802	21,94,14,808	21,91,18,805	23,62,77,204
Eastern Bengal and Assam	5,69,175	2,65,066	3,73,322	34,94,366	30,86,051	22,82,096
Bombay	3,39,40,731	3,56,00,446	4,01,78,385	20,26,22,857	18,32,98,281	21,47,31,032
Sind	88,35,671	1,24,13,795	1,12,88,112	6,13,49,501	5,04,77,500	5,44,33,314
Madras	98,43,444	72,28,050	77,96,579	6,41,58,810	4,57,48,231	4,65,44,518
Burma	1,12,13,974	88,42,297	92,49,880	6,57,63,773	5,06,86,368	5,03,49,040
Total	10,88,53,554	11,11,67,516	12,12,13,080	61,68,04,115	55,24,45,236	60,46,17,204
Ditto, Government Stores	76,97,593	41,71,985	32,86,560	4,00,39,671	3,48,79,713	1,71,88,280
Total Merchandise	11,65,51,147	11,53,39,501	12,44,99,640	65,68,43,786	58,73,24,949	62,18,05,484
Treasure, Private—						
Bengal	26,29,737	28,47,665	20,28,891	1,88,93,258	2,19,74,776	2,17,05,085
Eastern Bengal and Assam	15,382	38,313	...	79,697	1,15,162	76,466
Bombay	1,23,99,404	1,44,67,834	1,43,02,666	9,95,50,475	8,51,23,668	11,04,64,203
Sind	3,74,900	8,36,334	13,24,685	33,24,371	35,49,232	58,01,840
Madras	5,42,941	27,71,387	6,00,077	36,48,951	64,63,793	42,06,215
Burma	46,907	53,455	6,300	1,47,899	3,52,348	3,09,822
Total	1,60,09,271	2,10,14,988	1,82,62,619	12,56,49,591	11,75,78,984	14,25,63,631
Ditto, Government	8,00,000	6,93,268	6,52,857	8,46,066	8,44,656	6 76,633
Total Treasure	1,68,09,271	2,17,08,256	1,89,15,476	12,64,95,657	11,84,23,640	14,32,40,264
Grand Total of Imports	13,33,60,418	13,70,47,757	14,34,15,116	78,33,39,443	70,57,48,589	76,50,45,748
EXPORTS—						
Merchandise, Private—						
(Foreign Merchandise)—						
Bengal	1,23,212	1,35,175	1,37,158	11,75,591	9,89,162	15,32,026
Eastern Bengal and Assam	740	...	...	8,738	480	1,862
Bombay	19,78,402	17,61,519	22,67,845	1,09,99,840	1,19,94,915	1,61,36,149
Sind	5,20,620	3,44,776	3,04,934	19,50,360	19,01,386	23,09,481
Madras	1,45,158	1,33,388	2,68,964	5,71,642	6,32,858	10 11,385
Burma	41,368	24,568	41,043	2,64,807	2,19,980	3,12,297
Total	28,09,500	23,99,426	30,19,944	1,49,70,978	1,57,38,781	2,13,03,200
(Indian Merchandise)—						
Bengal	6,66,11,630	6,54,22,456	7,21,53,138	30,98,82,681	32,17,65,128	37,51,88,446
Eastern Bengal and Assam	73,14,629	64,57,263	53 58,182	1,64,99,783	1,17,75,250	1,58,28,976
Bombay	1,98,56,660	1,97,40,609	2,19,59,105	17,57,51,077	19,82,14 213	29,25,08 893
Sind	58,83,405	52,87,949	1,47,88,974	3,17,66,251	11,57,60,087	10 14,89,787
Madras	1,16,63,479	1,35,07,884	1,31,09,001	9,48,18,810	9,80,68, 21	11,04,33,088
Burma	47,22,422	60,67,299	1,08,13,930	6,20,81,756	6,75,59,160	8,97,94,387
Total	11,60,52,225	11,64,83,460	13,81,62,330	69,08,00,358	81,31,42,459	98,52,43,577
Total Foreign and Indian Merchandise exported—						
Bengal	6,67,34,842	6,55,57,631	7,22,90,296	31,10,58,272	32,27,54,290	37,67,20,472
Eastern Bengal and Assam	73,15,369	64,57,263	53,38,182	1,65,08,521	1,17,75,730	1,58,30,838
Bombay	2,18,35,062	2,15,02,128	2,42,26,950	18,67,50,917	21,02,09,128	30,86,45,042
Sind	64,04,025	56,32,725	1,50,93,908	3,37,16,611	11,76,61 473	10,37,99,268
Madras	1,18,06,637	1,36,41,272	1,33,77,965	9,53,90,452	9,87,01,479	11,14,44 473
Burma	47,63,790	60,91,867	1,08,54,973	6,23,46,563	6,77,79,140	9,01,06,684
Total	11,88,61,725	11,88,82,886	14,11,82,274	70,57,71,336	82,88,81,240	1,00,65,46,777
Ditto, Government Stores	61,519	39,330	63,002	6,39,962	3,53,616	3,14,880
Total Merchandise	11,89,23,244	11,89,22,216	14,12,45,276	70,64,11,298	82,92,34,856	1,00,68,61,657
Treasure, Private—						
Bengal	10,17,297	71,774	10,36,014	37,33,976	2,61,190	34,20,306
Eastern Bengal and Assam	...	...	15,367	...	...	15,367
Bombay	40,42,588	33,60,881	33,02,093	2,26,76,034	2,24,85,582	2,87,23,553
Sind	1,72,328	7,40,050	59,250	4,49,626	20,57,375	34,51 819
Madras	10,09,526	26,749	19,07,687	25,35,447	44,84,307	54,35,986
Burma	21,000	10,000	10,000	2,65,000	25,000	1,10,500
Total	62,62,739	42,09,454	63,30,411	2,96,60,083	2,93,13,454	4,11,57,531
Ditto, Government	36,03,729	7,000	6,000	36,03,729	7,000	18,420
Total Treasure	98,66,468	42,16,454	63,36,411	3,32,63,812	2,93,20,454	4,11,75,951
Grand Total of Exports	12,87,89,712	12,31,38,670	14,75,81,687	73,96,75,110	85,85,55,310	1,04,80,37,608
Gross Amount of Import Duty Collected, *including Salt*	66,57,739	66,16,294	73,66,359	3,72,35,653	3,49,09,125	4,58,93,705
Ditto, Export Duty Collected	2,85,615	4,89,528	7,11,774	32,88,814	39,57,052	52,40,358

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 29th October, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	169,175
	Bombay	„	112,643
	Madras	„	213,450
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	78,000
	Bombay	„	4,457,878
	Madras	„	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	18,577,336
	Bombay	„	3,234,485
	Karachi	„	1,594,827
	Madras	„	1,819,378
	Rangoon	„	188,712

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	3,582,585
	Bombay	„	2,854,402
	Karachi	„	7,052,107
	Madras	„	713,641
	Rangoon	„	700,112

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	3,572,457
	Bombay	„	3,406,826
	Karachi	„	5,212,465
	Madras	„	1,802,511
	Rangoon	„	1,252,756

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*37,300
	Bombay	„	17,875
	Karachi	„	15,373
	Madras	„	13,226

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	12
	Coastwise	„	9,216
	By rail	„	68,110
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	30,191
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*17,430

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*912,183
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	12,076,300
	„ cloth	yds.	36,200,654
	Jute	cwt.	684,051
Exports by sea from Chittagong—Jute		„	132,021

COTTON SEEDS

Exports by sea from Bombay		cwt	94,212

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt	*7,948
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	17
	By rail	„	12,501
Imports into Karachi	By rail	„	2,000
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	15,015
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	17,429
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	453

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*38,785
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	2,000
	By rail	„	31,165
Imports into Karachi	By rail	„	111,440
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	2,459
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	78,408
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	13,452

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*128,172
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	92,856
	Chittagong	„	13,264
	Bombay	„	10,777
	Karachi	„	10,185
	Madras	„	4
	Rangoon	„	...

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*7,811,767
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	9,089,868
	Chittagong	„	1,821,375

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta by rail and river		cwt.	*51,395
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	321,878
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	2,845
	By rail	„	46,664
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	73,809
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	19,313
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	275,421

* B. N. Ry. figures not included.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta . . Cwt.	3,374,268	2,464,867	3,267,506	5,217,507	1,003,643	1,043,960	Not	reported.
Bombay . . „	2,565,588	1,499,258	1,825,494	2,805,135	1,311,507	2,389,273	5,369,120	12,901,606
Karachi . . „	13,533,862	14,396,822	...	5,346	2,887,109	4,492,205	Not	reported

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 29th OCTOBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From All other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	6,568	...	6,568
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	...	...	...
Exports by sea from Burma to Bengal				1,435,512
Exports by sea from Burma to E. B. & Assam				313,300
Exports by sea from Burma to Bombay				933,986
Exports by sea from Burma to Sind				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Madras				567,100
Exports by sea from Burma to Indian Ports, Non-Br.				...
Exports by sea from Burma to Foreign Ports				...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 29th OCTOBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into: Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras	Rangoon	Total
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	53	...	38	16	27	21	155
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	125,703	...	46,597	9,147	605	...	182,052
Mauritius	1,207	...	34,840	...	...	...	36,047
Other Non-European Countries	4,643	...	119	1,488	...	...	6,250
Total refined							224,504
Total unrefined							...
Grand Total							224,504

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 28th October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 28th October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 29th October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 29th October. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	10,330	7 2·3	121,901	7 4	8,733	7 0·7	100,743	7 7·4
Cachar	6,163	6 3·4	92,449	6 1·8	6,973	5 9	99,942	5 10
Sylhet	3,438	6 4·8	61,171	6 2·	5,240	5 9·5	64,036	5 9·7
Darjeeling	2,601	9 2·1	54,997	9 4·7	2,207	9 7·1	49,658	9 11·4
Dooars	10,253	6 8·3	129,040	6 7·1	9,000	6 7·4	123,169	6 9·8
Terai	757	6 5·9	18,144	6 5·3	462	6 3·	13,386	6 3·3
Chittagong	163	6 7	5,304	6 1·1	198	5 6·1	4,797	5 11·3
Chota-Nagpore	175	8 1·8	1,035	7 3·9	40	5 9	1,333	6 6
Kumaon and Kangra	373	6 3·9	2,504	6 4·4	460	5 9·4	2,336	5 9·3
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	90	6 2·3
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	5 9
Nepal	98	6 6	495	6 4·7	...	...	338	6 2·8
All other places	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	34,351	6 11·1	487,083	6 11·3	33,313	6 7·1	459,916	6 11·3

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 23,835 packages Dust* sold to 28th October 5a. 7·7p.
„ 1909-10 „ 22,905 „ „ „ 29th „ 5a. 7·8p.

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

BOMBAY PORT TRUST.

THE Administration Report of the Bombay Port Trust for the year 1909-10 has just been published. It is noticed that in preparing the estimates of receipts for the year the somewhat disappointing result of the previous year was carefully borne in mind and the estimates were framed in a cautious spirit. The gross receipts were estimated at Rs. 78,38,526 against actual receipts of Rs. 78,52,048 in the year 1907-08, this estimate exceeding the receipts for the year 1908-09 by Rs. 2,23,734. This caution was fully justified in that the actual receipts were Rs. 78,72,381 being only Rs 33,855 more than the estimate. Under these circumstances, in order to build up a larger Revenue Reserve, it was not considered desirable to continue the previous rebate of 20 per cent and this was accordingly reduced to 12½ per cent in the following cases :—Bunder Wharfage Fees, Rs. 77,221, Dock Dues on Goods Rs. 3,59,372, Port Dues 25,993, Water Supply 12,964, the rebate on Pilotage being discontinued. The rebate under these heads aggregated Rs. 4,75,550 and the gross receipts were thus reduced to Rs. 73,96,831. The expenditure chargeable to Revenue, including Interest and Sinking Funds, amounted to Rs. 69,96,783, leaving a net surplus of Rs. 4,00,048 available for transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund. The Revenue Receipts exclusive of Special Receipts compare with those of former years as follows :—

Average of three years ending	1903-04	. Rs. 59,72,478	
Ditto,	1906-07	. Rs. 69,72,335	
During the year	1907-08	Rs. 78,52,048	
Ditto,	1908-09	Rs. 76,14,792	Rs. 77,79,740
Ditto,	1909-10	Rs. 78,72,381	

The total expenditure proper of the year amounted to Rs. 69,96,783* which includes Rs. 29,52,090 for Interest and Sinking Fund Charges and Rs. 2,98,307 for Municipal Taxes.

The net surplus of receipts over expenditure, amounting as already stated to Rs. 4,00,048, has been appropriated to the Revenue Reserve Fund, which now stands as follows :—

Rs. 55,87,182	invested in Public Securities of the per value of Rs. 57,29,507.
„ 14	Cash awaiting investment.
„ 55,87,196	Total.
„ 4,00,048	Surplus, 1909-10.
Rs. 59,87,244	Total.

The expenditure incurred during the year on New Works chargeable to Capital amounted to Rs. 82,51,534, of which Rs. 50,59,927 were spent on the New Docks Works, and Rs. 26,16,571 on the Mazagon-Sewri Reclamation.

* Excludes Rs. 4,826 met from an Fire Insurance Fund and Rs. 983 from the Vessels' Replacement Fund, Pilotage Account.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

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Per quarter		28	0
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„ „ „ half-year		54	0
„ „ „ quarter		28	0
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„ „ „ half-year		12	0
„ „ „ quarter		8	0
FOR LESS THAN 3 MONTHS :—			
To Subscribers	per copy	1	0
To Non-Subscribers	„	2	0
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—			
Abroad	per copy	5	0
In India	„	3	8

DAILY LISTS - IMPORTS OR EXPORTS (separately).

One copy of either per annum	65	0
„ „ „ „ „ half-year	35	0
„ „ „ „ „ quarter	20	0
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POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20	0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.		

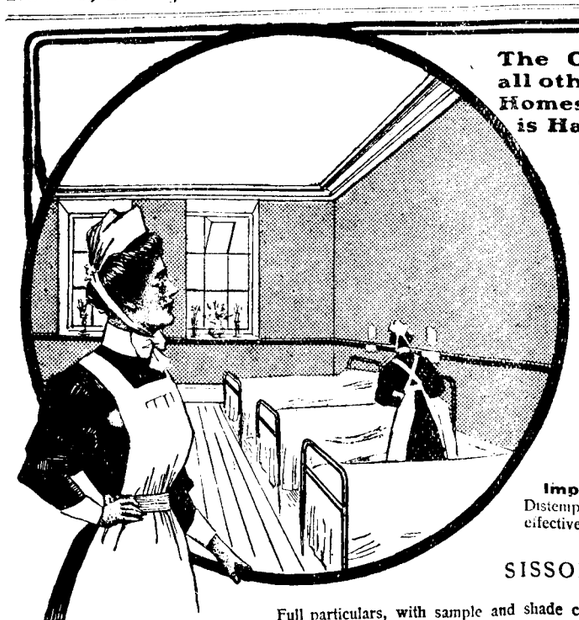
MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1	0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6	0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4	12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0	6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.



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Burma, F. D. Cir 107 of 1897.
C. P. G. D. „ 53 of 1899.
„ „ „ 1416 of 1895.
„ Excise D. Cir. 111 of 1894.
N.-W. P., G. D. Order 1525 XII—805 B. of 1894

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

		Wednesday Evening.
PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	6 per cent. (Nov. 3).
	Bombay	5 per cent. (Nov. 3).
	Madras	5 per cent. (Nov. 7).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 1/16
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 3/32
	3 months	1-4 11/32
	6 months	1-4

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 93-7.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 5th November was Rs. 28-3-3 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 8th November was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia-Bhawnagar cotton**, November delivery, Rs. 277 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **wholesale spot prices** of the undermentioned articles in Calcutta on the 9th instant were as under:—

Jute—C. D. M. and Co. (Red) Group	per 400 lbs.	Rs. 62	0 0
„ M.	per 400 lbs.	„ 49	0 0
Rice—Ballam No. 1	per B. md.	„ 4	5 0
„ Moonghy	„	*Nil.*	
Linseed—Bold 4%	per B. md.	*Nil.*	
Rapeseed—Yellow, mixed, bold, Cawnpore, 4%	per B. md.	*Nil.*	

The total approximate gross **earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 22nd October 1910 show a gain of Rs. 1,74,88,610 and Rs. 2.91,59,919, as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09, respectively.

—•—

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 15th October, 1910, were as follows :—Wheat, 30*s.* 2*d.*; barley, 25*s.* 1*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 2*d.*

—•—

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 18th ultimo :—*United States of America*—Winter wheat belt some complaints dry weather, also Hessian fly, but generally reports of new seedings continue favourable. Receipts last week were smaller than year ago, but visible supply increased 3,000,000 bushels. *Canada*—Officials say threshings better expected ; Winnipeg receipts smaller, but still liberal. Stocks moderate increase. *Argentina*—Crop and weather reports mostly favourable, and our agent cables Wheat prospects excellent; Linseed good. *Australia*—Some damage in New South Wales owing frost and drought ; other States good crop prospects. *India*—Ploughing progressing, sowing commenced. *Russia*—General rains southern region have relieved drought. Centre and north weather winterly, snow also reported south. Winter sowings generally described satisfactory. Arrivals ports smaller, further decrease predicted. *Roumania*—Some rain fallen, sowing progressing. Wheat arrivals smaller, stocks large. *Hungary*—Rains wanted for new seedings ; vermin complained of. Offerings wheat scanty. *Austria*—Disposition to reduce recent crop estimates. *Germany*—Weather favourable, sowing made good progress. Supplies native grain smallish. *Italy*—South droughty, otherwise weather favourable. Maize good crop, but confirmed Wheat poor. *United Kingdom*—Beneficial rains fallen. Sowing makes good progress. *France*—Rains fallen, weather favourable. Seeding prospects now favourable.

—•—

In the *Indian Trade Journal* of October 27th, 1910 (page 74), the first official estimate of this year's **rice crop in Japan** was estimated at 48,725,597 koku (koku=4·96 bushels). The second estimate, recently published, places it at 47,474,889, or 2¾ per cent less than the first one. This means that the crop will be 9·4 per cent less than last year's yield, and 3·1 per cent less than in an average year. A calculation has been made by the Japanese Department of Agriculture and Commerce relating to the monetary value of this year's harvest compared with last year's. The average price of rice for the month of September in 1909 was 13·14 yen (yen=Re. 1-8-6), while the price in the same month for the current year was 15·09 yen. This means that the farming classes receive for their crop this year 716,396,075 yen whereas they received last year only 689,030,879 yen. It may be mentioned that the price of rice in the beginning of October was quoted in the Tokio market at 15·40 yen per koku.

—•—

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market**, dated the 13th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co., Ld., say :—Demand for **Indian Yarns** continued during the earlier part of the week but a rising exchange and rumours of financial troubles tended to upset things and the sales made only amount to 1,327 bales which were nearly all taken by Newchwang and the River Ports. There are still buying orders on the market and it only requires some arrangement as to prices to see free buying. Clearances were good all through the week.

—•—

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales** of **cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 41 weeks ended 13th October, 1910 :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 13th Oct., 1910.	41 weeks ended 13th Oct., 1910.	Week ended 13th Oct., 1910.	41 weeks ended 13th Oct., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	62,065	1,390,654	1,417	176,750
Brazilian	604	41,093	100	2,631
East Indian	100	184,041	299	40,758
Egyptian	—	181,653	716	52,045
Miscellaneous	489*	95,050†	141	6,703
Total	63,258	1,890,491	2,673	278,887

* Including 6 bales British West Indian, 28 bales British West African, and 407 bales British East African.

† Including 6,155 bales British West Indian, 6,593 bales British West African, 12,520 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

Note.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

—•—

The annual statistics of the **Sea Island cotton crop** have now been received from America. They show that the crop of 1909-10 amounted to 96,718 bales, or 4,702 less than the previous season's. South Carolina produced 14,592 bags, Georgia 53,415 bales, and Florida 28,711 bales, or 5,132 bales less than in 1908-09. Great Britain took 24,283 bales, the Continent 5,145 bales, and American mills 67,743 bales, against 15,731, 7,141, and 79,431 bales, respectively. The stock in hand at Charleston and Savannah on the 1st instant was 1,887 bales, against 2,340 bales on September 1st, 1909. The weight of the Carolina bag averaged 349 lbs., against 352 lbs. last year, and the Florida and Georgia bale averaged 390 lbs.—the same as last year. The average price of the Carolina bag was $122·15, against $82·72, and that of the Florida and Georgia bale $111·15, against $80·84 last year. The latest advices regarding the new crop state that the weather is favourable.

—•—

The *Manchester Guardian* learns from a correspondent at Cairo, whose letter is dated October 7th, that the general opinion as to the **Egyptian cotton crop** seems to be entirely optimistic. Even the appearance of the crop in the fields is markedly better than last year. At the same time the ginning outturn is said to be proving about 4 per cent better than last year, and the quality of the crop so far as yet seen, is believed to be very good. The returns show that the arrivals at Alexandria up to the 7th instant practically beat all records. It would be dangerous, however, to assume that the whole crop will be in proportion ; indeed, it is obvious that the crop is being rushed through at an abnormal rate. The fellaheen are apparently pleased with the present price, and are anxious to get their cotton on the market at the earliest possible date, and as much of it as possible. They seem almost to be under the impression that the cotton is not safe as long as it remains on the plant. The result is that they are picking very hard, and it may turn out that what is being sent in now represents a large proportion of the second picking as well as the first. It is said that in some districts the fellaheen have simply picked all they could and pulled up the plants already to make room for another crop. There is still talk of boll worm, but it is impossible to find out whether it is likely to be serious. The indications so far do not seem to bear out such a view. Against the generally optimistic view one of the cotton-worm inspectors says that over-watering began immediately the rotations were taken off in the end of August, and was very serious in degree and almost universal. He anticipates serious damage by water-table to the tail end of the crop and at a comparatively early date. The position on the whole is therefore practically unchanged. Six and a half millions may probably be taken as the minimum of the crop ; the possible maximum may be placed anywhere from seven to seven and a quarter. The final result depends on how much of the crop is got through before the damage begins. The second pickings will probably be quite out of proportion to the first, while the third pickings will, it is thought, be negligible. It is confirmed that a large portion of the quarter-million stock in Alexandria on 31st August last was of very low value. Some of it was sold below five dollars.

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Advices from Alexandria state that the **Egyptian cotton crop** is estimated at 7,000,000 cantars (cantar=99·05 lbs.) as compared with 5,000,772 cantars last season.

It appears from the *Sole* (Milan) of 13th October that the proprietors of that journal have made enquiries throughout Italy as to the **probable yield of olive oil in Italy** for the season 1910-11. The total yield of olive oil is estimated at 1,231,716 hectolitres (hectolitre=22 imperial gallons) to the production of which the following districts contribute to the largest extent :—Tuscany 126,305 hectolitres, Umbria 124,619 hectolitres, Abruzzi and Molise 134,177 hectolitres, Apulia 300,998 hectolitres, and Sicily 199,837 hectolitres. It appears that the 1910-11 production of olive oil will be less than half the average yield as based on the quinquenuial period 1901-05.

—•—

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on October 13th, regarding the **Hull oil market**, says :—The market for **linseed oil** is steady, but inactive with spot at 42*s.* 9*d.*, 42*s.* 6*d.* October-December, 39*s.* 9*d.* January-April. The exports for week totalled 25 tons, of which America took 1, Denmark and Egypt 18, Germany 1, Holland 1, Norway 1, and Turkey 2 tons each. **Cotton oil :** Refined cotton oil 30*s.* spot, 28*s.* 10½*d.* November-April ; crude cotton oil, 28*s.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 91 tons, of which Belgium took 10, Egypt 6, Germany 28, Holland 36, Russia 4, Sweden 2, and Turkey 5 tons each. **Rape oils,** Jamba and brown East Indian 26*s.* 3*d.* **Soy oil,** 30*s.* 6*d.* **Lard oil** steady at 60*s.* per cwt. ex-mill for best English refined, in barrels. **Olive oil** spot scarce, and Levant held for £58 per ton ex-store. Forward very firm but continues quiet owing to the extreme rates ruling. **Castor oil** dull, and continues in buyers' favour. October softs £34 10*s.* Benin £33 15*s.* spot, Niger at £32 transit, and Congo at £30. Refined sorts quiet ; clarified in cask £34 15*s.* Bleached £37 to £37 15*s.* **Petroleum** quiet, steady at 6*d.* to 7*d.* per gal. for American, and 5½*d.* for Russian. **Turpentine** weaker. Spot and October-December 54*s.* 6*d.* and January-April 55*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

—•—

The **tonnage of vessels** entered at ports in the **United Kingdom** from foreign countries and British possessions with cargoes during September, 1910, amounted to 3,728,975 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 5,235,363 tons, as against 3,659,746 tons entered, and 4,963,328 tons cleared, during September, 1909. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during September, 1910, amounted to 2,788,988 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,742,310 tons, as against 2,711,066 tons entered, and 2,666,581 tons cleared, in September, 1909. The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions with cargoes during the nine months ended September, 1910, amounted to 30,898,158 tons and the tonnage cleared to 42,866,558 tons, as against 29,876,155 tons entered and 42,416,989 tons

cleared during the nine months ended September, 1909. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the nine months ended September, 1910, amounted to 23,932,879 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 23,657,351 tons as against, 23,583,129 tons entered, and 23,189,627 tons cleared, during the corresponding period of 1909.

The total quantity and value of **gold** extracted from the **Indian Mines** during the month of September, 1910, were 47,887 ozs. and Rs. 27,31,081. The output for the same month as compared with the corresponding months of 1909 and 1908 was as follows :—

Month of September.

	1910.	1909.	1908.
Mysore	Ozs. 45,882 Rs. 26,16,331	Ozs. 47,312 Rs. 26,99,228	Ozs. 43,486 Rs. 25,11,333
Nizam's Territory	Ozs. 2,005 Rs. 1,14,750	Ozs. 1,730 Rs. 98,215	Ozs. 1,496 Rs. 86,383

In his weekly report on the **sugar market** dated London, October 20th, C. Czarnikow says :—Further estimates of the beet root crops were issued by F. O. Licht as follows, in thousand tons :—

	Germany.	Austria.	France.	Belgium.
1910 . .	2,475	1,600	825	300
Tons per hectare	5·22	4·38	3·35	4·30
1909 . . .	2,027	1,257	801	250
Tons per hectare	4·47	3·90	3·66	3·91
Previous highest	5·16	4·24	4·07	4·69

	Holland.	Convention.	Russia.	Others.	Total.
1910 . . .	225	5,425	1,750	525	7,700
Tons per hectare	4·10	...	2·63	...	..
1909 . . .	198	4,533	1,145	460	6,138
Tons per hectare	3·58	...	2·07	...	..
Previous highest	4·41	5,498	2·54	...	...

The German figure is considered moderate and the French estimate rather high, and though the market was prepared for it, May declined from 9*s.* 10*d.* to 9*s.* 6*d.* Then there came news of a hurricane in Havana and Pinar del Rio, which brought welcome rains, the benefit of which was supposed to outweigh any damage done in the usually narrow zone of the vortex, therefore the market hardly moved, but when the hurricane returned with double force, doing much damage in Florida and Havana (some papers call it the worst hurricane experienced in Havana), our quotations temporarily rose ½*d.* to ¾*d.*, whilst New York remained unchanged, probably because there is no quotation there for January—March delivery.

Part III of Vol. XL of the *Records of the Geological Survey of India*, just published, contains a "Preliminary Note on a revised Classification of the Tertiary Freshwater Deposits of India" by Mr. G. E. Pilgrim; "A Revision of the Silurian Trias Sequence in Kashmir" by Mr. G. S. Middlemiss; and a "Note on the Discovery by Mr. Middlemiss of Fenestella-bearing Beds in Kashmir" by Mr. H. M. Hayden.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows :—

For the week ending 5th November, 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 3,125 ; 3,175 ; 3,200 ; 3,205 ; 3,300 ; 3,300 ; 3,300.

Benares opium—Rs. 3,100 ; 3,150 ; 3,175 ; 3,175 ; 3,255 ; 3,255 ; 3,255.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 11th and 12th sales of 1910 were Rs. 3,128 ; 3,178 ; 3,203 ; 3,208 ; 3,315 ; 3,315 ; 3,315.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange, Rs. 139¼ per $100).

Behar opium—$2,250 ; 2,275 ; 2,285 ; 2,300 ; 2,310 ; 2,310 ; 2,310.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

At Shanghai—(Exchange, no quotations received).

Behar opium—No quotations received.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

For the week ending 29th October, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

On the 23rd and 29th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,385 to 1,390; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,350 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,520 to 3,500.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 3,302 and 3,458 ; (old) Rs. 3,372 and 3,534, respectively.

It may be noted in this connection that high prices were obtained at the Calcutta Opium sale on 3rd November. The average price was Rs. 3,278 per chest. This is the highest obtained since the Rs. 3,827 of April, the course of prices since that date having been May Rs. 3,082, June Rs. 2,177, July Rs. 2,062, August Rs. 2,209, and September Rs. 2,606.

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a disturbance off the Coromandel Coast. Rainfall has extended into the North-west of the Peninsula, but has diminished on the East Coast. It has been nearly general in the Konkan, Malabar and the North Madras coast, and fairly general in the South-west of the Central Provinces, Bombay, the Deccan, Hyderabad and Mysore. There have also been a few falls in South-east Madras. During the week a severe storm crossed over the coast near Nellore causing several breaches on the N.-E. line of the Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway. It is also reported that considerable damage to property has been caused by heavy rain in Madras during the week.

British East Africa is suffering from a **water famine** inland from the coast. Along the railway the natives are being relieved at the stations by the railway administration.

The *Bulletin Commercial* (Brussels) of 1st October states, on the authority of the Belgian Legation at Caracas, that the coming **coffee crop of Venezuela** will fall short of that of the preceding year, which amounted to about 700,000 sacks (of 60 kilogs.), the estimate for this year being only 600,000 sacks. The State of Aragua alone is likely to give a normal return. The deficit is attributed to the sudden arrival of the spring rains and to drought during the period of the formation of the berry. Venezuelan coffees are said to be of good quality and to fetch high prices, the quotations at Caracas on 1st September being from 70 to 80 bolivars per sack (47*s.* to 54*s.* per cwt.)

The present **firmness in the value of coffee,** writes a Rio correspondent, under date September 14th, is no doubt mainly the result of alarming cables sent to consuming quarters concerning the current prospects for the 1911-12 crop. The dry weather in the interior of Sao Paulo has, of course, delayed the usual flowering, and according to some reports the trees have been materially affected by the drought, and are not now in a position to give a good flowering. The situation is certainly an anxious one to the coffee trade, and news regarding the weather and the state of the plantations is eagerly demanded every day. Some of the leading export firms in Santos have sent representatives up to the interior to examine and report on the actual condition of the trees. Fortunately a break in the drought has come at last, rains having fallen all over the State, except in Sao Carlos, Braganca, and Taubate, on the 11th instant ; since then the weather has remained very unsettled, and more rain is probable. Flowering should become general during the second fortnight of the current month, but it will be difficult to advance any reliable opinion on the ultimate results before the end of October. The market is very firm, and the more optimistic already talk of 20*d.* being reached within the next month or so.

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office Calcutta, during the week ending 31st October 1910 :—W. R. Smith, engineer, the Indo-Burma Petroleum Co., Burma—An improved method of sweating wax and the apparatus therefor. J. A. G. Marshall, rifle expert, c/o Messrs. Thos. Cook and Sons, Bombay —An improved rest or support for use with firearms such as revolvers, pistols and the like. R. M. Macdonald, special representative of the Parafline Paint Company at Bombay—Improvements in the construction of roofs. E. S. Heurtley, gentleman, 193, Woodstock Road, Oxford, England—Electrical means for magnifying small mechanical effects. The Westinghouse Metal Filament Lamp Co., Ld., 2, Norfolk Street, Strand, London—Improvements in incandescent electric lamps. K. C. Dass, inventor and manufacturer, 233-1, Upper Chitpur Road, Calcutta—Electrical resistance film for the purpose of regulator, stove, heating table, resistance board, etc.

At the **London hide and leather auctions** on the 13th ultimo the small supply of 74,197 Madras, Bombay and Ceylon **tanned hides** were offered (including about 23,000 calf), and 55,832 sold. There was a fairly good attendance of buyers, but the demand was not so strong as at recent sales. Best Madras were difficult to clear at fully ¼*d.* per lb. decline on average. "Light" show about ½*d.*, "small" fully 1*d.*, and "heavy" ½*d.* to 1*d.* per lb. decline. "3rd small" and "extra heavy" sold steadily, and "thirds" were firm, while "3rd heavy" and "fourths" gained about ½*d.* per lb. Calf skins sold at extreme prices, and may be quoted 1*d.* to 2*d.* per lb. dearer. Buffalo leather was unchanged. Bombays declined ¼*d.* to ½*d.* Ceylons were not available. Stock in brokers' hands about 30,000.

The following information is from the report by H. M. Consul at Hanoi (Mr. T. F. Carlisle) on the **trade of French Indo-China** in 1909, which will shortly be issued :—The **rubber** at present exported is obtained from wild creepers which are principally met with in the forests of the Upper Laos. These have been worked in a ruthless and improvident manner, so that supplies are becoming more and more difficult to find, and the export of rubber has fallen from 372 tons in 1905 to 35 tons in 1909. During the present year (1910), however, the increased price of rubber caused the collectors to travel further to find it and the export will be considerably larger. Plantations of *hevea* have been made in South Annam and Cochin-China. The former, which were on a small scale and chiefly of an experimental nature, have succeeded well. The plantations in Cochin-China are not yet in bearing. There were some 15 plantations containing 650,000 trees at the end of 1909, a figure which will probably be increased to 1,000,000 during 1910. It is estimated that the production of rubber from the plantations now existing, which during 1910 will be only 6 tons, will amount to 1,000 tons for 1918. Many new plantations are being commenced or are in contemplation. In Tonkin the winters are apparently too cold for *hevea* ; plantations

of *ficus elastica* exist, however. A new rubber tree was discovered some three years ago in the mountainous parts of Northern Tonkin and has been named "Bleekrodea Tonkinensis." The authorities do not appear to have yet come to a conclusion as to its commercial qualities.

The **Karachi Port Trust** are calling for tenders up to the 11th instant for their 4 per cent debenture loan of Rs. 20 lakhs to be used for port improvements.

The **jute industry** in **Warsaw** did well last year owing to the improvement in the sugar industry creating a large demand for sacks. The result was that some of the jute mills, for the first time for several years, were able to pay dividends.

The **forestry section** of the **Allahabad Exhibition** will not only be exceedingly interesting, but also most instructive. Specimens of some 200 kinds of timbers will be shown. Logs of these have been prepared with one side planed smooth to show the appearance of the wood. These will be shown both polished and unpolished and hand specimens will also be available, so that visitors can examine the woods if they so wish. A very large collection of the products of forest trees has been made and the uses to which each can be put illustrated. For instance over a hundred different kinds of food which are eaten in times of famine have been collected. A feature of this part of the court will be botanical specimens of each tree showing leaves, flowers and fruits, each in a frame made of the wood of the tree in question. Models of several kinds of transport operations will be shown, including sledge slides, water slides, booms, aërial ropeways and forest tramways, etc. In addition to these models of forest engineering works such as wooden bridges and buildings of several kinds have been made. A **turpentine distillery** will be at work in a shed near the main court and close by in another building the process of **wood pulp manufacture** will be shewn. Experiments in this direction should prove of great value, as it seems probable that there will be a great future before the pulping industry in India if only a suitable material can be found. A great variety of **wood working machines** will be displayed in the opposite side of the court and these will be shown at work throughout the whole period of the Exhibition. In addition to these **hand industries** will also be represented and carvers, basket makers, and katha manufacturers, rope makers, etc., etc., will all be seen plying their various trades.

As bearing on the **prospects of tea in Germany,** the following paragraph is taken from the Consular Report on the trade of Berlin during 1909:—At the beginning of the year there were large stores of Chinese tea, especially Souchong and Congo, warehoused in the German ports. The demand for inferior and medium quality tea became very lively through the introduction of the Imperial Finance Reform Bill, under which the increase in the duty on tea was 75pf. (from 25 pf. to 1 mark per kilo.) Shortly before the new Bill came into force brisk business took place which slackened down after the new duties were imposed. It can be assumed, however, that the consumers who laid in large stores before the introduction of the new law will become more accustomed to the use of tea and that in future the tea trade will attain greater dimensions in Germany. In Berlin several attempts have been made to popularise tea by the introduction of so-called Indian tea shops. These shops being daintily fitted up and supplying a good quality of tea have grown in public favour. The establishment of numerous tea shops in the principal towns of the Empire, it is assumed, will do much towards making the beverage popular, as tea, however, costs more than twice as much as coffee it is scarcely expected that it will become a national beverage.

A correspondent writes to the *Madras Mail*:—The **Japanese Camphor Monopoly Bureau** has estimated the **camphor output** this year at seven million kin (one kin is equal to 1·323 lb avoirdupois), *viz.*, 6,100,000 kin from Formosa and 900,000 kin from Shikoku and Kyushu. Of this four million kin will be shipped to Europe, and 2½ millions to America, the remainder being kept in Japan, where it is in great request for the **manufacture of celluloid.** The two chief celluloid-manufacturing companies in Japan, *i.e.*, the Sakai and Aboshi concerns, are expected to turn out three million kin of celluloid next year, of which 500,000 kin will be required in Japan, and the remainder will be available for export. The demand for camphor in Europe and America is expected to amount to between seven and eight million kin, and, as the supply from Japan will be about a million kin short of this, a rise in price is not improbable, and an impetus may be given to the artificial product. The industry in South China will also probably be revived. Among planters in India and Ceylon, however, camphor cultivation does not seem to be popular. The tree grows well enough, but the distilling process seems to be costly and troublesome. Owing to this difficulty the camphor trees on a five acre plot, which were growing excellently on a Ceylon estate, were removed recently, root and branch.

It is reported that some 160 manufacturers in the **United States** have associated for the purpose of increasing their **export trade.** The capital interested in the organisation is said to amount to close upon fifty million pounds. The chief objects of the association are said to be :—(1) To bring united influence to bear on the State Department and Department of Commerce and Labour in Washington for the advancement of American foreign trade interests, (2) To bring similar pressure to bear on transportation companies in order to establish equitable freight rates and better services, (3) To protect trade marks of American manufacturers, (4) To assist members to an equitable adjustment of their difficulties with the Customs authorities, (5) To combat miscellaneous trade evils, and especially to eliminate the crooked export methods, which are said to reflect discredit on the nation. Probably the best-known concern in the association is the Westinghouse Company.

NOTICES.

ENQUIRIES.

(*For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.*

An asterisk (*) *preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.*)

Bunkering arrangements.

(786)—A Bunkering Association having offices in London and elsewhere desires to be placed in communication with a Bengal Colliery with a view to acting as their sole agents in England for the sale of their coal at various eastern ports and also to buying agents in England. (2) The same firm desires to appoint agents in Calcutta (shipowners preferred) to close bunker contracts for various ports with Indian shipowners. (3) The firm in question also desires the addresses of houses in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Karachi, Marmagoa and other ports who are open to supply Cardiff and Indian bunker coal, and, if possible, to act as their exclusive agents in England.

Canning Machinery.

(787)—The addresses are required of firms supplying machinery for making cans of all kinds for the canning of provisions, etc.

Rice Bran.

(788)—A Bombay correspondent desires to be placed in communication with importers of rice bran in Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, China and Europe.

Plumbago.

(789)—A Government factory Superintendent desires to be placed in communication with firms in a position to supply plumbago or graphite of Indian production.

Bedsteads.

(790)—A British firm desires to be placed in communication with buyers of brass and iron bedsteads in Karachi and Rangoon.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

THE following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 16th November, 1910:—

Parliamentary Publications.

Report of Proceedings under the Diseases of Animals Acts for the year 1909. Commercial—No. 4 (1910)—Conference of Bills of Exchange, June 1910: Correspondence. Queensland—Report of the Director of Labour and Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops for year ended 30th June, 1910.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

Africa—Trade of the Union of South Africa, S. and N. W. Rhodesia, and British South Africa—Month of August, 1910. Australia—Hauptergebnisse des Auswartigen Warenverkehres Bosniens und der Hercegovina im Jahre 1909—(XII. Jahrgang.) Belgium—Bulletin Mensuel du Commerce Special de la Belgique avec les pays etrangers, en ce qui Concerne les Principales Marchandises—September, 1910. Bulgaria—Mouvement commercial de la Bulgaric avec les pays etrangers, mouvement de la navigation par ports et prix moyens dans les principales villes pendant le second trimestre de 1910. Canada—Trade and Commerce Monthly Report—July 1910; Census and Statistics Monthly, September, 1910. China—Returns of Trade (51st Issue) and Trade Reports (45th Issue)—1909—Part II.—Port Trade Statistics and Reports—Vol. III.—Central Ports. Egypt—Bulletin Mensuel du Commerce Exterieur de l'Egypte—Vingt-Quatrieme Annee—No. 9—September 1910. France—Bulletin de Statistique et de Legislation Comparee—Trente Quatrieme Annee—September, 1910 Germany—Monthly Accounts of Trade—September, 1910. Japan—Monthly Return of the Foreign Trade of the Empire of Japan—August, 1910. Netherlands—Kiezers En Verkiezingsstatistiek 1910.

Indian Publications.

Burma—Land Records Administration Report of —For the year ending 30th June 1910. Calcutta —The Preventive Service Manual. Land Revenue Administration Report, Part II, of the Bombay Presidency, including Sind, for the year 1908-1909.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "Indian Trade Journal" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

Correspondence regarding advertisements in the "Indian Trade Journal" should be addressed to Reuter's Telegram Co., Ld., but all advertisements, blocks, etc., must be approved by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence before insertion.

Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

A full index is published as a quarterly supplement and should be filed for reference.

The annual rates of subscription to the "Indian Trade Journal" including quarterly index, are Indian, without postage, Rs. 12 : with postage, Rs 13 ; Foreign, Rs. 18. Single copies, 4 annas.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1910

RICE AND ITS BY-PRODUCTS AS FEEDING STUFFS.

In Farmers' Bulletin No. 412 recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, there is a readable article on rice and its by-products as feeding stuffs. The author points out that with the rapid extension of the rice-growing area in the Southern States and the increase in the price of maize and other feeds, rice and its by-products have become of considerable importance in making up rations for live stock. Price as it comes from the threshing machine when added to a ration of cotton-seed meal, cotton-seed hulls, and alfalfa hay in a steer-feeding experiment at the Texas Experiment Station, produced slightly larger gains in weight, but at an increased cost. If the rice had been worth only Rs. 34-4 per ton, the cost of gain would have been the same either with or without the rice. Mr. W. R. Dodson, of the Louisiana Experiment Station, estimates that 162 pounds of rough rice, or paddy, are about equivalent in feeding value to 174 pounds of corn, and at present prices it should return Rs. 6-4 per barrel when fed to steers under favourable conditions. The experience of practical farmers shows that both white and red rice are valuable feeding stuffs for work horses and mules, fattening steers, dairy cows, and swine, but that the best grades of white rice are often too high in price to be so utilized. As a rule, low grade rice and broken rice are worth more to feed out than to market at the low prices which they usually bring.

Rice straw as a stock food is about equal to that of good southern prairie hay. It contains on an average 4·72 per cent crude protein, 32·21 per cent carbohydrates, and 1·87 per cent fat. The sweetness and excellent flavour of well-preserved rice straw adds materially to its feeding value, because the stock will consume large quantities of it.

The **by-products** which result from milling rice consists of hulls, bran, and polish. One bag of rice (162 pounds) should produce about 100 pounds clean rice, 7 pounds rice polish, 20 pounds rice bran, and 35 pounds chaff or hulls. Grits or broken grains of rice are found in the bran and polish. C. A. Brown, in a bulletin of the Louisiana Station, says :—

> In some cases 25 per cent of the feed consists of grits ; the varying amounts of these in the rice feeds naturally cause a fluctuation in the composition, a large quantity of grits causing an increase in starch and a decrease in protein and fat. While the grits have a high feeding value, and are not particularly detrimental to the animal, as is the case with rice hulls, it must be noted that many of them pass through the animal undigested. These fragments of rice are very hard to break up and are not easily affected by the digestive juices of the animal. Nearly ten per cent of the dry matter in the excrement of an animal fed with polish consisted of undigested grits If these grits could be ground up, or if they could be removed during milling, the digestibility of the feed would be increased.

Rice meal should consist of pure rice bran, but as usually found on the market it is a mixture of bran, polish, and hulls, and hence varies so much in composition that its feeding value is problematical without a guaranteed chemical analysis.

Rice hulls are the outer coating of the grain, and are composed mainly of fibre and mineral matter. They are worthless as a food, and, when fed in large quantities, are **positively harmful.** Rice hulls are often used for adulterating molasses and other mixed feeds. Considerable quantities are also ground and sold as "husk meal" or "star bran." At the Texas Station an attempt was made to substitute rice hulls for cotton-seed hulls, but the cattle would not eat a sufficient quantity, and the ration finally selected consisted of rice hulls, cotton-seed hulls, cotton-seed meal, and rice bran. The average daily gain was 1·86 pounds, at a cost of 4·35 cents (a cent being equal to half an anna). On a similar ration, without the rice hulls, the average values were 2·17 pounds, at 4·6 cents.

Rice bran consists of the outer layer of the rice kernel, together with some of the germ, and in a pure state is the most nutritious of the rice foods. Unfortunately commercial rice bran often contains more or less hulls, hence its feeding value varies considerably. Recent analyses at the Louisiana Station showed a variation from 2·47 to 15·13 per cent protein, 1 to 19·19 per cent fat, 31·11 to 54·85 per cent carbohydrates, 6·2 to 34·86 per cent fibre, 6·66 to 21·47 per cent ash. The station has adopted as a standard for a good rice bran 12·5 per cent protein, 10 per cent fat, not over 10 per cent fibre, and not over 9 per cent ash. A good rice bran as a feeding stuff is somewhat better than maize meal if sweet ; but if it becomes rancid because of the decomposition of the fatty material, cattle do not like it. Rancidity can probably be prevented by removing a portion or all of the fat, or by heating the bran to 200°F. soon after milling.

Dr. Brown discusses the subject of feeding rice bran as follows :—

> The following rations ought to meet the needs of an ordinary farm mule weighing 1,200 pounds and doing a heavy amount of work :—
>
> Ration No. 1 –15 pounds crab-grass hay, 8 pounds maize, 8 pounds rice meal, 1½ pounds cotton-seed meal. If leguminous hays are available, these may be used instead of cotton-seed meal to supply protein. Ration No. 2 – 15 pounds alfalfa hay, 8 pounds rice meal, 2 pounds maize, 8 pounds molasses. Ration No. 3 – 15 pounds cowpea hay, 8 pounds rice meal, 8 pounds corn.
>
> The rations given are, of course, only examples, and can be varied in any number of different ways to suit the convenience of the feeder.

Comparative experiments at the North Carolina Experiment Station in feeding rice bran and wheat bran to dairy cows have demonstrated that rice bran alone, with corn silage as a source of roughage, is inferior to wheat bran, inasmuch as cows lost both weight and milk on the rice ration. Owing to the deficiency of rice bran in protein it is difficult to make a properly balanced ration for milch cows with this food alone in connection with some kinds of roughage. Experiments at the above-named station show, however, that if this deficiency in protein be made up by adding a little cotton-seed meal to the ration, there is no difference in the feeding value of rice bran and wheat bran, provided the animals relish the food equally well, which is not always the case.

At the Texas Station rice bran in a steer ration was found inferior to cotton-seed meal. In one test rice bran replaced cotton-seed meal in the proportion of 3:2, and cotton-seed hulls constituted the coarse fodder. The average daily gain per head was 2·17 pounds, and the cost of a pound of gain was 4·6 cents. On cotton-seed meal and hulls the similar values were 2·21 pounds and 4·61 cents. The average daily gain upon rice bran substituted for cotton-seed meal in about the proportion of 2·1 was 2·98 pounds, and the cost of a pound of gain was 3·14 cents, as compared with 2·88 pounds and 3·23 cents on cotton-seed meal and hulls. In another trial, when rice bran was added to a ration of cotton-seed meal and hulls, the quantity of the bran being nearly half that of the meal, the average daily gain was 3 pounds, as compared with 2·6 pounds on cotton-seed meal and hulls only, the cost of a pound of gain in the two cases being 3·9 and 4·1 cents. The following ration is suggested for fattening cattle per thousand pounds live weight : Cotton-seed meal, 3 pounds ; rice bran, 8 pounds ; molasses, 10 pounds ; mixed grass hay, 14 pounds. A ration which may be used per thousand pounds live weight of swine is pure rice bran, 12 pounds ; maize, 22 pounds ; skim milk, 37 pounds.

Rice polish is the flour removed from the rice kernel in giving it a pearly lustre that the trade demands. It contains less fat and protein than rice bran, but a higher percentage of starch. A considerable amount of the polish made in America is exported to Germany, where it is made into buttons. Recent analysis of rice polish showed a variation of 10·13 to 15·50 per cent protein, 4·44 to 14·26 per cent fat, 51·73 to 70·30 per cent carbohydrates, 0·51 to 4·87 per cent fibre. Rice polish, when substituted for part of the cotton-seed meal in a ration for steers at the Texas Station, resulted in increasing the rate of gain, while the cost of the gain was slightly reduced. The following ration for a steer weighing 1,000 pounds is suggested ; Cotton seed, 8 pounds ; rice polish, 4 pounds; alfalfa or pea-vine hay, 5 pounds Johnson grass hay, 10 pounds. In five experiments at the Alabama Station rice polish was found superior to maze maize meal in feeding pigs. One pound of gain required only 3·73 pounds of rice polish, as compared with 4·74 pounds of maize meal. Hence, 78·6 pounds of the polish are equal to 100 pounds of maize meal.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

THE *Board of Trade Journal*, published on the 20th ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about :—

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—Commerce Decisions. Marking of Buckles, Clasps, etc. Cards in Sheets. Motor-Cars: Value for Duty. Customs Decision.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—Customs Decisions.
MAURITIUS.—Importation of Plants.

EGYPT.—Revised Valuation Tariff for certain Metals. Revised Valuation Tariff for Rice.

SWEDEN.—Tariff Classification of Preserved Boiled Cod Roe.

DENMARK.—Customs Decisions.
FRANCE.—Temporary Admission of Certain Oil Seeds. Customs Decisions.

ITALY.—Reduction of Duty on Ground-nut Oil for the Manufacture of Soap. Tariff Classification of Soap.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—Countervailing Duties not to be levied on Wood Pulp produced in Sweden. Amendment of Regulations as to Disinfection of Hide Cuttings, Glue Stock, etc. Customs Decisions.

URUGUAY.—Duty-free Admission of Books.
PARAGUAY.—Classification of Tobacco for Export.

We give the following particulars of changes interesting to Indian trade :—

ITALY.

Ground-nut Oil for the Manufacture of Soap—Reduction of Duty on.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy of an Italian Royal Decree, which came into force on the 16th September, providing that ground-nut oil (*olio di arachide*) destined exclusively for the manufacture of soap may be imported into Italy at the reduced rate of duty of 4 lire per 100 kilogs., under conditions to be laid down by the Minister of Finance. These conditions are that the oil must be of the quality known as *olio di arachide da fabbrica* ; it must contain not less than 15 per cent. of acid, failing which olein must be added ; and it must be adulterated by the addition, to every 100 kilogs. of oil, of 3 kilogs. of oxidised linseed oil and 1-10th kilog. of nitrobenzine (*mirbana*).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Regulations as to Disinfection of Hide Cuttings, Glue Stock, etc.,—Amendment of.

The United States Treasury Department have issued a circular dated the 10th September, amending the regulations governing the disinfection of hides of neat cattle imported into the United States. The production of certificates of disinfection on the entry of fleshings, hide cuttings, and parings, or glue stock, is no longer required when the articles are shown by the consular invoice used on entry, or by a consular certificate, to have been lime dried, after soaking for forty days in a strong lime wash made by slaking quick lime in water and containing sufficient lime to be of a creamy consistency, or to consist of glue stock which has been dried by exposure to action of the sun and air for a sufficient time to render each piece of the hardness of a sun-dried hide, provided that a certificate in proper form is filed with the United States Consul by the exporter showing that none of the products shipped were taken from animals affected with anthrax. It is the purpose of this amendment to permit the entry of glue stock of the character above described, notwithstanding a limited prevalence of anthrax in the country or district of origin, without requiring the same to be disinfected in the manner prescribed by the original regulations.

FRANCE.

Admission of Certain Oil Seeds—Temporary.

The Board of Trade are in receipt through the Foreign Office, of copies of a French Presidential Decree, dated the 3rd October, and published in the *Journal Officiel* for the 9th, providing for the temporary duty free importation of soya seeds, *graines de cameline* and beech nuts in the husk destined to be converted into oil. The importers must bind themselves, under heavy security, to re-export or place in bonded warehouse, within six months, the oils derived from the seeds imported. The yield of oil is fixed at 12 per cent in the case of soya, 26 per cent in the case of *cameline*, and 22 per cent in the case of beech nuts.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, Nov. 8th.

THE following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 7th instant :—

The weather is seasonable. Plucking of tea and ploughing for and sowing of *rabi* crops are in progress.

The prospects of standing crops are good on the whole.

The average price of common rice is the same as in the previous week.

Cattle disease is reported in Sylhet, Darrang, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Lakhimpur and the Garo Hills.

FOREIGN SEA-BORNE TRADE IN SEPTEMBER, 1910.

THE trade returns for September, 1910, show increased values in imports, exports and re-exports, in comparison with the returns for September, 1909. The following tables show the value of imports and exports of private merchandise for September, and for the six months ending September, together with the increase or decrease, compared with the corresponding period of 1909 :—

September, 1910.

	Rs.	Rs.	Per cent.
Imports .	12,12,13,080	+1,00,45,564	+ 9
Exports .	13,81,62,330	+2,16,78,870	+18·6
Re-exports .	30,19,944	+ 6,20,518	+26

Six months ending September, 1910.

Imports .	60,46,17,204	+ 5,21,71,968	+ 9·4
Exports .	98,52,43,577	+17,21,01,118	+21·2
Re-exports .	2,13,03,200	+ 55,64,119	+35·3

In the following remarks the returns for September, 1910, are compared with those of September, 1909 :—

IMPORTS—PRIVATE MERCHANDISE.

Animals Living.

This class shows a surplus of some Rs. 3,72,165 (+102 per cent), due principally to increased imports of *horses* from Australia, which advanced from 288 to 1,358 +372 per cent) in number, and from Rs. 1,56,400 to Rs. 5,61,100 (+259 per cent) in value.

Articles of Food and Drink.

There was an improvement of Rs. 52·83 lakhs (+23·6 per cent) in the total value of this group. *Sugar* with an advance of Rs. 46·44 lakhs (+27·3 per cent), and *Spices* with one of Rs. 4·35 lakhs (+47·2 per cent) are the two items chiefly responsible for the net increase. The excess of sugar was derived mainly from Java and taken by Calcutta. In fact Java finished some 292,243 cwts (+18·1 per cent) ahead of the total for September, 1909. On the other hand, arrivals from Mauritius fell short of the previous. September figure by some 61,894 cwts (—47·3 per cent). The improvement in *spices* is associated largely with *betelnuts* from the Straits Settlements, the figures being 13 million pounds (+85·6 per cent valued at Rs. 8,67,246 as compared with 7 million pounds with a declared value of Rs. 4,50,059 in the corresponding month of the preceding year. The only other notable increase in this group is found in Liverpool salt, which improved its position from 5,361 tons in September, 1909, to 17,036 tons in 1910, Calcutta taking as usual the entire quantity.

Metals and manufactures of metals.—This class is marked by a falling off of Rs. 17·72 lakhs (—3·8 per cent). Imports of *railway plant and rolling stock* receded by Rs. 32·11 lakhs (—61·3 per cent), all the principal items in the group participating in the stagnation. The combined value of the *iron and steel* group shows an advance of Rs. 9·98 lakhs (+18·1 per cent), *galvanized sheets and plates* under *iron* being responsible for Rs. 3·51 lakhs (35·2 per cent) of the increase and the omnibus head "Other sorts" under *steel* for Rs. 5·57 lakhs (55·8 per cent). *Hardware and cutlery* shows an excess of Rs. 3·06 lakhs (+13·5 per cent), but the increases in the individual items constituting the group are not such as to call for special remarks.

Chemicals, Drugs etc.

The value of imports under this class amounted to Rs. 29·34 lakhs as compared with Rs. 31·29 lakhs in September of the previous year. *Drugs and medicines* with an aggregate value of Rs. 7·1 lakhs declined by a lakh of rupees (—12·4 per cent), the difference representing the drop in imports of *quinine*. Imports of *tobacco* were smaller than those recorded in the previous September (630,015 lbs.) by some 75·7 per cent in point of weight, but the falling off in value was one of 40·2 per cent only. The decline is common to all the sub-heads. *Dyeing and tanning materials* is the one group in this class marked by an increase (from Rs. 9,27,288 to Rs. 11,83,529), aniline dyes being responsible for the improvement.

Oils.

The recorded value for this class shows an excess of some Rs. 20·84 lakhs (104·8 per cent) over the figure of September of the previous year. Interest attaches to the fluctuations in the imports of kerosene oil. In September last year the imports were some 4,330,000 gallons with a declared value of Rs. 14,71,033. In the month under review the arrivals reached the total of 7,022,149 gallons (+66 per cent), the declared value being Rs. 30,32,406 (+106·1 per cent). The bulk of the increase has been contributed by the United States of America, which sent some 4,900,000 gallons instead of 558,000 gallons in the previous September. Sumatra also doubled its previous year's contribution of 628,925 gallons. Russia does not figure at all in the returns of the month, although its share in the imports of September, 1909, was one of some 1,075,000 gallons. The sub-head mineral oils "other kinds" is also marked by an increase from 552,532 gallons to 1,504,895 gallons in volume and from Rs. 3,82,523 to Rs. 9,03,869 in value ; the improvement occurs mainly in lubricating oils.

Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles.

The imports in this class show a heavy fall of Rs. 15·22 lakhs (—26·9 per cent). *Coal* declined by nearly 2 lakhs of rupees, the drop occurring mainly in the shipments from Natal. Imports of *precious stones and pearls unset* were smaller by Rs. 10·12 lakhs. Timber is another item marked by a decrease of Rs. 2·03 lakhs. Silk, on the other hand, improved by nearly 2 lakhs of rupees, the bulk of the increase having been received from China.

Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured.

In this class there is an advance of Rs. 57,94,455 (+10·1 per cent). Cotton goods (yarn, piece-good

and other manufactures) received during the month were valued at Rs. 405·65 lakhs, this figure being in excess of that of the previous year by Rs 18·6 lakhs (+4·8 per cent). Woollen manufactures showed a recovery of Rs. 19·42 lakhs (+54·3 per cent) due to increased imports of *piece-goods* and *shawls* from the United Kingdom and Germany. Other items in which considerable increases are noticed are *apparel*, the value of which advanced from Rs. 26,19,511 to Rs. 30,97,523 (+18.2 per cent), *glass* and *glassware* which rose from Rs. 9,74,823 to Rs. 12,97,710 (+33·1 per cent), and *instruments* and *apparatus* from Rs. 7,92,640 to Rs. 9,32,633 +29·1 per cent). A considerable falling off occurs in *Ships, parts of*, the value having contracted from Rs. 3,63,902 to Rs. 71,839. This is stated to be due to the comparative absence of demand for riverine launches in Burma.

Treasure.

Imports of gold advanced by Rs. 53·58 lakhs (+58 per cent), all the maritime provinces with the exception of Madras sharing in the increase. Of the contributing countries the United Kingdom improved her position from Rs. 57·97 lakhs to Rs. 138 42 lakhs (+138 per cent), but Australia's share dwindled to Rs. 202 as compared with Rs. 26,04,288 in the preceding year. Silver, on the other hand, declined by Rs. 81·1 lakhs, almost all the principal countries sending smaller quantities of the metal.

Government Stores.

The value under this head declined by Rs. 8·85 lakhs (—21·2 per cent), *railway plant and rolling stock* accounting for Rs. 3·33 lakhs, or 37·6 per cent of the contraction.

EXPORTS.

Articles of Food and Drink.

The total value of this class advanced by Rs. 108·15 lakhs (+33·6 per cent). The principal items responsible for the net increase are *rice, not in the husk*, with an advance of Rs. 39·94 lakhs (+48 per cent), *wheat* with an advance of Rs. 70·94 lakhs (+265·2 per cent), and *pulse* with one of Rs. 5·41 lakhs (+117·4 per cent). On the other hand, shipments of *tea, black*, contracted by 3,859 000 lbs. (—9·8 per cent) in quantity, and Rs. 16·95 lakhs (—9·3 per cent) in value. Exports of *rice, not in the husk*, amounted to 2,344,167 cwts, valued at Rs. 1,23,21,832, and showed an increase of 712,685 cwts (+43·7 per cent) in volume, and of Rs. 39·94 lakhs (+48 per cent) in value. Exports of *wheat* from Sind aggregated 1,493,253 cwts and were valued Rs. 77·01 lakhs; those figures are some 1,090,000 cwts. (+274·2 per cent) and some Rs. 50·00 lakhs (+215·6 per cent) in excess of the previous year. Exports of *tea, black*, to United Kingdom contracted by 4,038,403 lbs. (—13·1 per cent), the falling off in value being one of Rs. 19·29 lakhs (—13·5 per cent). Ceylon also took smaller quantities. On the other hand, Australia increased her takings by 901,458 lbs (+63·5 per cent) in quantity, and Rs. 4·32 lakhs (+71·4 per cent) in value. Of the other articles in this class, *coffee* showed an improvement of Rs. 4·83 lakhs (+456·9 per cent). The coffee crop in Madras has been a good one, and there has been strong demand from France and Belgium.

Metals and Manufactures thereof.

The value shows a slight increase of Rs. 66·000 (+9 1 per cent) only. Shipments of *manganese ore* totalled 674,320 cwts and were almost on the previous year's level.

Chemicals, Drugs, etc.

This class shows an increase of Rs. 28·87 lakhs (+39 8 per cent) in value, due principally to the higher prices ruling for *opium*; for although the number of chests shipped was only 3,733 as against 4,599 (—18·8 per cent), the value was higher by Rs. 31·36 lakhs (+51·8 per cent). Shipments of *saltpetre* declined by Rs. 1·28 lakhs (—32·9 per cent) and of *Myrobalans* by Rs. 1·34 lakhs (—41·9 per cent).

Oils.

In the trade in *oils* there is net increase of Rs. 5·71 lakhs (+80·4 per cent), resulting mainly from increase in the shipments of *cocoanut oils* and *paraffin wax*. The value of the shipments of the former increased from Rs. 1,82,000 to Rs. 4,44,000 (+143·3 per cent), and of the latter by Rs. 1,97,000 (+65·4 per cent). *Castor oil* also shows an improvement from Rs. 99,000 to Rs. 1,47,000 (+48·6 per cent).

Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles.

The total value shows a net increase of Rs. 73·37 lakhs (+16·7 per cent). *Raw cotton* improved by 109,875 cwts (+63 per cent) in quantity, and Rs. 50·32 lakhs (+87·9 per cent) in value. All the principal importing countries took larger quantities, the most noticeable instance being that of Italy which took 71,592 cwts as against 22,315 cwts in September, 1909. Shipments from Bombay were 123 per cent higher in value, and those from Sind were valued at Rs. 13·39 lakhs as against Rs. 35,000 only in September, 1909. *Seeds* improved by 41,727 cwts (+2·8 per cent) in volume and Rs. 28·13 lakhs (+28·7 per cent) in value, the increase occurring chiefly in *linseed* and *rapeseed*. *Groundnuts* contracted from Rs. 8·74 lakhs in September, 1909, to Rs. 90,000; it may be remarked that the shipments of the previous year were abnormal. *Wood* and *timber* were better by Rs. 2·66 lakhs, or 66·7 per cent. Shipments of *hides and skins* were larger by 16,326 cwts (+21·7 per cent) in volume; and Rs. 5·94 lakhs (+12 per cent) in value; bigger quantities were taken by Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy. Export of *jute, raw*, fell short of the previous year's figures by 306,329 cwts. (—16·9 per cent) in volume and Rs. 23·41 lakhs (—12·3 per cent) in value. The United Kingdom, Germany and United States of America all took smaller quantities, but France took some 130,000 cwts (+103·9 per cent) more than in the preceding year. Exports of *wool* were higher by Rs. 2·54 lakhs (+23·5 per cent) due to increased exports to United Kingdom.

Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured.

The total value under this head was smaller by Rs. 47,000 (—·15 per cent). Exports of cotton piece-goods rose by Rs. 7·4 lakhs (+45·9 per cent), of *jute goods* by Rs. 12·21 lakhs (+7·3 per cent), and of *coir* by Rs. 3·07 lakhs (+104·1 per cent), whereas those of *cotton yarn* receded by Rs. 26·51 lakhs (—36·6 per cent). The increase in *cotton piece-goods* was mainly brought about by a larger demand from Asiatic Turkey and Aden, the value advancing by Rs. 4·2 lakhs (+550 per cent) in the former case and by nearly Rs. 1·5 lakhs (+144·8 per cent) in the latter. Of gunny bags China took nearly 10 lakhs of rupees (—83·5 per cent) worth less than in 1909, but Australia increased her purchases by Rs. 23·87 lakhs (+137 per cent). The net fall in the total value noticed above results from the considerable shrinkage which occurred in the shipments of Cotton yarn to China; the falling off was one of 7,377,800 lbs. in volume and of Rs. 28·99 lakhs in value.

RE-EXPORTS.

The total value of exports of Foreign Merchandise increased by Rs. 6·2 lakhs (+26 per cent). The largest increase occurred in *cotton manufactures* which advanced by Rs. 2·73 lakhs (+27 per cent). *Sugar* with an advance of Rs. 1·21 lakhs (+117·7 per cent) comes next in importance, while *raw wool* declined by Rs. 1·46 lakhs (—47·4 per cent).

Treasure.

Exports of *gold* kept practically to the level of the last year, but there was an advance of Rs. 21·28 lakhs (+147·8 per cent) in the exports of *silver*, Ceylon, taking to the value Rs. 19,14,123 (+4484·8 per cent) as compared with Rs. 41,749 in September 1909.

Miscellaneous.

There was an improvement of Rs. 7·5 lakhs (+11 per cent) in the collection of duty on imports; the export duty also advanced by Rs. 2·22 lakhs (+45 per cent).

—In the Consular Report on the Trade and Agriculture of Bavaria for 1909-10, it is stated, in connection with the **German jute industry combine**, that notice to terminate the agreement at the end of the calendar year 1910, has been given by several members of the association. This will necessitate dissolution. According to the *Conf*, the association will, if at all possible, be re-established in a remodelled form. The discussions are to be resumed shortly so as to bring about a solidarity of interests of the German jute spinners and weavers after December 31st, 1910.

THE POSITION OF RUBBER.

In an article published in the *Financial and Commercial Supplement* of July 29th the inference was drawn from statistics then available that the prospects for an early recovery in prices of indiarubber were not encouraging. The course of the market since then has fully borne out that suggestion. Not only has there been no recovery from the depression then prevailing, but the fall in values has continued almost without interruption up to the present time. Indeed the decline since the last week of July has been much more severe than that recorded in the previous three months. Fine hard Para was at the end of July quoted at about 9*s.* 3*d.* per lb., a fall of roughly 2*s.* since the beginning of May. Yesterday the same quality was sold at about 6*s.* per lb., a further decline of 3*s.* 3*d.*, or 36 per cent., and compared with the highest price paid on April 20 (12*s.* 4*d.*) the fall amounts to 6*s.* 4*d.* per lb., or even 51 per cent. At the auctions this week smoked sheet plantation sold at 5*s.* 5*d.*, as against 12*s.* 10*d.* on April 20th, a loss of nearly 58 per cent.

Reasons for the Reaction.

Various reasons are put forward to explain this remarkable reaction within the short space of five months. A favourite theory ascribes the decline to over-speculation on the part of certain big Eastern people whose financing facilities were withdrawn, but this can hardly be reckoned to be more than an incident in the downward movement. The real cause is, no doubt, the rapid and great increase in supplies in conjunction with the fact that one of the largest consumers—namely, the United States—has found that it was necessary to curtail demand for the commodity. The motor-car industry in America was proceeding at a rate far in excess of the requirements of the market, so much so, that one of the leading manufacturers of that country found himself crippled, with an unsold stock, according to reports, of about 4,000 automobiles, and had to suspend building operations. And while such important consumers had to withdraw from the market for indiarubber, supplies of raw material continued to arrive in increasing quantities. Moreover, what happened in America occurred in a lesser degree in Europe; many firms using rubber found it advisable, if not imperative, to restrict new purchases, and the result has been a steady accumulation of supplies. The weakness was accentuated in a marked degree by the fact that during the "boom" in the spring a number of speculators, small and large, had bought rubber for forward delivery, and their efforts to "cut" their losses on a falling market had a most demoralizing influence.

Increasing Supplies.

The imports of indiarubber into the United Kingdom amounted during July and August to 6,460 tons, as against 4,760 tons last year, and during the eight months from January to August to 31,580 tons, as compared with 22,560 tons, an increase of 1,700 tons and 9,020 tons, respectively. The imports

into France during the eight months were 12,840 tons, as against 10,220 tons in 1909, an increase of 2,620 tons; and into Belgium 5,260 tons, as against 4,610 tons, an increase of 650 tons. The imports into Germany during the same period aggregated 12,500 tons, as compared with 9,690 tons, an increase of 2,810 tons.

The receipts at Para from January 1st to September 30th amount to 28,630 tons, as against 27,640 tons last year and 28,230 tons in 1908; and during the remaining three months of the year the receipts are expected to be fully equal to those of last year.

The stocks in Liverpool of Para and Caucho rubber on the 1st instant were estimated at 1,740 tons, as against 340 tons a year ago and 280 tons in 1908, and the total visible supply of Para (including Caucho) is estimated at 4,700 tons, as compared with 2,440 in 1909 and 3,270 in 1908.

It must not, however, be supposed that the United States have been starved of rubber during the current year. No official details are available of the quantity shipped to that country from England; but it has taken during the eight months 1,420 tons from Germany, as against 700 tons last year; 3,040 tons from France, as against 1,150 tons; and 1,080 tons from Belgium, as against 750 tons; while the direct shipments of rubber from Brazil to the United States during the first half of the year reached 7,790 tons. It cannot be doubted that supplies of this useful commodity will go on increasing. The Brazilian Government finds its production to be one of the best sources of revenue, and is encouraging the output in every way in its power; large new virgin forests of rubber trees are reported to have been discovered in the territory of the Amazon, and a portion of them is already being exploited. The output of plantation kinds is also growing apace; a computation recently published estimated the output of 17 leading Eastern companies next year at 4,000 tons, and in 1912 at over 5,000 tons.

Prospects.

Taking existing and prospective supplies into consideration, it does not seem unreasonable to assume that no permanent and important recovery from the present basis of values is now to be expected; but that, on the contrary, prices are more likely to continue to seek a lower level—to where they were, say, in 1908. Any speculative ventures based on the assumption that the present price of 6*s.* or below is due to artificial depression—on the part of an Anglo-American combination—as is so persistently asserted—do not seem likely to be promising propositions.

In consequence of the vast sums which have been invested in shares of rubber-producing companies, events in the market for the raw material are of much greater public interest than formerly, share quotations have naturally responded to the decline in the price of the commodity, but proportionately the depreciation has been less severe in the case of shares of the established concerns, it being pointed out that as many of the principal plantation companies are able to produce rubber at a cost of something like 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb., even a lower level of prices than is now ruling would still leave a comfortable margin of profit, and that as most of the companies making returns show increasing outputs, the effect of the fall in price may be partly counteracted by the larger production.—*Times.*

TRADE OF CEYLON.

Exports.

THE particulars below are extracted from the Annual Report on Ceylon for 1909 :—

	1907.		1908.		1909.	
	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. British India .	60,468,700	1	54,137,000	1	51,078,100	1
2. United Kingdom	32,626,000	2	32,329,000	2	32,576,100	2
3. Straits Settlements.	2,904,100	5	9,906,500	3	13,073,200	3
4. Burma . . .	4,045,800	3	3,040,000	4	5,574,500	4
5. Germany . .	2,921,100	4	2,826,400	5	3,296,500	5
6. Maldive Islands	2,267,000	6	2,033,200	6	2,455,000	6
7. Hong Kong: .	1,152,600	11	1,789,000	8	2,047,000	7
8. Japan . . .	1,507,000	8	1,818,700	7	1,713,500	8
9. United States of America	1,002,400	12	1,097,500	12	1,077,000	9
10. Austria . . .	1,297,500	9	1,120,600	11	1,069,400	10
11. Russia . .	59,700	25	737,900	19	1,016,200	11

Tea.

The following table shows the comparative distribution of Ceylon tea in 1908 and 1909 :—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1908. lbs.	1909. lbs.
I.—UNITED KINGDOM .	109,297,386	120,496,262
II.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS—		
British India . .	1,912,357	1,363,095
Canada . . .	8,047,730	8,176,403
Cape Colony . .	383,399	357,738
Hong Kong . .	273,099	217,710
Malta . .	257,675	267,900
Natal . . .	612,958	601,355
New South Wales .	8,863,775	9,483,000
New Zealand . .	4,493,202	4,710,156
Queensland . .	821,510	911,93?
South Australia . .	1,144,936	1,327,978
Straits Settlements .	471,976	398,942
Victoria . . .	6,140,989	7,378,684
West Australia . .	567,983	665,775
Other British Possessions	590,696	458,323
Total British Possessions	34,582,285	36,318,998

	1908. lbs.	1909. lbs.
III.—FOREIGN COUNTRIES :—		
Austria . . .	157,013	189,906
China (excluding Hong-Kong) . . .	7,344,623	7,296,362
Egypt	488,336	293,750
France	609,829	772,702
Germany . . .	504,448	646,407
Russia	19,612,592	16,972,656
Turkey	314,583	130,636
United States . .	5,888,238	9,043,313
Other Foreign Countries	598,979	725,553
Total Foreign Countries	35,518,641	36,071,285
GRAND TOTAL .	179,398,312	192,886,545

Our staple continues to develop; the total quantity exported to all countries was about thirteen and a half million pounds in excess of the previous year. The United Kingdom took most of this, while larger supplies also went to Australia and the United States of America. Russia has reduced her imports during the year, due probably to the development of her trade in Indian teas, for which Colombo is a point of distribution. In green tea alone there was an increase of nearly half a million pounds, while exports of this kind to the United States of America rose from 794,964 lbs. in 1908 to 1,718,436 lbs. in 1909. The average price of teas generally rose from 41 cents per lb. in 1908 to 40 to 43 cents per lb. in the year under review, prices being more favourable during the latter half of the year.

Rubber.

In 1909 the United Kingdom took a quantity in excess of the entire exports of 1908. The United States of America is our next best customer, taking double the quantity she did in 1908. After deducting Straits rubber sold in the local market, the total quantity exported was as follows :—

	Cwt.
1908	7,808
1909	13,621

During the year prices for rubber reached unprecedented figures, influenced by a very strong demand and a short supply. The record prices paid for Ceylon plantation rubber were 9*s.* 3¾*d.* per lb. in London, and Rs. 7·20 in Colombo. The year closed with a quotation of 7*s.* 7⅛*d.* for fine hard Para. The Chamber of Commerce reports :—

"Further points which deserve special mention are the general improvement in, and greater regularity of, quality, which have been noticeable during the year, many estates (more particularly those making use of crepe machines) having turned out rubber of such even quality, size, and colour that it has become customary to deal in the produce of such estates on the mark alone, without samples, which has tended to greatly facilitate business.

"Statistics relating to importing markets show the position at the close of the year to be exceptionally satisfactory from a producer's point of view, and prospects for 1910 would appear to be all that can be desired."

PORT TRUST ADMINISTRATION.

Calcutta.

IT appears from the Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta for 1909-10, just issued, that the income of the Trust in the year under report amounted to Rs. 1,18,36,518 or Rs. 1,80,112 less than in 1908-09. This temporary set-back after the steady progress of the previous 12 years, in which the revenue increased from Rs. 62 lakhs to Rs. 120 lakhs, was anticipated in last year's report. The exports of coal from the Docks were about a quarter of a million tons less than in the preceding year, and while grain and seeds show an increase of 170,000 tons and the total exports were about the same, the imports handled at the Docks were 100,000 tons less. The whole of this decrease was in respect of the imports of rice and was naturally to be expected as the previous year was a famine year in India and rice was imported from Burma in very large quantities. This falling off in the Dock traffic, with its proportionate effect on the River Dues and the terminal payments made by the railways on their traffic to and from the Docks, meant a loss of revenue equivalent to practically the whole of the decrease as compared with the preceding year. At the Foreign Import Jetties 120,000 tons more goods were landed than in 1908-09, but against the increase in wharfage on these imports there was a decrease in rent owing to the quicker clearance of the goods and a considerable falling off in the earnings from the floating cranes provided for the manipulation of heavy lifts; the nett result being an increase of only Rs. 22,000 in the earnings of the Import Jetties. There was a falling off also in the tonnage of goods imported and exported coastwise during the year, which further reduced the receipts from River Dues payable on goods, while the total number of vessels entering the Port was less by 34 and the receipts from mooring hire, Harbour Masters' fees and transporting charges show a corresponding decrease.

The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 1,19,97,364, but this total includes three works of an extraordinary and non-recurring nature, namely, the reconstruction of the jetty at the 60-foot Dock entrance and the removal of the wrecks of the S. S. "Onipenta" and the S. S. "Aral," which the Commissioners at first proposed to debit direct to their Revenue Reserve Fund as not being chargeable to the revenue of one particular year. Subsequently, however, it was decided that all expenditure on maintenance works of whatever character should be debited to the revenue of the year in which it is incurred. Excluding these exceptional items the ordinary revenue expenditure in 1909-10 amounted to Rs. 1,18,26,444 and the years working would have closed with a surplus of Rs. 10,074.

When the Commissioners framed their estimates for the year it was thought that the general depression in trade which had marked the preceding year was at an end, and in placing their income for

1909-10 at Rs. 125 lakhs it was anticipated that there would be a very considerable accession of traffic both at the Jetties and the Docks. In this view they budgeted for an increase of Rs. 2½ lakhs at the Jetties and Rs. 1½ lakhs at the Docks as compared with the income of the preceding year, with corresponding increases in the earnings from Port Dues, River Dues and Railway. The expected revival of trade, however, did not take place until late in the year, and although for the last five months the revenue was the greatest on record, the Budget Estimate was not realised. On the other hand, there was a saving of nearly Rs. 4 lakhs in the ordinary working expenses of the year, as compared with the estimate of expenditure, owing to the actual tonnage handled being smaller than was anticipated.

Provision was made in the Budget for an expenditure during the year of Rs. 1,03,50,000, of which Rs. 50 lakhs was the amount estimated to be required to the 31st March 1910 for the acquisition of land notified for the extension of the Docks, and Rs. 53½ lakhs for new works and works in progress. The actual expenditure on Capital Account, however, amounted to Rs. 1,24,28,320 made up as follows :—

Jetties		1,26,331
Railway		2,08,709
Docks—		
Land	89,21,679	
Works	19,87,386	
		1,09,09,065
Inland Vessels Wharves		2,93,038
Port and Port Approaches		1,59,673
Petroleum Wharf		1,71,084
Ferry Service		5,60,429
TOTAL		1,24,28,320

Rangoon.

We learn from the Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon for the year 1909-10, that the ordinary port revenue during the year under report was Rs. 29,31,263, while the ordinary expenditure amounted to Rs. 33,45,343. The corresponding figures for 1908-09 were Rs. 28,86,166 and Rs. 29,29,033. The most noticeable features on the expenditure side of the accounts is the item of Rs. 12,78,688. to meet charges on account of interest on, and the sinking funds for, the various loans raised since the year 1903.

The total capital expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 82,66,110, of which only Rs. 41,33,261 were spent on new works as under :— Wharf extension work, 12,51,572; Fixed mooring scheme, 29,156 ; Land acquisiton and equipment, 11,27,407 ; Construction of warehouses and godowns, 79,373; River training works, 15,98,106 ; Removal of the Hastings shoal, 1,47,647.

Satisfactory progress was made during the year towards carrying out the River-training scheme. For many years past the continued erosion of the right bank of the river above Rangoon has caused the Port Commissioners grave anxiety. In 1903 the Chairman and Chief Engineer, in a lengthy report on the subject, remarked that unless the *laisser faire* policy hitherto adopted was abandoned, the silting up of the port was only a matter of time, and he expressed the opinion that the only effective way of dealing with the matter was to build a training wall which would bring the right bank of the river to, approximately, the line of frontage which existed before erosion had taken place. The works now being carried out are the result of this report, and of much subsequent deliberation by various committees of eminent engineers, and were finally designed by the Chairman and Chief Engineer after a tour of inspection of large river works in America and China. The works being executed comprise—(1) the construction of a training wall 10,000 feet long in depths varying from 20 to 50 feet of water below low water ordinary spring tides; (2) the dredging of a new channel simultaneously with constructing the wall, the object being—(*a*) to form a new channel outside the wall, (*b*) to assist the reclamation of the bight inside the wall;(3) the removal of the projection point known as Mower's point.

In the report for last year a reference was made to the memorial to the local Government sent by certain firms who complained, *inter alia*, that they had been deprived of certain vested rights by the Port Commissioners' notification under section 71 of the Act, and who prayed that the fullest inquiries might be instituted into the present policy of the Commissioners. The Port Commissioners' view of the matter at issue was submitted to the local Government in a letter, dated the 14th May 1909, and on the 16th September, 1909, a resolution was issued by the Government of Burma.

There was a strong wish on all sides that this question which had been for some years agitating the minds of foreshore owners should be finally disposed of, and in due course a committee was appointed. The Lieutenant-Governor has accepted the conclusions of the committee, and effect is being given to the various recommendations.

—One of the latest uses to which **electricity** has been applied is, according to a Home paper, that for the **seasoning of wood.** The process, which is of French origin, is said to be simple, inexpensive, and moreover, to require but a few hours. There is a large tank which is filled with a solution comprising 10 per cent of borax and 5 per cent of resin with just a trace of carbonate of soda. In the bottom of the tank is a lead plate which is electrically connected to the positive terminal or pole of the dynamo. The timber to be heated is stacked on this plate, and when the tank has been filled another plate is superimposed and connected to the second or negative pole of the dynamo. When the current is switched on it is passed right through the stack of wood between the two plates, and in its passage it is stated to drive out the sap in the timber and to deposit borax and resin in its place, completely filling up all the pores and interstices. When the process is completed the timber is removed and dried, after which it is ready for use. It is claimed that the timber submitted to this treatment, no matter how green it may be, becomes completely seasoned.

AUSTRALIAN CORNSACK DIFFICULTY.

Views of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

IN the *Indian Trade Journal* of September 15th, 1910 (page 295), attention was drawn to a communication from the Government of Australia to the Government of India requesting stricter compliance on the part of shippers of cornsacks with the rules that govern the admission of such sacks into the Commonwealth of Australia and pointing out that, if the conditions laid down were not complied with in future, consignments would be liable to confiscation.

The important point in the conditions in question is that the fixed standard for Australian cornsacks is as under, and Indian mills are expected to work up to it if trade with Australia is desired :—

Size—41 inches by 23 inches.
Weight when baled—2¾ lbs.
Substance—8 porter, 9 shot.

A copy of the Australian communication was forwarded to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, for consideration, and in a letter dated October 27th to the Government of Bengal, the Secretary of that body has replied in the following terms :—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1666-T. G., dated the 24th September, 1910, forwarding for the information of the Chamber a copy of a communication from the Commonwealth of Australia, dated the 29th July, 1910, and its enclosure, regarding the conditions which have been imposed by the Government of that Colony in respect of the importation of cornsacks. The matter has engaged the earnest attention of the Committee of the Chamber, and they have been in communication with the Indian Jute Mills Association and the Jute Fabrics Shippers' Association regarding it.

It appears that in a Proclamation, dated 13th February, 1908, by the Governor General of the Commonwealth, certain conditions were laid down to regulate the size, weight and substance of imported cornsacks ; the importation of cornsacks into Australia contrary to the conditions and restrictions specified was prohibited. It further appears that the penalties for non-observance of the conditions include forfeiture of the sacks.

I am directed to say that the Chamber and the trade interested in the exportation of cornsacks to Australia regard the position, as disclosed in the correspondence accompanying your letter, with considerable concern. They feel that the regulations which the Australian Commonwealth seek to impose so stringently have been drawn up without due regard having been paid to the conditions under which cornsacks are manufactured. With a fibre so coarse in its nature as jute, with the climatic conditions prevailing in India and with native labour (even although the latter is under skilled European supervision) it is quite impossible to guarantee such uniformity in weight, texture, etc., as is demanded by the Australian Government. It is because of the conditions referred to that the usual stipulation on which such manufactures as cornsacks are sold is that they should be "fair average "; and the definition "fair average" is generally well understood and accepted in the trade.

In paragraph 3 of the despatch of 29th July from His Excellency the Governor General of Australia, reference is made to the loss of weight in bales due to evaporation ; it is stated that explanations of short weight by excessive evaporation will not be seriously considered and that no allowance in exceptional cases on that account in excess of ten pounds per bale will be permitted. It will be readily appreciated by the Government of Bengal that this condition cannot possibly be worked to : goods that are manufactured here during the rains especially are bound to contain a certain amount of moisture which will evaporate in the course of a journey through the tropics to Australia. And in this connection the allowance of ten pounds per bale is quite insufficient.

It is unnecessary to enlarge on the difficulties which will confront the trade here should the Australian Government maintain the conditions which they have imposed. It is sufficient to say that the difficulties will be such that the Committee anticipate that a considerable proportion of the responsible firms now engaged in the cornsack trade with Australia will seriously question the advisability of continuing their business with the Commonwealth.

I am directed to express the hope that His Honour will move the Government of India to address the Government of the Commonwealth on the matter.

THE MANCHURIAN BEAN TRADE.

A PEKIN correspondent in the *Manchester Guardian* referring to the probable competition in the soya bean trade as the result of the renewal of the German import duty of forty marks per ton, gives some interesting facts concerning this trade. He says :— To the various kinds of beans grown in Manchuria and North China only brief reference need be made, since by this time they must be well known. The Chinese distinguish between them by their colours. There is the yellow, or Huang Ton ; the green, or Ch'ing Ton ; the black, or Hei Ton ; the white, or Pai Ton ; the red, or Hung Ton ; and the small green, or Lu Ton. Of these, the yellow, green, and black are varieties of the soya bean, and all are distinguished by their ovoid shape. The first is the most important, and is divisible into three subspecies—namely, the Pai-mei (white eyebrow), the Chin-huang or Chin guan (golden round or yellow round), and the Hei-chi (black billy). The method of cultivation—local difference being allowed for—is as follows :—The ground is prepared for sowing as soon as the frost will permit, usually in April or May , and the seed is then planted in drills about 17 inches apart, about 40 or 50 pounds being required per acre. During the period of growth the ground between the rows is worked and pulled up

three or four times. Crops are cut with the sickle about the end of September or the first part of October, and left in heaps for a few days, when they are carted away for threshing. The stalks are spread about one foot deep over hard, smooth ground, and over them is passed a stone roller, drawn by a pony or mule. The pods broken and the beans taken out, the stalks are removed, and the beans winnowed either by machine or by being tossed against the wind. The average yield per acre is estimated by one authority at from 12 to 15 centals. The main soya bean belt extends for 50 miles on both sides of the railway between Harbin and the Leased Territory, and large districts are given up to its cultivation west of the Liao river and north of the Sungari.

The enormous area has four main inland markets, Changchun, Harbin, Kirim, and Tiehling. The first sends all its beans to Dalny, and the second to Vladivostok. Beans from the Kirim district go both to Harbin and to Changchun, and those from Tiehling both to Dalny and Newchwang. At Harbin which is the centre of a district extending north-east for 120 miles, purchases are made through Chinese and Russian brokers, the season beginning considerably later than it does at Changchun. The price of beans per pood (40 Russian, 36·113 English, pounds) varies between 45 and 70 kopecks—the price in the middle of August being about 63 kopecks (100 kopecks=1 rouble=2*s.* 1·6*d.*) The railway freight to Vladivostok is 23·59 kopecks per pood, or 14·50 roubles per ton. A Russian railway car carries about 14½ tons, and the beans are packed in gunny bags which cost about 22 kopecks each and take 196lb. of beans. The steamer freight to Europe is about 26*s.* a ton. Last season Vladivostok exported, in round numbers, 200,000 tons; the year before 250,000 tons. At Changchun buying is done through Chinese middlemen, who deal direct with the farmers. Beans are brought by the tan, which at Changchun means 3 piculs 20 catties (426 2-3lb.), but which varies enormously. Last season prices started at 25 tiao per tan, and went as high as 48 to 50 tiao per tan, the season closing at 46 tiao 600 cash. About 5 tiao go to the tael. Buying begins about the middle of August. With forward contracts as much as 85 per cent—sometimes the whole—of the contract price is paid down at once. During the season October, 1908, to June, 1909, Changchun sent to Dalny by rail about 278,000 tons; last season about 170,000 tons—the railway freight per ton being 8·30 gold yen. Tiehling, south of Changchun, and near the Liao river, prefers the cheaper river freights, which vary according to the depth of water between 6 and 3 small coin dollars per ton. Thus Newchwang obtains its beans in three ways, rail and cart during the winter, by river during the summer. Beans arriving by cart are generally brought down by the farmers themselves, who own the carts and mules. These carts are heavy, two-wheeled vehicles drawn by from five to seven horses or mules, and carrying from two to three tons. Some 20,000 to 30,000 cart loads of beans and bean-products come to Newchwang from the interior each winter. Beans arriving by river are brought down by boatmen, who purchase cargoes of from five to seven tons at grain markets situated near the river. On their return trip these boatmen, like the carters, often take cargoes of miscellaneous goods. All transactions in Newchwang are made by middlemen, the monetary unit being the transfer tael, which is a certificate of credit issued against purchases. Its value is about 1·25 Mexican, and settlements, of clearances, are made on the first day of the 3rd, 6th, 9th, and 12th (Chinese) moons.

High prices were the special feature of last season's bean trade, resulting in some instances in Chinese repudiating their contracts. Two years ago the price of beans per ton in London was about £5. At the present time their c. i. f. price per ton is about £7. 5*s.*, the price of bean oil (f. o. b.) in Dalny being £21. 10*s.* per ton, and (c. i. f.) in London £26. 10*s.* per ton. The main cause of this rise was increased demand due, on the China side to the appearance of a number of small buyers using the trade very much as a venture; and, on the home side to a chain of causes beginning in the shortage of American maize and oil seeds and ending in a diminution of the usual supplies of oil for the soap-pan. This year prices are likely to range considerably lower. In the first place this year's bean crop is estimated to be 20 per cent bigger than last season's and, in the second, many of the smaller buyers who were hard hit last year will probably drop out on the market, leaving it to Messrs. Mitsui and Co. and Messrs. Samuel Macgregor and Co. It is not unlikely that these two firms may come to some arrangement which will still further diminish competition. Moreover, there seems to be little doubt that the price of lard will continue to fall, and so give relief to the oils which are now being used for edible purposes. On the other hand, future prices of soya bean oil depend to a large extent upon those of cotton seed and linseed oil. It is too early as yet to say what these are likely to be. With this "oil question" the more distant future of the Manchurian bean trade is intimately connected.

In Manchuria itself the oil extracted from the soya bean is comparatively unimportant. Bean cake is the main object of the trade—though the reverse of this has, I notice, been erroneously stated. I have an expert's authority for saying that the cultivation of the soya bean is not likely to be taken up to any great extent either in West or South Africa; and it is doubtful whether any very great results may be expected from its cultivation in America. Consequently, with the demand for oil in Europe constantly growing, the soya bean cultivated in Manchuria is likely to become more and more important. So far, practically nothing has been done to make soya bean oil an edible oil, but experiments are being made, and this, again, increases the possibilities of the Manchurian bean trade. Appended are the latest official figures for the export from Dalny of beancake, beans, and bean oil since January 1st, 1910:—Figures are in piculs.—1½ picul equals 200 lb.

	Beancake.	Beans.	Bean oil.
Hongkong	...	363,164	604
Dutch Indies	...	23,045	...
Egypt*	...	2,266,806	4,140
Great Britain	92	391,197	10,533
Denmark	...	162,710	1,694
Japan (including Formosa).	2,165,831	772,012	84,327
Netherlands		...	336
Belgium	...	...	4,480

* Including cargoes shipped to Egyptian port of call "for orders."

THE HISTORY AND PRESENT CONDITION OF THE TOBACCO TRADE.

THE *Economist* publishes the following article:—Tobacco is now so generally consumed, and the habit of smoking so firmly ingrained, that it is difficult to imagine that only about three and a-half centuries ago Europeans were ignorant of its existence. As is well known, tobacco is an American plant, and tradition links the name of Sir Walter Raleigh with its discovery. As is often the case, tradition is not strictly accurate. To Sir Francis Drake, and not Sir Walter Raleigh, probably, belongs the honour of its introduction in 1585 from Virginia into England. Hernandez de Toledo had brought it to Spain and Portugal a quarter of a century earlier, and it was not long before the new habit of smoking spread over most of Europe and into parts of Asia as well.

In spite of Royal and other attempts to discourage smoking—notable among which is James I's famous "counterblast against tobacco"—the English rapidly acquired the habit, and now, although not such great smokers as many other nations, consume some 90 million lbs annually.

Although tobacco is American in its origin, and the United States is still by far the largest tobacco-grower, the plant is successfully cultivated in other countries. The following figures, which are averages for the year 1900 to 1903, indicate the quantities and value of the tobacco produced by the chief tobacco-growing countries:—

Production of Tobacco.

	£	Cwts.
U. S. A.	11,964,000	7,312,000
India	5,690,000*	5,000,000
Cuba	3,568,000	491,000
Russia	3,500,000*	1,611,000
Dutch E. I.	1,032,000	3,450,000
Germany	1,902,000	688,000
Brazil	1,248,000	670,000
Japan	900,000	722,000
Hungary	817,000	1,053,000
Turkey	750,000	383,000
France	609,000	343,000
Philippines	540,000	334,000

*Doubtful estimates.

These figures show very clearly from which countries the higher grades of tobacco come. For instance, the 7 million odd cwts. grown in the United States were worth about 12 million pounds, while the five hundred thousand cwts. grown in Cuba were worth 4 million pounds; for it is Cuba, of course, that supplies the rich men of the world with their cigars.

According to a writer in a recent issue of *La Republique Francais*, the amount of tobacco consumed per head of the population of the principal countries of the world is as under:—

	Lbs.
Holland	7·48
U. S. A.	4·62
Argentina	3·80
Belgium	3·03
Germany	3·27
Australia	3·08
Austria	2·97
Canada	2·31
France	2·07
Russia	2·00
United Kingdom	2·02

If these estimates can be relied upon—and the British figure comes from the Board of Trade—the United Kingdom stands very low on the list of the nations that are large smokers. This may be ascribed partly to the duties on tobacco and partly to the popularity of the pipe, partly to the fact that English women hardly smoke at all. The pipe is not only healthier than cigars it is also far more economical; for the same weight of tobacco lasts the pipe smoker far longer than the man who puffs away cigars and cigarettes. We do not grow tobacco, though experiments are being made in Ireland. The United States contributes nearly 90 per cent of our supply, the most popular kinds being Kentucky and Virginia tobaccos. Holland supplies about 5 per cent, Turkey and Germany about 1 per cent each.

The fiscal year ending on June 30th has been a record one for the United States tobacco trade; the exports amounting to $38,000,000, which compares with $30,900,000 for the previous year. The increase in the exports, according to the *Journal of Commerce*, has been mainly in tobacco grown in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Kentucky, which is shipped in hogsheads. The advance in seed leaf tobacco coming from the States of Wisconsin, Connecticut, and New York has not been quite so large. Recently the Governments of Italy and Portugal have made contracts for large quantities of this hogshead tobacco. This grade of tobacco is used for cigars, cigarettes, plug cut, snuff, and for pipe smoking. The exports to these countries from the United States have been growing every year, and are now at a very high level. The

tobacco trade in Germany, according to accounts received, is completely demoralised at present. In anticipation of the advance in the duty, the Germans imported unusually large quantities of leaf tobacco and manufactured cigars. They tried to get in as large a stock at the old rate as their capital permitted. The result was that they filled up their warehouses with a large supply, and now there are about 40,000 cigar-makers out of work.

The price of tobacco in England, apart from duties, has on the whole, risen during the last 60 years, more especially at the beginning and end of the period, as the following figures of nine yearly average prices will show. They are taken from tables published by Messrs. W. O. Muller and Co. :—

Year.	Virginia. Leaf per lb.	Virginia. Stalk per lb.	Kentucky Leaf per lb.	Kentucky Stalk per lb.
	d. d.	d. d.	d. d.	d. d.
1842-50 . .	2½– 6½	4 – 7½	2½– 5½	4½– 6½
1851-59 . .	5½– 8½	8½–11½	4 – 7½	8½–10½
1860-68 . .	7 –11½	12¾–17½	4 –11½	9½–14½
1869-77 . .	5½–11	7⅜–12½	4½– 9½	7½–11⅜
1878-86 . .	4½–11½	6 –11½	4½– 9½	6½–10½
1887-95 . .	4½–16½	4½–17½	3½– 9	3½–10½
1896-1904 . .	4½–12½	4½–13½	3½– 6½	3½– 8½
1905-08 . .	5½–13½	6⅜–14	4½– 7½	5½– 8½

The later rise may be partly due to the Imperial Tobacco Company, which was formed in 1902. The history of the formation of this company is one of the most romantic in the annals of modern commerce. About 1900 the American Tobacco Trust, which had completely subjugated the American market, began to invade the English market. They commenced operations by buying the business of Messrs. Ogden, and readers of the *Economist* will no doubt remember the great advertising campaign that marked the change of ownership. This invasion of their preserves seriously alarmed British tobacco manufacturers, and about 15 of the largest—amongst whom W. D. and H. O. Wills, Ld., John Player and Sons, Ld., and F. and J. Smith were conspicuous—formed the Imperial Tobacco Company (of Great Britain and Ireland), with a capital of £15,000,000. After this move the battle began in earnest, and both sides tried to outbid one another by the cutting of prices and distribution of bonuses among retailers. Ultimately an agreement was come to, the main features of which were that the Imperial Tobacco Company was to remain unmolested in the English market, while the American Combine was freed from their competition in foreign markets.

A significant feature about Messrs. Muller's statistics is that, while there were 546 firms manufacturing tobacco in 1863, which increased to 561 in 1886, in 1909 there were only 407, a decrease of 27 per cent.

Few articles of consumption have been so severely treated by successive Chancellors of the Exchequer as tobacco. It was contraband in the old days of high Protection, and when the Free-trade era came in, tobacco was one of the commodities that were not freed from taxation. From July, 1842, until the end of March, 1863, the duty on tobacco varied between 3*s.* and 5*s.* a lb. This scale was imposed during Sir Robert Peel's administration. About 1863 the authorities discovered that the Revenue was losing large sums every year owing to merchants importing tobacco in a very dry state, and adding the necessary moisture to it after it had been cleared from bond, and consequently gaining by the increase in weight caused by the added moisture. To check this practice, Mr. Gladstone in 1863 imposed a new duty of 3*s.* 6*d.* a lb on tobacco containing less than 10 per cent of moisture. Since that date there have been numerous changes in the duty. The highest was in force between 1878 and 1887, when the duty on tobacco containing less than 10 per cent of moisture was 3*s.* 10*d.* a lb. Mr. Goschen reduced this to 3*s.* 6*d.* a lb. in 1887, and it remained at this rate until 1897. After that date, especially during the South African War, there were several changes in the duty, and the rate now is 3*s.* 8*d.* a lb, which was imposed by Mr. Lloyd George in his Budget of 1909.

The question of tobacco duties is still further complicated by a system of drawbacks. Tobacco is usually imported in two forms, either in leaf or in stalk. In the former the stalks have been removed, or stripped off, before shipment, while in the latter the stalks have to be stripped after the leaves are imported. In order that the importer should not have to pay duty on tobacco that is of no use to him, a drawback is allowed, provided he deposits the stalks and offal with the Customs authorities.

France, Germany, Japan, and the United States are all trying to screw more revenue out of an article which responds so generously to public needs.

In France the new duties on tobacco for personal use vary between 18 f per kilo for snuff and chewing tobacco to 75 f per kilo on cigarettes and cigars. The last monthly circular of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris calls the attention of British travellers to the fact that the French Customs officials at the various terminal stations are now exceedingly rigorous as to small amounts of tobacco and cigars carried by railway passengers. These new duties and regulations are causing considerable annoyance on the other side of the Channel. In the United States also the duties on tobacco have been raised, and the new scale came into force on July 1st last. A favourite method of extracting revenue is by establishing a State monopoly. As a rule, this is more successful in the production of bad tobacco, bad cigars, and bad cigarettes than in the production of revenue. In France, Italy, Spain, and Japan the monopoly is execrable. In Austria, on the other hand the State factories produce good cigars at very reasonable prices.

WORLD'S PRINCIPAL WHEAT CROPS.

Official Returns are taken when obtainable, excepting in the case of the U. S. A., where recognised commercial estimates are adopted in preference. The returns represent the crops (in quarters of 480 lbs.) harvested in July/August of the years named, excepting in the cases of Argentina, Uruguay, Australasia and Chili, which are harvested weeks subsequently, and, in the case of India, still later. For the current year forecasts only can be given for these five growers. The figures are for ten years and are revised up to 17th October, 1910 :—

	Preliminary Estimate, 1910-11	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901
EUROPE.										
France	33,000,000	44,000,000	39,608,000	47,663,000	41,000,000	42,200,000	37,200,000	45,400,000	41,000,000	38,900,000
Russia, 72 Governments (including Siberia).	76,300,000	97,600,000	71,000,000	63,600,000	93,300,000	79,300,000	83,083,000	77,434,000	75,726,100	53,305,800
Hungary	23,100,000	14,170,000	19,000,000	15,000,000	24,700,000	19,000,000	17,100,000	20,200,000	21,300,000	15,400,000
Austria	7,130,000	6,900,000	7,700,000	6,500,000	7,000,000	6,860,000	6,700,000	5,700,000	6,600,000	5,200,000
Croatia and Slavonia	1,650,000	1,540,000	1,600,000	1,000,000	1,300,000	1,600,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,300,000
Bosnia & Herzogovina	300,000	330,000	370,000	200,000	300,000	260,000	250,000	330,000	350,000	300,000
Italy	19,163,000	§23,880,000	18,300,000	21,500,000	21,000,000	20,200,000	18,300,000	22,420,000	£16,500,000	£20,000,000
Germany	17,800,000	17,252,000	17,300,000	15,960,000	18,400,000	17,000,000	17,400,000	16,350,000	17,900,000	11,500,000
Spain	17,100,000	18,000,000	11,000,000	12,000,000	16,180,000	11,100,000	11,900,000	13,000,000	14,000,000	13,500,000
Portugal	1,000,000	900,000	§200,000	500,000	1,000,000	500,000	600,000	1,000,000	1,300,000	1,300,000
Roumania	13,400,000	7,300,000	6,700,000	5,200,000	13,200,000	12,500,000	6,500,000	8,950,000	9,200,000	8,800,000
Bulgaria & Roumelia	7,074,000	4,532,000	4,300,000	4,600,000	8,000,000	6,200,000	6,500,000	7,000,000	5,500,000	4,100,000
Servia	1,652,000	1,714,000	1,437,000	1,400,000	1,500,000	1,100,000	1,000,000	1,300,000	1,500,000	1,100,000
Greece	500,000	600,000	500,000	600,000	700,000	500,000	500,000	800,000	400,000	400,000
United Kingdom	7,000,000	7,900,000	6,741,000	7,056,000	7,577,000	7,541,000	4,739,000	6,102,000	7,300,000	6,700,000
Belgium	1,600,000	1,653,000	1,900,000	1,982,000	1,620,000	1,550,000	1,700,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,700,000
Holland	630,000	630,000	620,000	645,000	598,000	615,000	700,000	801,000	900,000	600,000
Switzerland	430,000	445,000	436,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	550,000
Sweden	880,000	800,000	818,000	760,000	806,000	670,000	622,000	672,000	563,000	550,000
Denmark	570,000	489,000	519,000	525,000	500,000	491,000	517,000	533,000	550,000	300,000
Norway	38,000	38,000	40,000	35,000	37,000	40,000	26,000	37,000	40,000	50,000
Cyprus and Malta	300,000	360,000	340,000	313,000	312,000	299,000	325,000	200,000	250,000	250,000
TOTAL EUROPE	230,387,000	251,933,000	213,881,000	207,486,000	229,930,000	230,806,000	217,662,600	231,761,600	223,879,100	185,805,800
AMERICA.										
U. S. A.	84,000,000	92,000,000	83,000,000	70,000,000	892,000,000	856,000,000	c62,000,000	c71,000,000	c85,000,000	c94,000,000
Canada	15,000,000	20,849,000	14,000,000	11,000,000	14,000,000	13,400,000	8,600,000	9,800,000	11,700,000	11,000,000
Argentina	†20,000,000	16,400,000	¶20,000,000	24,100,000	19,527,000	16,890,000	18,870,000	16,230,000	c13,000,000	7,000,000
Uruguay	†1,155,000	1,200,000	1,150,000	880,000	560,000	903,000	950,000	700,000	1,000,000	700,000
Chili	‡2,750,000	2,500,000	2,173,000	2,071,000	1,515,000	1,510,000	2,243,000	918,000	1,700,000	1,400,000
Mexico	1,050,000	1,150,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,216,000	1,170,000	1,300,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
TOTAL AMERICA	123,955,000	134,090,000	121,523,000	118,851,000	128,802,000	119,919,000	93,833,000	99,948,000	114,400,000	116,100,000

† To be harvested next December.
‡ To be harvested next January.
§ A recent official revision.
‖ Believed to have been under-estimated.
¶ Believed to have been over-estimated by 1,500,000 quarters.
A Believed to have been over-estimated by 9,000,000 quarters.
c Commercial estimate.
F Italy 1901 and 1902 Revised
B Believed to have been over-estimated by 10,000,000 quarters.

WORLD'S PRINCIPAL WHEAT CROPS - *contd.*

	Preliminary Estimate, 1910-11	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901
AFRICA.										
Algeria	5,000,000	4,300,000	3,700,000	3,900,000	1,300,000	3,000,000	4,200,000	[1]4,300,000	4,236,000	4,443,000
Tunis	700,000	780,000	400,000	1,020,000	800,000	1,200,000	1,500,000	900,000	1,000,000	800,000
TOTAL AFRICA	5,700,000	5,080,000	4,100,000	4,920,000	5,100,000	4,200,000	5,700,000	5,200,000	5,236,000	5,243,000
ASIA.										
India	*45,000,000	44,600,000	35,437,000	28,562,000	30,634,000	33,993,000	35,383,000	44,901,000	37,200,000	28,500,000
Japan	2,700,000	2,894,000	2,866,000	2,760,000	2,456,000	2,232,000	2,392,000	1,160,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
TOTAL ASIA	47,700,000	47,494,000	38,303,000	31,322,000	42,090,000	42,225,000	37,775,000	46,151,000	39,200,000	30,500,000
AUSTRALASIA.										
New South Wales	2,800,000	2,500,000	2,000,000	1,126,000	2,727,000	2,620,000	2,058,000	3,400,000	200,000	1,800,000
Victoria	3,500,000	3,500,000	2,900,000	1,600,000	2,800,000	2,935,000	2,637,000	3,600,000	320,000	1,500,000
Queensland	150,000	150,000	150,000	60,000	135,000	140,000	268,000	300,000	1,000	100,000
South Australia	1,900,000	2,000,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,200,000	2,520,000	1,502,000	1,600,000	800,000	1,000,000
West Australia	550,000	500,000	360,000	340,000	300,000	260,000	252,000	250,000	160,000	110,000
Tasmania	100,000	100,000	80,000	100,000	100,000	90,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	120,000
TOTAL CMN'WEALTH	9,000,000	8,750,000	7,890,000	5,626,000	8,262,000	8,565,000	6,817,000	9,250,000	1,521,000	4,630,000
New Zealand	1,000,000	1,100,000	1,030,000	650,000	700,000	850,000	1,140,000	1,000,000	900,000	500,000
TOTAL AUSTRALASIA	10,000,000	9,850,000	8,920,000	6,276,000	8,962,000	9,415,000	7,957,000	10,250,000	2,421,000	5,130,000
TOTAL WORLD'S CROP, QRS.	417,802,000	448,507,000	386,727,000	368,855,000	414,884,000	406,565,000	362,927,600	393,310,600	385,136,100	342,778,800
,, BUSHELS	3,342,416,000	3,588,056,000	3,093,816,000	2,950,840,000	3,319,072,000	3,252,520,000	2,903,420,800	3,146,484,800	3,081,088,800	2,742,230,400
,, QUINTALS	909,554,954	976,390,739	841,904,679	802,997,335	903,202,468	885,092,005	790,093,385	856,237,176	838,141,290	746,229,448

* An Estimate for next March.

[1] Algeria, 1903; all former returns revised September, 1903.

—In its issue of October 10th, the *Manchester Guardian* writes :—**A new process of soap manufacture,** which is, we hear, likely to be adopted in this country, promises to revolutionise the existing methods. It is claimed that soap produced in the new way may be formed into bars within an hour from the commencement of manufacture, and the process may be conducted at ordinary temperatures, thus presenting an enormous saving in time, fuel, and in the cost of manufacture. It is also claimed that a patentable novelty exists in the primary materials used. Protein-containing materials, such as casein, maize, and wheat germ cakes, the dry pulp from beetroot sugar manufacture, farina, coffee husks, and millers' offal can all be utilised. These materials are first treated with concentrated soda-lye, when a substance is obtained termed by the inventors "alkalinated vegetable material." This latter substance is mixed with as much fatty acid as will ultimately produce a soap, neutral, alkaline, or acid, as may be desired, together with sufficient caustic soda to effect saponification. The mixing takes place in an edge-runner mill, and the soap, when taken from the mixer, is in such a physical condition that it may immediately be passed through a roller mill and finally "plodded," after which it is ready for tableting, etc. Modifications of the invention for use in dry and soft soap manufacture have also been protected.

FOOD-GRAINS AND SALT.

Retail Prices of certain Food-grains and Salt at selected stations for the first half of October, 1910. (Prices are stated in annas and pies per seer of 2·06 lbs.)

	Rice, common.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jawar.	Bajra.	Ragi.	Gram.	Salt.
	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.
BURMA—								
Rangoon	1 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
Toungoo	1 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM—								
Rangpur	2 0	2 2	...	...	...	...	...	1 1
Backerganj	1 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 11
BENGAL—								
Calcutta	2 0	1 5	...	...	...	...	...	0 10
Patna	1 2	1 0	0 7	...	...	...	...	0 10
UNITED PROVINCES—								
Cawnpore	...	1 4	0 9	0 10	0 11	...	0 11	0 9
Fyzabad	...	1 4	0 9	...	...	...	0 11	0 10
Meerut	...	1 3	0 9	...	...	...	0 10	0 8
PANJAB—								
Delhi	..	1 3	0 10	0 10	1 0	...	0 10	0 9
Amritsar	...	1 1	0 9	0 11	1 1	...	0 9	0 7
Ráwalpindi	...	1 2	0 8	0 8	0 11	...	0 10	0 7
SIND—								
Karáchi	...	1 7	...	1 2	1 5	...	1 3	0 7
BOMBAY—								
Belgaum	...	1 10	...	1 1	1 1	...	...	0 10
Ahmadnagar	...	1 8	...	0 10	0 11	...	...	0 11
Bombay	...	2 3	...	1 5	1 6	...	...	0 11
Ahmadabad	...	1 6	...	1 0	1 3	...	...	0 7
CENTRAL PROVINCES—								
Jubbulpore	...	1 3	...	...	...	...	0 10	0 11
Nagpur	1 4	1 2	...	0 10	...	...	1 0	1 0
Raipur	1 3	1 3	...	...	...	...	0 11	1 0
MADRAS—								
Bellary	2 0	...	...	1 0	...	1 0	...	0 10
Madras	2 3	...	...	...	...	1 4	...	0 7
Salem	2 2	...	...	1 2	1 6	1 0	...	1 2

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Number and particulars of New Companies working exclusively in India with sterling capita and similar companies increasing their capital, registered in the United Kingdom in the month of August, 1910.

No.	Class and Name.	Shares.	Capital. Nominal.	Capital. Extra.	New Debentures issued.
	I.—TEA AND OTHER PLANTING COMPANIES.	£ s.	£	£	£
1	Meppadi Dynaad Tea Company	1 0	200,000	...	...
	II.—MINING AND QUARRYING ASSOCIATIONS.				
2	London Burmah Oil Syndicate	1 0	20,000	...	...
3	British Burmah Petroleum Company	1 0	2,500,000	...	...
4	Anglo-Indian Oil Syndicate	1 0 / 0 1	5,000	...	...
	Total, Mining and Quarrying Associations	...	2,525,000	...	...
	GRAND TOTAL	...	2,725,000	...	...

INDIAN CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Total gross Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) in thousands of rupees :—

SEA CUSTOMS.	In the seven months, April to October of									
	1901-02	1902-03	1903-04	1904-05	1905-06	1906-07	1907-08	1908-09	1909-10	1910-11
Imports.										
Special Import Duties.										
Arms, ammunition, and military stores	1,60	1,84	1,70	2,32	2,08	2,13	2,99	2,84	2,76	2,82
Liquors—										
Ale, beer, porter, cider and other fermented liquors	1,17	1,27	1,47	1,59	1,54	1,66	1,61	2,83	2,80	4,47
Spirits and liqueurs	36,17	38,52	42,21	42,23	44,64	40,59	52,35	52,96	52,70	60,02
Wines	1,81	2,09	2,02	1,86	2,04	1,93	2,11	2,10	2,03	2,98
Opium and its alkaloids	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	4
Petroleum	29,84	31,68	25,45	26,59	22,81	20,07	26,43	30,63	26,91	30,99
Silver, bullion and coin	17,11	24,50	21,40	24,27	17,02	25,10	30,38	43,34	33,46	1,08,74
Sugar (countervailing duties, 1899)	16,68	15,65	1,96	9	1	1	...	...	...	1
Sugar (countervailing duties, 1902)	—	3,17	13	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tobacco	98	98	1,15	1,42	1,74	1,64	2,13	1,96	2,56	16,77
General Import Duties.										
Articles of food and drink (excluding sugar)	7,65	7,06	7,64	8,72	9,85	10,17	12,76	14,12	12,68	13,26
Sugar (ordinary duties)	15,53	14,66	15,35	17,09	17,30	28,88	24,70	27,63	33,05	35,64
Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics (excluding opium and its alkaloids and tobacco), and dyeing and tanning materials	5,55	5,50	6,54	5,99	6,11	6,57	8,27	7,42	7,98	9,28
Cotton manufactures—										
Piece-goods, grey	29,13	31,40	27,35	31,57	35,87	37,95	39,52	31,54	33,96	32,58
„ white	16,78	9,72	11,15	15,79	16,17	13,92	21,95	17,64	12,90	17,86
„ coloured	13,99	12,96	16,18	18,56	18,64	18,97	21,89	22,69	15,80	23,27
Other goods	1,77	1,31	2,20	3,18	3,48	3,81	3,96	4,02	3,71	4,28
Metals (excluding silver, bullion and coin) and manufactures thereof	13,03	17,55	17,51	21,11	17,52	18,89	22,65	28,84	24,43	28,83
Oils (excluding petroleum)	1,11	97	54	52	64	1,27	1,63	89	71	82
Manufactured articles	35,78	33,99	39,96	47,06	47,46	46,94	55,14	58,05	51,84	64,80
Raw materials and unmanufactured articles	5,61	4,99	5,08	5,86	6,89	6,19	8,00	9,84	8,24	8,49
Total Imports	2,51,31	2,59,83	2,47,01	2,75,90	2,71,83	2,86,71	3,38,50	3,59,36	3,28,54	4,65,95
Excise Duty on Cotton Goods	9,31	9,34	10,69	11,35	13,69	13,71	16,12	16,45	17,86	18,69
Export Duties—										
Rice, husked or unhusked, including rice flour	44,49	61,50	58,25	66,97	61,15	51,53	50,47	36,31	44,04	59,70
Land Customs and Miscellaneous	4,57	4,81	5,46	5,91	4,80	5,28	5,99	5,13	5,90	5,67
GRAND TOTAL	3,09,68	3,35,48	3,21,41	3,60,13	3,51,47	3,57,23	4,11,08	4,17,25	3,96,34	5,50,01

—The *International Sugar Journal* gives some facts relating to recent progress in **English beet sugar schemes.** Foremost comes the Maldon project which is far more advanced than the others. There work on the new factory commenced last month, and it is intended that the premises shall be ready for the harvest of 1911. The site consists of 26 acres, and the factory will be capable of dealing with 1,000 tons of beets per diem during the three months' crop, and with 150 tons of refined sugar per diem for the remaining nine months. During the season 370 men are to be employed, and 70 men will have permanent posts in the refinery. It is confidently expected that 5,000 acres will shortly be under beet cultivation. In the meantime, while the factory is building, the Dutch promoters are sending consignments of this year's crop from 300 acres to their factory in Holland to be tested for sugar content. Next year's crop is being contracted for by the Company at 20*s.* per ton. The Kidderminster scheme is hanging in the balance. It is all a question of enough acres of beet being contracted for in time to allow a factory to be erected by next autumn. The minimum 2,000 acres had not been secured at the end of September, and unless fresh contracts involving 500 acres are speedily forthcoming, the venture will have to be deferred for 12 months.

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 5th November, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	96,186
	Bombay	„	187,712
	Madras	„	24,179
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	78,168
	Bombay	„	2,519,900
	Madras	„	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	7,128,981
	Bombay	„	58,280
	Karachi	„	692,194
	Madras	„	...
	Rangoon	„	274,954

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	1,361,439
	Bombay	„	668,744
	Karachi	„	2,845,826
	Madras	„	2,907
	Rangoon	„	806,310

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	1,693,405
	Bombay	„	2,560,622
	Karachi	„	3,338,745
	Madras	„	55,412
	Rangoon	„	1,074,146

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*17,796
	Bombay	„	4,846
	Karachi	„	9,267
	Madras	„	804

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	221
	Coastwise	„	9,828
	By rail	„	104,314
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	45,311
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*12,874

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*838,796
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	6,191,040
	„ cloth	yds.	25,460,900
	Jute	cwt.	733,740
Exports by sea from Chittagong	Jute	„	33,118

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from	Bombay	cwt.	...

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*6,136
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	135
	By rail	„	12,249
Imports into Karachi	By rail and river	„	2,408
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	5,462
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	2,130
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	...

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*30,696
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	...
	By rail	„	22,122
Imports into Karachi	By rail and river	„	37,924
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	4,624
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	13,343
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	28,735

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*117,708
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	130,865
	Chittagong	„	...
	Bombay	„	1,168
	Karachi	„	10,951
	Madras	„	...
	Rangoon	„	272,540

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*5,835,291
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	5,631,252
	Chittagong	„	559,990

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta	by rail and river	cwt.	*55,866
Imports into Karachi	by rail	„	373,560
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	363
	Coastwise	„	3,604
	By rail	„	51,313
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	25,683
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	45,273
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	247,842

* B. N. Ry. figures not included.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta Cwt.	3,374,914	2,490,550	3,289,553	5,222,969	1,003,698	1,048,584	Not	reported.
Bombay „	2,574,444	1,544,531	1,853,936	2,807,265	1,328,244	2,402,616	5,557,643	12,901,606
Karachi „	13,668,528	14,644,664	...	5,346	2,912,683	4,520,940	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 5th NOVEMBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From All other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	415,355	...	415,355
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	231,299	561,463	792,762

Exports by sea from Burma to		
Bengal		149,462
E. B. & Assam		159,600
Bombay		...
Sind		...
Madras		1,011,600
Indian Ports, Non-Br.		...
Foreign Ports		...

The correct figure of Kerosene oil exported by sea from Burma to E. B. and Assam is 313,500 gallons for the week ending 29th October 1910.

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 5th NOVEMBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon	Total
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	13	...	87	51	47	1	199
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	69,512	...	1,526	72,602	9	...	143,649
Mauritius	...	...	21,511	...	...	...	21,511
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	59	...	...	753	812
Total refined							166,171
Total unrefined							...
Grand Total							166,171

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 4th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 4th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 5th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 5th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	6,135	7 4·3	128,036	7 4·1	10,978	7 0·2	111,721	7 6·7
Cachar	4,076	6 5·4	96,525	6 1·9	5,796	5 7·5	105,738	5 9·8
Sylhet	2,934	6 6·4	64,105	6 2·2	5,431	5 8·6	69,467	5 9·6
Darjeeling	1,518	9 0	56,515	9 4·5	1,167	9 8·2	50,825	9 11·3
Dooars	7,596	6 11·6	136,636	6 7·3	7,904	6 7	131,073	6 9·6
Terai	741	6 11·3	18,885	6 5·5	434	6 1	13,820	6 3·3
Chittagong	757	6 6·3	6,061	6 1·7	611	5 10·7	5,108	5 11·2
Chota-Nagpore	34	5 0	1,069	7 3	109	7 1	1,442	6 6·6
Kumaon and Kangra	293	6 5	2,797	6 4·5	220	5 4	2,556	5 8·9
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	90	6 2·3
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	5 9
Nepal	...	...	495	6 4·7	...	...	338	6 2·8
All other places	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	24,034	7 0·3	511,167	6 11·4	32,650	6 6	492,566	6 11

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 25,200 packages Dust* sold to 4th November 5*a.* 8·1*p.*
" 1909-10 " 24,544 " " " 5th " 5*a.* 7·4*p.*

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

NEW REFERENCE BOOKS.

"ACME" SELF-CHECKING CODE-CONDENSER.
By W. EDMUND DODD . . . . . 21*s.* net.
Sherratt and Hughes.

ELEMENTS OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE.
By FRANKLIN ESCHER . . . . . 4*s.* net.
Effingham Wilson.

DICTIONARY OF COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENCE IN FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH, AND ITALIAN.
Part I. 9×5½, 16 pp. . . . . 1½*d.*
Sir Isaac Pitman.

STOCKS AND SHARES.
By HARLEY WITHERS. 8×5½, 371 pp. . 7*s.* 6*d.* net.
Smith, Elder.

(MR. WITHERS describes his work as "an endeavour to make clearer some of the dark sayings that have to be written and read day by day by those who chronicle and follow the movement of securities." Certainly few writers are more qualified for this task, whether by financial experience or by literary capacity, than the able author of "The Meaning of Money.")

SEVEN YEARS OF THE SUGAR CONVENTION, 1903-1910.
A Vindication of Mr. Chamberlain's Imperial and Commercial Policy. By R. T. HINCKES. 7¼×4⅝, 53 pp. . . . . 3*d.* net.
P. S. King.

—A great deal of time and money has been spent on attempts to turn **peat** into a useful **fuel** with apparently little success. Recently, however, a German engineer and fuel specialist succeeded in producing an excellent fuel from the worst form of peat. The process of manufacture is very simple and economical. As carried out on the small scale it is as follows :—Any form of peat is mixed with about 10 per cent of coke (which has been prepared previously by the destructive distillation of peat) and placed in a hydraulic press. A fairly strong pressure is then applied, and the moisture from the peat runs out through small holes in the case containing the mixture. In a few minutes the pressure is taken off, and a compact blackish-brown briquette is obtained. This contains from 10 to 12 per cent of water, which is left in the briquette, as it increases the healing power and durability of the fuel by giving rise to water gas at a comparatively low temperature. If left exposed to the atmosphere the briquette would absorb more moisture. To prevent this it is glazed by a dip in the distillation products obtained in the preparation of coke from peat. On the large scale it is found advantageous to give the peat a preliminary pressing in order to rid it of some of its moisture before the admixture of coke. It may be added here that it is this mixing with 10 per cent of coke which distinguishes the process from all other attempts to extract the bulk of water from peat. Peat, if pressed strongly alone, will merely force its way through the holes intended for the water. The coke when intimately mixed with the peat seems to have the property of absorbing the moisture of the peat, only to give it up again when pressure is applied.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

COMMERCIAL GUIDE (MONTHLY).

	Rate. Rs.	A.
Per annum	100	0
Per half-year	54	0
Per quarter	28	0
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To Subscribers per copy	8	0
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POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
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In India "	2	8

WEEKLY MANIFEST.

First copy per annum	100	0
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Additional copy per annum	20	0
" " " half-year	12	0
" " " quarter	8	0
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POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad per copy	5	0
In India "	3	8

DAILY LISTS—IMPORTS OR EXPORTS (separately).

One copy of either per annum	65	0
" " " " " half-year	35	0
" " " " " quarter	20	0
For less than 3 months whether to Subscribers or Non-Subscribers, annas 5 per copy		
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20	0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1	0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6	0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4	12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0	6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.

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Reserve Liability of Proprietors £1,200,000

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Current Deposit Accounts opened and Fixed Deposit received for 12 months or shorter periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY. REGISTERED.

The Indian Trade Journal.

Issued by the Commercial Intelligence Department, India.

VOL. XIX. No. 242.] CALCUTTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1910. [ANNAS 4

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Wednesday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	6 per cent. (Nov. 3).
	Bombay	5 per cent. (Nov. 3).
	Madras	5 per cent. (Nov. 7).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 11/32
	6 months	1-4 15/32

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 93-11.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 12th November was Rs. 28-9-2 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 15th November was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia-Bhawnagar cotton**, November delivery, Rs. 293 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **wholesale spot prices** of the undermentioned articles in Calcutta on the 16th instant were as under:—

Jute—C. D. M. and Co. (Red) Group per 400 lbs.	Rs.	63 0 0
„ M. per 400 lbs.	„	53 0 0
Rice—Ballam No. 1 per B. md.	„	4 4 0
„ Moongby „		*Nil.*
Linseed—Bold 4% per B. md.		*Nil.*
Rapeseed—Yellow, mixed, bold, Cawnpore, 4% per B. md.		*Nil.*

A telegram from Colombo in the Calcutta daily papers states that owing to excessive rain in Ceylon, which has interfered with flushing, it is calculated that the **tea output** for the year will fall short of the estimate by four million pounds.

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a disturbance in the Bay of Bengal which has crossed the coast somewhat to the South of Akyab, causing an extension of rainfall in Northern Burma. Rainfall has been general in Mysore and fairly general in Burma, Malabar, and South-East Madras. A few falls are reported from the North Madras Coast.

The current issue of the *Agricultural Journal of India* contains a series of useful articles, including "Rural Economy in the Bombay Deccan" by G. F. Keating, I.C.S.; "Present Position and Prospects of Cotton Cultivation in India", by G. A. Gammie, F.L.S., and the "International Institute of Agriculture" by Bernard Coventry.

Reporting on the **Mauritius sugar market** on October 25th Messrs. Blyth Brothers & Co. state:—Referring to our last report under date 17th ultimo we have now to advise that the market has continued to fall in sympathy with the prices of beet and sales have been made at all prices down to Rs. 8 at which figure a quantity has changed hands, said to be large. The opinion still prevails amongst planters that we shall see higher prices in December, but sales will have to be made in order to meet financial requirements.

Mr. R. Boulter, Acting Commercial Attaché, Yokohama, informs us that owing to the high price of raw cotton and the congestion of the Shanghai market with Indian yarns, the **Japanese Cotton Spinners' Association** have resolved for a period of six months from 1st October last to work **short time** with a view to restricting spinning but encouraging the export of coarse counts of 20 and below and also of fine and gassed yarns of 21 and above. This, says Mr. Boulter, is the first time that such action has been taken in regard to fine counts.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market** dated the 20th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray and Co., Ld., say:—Less business in **Indian yarns** is reported this week than for some considerable time past, but is entirely attributable to the continued advance in Exchange on India. The country demand is undoubtedly good, but buyers naturally want to benefit by the more favourable rates for remittance now obtainable. There s a better feeling as regards the financial position generally, which should assist in restoring confidence and bring about a satisfactory trade before the close of the year. The few transactions enumerated below are for the River markets entirely, and the market here closes steady at those prices. The sales amount in the aggregate to 407 bales, as under:—No. 10s. 25 bales, E. D. Sassoon Mill 3 Joss $95·00; No. 12s. 200 bales, Pabaney Mill (mule) $103·00 and Currimbhoy Mills (mule) $103·50; No. 20s. 182 bales, Currimbhoy Mills (mule) $113·00; Manecklal Harial Spinning Manufacturing Co. $113·50; Pabaney Mill (Ring) $114·00 and China Mill $114·50.

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales** of **cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 42 weeks ended 28th October, 1910:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 20th Oct., 1910.	42 weeks ended 20th Oct., 1910.	Week ended 20th Oct., 1910.	42 weeks ended 20th Oct., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	167,334	1,557,988	2,137	178,887
Brazilian	8,107	49,200	252	2,883
East Indian	3,559	185,600	33	40,791
Egyptian	10,864	192,517	634	52,679
Miscellaneous	8,899*	103,949†	385	7,088
Total	198,763	2,089,254	3,441	282,328

* Including 34 bales British West Indian, and 805 bales British East African.

† Including 6,189 bales British West Indian, 6,593 bales British West African, 13,325 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

Mr. T. R. Ellison has issued his **annual review** of **the cotton trade** for the season 1909-10, and it includes, says the *Manchester Guardian*, much interesting detail and many statistics. On the subject of consumption Mr. Ellison has some claim to authority, and he says:—"It is by no means certain that there will be any very great change in the rate of consumption in 1910-11 as compared with 1910. However, supposing we allow an increase of 10,000 bales, making the consumption 267,000 bales per week, which would give a total of 13,884,000 bales, the position would then stand, in bales of 500 lb., as follows:—Estimated consumption of all kinds, 13,884,000 bales, which, with a supply from Egypt, India, etc., of 2,857,000 bales, would leave as wanted 11,027,000 bales, or in bales of 480lb.—the average weight of last season—11,500,000 bales of American growth. The above figures of the various growths compare as follows with those of the previous five seasons in thousands:—

	1910-11	1909-10	1908-09	1907-08	1906-07	1905-06
American	11,500	11,507	12,869	12,117	12,432	11,957
East Indian	1,500	1,408	945	1,068	1,299	1,288
Egyptian	950	734	912	856	871	815
Sundries	450	329	252	266	421	459
TOTAL	14,400	13,978	14,969	14,307	15,023	14,529
Bales of 500 lb.	13,884	13,383	14,725	13,987	14,702	14,072

That is to say that an American crop of 11,500,000 bales should suffice at least for our positive needs. Mr. Ellison says with regard to demand that "the bulk of the present consumption is to fill orders booked at lower prices than those now current, and it is questionable if buyers will operate with any freedom on the basis of present values."

Manchester shippers of **cotton goods** to the Levant, says the *Manchester Guardian*, are finding considerable difficulty in placing orders for the coming season. The distributing-houses at Constantinople and Smyrna object to pay the current rates for their usual qualities of greys and fancies, and prefer to take small stock lots at full prices rather than enter into future contracts. Heavy goods, both T-cloths and drills, are exceedingly dull, the tendency being in favour of the lighter and cheaper makes of long cloths, which can be stiffened and finished after leaving the looms. Pure sized drills for Para reds and indigoes and blacks are, however, in some demand in the lower qualities, and a small but increasing trade continues to be done in cheap makes for the Syrian towns for native dyeing. The absence of cheap stock lots of greys and whites also affects the smaller shippers to Beyrout and Asia Minor, who, as a rule, are the principal customers to agents and merchants for "seconds" and rejects. Calico printers who keep stocks on hand to supply the varied needs of the lesser firms in the Levant trade are fairly busy, especially in the lower grades of prints. Mercerised and fancy sateens are somewhat dull in consequence of high prices, but chintzes and cretonnes are in request. Specialities for Persia are in but little request, the revival in this market which was noticeable recently having been checked by the political troubles.

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at Perth (Mr. J. F. Conigrave) reports that a remarkable expansion of settlement has taken place in **Western Australia** during the past two or three years, and is still rapidly proceeding. From figures compiled by the Government Statistician, it appears that the total area in the State under **wheat and other cereals** this season is 868,367 acres, an increase of 179,456 acres as compared with the season 1909-10. The number of growers of cereals this season is 1,042 greater than last.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 22nd October, 1910, were as follows:—Wheat, 30*s* 4*d*.; barley, 25*s*. 3*d*.; and oats, 16*s*. 1*d*.

Mr. James Hooper, Deputy Provincial Secretary, **Manitoba**, Canada, states that the Commissioners appointed under the Act relating to the **State Ownership of Wheat Elevators** are acquiring the elevators in that Province.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on 25th ultimo:—*United States of America*—Complaints of Hessian fly and dryness in parts of **Winter wheat** belt; receipts last week rather larger, but total very small compared year ago. *Canada*—Our latest Manitoba advices confirm poorest yields in the south and disappointing north; officials acknowledge quality 20 per cent below last year's whilst claiming yields better than expected; the receipts last week were moderately larger. *Argentina*—Crop outlook generally favourable, believed excellent conditions south combined with increased acreage off-set damage north; Wheat acreage increase one million acres, Oats half million increase, Linseed small increase; Wheat now earing north. *Australia*—Very favourable report received from South Australia; elsewhere, no change. *India*—Sufficient rains fallen, seeding prospects favourable. *Russia*—Reports of seedings southern region favourable, elsewhere weather has been winterly; officials repeat big estimate Winter wheat crop, but so much poor Spring wheat offering people unbelieve good crop; arrivals decreased, but stocks still large. *Roumania*—Rainy and favourable, some complaints; arrivals and exports smaller, stocks large; increased acreage of Winter crops expected. *Hungary*—Some showers, but soaking rain wanted; seeding backward; vermin complained of. *Austria*—Sowing delayed, unfavourable weather. *France*—Further rains fallen, agricultural outlook now favourable; supplies native, Wheat light; stocks foreign large. *Germany*—Weather dry, unfavourable sowing; vermin complained of; supplies native Wheat scanty; reports of potatoes better. *Italy, Spain and United Kingdom*—Seeding prospects generally favourable. *North Africa*—Complaints of excessive heat.

The **area under rice** in the 15 principal rice exporting districts of **Burma** is now reported to be 7,533,312 acres. The reduction of about 600 acres from the first forecast, issued on the 14th October, is due to several corrections of district figures chiefly under the head of fallows. The increase of the cropped area compared with last year's area is 66,778 acres, which leaves the total area still below the actuals of 1908-09. Late rains have been

favourable and have to a great extent made good the injury caused by the defective middle rains. Continued moderate rain is important for crops where planting was delayed by floods or by the interruption of the early rains. The standing crop generally are prospering and a normal yield is expected.

Although full reports on the state of the **crops** in the **Batoum** district of Russia are not yet available, the information that is actually to hand justifies the conclusion that, generally speaking, the prospects for cereals this season on the Northern and Southern Caucasus are good. Over 113,000 acres of land in the Trans-Caucasus are devoted to **cotton growing**, the estimated average yield being between 18,000 and 18,500 tons of cotton per annum, which is despatched chiefly to the manufacturing centres at Moscow and Lodz. The prices paid for cotton produced in the Trans-Caucasus are generally high, fluctuating between 8 and 10 roubles per poud (5*d.* to 7*d.* per lb). This year's crop is reported to be good and of average yield. But slow progress is being made in the development of the **tea industry** at and near Batoum, and the area now under tea along the coast barely reaches 2,100 acres, with another 50 acres in the district of Ozeurgheti. The following figures give an approximate idea of the position of the tea industry of the Caucasus during the past six years :—

—	Plantations.	Area under Tea.	Quantity of Leaf gathered.
	No.	Acres.	Lbs.
1905. . . .	39	1,023	571,745
1906. . . .	51	1,165	427,100
1907. . . .	64	1,205	251,019
1908. . . .	91	1,251	561,439
1909. . . .	96	2,004	650,212
1910. . . .	103	2,100	734,408

Four qualities of tea are produced in the district of Batoum by the three existing factories, the combined annual production of which is from 140,000 lbs. to 150,000 lbs. of manufactured tea. This tea is sold principally in the Moscow, Warsaw, and Odessa markets, in four qualities, at approximately 5*s.* 3*d.*, 3*s.* 10*d.*, 2*s.* 7*d.*, and 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb., respectively. The Consul understands that a discount of 30 per cent is allowed to wholesale dealers. The tea dust is made up into bricks, and is purchased at low prices for the use of the army, etc. The tea crop of 1910 is said to be above the average both in quality and quantity. The **sunflower seed crop** of the Northern Caucasus, where the seed is cultivated for the sake of its oil and for consumption as a dainty by the lower classes, is reported to be good this year. The stalk of the plant is used in the manufacture of potash.

The British Acting Consul-General at **Odessa** (Mr. H. E. Dickie) reports that, according to the official *Commercial and Industrial Gazette* (St. Petersburg) of 21st September, the hopes entertained earlier in the year of a record grain crop have not been realised, and, taken as a whole, the **harvest** is barely average in quantity, and rather below average in quality. This unsatisfactory result was due almost entirely to the unfavourable weather in late spring and early summer. The *Commercial and Industrial Gazette* of 23rd October contains figures of the estimated winter-sown wheat and rye crops in 73 Governments (Provinces) of Russia, issued by the Central Statistical Committee on 22nd October, as follows :—

—	Winter Wheat.	Winter Rye.
	1,000 pouds.	1,000 pouds.
Average yield, 1904-8 . .	336,300	1,215,300
Actual yield, 1909 . . .	353,800	1,370 600
Estimated yield, 1910 . .	413,200	1,324,300

1,000 pouds = about 16 tons.

In its issue of Monday, October 24th, the *Manchester Guardian* says :—In the **copper market** standard warrants have been steady to firm during the past week, and a small gain (7*s.* 6*d.* per ton) is registered as between the two Friday closing prices. The principal thing to note just now is the change of feeling in the market from dulness to expectancy. Many people now appear to believe that there is something to go for, and hence the market has been much more active. The main cause of the change in feeling is the statement of the Rio Tinto Company that the Spanish output will be reduced. It is not yet clear whether this action on the part of the Tinto people is taken in conjunction with the American interests or whether it is an isolated action dictated by local considerations. More business has been done of late in manufactured copper, and buyers of refined copper have also been more active. This is taken as a sign that consumption is reviving at last, and this, in conjunction with the efforts to reduce output, is expected to act quickly upon the accumulations of stock. We have, of course, an enormous stock of copper, and time must elapse before it can be reduced to reasonable proportions, but if the market sees a small reduction the effect upon prices is sure to be good.

A study is being made by the Reporter on Economic Products to the Government of India of the **composition of soy beans** of established **Indian races**, with a view to the determination of the proportion of oil which they contain as compared with that contained in Manchurian beans. The quantity

of soy beans at present produced in India is not sufficient for the creation of an export trade, but there is ample evidence that the beans could be grown extensively if desired. The introduction of the soy bean into India is of comparatively recent date, and the product is not grown to any large extent except among people of Mongolian races and particularly in Burma. Experiments on the cultivation of the plant have been carried out at various times at Nagpur, Lahore, Madras, at several localities in the Bombay Presidency, and at Saharanpur in the United Provinces. Further experiments, however, are required in order to prove that the crop would be remunerative before it can be safely recommended to the *ryots*. Reference to small trials recently carried out in the Central Provinces has been made in the annual report on the agricultural stations for 1908-09.

The *Manchester Guardian* writes :—In reference to the **war of prices** in the refined products of **petroleum** it is reported that further developments, unfavourable from the producer's point of view, are impending in connection with **paraffin wax.** Last year the tacit understanding between American and European producers for the maintenance of prices fell through owing to the keener competition of Galician producers, who have only entered the market within the past few years. Prices fell heavily all round, and it is now reported that Galicia is about to make a further material addition to its output by the adoption of a wax-producing plant at the Government refinery. As 500,000 tons of oil are annually handled at this refinery to provide fuel for the State railways, and the oil is fairly rich in wax, this threatened addition to the production, which is already beyond the absorbing capacity of consumers, is viewed with alarm. It is further stated on good authority that a company is being formed in Roumania with the assistance of Italian and Austro-Hungarian interests to work extensive deposits of ozokerite. The Standard Oil Company will find further cause for dissatisfaction in this increase of the output of wax, as it is already a very large producer, although American oil yields no more than 1½ per cent, which is much below the yield of Galician and Scottish oil. Last year, however, it exported no less than 80,950 tons, of which 45,200 tons were for this country. Galicia, although the youngest of all the producers, is taking a prominent position in the industry, its exports during the last five years having increased by over 20,000 tons. The total production of the Scottish companies is between 20,000 and 25,000 tons per annum, so that a fall of ¾*d.* per pound in the price, such as took place last year, means a difference of £150,000 in earnings.

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on October 20th, regarding the **Hull oil market,** says :—The market for **linseed oil** is easier with spot at 44*s.*, 43*s.* 7*d.* October-December ; 41*s.* 3*d.* Jan.-April. The exports for the week amounted to 225 tons, of which America took 86, Australia 114. Belgium 1, Denmark 1, Fiji Islands 2, Germany 8, Norway 12, and Portugal 1 ton each. **Cotton oil :** Refined cotton oil, 29*s.* 9*d.* spot ; 29*s.* 3*d.* Nov.-April ; crude cotton oil new, 28*s.* 6*d.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 409 tons, of which America took 285, Belgium 10, Germany 58, Holland 47, Italy 3, Norway 2, and Sweden 4 tons each. **Soy bean oil,** 31*s.* 3*d.* spot. **Lard oil** continues very steady at 60*s.* per cwt., for best English refined ex-mill in barrels. **Olive oil.**—The demand continues very quiet at extreme rates still asked, and Spanish for shipment remains nominal at £56 ; and Candia at £54. **Cocoanut oil** steady English, £42 to £42 10*s.* **Castor oil** steady quiet at 3⅜*d.* to 3 1/16*d.* per lb. for Calcutta ex-store. **Palm oil :** Lagos rather easier, other sorts generally steady. October-November Lagos sold at 36 ; Emoe at £34 10*s.*; soft at £34 7*s.* 6*d.* to £34 5*s.* ; Benin at £32 12*s.* 6*d.*, and hards at £32 2 6*d.* to £32 transit. Refined sorts steady but quiet. **Petroleum** quiet, steady at 6*d.* to 7*d.* per gal. for American, and 5½*d.* for Russian. **Turpentine** firm and dearer. Spot 54*s.* 9*d.* ; November-December, 55*s.* ; and Jan.-April, 56*s.* per cwt.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows :—

For the week ending 12th November, 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 3,275 ; 3,260 ; 3,260 ; 3,265 ; 3,300 ; 3,340 ; 3,300.

Benares opium—Rs. 3,225 ; 3,225 ; 3,225 ; 3,230 ; 3,250 ; 3,290 ; 3,260.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 12th sale of 1910 were Rs. 3,285 ; 3,270 ; 3,270 ; 3.275 ; 3,310 ; 3,350 ; 3,310.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange, Rs. 139½ to 139¾ per $100).

Behar opium—$2,350 ; 2,350 ; 2,350 ; 2,350 ; 2,370 ; 2,375 ; 2,375.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

At Shanghai—(Exchange, no quotations received).

Behar opium—No quotations received.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

For the week ending 5th November, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

On the 30th October—5th November (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,385 to 1,390 ; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,350 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,520 to 3,500.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 3,302 and 3,431 ; (old) Rs. 3,372 and 3,506, respectively.

The steamer *Suisang*, which reached Calcutta on the 9th instant, brought from Wei-Hai-Wei 533 **mules** for the use of Government.

The following is the result of the application for the **Karachi 4 per cent debenture loan** of twenty lakhs to be expended on the improvement of the Port :—Total subscribed, €19,089,000; highest rate tendered, 100 per cent; lowest 93 per cent. All tenders have been accepted. The average rate of the tenders was 93·94 per cent.

In their Report on the **Australian wool sales** dated Melbourne, October 20th, Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort & Co., Ld., say :—We held our usual weekly wool sale yesterday, when we submitted a catalogue of 3,059 bales, of which we disposed of 2,952 bales, including private sales, since our last report. The offerings were chiefly drawn from Reverina, the Deniliquin district being much in evidence, and capably represented by the well-known Caroonboon/D+, W (in diamond) and Perricoota clips, other prominent marks from that centre being M O I (moira), W/Narlga, Pine Lodge/S J B, G D/Navarino, together with a large number of smaller but attractive wools from Moama, Echuca, Goulburn Valley and Northern districts of the State generally. The catalogue was largely composed of broad-haired merino wools, which were in improved demand, and can now be quoted at 5 per cent above opening rates. Fine-haired merinoes, which were in short supply, ruled firm at last week's rates, the same remarks applying to comebacks and crossbreds generally. Faulty broken and merino pieces, together with wasty and shabby parcels, were somewhat irregular, and in these descriptions no improvement was noticeable. Lambs when of good length, free and well got up, ruled in sellers' favour, but short skirty and faulty sorts were irregular. In merinoes the well-known Caroonboon/D, from Deniliquin made up to 13*d.* while in crossbreds W/Narlga from the same district realised up to 11¾*d.*

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 7th November, 1910 :—J. T. Lewis, chief engineer, South Indian Railway, Trichinopoly, Madras—An improved rail joint for use on railways. M. Khairdin, Supervisor, S. V. Railway, Nur Mahall, District Jullundur, Punjab—A pump for lifting water. Pundit T. S. Kochak, lecturer, Agricultural College, Cawnpore—An improved *chula* for cooking chappaties and other Indian foods with coal as a fuel. A. J deLotbiniere, Major, Royal Engineer, Srinagar, Kashmir—An improved automatic closing water tap, to be known as the fool proof water tap. H. Von Kramer, electrical engineer, 21, Wood End, Erdington, Birmingham—Improvements in inductive wireless telephone installations. W. Mansfield, Creewood Buildings, Brunswick Street, Liverpool—Improvements relating to illuminated fountains. B. L. Margetts, soldier, Rifle Brigade, Fort William, Calcutta—Broomhead holdfast. Leeds Forge Co., Ld., engineers, Leeds, and T. Ferguson, electrical engineer, 1, The Mount, Altrincham, Chester, England—Improvements in electric lighting systems for trains and other moving vehicles and apparatus therefor. A. T. Collier, engineer, "Convena", Blenheim Road, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England—An improved manufacture of flexible material from India-rubber and the like. G. Reynaud, engineer, 5, Rue Salneuve, Paris—Process for the industrial manufacture of rubber. E. R. Johnson, manufacturer, and J. Clifford, English mechanician, both of Front and Cooper Streets, Camden, New Jersey, United States—Improvements in and relating to talking machines. C. Giesecke, engineer, 11, Bruchtorwall, Braunschweig, Germany—Process and apparatus for dressing ores. M. N. Ahmad, naib tahsildar, Hissar Settlement, residing at Chak 72-d Jhelum Canal Colony, Sargodha—A ploughing machine.

Mr. W. C. Renouf, I.C.S., Director of Agriculture, Punjab, writes :—The combined **poultry, chrysanthemum and bee show at Simla** was a distinct success for a first attempt, and so encouraging that it has been decided to hold another early in June next. This will be a better season for showing poultry. With so many keen gardeners in Simla, one man also expect a very fine collection of spring flowers. The **poultry exhibits** were of remarkably good quality and there was very keen competition in some of the classes. The production of eggs and also of poultry has been taken up on thorough business lines in Simla and there are now two large thriving poultry farms stocked with the very best laying strains. Excellently managed, these ventures are believed to be paying well. The season had been unfavourable for chrysanthemums. but in spite of this there were some very attractive flowers. The bee-keepers will doubtless be more in evidence in June, when their hives will be older and stronger. There was an interesting collection of bee-keeping appliances. the uses of which were explained to visitor and the Lieutenant Governor's hives were also on view. The deterioration and gradual disappearance of the splendid breed of **Montgomery milch cows** has been a source of anxiety for some time past. The Local Government has, however, just made an arrangement with two influential native gentlemen which will, it is hoped, contribute towards the preservation and improvement of this famous breed of cows. Some 2,300 acres near Pakpattan have been leased for a run on favourable terms. Conditions have been made to ensure that the best stock is kept on the farm. The Local Government and Government Institutions in the Punjab will have the first refusal of spare young cattle at market rates. General co-operation on the part of large native landowners is most desirable in this matter. These frequently own herds of very inferior cattle. It is hoped that the time is not distant when as much pride will be taken in the possession of the finest milch cows as in good horses. Financially, the cow is perhaps the better investment.

In the *Indian Trade Journal* of June 3rd, 1909, particulars were given of an **electrical resistance method** for the rapid **determination of the moisture content of grain**. The United States Department of Agriculture, who originated the idea, now state that owing to the **oil-bath method** (which was also explained in the issue referred to above) having been introduced into the trade with considerable success, the introduction of the electrical method has not been pushed so far.

It is announced that a new **German Asbestos Syndicate** has just been formed, which includes practically all the German manufacturers. The previous cartel was dissolved at the end of last year, and since then keen competition has prevailed and prices have been reduced very considerably. It is intended to bring about a more profitable state of affairs, and a moderate advance in prices has already been notified. Germany is a very important factor in the asbestos trade controlling a number of the Quebec and Siberian mines, which now practically supply the world's asbestos requirements. The Italian mines are smaller, and the product is not suitable for many purposes, and this applies also to the output of the Griqualand mines. Although the fire-resisting properties of the mineral were known to the ancients, it was not applied commercially until towards the close of the sixties of the last century, when the industry was commenced in America. About the middle of the seventies asbestos works were started in England and Italy, and in the early eighties the first German works were erected. It is in Germany where the industry appears to have made most progress.

A Chinese correspondent of the *Frankfurter Zeitung* gives some particulars of the **financial position at Shanghai and Kiao-chow.** The present dearth of cargoes for the boats is considered to be primarily a reaction of the speculative difficulties during the summer. The native dealers took a very active part in speculating during the rubber boom, and the subsequent tightness in the money market, when credit facilities were much restricted. together with the fall in rubber prices, proved too great a strain for many of the smaller firms, and they were in consequence forced into liquidation, whilst many more were unable to take delivery of goods ordered by them. Even the concerted action of the European banks, which advanced several million taels for the assistance of the native banks under the guarantee of the Central Government, has not sufficed to restore matters to anything approaching a really healthy state, and since the beginning of October the financial position has again become acute. At Kiao-chow much the same state of affairs prevails though not to so serious an extent. Since the middle of September the import trade has been almost at a standstill, and a panic amongst the native dealers has only been prevented by the assistance afforted to the leading native bank by the Deutsch Asiatische Bank. This native house has hitherto been a particularly keen competitor of the German bank, and it is considered that future relations may be very different.

NOTICES.

ENQUIRIES.

(*For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.*

An asterisk (*) *preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.*)

Grain Bags, Coir Rope and Castor Oil.

(791)—A firm in Capetown desires to act as commission agents for manufacturers in India of grain bags, coir rope and castor oil.

Hessian Cloth and Yarn.

***(792)**—A company in Tokio, Japan, desires to be placed in communication with shippers of Hessians and Hessian yarn.

India Rubber.

(793)—A firm in St. Petersburg would like to represent an Indian firm for the sale of raw India rubber.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

The following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 23rd November, 1910 :—

Parliamentary Publications.

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries—Report on the Distribution of Grants, 1908-09 and 1909-10. Colonial Reports—Annual—No. 654—Gold Coast—Report for 1909. Agricultural Statistics of Ireland—1909. The Annual Report of the Adviser to the Kedah Government, and to the Perlis Government for the year 1327 A. H. (23rd January, 1909—12th January, 1910). Straits Settlements—Kelantan Administration Report for the year 1327 A. H. (23rd January, 1909—12th January, 1910) Census of Production—1907.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

Australia—Final Summary Returns of Manufactories and works for the year 1909 in comparison with the year 1908, and Report thereon; Social Insurance—Report on—September, 1910. Canada—Report of the Minister of Agriculture for—1910. Weekly Report 17th October, 1910. Ceylon—Customs Returns—September, 1910. Egypt—Annuaire Statistique de L'Egypte—1910. Mexico—Resumen de la Imporacion y de la Exportacion—Julio de 1910. New South Wales—Monthly Statistical Bulletin—August, 1910. Netherlands Statistick van hot Koninkrijk de der Nederlanden—September 1910. Sudan Government—Central Economic Board—Monthly Report of—No. 45—September, 1910.

Indian Publications.

Irrigation Administration Report of the United Provinces for the year ending 31st March, 1910. Report of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the year 1909.

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Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1910

SEA-BORNE TRADE OF CALCUTTA IN OCTOBER.

OCTOBER was not so satisfactory a month for Calcutta as was the previous month September. In that month, the total increase in the value of its sea-borne trade with foreign countries in comparison with the same month of 1909 was 10·94 per cent; in the past month the percentage of increase was 4·13 per cent. The total value of the month's transactions aggregated 11·53 crores, an expansion of 45·7 lakhs. Imports were quite good and, valued at 4·71 crores, rose by 60 lakhs, equivalent to 14·77 per cent. Merchandise absorbed the greater portion (59 lakhs) of this increase, and treasure (valued at 44·5 lakhs) was slightly greater than in October last year; but while silver, after some considerable time, has augmented its importations by over five lakhs, gold has fallen in demand by nearly four lakhs. Calcutta's foreign sea-borne trade for the first seven months of 1910-11 aggregated 75·16 crores in value, being an expansion of 7·85 crores, or 11·66 per cent, the rates unfortunately having fallen to this from 13·14 per cent at the close of September: imports rose by 8·13 per cent, but exports have improved by 14·20 per cent. Imports valued at 30·5 crores advanced by 2·29 crores. Merchandise actually increased by 2·31 crores, but, while receipts of gold have risen by 13·97 lakhs, silver has declined in favour to the extent of 15·33 lakhs. The value of exports during the seven months aggregated 44·65 crores, an advance of 5·55 crores, or 14·20 per cent. Merchandise was better by 5·22 crores, gold by 15·59, and silver by 17·61 lakhs. At the end of September the ratio of increase for the six months' transactions in imports was 6·99 per cent, and in exports 17·75 per cent, or the exact inverse of the position at the close of October.

The duty collections during October were quite good, amounting to 32·25 lakhs, an increase of five lakhs, or by 18·31 per cent. This total was inclusive of Rs. 40,006, representing tea cess. As in the previous month the chief contributor was sugar, the revenue from which rose by 2·30 lakhs; duty on silver rose by Rs. 1,49,339; on tobacco by Rs. 78,681; and on rice by Rs. 69,981. The only decreases of importance were Rs. 34,442 on cotton goods and Rs. 1,86,308 on salt. The total collections for the seven months of 1910-11 which have passed (inclusive of tea cess Rs. 1,51,613) were 2·11 crores, representing an increase of no less than 23·44 lakhs, equivalent to 12·49 per cent. The more noticeable increases have been those which have been most influenced by the new duties of February, for silver has risen by 9·54 lakhs, and tobacco by 5·42 lakhs; other increases were under sugar (4·43 lakhs) due to the large imports from Java; rice four lakhs, and cotton goods and liquors two lakhs each. All imports have increased their contributions to the revenue with the exception of salt, which is debited with Rs. 10,80,509. Yet this is not a real decrease in consumption but a matter of account only, for no less than Rs. 10,59,150 remain awaiting adjustment.

The considerable increase in imports was mainly due to the continued very large imports of sugar during October in comparison with the same period of 1909. Most of the sugar came from Java, and the total value amounted to Rs. 93 lakhs, or an increase of 54 lakhs. Inclusive of molasses the total quantity was over one million cwt.—an increase of 559,272 cwt. chiefly consisting of refined sugar.

For the year the total imports of sugar aggregated 3·88 lakhs in value, or a rise of 1·27 lakhs. Metals improved by over nine lakhs in value, and for the year the total value (3·11 crores) has risen by 38·56 lakhs. Iron has shown but little expansion, but the demand for steel rose by 16 lakhs and, with the lower prices obtaining for copper, imports of that metal have increased from 71,474 to 101,907 cwt. Machinery rose in value by 5·44 lakhs, but there was a slight loss under railway plant and rolling stock, which during the year has so far fallen by over one crore. Cotton goods were disappointing during the month. Yarns were in smaller supply, and piece-goods fell by over 25 lakhs, but owing to a larger trade in hosiery and other goods the total decrease was only 21 lakhs. The high range of prices for the raw material must interfere with what would otherwise be a good demand, for imports are going quickly into consumption and stocks are not great. In the seven months imports of cotton piece-goods were 635 millions yards, a decrease of 51 millions yards on 1909; yet, owing to the high level obtained for cotton, the value has risen by 47 lakhs. That prices alone have interfered with the trade in cotton is sustained by the imports of woollen goods, which in the past month were better by over five lakhs and for the year by nearly 20 lakhs. The country is prosperous and anxious to spend, but only at reasonable prices. The war instituted between the chief oil interests has not so far benefited the import trade, for foreign oil receipts were less by 2·5 millions gallons, and those from Burma were also slightly less. Cigarettes contracted during the month by 16 millions in number: in the seven months imports have fallen by 174 millions in number. The new tariff has affected whisky this year to the extent of 11,286 gallons, and there has been a decrease in the more expensive liquors, etc., but brandy, wines, and malt liquors have done very well.

In spite of the fact that exports of Indian merchandise declined in October, there were some main staples that gave good results. Chief amongst these were the movements in grain and pulse which improved in quantity by 674,112 cwt. and in value by 35 lakhs, mainly due to the larger shipments of rice and wheat. These exports are the more gratifying as they incontestably denote the prosperous condition of the agriculturist and, with the large amount of produce available for despatch to foreign countries, point to that departure from the high prices which have till recently prevailed for all food grains. Wheat shipments continue behind those of last year, but so far rice is ahead by 1·35 millions cwts. There has also been a large business in pulse (*dal* and peas), the quantity rising from 614,738 to 1,054,836 cwt. Jute manufactures also exhibited a higher total value for the month and to the extent of 10 lakhs: in every respect this trade has expanded in the current year—bags have risen in number by 27·7 millions, and cloth by 45 millions yards, at the same time that the total value has advanced by 69 lakhs; but it is very possible that in the near future the demand will not be so great. There has been this year a marked expansion in exports of jute manufactures to Dundee. The value has risen from 4·56 to 8·12 lakhs. Yet raw jute exports continue to languish and for the month contracted by 526,618 cwt. with a loss in value of 39 lakhs. For the year raw jute exports are smaller by 1,479,464 cwts. and Rs. 1,14·34 in value. Prices for the raw material still rule high, and since the close of October have rapidly advanced until £21·15 per ton has been done for January-February loading, while the local price demanded is now Rs. 54 for all the month. These prices are difficult to understand when the final forecast is taken into account, conjoined with larger imports into Calcutta and the mills' stations (an increase of 573,755 maunds) during the month of October. Still at the close of October the total imports into Calcutta and the mills' stations were 1,268,509 maunds behind last season; and while imports by rail to that date were smaller by 770,824 maunds, receipts to 13th November were smaller by 495,590 maunds only, or an improvement of 275,234 maunds. The total quantity of tea exported from Calcutta last month was 27·42 millions lbs. valued at 24 lakhs, an increase of 268,587 lbs. only; for the year 104·71 millions lbs. have been shipped, or an increase of only 4,790 lbs. Inclusive of the 15th November the total shipments from British India in 1910-11 have been 172·69 millions lbs., or an expansion of 8,172,998 lbs. During the year and from 1st January, 1910, exports of Ceylon tea have amounted to 151·18 millions lbs. (a contraction of over 3 millions lbs.), of which 90·79 millions lbs. went to the United Kingdom. From India exports to the United Kingdom have fallen by 1·83 millions lbs. in 1910-11 and by 5·64 millions lbs. in 1910 from Ceylon, or a total shortage approximating over 7 millions lbs. Prices at the recent Calcutta sales have distinctly improved and the latest reports from London (15th November), state that the improved tone of the previous week had been maintained, that bidding was brisk, and prices

generally higher. Another indication of the sound position of tea just now is the large business done lately in the local share market resulting in a great advance in tea stocks generally. At Home also shares have been firm and active with a scarcity in supplies. Coal exports in the foreign trade have not been so good and have fallen by 10·833 tons. In the coasting trade, however, there was an improved demand, resulting in an increase of 29·795 tons. Other fluctuations in the year have been :—

'000 omitted.

	October 1910.	7 months of 1910-11.
	Rs.	Rs.
Hides and skins .	−16·97	− 6·09
Lac . . .	−10·57	− 24·53
Oilseeds . . .	− 4·39	+ 2,77·40
Opium . . .	− 11	+ 2,15·74

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

THE *Board of Trade Journal*, published on the 27th ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about :—

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—Customs Decisions.

FRANCE.—Reduction of Special Tax on Ores at Boulogne. Removal of Prohibition of United States Potatoes. Importation of Cattle from Morocco. Imports of Tunisian Wine into France.

FRANCE AND FRENCH COLONIES.—Customs Treatment of Colonial Products.

GREECE.—Prohibition of landing in Greek Ports of Articles constituting State Monopolies.

TURKEY.—Duty-free Admission of certain Agricultural Machines and Implements.

VENEZUELA.—Tariff Classification of Wines.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Duty-free Importation of Materials for Railway Construction and Working. Transit Regulations.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(By Telegram.)

Shillong, Nov. 15th.

THE following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 14th instant :—

The weather is seasonable. Light rain has fallen in most districts of the Rajshahi division and in Assam.

The manufacture of tea and ploughing for and sowing of *rabi* crops continue.

The prospects of standing crops are good.

The harvesting of winter rice has commenced in places.

The average price of common rice has fallen about one per cent.

Cattle disease is reported in Nowgong, Sibsagar, Lakhimpur and th Garo Hills.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

THE particulars below are taken from the Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the month of October, 1910 :—

Indian Electricity Act IX of 1910.

At the request of the Chamber Committee the Electricity Sub-Committee recently examined the draft rules which it is proposed to make under the Indian Electricity Act IX of 1910. The Sub-Committee had several criticisms to make on the wording of various rules, and a letter embodying these has been submitted to Government.

Indian Petroleum Act, 1899.

With reference to the paragraph under this heading in the Abstract for last month, the Committee have now addressed the Government of Bengal, suggesting that Rule 16, Part III of the Revised Petroleum Rules, be recast as follows :—"Save as provided in Rules 14 and 24 every vessel having petroleum on board shall be anchored only at such anchorages as the Conservator of the Port shall appoint, and shall not proceed to any ordinary anchorage so long as any of the petroleum remains on board." This wording is considerably simpler than that of the rule as it at present stands.

International Opium Commission.

In the Abstract for September it was mentioned that a communication had been received from the Board of Revenue, L. P., inviting the views of members upon certain resolutions adopted by the International Opium Commission. The papers were circulated to members for an expression of their views, the particular points on which an opinion was requested being the following :—

(*a*) The feasibility of enforcing, within a reasonable period, a direct and unqualified prohibition of the practice of opium-smoking ; and

(*b*) Whether the existing regulations and methods of administration in regard to the traffic in opium are sufficiently restrictive or whether any modifications are required in the present system of retail vend which would facilitate control of consumption.

The Committee have since replied to the reference to the effect that they had not sufficient information on which to express a definite opinion, more particularly as the matter is one rather outside the scope of the Chamber.

Calcutta Port Trust—Undercharges and Overcharges.

In the Abstract for September it was mentioned that the Committee was addressing the Port Commissioners in connection with the question of undercharges and overcharges. They suggested that a similar procedure might be adopted to that laid down by the Indian Railway Conference Association, according to which, in the case of large and well-known firms, an arrangement might be made whereby such firms as would be prepared to sign an undertaking to pay undercharges after delivery, should also be allowed to include, in the same agreement, an undertaking by the Commissioners to refund all overcharges as soon as discovered, the time limit being six months in either case. In reply it was stated by the Commissioners that nearly all the important firms have floating deposits with them against which all charges due in respect of imports and exports are debited, and that, in the case of such depositors, overcharges detected in audit are automatically credited by the Commissioners to their accounts without application. In the case of smaller firms or individuals who have not such deposits, it has been the practice in the past only to refund overcharges on application. The Vice-Chairman, however, agreed with the view taken by the Committee that if undercharges are recovered overcharges should be similarly refunded, whether the party concerned is working on the deposit system or not, and it is understood that instructions have been issued to the Departments concerned to this effect.

Customs Duty on Tobacco and Cigarettes.

A question of considerable importance to importers of tobacco and cigarettes came before the Committee during the month. It appeared from the information submitted that in a recent case an importer cleared from bond a large quantity of cigarettes which had been in bond for some four or five months. When the case was opened it was found that the contents were damaged and, on analysis it was proved that the damage was caused by sea water. This involved a loss not only of the value of the goods but of the full amount of the import duty paid on them ; for in the Sea Customs Act there is no provision for granting a refund of duty in such circumstances. Goods may be examined before being cleared from bond, and if found to be partially damaged they may be reassessed for duty, or in the case of total damage they may be destroyed in bond or re-exported, without payment of duty. But cigarettes and tobacco are perishable and, if opened, would quickly deteriorate, whereas in actual practice consignments may be retained for months by the trader to whom the importer sells them, before they are opened up. The Committee have addressed the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry, suggesting that in circumstances such as those indicated Collectors of Customs should be authorised to entertain applications for a refund of duty.

Jute Traffic on the E. B. S. Railway.

On the 12th September the Committee received a telegram from merchants at Barsoi Ghat stating that over a lakh of maunds of jute were being detained there for want of wagons. An interview with the Traffic Superintendent of the railway elicited the information that a block had occurred on the Northern Section owing to the accumulation of traffic in consequence of recent breaches of the line. The block was being gradually relieved, the railway having arranged to borrow wagons from the Bengal and North-Western Railway. The Barsoi merchants were advised accordingly.

On the 3rd October a telegram was received from the jute merchants of Mahimagunge complaining of the serious loss which they were suffering owing to insufficient wagon supplies. The matter was represented to the Eastern Bengal State Railway authorities and a hope expressed that every effort would be made to remove the cause of complaint. As a material improvement took place in the quantity of jute brought daily by the railway to stations in Calcutta and no further complaint was received, the Committee concluded that the wagon supplies had improved.

Post Box System.

Several complaints having been received that holders of post boxes did not obtain their mail bags until a considerable time later than letters addressed to them direct, and that in several instances covers intended for other addresses were included in the mail bags of particular firms, the Post Master General, Bengal, has been addressed on these subjects.

Late Shipment of Yarns.

In the abstract for May last reference was made to the question of the payment of allowances for late shipment of cotton yarns, and it was mentioned that the Manchester Chamber of Commerce had been communicated with on the subject. The correspondence which passed with the Manchester Chamber was printed and circulated for the information of members in October, and it will have been observed that the Manchester Chamber have taken up the position that as several of the leading importing firms in Calcutta had agreed to make allowances for late shipment of yarns it was to be presumed that importers in India and supplies in Manchester had arrived at an understanding. Consequently no action on the part of Manchester was called for. Experience had proved that such questions were eventually settled by individual arrangement, and as no desire had been expressed by the members for intervention by the Manchester Chamber it was futile in the absence of this for the Board to take action.

Interpretation of Shipment Time in Contracts.

A question was raised recently in connection with the interpretation of shipment time in piece-goods contracts, and all members of the Chamber have been asked to express their opinion on the matter. The question relates to the interpretation of the expression "April-May" when such an expression is used to indicate the shipment time in contracts. The Committee find there is no uniform interpretation in the trade, some firms regarding "April-May" as equivalent to "April and-or May" and taking it to mean that the whole of the goods may be supplied

either in the first month, or in the second, or that they may be supplied in any proportion in the course of the two months, and some firms that "April-May" means "April-May equal portions monthly." It has been represented to the Committee of the Chamber that it is desirable that uniformity of custom should exist, and that all firms should put the same interpretation upon this term, or that it should become an established practice, when goods are sold for shipment in two or more months, that it should be stated in the contract whether they are to be supplied in equal monthly proportions or otherwise.

Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire.

In the Abstract for August it was stated that the suggestion to base the system of voting at Congresses of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire on proportion of trade instead of on population, as at present, was generally approved, only one Chamber considering the proposed change undesirable. The Committee have since been in communication with that Chamber with the result that it has fallen into line with the other Chambers and is now prepared to give the proposal support subject to the qualification that all doubt must be removed in regard to arriving at correct trade returns for all countries. The Committee have informed their representative in England accordingly.

PUNJAB.

At a Committee meeting of the Punjab Chamber of Commerce, held on 18th October, 1910, the following among other matters came up for consideration :—

Companies Act in Kashmir.

Read letter, dated 25th August, 1910, from the Honorary Secretary, Srinagar Local Branch, with enclosures regarding the proposed Companies Act in Kashmir.

Resolution.—The Resident in Kashmir be addressed on the subject in reply to his letter No. 3750, dated 29th June, 1910, to the Honorary Secretary, Srinagar Local Branch, pointing out the undesirability of the alterations to the British Indian Act as laid down in the proposed Draft Companies Act prepared by the Jammu and Kashmir Darbar.

Arbitration Act.

Read letter No. 966, dated Delhi, 29th July, 1910, from the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi District, regarding the extension of the Indian Arbitration Act of 1899 to Delhi.

Resolution.—The Deputy Commissioner, Delhi District, to be informed that the Committee of the Chamber are of opinion that the Arbitration Act, as amended by the Bill introduced in the Punjab Legislative Council by the Hon'ble Mr. James Curre may be usefully extended to Delhi.

UPPER INDIA.

From the Abstract of the Proceedings of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce during September, 1910, now published, the following items are selected :—

Municipal Bye-Laws and Sanitation.

The Committee addressed the Chairman of the Municipal Board of Cawnpore on the 29th August on the subject of the difficulty of securing the prompt removal of public nuisances and the punishment of persons charged with infringing the regulations regarding encroachments, owing to the cumbersome nature of the machinery of the existing law.

The Chairman of the Board in reply placed very full particulars before the Committee as to the difficulties, which, under the present procedure, stand in the way of enforcing bye-laws under the existing Municipal Act, and the Committee have considered it desirable to address the Government of the United Provinces in support of the introduction of reforms which would render more summary action possible.

Cotton Cultivation in the United Provinces.

The Committee have received a copy of a letter, dated 15th August, from the Director of Land Records and Agriculture to the Government of the United Provinces, describing the methods employed in the selection of cotton seed for sowing purposes in the principal cotton-growing districts. Copies of this report have been circulated to the members of the Chamber concerned.

Thefts of Packages in Course of Transit by Rail.

Certain papers bearing upon this question were forwarded to the Secretary to the Railway Conference at Simla on the 31st August, in the hope that the opportunity of the Conference sitting might be utilised to thresh out the matter and if possible to devise some means of ameliorating the evil. The Committee gave it as their opinion that the Railway Administrations are doing their best under present conditions to put a stop to the practices complained of, and that the interests of the public would be best served by measures that would strengthen their hands.

In reply the Committee were informed that the representation had been received too late for formal discussion, but that the papers would be laid before the representatives of Railway Administrations attending the Conference.

BURMA.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Burma Chamber of Commerce, held on 29th September 1910, the following among other matters received attention :—

Telegraph Service.

Read and recorded letter, dated 9th September, 1910, from the Officiating Director General of Telegraphs, saying that the strictest attention was being paid all over India to the Telegraph Service with a view to its efficient working, and asking that he might be informed of all causes for complaint, which would be taken up.

Repatriation of East Indian and Eurasian Seamen.

Read and recorded Commerce Department letter, dated 29th August, 1910, from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Burma, asking for the views of the Chamber on a proposal to make it compulsory for masters of vessels, British and Foreign, when engaging East Indian and Eurasian Seamen on European Articles at ports in India to give an undertaking to repatriate them if the voyage terminated elsewhere than in British India ; also read report of the Sub-Committee on Shipping against any alteration in the present regulations and letter addressed to the Local Government in terms thereof.

Polished Rice and Beri-beri.

Read and recorded Commerce Department letter, dated 14th September, 1910, from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Burma forwarding copy of a letter with enclosures from the Hongkong Government regarding the analysis of the samples of rice forwarded by the Chamber for the purpose of finding out which were referred to as causing beri-beri, and which were considered harmless. It appeared from the enclosures that no definite action had been decided on by the Hongkong Government, and a reply had therefore been sent to the Local Government saying that the Chamber awaited further information before taking any further action.

Preservation of Law and Order in Rangoon.

Read and recorded Police Department letter, No. 1036—10C-53, dated the 25th August, 1910, from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma, saying that the Chamber's remarks on the preservation of law and order in Rangoon town would have due consideration, and that the Lieutenant-Governor would be pleased to consider any definite proposals with regard to any special measures which might usefully be adopted for the prevention of incendiarism and also that legislation would shortly be introduced with a view to checking the habit of carrying knives, riding crops, and other dangerous weapons.

Also read letter addressed to the Burma Fire Insurance Association suggesting that Members should be asked to exercise great care in the inspection and valuation of risks, and that individual Members should immediately report to the Association any suspected cases of incendiarism, by which means all Members would be able to avoid the risks involved ; also reply from the Association saying that this had been done.

JUTE FORECAST QUESTION.

A conference of the Committees of the Calcutta Baled Jute Association, the Indian Jute Mills' Association, the Baled Jute Shippers' Association and the Jute Fabrics Shippers' Association was held in Calcutta on the 28th ultimo to discuss the question of jute forecast. Mr. C. N. Douetil presided.

In opening the meeting the Chairman said :—Gentlemen,—In the first place I have to thank you for attending here to-day. At a meeting of the Calcutta Baled Jute Association held on 2nd October, several important points came up for discussion, which it was thought could be best dealt with by a meeting such as this. The first item that came up for discussion was the one of revising the present system in connection with the preliminary and final jute forecasts. The question was not gone into very fully merely because we thought that our Association being only a part of the jute trade, it would be better for us to consult the other Associations and propose the formation of a Sub-Committee such as was formed in 1903-04 to go thoroughly into the question, hear what firms interested in jute had to say in the matter, and to draw up a scheme which might be eventually submitted through the Chamber of Commerce to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture. I would, therefore, now ask the meeting to appoint such a Sub-Committee. The second matter which came up for discussion was the mysterious visit of Mr. Buchan to the Chamber and various rumours regarding what transpired on that occasion. We feel it would be better in the interests of everybody if the Chamber were asked to give us a complete statement of what took place. This would in a measure enable us to answer questions which I understand are on the way out from Home with regard to what actually did take place. These two matters we only superficially discussed at the meeting for the reasons I have mentioned. We preferred to submit them to a general meeting like this in order to have proper attention given to them.

After consideration the following gentlemen were constituted a Sub-Committee to consider and submit a report upon the question of future jute forecasts ;—Messrs. C. N. Douetil, A. C. Patterson, R. H. A. Gresson, David Easton, J. E. Brown and R. M. Gurney.

The Chairman continuing said :—With regard to the second item may I ask if all the Associations represented are unanimous that a letter should be sent to the Chamber asking what took place on the occasion of Mr. Buchan's visit to the Chamber.

The Hon. Mr. J. C. Shorrock said :—I am authorised on behalf of the Chamber to ask the Acting Secretary to read, if you wish it read, an extract of what was recorded in the Chamber's proceeding book in connection with that matter.

The Acting Secretary then read the following :—

Extract from Proceedings of a Meeting of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, held on 4th October, 1910.

The Jute Forecast.

A letter had been received from a member of the Chamber referring to rumours that the Director of Agriculture had informed the Chamber that the returns of the District Officers, the issue of which was begun on the 10th September, were unreliable, and that in his final forecast he intended to forecast the largely increased outturn, which he ultimately did. The Committee had replied informing the member of what had taken place. On the afternoon of Thursday, the 15th September, the Director of Agriculture, Bengal, had called and asked whether it could not be brought home to the jute trade that the Directors of Agriculture were not necessarily bound by the figures given in the district returns. The Director had been referred by the Secretary to the sentences printed in red ink at the heads of each of the district returns reading as follows :—

> "The Directors of Agriculture are enabled by their local knowledge to amend the estimates in some particulars with the result that the total outturn arrived at by them does not necessarily agree with the sum of the numbers of bales given in this statement."

The President and the Vice-President were absent from Calcutta, but the Secretary had consulted three of the members of the Committee as to what action, if any, should be taken. The opinion arrived at was that by the 15th September, the figures published had already had their effect, and that it would do no good to introduce a third disturbing factor between the preliminary figures and the Director's forecast. There was no time to see all the members of the Committee on the afternoon on which the Director had called, and when it was reported to him later what were the views of those whom the Secretary had seen, the Director stated that on considering the matter he had come to the same conclusion himself—that it would be better not to take any step of the nature indicated. At the time when the member of the Chamber referred to wrote in regarding the matter, the Vice-President and another member of the Committee were still absent from Calcutta, but it was stated in the reply sent to the firm in question that the remaining members of the Committee were of the same opinion as their colleagues—that no action on the part of the Chamber would, under the circumstances, have been advisable.

It was decided that the above extract should be embodied in the proceedings of this meeting.

Mr. Mackenzie enquired if the question in connection with the watering of jute referred to in the forecast would now be discussed.

The Chairman thought that the matter would best be left in the hands of the Sub-Committee as the point had been brought into the forecast and so formed part of it.

Mr. Patterson asked for an expression of views by the representatives of the Mills' Association.

Mr. Cresson said the Mills' Association had issued a circular to members regarding the forecasts, and the following conclusions had been arrived at from the replies received :—

1. That the members generally see no reason to protest against the recognition of moisture in the final forecast.
2. That in future, District Officers' returns should pass through the hands of the Director of Agriculture before being issued.
3. That the final forecast should be continued in its present form (as regards estimate of outturn).

After some general discussion, the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair proposed by Mr. Mackenzie.

CROPS IN ARGENTINA.

THE following account on the state of the crops in Argentina is published in the *Times* Financial and Commercial Supplement from a Buenos Ayres correspondent, whose communication is dated September 20th :—

The recent rains have caused a radical change in the crop outlook, more particularly in regard to linseed in Santa Fe and Cordoba, where the prolonged drought gave good reason for fear for a result even worse than last year. With the rain farmers have been enabled to re-sow the linseed lost through the early frosts, so that although the crop on the whole is late, it is expected that the acreage will equal that of last year, if it does not actually exceed it, as sowings continue to be made on lands that were regarded as hopeless. It is reported that locusts are doing some damage in the north of Santa Fe and Entre Rios, but it is thought that the plant will spring up immediately under the present favourable conditions.

Linseed.

The transformation in the crop outlook for linseed has been reflected in the heavy selling of new crop futures by the interior dealers, who are perhaps the safest judges of the actual position of affairs. Prices have declined from $18·00 to $15·70, but even at the latter price it is magnificent business for the grower, and with anything like a fair average crop his profit is enough to enable him to purchase the title deeds of the land. It is remarkable that in the face of such heavy selling pressure the decline has not been more severe, as after all a basis of $17·00 for linseed is a famine price. It would seem, however, that Europe and North America did not fully appreciate what an enormous difference the rain made to the crop outlook, and for some time they persisted in making considerable purchases at every decline until at last they seem to have realized the possibility of the recuperation of the crop, and they are now shy of entering into fresh engagements.

The purchases to date for North American account are reported to be about 50,000 tons, and it is fairly certain that the demand from this quarter will have an important influence on values in the coming season. The most recent reports from the interior are very satisfactory, and in optimistic quarters the export surplus is already estimated at about 1,000 000 tons, but the crops have a long way to go, and will need good rains from time to time, to say nothing of escape from the disastrous frosts such as were experienced last season.

Position of Wheat.

The wheat outlook has been satisfactory from the start; ploughing and sowing were done under favourable conditions in the south and west, and the crop has made excellent progress, being favoured with good rains from time to time.

The acreage in the south is expected to show a marked increase as a great deal of new land has been broken up, and with favourable conditions from now onwards it is not too much to say that the export from Bahia Blanca will exceed all previous records. In official circles over 2,000.000 tons are named as the probable figure, but at this state such an estimate is hypothetical at the best. In the west and all along the Pacific line the crop has had a good start, conditions being favourable from the plough onwards. The situation in the north at one time caused some uneasiness, but the recent rains have remedied matters, and prospects are distinctly favourable.

Altogether the wheat may be regarded as excellent, and should the present promise materialize, all previous export records will easily be left behind. It must not be overlooked, though, that the crop has yet to enter the critical stages, and there are many dangers to be faced in the next two months.

Maize.

The maize crop has exceeded the expectations of the most optimistic forecasts, the yield of the crop in South Santa Fe being phenomenal. The exports continue at about 100,000 tons weekly, and there are no signs of the movement decreasing, so that it is expected that the total export will easily reach the 3,000,000 tons mark.

—The British Acting Consul at Tamsui (Mr. A. R. Frith) has forwarded detailed particulars regarding the present condition of the **sugar industry in Formosa** and of the output for the 1909-10 season. During this season 3,378,000 piculs (201,000 tons) of sugar were produced, *viz.*, 1,979,000 piculs of centrifugal sugar, 1,364,000 piculs of brown sugar, and 35,000 piculs of raw sugar of inferior grade. Of these quantities 50,000 piculs of centrifugal sugar, 200,000 piculs of brown sugar and 25,000 piculs of inferior grade raw sugar were consumed in Formosa.

COTTON RETURNS.

IN the course of a speech at the fourth International Cotton Congress Mr. Daniel C. Roper, Chief Expert of Division in the Census Bureau, Department of Commerce and Labour, Washington, United States of America, outlined the plans and methods of the Census Bureau in connection with the cotton industry. He said :—

Prior to 1900 no effort was made by the Government of the United States to take a census of the quantity of cotton produced except at decennial periods, when the growers were canvassed by census enumerators. For years inter-decennial statistics compiled relative to the cotton crop consisted of estimates, and those estimates related to the commercial movement of cotton. Under this commercial system it is impracticable to segregate the cotton according to the year of growth, to distribute the crop by the countries producing it; and the volume of the crop cannot be fixed until the close of the commercial year, at which time practically the entire production has passed from the hands of the growers.

It had been repeatedly suggested by students of cotton statistics that a count of the bales at the ginneries would afford reliable statistics as to the quantity of cotton annually grown. In deference to a general demand for a trial of this system, the Director of the Census in 1900 instructed the inumerators to visit every cotton ginnery, and obtain from each a report of the quantity of cotton ginned from the growth of 1899. The result was satisfactory, and the Bureau continued to collect these statistics for the crop of 1900 and 1901 by correspondence with the individual ginners and postmasters, who responded to the inquiries of the office and enabled the preparation of annual reports on the crops of these years.

These reports impressed Congress with the practicability of collecting reliable statistics through the instrumentality of the ginners, and accordingly in the Act of March 6th, 1902, which created a permanent Census Bureau, there was inserted a section which provides that the Director shall annually collect statistics of the cotton production of the country as returned by the ginners, and publish bulletins of the same at frequent intervals during the ginning season. While a fair measure of success attended the collection of these reports by mail, it was found necessary, in order to comply with the requirements of this Act, and to secure prompt, continued, systematic, and thorough service for frequent reports, to appoint and compensate local special agents of the Bureau. This was done. These agents are selected with a view to their special qualifications for the work, being men of good standing in their communities, and in close touch with the cotton-ginning industry. Their compensation is based on the number of establishments to be visited, the number of reports to be collected, the topography of the country, transportation facilities, and other local conditions. For gathering the statistics of 1906 there were 712 of these agents, who canvassed

762 countries and received an average of about $300 each for the season's work.

During the past season, 28,709 ginneries were operated and canvasses were made of these at bi-monthly periods, there being ten reports for the season, showing the quantity of cotton ginned respectively to September 1st, September 25th, October 18th, November 1st, November 14th, December 1st, December 13th, January 1st, January 16th, and a final report in March showing the total crop and distributing the same by counties. The agents are given six days at each canvass to secure the returns of the ginneries charged to them, and at the close of the sixth are required to telegraph to the Census Bureau a summary showing the number of ginneries operated, and the total number of bales ginned to the report date. The agents are required to mail to the Washington office the individual report of the ginners from which the telegraph summaries have been made. On the day following the closing of the field canvass, the telegrams of the agents above referred to are assembled in a closed room of the Washington office, compiled by use of adding machines, and a report issued showing by states the number of ginneries operated during the season to the report date, and the number of bales turned out by them. A summary of the report is prepared for the telegraph companies to be flashed instantaneously throughout the country at two o'clock on the day of publication.

The individual returns of the ginners, made on card schedules four by six inches, collected by the Bureau's agents and used in preparing the telegraph summaries, are transmitted through the mails and reach the Bureau in about six days after the telegraph summaries are made public. These returns are then carefully examined for the purpose of seeing that every establishment is accounted for, and to see that the reports are consistent with preceding returns and with any other information in the possession of the office. The attention of the agents is called immediately to discrepancies and full explanations required. After being so checked the mail returns are carefully tabulated by adding machines, and the county results checked against those telegraphed by the agents, and the full report carrying necessary corrections is again given to the public.

The final canvass for the season, relating to the growth of the previous year, is made during the month of March, and a report is published about April 1st, in which the preliminary reports of the season are summarised and the production distributed by the counties. Statistics of linters obtained by the cotton-seed oil mills from re-ginning cotton seed are collected at the final canvass and included only in the last report.

On account of the fact that there is no uniformity in the size and weight of American cotton bale, and that ginners do not, as a rule, weigh the bales handled by them the Bureau seeks the necessary data for computing average bale weights from the records of *bona fide* local cotton weighers. To enable an accurate distribution of the cotton by counties, these weights are secured from weighers located in the districts from which cotton ginning is returned, and the agents who canvass the ginneries are required to secure from the local weighers statistics of actual weights for 50 per cent. of the number of bales ginned, and to forward the weights in three instalments during the season. These statistics constitute the basis for computing average bale weights.

THE WORLD'S CROPS, 1910.

The scare caused by the damage done to the spring wheat crops of Canada and the United States by the scorching draughts of May and June has gradually evaporated, as it has become clear that, on the whole, the wheat supplies of the world are likely to be at least adequate to the consumption during the next nine months. The movement in wheat prices on the London Market is interesting. From a low level of 31*s.* 3*d.* on May 7th, the average price of English rose very rapidly to 33*s.* 9*d.* on August 7th, but since then it has gradually declined by easy stages, until last Tuesday the Gazette price was 30*s.* 1*d.* We are indebted to Mr. Broomhall, the Editor of the *Corn Trade News*, for his very latest estimate of wheat production in the principal wheat-growing countries of the world.

Taking his figures for this year and last, let us start first with Europe, arranging the various States in their order of importance :—

	Quarters. (Of 480 lbs.) 1909.	Quarters. (Of 480 lbs.) 1910.
Russia (all provinces)	98,000,000	80,000,000
France	45,000,000	33,000,000
Austria-Hungary	23,000,000	32,000,000
Italy	23,800,000	19,200,000
Spain	18,000,000	17,000,000
Germany	17,200,000	17,800,000
United Kingdom	8,000,000	7,000,000
Roumania	7,300,000	13,400,000
Bulgaria	4,500,000	7,000,000
Servia	1,700,000	1,600,000
Belgium	1,600,000	1,500,000
Portugal	900,000	1,000,000
Sweden	800,000	900,000
Denmark	500,000	600,000
Holland	600,000	500,000
Greece	600,000	500,000
Switzerland	450,000	400,000
	251,950,000	233,400,000

Russia could hardly be expected to produce two bumper harvests in succession, but her last harvest was so big that it ensures a very large surplus for export. This year's successes are Hungary, Roumania, and Bulgaria, and the bad failures are in France and Italy. The fine weather of the last few weeks has done much for farmers in North England and Scotland.

Turning now to America, Mr. Broomhall gives the following figures. Here the results are not as bad as were anticipated in June :—

Wheat crop in Quarters of 480 lbs.

	Crop of 1909. Qrs.	1910 Estimate. Qrs.
U. S. A.	92,000,000	84,000,000
Canada	21,000,000	16,000,000
Argentina	16,500,000	22,000,000
Uruguay	1,000,000	800,000
Chile	2,000,000	2,000,000
	132,500,000	124,800,000

These estimates for Argentina, Uruguay, and Chile refer to crops now ripening which will be reaped next month. Of course their ultimate fate is a little uncertain. Rain is wanted in Argentina, but so far the prospects are good. The comparison includes with the crops of India, Australia, and Northern Africa ;—

	1909. Qrs.	1910. Qrs.
India	45,000,000	45,000,000
Australia	10,000,000	10,000,000
Algeria	4,300,000	5,000,000
Tunis	780,000	700,000
	60,080,000	60,700,000

Here again the 1910 crops for India and Australia are pure estimates for crops which will not be reaped until the late autumn and winter, but there is every hope that last year's fine harvests in India and Australia will be repeated. The grand total of this year's estimate works out at 412,600,000 qrs. as against 437,200,000 qrs. last year, a result which is by no means unsatisfactory in view of the large surplus available from Russia, India, and Australia.

The principal importing countries of the world, according to a report recently prepared by the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture, will be :—

	Qrs.
Great Britain	26,250,000
Germany	10,000,000
Belgium	6,000,000
Italy	5,750,000
France	5,500,000
Brazil	2,000,000

In the case of France, we should fear the estimate is far below the mark. Indeed, authorities in the City are predicting that in consequence of the harvest and vintage failure France will have to part with a good deal of bullion in the course of the next twelve months.—*Economist.*

OIL AND SHELLAC MARKETS.

In the course of an article in its issue of October 29th, 1910, the *Ironmonger* says :—Since the last review trade has been extremely dull, but prices have been maintained fairly well, and in some cases have actually risen. This is of course a very unusual combination of tendencies. The fact is that in many departments the range of prices is far too high. Consumers know perfectly well that there must be a serious slump sooner or later, and naturally they restrict their operations as much as possible.

Linseed Oil.

During the latter part of September there was a collapse in linseed oil, when it looked almost as if the end of the period of high prices was at hand ; but apparently the fall was caused by the shaking out of a few of the weaker "bulls", so that the market might be more completely under the dominance of the big speculators. Prices fell to £42 in London and £41 in Hull, but before the middle of October they had recovered, and at the time of writing are rather higher than before the passing weakness. For a full week linseed oil has now been held at £44 naked in Hull, and at from £45 to £45 10*s.*, casks free, in London, Liverpool prices being about 10*s.* higher. One searches in vain for any adequate reason justifying these prices. The paint and decorating trades rarely buy much linseed oil at this time of year, even when prices are moderate, and of course now it is impossible to use the material except for the higher classes of decorators' goods. Cheap paints and varnishes—of which in these competitive times very much is sold—cannot be made of oil costing £45 per ton. There are varnishes, for instance, still being sold at 3*s.* 6*d.* per gallon in barrels, which is about the present cost of raw linseed oil. With regard to the use of the oil in grinding putty and other cheap materials, it is obvious that some substitute must be employed, except in those cases where the paint-makers have had the courage to put up their prices correspondingly. The market is therefore not supported by any legitimate demand on this side of the Atlantic ; and it can only be the American demand and the manipulation of speculators which keep the price where it is. We give below our usual monthly statistics of imports up to the end of September :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports of linseed	1,300,017	1,688,722	1,722,373	1,385,069	1,228,008 qrs.
Imports of oil	...	...	6,596	9,080	29,142 tons.

Cotton Oil.

The market for common qualities of cotton oil has shown a slight downward tendency since we last wrote, but nothing like that which should be associated with the increasing supplies of Indian seed and of soya beans, and the chances of full supplies of Egyptian seed from this season's crop. There are reasons in the position of other soap-making materials which account for the slow progress made in the downward course of the market. Edible

cotton oils have not been affected greatly. The position in America has led to an almost absolute, depletion of the stock of P. S. Y. cotton oil, and holders can get nearly what they like to ask for it. The price at the moment is about £45 per ton. As a result English edible qualities are strong and range from £36 to £40 according to quality. For forward shipment American P. S. Y. oil can be bought at from £37 10s. to £40. The increasing supplies of Egyptian seed ought soon to have some effect upon the prices for English edible oil. The following figures show the seed position to the end of September :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Imports of seed—					
Egypt . . .	228,499	252,019	240,023	213,149	81,367
Other countries .	229,680	309,875	203,938	227,815	459,154
Totals .	458,179	561,894	443,961	440,964	540,521

Rape Oil.

The market for rape oil has fluctuated a good deal, but is now much where it was a month ago. The oil remains comparatively cheap, and there does not seem much margin for a fall ; but business is certainly not what it used to be, and although the demand is now comparatively small, there is no immediate scarcity of rape oil is the winter time, and November and December are usually therefore more active than other months. The following figures show the imports of seed up to September 30th :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports of rape seed .	90,837	202,814	110,596	102,823	178,157 qrs.

Turpentine.

The market for American turpentine has been very strong right through October, and consumers are beginning to fear that a further upward movement is impending which will bring the average value round £60 per ton. The last serious rise took place in July, since when prices kept for a long time near 50. In the circumstances it is quite possible that American turpentine will reach £60, and, moreover, that it will remain at very high prices. The time is approaching when America will need all she makes, and Europe must then do with some other kind, or with substitutes. Russian turpentine has been selling fairly well, but the improvement in price is slight, say about 10s. per ton, the value, as we write, being about £31 10s. per ton for good qualities. Turpentine substitutes have been selling fairly well, but of course the paint trade is not taking much at present. The following are the import figures :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports of turpentine	378,614	414,551	467,482	349,941	337,069 cwt.

Shellac.

This has been irregular, but on the whole values have moved upwards. The heavy stocks are still acting as a burden on the trade, but business seems to be improving slowly. The increase in value is about 3s. to 3s. 6d. per cwt.

BRITISH CAPITAL INVESTMENTS ABROAD.

The question of the extent of our investments in foreign countries still receives a good deal of attention, and in certain quarters political significance is attached to the large amount of money which have been thus sent abroad in recent years. It has been asserted by some that this movement is not for the good of the country, and that it is to some extent the result of distrust of the administration on the part of big capitalists, financiers, and others. It is idle to deny that our investments abroad have increased tremendously in the past decade, and possibly the movement has been accelerated latterly by the sedulous efforts which have been made by Protectionists to create an impression that our trade and industries are languishing, and generally to belittle the credit of the nation. The amount of our investments is, however, an indication of the extent to which the rest of the world is in our debt, and it has been well pointed out that the movement in the last sixty years has occurred simultaneously with a vast growth of British trade and prosperity. The capital invested has been largely for productive purposes, such as the building of railways, so that by assisting other countries to increase their output of commodities which they were specially fitted to produce our investors have helped those countries to secure the means of purchasing the goods that Great Britain manufactures. Moreover, the large sums so invested will ensure greatly increased incomes to the people ; they will widen the Indian, colonial, and foreign markets for British goods, and will provide the constantly growing population of this country with plentiful supplies of foodstuffs and raw materials One of the main arguments against this foreign investment is that if more money had been employed at home it would have been better for the country. It is abundantly clear, however, that this money represents the surplus savings of the nation, and that there is no lack of capital for sound enterprises at home when an appeal to the investor is made.

It is quite impossible to give anything like an exact figure of our investments abroad, but there are official figures to show (in part) the income derived therefrom. According to the last report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue the total amount of income from investments abroad which was assessed for income tax in the year ended March 31st, 1909, reached the huge figure of £88,837,393, representing an increase of £3,721,147 on the previous year, and comparing with £44,508,002 for the year ended March 31st, 1887. These figures relate to India Government stocks and guaranteed railways, colonial or foreign Government securities, and colonial and foreign securities (other than Government) and "possessions, coupons and railways out of the United Kingdom" other than Indian. In a period of twenty-two years, therefore, the income received by British investors from their interests in other countries had nearly doubled. This, however, is only a part of the story, for the Commissioners

are careful to point out that beyond this figure of over 88¼ millions sterling there exists a large amount of income derived from abroad, which in many cases cannot be identified as such in the assessments. This income is of considerable magnitude, for it includes the profits from concerns (other that railways) situated abroad but having their seat of management and direction in this country, *e.g.*, mines, gasworks, waterworks, tramways, breweries, tea, coffee, and rubber plantations, nitrate grounds, oilfields, land and financial companies, etc., concerns jointly worked abroad and in this country, such as cable companies, shipping, etc., foreign and colonial branches of banks, insurance companies, and mercantile houses in the United Kingdom ; mortgages of properties, deposits abroad belonging to banks and profits of all kinds arising from business abroad by manufacturers, merchants, and commission agents. The extent of this investments can only be ascertained by a vast amount of research, if then, but Mr. George Paish, of the "Statist" in a paper read before the Royal Statistical Society last year gave figures to show that the total for the year 1907 was approximately 58 millions, so far as particulars could be ascertained. If we assume the same figure for the year to March 31st, 1909, and the certainty is that it will be very much larger, we have, including the amount assessed by the Revenue Commissioners, a total income derived from foreign sources of about 146¾ millions, but it is probable that the figure is nearer 150 millions. The rate of interest borne by the securities represented by this figure varies from about 3¼ per cent on Indian Government loans, 30½ per cent on investments in diamond mines and the average rate may be taken as 5 per cent. On this basis, therefore, 150 millions of income represents capital of 3,000 millions sterling. The calculation is, of course, a very rough and ready one, and in part it is the result of estimates, but, as previously stated, it is impossible to give figures with any exactitude. So far as can be seen, therefore, the people of this country own investments in other countries of approximately 3,000 millions sterling.

It may be of interest to give some analysis of last year's figures shown in the fifty-third report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. Of the total of £88,837,393 representing the taxable income from investments abroad, about 56½ millions represented colonial or foreign securities of a non-Government character, less than 23¼ millions colonial or foreign Government loans, and a little over nine millions India Government stocks and guaranteed railways. Compared with the previous year the income from railways out of the United Kingdom increased by £1,900,000 ; from India, colonial and foreign non-Government investments by a similar amount ; from colonial Government securities by £300,000, and from Indian Government securities by £1,000, but from Foreign Government securities the income last year showed a decrease of £500,000. At the date of the report the income derived from British, Indian, and colonial Government securities was £38,359,615, whilst the income from foreign Government securities was £9,111,361. In regard to subscriptions for Government loans, therefore, it does not look as though the British Empire suffered in contrast with the foreign countries.

To show, as far as it can be from the income tax assessment figures, the approximate amount of our capital abroad, we give a table for the years 1900, 1908, and 1909, which will give a rough indication of the relation which exists between the principal forms of our foreign investments. In this the amount of principal is obtained by calculating the interest on foreign Government securities and foreign and colonial securites of a non-Government character at 5 per cent ; on colonial Government loans at 3¾ per cent ; and on Indian Government loans (including guaranteed railways) at 3½ per cent.

Estimate of Foreign Investments.

(*000's omitted*).

	Foreign Government securities.	Foreign or Colonial non-Govt.	India loans including guar. rys.	Colonial Govt. loans.
	£	£	£	£
1900 . .	142,368	671,815	236,620	300,692
1908 . .	191,797	1,055,519	256,020	368,660
1909 . .	182,227	1,131,914	258,295	375,816

—*Manchester Guardian*.

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WORLD'S SUGAR SUPPLY.

Final Estimates.

Mr. C. Czarnikow, in his Sugar Report, dated London, 27th October, 1910, says the factory estimates were published on Sunday the 23rd October, and compare as follows :—

Hectares (00 omitted.)	Hectares (00 omitted.)		Total Roots in Thousand Tons.				Tons Roots per Hectare.	
			1910.		1909.			
	1910.	1 09.	October.	Probable.	October.	Final.	1910.	1909.
Germany	475,0	456,1	14,953	15,500	12,954	12,904	32·6	28·3
Austria	365,0	322,8	9,576	9,900	7,767	8,166	27·1	25·3
France	240,0	223,9	5,771	5,875	6,320	6,216	24·5	27·9
Belgium	70,0	65,2	1,950	1,950	1,763	1,777	27·9	27·3
Holland	55,0	56,5	1,529	1,565	1,311	1,330	28·5	23·5
	1,205,0	1,124.5	33,780	34,790	30 115	30,423		
Russia	675,0	556,1	12,403	12,000	6,959	6,837	18·0	12·1
Others	135,0	123,0						
	2,015,0	1,803,6						

	Total Sugar in Thousand Tons.				Tons Sugar per Hectare.	
	1910.		1 09.			
	October.	Probable.	October.	Final.	1910.	1909.
Germany	2,324	2,500	1,948	2,027	5·26	4·44
Austria	1,442	1,550	1,209	1,246	4·25	3·83
France	733	780	799	803	3·25	3·59
Belgium	275	290	242	248	4·14	3·80
Holland	221	240	181	195	4·36	3·45
	4,994	5,360	4,379	4,519	.....	.....
Russia	1,936	1,925	1,008	1,124	2·91	2·02
Others	535	650	426	439	.....	.....
Total	7,465	7,835	5,813	6,081	.....	.....
Stocks, Russia	.....	58	.....	345	.....	.....
„ Europe	.....	535	.....	439	.....	.....

Others countries sugar in thousands ot tons :—

	1910.	1909.	1908.
Denmark	105	65	65
Sweden	156	127	138
Italy	160	119	179
Spain (beet)	58	83	110
Roumania	35	31	...
Servia	11	9	...
Others	8	6	...
Total	534	439	...

The estimates were considered too low for Convention countries, but were quite a surprise as regards Russia, and some people still believe that a mistake must have been made, such as has happened before. As regards Germany it is explained that the returns were based on initial yields, which are generally low, and that the average for the season will be much higher. We have made usual additions to October figures, and even at 2⅓ million tons for Germany the quality calculates below anticipations, so that production may be above 2⅓ millions. For Austria likewise the Moravian and Hungarian figures especially are moderate, even after usual corrections, and may be exceeded if the acreage is correct, which, however, is not annually corrected as in Germany.

The market took the factory estimates as confirming full expectations for Convention countries, and the Russian figure as providing additional 200,000 tons, whereupon prices of May declined from 9*s.* 6½*d.* to 9*s.* 0½*d.* Next crop is quoted a 9*s.* 4½*d.*, and this delivery is likely to be the barometer for present crop as soon as there is a regular trade in it.

It may be remembered that Messrs. Willett have estimated the cuban crop at 1,900,000 tons; but so many mistakes have been made regarding it that the figure is said to be taken by the trade with some doubt.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Number and particulars of Joint Stock Companies registered in each province in British India in the month of September, 1910.

No.	Class and Name.	Situation of Registered Offices.	Object.	Nominal Capital.
	I.—Banking Loan and Insurance.			Rs.
	(*a*) *Banking and Loan.*			
1	Oonjappalayam Vivasaya Nidhi	Coimbatore, Madras	Money-lending (mutual)	20,000
	(*b*) *Insurance.*			
2	Hindu Shadi Fund	Khushab, Panjab	Marriage endowment	1,00,000
3	Hindustan Marriage Relief Fund	Dera Ismail Khan, North-West Frontier Province	Life insurance and marriage endowment	10,000
	Total, Insurance	.....	.....	1,10,000
	Total, Banking, Loan and Insurance	.....	.....	1,30,000
	II.—Trading.			
	(*a*) *Co-operative Associations.*			
4	Co-operative Company	Saharanpur, United Provinces	Dealing in liquor and sugar, etc.	1,00,000
	(*b*) *Printing, Publishing and Stationery.*			
5	Bharathagrantha Prakatana Mondali	Madras	Printers, publishers, booksellers and stationers, etc.	50,000
	II.—Trading.			
	(*c*) *Others.*			
6	Carnatic Condensed Milk Company	Rangoon, Burma	Keeping of dairy farm and manufacturing condensed milk, etc.	1,00,000
7	Indo-Burma Trading Company	Bengal	Suppliers of mill stores, etc.	70,000
8	Model Dairy Company	Calcutta, Bengal	Carrying on dairy business	20,000
9	Grossman and Company	Ditto	Merchants and commission agents	4,00,000
10	Mukkhanpur Glass Manufacturing Company	Mukkhanpur, United Provinces	Manufacturing glass wes, etc.	50,000
11	Pradymna Company	Partabgarh, United Provinces	Carrying on general trade	1,00,000
12	Khareedar Bardana Company	Cawnpore, United Provinces	Ditto	1,00,000
13	Shri Shanti Vilas Hotel	Ahmedabad, Bombay	Opening hotels and restaurants, etc.	20,000
	Total, Others	.....	.....	8,60,000
	Total, Trading	.....	.....	10,10,000
	III.—Mills and Presses.			
	(*a*) *Cotton Mills.*			
14	Meyer Sassoon Mills	Bombay	Spinning, weaving, manufacturing, combing, bleaching cotton, etc.	10,00,000

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES—*contd.*

No.	Class and Name.	Situation of Registered Office.	Object.	Nominal Capital.
	III.—Mills and Presses—*contd.*			
	(b) Cotton and Jute, Screws and Presses.			Rs.
15	Ramchand Gursahaimal Cotton Mills Company	Lucknow, United Provinces . . .	Ginning and pressing cotton	5,00,000
	(c) Other Mills and Presses.			
16	Gobin Mills Company	Calcutta, Bengal . .	Manufacturing dalls, rice husking, etc. . . .	50,000
	Total Mills and Presses .	... ,,	.....	15,50,000
	IV.—Mining and Quarrying Associations.			
17	Tavoy Concessions	Rangoon, Burma .	Carrying on business of dealers in, miners of minerals, ores, etc. . . .	3,00,000
18	Tenassarim Concessions . . .	,, ,, .	,, ,, .	3,00,000
	Total, Mining and Quarrying Associations	.....	.....	6,00,000
	Grand Total	... ..	.....	32,90,000

ABSTRACT TABLE OF COMPANIES REGISTERED IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1910.

		Rs.
1	Banking and Loan Company	20,000
2	Insurance Companies	1,10,600
1	Co-operative Company	1,00,000
1	Printing, Publishing and Stationery Company	50,000
8	Trading Companies (other than those specified above)	8,60,000
1	Cotton Mills Company	10,00,000
1	Cotton and Jute Screws and Presses Company	5,00,000
1	Mills and Presses Company (other than those specified above)	50,000
2	Mining and Quarrying Associations	6,00,000
18	Grand Total .	32,90,000

BRITISH CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.

A Blue-book (Cd. 5397) gives preliminary tables summarizing the results of the returns received under the Census of Production Act, 1906. Mr. G. R. Askwith, in an introductory letter to the Secretary of the Board of Trade says :—

The present tables cover the production of grain-milling factories, bread and biscuit factories and workshops, cocoa, confectionery, and fruit-preserving factories and workshops factories and workshops manufacturing farinaceous preparations and household articles, cattle, dog, and poultry food factories and workshops, ice factories, sugar and glucose factories, brewing and malting factories and workshops, spirit distilling factories, spirit compounding, rectifying, and methylating factories and workshops, bottling factories and workshops, aerated waters, cider, British-made wines, non-alcoholic beverages (brewed, and vinegar factories and workshops, and tobacco factories and workshops. Information is also given respecting productive work carried on in Army bakeries and Naval victualling yards in the United Kingdom.

Nearly 48,000 schedules were issued to firms engaged in these industries. These firms employed in 1907 an average of nearly 408,000 persons, and produced a total output which represented a net addition of over 84¼ millions pounds sterling to the value of materials used.

The present section of the tables is mainly devoted to the food, drink, and tobacco trades. It covers the output of all classes of factories and workshops engaged in these trades with the exception of those engaged in the manufacture of preserved meats, sauces, and pickles, and in fish-curing, bacon-curing, and butter and cheese making. A certain amount of manufacture carried out by retail establishments and (in the case of cider making) by farmers is, however, not covered by the census. In several cases in these tables the particulars relate to the manufacture of dutiable articles and of articles containing dutiable ingredients. In three cases only, *viz.*, brewing, sugar refining, and the manufacture of glucose, the duty paid forms part of the "net output," and the figure given above (£84¼ millions sterling) includes approximately £15¼ millions sterling in respect of such duties.

The gross output of the trades was £257,215,000, and the cost of materials used £172,692,000.

SPINNING AND WEAVING RETURNS.

The following statistics of cotton spinning and weaving in Indian mills in September, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of 1908 and 1909, are published by the Commercial Intelligence Department:—

No. 1.—Abstract Statement of the Quantity (in pounds) of Yarn Spun.

	Month of September			Six Months, April to September		
British India.	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
Bombay	39,689,387	31,327,015	36,960,409	230,171,482	231,348,059	231,825,367
Madras	2,880,408	3,445,549	3,475,316	18,865,555	21,265,397	20,721,045
Bengal	4,293,740	2,182,886	2,339,131	20,171,649	16,927,648	16,413,094
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh (also Ajmer-Merwara) .	3,079,886	3,144,203	3,199,721	19,077,264	19,856,986	19,129,439
Panjab	847,377	607,040	554,223	7,017,989	5,279,213	3,791,556
Central Provinces and Berar .	2,360,347	2,397,294	2,178,135	14,606,375	16,415,167	14,146,130
Total .	53,151,145	43,103,987	48,706,935	309,910,314	311,092,470	308,026,631
Foreign Territory.						
Native States of Indore, Mysore, Baroda,* Nandgaon, Bhavnagar, Hyderabad, Wadhwan, Quilon (*a*), Kishengarh,* Ujjain and Pondicherry(*b*) . .	2,288,155	2,688,757	2,510,237	13,937,048	18,001,203	16,688,427
GRAND TOTAL .	55,439,300	45,792,744	51,217,172	323,847,362	329,093,673	324,715,058

* Statistics for September 1910 not yet received
(*a*) Mill closed since October 1909 (*b*) Including the production of one mill only from April 1909

No. 2.—Abstract Statement of the Quantity of Woven Goods Produced.

[*N.B.*—The weight in pounds represents the weight of all woven goods; the measure in yards represents the equivalent of the weight of the grey and coloured piece-goods]

		Month of September			Six Months, April to September		
British India.		1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
Bombay . . .	pounds	15,292,424	18,810,439	23,165,654	73,778,700	88,910,985	99,280,986
	yards	67,183,840	82,110,265	95,319,591	329,300,458	388,474,807	437,221,170
	dozens	85,297	67,626	67,652	271,340	276,421	319,867
Madras . . .	pounds	636,592	631,861	579,981	3,747,719	3,927,135	3,538,872
	yards	1,930,613	1,912,969	1,783,863	12,325,697	12,145,987	11,260,816
	dozens	1,413	2,084	2,308	5,202	7,871	12,019
Bengal . . .	pounds	512,290	225,940	133,765	1,606,421	1,257,152	1,358,976
	yards	2,521,326	1,061,398	692,994	7,388,993	6,221,537	7,251,138
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh (also Ajmer-Merwara).	pounds	792,027	1,085,172	988,345	5,043,528	5,976,002	5,009,621
	yards	2,990,485	4,946,785	4,138,238	19,586,215	21,802,307	20,742,078
	dozens	2,858	4,354	5,329	16,371	29,330	23,917
Panjab . . .	pounds	30,287	36,119	42,982	262,029	235,738	222,443
	yards	82,145	91,983	127,454	644,676	568,211	663,104
	dozens	443	22	28	2,536	1,978	82
Central Provinces and Berar.	pounds	767,213	757,287	894,498	4,360,864	4,819,530	4,889,110
	yards	3,049,085	2,915,844	3,339,151	17,400,373	18,731,866	18,716,467
	dozens	504	579	634	2,374	2,943	2,698
Total .	pounds	18,030,833	21,546,818	24,805,225	88,799,261	105,126,542	114,300,008
	yards	77,757,494	93,039,184	105,401,291	386,646,442	447,913,715	495,854,773
	dozens	90,515	74,651	75,951	297,823	318,543	358,583
Foreign Territory.							
Native States of Indore, Mysore, Baroda,* Nandgaon, Bhavnagar, Hyderabad, Wadhwan, Kishengarh(*a*)* and Pondicherry(*b*) .	pounds	738,270	950,445	1,153,861	3,872,803	6,048,528	7,136,075
	yards	2,643,454	3,615,280	4,633,302	14,551,911	24,310,375	29,577,546
	dozens (*c*)	11,517	11,898	7,006	35,830	33,440	29,504
GRAND TOTAL .	pounds	18,769,103	22,497,263	25,959,086	92,672,064	111,175,070	121,436,083
	yards	80,400,948	96,654,464	110,034,593	401,198,353	472,254,090	525,432,319
	dozens	102,032	86,549	82,957	333,653	351,983	388,087

* Statistics for September 1910 not yet received
(*a*) From August 1910
(*b*) Including the production of one mill only from April 1909
(*c*) Incomplete

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 12th November, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	317,285
	Bombay	„	355,319
	Madras	„	326,114
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	66,400
	Bombay	„	2,959,970
	Madras	„	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	13,340,597
	Bombay	„	6,044,781
	Karachi	„	298,845
	Madras	„	1,807,680
	Rangoon	„	304,659

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	2,726,007
	Bombay	„	5,137,976
	Karachi	„	1,264,846
	Madras	„	931,087
	Rangoon	„	764,525

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	3,324,622
	Bombay	„	7,939,460
	Karachi	„	1,980,180
	Madras	„	1,473,738
	Rangoon	„	1,619,197

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*18,976
	Bombay	„	6,427
	Karachi	„	17,334
	Madras	„	2,905

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	260
	Coastwise	„	5,907
	By rail	„	109,104
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	46,821
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*9,317

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*750,742
Exports by sea from	Calcutta — Gunny bags	No.	5,636,550
	Calcutta — „ cloth	yds.	21,696,000
	Calcutta — Jute	cwt.	769,292
	Chittagong—Jute	„	48,150

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from Bombay		cwt.	15,749

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into	Calcutta		cwt.	*3,476
	Bombay	By sea	„	...
		Coastwise	„	109
		By rail	„	9,250
	Karachi	By rail and river	„	2,675
Exports by sea from	Calcutta		„	5,037
	Bombay		„	24,147
	Karachi		„	...

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into	Calcutta		cwt.	*25,546
	Bombay	By sea	„	...
		Coastwise	„	†998
		By rail	„	12,941
	Karachi	By rail and river	„	59,406
Exports by sea from	Calcutta		„	...
	Bombay		„	94,329
	Karachi		„	18,488

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*124,960
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	70,702
	Chittagong	„	...
	Bombay	„	17,392
	Karachi	„	7,531
	Madras	„	...
	Rangoon	„	341,161

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*6,424,461
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	4,594,749
	Chittagong	„	1,856,420

WHEAT.

Imports into	Calcutta by rail and river		cwt.	*22,016
	Karachi by rail		„	443,555
	Bombay	By sea	„	...
		Coastwise	„	3,105
		By rail	„	25,996
Exports by sea from	Calcutta		„	20,893
	Bombay		„	88,696
	Karachi		„	167,582

* B. N. Ry. figures not included.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

		From April		From January					
		1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
		Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta	Cwt.	3,374,914	2,511,443	3,317,617	5,228,006	1,013,253	1,048,584	Not	reported.
Bombay	„	2,583,986	1,633,227	1,952,892	2,831,412	1,361,274	2,496,945	5,719,176	12,917,355
Karachi	„	13,823,305	14,812,246	...	5,346	2,932,894	4,539,428	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 12th NOVEMBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From All other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	564,077
Bombay	...	564,077	...	...
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	...	...	...

Exports by sea from Burma to	Bengal	...
	E. B. & Assam	...
	Bombay	408,400
	Sind	381,700
	Madras	221,600
	Indian Ports, Non-Br.	213,900
	Foreign Ports	40

The correct figure of Kerosene oil exported by sea from Burma to Bengal is 1,494,462 gallons for the week ending 5th November 1910.

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 12th NOVEMBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon	Total
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	115	...	13	50	26	14	218
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	92,250	...	32,089	35,213	23,508	13,944	197,034
Mauritius	723	...	85,580	23,893	...	...	110,196
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	298	1,470	306	4	2,078
					Total refined		309,526
					Total unrefined		...
					Grand Total		309,526

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 11th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 11th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 12th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 12th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	6,610	7 4	134,646	7 4·1	5,989	7 0·3	117,710	7 6·4
Cachar	5,055	6 5·9	101,580	6 2·1	5,669	5 8·7	111,407	5 9·8
Sylhet	4,206	6 7·1	68,311	6 2·5	4,047	5 8·7	73,514	5 9·6
Darjeeling	2,445	9 6·9	58,960	9 4·6	936	12 0·4	51,761	9 11·8
Dooars	7,870	7 1·6	144,506	6 7·7	9,573	6 8·5	140,646	6 9·5
Terai	618	7 0·8	19,503	6 5·8	237	5 10·4	14,057	6 3·2
Chittagong	462	6 6·7	6,523	6 2·1	263	5 8·3	5,671	5 11·8
Chota-Nagpore	119	6 3	1,188	7 1·8	32	6 11	1,474	6 6·7
Kumaon and Kangra	169	6 0·8	2,966	6 4·3	54	5 1	2,610	5 8·7
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	90	6 3·3
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	5 9
Nepal	...	...	495	6 4·7	136	6 3	474	6 2·9
All other places	76	5 11	76	5 11	...	...	...	...
Total	27,630	7 2·1	538,797	6 11·5	26,936	6 7	519,502	6 10·8

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 27,484 packages Dust* sold to 11th November 5*a.* 8·6*p.*

„ 1909-10 „ 25,979 „ „ „ 12th „ 5*a.* 7·1*p.*

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

AMERICAN COTTON.

Writing on October 22nd the *Statist* says :—The market is passing through a phase inevitable to the facts of the situation. The lateness of the crop and the comparative lightness of stocks cause more than usual nervousness as to seasonal variations, and the cotton map is watched with painful anxiety. One day a storm on the Florida coast, another day frost hundreds of miles north of the cotton belt has immediate effect on the barometer of prices. The scale of business in actual cotton varies in a perplexing way from activity to sluggishness. On the whole, it indicates that the cloth buyer is giving up hope of a relapse to much more normal prices than the present, at any rate yet awhile, and that he is, therefore, placing his orders in gradually increasing volume. But, whether a large or a small business gets done on the "spot", there can be no doubt of the ceaseless turnover of "futures." This is due only partly to the dealings and counter-dealings of jobbers and operators under the nervous conditions described. It is due also to the spinner himself, who wishes to cover his commitments in yarn, but who finds more than usual difficulty in securing his own particular quality of cotton, more especially if it is of staple in the least better than the ordinary, for shipment ahead. The competition of the United States spinner has helped to make the basis extremely high at the collecting centre-in the stapled districts. And another difficulty was caused by the notice given by the English bankers that after the 31st instant they would not accept drafts attached to cotton bills of lading unless the genuineness of the bills was guaranteed by the American banker who passed them on. As the American banker hitherto refuses such a guarantee, an evident *impasse* awaited the shipper of cotton to England, and he preferred to look for another channel. Now, however, the English banker post-pones till December 31st next the date for his ultimatum to take effect, in the hope—and may it prove well founded — of a solution of the difficulty being found in the interval.

The raising of the Bank rate to 5 per cent is a serious item, for a small crop at current prices requires more gold to move it than a large crop at normal prices. The mere fact of the lightness of old stocks, however, renders the tax on trading capital less burdensome than it would be other-wise.

The somewhat mixed and uncertain influences thus smmarised have driven prices up and down, but mainly upwards, during the past fortnight, the "spot" quotation of middling American rising from 7·70*d.* per lb. to 8·25*d.* per lb., receding to 7·87*d.* per lb. and rallying to 7·96*d.* per lb., a maximum rise of 55 points being thus narrowed to a rise of 26 points. This quotation of 7·96*d.* per lb. compares with 7·37*d.* per lb. a year ago and 5·04*d.* per lb. two years ago.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

COMMERCIAL GUIDE (MONTHLY).

	Rate. Rs.	A.
Per annum	100	0
Per half-year	54	0
Per quarter	28	0
For less than 3 months :—		
To Subscribers per copy	8	0
To Non-Subscribers „	10	0
Postage for one year :—		
Abroad per copy	5	0
In India „	2	8

WEEKLY MANIFEST.

First copy per annum	100	0
„ „ „ half-year	54	0
„ „ „ quarter	28	0
Additional copy per annum	20	0
„ „ „ half-year	12	0
„ „ „ quarter	8	0
For less than 3 months :—		
To Subscribers per copy	1	0
To Non-Subscribers „	2	0
Postage for one year :—		
Abroad per copy	5	0
In India „	3	8

DAILY LISTS—IMPORTS OR EXPORTS (separately).

One copy of either per annum	65	0
„ „ „ „ „ half-year	35	0
„ „ „ „ „ quarter	20	0
For less than 3 months whether to Subscribers or Non-Subscribers, annas 5 per copy		
Postage for one year :—		
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20	0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1	0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6	0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4	12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0	6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.
23rd September, 1909.



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India, F. D. Order 4319 of 1883.
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Bombay, F. D. Resolution 1957 of 1892.
Burma, F. D. Cir 107 of 1897.
„ „ „ 53 of 1899.
C. P. G. D. „ 1416 of 1895.
„ Excise D. Cir. 111 of 1894.
N.-W. P., G. D. Order 1525 / XII—805 B. of 1894
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The Indian Trade Journal.

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Wednesday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	6 per cent. (Nov. 3).
	Bombay	6 per cent. (Nov. 17).
	Madras	6 per cent. (Nov. 18).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 11/32
	6 months	1-4 15/32

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 93-8.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 19th November was Rs. 29-12-0 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 22nd November was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia-Bhawnagar cotton**, November delivery, Rs. 290 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **wholesale spot prices** of the undermentioned articles in Calcutta on the 23rd instant were as under:—

Jute—C. D. M. and Co. (Red) Group		
per 400 lbs.	Rs.	60 0 0
„ M. per 400 lbs.	„	47 0 0
Rice—Ballam No. 1 per B. md.	„	4 3 0
„ Moonghy „		*Nil.*
Linseed—Bold 4% per B. md.		*Nil.*
Rapeseed—Yellow, mixed, bold, Cawnpore, 4% per B. md.		*Nil.*

The following **tenders** have been accepted by the Manager, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, for the supply of 100,000 **broad gauge sleepers** :—Messrs. Jardine Skinner and Company, 70,000 Sal; Messrs. Dear and Company, 30,000 Sal.

The total approximate gross **earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 5th November, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,75,62,245 and Rs. 3,05,26,118 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09, respectively.

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales of cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 43 weeks ended 27th October, 1910 :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 27th Oct., 1910.	43 weeks ended 27th Oct., 1910.	Week ended 27th Oct., 1910.	43 weeks ended 27th Oct., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
erican . .	130,361	1,688,349	2,642	18[illegible],529
lian . .	--	49,200	100	2,983
dian . .	47	185,647	1,500	42,291
n . .	16,308	203,825	105	52,784
neous .	688*	104,637†	73	7,161
Total .	147,404	2,236,658	4,420	286,748

Proj

Jean-cluding 2 bales British West Indian, and 45 bales Pavi[illegible] West African.

† Including 6,191 bales British West Indian, 6,638 bales British West African, 13,325 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

The Council of the **British Cotton-growing Association** met in Manchester on November 1st with Sir Frank Forbes Adam in the chair. It was announced that representations were being made to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on the question of **cotton-growing in the Soudan.** As to Northern Nigeria a letter was received from the Governor stating that the impressions gained during his travels through the provinces bordering on the Niger and Benue are much more favourable than those he formed during his tours in the North. There is every reason to expect a large production of cotton by the natives if the industry is encouraged by proper methods. In Lagos the purchases of cotton up to October 7th amounted to 5,536 bales, as against 11,894 bales for the same period of last year and 5,410 bales for the whole of 1908. The reports of the growing crop are satisfactory. The crop produced in Uganda during the past season amounted to over 6,000 bales and it is estimated that the crop which is now being picked will produce from 8,000 to 10,000 bales. A good deal of the cotton is being baled by the hydraulic press sent out by the Association, and in this manner considerable saving is effected in freight charges. A report has been received from the Director of Agriculture, in which he states that the cotton industry in Nyasaland is growing rapidly, One planter has garnered a crop of 500 lbs. of lint cotton per acre from a plot of 83 acres. An hydraulic press is being erected by the Association at Port Herald.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market** dated the 27th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co., Ltd., say :—The slight reaction in Exchange has had some effect in inducing buyers of **Indian yarn** to fill their more urgent orders, a fairly good business in these spinnings being the result. The demand was chiefly for Nos. 12s. and 20s. and confined entirely to the River markets and Szechuen. Prices have kept steady to firm, and so the market closes. The sales amount in the aggregate to 2,337 bales, as under :—No. 10s. 60 bales ; Naranjee Mill $98·00 and Pabaney Mills (Ring) $101·50. No. 12s. 610 bales ; Queen Mills (Woman) $94·50, Pabaney Mills (Mule) $103·00 and Currimbhoy Mills (Mule) $103·50. No. 20s. 1,667 bales ; Ripon (Mule) and Victoria Manufacturing Co. (Ring) $111·00, China Mill $113·00/112·50, Brightness Chop and Currimbhoy Mills (Mule) $113·00, Empress Mill, Imperial Mill, James Greaves Mill and Pabaney Mill (Ring) $114·50, Connaught Mills Co., $114·50/115·00, Tea Carrier $115·00, and Howard and Bullough Mill Co. $115·00/115·50.

In its issue of Tuesday, November 1st, the *Manchester Guardian* says :—Price movements in the standard **copper market** have been very small during the past week, but there is a loss of 10s. per ton shown by the closing price of Friday as compared with the previous week. It is too early to say whether or not this slight set-back indicates that the market has risen as far as it is able to rise. Possibly favourable stock and production figures would again give it a fillip, but it seems unlikely that any great disturbance of values can take place. A good many people seem to have been anxious to secure the small profits already shown by the rise, and this perhaps has caused the weakness of the last day or two. It is true that if supplies are to be artificially controlled to any large extent a big rise would be possible, and hence consumers will do well to keep a sharp look-out. At present, more especially in the North, there is little or no revival of confidence amongst consumers, whatever speculators may think. This is shown by the retail character of the orders received by dealers and agents and also by the difficulty experienced in keeping up the prices of manufactured metals. The ostensible price for tubes, for instance, is continually being cut, both

in regard to the basis price and also to the extras. We hear of copper tubes, for instance, at 8⅞*d.* instead of 8½*d.*, and of brass condenser tubes at some ⅛*d.* below the regular price as fixed by the basis value.

It is announced that fresh negotiations have been entered upon between producers of **aluminium** on the European Continent with a view to the formation of a **new syndicate** of an international character. The negotiations, which took place in Brussels, and are to be continued this month, aim at the conclusion of an agreement for makers not to increase their production excessively, but to bring it into relation to the growing consumption of aluminium for various purposes. It remains to be seen whether the present scheme, which is said to have the support of the principal makers, will be any more successful than previous projects brought forward in the past 12 months. It is known that notwithstanding the fluctuations in prices since the collapse of the old aluminium syndicate the large works which have auxiliary branches have been able to work at a profit taken as a whole, but those which only produce this particular metal have had to suffer from the low prices due to competition, and can only hope to find profitable employment for their enlarged works by not restricting the output, and by not forcing up prices. It, therefore, seems to be a question whether it will be possible to reconcile the interests of the latter class with those of the former. The exports of aluminium from Switzerland to Germany in the first nine months of this year amounted to 2,510 tons, as compared with 1,420 tons in the corresponding months in 1909.

The statement below shows the **quantity and value of manganese ore exported** by sea from each province of British India to countries of final destination in October, 1910 :—

Countries of final destination.	Bengal.		Bombay.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
October, 1910.	Cwt.	Rs.	Cwt.	Rs.	Cwt.	R .
United Kingdom .	0,000	56,000	145,320	1,11,990	205,320	1,6 ,990
Belgium . .	10,000	9,000	80,000	75,000	90,000	84,000
France . . .	20,000	20,000	148,000	1,37,325	168,000	1,57,325
United States of America . .	...	...	163,000	1,22,250	163,000	1,22,250
Total .	90,000	85,000	536,320	4,46,565	626,320	5,31,565

The following figures represent the quantity and value of **gold and silver** imported from and exported to foreign countries into and from **British India** during the month of October, 1910 :—The total imports of gold were 178,460 ozs. valued at Rs. 1,12,54,729; of these 145,527 ozs. priced at Rs. 93,19,138 represented bullion, 27,659 ozs. worth Rs. 16,30,135 represented sovereigns and other British gold coin, and 5,274 ozs. valued at Rs. 3,05,456 represented other coined gold. The exports of gold totalled 51,692 ozs. in quantity and Rs. 29,64,628 in value, and of these 50,536 ozs. valued at Rs. 28,94,408 represented bullion, 326 ozs. worth Rs. 19,215 represented sovereigns and other British gold coin, and 830 ozs. valued at Rs. 51,005 represented other coined gold. The total imports of silver were 4,984,264 ozs. priced at Rs. 84,55,856 : of these 4,904,755 ozs. valued at Rs. 82,82,019 represented bar, 37,924 ozs. worth Rs. 1,01,286 represented Government of India rupees, and 41,585 ozs valued at Rs. 72,551 represented other coin. The total exports of silver were 1,033,104 ozs. valued at Rs. 23,94,878 ; of these 29,629 ozs. worth Rs. 56,987 represented bullion, 671,868 ozs. priced at Rs. 17,91,649 represented Government of India rupees, 273,170 ozs. valued at Rs. 4,49,952 represented British dollars, and 58,437 ozs. worth Rs. 96,290 represented other coin. During the month the imports of gold amounted to 112·5 lakhs, while those of silver to 60·6 lakhs (net).

His Majesty's Acting Commercial Attaché at Peking (Mr. H. H. Fox) has forwarded a précis of an article on the subject of **wheat growing in Manchuria** by Mr E. C. Parker, Chief of the Bureau of Agriculture at Mukden, from which the following information is extracted :—The area of Manchuria is approximately 360,000 square miles, with an estimated population of from 10 to 12 millions. The present annual production of wheat is about 10 million bushels, which might be increased, Mr. Parker thinks, to from 300 to 400 million bushels, even with the primitive methods of native cultivation. The soil and climate are as favourable for wheat production as in the valley of the Mississippi. The native wheats are chiefly of the bearded and smooth chaff type ; but fife, blue stem and Canadian club types are also seen. Although the region is naturally favourable for wheat production, the crop has never been extensively grown, chiefly because the yield of wheat is less per unit of land than that of millet, sorghum, or maize, and these foods are better adapted to the standard of life and the purchasing power of the Chinese family. Of late years, however, there has been a noticeable growth in the consumption of wheat among the Chinese throughout China, and in Manchuria in particular a strong demand for wheat flour has arisen since the Russo-Japanese war. At first this demand was supplied chiefly by the United States of America ; but in 1909, on account of the high price of American flour owing to the depreciation of silver and of the increased production of the Shanghai and Manchurian mills, the import practically ceased. Flour is produced by steam roller mills at Harbin, Changchun,

Hailin and Shuangchengpu under Russian management, at Ninguta, Aseho and Kirin under Chinese management, and at Tiehling under Japanese management. In 1909, according to steamship and railway statistics, 5,400,000 bushels of wheat passed into Harbin, of which 3,600,000 bushels were milled locally and 1,800,000 bushels were exported by the Sungari River to Siberia. The milling of wheat in Manchuria is increasing rapidly, and Mr. Parker considers that, with cheap wheat, cheap labour, and low transportation charges, the Manchurian mills, with the steam mills at Shanghai, must inevitably capture the flour trade of the Far East. In January, 1910, No. 1 wheat was worth at the mills 84 cents U. S. gold (3*s.* 6*d.*) per bushel, and at harvest time wheat was selling for 66 cents gold (2*s.* 9*d.*) per bushel. The highest and lowest prices recorded during the past three years have been 56 cents gold (2*s.* 4*d.*) and 84 cents gold (3*s.* 6*d.*) per bushel. In Mukden "second patent" flour from the Japanese Tiehling mills was sold in August last at 3·93 dollars gold (16*s.* 4½*d.*) per barrel of 196 lbs., and flour from the Russian mills at Harbin of similar quality at 4·08 dollars (17*s*) per barrel.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's Crops** as on the 1st instant :—*United States of America*—Reports Winter wheat generally very favourable, although "Modern Miller" says plant not looking well in south-west; receipts decreased moderately and continue much smaller than a year ago, but visible stock increasing. *Canada*—Receipts liberal, also outgoings; quantities exceed last year's at this time. *Argentina*—Further good rains fallen, and crop outlook quite favourable. *Australia*—Our agent cables weather damage has reduced crop 14,000,000 bushels; some private telegrams confirm this, others do not; substantial increase acreage may partially off-set damage. *New Zealand*—Latest reports indicate conditions about normal. *India*—Ploughing and sowing continue under favourable conditions. *Russia*—Weather turned cold, but immediate close Azoff navigation not expected; reports seedings mostly favourable; bad roads hinder arrivals, but stocks are large. *Roumania*—Agricultural situation is generally favourable, but some delay seeding mentioned; stocks of wheat decreasing slowly; rains delayed maize movement, but otherwise this crop receives very favourable mention. *Hungary*—Good rains fallen; Autumn seeding much delayed, partly owing vermin. *France*, *Italy* and *United Kingdom*—Reports seedings favourable; supplies native wheat lightish. *Spain* and *North Africa*—Some complaints drought. *Germany*—Seeding being done under better conditions; supplies native wheat larger.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 29th October, 1910, were as follows :—Wheat, 30*s.* 4*d.*; barley, 25*s.* 4*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 2*d.*

A St. Petersburg report draws attention to a **bill** just introduced into the Cabinet Council by the Minister for Commerce and Industry, which proposes both **to prohibit the exportation of raw platinum and to erect State refineries in Russia.** A considerable proportion of the Russian output of platinum is now refined abroad, a great amount being treated at Hamburg by the North German Refinery. The world's total output of platinum is about 400 poods annually (1 pood=40 Russian, 36·113 English pounds), almost the whole being of Russian origin; the production in the Ural mines is about 350 poods per annum. The present price is 41,000 roubles (1 rouble=2*s.* 1·6*d.*) per pood. Of the entire production only about 2 per cent is refined in Russia. An outside firm has now a monopoly of the business, and has succeeded within quite recent years in increasing the price from 17,000 roubles to 41,000 roubles per pood. It is thought that this continuous and rapid advance will receive a severe check if exportation be prohibited and the refining operations be carried out under State control.

His Majesty's Commercial Attaché at St. Petersburg (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that, according to the official *Commercial and Industrial Gazette* of 16th October, the Railways Tariff Committee has passed resolutions abolishing in principle, from 1st/14th August, 1911, the higher **freight charges** imposed at Tcheliabinsk on all **Siberian grain** crossing the Urals to European Russia; the existing charges are to continue in force till that date. The Committee has passed a further resolution to the effect that, with the abolition of the break at Tcheliabinsk, it is not desirable that the general European Russian freight scheme should be applied to the carriage of Siberian grain to European Russia. The freights to be imposed are to be the subject of consideration later. The one exception hitherto made from the higher rates, says Mr. Cooke, was in favour of Siberian grain exported abroad, largely by the Perm-Kotlass railway to the Northern Dwina and thence to Archangel for shipment to Great Britain; in this way, in good seasons, from four to six million pouds (64,000 to 96,000 tons) have been exported. The proposed change, which might possibly involve the cessation of this exceptional treatment, so far as Archangel is concerned, might considerably affect this traffic, to the advantage perhaps of St. Petersburg receiving Siberian wheat by the Viatka-Vologda line, or of other Baltic ports, all open for navigation longer than Archangel.

Reports from **Milan** refer particularly to the leading part played by **Asiatic silks and cocoons** in the silk market, the turnover being large and prices hardening. In sympathy Italian varieties have become distinctly firmer in tone. Generally it is considered that the position has recently improved very

distinctly and as demand is now growing brisker and stocks of the leading marks of cocoons have recently diminished considerably, it is thought that the next few months will see a great improvement. The future is looked forward to with confidence, which is greatly strengthened by the reports now coming from America. The silk waste market does not exhibit much change, either with regard to turnover or prices.

The **clearances of silk** at the **Lyons** conditioning-house during the week ended October 26th amounted to 156,978 kilograms, as compared with 166,104 kilograms, in the preceding week, and 156,242 kilograms in the corresponding week of last year. We append the usual detailed comparison :—

Week ended October 26th.	Thrown. Organzines. Kilos.	Thrown. Trames. Kilos.	Raw. Kilos.	Total. Kilos.
1910 . .	21,253	26,321	109,404	156,978
1909 . .	22 577	26.623	107,042	156,242
1908 . .	17,834	25,(00	102,400	145,234
1907 . .	22,011	22 652	95,055	139,718
1906 . .	15,214	23,3.2	106,400	145,006
1905 . .	20,675	22,777	81,830	125,282

The Lyons market has become appreciably firmer, and a considerable business is reported, especially in Asiatic silks. European and Levant silks have also been freely dealt in, but without any appreciable advance in prices.

The **Federated Malay States** *Government Gazette* of 2nd September published the following particulars of the **exports of cultivated rubber** from the Federated Malay States during the month of July, 1910, and during the seven months ending July, 1909, and 1910 :—

—	January-July, 1909.	January-July, 1910.	July, 1910.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Perak	458,976	1,160,674	216,926
Selangor . . .	2,021,955	4,371,831	659,673
Negri Sembilan . .	517,497	713,695	94,018
Pahang . . .	*Nil.*	2,062	852
	2,998,428	6,248,262	971,469

Note.—Of the rubber exported from Selangor during July, 1910, 5,647 lbs. were produced in Perak and 88,587 lbs. in Negri Sembilan. Of the rubber exported from Selangor during the seven months ended July, 1910, 37,889 lbs. were produced in Perak and 627,864 lbs. in Negri Sembilan.

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal*, writing on October 27th, regarding the **Hull oil market**, says:—The market for **linseed oil** is steady, with spot at 43*s.* 6*d.*; October-December, 43*s.*; January-April, 40*s.* 6*d.* The exports for the week amounted to 49 tons, of which Africa took 3, America 17, Australia 6, Denmark 1, Germany 2, India 15, Norway 2, and Turkey 3 tons each. **Cotton oil**; Refined cotton oil, 29*s.* 6*d.* spot; 29*s.* November-April, crude cotton oil, 28*s.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 166 tons, of which America took 99, Belgium 20, Germany 10, Holland 29, Sweden 3, and Turkey 5 tons each. **Soy bean oil** 31*s.* 6*d.* spot. **Lard oil** very steady at 60*s.* per cwt. for best English refined in barrels. **Olive oil** quiet. Spot continues scarce and held at £57 to £57 10*s.*, and Spanish £59 10*s.* to £60 per ton, ex-stores. **Cocoanut oil** steady, unchanged at £42 to £42 10*s.* per ton for English, ex-mill. **Castor oil** dull. Calcutta spot 3⅞*d.* to 3½*d.* per lb., forward 3⅞*d.* to 3½*d.* per lb. **Palm oil** strong and advancing and a fair demand continues. Lagos for early arrival sold at £37, November-December hards at £33 5*s.* transit. Niger on spot, at £32 17*s.* 6*d.* Refined sorts firm at £35 to £35 10*s.* **Petroleum** quiet, steady. Russian 5½*d.*, and America 6*d.* to 7*d.* per gallon. **Turpentine** firm, and 6*d.* dearer. Spot and November-December 55*s.* 9*d.* and January-April 56*s.* 9*d.* per cwt.

Evidence of the **feeding value of soy bean cake** is given in reports upon experiments conducted at the Midland and Agricultural College, Kingston, Derbyshire, and on two farms in Scotland by the authorities of the East of Scotland Agricultural College. These documents are instructive as showing the properties of this material for dairy cows and for fattening bullocks respectively. At the Midland Dairy College the quantities of cake given to the cows was 3 lbs. each per day, and while the soy bean cake encouraged the flow of milk, the linseed cake made amends by increasing the live weight. The percentage of butter fat in the milk was the same in both cases, but a larger quantity of butter was churned from the cream of the linseed fed lot. The verdict in this experiment is that when milk yield, live weight increase, and manurial residue are taken into consideration, the relative values of the two materials closely approach their actual cost price. In the first of the two Scottish experiments three lots of bullock received 85 lbs. of swedes, 8½ lb. oat straw, and 4 lb. Bombay cotton cake as a basal ration. In addition one lot was given linseed cake, another soy bean cake containing 6 per cent of oil, and a third a compound soy bean cake containing 8 per cent of oil. Allowing for the extra cost of the linseed cake, there was margin of 4*s.* per head in favour of this article and the soy bean cake was almost as much superior to the compound cake. The quality of the carcases was favourable to the soy bean cake, the butcher who slaughtered them estimating the difference in its favour at ½*d.* per lb. In the second experiment the allowance of swedes was 100 lbs. per head and the straw and Bombay cotton cake about the same, while in the experimental materials soy bean cake containing 11

per cent of oil took the place of the compound cake. The former result was reversed, there being margins of 11*s.* per head in favour of the 6 per cent soy bean cake and of 3*s.* 6*d.* to the credit of the 11 per cent soy bean cake over the linseed cake. It is explained, however, that the linseed cake used in this case was of inferior quality, being deficient in oil and evidently made from badly cleaned inferior seed. At the same time it may be noted that the profit from the soy bean cake at this farm was about the same as that from linseed cake at the other. The conclusions arrived at by those responsible for these experiments are :- (1) The soy bean cake is a perfectly safe food when used with discretion, but notwithstanding its high analysis ordinary soy bean cake at £6 15*s.* per ton seems to be a dearer feeding.stuff than good linseed cake at £9; (2) that the poorer the soy bean cake is in oil, the better are the results obtained, and when the increased cost of the richer cake is taken into consideration, the results are much in favour of the soy bean cake with least oil. As the same amount of oil in linseed cake gave good results. it would seem that the unsatisfactory results obtained with the soy bean are due to some property of the oil in this food.

The British Acting Consul-General at **Mukden** (Mr. R. Willis) has telegraphed to the effect that the **bean harvest** in Southern Manchuria is excellent. and that harvest prospects in Northern Manchuria are from 20 to 30 per cent better than last year, the beans also being of a very much better quality.

In his weekly Price Current on the **sugar market** dated London, November 3rd, C. Czarnikow says :— In spite of alarmist reports that crops will be larger than 7,800,000 tons, that Russia, having exported less than her contingent, will exceed it this year (which is contrary to the convention), we had a decidedly better tone this week owing to larger consumers' demand. and prices for May moved from 9*s.* ½*d.* to 8*s.* 11¾*d.* to 9*s.* 4½*d.* to 9*s.* 3*d.* to 9*s.* 4½*d.* It becomes evident that buyers do not trouble much about 100,000 tons more or less production, nobody cares about statistics, there is enough sugar and to spare, therefore buyers are only guided by the price which at 9*s.* for May attracted many consumers who bought white Sugar and forced refiners to cover in paper. It remains, of course, to be seen whether the advance can be maintained and improved; there is a large consumers' demand due, and the Russian spectre has not quite materialised yet, though rising prices of export certificates (*viz.*, the bonus given to anybody undertaking to export Sugar) are bringing exports within measurable distance. Exporters, however, confirm that Russia will rather store on the chance of next crop being short than force sales at low values. On the other hand, our stocks during the next three months will go on increasing at an alarming rate as the larger production becomes visible, whilst increased consumption may principally show next year; we may on 31st December have near 4 million tons, against 3,110 to 3,500 thousand tons in previous years. For October we shall not show any increase yet of consumption, anyhow in United Kingdom, but finally consumption and exports should give us some relief. Exhausted second-hand stores will be filled again, and the only trouble is that if prices improve, Russia may want to export. In that case prospective sowings and the action of fabricants will determine the future. We leave America out of account as absorbing all privileged Sugar, of which a few Cubans (owing to 1*s.* 6*d.* less import duties) are drifting now from this side to their natural market, which was magnified into an American demand for European Cane, and had its share in frightening "bears".

Reports from the interior of the State of **Sao Paulo,** writes a Rio de Janeiro correspondent, under date October 2nd, have so far shown that the flowering of the **coffee** trees is irregular in the case of the old plants, but abundant on the younger trees. In the States of Rio de Janeiro and Minas Geraes the flowering is said to be generally satisfactory, promising a good crop. During the past two or three days rain has again fallen in the various coffee States, and although the trees are at present in full bloom, it is expected that no damage will be done if the wind is not too strong. The Rio market continues firm, and during the past fortnight No. 7 has appreciated 300 reis, the present price being Rs. 5$825 per 10 kilos. In Santos prices have risen 250 reis, the present value of No. 4 being Rs. 5$800 per 10 kilos. Clearances during September were very heavy, and amounted to about 1,800,000 bags. New crop **cotton** and **sugar** are now entering the Pernambuco market freely. Compared with the prices ruling two or three months ago, the value of sugar has dropped considerably, but the present value of cotton is still remunerative to the planter. Apart from the reaction recently commenced in North America and Europe, the Pernambuco cotton market has been depressed on account of the poor demand and the large stocks which at present amount to 25,000 bags. The crop is doubtless very large, and the quality good. At the beginning of August buyers offered Rs. 16$000 for Pernams (primeira sorte), but since then prices have gradually receded, and to-day business is difficult at Rs. 11$000. Exchange has also played its part in the present decline, especially in the case of sugar. Entries of this product are daily increasing, and the stock at Pernambuco now totals about 70,000 bags. Owing to the flat state of foreign markets, the local inquiry is not at all encouraging. It is doubtful if Rs. 1$900 could be obtained for "Demeraras," although sellers a few weeks ago refused as much as 2$400 from the United States for October-November shipments. During the first days of August "Usinas" were quoted at Rs.4$400; "Crystals," Rs. 3$200; and "Demeraras" at 2$400 but values have since dropped to Rs.3$300, 2$000, and 1$900 respectively. The Lloyd Brasileiro S.S. "Minas Geraes" has left for Liverpool, and takes 6,000 bags of old sugar (brutos secos) from Pernambuco.

The first ordinary general meeting of the **Java United Plantations** was held in London on November 3rd. The Hon'ble C. H. Strutt, who presided, moved the adoption of the report. He said that the **tobacco crop** on the company's estates for the year under review proved a great disappointment. Large profits had been realized in the two previous years. The directors had seen no reason when they issued the prospectus why similar results should not have attended last season. The abnormal rains in some quarters produced disastrous floods on almost every tobacco field in eastern Java, and ruined any chance of a good crop. The quantity harvested was less than half that of the previous year. The current year's crop promised excellently, especially as regarded quantity. There seemed no reason why they should not have quite as satisfactory returns as were given by the crops of 1907-08. It would not be long before the company had other crops besides tobacco to yield receipts. Mr. C. E. Welldon seconded the motion, which was adopted after some discussion.

In their Report on the **Australian wool sales** dated Melbourne, October 27th, Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort & Co., Ld., say :—We held our fourth sale of the season yesterday, submitting a large and attractive catalogue of 5,376 bales, of which, including private sales,we disposed of 5,053 bales. The selection was an all-round good one, embracing a wide range of quality in fine haired wools, as well as those of a more robust character together with a useful collection of comebacks and crossbreds of all descriptions, as also a varied display of smaller clips. Queensland was represented by the first instalment of Thurulgoona, while such well-known marks as Tupra/H CK. Liewah/H CK, W B/Willandra, J L/P L (in dia.), C C McC/Nth Wakool, Dellapool, Bull Plain, Gulpha, W F & I D (in dia.), Borambola, covered practically the whole of Riverina. The feature of the sale was the fierce competition on the part of the Continental section, who took the bulk of the offerings, prices generally showing a hardening tendency, more especially where quality was exhibited. As far as merinoes are concerned, the swing of the pendulum appears to be in the direction of such wools, which for some years past have been in diminishing quantity. Comebacks and crossbreds of all descriptions met with a ready sale, and although not quotably dearer, values generally ruled in sellers' favour. Lambs of all descriptions, when of good length and free from vegetable matter, continue to move off well; short, faulty, and skirty sorts, on the other hand, are rather dragging. So far as can be seen, the United States of America has not changed its policy, and is still an onlooker, while Home buyers are somewhat apathetic. In the smaller wools, which included a good display of crossbreds, chiefly from the Goulburn Valley and Western districts, prices all round were highly satisfactory. In merinoes the highest price of the day was realised for the A A Com H & W of Liewah/H CK, which sold up to 12½*d.* in crossbreds, which met with most spirited competition, the premier position was filled by W. F. wool from Deniliquin, the comeback lambs of which sold at 13*d.*

The seventh **sale of tanned goat and sheep skin** of the present year, after an interval of seven weeks, commenced in London on the 24th and finished on October 31st. The following packages were offered :—

Madras goat	761,403	915,117 goat offered.	Madras	746,049	899,763 goat sold.
Bombay goat	153,714		Bombay	153,714	
Madras sheep	709,867	827,342 sheep offered.	Madras	669,618	787,093 sheep sold.
Bombay sheep	117,475		Bombay	117,475	
Total	1,742,459 skins offered.		Total	1,686,856 skins sold.	

The supply of **goat skins** was small, and the demand strong from a good attendance of buyers, so that almost a complete clearance was effected at an average advance of about ½*d.* to 1*d.* per lb. In Madras fair middle-class tannages were in large supply, and they showed some improvement in quality. Really good to best tannages were scarce. Skins of medium to light weight were in strong request, and show the greatest rise. Extra heavy weights were generally 1*d.* per lb. lower. Germany bought freely, and there were good orders from France, but America and the home trade purchased little. As regards **Madras goat** best city tannages were of indifferent quality, and realised full relative prices. Town tannages were in large supply, and sold at ½*d.* to 1*d.* per lb. advance. Dindiguls and Trichinopolies also rose ½*d.* to 1*d.* Coimbatores were about ½*d.* dearer. Amboors and fair to good up-country tannages advanced ½*d.* to 1*d.* per lb. Ordinary up-country and oily tannages brought fully late rates with the exception of extra heavy weights, which were ½*d.* to 1*d.* per lb. lower. **Bombay goat skins** were in small supply, and strong demand. Fair to good tannages showed an advance of ½*d.* to 1*d.*, and ordinary and Kurrachee tannages were 1*d.* to 1½*d.* per lb. dearer The supply of **sheep skins** was small, especially after a seven weeks' interval, and with a fair demand a good clearance was effected at an average advance of Madras skins of 1½*d.* per lb. The quality generally was again poor. Skins of spreading character, especially when of light average, show the greatest rise; plump skins, particularly when of heavy weight, were not so much wanted, and these mark the least advance. Germany bought fairly well, the home trade took a larger proportion than usual, but very little was bought for America. Good to best Madras tannages were in small supply, and were 1½*d.* to 2*d.* per lb. dearer. Fair to good tannages advanced 1*d.* to 2*d.* per lb. Ordinary and common tannages were 1*d.* to 1½*d.* up. Light weights, and the commoner selections in all cases, show the greatest rise. Bombay sheep skins were in small supply, but demand was only moderate, and they show very

little change on average, an occasional slight decline on heavy skins being about balanced by an advance in the value of light skins. Stock in brokers' hands is now about 740,000 skins, consisting of about 375.000 goat and 365,000 sheep. The next sales will commence, after an interval of seven weeks, on Monday, December 12th, 1910.

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The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows :—

For the week ending 19th November, 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 3,300 ; 3,300 ; 3,275 ; 3,225 ; 3,230 ; 3,235.

Benares opium—Rs. 3,250 ; 3,250 ; 3,225 ; 3,175 ; 3,180 ; 3,185.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 12th sale of 1910 were Rs. 3,310 ; 3,310 ; 3 285 ; 3.235 ; 3,240 ; 3,245.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange, Rs. 138¾ to 139¾ per $100).

Behar opium—$2,375 ; 2,375 ; 2,375 ; 2,370 ; 2,350 ; 2,350 ; 2,350.

Benares opium—On the 17th instant $2,331.

At Shanghai—(Exchange, Rs. 190 per 100 taels).

Behar opium—On the 16th instant taels 1,735.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

For the week ending 12th November, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

On the 6th and 7th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,385 to 1,390 ; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,350 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,520 to 3,500. From 8th to 12th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385 ; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,060 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,500 to 3,081.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 3,284 and 3,316 ; (old) Rs. 3,354 and 3,335, respectively.

We take the following from *Dornbusch's Floating Cargoes Evening List* for November 4th :—The **Canadian Linseed crop** this season is officially reported as having produced 4,314,000 bushels (108.000 tons) from 476,877 acres—an average of 9·04 bushels per acre. Last year's total yield was 125,900 tons which, however, covered other provinces not at the moment scheduled. The yields and areas are as follows :—

	1910.			1909.	1908.
	Yield-Bushels.	Per acre.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Manitoba . .	4,152,000	9·06	24,577	22,363	23,400
Saskatchewan .	25.000	9·48	438,100	110.308	110,000
Alberta . .	137,000	9·57	14,300	5,800	5,900
Total .	4,314,000	9·04	476,877	138,471	139,300

The foregoing, it will be seen, does not include Quibec, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island which are shown in the following statement of percentage of condition :—

	1910.			30th Sept.	
	31st July.	31st Aug.	30th Sept.	1909.	1908.
Manitoba . .	53·53	54·64	57·49	65·71	73
Saskatchewan .	64·39	62·50	65·39	91·31	55
Alberta .	67·98	63·33	63·16	95·00	84
Quebec . .	81·37	91·36	84·09	89·06	65
Nova Scotia .	81·25	69·50	78·85	60·00	83
P. E. Island .	88·00	87·10	94·16	100·00	82
All Canada . .	71·97	67·85	72·98	86·97	68

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The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a feeble disturbance over the south-west of the Bay of Bengal. Rainfall has been nearly general in Malabar. A few falls are reported from South-East Madras.

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In its issue of Saturday, October 22nd, the New York *Commercial and Financial Chronicle* writes :—"A very **severe storm** has visited the south-eastern shores of the United States, causing wide-spread damage throughout the Florida peninsula and playing havoc with the Island of **Cuba.** A cyclone, accompanied by extremely heavy rains, struck Cuba late last week, and on Sunday the storm became so violent that hundreds of buildings were unroofed, sugar and tobacco plantations were partly destroyed, food crops were spoiled, while communication by land and sea was completely demoralized. On Tuesday Florida experienced a wind having a velocity of more than 80 miles per hour, torrential rains fell, and much destruction was caused at Jacksonville and other ports. South Carolina was threatened, but on its way northward the storm passed out to sea on Wednesday. Accidents to steamships and smaller craft were reported, yet the loss of life was remarkably small. Cuba, Key West and other parts of Florida suffered most, the situation in Cuba being so grave that many of the inhabitants were rendered destitute. The **tobacco crop** has apparently been severely damaged, the **sugar plantations** have been partly ruined, the **banana fields** did not escape, and the loss sustained by other fruit crops is also placed at a very large sum, although no trustworthy data are obtainable.

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In a Colonial Office report just issued Professor Wyndham Dunstan, Director of the Imperial Institute, says :—The initial stage of the work of the **Mineral Survey of Ceylon** may now be regarded as largely completed. It is clear that the island contains, in addition to gem stones, a number of minerals of commercial importance, of which only graphite, mica, and thorianite are at present worked. The mining of graphite is on a large scale and in some cases is under European supervision. This mineral is an important article of export. Mica is mined to a small extent by primitive methods, and there is room for further enterprise in this material, now that it is known that much of the Ceylon mica is of value for special purposes. Thorianite is a new mineral discovered as a result of the operations of the Survey and so far not known elsewhere than in Ceylon. Comparatively large quantities have been profitably exported in recent years and utilised in this country as a source of the thoria used in the manufacture of the incandescent gas mantle. Much remains to be done in discovering new localities in which this mineral is present, and also in devising better methods of recovering it from the river bed and alluvia in which it is known to occur.

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An **Austrian syndicate** has recently been organized for the **development of the salt deposits** near Kalusz, in Galicia. These fields have up to the present been under Government management. A private company with an initial capital of about £200,000 has now been organized, which under contracts with the Government, proposes to take over the existing Government mines, extend the work into adjacent territory, and to erect factories for the production of high per cent potassic salts, especially fertilizing salts, chloride of potassium, bisulphate of potash, and bisulphate of magnesia. The laws of Austria forbid the manufacture of mineral salt by private persons and the proposed business of the new company will, therefore, be conducted under the form of a Government lease, authorizing the manufacturing of the salt and its sale to the Government at a fixed price. The crude potassic salts will be prepared by the company at a factory to be erected in Kalusz, to save freight, and the output will be sold on the Kalusz and Vienna markets. The mines have been worked to only a limited extent and are known to be rich in fertilizing and other salts. Austria imports annually about 5,000 tons of potassic salts, valued at about £240,000, from Germany, where the business is a monopoly. The high original cost, the freight charges, and the Austrian import duty of about 1s. 7½*d.* per 100 kilos, have prevented the great use of these salts in Austria, though industrial consumption thereof is constantly increasing. It is stated that this industry in Germany yields handsome profits, and that the mines are being pushed to the limit of productiveness, which gives substantial reason to believe that the local industry working in a fallow field will prove an equal success.

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The **quantity of salt** of every description **cleared** during the quarter ending September amounted to 2,731,984 maunds (including 724,467 maunds issued under the credit system), as compared with 3,166,135 maunds (including 165,700 maunds issued under the credit system) in the previous quarter, and 2,555,338 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The net amount of duty levied was Rs. 18,13.522 (excluding Rs. 1,27,797 adjusted under the credit system), as against Rs. 27,17,375 in the previous quarter, and Rs. 23,70,837 in the corresponding quarter of the previous years. Compared with the corresponding quarter of the previous year and the same quarter of 1908-09, importations were greater by 28·9 per cent and 15·2 per cent, respectively, and clearances were greater by 6·9 and 5·7 per cent. As compared with the corresponding period of the previous year, the increased imports from the United Kingdom, Spain, Salif, Aden and Massowah and the decreased imports from Port Said and Bombay are specially noticeable.

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In June last the Chairman of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, Bombay, on behalf of the Committee of the Chamber, submitted for the consideration of Government certain amendments to the proposed **Indian Patents and Designs Act.** One of these related to the incorporation of a clause, on the lines of section 58 of the British Patent and Designs Act, 1907, providing for the cancellation of the Registration of Designs if not worked in the country. Referring to the amendment proposed the Manchester Chamber of Commerce have addressed the following communication dated 7th October, 1910, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, Bombay :—The attention of the Board of Directors of this Chamber has been drawn to a communication addressed to you by the Chairman of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, Bombay, on the 10th June last, conveying certain suggestions of that Association for legislation in India on the subject of Patents and Designs. I am desired by the Board to say that they wholly disagree with the terms of the 5th paragraph of the letter referred to, in which the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau advocate the adoption, in the suggested Indian Act, of section 58 of the British Patents and Designs Act, 1907, which would have the effect of making provision to cancel the registration of a design if it were used for manufacture exclusively or mainly outside India. The Board of Directors observe that the particular section has been omitted from the Indian Government's reproduction of the latest British enactment with respect to designs, and they have no doubt that it has been done deliberately and advisedly. The Manchester Chamber entirely agree with this policy, as the cases of British and Indian legislation with respect to designs are not exactly parallel. I am to express the hope that the Government of India will continue to act on the policy which has dictated the drafting of the Bill, and will not accord support to the views of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, as expressed in their letter.

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Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta,

during the week ending 14th November, 1910 :—S. Lethbridge, Major, R. S., Rifle Factory, Ishapore—The manufacture of a rust destroying liquid called "Kilrust" capable of entirely preventing all corrosion set up in gun and rifle barrels by firing cordite or any similar nitre powder. Head, Wrightson and Company, Ld., engineers, Teesdale Iron Works, England—Improvements in pontoon bridges with submerged pontoons. A. E. Cummins, engineer, 58, Belsize Park Gardens, London—Improvements in baling presses. R. E. Fenby, engineer, 29, Harrison Road, Erdington, Warwickshire, England, and Kynock, Ld., manufacturers, of Lion Works, Witton, near Birmingham, England—Improvements in expanding bullets for use in sporting shot guns. The Metals Extraction Corporation, Ld., Finsbury House, Blomfield Street, London—Improvements in or relating to the extraction of metals from their ores. R. A. Adamson, resident engineer, Liverpool Corporation Water Works, Corporation House, Rivington, near Bolton, England—Improvements in apparatus for scraping and cleaning water mains pipes and the like. F. Candy, engineer, No. 5 Westminster Palace Gardens, Artillery Row, Westminster, England—Improvements in the purification of water. T. Barnard electrical engineer, 28. Scott Street, and G. C. Edwards, manager, 180, Spadina Road, both of Toronto, Canada—Improvements in controlling devices for electric motors.

With reference to the **Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act in Bombay** for the calendar year 1909, a Government Resolution has been published summarising the main facts. It is noted that an interesting feature of the year was the registration of a bobbin factory at Surat and of a workshop for making agricultural implements in Belgaum, the first of their kind to come under the provisions of the Act. The number of factories under the control of the Act during the year under report was 555, an increase of five over that of the previous year. There has been a steady improvement in the sanitary condition of the mills in general and Government note with satisfaction that the sanitation of the Century Mill in Bombay no longer gives cause for complaint, and that the Factory Department has secured the co-operation of the municipal authorities in enforcing improved sanitary arrangements in the Bombay mills. The ventilation in many factories is reported to be far from satisfactory and the Chief Inspector emphasizes the urgent necessity for the provision of a standard of ventilation suited to local conditions. During the year under report wages did not vary greatly from those prevalent during the previous year and there were no labour troubles of importance. The registers prescribed for use in connection with the employment of children were everywhere maintained with more care, and it is satisfactory to find that in a year in which the supply of child labour was scarce there were only three prosecutions for the wrongful employment of children. Fencing of machinery was on the whole fairly well attended to. In all 30 fatal accidents were reported against 20 in the previous year but they were due in nearly every instance to the carelessness of operatives.

The progress made by the **organisations of employers in Germany** has, writes the *Manchester Guardian*, attracted the attention of the Imperial Statistical Bureau, and has led to the publication of details as to these associations. The preparation of these statistics caused some difficulty, as they were intended to include only those associations which deal with labour. For this reason all agricultural societies and trusts were excluded from the figures. There are in Germany 84 Imperial, 474 State, and 2,055 local associations, a total of 2,613, which shows an increase of 21 over last year. These associations have 115,095 members, employing 3,854,680 workers. The most powerful organisations are the Association of German Metal Industries, with 2,960 members, employing 489,300 workers, and the German Builders' Association with 22,000 members employing 333,000. The Saxon Industrial Association is the largest State organisation, with 4,500 members, employing 500,000 workers. There is an international association of shipping owners, those of the United Kingdom, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden having organised themselves to combat strikes. The International Federation of Cotton Employers' Associations does not come into the category of associations formed expressly to cope with labour difficulties.

NOTICES.

CALLS FOR TENDERS.

Tents.

The Ordnance Officer in charge, Rawalpindi Arsenal, is calling for tenders up to January 3rd for the supply of tents, tent components and tent materials for the use of that arsenal during 1911-12.

Pearl Fisheries.

The Chief Collector of Customs in Sind is inviting tenders for the right to fish pearl in the fisheries on the Sind coast for the three years commencing the 1st proximo.

ENQUIRIES.

(For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.

An asterisk (*) preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.)

Japanese Goods.

(794).—A firm in Kobe desires to be placed in communication with importers of Japanese goods such as copper-ware, silk piece-goods, bamboo-ware, hosiery, toys, porcelain, glass-ware, straw and chip braids, paper and other general goods.

Hides.

***(795)**—A firm in Bulgaria desires to be placed in communication with shippers of Dacca buffalo and cow hides.

Tapioca.

(796)—A London firm desires to be placed in communication with large exporters of manioc, cassava or tapioca.

Bicycle Agency.

(797)—A wholesale Coventry bicycle manufacturing company desires to appoint agents in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Rangoon.

Schiedam Gin.

(798)—A gin distillery in Schiedam wishes to appoint agents in Calcutta.

Fertilisers.

(799)—A Glasgow firm desires to be placed in communication with importers of fertilisers.

Patent Lacquers.

(800)—A London electrical company desires to appoint agents for the sale of patent cold lacquers of all kinds.

Bristles.

(801)—A Calcutta firm desires the addresses of collectors, dressers and exporters of Indian bristles.

Plate Window Glass.

(802)—A London firm desires to be placed in communication with Calcutta importers of plate window glass.

Bath Brick.

(803)—A Liverpool merchant desires to be placed in communication with importers of bath brick.

Jute Cloth.

(804)—A firm in Constantinople desires to establish relations with exporters of jute cloth.

Chemical Factories.

(805)—A London firm making a speciality of erecting chemical factories, and of introducing improvements in existing chemical factories, is desirous of appointing engineering firms as agents in Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, preferably firms with some knowledge of chemistry but not actual manufacturers of the class of goods to be handled.

Cotton Yarn.

(806)—A Leicester spinner desires to be placed in communication with large exporters of Indian cotton yarn suitable for the manufacture of hosiery.

Calico.

(807)—A firm in Durban desires to be placed in communication with manufacturers in India of grey and white calico.

Oatmeal and Rolled Oats.

(808)—ABritish firm of millers desires to appoin agents at principal ports for the sale of oatmeal and rolled oats.

Lithographic Stones.

(809)—The owner of a quarry near Nuremberg, Germany, producing high grade lithographic stones, is desirous of being placed in communication with importers.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

The following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 30th November, 1910 :—

Parliamentary Publications.

Colonial Reports—Annual—No. 655—Nyasaland—Report for 1909-10 ; No. 74—Ceylon—Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey of Ceylon, 1906-07 and 1907-08 and No. 657—Fiji—Report for 1909. Mines and Quarries—General Report and Statistics for 1909—Part II.—Labour. Fifty-Sixth Report of the Postmaster General on the Post Office. Taxes and Imposts—Return showing (1) the Rates of Duties, Taxes, or Imposts, Collected by Imperial Officers ; (2) the quantities or Amounts Taxed ; etc.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

Canada—Weekly Report, October 24th, 1910—Report of the Department of Trade and Commerce—1910, Part II. France—Statistiques du Commerce des Colonies Francaises pour L'Annee 1908—Tome III and Tome IV ; Documents Statistiques sur le Commerce de la France—Septembre 1910. Cuba—Republica de Cuba—Commercio Exterior—Primer Semestre del ano de 1909 y ano fiscal de 1908 a 1909 ; and Segundo Semestre del ano de 1908 y ano de 1908 ; Industria Azucarera y sus Derivadas—Safras de 1906-07 y 1907-08 and Zafra de 1908 y 1909. Germany—Auswartiger Handel im Jahre 1909—Heft-VI, VIII, XI, XIV, XVI, XVII, XX, XXI, XXII, XXIII, and XXIV. Mexico—Boletin de Estadistica Fiscal—Mayo de 1910—Numero 351. Norway—Norges Skibsfart 1908. Java—Statistiek van Den Handel en de in—En Uitvoerrechten in Nederlandsche-Indie over het Jaar—1909—Deel II. United States of America—Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance of the United States—August, 1910. Special Reports of the Bureau of the Census—Street and Electric Railways, 1907.

Indian Publications.

Punjab—District Gazetteers—Vol. XXIX A—Attock District—Part A with maps, 1907. States—Gazetteer—Vol. XXIIA—Chamba State with maps, 1904.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1910

INDIAN WHEAT FOR THE BRITISH MARKET.

IN the *Indian Trade Journal* of June 2nd, 1910, attention was drawn to a paper bearing the above title by Sir James Wilson, K.C.S.I., late Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, read before the Incorporated National Association of British and Irish Millers in April last. The paper has now been reprinted in pamphlet form and issued as Bulletin No. 20 of the Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa. In a Prefatory Note it is stated that the object of the paper is "to encourage the trade in wheat between India and the United Kingdom, mainly in the interest of the Indian producer." The first few pages are devoted to a presentation of the statistics of recent years bearing on the wheat crop of India and the trade between India and the United Kingdom; and this is followed by a discussion of some of the factor that make for the progress or decline of the Indian export trade. Sir James Wilson points out that owing to the peculiar conditions of the trade, and chiefly the minute size of the individual agricultural holdings in the northern provinces—particularly in the Punjab—it is not possible that there can be any very rapid improvement in the qualities of the wheat grown or any very striking change in the direction of uniformity and purity. In the Central Punjab and in the new Canal Colonies there is a numerous body of prosperous farmers who grow from 10 to 20 acres of wheat every year and who have more capital and enterprise than most of their neighbours, and these men as well as the large landowners, may, it is hoped, be expected to adopt any promising new types of wheat brought to their notice. The opinion is expressed that the future of wheat in India, as in other countries, depends largely on the future course of wheat prices in the world's markets—the best measure of the latter being its price in the London market. In comparing the prices of wheats from different countries, however, it is necessary to allow for the differences of trade custom, which exist to an extraordinary degree, and Sir James Wilson endeavours by doing so to calculate what is the actual price paid by the buyer in each case for 480 lbs. weight of pure wheat. He writes :—

"As regards all Indian wheat the quarter means a net weight of 492 lbs. So that when the quoted price is 40*s.* per quarter, this means that the buyer pays only 39*s.* for 480 lbs. The quotations are *c.i.f.*; that is the seller pays the cost of insurance and freight, and the buyer gets the wheat delivered over the ship's side at the price stated. The bags are given free, and as the buyer can get about 8*d.* a quarter for them, that means that he pays for the wheat itself 8*d.* less per quarter than the price agreed on. The buyer gets off 2 per cent discount and interest for 60 days at 5 per cent, or in all $2\frac{5}{8}$ per cent, so that, if he pays cash, he pays 1*s.* 1*d.* per quarter less than the price agreed on (taking that price as 40*s.*). On the other hand, under the conditions of the Indian wheat contract, the buyer pays at the wheat price for 2 per cent of barley gram and other feeding grains, and, of course, generally gets at least that proportion. If we assume that those grains are worth to the buyer half the price of wheat, this means that he loses 1 per cent, or, in other words, he would pay 1 per cent more than the price agreed on, if he were sure of getting nothing but pure wheat. That is, he considers the wheat itself worth 5*d.* more per quarter than he pays for the mixture. Making all these allowances, it appears that when the price quoted for Indian wheat is 40*s.* per quarter, the buyer really pays only 37*s.* 8*d.* for 480 lbs. of pure wheat.

British wheat is paid for in cash at 504 lbs. to the quarter, free on rail, so that, without making any allowance for the varying railway freight, when it is quoted at 37*s.* a quarter, the buyer pays only 35*s.* 3*d.* for 480 lbs.

In the case of Russian wheat, two per cent discount is allowed, *plus* interest at five per cent for about 75 days, and the buyer gets a mixture containing about four per cent foreign matter, practically all cockle. The quarter is 492 lbs., so that, after making all allowances, when Russian wheat is quoted at 39*s.* 6*d.* per quarter, the buyer really pays 38*s.* 10*d.* for every 480 lbs. of pure wheat he gets.

Argentine wheat is paid for by the gross weight at 480 lbs. to the quarter, and is generally imported in bulk. Interest is allowed for 90 days from date of arrival of the bill of lading at a half per cent over short deposit rate, say, three per cent. The buyer expects to get about six per cent, of oats and other foreign matter, so that he really values the wheat at higher than the quoted price. It thus appears that when the buyer pays a nominal price of 37*s.* 6*d.* a quarter for Argentine wheat, he really values the pure wheat at 38*s.* 2*d.* for 480 lbs.

The eastern ports of the United States now practically export only flour. White Walla wheat from California is bought at 500 lbs. to the quarter, gross weight. Interest is allowed for 60 days at about three per cent. After making all allowances for interest, tare, and value of bags, when the quotation is 40*s.* per quarter, the buyer actually pays about 38*s* for 480 lbs. of wheat.

Australian wheat is bought at 480 lbs. to the quarter, and similar allowances have to be made in this case also, so that when it is quoted at 39*s.*, the buyer pays 38*s.* 7*d.* for 480 lbs. The wheat is practically pure.

Canadian wheat is imported in bulk, and is practically pure and carefully graded. The quarter is 480 lbs., and the only allowance to be made is that for interest, so that when No. 2 northern Manitoba is quoted at 40*s.*, the buyer actually pays 39*s.* 10*d.* for 480 lbs. It appears that Canadian wheat is the most valuable wheat imported in any quantity. This is partly owing to its own quality, but partly also to its being carefully graded and transported in bulk, so that it is pure and uniform in character."

Sir James Wilson next proceeds to enumerate the qualities of Indian wheat which make it suitable to the British markets, and points out that the British miller, who may be considered to correctly gauge the tastes of the British consumer, wants his wheat clean, pure, of good quality, uniform, dry, free-milling, stable strong, and of a good colour of flour. The Indian wheats now exported are usually an admixture of several different kinds, and the fact that there is very little difference in price between Indian wheat and the purer wheats of other countries imported by the British consumer shows how generally Indian wheats suit British requirements. It is pointed out that if Indian wheats fulfilled the same conditions as to purity and uniformity as the wheats imported from other countries still better prices could be obtained. There has been within the last three years an extraordinary improvement in the cleanness of the Indian wheat, due to an alteration in the terms of the form of contract adopted in the United Kingdom which makes the seller responsible for the amount of dirt, etc., in his shipments. Before the change in the contract it paid the shipper to pass as much dirt with the wheat as possible, and it is calculated that the saving in the freight alone, due to the change, is about £40,000 per annum.

In the concluding portion of the paper Sir James Wilson offers some advice to Indian growers and indicates the duty of Indian experts. At the same time he points out that the British buyer must also co-operate if he wishes to obtain the type of wheat he requires from India and offers some suggestions to British millers. A series of interesting Tables giving the statistical data relating to area, outturn, exports, prices of wheat, etc., is added and will be found invaluable for reference.

The pamphlet is the most complete recent monograph upon Indian wheat from the millers' and traders' point of view, and should be studied in its entirety by those interested in the wheat problem. It is priced at As. 4 and may be had of the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta.

—His Majesty's Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Mr. R. Sothern Holland) reports that a **company** has been formed, under the name of the Wartberg Starch Company, Limited, to **manufacture starch, sago, tapioca, vermicelli, macaroni, potato flakes, baking powder,** etc., from sweet potatoes. The company, which is composed entirely of growers of sweet potatoes, is setting up plant in the Wartberg district with a capacity of 1,000 tons of starch products annually.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

THE *Board of Trade Journal* published on the 3rd instant in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about :—

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—Decisions under Commerce Act. Customs Decisions. Prohibition of Importation of Live Stock and certain Articles of Merchandise.

DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.—Customs Decisions.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—Revised Regulations respecting the Registration of Imports and Exports.

BRITISH GUIANA.—Customs Warning: Declaration of Dutiable Ship's Stores.

GRENADA.—Free Importation of Live Stock.

MONTESERRAT.—Revised Export Duties.

EGYPT.—Revised Valuation Tariff for Sacks. Revised Valuation Tariff for Sugar.

RUSSIA.—Tariff Classification of Economisers.

FINLAND —Repeal of Prohibition of Importation of Potatoes. Customs Decisions.

SWEDEN.—Prohibition of Importation of Poisons.

PERSIA.—Suspension of Storage Dues during Public Holidays.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—Labelling of Meat Extracts, etc.

COSTA RICA.—Requirements as to Invoices of Goods shipped to Costa Rica.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, Nov. 22nd.

THE following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 21st instant :—

The weather is seasonable. Light rain has fallen in places specially on and near the hills.

The manufacture of tea and ploughing for and sowing of *rabi* crops is progressing.

The reaping of winter paddy has commenced.

The prospects of standing crops are on the whole good.

Damage to winter rice by insects is reported from a few places.

The average price of common rice has fallen about one per cent. Cattle disease is reported in Mymensingh, Nowgong, Sibsagar and Garo hills.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

BOMBAY.

THE excerpts below are from the proceedings of the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the month of October, 1910 :—

Deposit System of Accounts.

(1) Read letter from the Government of India, dated 26th August, 1910, regarding the Deposit System of Accounts to cover the cost of telegrams despatched. Replies from members, who were asked for their opinions on the subject, were also read.

Resolution.—Government to be informed that the consensus of opinion among the members of this Chamber is against the proposed change.

Delays in the adjudication of Law Suits in Mofussil Courts.

(2) Read letter from the Bombay Government, dated 18th October, 1910, forwarding copy of a letter from the Registrar, High Court, Bombay, containing the remarks of their Lordships the Chief Justice and Judges on the subject of delays in the adjudication of law suits in the Mofussil Courts.

Resolution.—Government to be addressed pointing out that in spite of the official efforts which are made to control the pleaders who are, at least, partly responsible, abnormal delays do occur in the Mofussil Courts and therefore the strengthening of the Judicial Staff in some of the larger districts seemed necessary

Lighthouse at the Hajamrao Mouth of the Indus.

(3) Read letter from Karachi Chamber of Commerce, dated 26th September, 1910, forwarding copy of letter which had been addressed to the Commissioner in Sind on the subject of establishing a Lighthouse at the Hajamrao mouth of the Indus.

Resolution.—Government to be addressed in support of the Karachi Chamber's proposals and the hope expressed that opinions will be obtained as to location and that the matter will receive the urgent attention of the Bombay Government.

General Stamp Office Arrangements.

(4) Read letter from a member, dated 26th September 1910, regarding the present General Stamp Office arrangements. It was stated that the only adhesive stamps now issued appeared to be Foreign Bill Stamps and share Transfer Stamps ; and the system of having all documents requiring other stamps, impressed with same at the General Stamp Office is unwieldy, besides causing considerable inconvenience at times. This is especially the case in stamping contracts for the sale and purchase of Bills of Exchange and even more noticeable with Government Paper Contracts.

Resolution.—Government to be addressed and asked to issue a new set of Revenue Adhesive Stamps of the denominations mentioned.

Universal Currency Notes.

(5) Read letter from a member, dated 14th October, 1910, in which it was stated that the new Universal Currency Notes for Rs. 10 and Rs. 50 were unsuitable and likely to lead to much inconvenience to those handling the notes.

Resolution.—Government to be addressed in terms of the member's letter and adding that the texture of the notes is much too thick.

MADRAS.

The following extracts are taken from the minutes of the proceedings of the Madras Chamber of Commerce at the monthly meeting held on the 25th October, 1910 :—

Indian Tanned Goat and Sheep Skins.

Read (1) a G. O. of the Madras Government, dated the 11th August, 1910, forwarding copy of a Memorandum by Mr. Seymour Jones on Indian Tanned Goat and Sheep Skins, and (2) a letter, dated the 17th September, from the Upper India Chamber of Commerce, Cawnpore, suggesting that this Chamber might consider it expedient to address the Government of Madras in support of the views expressed by Messrs. Cooper, Allen and Co. in their letter with reference to Mr. Seymour Jones's recommendations on the subject of improving tanning operations.

Resolved—To inform the Madras Government that if they wish to assist the native tanning industry they might do so by experimenting with apparatus used for tanning purposes, in order to remove some of the defects complained of by Mr. Seymour Jones, and, having found the best machines, might demonstrate their usefulness to the trade. Resolved also to inform Government that the Chamber approved generally of the proposals made by Mr. Seymour Jones and the Cawnpore Chamber of Commerce.

Access to Shipping Bills Filed at Custom Houses.

Read a letter, dated the 27th September, from the Officiating Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, together with copies of correspondence that has passed between him and the Cochin Chamber of Commerce on the subject of granting access to the Chamber to shipping bills filed at the local Custom House with a view to embodying the particulars entered therein in its monthly record of the export trade of the port, and inviting an expression of this Chamber's opinion on the subject.

Resolved—To inform the Collector that this Chamber saw no objection to the information being supplied to the Cochin Chamber of Commerce.

Railway Risk Note Forms B. and H.

Read a letter, dated the 4th October, from the Railway Board on the subject of assimilating the Railway Risk Note Forms B. and H. to those in use in England, with reference to a representation made to it in the subject, and requesting to be favoured with an expression of this Chamber's opinion ;

Resolved—To inform the Railway Board that the Chamber approved of the proposal and hoped the Railway Board would authorise its adoption, and that the Railways would see their way to effect the change without raising present rates.

Prevention of the Introduction into India of Insect Pests and Fungoid Diseases.

Read a letter, dated the 4th October, from the Government of Madras on the subject of controlling the import of plants, grafts, seeds, and the like, in order to prevent the introduction of insect pests and fungoid diseases into India, and requesting the Chamber to favour Government with an expression of its opinion.

Resolved—To inform Government that the Chamber approved of the proposal.

PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

THE following are the index-numbers of the prices of forty-five commodities worked out to the month of September, the average of the eleven years 1867—1877 being 100 :—

Average.				Monthly Numbers.		
1878—1887	= 79	February,	1895	=	60·0
1890—1899	= 66	July,	1896	=	59·2
1900—1909	= 73	July,	1900	=	76·2
	—	May,	1907	=	82·4
1883	= 82	February,	1909	=	71·9
1896	= 61	September,	1909	=	74·7
1900	= 75	December,	1909	=	76·3
1903	= 69	March,	1910	=	79·1
1904	= 70	April,	1910	=	78·5
1905	= 72	May,	1910	=	78·2
1906	= 77	June,	1910	=	76·9
1907	= 80	July,	1910	=	78·1
1908	= 73	August,	1910	=	78·2
1909	= 74	September,	1910	=	77·6

The small decline in the monthly index-number is principally owing to articles of food. Corn and meat were cheaper, and there was a considerable decline for sugar from 13*s.* 1½*d.* per cwt. (and even 14*s.* 10½*d.* early in the month of August) to 10*s.* On the other hand, coffee had a fresh rise of about 6*s.* per cwt.

Minerals were unchanged, except tin, which ruled somewhat lower. American cotton was lower, but recorded the fall in the present month. Other textiles advanced, particularly jute. Among "sundry materials" we have to record a further rise for linseed oil, although the best price which was known since 1863 was not quite maintained to the end. There was also an advance for tallow and palm oil.

The prices and index-numbers of **silver** compare thus (60·84*d.* per ounce being the parity of 1 gold to 15½ silver = 100) :—

	Price.		Index-Numbers.
Average, 1890—1899	34*d.*	=	55·8
Average, 1900—1909	26⅜*d.*	=	44·0
Average, 1893	35⅝*d.*	=	58·6
Average, 1902	24 1/16*d.*	=	39·6
Lowest, November, 1902	21 1/16*d.*	=	35·6
End March, 1905	25 1/16*d.*	=	42·4
End December, 1906	32 5/16*d.*	=	53·1
End December, 1909	24½*d.*	=	39·9
End August, 1910	24 5/16*d.*	=	40·0
End September, 1910	24⅝*d.*	=	40·9

LORD HARDINGE AND COMMERCE.

Bombay Addresses and Replies.

On Saturday the 19th instant, Lord Hardinge received at Government House, Bombay, a series of deputations that waited upon him for the purpose of presenting addresses. The first deputation was from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. The Hon. Mr. Monteath read the address, which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—On your first arrival in India, at this, the Western capital, we, the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, desire to offer you a most cordial welcome to the country and at the same time beg to tender our sincere congratulations on your appointment as Viceroy and Governor-General of India by His Most Gracious Majesty our King-Emperor. Your many and distinguished services inspire us with confidence in looking forward to your administrative rule in India, as we feel sure that your experience and wide knowledge of the world will enable you to deal successfully with the numerous and varied problems of this great Empire.

Of the natural beauties of the port of Bombay we leave Your Excellency to judge from your first impressions on entering our harbour. But as representing commerce, we would desire to impress upon you the significance of such a port and the vast influence it has on the general welfare of the country through the enormous volume of trade it handles. Owing to modern facilities of communication, India is now a world market, and the demand from foreign countries for its food grains, oil seeds, cotton and minerals continues to increase and is reflected by the trade returns of the port. It is not, however, only as a port that Bombay claims its position, but also as a large industrial centre, the principal industry being the manufacture of cotton goods and yarns. Conditions of late have unfortunately been very adverse to the cotton textile industry, owing to the high prices of cotton due to the shortage of the American crops and to absence of demand for cotton goods. In addition to this set-back in the cotton textile industry, Bombay is suffering from the increasing scarcity and dearness of coolie labour. Whether this scarcity can be remedied is a question which, we think, might with advantage be officially inquired into. The ravages of plague in past years and the results of unfavourable seasons have also been much felt throughout this Presidency, but with the advent of the last two favourable monsoons prospects have brightened and the general prosperity of both the city and Presidency has materially increased.

Recent Prosperity.

This recent prosperity, which has been general throughout India, has undoubtedly helped to ameliorate conditions and to cause contentment throughout the land, and we are pleased to think that Your Excellency arrives here at a time when discontent and unrest have to some extent been allayed. That this is so is undoubtedly due, in a large measure, to the firm manner in which disorder and sedition have recently been dealt with, and as the development of the country is impossible without the confidence of the people in Government to maintain law and order, we hope Your Excellency may carry on the policy which has already achieved such excellent results. Legitimate political aspirations have been encouraged by the enlargement of the Councils, and the success which, this measure has attained is especially welcome.

In commerce, stability and continuity of policy are essential. In this connection we are grateful for the steps Government have recently taken to endeavour to improve conditions in matters of finance and exchange. But more is needed, and we would take this opportunity of calling Your Excellency's attention to the necessity of a strong Gold Standard Reserve. This Chamber has frequently expressed itself on this subject, and we would again press the point that the Reserve should, as opportunity offers, be materially increased in amount, and that a fair proportion should be held in actual gold in this country. We realize the influences which are against such a policy. But we would respectfully submit that in such matters which affect India so vitally, Indian interests should be deemed paramount and should be unfettered by Home influences. We trust Your Excellency will give this matter your very careful consideration.

Railway Matters.

In the increase and development of our trade much has been done by the extension and improvement of internal communications in India, but much still remains to be done. This Chamber has always exercised considerable interest in the advancement of such trade facilities. Five years ago, when presenting a similar address to His Excellency Lord Minto on his arrival in India, we dwelt on the importance of the extension of commercial railway lines. We, at that time, referred to the proposed construction of the Nagda-Muttra line which as stated by us was desired to give Bombay shorter and more direct communication with Northern India. Last year, when again addressing His Excellency Lord Minto, we had the honour of recording our satisfaction on the practical completion of that portion of the line, but we pressed the question of the extension from Muttra to Aligarh. This scheme is one to which we would ask Your Excellency's special attention, as it is most important that direct communication on our own metals should be permitted with the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. Bombay draws considerable cotton and other supplies from the districts affected, and we therefore venture to suggest that the contention that this extension to Aligarh would be an invasion of an area served by another line is not justifiable. Direct connection would save time and money, and avoid burdensome delays and blocks, with consequent detention of wagons, owing to transfer over foreign railways.

In regard to railway matters, this Chamber welcomes the terms recently announced by the Government of India for branch lines, as it is felt they will be a direct stimulus in the extension of these feeder lines which are so necessary for the development of the country. At the same time we would lay before Your Excellency our earnest recommendation that in all such commercial matters it is advisable that the opinions of public bodies should be obtained before legislation is passed, as on submission of our suggestions it has sometimes been our unfortunate experience to learn that the question cannot be re-opened. We have dwelt on the railway policy, as it is to the development of areas from which we can draw our supplies and the improvement of communication with these areas that we look for a return for the large amounts being expended by the Bombay Port Trustees on the New Alexandra Docks, now under construction. His Majesty the King-Emperor, during his tour in India as Prince of Wales, laid the foundation stone of these new docks. They were commenced during the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon and were inspected last year by His Excellency Lord Minto, and we look forward to their completion during the period of Your Excellency's rule in India. The Alexandra Docks, costing with the contingent Reclamation schemes about Rs. 550 lakhs, will be capable of accommodating the largest vessels, and will form undoubtedly a powerful asset in the trade development of a large portion of India. We feel sure that in our commercial and industrial life we may look forward to Your Excellency's sympathetic and active interest, and we can assure Your Excellency that the commercial community will always be ready and eager to co-operate with Government in matters dealing with the development of the trade and resources of the country.

The establishment of the Department of Commerce and Industry has assisted us in our relationship with Government by furthering commercial interests, and we acknowledge with satisfaction the opportunities frequently afforded us of expressing our opinions and feelings to the representatives of Government when the Heads of Departments periodically pay us visits on tour.

In conclusion, we desire to express our sincere hope that Your Excellency's term of office may be a happy one in the realization of peace and progress to the country, that harvests may be plentiful, and that with resulting prosperity the increasing revenues may encourage you to effect further development of the resources of India and, if possible, the reduction of taxation.

Lord Hardinge's Reply.

Lord Hardinge, in reply, said :—The Chairman and Gentlemen of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce,—It is a great pleasure to me to receive you here this morning, and the address that you have presented, while still under the vivid impression created on arriving for the first time in the port of Bombay, the great gate of entry into India, with all its natural beauties, and its docks and quays teeming with shipping and active commercial life and enterprise. The impression is one that I shall not easily forget. The complexity of Indian administration is well illustrated by the address to which I have just listened, and in the few remarks that I shall make, it would be presumptuous for me, at so early a stage, to pretend to any special knowledge or authority.

To take at random one of the subjects to which you refer—the scarcity of unskilled labour, and its dearness—I can fully understand what a serious effect this must have upon the margin of profit of any business enterprise, but if you look at the other side of the shield and consider the steady increase of the cost of living, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that unless there had been some corresponding increase in their wages, the condition of the labouring population must necessarily have become pitiable.

Your testimony to the general prosperity, not only of this city, but of India as a whole, is, I need hardly say, most welcome to me; and your reference to the ravages of plague gives me the opportunity of congratulating you upon the present diminution of that terrible scourge. May it please God to continue this mercy to your city, and to deliver India from so great a tribulation. I have already said elsewhere that I intend to maintain the policy of Lord Minto's Government, and I anticipate with confidence that the enlargement of the Councils and the increase of their powers will give a clearer voice and greater weight to the views of the various communities of this great country than is furnished by the occasional presentation of a formal address.

In your observations upon the gold standard reserve and railway development you have touched upon difficult questions, which have formed the subject of much discussion in the past, and are likely to engage the anxious consideration of Government in the future. I can assure you that any opinions which the commercial community may feel called upon to express in furtherance of their solution, whether by the voice of their representatives in Council or otherwise, shall receive sympathetic attention. I note your appreciation of the increasing tendency of Government to take you into their confidence in matters affecting your welfare.

My own experience in foreign countries has brought me to realise the importance of commerce as affecting political questions: its problems have occupied my attention not only abroad, but throughout the period of my service in the Foreign Office, and I have always attached to them a special importance. You may rest assured of my sympathetic and active interest in all matters affecting your commercial and industrial life, and I shall rely at the same time upon your helpful co-operation in all matters affecting the development of the trade and resources of this great Empire. In conclusion let me thank you, gentlemen, for your congratulations

and for the compliments you have paid me. I appreciate the trouble that you—busy men as you are—have taken in coming here to present to me this address; and I thank you warmly for the cordiality of your welcome.

INDIAN MERCHANTS' CHAMBER AND BUREAU.

The second deputation was from the Bombay Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau. The address was as follows :—

We, the President and members of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, a body representing the large mercantile interests of the Indian community of Bombay, embrace the present occasion to approach Your Lordship and offer our cordial welcome on your appointment by our most gracious Sovereign to the exalted office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

Bearer as Your Lordship is of a great historic name, widely known in the annals of England and India alike for conspicuous valour and far-sighted statesmanship, we crave leave to recall for a moment the vast commercial and industrial progress the country has been able to make under the wise and benign sway of our rulers since your illustrious ancestor, midst the cheers and applause of a grateful people, departed the shores of India sixty-two years ago, after filling with consummate ability and marked sympathy for a period of four years the great trust which you are now called upon to discharge. In so recalling the fact of that progress we cannot forget that he was the first Governor-General of India to settle the broad lines of the policy of construction of Railways and Irrigation works which has since been so successfully carried out with the greatest economic benefit to the country at large.

To-day we have as many as 31,490 miles of Railway and 16½ million acres of irrigated area. The total foreign trade of India has, during the interval, risen from 34 to 345 crores or ten times as much. Bombay's share which was 13 crores has now come to 127 crores or nearly ten times more. Such has been the remarkable growth of trade.

But the progress is not only to be noticed in the expansion of commerce, both home and foreign. It is equally to be witnessed in what are now recognised as the staple industries of the country. At the date of the retirement of your distinguished grandfather, there was not a single cotton or jute or ginning factory. Neither was there a single coal mine opened for purposes of commerce. Indeed the economic development of the country in indigenous industries, what we now call Swadeshi, was hardly begun. To-day there are as many as 232 cotton mills and 1,000 ginning factories, 52 jute mills, besides a number of coal mines whose aggregate production equals 13 million tons. There are also 200 rice mills, 105 saw mills, 35 flour mills, not to mention many other small factories for a variety of commercial purposes. These in all give employment to a million people. Joint-stock enterprise too by way of assurance companies, and other monetary concerns has greatly multiplied, having a capital of nearly 60 crores. But though the progress is marked it must be readily admitted that India is still at the dawn of her economic development and that the capital, indigenous or foreign, is only microscopic when compared to that of the advanced and wealthiest countries of the world.

Your Lordship will thus assume the reins of your high office at a time when the commercial and industrial development has made an excellent beginning. The monsoon just over has been a satisfactory one which means plenty and prosperity to millions of the poorest agriculturists while spelling better trade, though the cotton industry, owing to the dearness of the raw staple, is still in a depressed condition. Despite the deplorable excesses of a hair-brained minority against which the vast mass of sober Indians has displayed its greatest abhorrence, peaceful progress is at present manifest in every part of the Empire. It is to be devoutly hoped that under Your Lordship's wise and sympathetic administration progress will be further stimulated—both materially and morally. Moreover we of the mercantile community have fair hopes of Indian commerce being emancipated from the bonds and chains by which it is still somewhat fettered.

Commercial Grievances.

Of course, that commerce and industry is not without its grievances and we take the opportunity to make a slight reference to them. Our Chamber has in the past brought such matters as required redress to the notice of the governing authorities, and we trust that Your Lordship, in Council, will pay to our representations the same patient and sympathetic consideration as hitherto. At present both the European and Indian mercantile communities have been greatly exercised at the artificial restraints, bordering on hardship and inconvenience, placed by the Railway Companies in the matter of what are known as "Risk Notes." It seems that the Railways have adopted rules which are not only one-sided but threaten repudiation on their part of their obligations and liabilities as common carriers. It is a crying grievance which demands an early redress. In the matter of the contemplated revision of the Indian Companies' Act our Chamber has respectfully urged on the central authority the eminent advisability of protecting the interests of creditors, specially smaller creditors and depositors, who more or less have greatly suffered in the past and are liable to suffer in the future. Clandestine mortgages are made in which the prior rights and claims of such creditors to the assets of certain class of joint-stock companies are absolutely ignored and the existing law is insufficient to check the dishonesty of fraudulent management. There is the grievance touching the recent enhancement of rates for passenger traffic the justice and expediency of which is open to criticism. Economy in Railway expenditure is a prime necessity and we are of belief that with such economy a reduction of the fares is quite possible and practical. The un-English-like attitude and conduct of the Transvaal Government is another matter on which the Mercantile community along with the whole of India is extremely sore. This Chamber had wired on the subject sometime ago to Lords Morley and Ampthill and we are aware that the Government of India is most sympathetic and anxious to alleviate the present intolerable position of British Indians in South Africa. We earnestly hope that Your Lordships' friendly diplomacy may be the means of bringing a satisfactory termination to this long-pending problem.

In conclusion, we earnestly pray that with peace and plenty in the land Your Lordship may be able to find adequate leisure from the care and routine of office-work, to devote some time to the removal of obstacles which still hamper commerce and industry, the more extensive development of feeder lines by private enterprise, the fostering of new industries, of course with self-help, without which the economic regeneration is not possible, the advancement of technical education in its higher branches, the establishment of degrees of commerce in our Universities and the founding of professorships in Economics, better sanitation which is in itself no mean economic asset, the completion at a quicker pace of those large Irrigation works now taken on hand and others recommended by the Irrigation Commission, and lastly the readjustment of existing taxation on sound and equitable basis side by side with a reasonable curtailment of public expenditure which is now outrunning the revenue.

We wish Your Lordship and Lady Hardinge the best of health during your stay in this country and Your Lordship great success in your administration as was the case with your illustrious ancestor.

Lord Hardinge's Reply.

Lord Hardinge said :—Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, —The very kindly reference you have made to my grandfather's career cannot but strike gratefully upon my ear; but when he set his hand to the work that lay before him he can have hardly foreseen the immense development that the next 60 years held in store : and if he was actuated by sentiments similar to those with which I have followed his footsteps to India, he would have been particularly gratified to know of the birth and rapid growth of indigenous enterprise. It is sometimes alleged that the people of this country look too much to Government and too little to themselves for the initiation of improvements and the development of resources, but the figures you have quoted show that this is hardly accurate in the region of commercial enterprize, except in so far as the peace and security afforded by a stable Government have made it possible.

Government should clearly do what it can to foster indigenous progress, but I am glad to hear that you recognize that economic regeneration must largely come from within, and that Government can do little to help those who are not ready to help themselves. I gather from another address which I have received to-day that Government have recently announced a more liberal policy for the extension of feeder railway lines by private enterprise, and I trust that the creation of a new portfolio for education may, among other advantages, lead to progress in technical education of all kinds.

I do not feel competent to express opinions upon the various items of the extensive programme you have laid before me until I have had time to learn something of India, to study the questions involved, and to consult my colleagues; but I feel confident that I should have their hearty concurrence and support in saying that the Government of India have done and will do all that in them lies to secure an alleviation of the disabilities under which your fellow countrymen and our fellow subjects labour in some of the Colonies.

I feel that I have been fortunate in the moment of my arrival upon your shores. The season is prosperous, political asperities are somewhat abated, and all sane men are united in deploring revolutionary crimes. No man can foretell the future but the auguries are propitious, and if India will extend to me the same kindly feeling which I have for her I shall go forward on my way in hope and confidence. Let me, in conclusion, thank you heartily, Mr. President and gentlemen, for the cordial welcome which you have extended to me, and for your good wishes to Lady Hardinge and myself.

—There is no doubt an ever-increasing demand for **artficial manures,** due to the increasing attention that is being paid all over the world to scientific methods of agriculture. Although phosphate rock is an extremely useful raw material for artificial manure manufacturers, the question has recently arisen whether the production of phosphate may not soon exceed the world's demand. At the present time the world's annual production of phosphate rock is about 5,000,000 tons, the United States, with an annual output of more than 2,000,000 tons, being the largest producer. Tunis comes next and in 1909 one Tunisian company, the Gafsa Company, mined 907,000 metric tons. The Pacific Phosphate Company of London, which owns deposits of 50,000,000 tons of high-grade phosphate on Ocean and Pleasant islands, is mining some 250,000 tons a year. The island of Makatea, which is situated in the extreme north of the Tuamoto Archipelago, has an area of about 10 square miles, one-fifth of which is covered with deposits of phosphates estimated at 10,000,000 tons, of an average grade of 82 per cent. The Makatea deposits are being developed by the French Phosphate Company of Oceania. The fears of over-production cannot be considered groundless when the deposits are being exploited with such activity as is being displayed by all the phosphate companies. When the Makatea deposits are placing on the markets several hundred thousand tons per annum, no doubt concern will be expressed at the congested state of the market by those who have themselves caused the glut.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS IN BURMA.

There are several items of more than passing importance in the Report on the Operations of the Department of Agriculture, Burma, for the year ending 30th June, 1910, and a few of the remarks of the Director of Agriculture are noted below :—

Wheat.

The development of this important cereal is going on apace but it is rather in the remoter parts of the Province than in the main agricultural areas. At the same time t e development of the cultivation in inaccessible tracts like the Chin Hills and the Kachin Hills o Bhamo is of the greatest importance to Government as it will greatly reduce the cost of rationing the Military Police stationed there.

In the Chin Hills the crop was again grown with great success and the total yield far exceeded expectations and this in spite of many failures due to the hard frosts and the heavy rains experienced in December and January. The total yield obtained was over 300,000 pounds of which about 290.000 pounds were sold to the Military Police, the balance being retained as seed for next year's sowing. In order to ration the Military Police a yearly supply of 300,000 to 350,000 pounds is required. If the conditions are favourable there should be no difficulty in obtaining this yield next year. For this most gratifying result great credit is due to Mr. W. Street, who initiated the movement, and to Captain Burne, Superintendent of the Chin Hills, who has brought the experiments to such a satisfactory result.

As a result of Mr. Thompstone's visit in March 1909 to the Kachin Hills of Bhamo, experiments to introduce wheat into these tracts were begun. A grant of Rs. 200 was made by the Department to assist Kachins in the cultivation of wheat and seed and green manures were supplied. Experiments were carried out at 11 centres ; those at Tunhong by Major F L. Orman, Commandant of Military Police, and the remainder by Mr. D. W. Rae. The experiments have been moderately successful and should be persevered with. The Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Cabell, considers that the Tunhong experiments appear to indicate that a crop might be grown at every Military Police post in the district sufficient for its annual requirements. If this result can be achieved the saving to Government will be very considerable.

Wheat cultivation shows little signs of expansion in Burma proper. Messrs. Mower and Company, of the Pioneer Flour Mill, Rangoon, have expressed the opinion that the Shan States wheat is superior in milling quality to any of the Indian and Australian qualities that they can import, but experiments at Mandalay seem to indicate that it rapidly deteriorates under the changed climatic conditions. It should, however, retain its qualities in the frontier tracts, and this is the seed which will be supplied to applicants from these localities. An increasing amount of attention will be devoted to this crop at the Mandalay Agricultural Station.

Groundnut.

The area under groundnuts considerably contracted during the year, there being a total acreage of only 140,698 acres under this crop as against 248,497 acres in the preceding year, or a decrease of 107,799 acres The principal causes of this were the low price ruling in 1908-09 and the suitability of the early rains for sessamum. But as early sessamum shows an increase of 127,844 acres it is probable that much of the area formerly sown with groundnuts was converted to this more valuable crop. The reduction in area is really a blessing in disguise. Had the higher prices continued, constant cropping of the same soil with groundnuts would certainly have gone on to the detriment of the soil and the introduction of disease. Nature and trade considerations have forced a rotation, the necessity for which it would have cost us endless labour to impress upon the cultivators. The crop is firmly established and the cultivator has enough sense to know when he can profitably grow it.

New districts into which the crop can probably be introduced are Shwebo, Mandalay and the Ruby Mines, and selected seeds have been issued to these districts. A success is reported from the Ngaputaw Township of the Bassein District, but it is improbable that they will succeed in Lower Burma except on the lighter soils along the sea-coast. They are being tried in Kyaukpyu where they should succeed. In order to keep a stock of exotic varieties for seed purposes till the Dry Zone Farm is opened, it is proposed to lease a small area of land north of Mandalay. Here also experiments with **Soy Beans** will be conducted.

Cotton.

Extensive experiments are being made at Mandalay with indigenous and exotic cottons. It is hoped that we shall soon be able to recommend a cotton suitable to the country with a yield and staple superior to the indigenous varieties. There have been numerous demands from private persons for American Sea Island seed to be tried in Kyaukse, Shwebo, Pakokku and Amherst Districts. The work abandoned by Miss Haswell in the Amherst District has been taken up by a Taungthu called Maung Thuna at Mi-laungchaung village in the Amherst District. When I visited the garden—some 30 acres in area—in November the plants looked very well. The principal variety cultivated is the Pernambuco Tree Cotton, formerly tried by Miss Haswell.

Havana and Virginia Tobacco.

In accordance with former practice considerable quantities of Havana and Virginian Tobacco seed obtained from America were distributed to districts where the seeds were likely to prove successful. Successes were reported from Thaton, Myitkyina, Katha, and Minbu and a partial success in Tharrawaddy but untimely rains and floods rendered inconclusive the experiments in the Upper Chindwiu, Toungoo, Henzada and Thayetmyo. Total failures are recorded from Kyaukse, Kyaukpyu, Myingyan, the Northern Shan States, Bassein, and Northern Arakan.

There is absolutely no reason why if ordinary care is taken and weather conditions are favourable, Havana and Virginian tobacco should not succeed all along the Irrawaddy. Marked commercial successes have already been obtained in the Ma-ubin district and both varieties are well established at Bhamo. A little care in seeing that the seed gets into right hands would lead to equal successes in all intermediate districts. In view of the exceedingly disappointing results obtained, due to absolute indifference and lack of interest the distribution of seed will be considerably curtailed and only those districts will be favoured which give evidence of some interest in the matter.

Tea and Coffee.

No tea seed was distributed last year ; and, for the coming year, arrangements have been made to obtain the seed from the Palaung territory of the Northern Shan States as suggested by the Hon'ble Mr. Todd-Naylor when Officiating Financial Commissioner. It is hoped that this will give better results than if foreign seeds are introduced.

Coffee-seeds were distributed to a few districts which expressed a desire to have them. At Prome a partial success was achieved at Yamethin and Bhamo there is promise of success. Considering the doubtful value of the crop and the disasters which have formerly attacked it in Burma the distribution of coffee-seeds will be strictly limited in future.

Malta Lemons.

In July 1909, the Council of the Agri-Horticultural Society brought to my notice the great success obtained with thoroughly acclimatised Malta Lemons raised in the Society Gardens. The trees, it was reported, have a wonderful fruit-bearing capacity and apparently grow well in both the plains and the hills : in the former bearing more fruit and in the latter larger fruit. They grow in Rangoon and in the Hanthawaddy and Tharrawaddy districts very well. In Thandaung they are slow of growth but the fruit is larger. The fruit, it was noted, would find a ready market, and if the cultivation were largely extended, citric acid and bergamot could be manufactured. The Society very kindly made over to me 1,400 plants which were distributed as follows:—Myaungmya 200, Amherst 300, Mergui 200, Thayetmyo 200, Pakokku 200, Myitkyina 200 and Southern Shan States 100. Reports, so far as received, indicate that the plants are thriving.

Tapioca.

In order to test the merits of this plant as a drought-resisting crop experiments were made at the Mandalay Farm and also by a private cultivator at Myingyan. An unexpected rise in the river completely destroyed the latter experiment. At Mandalay, although the soil is not quite suitable, fair results were obtained. The conclusion arrived at was that if the plant be grown for food as roots it might form a valuable supplementary food stuff : but that the labour rate is still too high to make it remunerative as a source of starch. Its value as a famine food is discounted by the fact that it requires a great deal of water to start it. In our scarcity areas it is generally a failure of the early rains that brings on famine.

Miscellaneous.

Small quantities of jute seed were distributed, with full instructions, to applicants from Hanthawaddy and Bassein. Moderate successes have been achieved. The great danger is excessive rainfall at an early stage of the plants' growth. English Vegetable seeds generally did well, but there were many failures owing to untimely rain. *Tadaungbo* paddy was not in such great demand as it has been in the past. Arrangements are being made to try all the flood-resisting varieties of paddy on the estates of the Hon'ble Mirza Abdul Hoossain, Khan Bahadur, where conditions are favourable and experiments are now in progress at Mandalay with a *drought-resisting* paddy obtained from Madras. Mr. D'Castro of Moulmein is kindly experimenting on the manuring of paddy in Lower Burma with bone-meal. At present nearly all of this valuable product is being exported. The agricultural loss to the country is most serious. Arrangements are also being made to hire a suitable piece of land north of Mandalay for experiments with soy beans. The Mandalay Farm soil is not suitable for this crop : but, in view of the commercial importance of the beans, we cannot wait for the Meiktila Farm.

—His Majesty's Consul-General at Budapest (Mr. Esme Howard, C. V. O., C. M. G.), reports that two Bills were introduced into the Hungarian Parliament on 5th October by the Minister of Finance for creating **State monopolies** in the production (1) of **petroleum** and **natural mineral gases**, and (2) of **nitrate of potash.** By these measures, the right of prospecting for and extracting (1) fluid bitumen, mineral oil, semi-solid bitumen, ozokerite and gaseous bitumen, and (2) nitrates of potash, is reserved to the State. The Minister of Finance may transfer the above rights for a fixed period of time to others. The transferee may not sell or mortgage the right of extraction, however, without the consent of the Minister. In the Bill dealing with petroleum and natural mineral gases, it is provided that licenses to prospect for fluid bitumen granted previously to the coming into force of the proposed law shall remain in force with certain restrictions ; but such licenses shall give no right as regards gaseous bitumen, the search for and production of which shall be reserved to the State. After the coming into force of the law, mining rights for fluid bitumen shall only be granted to private persons if mining operations have been begun within a certain period of time on the ground of a prospecting license. As regards well of gaseous bitumen bored and in operation before the coming into force of the law, the Mining Authorities shall upon request grant a "reserved claim" of 200 metres radius.

CHITTAGONG PORT TRUST.

Administration Report.

It appears from the Administration Report of the Chittagong Port Trust for 1909-10, that the income of the Ordinary Port Fund during the year under report (less refunds of port dues, river dues and payments of Harbour Masters' fees and ballast guards' fees) amounted to Rs. 1,31,071 as compared with the net income of Rs. 1,59,424 of the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 28,353 or 17·78 per cent. The decrease is chiefly attributable to non-recovery of "Contribution from the Pilotage Fund," and decrease of receipts from "Hire of Moorings," "Hauling in and out of Moorings," "Hire of heave-up-boats and hawsers," "Port dues," and "river dues" owing to the general depression of trade in the port during the year. A sum of Rs. 24,131 was expended during the year from the ordinary Port Fund on Capital account, against Rs. 43,469 in the previous year. The sum of Rs. 25,000 standing at credit of the Depreciation Fund was withdrawn during the year and placed at credit of the Port Fund in the Chittagong Treasury to meet the cost of repairs to the Port Commissioners' steam tug "Gekko" executed at the Government Royal Indian Marine Dockyard, Kidderpore, but no deposit could be made owing to the weak financial position of the Port Fund. The value of the Port Commissioners' properties, including lighthouses, lands, works (finished and in progress), stock of stores and materials, vessels, cash and securities, etc., was estimated to be Rs. 31,87,310 at the close of the year 1909-10, against Rs. 29,05,127 at the close of the previous year. The expenditure from the Ordinary Port Fund (less refund of port dues, river dues, payments of Harbour Masters' fees, ballast guards' fees and refund of expenditure) in 1909-10 amounted to Rs. 1,97,388 in all, as compared with Rs. 1,72,615 of the previous year. Deducting the amounts spent on capital account the expenditure was Rs. 1,73,257 in the year under report against Rs. 1,29,146 in 1908-09.

The receipts in the Dredger Account for the year from all sources, amounted to Rs. 1,01,303-7-5. The actual expenditure during the year on revenue account was Rs. 49,415, against Rs. 98,053 in the previous year. The unexpended balance at the close of the year was Rs. 48,532-7-5; the principal liability against this balance was Rs. 25,437-5-10, which represents the expenditure incurred at the Royal Indian Marine Dockyard for repairs to the dredger.

The Government grant for revetment work up to the end of 1908-09 was Rs. 10,72,895 and amount given during the year 1909-10 was Rs. 1,75,000. The total Government grant up to the end of the year under review was therefore Rs. 12,47,895. The amount borrowed by the Port Commissioners from Government during the year to meet half the expenditure on the revetment work which is repayable by the Port Fund in 30 years, amounted to Rs. 1,75,000 at 4 per cent per annum. The total amount of loans taken to the end of 1909-10 was Rs. 6,73,500 of which Rs. 18,905 was repaid including Rs. 11,515 during the year. The balance of loans outstanding at the close of the year 1909-10 was Rs. 6,54,595. The total expenditure against the Government grants and loans on revetment account during the year 1909-10 was Rs. 3,04,262, against Rs. 3,99,820 in the previous year. The unexpended balance at credit of the revetment account at the close of the year stood at Rs. 50,039.

INDIAN TRADE WITH FIUME.

We take the following particulars from the Consular Report on the Trade of Fiume for 1909 :—

Trade with India and Burma was as under :—

	Imports.	Exports.
1907	£1,375,000	£ 422,000
1908	£1,232,000	£1,052,000
1909	£1,320,000	£ 570,000

The export trade to India is carried on entirely under the Austro-Hungarian and Italian flags.

The decrease in values is owing in both cases to sugar, which accounts for £500,000 decrease in exports to India and £75,000 decrease in exports to the United Kingdom and colonies.

The principal imports from India and Burmah were :—

	Metric Tons.	Increase or Decrease Metric Tons.
Rice	108,000	+ 8,000
Jute	14,000	+ 600
Oil seeds	15,000	+11,000
Cotton	2,200	+ 1,100
Pepper	180	— 140
Hides	400	+ 125
Palm and cocoanut oil	200	— 200
Tanning barks	400	+ 200

The total was, including minor articles, 140,400 metric tons (an increase of 21,000 metric tons). The total value was £1,320,000 (an increase of £90,000).

The imports of oil seeds are on the increase to supply the two crushing mills now in operation.

The exports to India comprise :—

	Metric Tons.	Increase or Decrease Metric Tons.
Sugar	42,500	45,000
Sawn timber	2,300	700
Portland cement	2,800	1,300
Hardware	525	225
Flour	400	150
Paper	40	20
Mineral waters	115	115

The total being, including minor articles, 49,000 metric tons (a decrease of 44,000 metric tons). The total value was £570,000 (a decrease of £482 000),

COTTON INDUSTRY OF OSAKA.

The following information is from the report by H. M. Vice-Consul at Osaka on the trade of that district in 1909, which will shortly be issued :—

Since the year 1907 the value of the imports into Osaka of **textile goods** has fallen from £117,129 to £27,016, a decline of £90,113. The United Kingdom supplied most of the quantity imported during 1909.

This large decline is undoubtedly due to some extent to the development which has taken place in the weaving industry in Japan during the last few years. Since 1905 the number of looms worked by the various cotton manufacturing companies in Japan has very nearly doubled, the figures for each year being as follows :—

On 30th June.	Number of cotton Looms.
1905	6,443
1906	9,136
1907	9,626
1908	10,379
1909	12,176

Of the 12,176 looms in Japan on 30th June, 1909 5,888 were in Osaka, which is thus an important centre of the weaving industry. The goods principally made are grey shirting and sheeting, cotton drills, T-cloths, etc. There is a considerable export.

Cotton yarn is by far the most valuable of all the articles exported from Osaka. In 1909 the total value of the exports of this commodity was £926,855, or over 19 per cent. of the total exports of the port. These figures show an increase of £221,356 as compared with those for 1908. Nearly 92 per cent of the yarn is sent to China, the remainder principally to Corea and Hongkong. Both China and Corea took considerably larger quantities in 1909 than in 1908, the export to Hongkong, on the other hand, declined.

About 87 per cent of the yarn exported from Osaka during the year 1909 was of counts of 20 and under, the actual figures being as follows :—

	Lbs.	£
Counts of 20 and under	22,918,503	764,773
„ over 20	3,611,620	162,082
Total	26,530,123	926,855

The total number of cotton spindles working in all the mills of Japan in December, 1909, was 1,707,631 (of which 43,867 were mule spindles).

Of this number 648,743, or about 38 per cent, were in Osaka Prefecture, the numbers working in the principal mills and their branches being ring spindles 639,420, mule spindles 9,323.

The number of bales of cotton yarn produced by the spinning companies in the Osaka Prefecture during the year ended 30th June, 1909, was 340,850, and the average court 23·9. The total number of bales produced in the whole of Japan during the same period was 919,673. Of this quantity, 191,425 bales, or about 20 per cent, were exported. The proportion of yarn made in Osaka which is exported, however, is somewhat higher, being more than 30 per cent. Considerable quantities are exported through Kobe.

The making of cotton hosiery, or "meriyasu" as it is called, is one of the principal industries of Osaka. The trade has grown enormously within the last few years, and Japanese goods are now found in large quantities in all the markets of the Far East. It is calculated that British India takes about 70 per cent of the total export of cotton hosiery from Japan. As in the case of many other goods the principal port of export is Kobe, though the head-quarters of the industry are in Osaka. During the first half of the year 1909 the trade was in a fairly flourishing condition and orders were numerous. In the great fire which occurred in the city at the end of July, however, 120 factories are said to have been destroyed, and it was estimated that the quantity of goods available for export would fall short of the quantity exported during 1908 by 20 per cent, as many of the makers were quite unable to fulfil their contracts. In spite, however, of this check to the industry the final figures for the year 1909 show an increase in the value of the exports from the whole country, as compared with 1908, of over 45,000*l.* and the industry is now in a most flourishing condition. The chief competitors of the Japanese in this respect are German, British and Spanish manufacturers. The trade in Europe, however, has been suffering recently from the rise in the price of cotton and yarn, with the consequent rise in the price of the manufactured goods. In Japan, on the other hand, the spinning mills held during the latter part of the year 1909 considerable supplies of cotton which they had bought when the market was low; and as the demand for yarn was not very brisk, the hosiery factories had at their disposal a plentiful supply of comparatively cheap yarn. The excellent harvest in India, too, favourably affected the demand for goods. The exports of cotton undershirts and drawers knitted from Japan during the seven months ended July, 1910, were valued at about 280,000*l.* as compared with about 150,000*l.* in the corresponding period of 1909. The yarn used in Japan is chiefly of counts 16 to 20, and there has been a brisk demand for the coarser counts of yarn, as all the factories are now working at full strength. The principal factors which contribute to the prosperity of the industry are cheap machinery and a plentiful supply of cheap labour. Most of the machines used in the Osaka factories are made in the city from American models, the prices being very much lower than for imported machines. American sewing machines are largely used for finishing the more expensive qualities of underwear. The price of undershirts for the Indian and Chinese markets ranges from 80 sen 1*s.* 7½*d.* per dozen upwards.

THE SUPPLY OF TURPENTINE.

A very serious question for the oil and paint trades, says the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal*, is now arising in connection with turpentine. The history of the trade during the last eighteen months seems to show that, under natural conditions, turpentine is likely to stand at a high price for a long time to come, if not permanently, the relations between supply and demand having undergone a complete alteration. The theory that the increasing use of Russian turpentine and turpentine substitutes would eventually break down the high values of American spirit appeared fairly sound at first, but the experience of the past six months indicates that something more is needed. Everyone who has any knowledge of the business done by oil and paint travellers this year is well aware that the sales of substitutes of all kinds have been remarkably good, and that a large number of people who were using American spirit for all kinds of purposes are now buyers of substitutes. It appears, then, rather doubtful whether this trade in subsitutes will now increase very rapidly; if it were capable of reducing turpentine values, we should, by this time, have seen some effect on the market.

The imports of turpentine, taking both Russian and American together, show a decided downward tendency. The following are the figures for the last 7 years:—1904, 528,112 cwts.; 1905, 526,679 cwts.; 1906, 512,836 cwts.; 1907, 510,308 cwts.; 1908, 573,678 cwts.; 1909, 443,375 cwts.; 1910 (estimated), 325,000 cwts. It is fairly clear that the American domestic consumption is steadily increasing, and that the production is practically stationary, and will be retrogressive: and hence that a time is coming when America will need all the turpentine which she produces. With regard to French turpentine, of which we used to receive a fair supply, there is little likelihood of relief from that source. Prices would have to be very high to attract any quantity, and, indeed, France could not afford to spare very much. The question now is what should be done to prepare for the time when the trade must do without any serious supply of American spirit. We are getting along, somewhat lamely perhaps, with the price between £50 and £60, but unless some other source of supply be exploited in the near future, the value of turpentine will not remain within these limits. The consumptive capacity of America is sure to grow, and to grow fast, because the expansion of population on the Western side of the world is only just beginning. There is room yet for double or treble the population now existing in the United States alone, and even then those States will not be crowded as we are accustomed to crowding.

Our thoughts, naturally, turn to our own Empire, and particularly to India. In that country there are enormous belts of forest capable of giving a supply of turpentine of such dimensions that there would be no occasion to think of famine for a century to come; but, of course the difficulty and expense of working these resources is great. The difficulty is, however, mainly one of communications and transit, and this we may reasonably call upon the Indian Government to remove. One of the very first duties of a State is to provide adequate means of communication between its various parts. It was the Roman roads which made the Roman Empire, and this great lesson of history requires to be enforced upon our more or less supine governments. Some time ago there was a feeble attempt on the part of the Indian Government to promote an industry in Indian turpentine. What has become of this attempt few can tell; but we know that it was essentially weak, and the methods adopted were not upon any large scale. Possibly the fall in the price of turpentine which took place in 1907 and 1908 discourage the Indian Government, which, like many other Government, is not noted for taking a very comprehensive view of commercial and industrial problems.

Perhaps the offer of free concessions for a limited period, say 30 years, in the Indian turpentine forests might induce capitalists to take the matter up. We do not, of course, advocate the permanent alienation of Government lands, but temporary concessions might be wise; unless the Government itself were capable of dealing with the matter in a satisfactory manner. As an object-lesson in the way in which India is capable of taking up the supply of our trade requirements, when some other country shows signs of failure, it is worth-while, in closing, to quote two sets of figures relating to imports of linseed during the last three years:—

	Nine months. 1908.	Nine months. 1909.	Nine months. 1910.
From the Argentine	1,116,675	809,868	382,781 qrs.
From India	280,246	230,094	735,233 qrs.

What we should have done without this rapid expansion of Indian trade in linseed cannot even be thought of. Possibly something of the same kind would be possible in turpentine a few years hence, were prompt and courageous measures taken to promote such an end.

—A French **patent** has just been granted for a process of making what is claimed to be a harmless **substitute for white lead.** According to a description of it in the *Manchester Guardian*, by mixing together equal quantities of saturated solutions of alum and carbonate of soda there is produced a white gelatinous precipitate of aluminium carbonate of the consistency of butter. After filtration the jelly is mixed, in the proportion of two-thirds or more, with finely powdered carbonate of lime, or magnesia, and rendered homogenous by prolonged trituration. The product is dried in thin layers by moderate heat, and afterwards finely ground with linseed or poppy oil to the consistency of white lead. It is claimed that, like white lead, the substitute can be stored for a long time under water, and can be made up into paint with colouring matters and dryers. It is also stated that the paint lies with a gloss that makes varnishing unnecessary.

FOREIGN TRADE OF CHINA IN 1909.

The following article on the foreign trade of China in 1909 has been compiled by the *Board of Trade Journal* and is based on the "Abstract of Statistics and Report on the Foreign Trade of China" for 1909, recently published by order of the Inspector-General of the Chinese Imperial Customs. The average value of the Haikwan tael is stated to have been 3*s.* 3*d.* in 1907, 2*s.* 8*d.* in 1908, and 2*s.* $7\frac{3}{16}$*d.* in 1909. 100 Haikwan taels=111·40 Shanghai taels, for which exchange quotations are made. Picul=$133\frac{1}{3}$ lbs.

General.

The year was commercially a good one for China, since it was marked by a large increase in her Customs revenue, a notable expansion of exports, a rapid industrial progress, and a revival of the home trade. The countries which supply imports to China have perhaps less cause for satisfaction in the year's results, though the imports of 1909, judged by their total net value, were less only than those of 1905. The low exchange, so important a factor in the flow of exports, stood in the way of that development of the import trade which had not unreasonably been looked for, and gave an additional advantage to those native manufactures, such as flour, cotton yarn, cotton cloth, iron, etc., with which foreign imports have now to compete. A great rise in the price of cotton was further thrown into the scale as against the principal branch of the import trade, though its effect was in a large measure deferred by the system of contracting ahead with the home manufacturer. Stocks of piece goods were low at the end of the year, and a further reduction in the number of competing houses had improved the position in Shanghai. It must be a very exceptional year in which no part of China suffers from either too much or too little rain, and a certain portion of agricultural failure has always to be reckoned with; in 1909, however, nearly every province had its share of distress. In general, a deficiency of rain in spring was followed by an excess in summer, and though famine was nowhere acute or widespread, the aggregate damage to crops, and the consequent impoverishment, must have been considerable, but when spring crops failed, autumn crops made amends, and *vice versâ*, and conditions which injuriously affected one crop were favourable to another, and, on the whole, a fair average of production was attained. The tea and silk yields are reported to have been exceptionally abundant. Cotton, however, was seriously injured by rain in Hupeh, Hunan, and Kiangsi; and though the rice harvests seem to have been satisfactory generally, the price of this staple rose on the Yangtze in consequence of the summer floods.

The depreciated state of 10-cash pieces remained one of the chief hindrances to trade in 1909, and, on the whole, the position of this currency was rather worse at the end of the year than at the beginning. The provincial Mints greatly reduced their output of this coin during the year, and the practical disappearance of copper ingots and slabs from among the imports may be taken as an indication that coinage on a large scale will not soon be resumed.

Exchange was low and very steady. The difference between the highest and lowest rates recorded for the Shanghai tael during the year was no more than 2*d.*, contrasting with the fluctuations of $4\frac{1}{16}$*d.* in 1908 8*d.* in 1907, 4*d.* in 1906, 5*d.* in 1905, and 4*d.* in 1904.

The newly instituted Provincial Assemblies held their first sessions in October, and branches of the Ta Ch'ing Bank were opened at many important centres during the year.

There was a comparatively poor yield of Manchurian staples in 1909, but when added to the surplus of the previous year it went far to meet the large foreign demand for beans, beancake, and wild silk. The following figures show the important part taken by Manchuria in the year's trade:—

—	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Hk. tls.	Hk. tls.	Hk. tls.
Net imports of foreign goods	30,040,212	42,118,568	49,265,303
Net imports of native goods	6,740,288	8,550,701	14,830,539
Exports	26,657,663	45,143,358	77,926,613
Total . Hk. tls.	63,438,163	95,812,627	142,022,455

The floods which visited certain Yangtze provinces in the summer of 1909, and which were most severely felt in Hupeh, had a marked effect on the consumption of foreign commodities, which again showed a decrease; but, as elsewhere, native products moved more freely both outwards and inwards. The increase of Hk. tls. 17,600,003 in the value of exports includes, however, over Hk. tls. 8,000,000 representing the value of native opium diverted at Ichang from likin boats to vessels controlled by the Customs. The following figures show the volume of the trade on the Yangtze, Chungking to Chinkiang, the ports of Changsha and Yochow being included:—

—	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Hk. tls.	Hk. tls.	Hk. tls.
Net imports of foreign goods	110,239,450	104,844,857	97,816,052
Net imports of native goods	28,065,027	33,154,129	37,739,416
Exports	115,476,892	134,680,625	152,291,362
Total . Hk. tls.	253,781,369	272,479,611	287,846,830

Foreign Trade.

The direct foreign trade of China during the year 1909 amounted to a net value of Hk. tls. 757,150,881, as compared with Hk. tls. 671,165,881 in 1908,

it consisted of imports to the value of Hk. tls. 418,158,067. and exports to the value of Hk. tls. 338,992.814, as compared with Hk. tls. 394.505,478 and Hk. tls. 276,660,403, respectively, in 1908.

(*a*) **Imports.**—In the imports of foreign **cotton goods** there was an advance in total net value of over 26 million taels. the conspicuous increases being in cotton yarn, white shirtings, and American sheetings and drills. The imports of yarn (2,406,110 piculs) and of white shirtings (4.029,517 pieces) compared not unfavourably with the best in previous years, and the imports of American piece goods approximated to the average of the years which preceded the inflation of trade in 1905 and 1906. It is impossible to say how much cotton yarn is now turned out from native mills, but the quantity distributed by Shanghai to other ports in 1909 was 425,055 piculs, as compared with 378,000 piculs in 1908, and 187,000 piculs in 1907; and, as might be expected, there is evidence in the port returns of an increasing consumption of piece goods from native factories. The imports of cotton italians shewed a decline of 354,000 pieces, or 27 per cent, as compared with the figures for 1908, and of cotton lastings a decline of 192,000 pieces, or 17 per cent. There was, however, a very large increase in the quantity of Japanese cotton cloth of narrow width imported at Dairen, the total figures under this heading being for 1908, 5,265.000 yards, and for 1909, 22,798,000 yards. The noticeably smaller value per piece of the leading cotton fabrics is attributed to the larger proportion of cheap grades imported.

The imports of the principal makes of plain cottons were as follows :—

—	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
British .	10,785,227	8,224,951	8,993,534	10,691,418
American .	8,544 165	578,647	1,586,989	3,856 231
Japanese .	733,436	840,401	986 982	1,396,297
Indian .	85,003	67,905	141,312	133,855

The consumption of **cigarettes** continues to increase, the value of imports from abroad during 1909 being Hk. tls. 700,000 more, and that of shipments of local makes at Shanghai for native ports Hk. tls. 800,000 more, than in the preceding year. The excellent crops of **rice** in Kwangtung caused a reduction of 3 million piculs, valued at 11 million taels, in the imports of foreign rice. The same cause influenced the imports of foreign **flour**, which, however, is rapidly giving place to the produce of native mills. Less than 600,000 piculs of flour were imported in 1909, as compared with 1,750,000 piculs in 1908, and 4,410,000 piculs in 1907. In the imports of **kerosene oil** there was a decline of some 40 million gallons in 1909, of which 37 million gallons fell on the American product and 3 million gallons on the Borneo product. The imports of Russian oil increased and those of Sumatra oil maintained the figures of 1908. Various reasons are assigned for this reduction of over 20 per cent. in an article which had almost become a necessary in Chinese households; but the most probable reason seems to be the conjunction of an increase in its price with an abundance of vegetable oil. Electric lighting plant has, however, been installed in many Chinese cities in recent years, and the electric light will more and more compete with the less convenient, less safe, and less attractive oil lamp. Foreign **sugar** gained ground to the extent of 7½ million taels; and an increase in imports of 700,000 piculs, valued at 4 million taels, in refined sugar is significant of changing tastes. Another sign of the times may perhaps be discerned in the value, larger by nearly a million taels, of imported **spirits**; and in this connection it may be noted that a distillery for the production of Chinese wines and spirits has been established at Hankow.

The value of the direct total trade of China with Japan rose from 89·6 million taels in 1908 to 111·5 million taels in 1909, and that with British India from 34·6 million taels to 45·25 million taels. The total value of the direct trade with Russia, both by sea and through the ports on the Manchurian frontier and on the Sungari, rose from 38 million taels in 1908 to 55·9 million taels in 1909.

(*b*) **Exports.**—Apart from tea, silk, and two or three other articles, a marked general increase occurred in the leading exports to foreign countries; but the rise of a great export trade in **beans** is the fact which overshadows all others. From the earliest days of the Foreign Customs beans and beancake have been the principal exports from Newchwang, but for many years the trade was exclusively domestic. About the year 1890 a beginning was made with shipments to Japan, and the traffic soon rose into importance, Japan being practically the only foreign buyer of these products until 1908. During the eight years 1900-7 the average annual value of the beans exported abroad was 4·37 million taels. In 1908 the total export of beans abroad rose to 4,770,000 piculs, valued at 9 million taels, and in 1909 to no less than 14,438,000 piculs valued at 32·78 million taels. The soya bean thus took at a bound a position equal to that of tea in the list of exports, and if to the shipments of beans be added those of beancake, giving a combined value of 52 million taels, even the position of silk at the top of the list is challenged. Of the **beancake** exported (10,088,359 piculs), all but an inappreciable quantity was of Manchurian origin; and of the beans 10,915,000 piculs were sent out from Manchurian ports, 1,173,000 piculs from Hankow, 1,737,000 piculs from Chinkiang and Shanghai, and 600,000 piculs from Amoy and Kwangtung ports. The ultimate destinations of the consignments of beans are less easy to determine with accuracy. There went directly to Japan 4,945,000 piculs; to Great Britain, 1,158.600 piculs; to Hongkong, 2,010,800 piculs; to Port Said ("for orders"), 2,021,600 piculs; and to Vladivostock through Suifenho, 3,842,000 piculs. The statement, on good authority, that 400,000 tons of beans were shipped to the United Kingdom in 1909 may be accepted as not far from the mark, and would account for 6,800,000 piculs. Add the shipments to Japan and 460,000 piculs declared as for the Straits, Dutch Indies, and European countries, and there still remains a balance of over 2,000,000 piculs of which the destination is uncertain.

The yield of **silk** was good throughout; prices, however, in the foreign markets were low, and there was but a slight increase, of some 800 piculs, in the export during 1909 of white and yellow raw silk. The demand in the United States did not come up to expectation, notwithstanding generally improved trade conditions in that country; while the Japan crop was so large that a considerable part of it was shipped to the United States on consignment. Prices were thus kept down. The salient feature of the silk trade in 1909 was, however, the export of filatures and pongees manufactured at Chefoo from cocoons of the Manchurian wild silkworm supplied by Antung, Takushan, and other places. The shipments of cocoons from Antung alone to Chefoo totalled 121,000 piculs, and were effected at prices which rose during the year to double the figure ruling in the autumn of 1908. About as much again was received at Chefoo from other Manchurian ports. Chefoo in turn sent out, for ultimate shipment abroad, 14,000 piculs of wild raw silk, 10,000 piculs of waste silk, and large quantities of inferior pongees—all products of the Manchurian cocoon. Shantung pongees have become important to several modern industries, so that the export has increased from 6,247 piculs in 1908 to 10,655 piculs in 1909, while the value per picul has risen 40 per cent.

The decrease of some 81,000 piculs in the total export of **tea** is due mainly to a reduced demand for common black teas, which in turn is attributed to the abundant supply from India and Ceylon of the inferior teas used in cheap mixtures. This feature of the trade is reflected in the average value of black tea exported, which was over Tls. 3 higher per picul in 1909 than in 1908. China appears to have no speciality in the production of common teas.

The future of the China tea trade rests with the finer qualities, which so far have not been imitated elsewhere. These finer China teas were much in request in the London market during 1909, and it is stated that the supply was hardly equal to the demand. The export of tea to the chief European countries was reduced all round. That to the United States was slightly larger, as there was an increase of 20,000 piculs in green tea to set against a decline of 17,000 piculs in black.

Among mining products, coal and pig irone though as yet attaining but small totals, show signs of development. 196,000 tons of coal, chiefly from the Kaiping and Fushun mines, went to Hongkong, Japan, Corea, the Straits, and British India in 1909, as compared with 28,000 tons in 1908. The increase in the exports of Hankow pig iron is less marked, but its interest lies in the fact that cargoes of this metal, described as of a high grade, were exported to Seattle, Portland, and San Francisco where the low exchange enabled it to compete successfully. Grain was exported to Russia through ports on the land frontier to the value of 2·26 million taels, and shipments on a much smaller scale took place by special permission at South Manchurian ports, chiefly at Dairen. The figures of grain export are included under the heading of provisions, which also includes the value of frozen provisions, amounting to Hk. tls. 660,000, exported from Hankow. Shipments of sesamum seed from Hankow to the continent of Europe amounted to 2,153,000 piculs in 1909, and the cultivation of the seed is being extended to meet the demand. The fibre originating in the Kiukiang district, hitherto incorrectly called "hemp," has for 1909 been classified as ramie in the customs returns, with the result that there is a large apparent increase in the exports of ramie and a corresponding falling off in the exports of hemp. In reality there has been a slight decrease in the shipments abroad of both kinds. Undressed hides of the cow and buffalo, exported chiefly from Hankow and Chungking, show an increased value of 2 million taels; while the export of undressed goat skins, mainly from Tientsin and Hankow, a large proportion of which is destined for the United States, was greater by 1·7 million pieces, valued at 1·4 million taels. In sheep's wool, almost all exported from Tientsin and consumed in the United States there was an increase of 117,000 piculs, valued at 3·1 million taels.

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EXPORTS OF INDIAN TEA.

Quantity (in lbs.) of Indian Tea exported by sea from British India and from Travancore to each foreign country from 1st April to 30th September, 1910 :—

Countries.	April	May	June	July	August	September	TOTAL.
United Kingdom	1,273,416	1,580,478	7,470,537	19,169,879	26,313,429	26,792,709	82,600,448
Malta and Gozo	...	...	...	1,490	...	...	1,490
Aden and Dependencies	8,440	13,600	5,837	6,239	21,492	11,124	66,732
Bahrein Islands	39,065	8,634	9 020	33,969	80,892	15,502	187,022
Ceylon	378,249	297,841	1,086,895	2,757,437	1,073,663	1,065,382	6,659,467
Straits Settlements	31,736	24,593	34,043	49,937	74,032	61,336	275,677
Federated Malay States	...	...	92	...	...	...	92
Hongkong	250	40	10,082	35,907	147,927	115,443	309,649
Cape Colony	9,800	600	322	15,173	19,942	11,900	57,717
Natal	...	115	...	1,816	80	9,900	11,911
Mauritius and Dependencies	320	1,722	2,960	1,305	960	860	8,067
Zanzibar and Pemba	11,510	7,966	9,138	2,712	14,700	2,049	48,075
British East Africa	11,204	13,476	27,143	4,438	13,955	15,671	85,887
Seychelles	225	225	...	309	420	110	1,289
Somaliland (British)	...	...	2,010	...	...	...	2,010
Canada	278,592	216,545	199,554	939,185	594,680	824,673	3,053,529
Australia	19,190	7,060	188.441	1,760,864	1,150,734	2,320,604	5,446,833
New Zealand	31,757	330	1,140	24,374	113,011	98,513	269,185
Russia	70,698	37,143	515,227	685,510	3,030,891	1,869,858	6,209,327
Norway	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	1,000
Denmark	120	...	...	...	...	2,142	2,262
Germany	251	1,615	26,645	150,839	382,738	467,915	1,030,003
Belgium	150	156	...	28,546	...	105	28,957
France	720	645	3,950	2,135	2,752	3,100	13,302
Spain	...	...	...	110	...	...	110
Italy	32	920	...	...	40	...	992
Austria-Hungary	133	...	1,630	220	6,316	5,068	13,367
Greece	...	...	100	...	...	...	100
Turkey, European	...	821	...	11,100	67,382	30,979	110,282
,, Asiatic	66,838	85,989	143,581	231,601	426,846	483,736	1,438,582
Arabia	1,505	...	...	266	...	108	1,879
Persia	11,956	6,368	33.470	74,057	78,590	3,970	208.411
Sumatra	20	1,185	4,290	3,750	10,200	...	19.445
Java	...	120	40	136	636	152	1,084
Siam	480	40	1,510	...	790	344	3,164
China (exclusive of Hongkong & Macão)	800	1,400	128.042	339,929	763,646	751,624	1,985,441
Egypt	49,865	14,454	54 357	37,209	99,793	156,393	412,371
Portuguese East Africa	575	1,969	3,776	1,508	510	1,988	10,356
Madagascar	...	600	1.250	1 015	2,475	1.750	7,090
German East Africa	400	1,867	586	1,120	1,592	5,253	11.118
Italian East Africa	6,845	3,650	4,235	2,700	3,160	2,640	23.470
Somaliland (French)	1,120	200	...	1,776	2,680	777	6,553
United States of America	1,780	...	27,382	168,765	238,659	395,285	831,871
Brazil	...	...	...	50	...	...	50
Chile	...	...	1,010	...	6,266	20	7,296
Sandwich Islands	...	...	...	...	...	180	180
TOTAL	2,307,982	2,332,298	9.908,295	26,548,247	34,746,119	35,530,223	111,363,164
Indian tea exported from native (non-British) ports in Travancore lbs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indian tea exported from native (non-British) ports in Travancore Rs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

EXPORTS OF FOREIGN TEA.

Quantity (in lbs.) of Foreign Tea exported by sea from British India to each foreign country from 1st April to 30th September, 1910 :—

United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	160	32	192
Aden and Dependencies	...	...	36	...	...	85	121
Bahrein Islands	6,691	14,542	3,680	4,360	480	2,180	31,933
Natal	...	..	170	...	...	...	170
Mauritius and Dependencies	...	770	...	890	...	...	1,660
Zanzibar and Pemba	...	...	485	870	...	320	1.675
British East Africa	640	480	100	840	...	606	2,666
Seychelles	425	...	...	...	...	500	925
Russia	...	1,283	...	...	...	...	1,283
Germany	...	12	...	...	...	...	12
France	...	...	...	...	96	...	96
Greece	...	...	...	...	...	32	32
Turkey, Asiatic	11,643	34,043	10,728	28,274	27,652	14,587	126,927
Arabia	3,116	3,470	8,870	5,040	4,211	3,587	28,294
Persia	6,610	17,156	8,274	12,000	11,022	467	55,529
Siam	...	..	150	...	..	...	150
Egypt	...	7,117	...	...	1,010	368	8,495
Portuguese East Africa	1,933	1,254	1,184	...	4,519	2,414	11,304
German East Africa	425	...	...	90	60	...	575
Italian East Africa	...	1,580	...	...	...	...	1,580
TOTAL	31,483	81,707	33,677	52,364	49,210	25,178	273,619

FOOD-GRAINS AND SALT.

Retail Prices of certain Food-grains and Salt at selected stations for the second half of October, 1910. (Prices are stated in annas and pies per seer of 2·06 lbs.)

	Rice, common.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jawar.	Bajra.	Ragi.	Gram.	Salt.
	a. p.	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*	*a. p.*
BURMA—								
Rangoon	1 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
Toungoo	1 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM—								
Rangpur	2 1	2 0	...	...	...	...	...	1 0
Backerganj	1 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 11
BENGAL—								
Calcutta	2 0	1 5	...	...	...	...	...	0 10
Patna	1 2	1 1	0 8	...	...	...	...	0 10
UNITED PROVINCES—								
Cawnpore	...	1 4	0 9	0 10	0 11	..	0 11	0 9
Fyzabad	...	1 4	0 9	...	...	...	0 11	0 10
Meerut	...	1 2	0 9	...	...	...	0 10	0 8
PANJAB—								
Delhi	..	1 3	0 10	0 10	1 0	...	0 10	0 9
Amritsar	...	1 1	0 8	0 11	(a)	...	0 9	0 7
Rawalpindi	...	1 2	0 8	0 8	0 11	...	0 10	0 7
SIND—								
Karáchi	...	1 7	...	1 2	1 3	...	1 2	0 7
BOMBAY—								
Belgaum	...	1 9	...	1 1	1 1	...	...	0 11
Ahmadnagar	...	1 7	.	0 9	0 11	...	...	1 0
Bombay	...	2 4	...	1 5	1 6	...	...	0 11
Ahmadabad	..	1 6	...	1 0	1 3	...	...	0 7
CENTRAL PROVINCES—								
Jubbulpore	...	1 3	...	...	...	...	0 10	0 11
Nagpur	1 4	1 2	...	0 10	...	...	1 0	1 0
Raipur	1 3	1 3	..	...	...	...	0 11	1 0
MADRAS—								
Bellary	2 0	...	...	1 0	...	1 0	...	0 11
Madras	2 3	...	...	...	..	1 4	.	0 7
Salem	2 5	...	...	1 3	1 7	1 1	...	1 2

(a) Not reported yet.

—A meeting was held on November 1st at the London Chamber of Commerce to transact business arising out of the **formation of the British West African Association** and to discuss methods of co-operation with other bodies. Mr. H. Osman Newland presided. The meeting was attended by Mr. F. Swanzy, Chairman of the West African Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. George Miller, of the African Associations of Liverpool, and both urged that those present would best serve their interests by throwing in their lot with the section of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Swantzy said it would be frittering away energy to start a second body in the City of London to do work which was practically covered by another. This view was not shared by others present, and it was decided to continue as a separate association in co-operation as much as possible with kindred organizations. The Chairman said that one aim of the association would be to secure a permanent exhibition at a London office of West African produce. Rules were then adopted. The one setting forth the object of the association stated that it was "to advance and protect in every possible way the interests of British traders, planters, and others interested in West African colonies." Special sections are to be immediately formed for mining, agriculture, and transport and shipping. The election of president was left over until replies had been received to invitations sent out: Lord Kingsale and Mr. W. H. Lever were appointed vice-presidents, and Mr. Osman Newland was elected secretary. The office of the association for the time being is the London Chamber of Commerce.

EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Statement showing the exports of wheat and wheat-flour from British India to foreign countries in each of the seven months, April to October, of the years 1905 to 1910 :—

	1905		1906		1907		1908		1909		1910	
BENGAL—	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
April	169,368		9,014		12,855		3,360		272,044		341,028	
May	663,696		16,398		40,881		6,506		1,026,554		538,670	
June	631,938		29,866		42,065		5,019		748,294		508,869	
July	371,322		72,09		39,656		5,924		324,373		95,554	
August	52,489		10,967		16,770		6,610		264,333		169,455	
September	39,210		13,72		10,020		4,719		13,956		238,729	
October	112,865		12,545		10,256		9,432		4,985		349,970	
TOTAL		2,040,888		164,605		172,503		41,570		2,654,539		2,242,275
BOMBAY—												
April	646,118		88,333		68,828		20,921		168,321		141,658	
May	881,105		167,451		166,153		42,477		716,519		361,016	
June	534,526		148,807		167,294		59,088		751,301		111,303	
July	333,117		180,630		276,581		45,589		465,304		161,979	
August	306,811		61,6?3		104,744		38,365		251,753		246,636	
September	349,378		72,300		107,104		68,259		64,433		206,185	
October	341,005		163,977		143,734		72,798		97,054		287,872	
TOTAL		3,392,090		883,161		1,034,438		347,497		2,514,685		1,516,649
SIND—												
April	718,621		439,238		1,395,557		20,968		17,306		813,900	
May	1,542,890		1,145,804		1,341,517		14,573		212,803		765,843	
June	3,305,233		2,724,525		1,851,899		117,881		3,268,113		2,253,885	
July	2,501,383		3,178,56		2,886,485		490,141		4,831,931		2,988,364	
August	1,889,121		1,764,921		2,879,695		247,313		3,044,522		2,783,902	
September	5 2,399		665,183		2,775,133		467,967		416,967		1,507,237	
October	569,923		1,372,291		2,429,341		686,313		757,944		1,303,785	
TOTAL		11,029,570		11,290,018		15,559,625		2,045,156		12,519,586		12,416,916
OTHER PROVINCES—												
April	110,370		136		212		90		...		135	
May	13 485		30		1		...		2,112		...	
June	4.056		37		225		3		...		31	
July	7,649		4		...		7		2,007		1	
August	268		...		6		...		2,004		30	
September	6		...		1		6		4		21	
October	63		7		5		...		...		...	
TOTAL		135,897		214		450		106		6,127		218
TOTAL—												
April	1,644,507		536,721		1,477,452		45,339		457,671		1,296,721	
May	3,101,176		1,329,683		1,548,552		63,556		1,957,988		1,665,529	
June	4,475,753		2,903,229		2,061,483		181,991		4,767,708		2,874,088	
July	3,213,471		3,430,789		3,202,722		541,661		5,623,615		3,245,898	
August	2,248,689		1,837,551		3,001,213		292,288		3,562,612		3,200,023	
September	890,993		751,205		2,892,258		540,951		495,360		1,952,172	
October	1,023,856		1,548,820		2,583,336		768,543		859,983		1,941,627	
GRAND TOTAL		16,598,445		12,337,998		16,767,016		2,434,329		17,724,937		16,176,058

N.B.—The figures of wheat-flour included in this statement are taken as representing 70 per cent of wheat used in its manufacture.

— It is stated in the Report on the trade of Japan for the year 1909 that, thanks to the vagaries of fashion and the abnormal size of the socalled "Beehive" and "Merry Widow" hats, the **business in both straw and chip braids** was exceedingly active. The improvement over 1908 was very great, the figures being 14,822,376 bundles, worth £403,000, in 1908, and 24,054,767 bundles, worth £650,700, in 1909.

IMPORTS OF SUGAR.

Imports of **Foreign Sugar** (excluding Confectionery and Molasses) into British India in the month of October, 1910, and in the seven months ending the 31st October, 1910, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous year. The statement shows so far as possible the original sources of all such sugar imported :—

Countries of production of total imports.	Share of each country in the total imports in October 1909.	Share of each country in the total imports in October 1910.	Share in the seven months ending the 31st Oct. 1909.	Share in the seven months ending the 31st Oct. 1910.	Countries of production of total imports.	Share of each country in the total imports in October 1909.	Share of each country in the total imports in October 1910.	Share in the seven months ending the 31st Oct. 1909.	Share in the seven months ending the 31st Oct. 1910.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.		Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Russia	...	...	22,100	...	China	153	2,751	2,233	111,857
Germany	347	371	50,243	3,889	Japan	...	...	36	...
Holland	57	29	533	521	Egypt	...	3	...	7
Belgium	73	37	1,105	426	Natal	...	...	...	1
France	46	59	153	71	Mauritius	189,967	125,305	1,115,214	1,463,515
Spain	...	...	6	...	West Indies	13	73	63	320
Austria-Hungary	78	91	513,849	74,461	Mexico	...	1	...	1
Straits Settlements	71	102	1,228	547	South America	74	2	332	136
Java	1,072,173	1,779,020	4,843,317	5,580,755	Australia	...	...	7	2
					From non-producing countries— Origin unknown	60	17	424	246
					TOTAL	1,263,112	1,907,861	6,550,843	7,236,755

Quantity of Beet and Cane Sugar imported by sea from Foreign countries into each province of British India in the month of October, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of the year 1909 :—

PROVINCES.	Beet Sugar.		Cane Sugar.		TOTAL.	
	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Bengal	130	214	379,136	941,802	379,266	942,016
Eastern Bengal and Assam	...	...	4,002	2,118	4,002	2,118
Bombay	251	103	387,641	454,319	387,892	454,422
Sind	72	165	388,790	399,018	388,862	399,183
Madras	44	40	25,994	53,977	26,038	54,017
Burma	134	73	76,918	56,032	77,052	56,105
TOTAL	631	595	1,262,481	1,907,266	1,263,112	1,907,861

IMPORTS OF COTTON YARN.

Quantity of Cotton Yarn No. 31 and higher counts imported by sea from foreign countries into each province of British India in the month of October, 1910 :—

	Bengal.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Bombay.	Sind.	Madras.	Burma.	TOTAL.
	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb
Mule and water, Nos. 31 to 40	47,190	...	119,773	9,000	264,600	2,000	442,563
" " " 41 to 50	34,108	...	62,478	...	11,200	...	107,786
" " above No. 50	84,587	...	102,213	...	52,185	...	238,985
Orange, red and other colours, Nos. 31 to 40.	301,509	...	107,300	58,707	213,200	65,790	746,506
Orange, red and other colours, Nos. 41 to 50.	.	...	3,200	...	...	33,065	36,265
Orange, red and other colours, above No. 50.	4,636	...	3,100	...	52,300	14,000	74,036
TOTAL	472,030	...	398,064	67,707	593,485	114,855	1,646,141

LAND TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA.

Total Value of Imports from, and **Exports** to, each country in the five months April to August of each year.

Name of Country	Imports			Exports			Total		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Lus Bela—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	2,31,600	2,58,993	2,76,801	74,501	1,19,329	99,682	3,06,101	3,78,822	3,76,483
Khelat—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	2,91,410	1,38,620	3,17,162	1,98,209	1,78,683	3,32,998	4,89,619	3,17,303	6,50,160
Persia—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	65,609	91,895	1,39,752	1,95,261	3,00,726	2,50,176	2,60,870	3,92,621	3,89,928
Afghanistan—									
Northern and Eastern (including Kabul and Ghazni)—									
North-West Frontier Province	4,45,184	5,54,401	3,85,572	46,75,235	46,15,571	50,00,897	51,20,419	51,69,972	53,86,469
Southern and Western (including Kandahar and Herat)—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	19,43,344	19,60,336	21,33,743	24,64,394	26,87,946	23,66,722	44,07,738	40,48,282	45,00,465
North-West Frontier Province	...	...	...	3,03,300	3,30,306	2,78,369	3,03,300	3,30,306	2,78,369
Panjab	...	...	...	17,357	10,166	21,775	17,357	10,166	21,775
Total	23,88,528	25,14,737	25,19,315	74,60,286	70,43,989	76,67,763	98,48,814	95,58,726	1,01,87,078
Tirah—									
North-West Frontier Province	1,99,025	1,71,684	2,07,619	2,36,346	1,90,450	4,55,751	4,35,371	3,62,134	6,63,370
Dir, Swat, and Bajaur—									
North-West Frontier Province	20,29,415	18,16,904	15,74,511	26,82,936	26,44,924	19,08,462	47,12,351	44,61,828	34,82,973
Buner—									
North-West Frontier Province	58,531	90,684	96,296	89,773	1,21,907	1,43,109	1,48,304	2,12,591	2,39,405
Waziristan—									
North-West Frontier Province	85,230	1,18,728	1,39,389	18,914	1,66,477	41,340	1,04,144	2,85,205	1,80,729
Kurram Valley—									
North-West Frontier Province	53,596	78,676	69,724	4,10,590	3,51,330	5,62,315	4,64,186	4,30,006	6,32,039
Ladakh—									
Panjab	...	630	120	1,43,697	81,382	1,35,889	1,43,697	82,012	1,36,009
Tibet—									
Panjab	10,426	10,269	11,311	28,837	60,232	1,07,878	39,263	70,501	1,19,189
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	43,501	60,799	2,84,451	3,89,311	3,25,905	2,77,007	4,32,812	3,86,704	5,61,458
Bengal	6,83,408	3,13,784	2,57,527	8,20,490	2,71,971	2,71,945	15,03,898	5,85,755	5,29,472
Total	7,37,335	3,84,852	5,53,289	12,38,638	6,58,108	6,56,830	19,75,973	10,42,960	12,10,119
Nepal—									
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	35,05,942	45,27,903	34,02,603	10,92,058	8,78,748	10,38,558	45,98,000	54,06,651	44,41,161
Bengal	1,10,87,843	54,47,012	81,80,123	49,52,207	38,06,272	39,55,231	1,60,40,050	92,53,284	1,21,35,354
Total	1,45,93,785	99,74,915	1,15,82,726	60,44,265	46,85,020	49,93,789	2,06,38,050	1,46,59,935	1,65,76,515

LAND TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Total Value of Imports from, and **Exports** to, each country in the five months April to August of each year—*continued.*

Name of Country	Imports			Exports			Total		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sikkim—									
Bengal	3,30,559	2,73,144	3,86,249	3,47,498	3,68,891	3,67,293	6,78,057	6,42,035	7,53,542
Bhutan—									
Bengal	6,025	2,399	6,513	5,891	2,281	3,614	11,916	4,680	10,127
Eastern Bengal and Assam	20,757	18,659	12,324	38,967	48,390	13,005	59,724	67,049	25,329
Total	26,782	21,058	18,837	44,858	50,671	16,619	71,640	71,729	35,456
Towang—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	1,104	52	89		...	425	1,104	52	514
Nágá and Mishmi Hills—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	42,684	22,313	1,12,997	1,314	1,646	5,940	43,998	23,959	1,18,937
Duffla and Aka Hills—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	4,558	5,796	27,424	...	201	203	4,558	5,997	27,627
Western China—									
Burma	9,86,922	8,59,990	14,35,064	15,99,584	13,74,634	17,73,436	25,86,506	22,34,624	32,08,500
North Siam—									
Burma	8,85,437	13,99,015	10,68,406	10,78,813	12,98,972	10,27,601	19,64,250	26,97,987	20,96,007
South Siam—									
Burma	2,31,395	2,94,295	3,37,508	2,11,067	3,59,985	2,86,920	4,42,462	6,54,280	6,24,428
N. Shan States—									
Burma	32,68,033	43,34,931	49,91,041	29,87,421	28,86,009	28,41,462	62,55,454	72,20,940	78,32,503
S. Shan States—									
Burma	22,14,521	22,13,823	26,39,865	35,64,543	34,64,147	37,79,691	57,79,064	56,77,970	64,19,556
Karennee—									
Burma	6,02,692	8,65,159	10,19,024	4,66,907	7,67,943	4,77,380	10,69,599	16,33,102	14,96,404
GRAND TOTAL	2,93,28,751	2,59,30,894	2,95,13,208	2,90,95,421	2,71,15,924	2,78,25,074	5,84,24,172	5,30,46,818	5,73,38,282
Share of each Province in the total trade—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	25,31,963	24,49,844	28,67,458	29,32,365	26,87,184	30,49,578	54,64,328	51,37,028	59,17,036
North-West Frontier Province	28,70,981	28,31,077	24,73,111	84,17,094	84,20,965	83,90,243	1,12,88,075	1,12,52,042	1,08,63,354
Panjab	10,426	10,899	11,431	1,89,891	1,51,780	2,65,542	2,00,317	1,62,679	2,76,973
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	35,49,443	45,88,702	36,87,054	14,81,369	12,04,653	13,15,565	50,30,812	57,93,355	50,02,619
Bengal	1,21,07,835	60,36,339	88,30,412	61,26,086	44,49,415	45,98,083	1,82,33,921	1,04,85,754	1,34,28,495
Eastern Bengal and Assam	69,103	46,820	1,52,834	40,281	50,237	19,573	1,09,384	97,057	1,72,407
Burma	81,89,000	99,67,213	1,14,90,903	99,08,335	1,01,51,690	1,01,86,490	1,80,97,335	2,01,18,903	2,16,77,398
GRAND TOTAL	2,93,28,751	2,59,30,894	2,95,13,208	2,90,95,421	2,71,15,924	2,78,25,074	5,84,24,172	5,30,46,818	5,73,38,282

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 19th November, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	105,806
	Bombay	„	219,605
	Madras	„	128,690
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	10,000
	Bombay	„	7,231,106
	Madras	„	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	22,854,093
	Bombay	„	6,156,791
	Karachi	„	88,738
	Madras	„	268,834
	Rangoon	„	58,269

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	2,612,210
	Bombay	„	5,930,922
	Karachi	„	6,343,194
	Madras	„	190,233
	Rangoon	„	118,638

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	3,654,095
	Bombay	„	6,358,414
	Karachi	„	288,251
	Madras	„	402,699
	Rangoon	„	325,350

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	* ..
	Bombay	„	10,640
	Karachi	„	14,432
	Madras	„	4,549

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	539
	Coastwise	„	8,811
	By rail	„	189,699
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	63,083
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	* 14

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*741,081
Exports by sea from	Calcutta — Gunny bags	No.	7,847,245
	Calcutta — „ cloth	yds.	16,013,740
	Calcutta — Jute	cwt.	1,103,355
	Chittagong—Jute	„	77,836

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from	Bombay	cwt	3,848

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into	Calcutta	cwt.	* 72
	Bombay — By sea	„	...
	Bombay — Coastwise	„	291
	Bombay — By rail	„	10,660
	Karachi	By rail and river „	9,987
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	9,078
	Bombay	„	10,000
	Karachi	„	4,699

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into	Calcutta	cwt.	* 364
	Bombay — By sea	„	...
	Bombay — Coastwise	„	...
	Bombay — By rail	„	14,987
	Karachi	By rail and river „	139,388
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	557
	Bombay	„	36,581
	Karachi	„	17,935

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*88,996
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	107,464
	Chittagong	„	...
	Bombay	„	15,730
	Karachi	„	12,590
	Madras	„	13
	Rangoon	„	189,836

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*5,368,685
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	6,730,171
	Chittagong	„	2,901,599

WHEAT.

Imports into	Calcutta by rail and river	cwt.	*887
	Karachi by rail	„	345,483
	Bombay — By sea	„	...
	Bombay — Coastwise	„	3,812
	Bombay — By rail	„	54,279
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	46,777
	Bombay	„	45,532
	Karachi	„	180,365

* Incomplete.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta . . Cwt.	3,375,236	2,558,220	3,363,659	5,237,084	1,045,487	1,049,141	Not	reported.
Bombay . . „	2,599,624	1,678,759	1,978,907	2,841,412	1,413,600	2,533,526	6,015,417	12,921,203
Karachi . . „	13,985,124	14,992,611	...	10,045	2,957,010	4,557,366	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 19th NOVEMBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From all other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	7,916	502,038	509,954
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	...	...	...

Exports by sea from Burma to	Bengal	437,600
	E. B. & Assam	328,000
	Bombay	...
	Sind	...
	Madras	...
	Indian Ports, Non-Br.	...
	Foreign Ports	...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 19th NOVEMBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon	Total
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	108	...	22	6	41	16	193
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other European Countries	...	...	54	...	...	...	54
Java	328,343	...	13,338	80,874	...	29,016	451,571
Mauritius	...	...	46,032	2,372	...	...	48,404
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	357	...	...	49	406
						Total refined	500,628
						Total unrefined	...
						Grand Total	500,628

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 18th November. Packages.	Average price per lb.	Sold to 18th November. Packages.	Average price per lb.	Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 19th November. Packages.	Average price per lb.	Sold to 19th November. Packages.	Average price per lb.
		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.
Assam	8,332	7 4·3	142,978	7 4·1	6,368	6 10·2	124,078	7 5·9
Cachar	4,576	6 5·4	106,156	6 2·3	4,036	5 9·9	115,443	5 9·8
Sylhet	3,508	6 6·9	71,819	6 2·7	3,241	5 9·4	76,755	5 9·6
Darjeeling	1,154	10 1·8	60,217	9 4·8	1,625	9 11·8	53,386	9 11·8
Dooars	6,563	7 1·1	151,069	6 7·9	8,986	6 ·2	149,632	6 9·5
Terai	607	6 9·8	20,110	6 5·9	770	6 3·9	14,827	6 3·2
Chittagong	398	6 7·1	6,921	6 2·4	183	5 3·6	5,854	5 10·9
Chota-Nagpore	155	10 5	1,343	7 6·3	100	7 1	1,574	6 7·1
Kumaon and Kangra	...	...	2,966	6 4·3	85	4 9	2,695	5 8·3
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	90	6 2·3
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	5 9
Nepal	...	...	495	6 4·7	...	...	474	6 2·9
All other places	...	...	76	5 11	...	...	...	...
Total	25,293	7 1·6	564,193	6 11·6	25,394	6 8·3	544,896	6 10·6

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 29,198 packages Dust* sold to 18th November 5a. 9 p.

„ 1909-10 „ 28,028 „ „ „ 19th „ 5a. 6·7p.

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

WORLD'S COCOA TRADE.

THE United States Consul at Amsterdam reports that particulars about the world's production and consumption of cocoa for the first half of 1910 being available, the *Indische Mercuur* comments upon the prospects for the current year. Both as regards the production and the consumption of cocoa a normal increase is expected, with a proportional increase in the world's supply. According to the data obtainable, decreases and increases of cocoa production are noted, as compared with 1909, as follows:—

Decreases in—	Long tons.	Months.
Para (Brazil)	1,360	6
Ecuador	1,150	6½
Jamaica	1,000	5
Fernando Po (Spanish West African Island)	700	5
Cuba	350	5
Venezuela	250	6
Grenada (British West Indies)	150	6
TOTAL	4,960	

Increases in—	Long tons.	Months.
Sao Thome (Portuguese West African Island)	3,600	6
Accra (British West Africa)	2,500	4
Samana (Dominican Republic)	2,400	5
Trinidad (West Indies)	2,400	6
Bahia (Brazil)	1,300	6
Ceylon	800	5
Lagos (Africa)	450	4
TOTAL	13,450	

From the foregoing figures it will be seen that the world's production to date has increased by about 8,500 tons. This, however, cannot be taken as a standard for the total production during the year 1910, for the reason that the output in the first half-year always exceeds that in the second. It is estimated that the total world production for this year will amount to about 220,000 tons, including Dutch East Indies with 2,500 tons and Surinam (Dutch Guiana) with 2,000 tons. As compared with 1909 increases and decreases in the consumption of cocoa for the first part of this year are noted in the following countries:—

Increases in—	Tons.	Months.
Germany	1,900	6
Switzerland	750	3
Belgium	700	6
Russia	350	5
France	350	5
Austria-Hungary	300	5
Canada	150	4
TOTAL	4,500	

Decreases in—	Tons.	Months.
United States	6,300	5
Spain	1,200	5
Great Britain	850	6
Netherlands	150	6
TOTAL	8,500	

According to these figures, which show a decrease of 4,000 tons for the first half of 1910, the total consumption would decrease considerably, but on the contrary it is expected that the 1910 consumption will exceed that of 1909 by something like 14,000 tons as against 193,800 tons in 1909 and 164,600 tons in 1908. The world's production being estimated at 220,000 tons and the consumption at 208,000 tons, the world's supply will probably increase by about 12,000 tons. The supply amounted to 90,460 tons at the end of December, 1909, and will possibly amount to about 102,000 tons at the end of the current year.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

COMMERCIAL GUIDE (MONTHLY).

	Rate. Rs.	A.
Per annum	100	0
Per half-year	54	0
Per quarter	28	0
FOR LESS THAN 3 MONTHS:—		
To Subscribers per copy	8	0
To Non-Subscribers "	10	0
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR:—		
Abroad per copy	5	0
In India "	2	8

WEEKLY MANIFEST.

First copy per annum	100	0
" " " half-year	54	0
" " " quarter	28	0
Additional copy per annum	20	0
" " " half-year	12	0
" " " quarter	8	0
FOR LESS THAN 3 MONTHS:—		
To Subscribers per copy	1	0
To Non-Subscribers "	2	0
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR:—		
Abroad per copy	5	0
In India "	3	8

DAILY LISTS—IMPORTS OR EXPORTS (separately).

One copy of either per annum	65	0
" " " " " half-year	35	0
" " " " " quarter	20	0
For less than 3 months whether to Subscribers or Non-Subscribers, annas 5 per copy		
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR:—		
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
In India One copy despatched daily	20	0
In India - One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1	0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6	0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4	12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0	6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY. REGISTERED.

The Indian Trade Journal.

Issued by the Commercial Intelligence Department, India.

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Wednesday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	6 per cent. (Nov. 3).
	Bombay	6 per cent. (Nov. 17).
	Madras	6 per cent. (Nov. 18).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 5/16
	6 months	1-4 7/16

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 94-3.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 26th November was Rs. 29-4-0 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 29th November was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia-Bhawnagar cotton**, November delivery, Rs. 303 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **wholesale spot prices** of the undermentioned articles in Calcutta on the 30th ultimo were as under:—

Jute—C. D. M. and Co. (Red) Group per 400 lbs.	Rs.	57	0 0
" M. per 400 lbs.	"	47	0 0
Rice—Ballam No. 1 per B. md.	"	4	6 0
" Moonghy "		*Nil.*	
Linseed—Bold 4% per B. md.		*Nil.*	
Rapeseed—Yellow, mixed, bold, Cawnpore, 4% per B. md.		*Nil.*	

The total approximate gross **earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 12th November, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,73,94,460 and Rs. 3,07,60,056 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09 respectively.

Sanction has been accorded to a survey being made for a steam tramway on the 2′ 6″ gauge at Aden for Tawahi *viâ* Maala to the Crater, with a branch from Maala to Sheik Othman, a distance of about 12 miles. The survey will be known as the **Aden Tramway Survey.**

A final dividend of three per cent, and a bonus of one per cent, has been declared by the directors of the **Delhi, Umballa, Kalka Railway Company** making seven per cent for the year ended June 30th. In his observations to the proprietors of the **Nizam's Guaranteed State Railways** at the general meeting held on November 8th, Mr. C. A. Winter said the figures showed a most satisfactory condition of affairs. The increase in the gross earnings brought the total figure up to a record for any previous half year. The coaching traffic showed an increase, due to a higher fare for the third class up to a distance of fifty miles. The increase made amounted to one-half pie per mile. It was found that the company was charging less than other railways for the like service, and there was no reason why they should continue to make the lower charge. The higher fare had not decreased the number of passengers carried, but had considerably increased the receipts. As to the expenditure there was no extravagance in the working expenses, but until certain works were completed the shareholders must not expect a decrease in the expenditure. The surplus profits divisible between the company and the Government amounted to £10,142. The company received one-half of this sum, which they carried to the credit of surplus earnings, the other half being paid to the Government. The metre gauge line had suffered in one part very severely from the monsoon rains, which had resulted in a lamentable accident, under which three of their servants lost their lives. As to the outlook, they had splendid accounts of the monsoon and of the crops, and they expected that they would have as good, if not better, crops than last year. The report was adopted.

The Alexandria General Produce Association's estimate of the **Egyptian cotton crop** at 7,000,000 cantars (cantar=99·05 lbs.) has drawn renewed attention to Egyptian land shares, for it is anticipated that when the profits of this large crop begin to be realised, the Egyptians, who are born gamblers, may initiate a considerable bull speculation in land. Last year, in anticipation of a good cotton crop, there was an active business in the shares of most Egyptian undertakings, and prices rose appreciably only to fall back when it was found that the optimistic views about the cotton crop were unjustified. For some time past prices have been gradually rising, though the movement was checked by the legislation of the Egyptian Government against dealings for the account in shares of less than 40 francs denomination, for most of the companies quoted in London have £1 shares. With a few exceptions there seems little to encourage investment in Egyptian land shares, most of which have not paid a dividend for some time past, but the belief appears to be held that the gathering of what may be the most valuable cotton crop on record will stimulate dealings in land, and that the operations of native speculators may carry up prices of the land shares irrespective of intrinsic merits.

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales** of **cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 44 weeks ended 3rd November, 1910 :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 3rd Nov., 1910.	44 weeks ended 3rd Nov., 1910.	Week ended 3rd Nov., 1910.	44 weeks ended 3rd Nov., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American . .	94 602	1,782.951	7,875	189,404
Brazilian . .	6,619	55.819	205	3,188
East Indian . .	1,425	187,072	200	42.491
Egyptian . .	19,577	228.402	2,136	54,920
Miscellaneous .	3,392*	108.029†	22	7,183
Total .	125,615	2,362,273	10,438	297,186

* Including 35 bales British West African.

† Including 6,191 bales British West Indian, 6,673 bales British West African, 13,325 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

Note.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

The *Manchester Guardian* of November 10th writes:—There have been a good many rumours lately on the Manchester Exhange and elsewhere about Messrs. Neill Brothers' cotton crop estimate, and on November 9th this was published. They estimate the **American cotton crop** at 11,600,000 bales, which would be about a million bales more than last season's but nearly two and a quarter million bales less than that of 1908-09. There can be no doubt that if Messrs. Neill are right—and for some years now their estimate has been remarkably accurate—the cotton trades of Lancashire and the world have a difficult year before them. The American and Egyptian crops last season were abnormally small, and the stock of cotton is low; we want a big crop, and, with the biggest acreage on record and the knowledge that for six or seven seasons large and small crops have alternated, it seemed likely that we should get it. Messrs. Neill give three causes for the comparatively small yield which they predict. There was a long drought in Texas, the crop was a late one and so has suffered from the recent frosts, and outside Texas "there set in a mysterious deterioration in the condition of the plant." This last may seem to be an elusive kind of cause, but probably those who are best acquainted with agriculture know how much must be left unexplained when all obvious conditions are taken into account. Messrs. Neill make a reasonable calculation that if all the spindles of the world ordinarily using American cotton should work full time they would want 13,550,000 bales in the year, or nearly 2,000,000 bales more than the estimated supply. It seems, however, that this millennium of full time everywhere is not likely to be reached for some years, and if it were we should soon be over-supplied with cotton goods. It is likely enough now that cotton prices will remain very high even if, as we should like to hope, Messrs. Neill have underestimated. Perhaps some comfort may be derived from the **ginning report** of the United States Census Bureau, which was also issued on November 9th. It would not be safe to draw conclusions from it, but it appears that though the ginning up to November 1st was a long way behind that of two years ago, when the crop was a huge one, it was well ahead of last year's and is proceeding at a greater rate than either. We may remember, too, that the prospects of the Indian and Egyptian crops are very good, and that these may relieve the American crop at both the lower and the upper end. More or less of short time is inevitable, and it is just a question of policy whether this should be organised or free. At present there is no need of either, for the mills are doing better than for some time past.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market** dated the 3rd ultimo, Messrs, Noël, Murray and Co., Ld., say :—The market for **Indian yarn** has ruled very quiet during the interval as might have been expected, and only a scratch business has taken place from first hands the bulk consisting of one line of a favourite spinning of No. 16s. There is quite a steady feeling and now the settlement day is over it is likely a better demand will set in. The total transactions amount to only 780 bales as under, though it is said middlemen have resold 4,000 bales to Szechuen. No. 6s. 5 bales; James Greaves Mill Cow Chop $90·00. No. 10s bales,; Sarasvati Mill (Gold Grape) $99·00. No. 16s. 500 bales; E. D. Sasson Mill Drum and Bell $113·00. No. 20s. 175 bales; Ripon (Mule) $111·50. Brightness Chop and Brightness Garden Chop $114·00 and Imperial Mill $114·50.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 8th ultimo :—*United States of America*—Further complaints dryness and Hessian fly in Winter wheat belt, and some damage claimed; reports generally indicate crop favourable condition. Receipts smaller, stocks increased very little. *Canada*—Receipts at Winnipeg smaller, also shipments from lake ports; stocks fair increase. *Argentina*—Further good general rains reported, general crop outlook very favourable, and wheat prospects said improved. *Australia*—Further beneficial rains reported. *India*—Conditions for seeding new crops perfect, and increased acreage under wheat expected. *Russia*—Weather southern belt mild and favourable for seeding. Arrivals rather larger, stocks large. *Roumania*—Reported wheat acreage considerably less than last year's. Wheat arrivals at ports small. *Hungary*—Rains improved crop prospects. *France*—Rains delaying seedings. *Italy* and *Asia Minor*—Crop reports favourable. *Germany*—Some complaints drought and vermin; supplies native wheat larger. *United Kingdom*—Seedings fair; latest threshing results poorish. *North Africa*—Renewed complaints of drought.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 5th November, 1910, were as follows :—Wheat, 30*s.* 4*d.*; barley, 25*s.* 6*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 2*d.*

The **tonnage of vessels** entered at ports in the **United Kingdom** from foreign countries and British possessions with cargoes during October, 1910, amounted to 3,844,914 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 5,013,566 tons, as against 3,424,924 tons entered, and 5,091.995 tons cleared, during October, 1909. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during October, 1910, amounted to 2,694,354 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,673,933 tons, as against 2,584.080 tons entered, and 2,560,505 tons cleared, in October, 1909. The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions with cargoes during the ten months ended October, 1910, amounted to 34.742,937 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 47,880,124 tons, as against 33,301,079 tons entered and 47,508,984 tons cleared during the ten months ended October, 1909. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the ten months ended October, 1910, amounted to 26,627,233 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 26,331,284 tons, as against 26,167,209 tons entered, and 25,750,132 tons cleared, during the corresponding period of 1909.

In its issue of November 8th the *Manchester Guardian* says :—The **standard copper market** was steadily gaining strength during last week. The movement was certainly slow, but this may be taken as a proof of its solidity. That £60 for standard copper will be reached soon does not now appear at all improbable : but it may be doubted whether the price could, with safety, be taken much higher while stocks remain so large. The figures at the

end of the month are as favourable as could be expected. The visible supply, according to one good authority, is down some 4,000 tons in a fortnight, and 5,500 tons in the month. A point to be considered in estimating the chances of the future is that the improvement which has recently taken place is independent of share market influences, these having been on the whole rather against the copper market than in favour of it. The market is now waiting for the next issue of the American figures, and if, as is thought likely, these are good and come up to expectation, the price of copper can scarcely fail to rise again. There is no doubt that the engineering and electrical trades of this country are gradually getting better, although the process is slow, and is hindered by the labour disturbances. Things are preparing for more active trade, and a rapid movement might easily be brought about were the industrial troubles cleared out of the way. In the northern half of the kingdom confidence in the copper market grows very slowly, and consumers are not yet buying with any freedom.

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal*, writing on November 3rd regarding the **Hull oil market**, says:—**Rape oils:** Jamba, 26*s.* 9*d.* **Soy oil,** 31*s.* 9*d.* **Linseed oil;** the market is steady, inactive, with spot at 43*s.*, November-December, 43*s.*, January-April, 40*s.* 9*d.* The exports for the week amounted to 140 tons, of which America took 35, Australia 94, Denmark 1, Norway 10. **Cottonseed oil:**—The market is quiet, with refined cotton oil at 28*s.* 6*d.* spot, 28*s.* 6*d.* November-April; crude cotton oil, 27*s.* 1½*d.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 289 tons, of which America took 119, Belgium 25, Germany 77, Holland 58, Sweden 10 tons each. **Lard oil** steady, unchanged at 60*s.* per cwt. for best English refined. **Olive oil,** quiet; Spanish for shipment £56, and Candia £54 to £54 10*s.* **Cocoanut oil** continues steady for England at £42 to £42 10*s.* per ton. **Castor oil** quiet and steady at 3 7/16*d.* to 3½*d.* per lb, for Calcutta spot on forward. **Petroleum** slow, Russian 6*d.*; and American 5½*d.* to 6½*d.* per gallon. **Turpentine** weaker, spot and November-December 56*s.*, and January-April 57*s.* per cwt.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows:—

For the week ending 26th November, 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 3,200; 3,175; 3,150; 3,170; 3,200; 3,250; 3,250.

Benares opium—Rs. 3,150; 3,125; 3,100; 3,120; 3,150; 3,200; 3,200.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 12th sale of 1910 were Rs. 3,205; 3,180; 3,155; 3,175; 3,205; 3,255; 3,255.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange, Rs. 138¼ to 139 per $100).

Behar opium—$2,350; 2,325; 2,325; 2,300; 2,340 and 2,350; 2,340; 2,340.

Benares opium—$2,300; 2,275; 2,325.

At Shanghai—(Exchange, Rs. 186½ per 100 Taels).

Behar opium—On the 24th instant Taels 1,730.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

For the week ending 19th November, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

On the 13th and 14th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 3,060; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,500 to 3,081. From 15th to 19th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,985; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,500 to 3,100.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 3,284 and 3,307; (old) Rs. 3,354 and 3,402, respectively.

The authorities of Gwalior have recently, as a result of the diminution of the opium traffic, been paying a great deal of attention to new commercial and agricultural enterprises, and in furtherance of this object have started the *Gwalior Commercial Journal*, a monthly publication which is well compiled, neatly printed and a creditable production to those responsible for it. It affords another indication of the progress of the movement among the more enlightened Native States to take part in the systematic recording and dissemination of information relating to trade and industry.

It appears from the Administration Report of the **Karachi Port Trust** for 1909-10 that the revenue from principal sources was Rs. 32,87,242 compared with Rs. 25,45,648 in the previous year; that the revenue derived from wharves at Keamari totalled Rs. 20,59,796 against Rs. 13,91,852 in 1908-09; and that revenue expenditure was Rs. 28,44,886 as compared with Rs. 23,49,571 in the preceding year. The amount spent on various works up to 31st March last under the 45 lakh loan scheme is Rs. 41,37,018. During the year under report a 50 lakh loan was raised and the amount spent on various works under this scheme up to 31st March last is Rs. 20,96,423. The Committee on **Grain Elevators** appointed by the Government of India, whose report was recently issued, is again referred to as the "North-Western Railway Committee on Elevators" and the only comment made on the publication of the report is that "the Trustees found nothing in it calculated to induce a reconsideration of their present policy."

The *Manchester Guardian* points out that the October *Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics*, published by the International Institute of Agriculture, which has its headquarters at Rome, indicates the progress which is being made by the Institute. The official bulletin is published in French, but it is translated into English, German, Italian, and Spanish, and disseminated in the various countries. It is becoming to an increasing extent the vehicle of statistical information which is intended ultimately to give a full account at certain seasons of the condition and prospects of the **crops of the world,** as well as of the actual yields. The collection of such information will, it is fairly argued, make for stability of prices and conditions, and should be a check to the kind of speculation which depends on the ignorance of outside speculators. As an example of the progress that is being made, it is noted that the returns for wheat, which in the July *Bulletin* were given for six countries, are given for twenty in October. The method of the Institute is to reduce the data to the "single numerical statement in percentage form" as employed by the United States Department of Agriculture. The example given is as follows:—"Taking 100 as a 'fair average crop' of a given staple, if the Institute should report 100 for the adhering countries it would signify that the world has a fair average crop; if the Institute should report 102 it would signify that the world's crop is 2 per cent above the average," etc. As a matter of fact, the percentages given in the October *Bulletin* refer to the actual crop of the previous season, and not to an average crop, and it is, of course, well known in Lancashire that the condition percentages of the growing cotton crop given by the United States Government refer to an ideal which is never reached. The important point is, however, that the Governments of the chief countries appear to be entering with a sufficiency of zest upon this great task of supplying and collating information which should be of prime interest to the various communities.

In their report on the **Australian wool sales** dated Melbourne, November 3rd, Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort & Co., Ld., say:—We held our fifth of the series to-day, owing to Tuesday having become a recognised holiday in the trade, when we brought forward a catalogue of 4,865 bales, and disposed of 4,758, including private sales. The catalogue was largely composed of Riverina wools, but the smaller clips from the Wimmera and Western and North-Eastern districts are commencing to figure more prominently, and if the condition of those offering to-day from the two first named districts can be taken as a sample of the whole, they promise to be very attractive this season. The attention paid to them was quite the feature of the sale, and the prices realised cannot fail to be highly satisfactory to growers. The top price of the sale and season to date was achieved by a showy little parcel from near Horsham, soft and silky, marked TM/M, 5 bales of which realise 14½*d.* Many of the small clips from this State made 12*d.* and over, and to-day's sale afforded good proof, that no matter how small the lots may be, when well got up and showing good quality and character, they will realise prices quite on a par with the bigger clips.

In the larger clips, W/Tulla, from Deniliquin, sold to 12½*d.*, while in crossbreds Moroco/E, from Deniliquin, realised 13½*d.*, the Moroco/West making 12¾*d.* As compared with last week's sales, the market for all good wools, when showing length of staples and soundness, as well as really fine-haired merinoes, can be quoted at ½*d.* better. Comebacks and crossbred of all descriptions were very keenly sought after, at prices which ruled in sellers' favour. Competition was widely distributed, the French section being particularly active, while the Home buyers showed a bolder front than they have so far exhibited. The whole tone of the sale was most encouraging, and values all round represent quite the highest level of the series to date.

The following is a return of the silk conditioned at Milan and other European silk centres during the nine months, January to September, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of 1909, as published by the *Bollettino di Sericoltura* (Milan):—

Silk Centres.	January to September.				
	Organzine.		Tram.		Raw.
	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.
	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
Milan . .	1,062,270	1,175,545	869,200	1,004,255	5,242,970
Lyons . .	714,730	812,929	934,364	898,564	3,886,587
Zurich . .	420,983	433,166	399,041	428,602	277,065
Crefeld .	181,583	202,130	118,844	112,175	95,731
Basle . .	263,263	270,269	140,104	138,659	135,300
Turin . .	174,164	196,655	8,159	8,531	207,887
Elberfeld .	255,231	275,834	111,706	134,086	162,120

Silk Centres.	January to September.				
	Raw.	Other.		Total.	
	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.
	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
Milan . .	5,076,535	422,595	146,605	7,597,035	7,341,940
Lyons . .	4,292,337	96,462	135,305	5,632,143	6,139,135
Zurich . .	264,054	—	—	1,097,089	1,125,822
Crefeld .	92,835	14,156	13,314	410,314	425,484
Basle . .	115,129	587	2,539	539,254	526,596
Turin . .	185,643	10,214	9,567	400,424	394,396
Elberfeld .	160,633	—	—	529,057	570,553

Correspondents applying to the Commercial Intelligence Department for information should address their **letters** simply to the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence. Letters addressed to an officer by name are sometimes forwarded to him on tour with the result that delay occurs.

In his message at the opening of the **Cuban Congress** on November 7th, President Gomez declared that the old **tariff** was obsolete, and that there was a growing demand for its revision on Protectionist lines.

In 1904 the Government of India sanctioned a **drawback of Customs duty on tobacco and silver re-exported from Burma to China** *viâ* Bhamo and Tengyueh; but as the new duties on tobacco and silver may induce re-imports of those commodities from China the drawback concession has, on the recommendation of the Government of Burma, been **withdrawn.**

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a slight disturbance in Kashmir. Rainfall has diminished in the south of the Peninsula, but light falls are reported from Cochin and Travancore. Elsewhere dry conditions prevail. During the week a heavy storm is reported to have taken place in Aleppy, with some damage to property.

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 21st November, 1910:—Dr. E. D. Pyzel, Roemer Visscherstraat, 38, Amsterdam, Netherlands—An improved process for the treatment of paraffin. Bell Gas Saver Co., Ld., 85, Great College Street, London—Improvements in or relating to means for governing and regulating pressure of gas or supply of gas, either with or without an indicator. I. F. Taylor, Engineer, 5, Upland Road, London, and S. Pick, wholesale furrier, 117, Queen Victoria Street, London—Improvements in cranes. F. Watzlawik, 1 Helmstrasse, Schoneberg, Germany—A process of and apparatus for automatically discharging full spools for spinning and twisting or doubling machines. W. A. P. Cosserat, District Engineer of Signals, Bengal Nagpur Railway—A new or improved switch lock for succession locking. E. W. Potter, Engineer, St. Andrew's Colonial Homes, Kalimpong—An improved adjustable back-rail for use in the process of weaving cloth in a handloom. C. O. Manuel, Works Manager, Burma Oil Company, Budge Budge—Improvements in dies for stamping and flanging sheet metal. J. A. Farmer, farmer, Barton Farm, Siddington, England—Improvements relating to refrigerating apparatus. A. A. A. Zimmer, gentleman, 29, Harthan Road, London—Improved process for waterproofing starched linen and like articles and giving them a permanent glazed washable surface. P. C. Chatterjee, 3-1, Rani Shankari Lane, Kalighat, Calcutta—An automatic fly shuttle loom. Firm Ernest Gideon Bek, manufacturers, No. 7 Schwarzualdstrasse, Pforzheim, Germany—Improvements in and relating, to ornaments. A Smith, Managing Director, George Hattersley and Sons, Ld., machine makers, North Brook Works, Keighley, England—Improved loom. M. H. Oldfield, District Locomotive Superintendent, Bengal Nagpur Railway, Nagpur—Improvements in attachments for use with screw or other types of lifting jacks. B. C. Dass, Iron Workshop Proprietor, 11-1, Annoda Prosad Bannerjee's Lane, South Bantra, Howrah—An improved baling press for jute and such like. K. C. Banerjee, Consulting Engineer, 24, Sankaripara Road, Bhowanipur, Calcutta—A machine for utilizing wave power of the sea.

NOTICES.

INDIAN CROP FORECASTS.

SEASON 1910-11.

Dates of Publication.

The following are the dates on which the General Memoranda on crops of the season 1910-11 are expected to be (or were) published in the *Indian Trade Journal* :—

Rice—			
First memorandum	October	27,	1910
Second „	December	22,	„
Final „	February	23,	1911
Wheat—			
First memorandum	December	29,	1910
Second „	March	16,	1911
Final „	June	1,	„
Cotton—			
First memorandum	August	18,	1910
Second „	October	20,	„
Third „	December	15,	„
Final „	February	16,	1911
Linseed, Rape and Mustard (Spring oilseeds)—			
First memorandum	December	29,	1910
Second „	March	16,	1911
Final „	June	1,	„
Sesamum—			
First memorandum	September	1,	1910
Second „	October	27,	„
Final „	January	19,	1911
Supplementary memorandum	April	27,	„
Groundnut—			
First memorandum	October	27,	1910
Final „	February	16,	1911
Indigo—			
First memorandum	October	20,	1910
Final „	December	22,	„
Sugarcane—			
First memorandum	August	25,	1910
Second „	October	27,	„
Final „	February	23,	1911

Municipal Rat Destruction.

Municipal bodies who have undertaken the systematic destruction of rats are requested to communicate with the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, furnishing an approximate estimate of the number destroyed daily.

CALLS FOR TENDERS.

Gunnies, Oil, Timber, etc.

The Superintendent of the Cossipore Gun and Shell Factory is calling for tenders up to the 13th instant for the supply of gunnies and gunny bags, oil, timber and other miscellaneous stores.

The Superintendent of the Cossipore Rifle Factory is also calling for tenders up to the 5th instant for the supply of petty stores such as castor, cocoanut, linseed and kerosene oil, sulphuric acid, tallow, etc.

The Superintendent of Ammunition Factory, Kirkee, is calling for tenders up to the 9th proximo for the supply of petty stores, such as kerosene, teak wood, and so forth.

The Divisional Supply and Transport Officer, Lucknow, is calling for tenders for the supply of firewood and charcoal.

Provisions for Native Troops.

The Divisional Supply and Transport Officer, 8th(Lucknow) Division, Lucknow, is calling for tenders up to the dates noted below for the supply of provisions for Native troops and followers at the undermentioned stations from 1st April, 1911, to 31st March, 1912 :—Shillong, Dibrugarh and Sadya, 4th January 1911, Kohima and Mainpore 6th January 1911.

ENQUIRIES.

(*For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Olive Street, Calcutta.*

An asterisk (*) *preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.*)

Tin Boxes.

(810).—A correspondent requires the addresses of firms in India and England manufacturing tin boxes, especially tooth powder boxes.

Rice, Gunnies, etc.

***(811).**—A South African correspondent desires to be placed in communication with exporters of rice, gunnies, etc., with a view to a commission agency business in Rhodesia.

Stoves.

(812).—A British firm desires to be placed in communication with likely buyers in Bombay and Madras of interior and other warming or heating stoves or grates.

Indian Products.

***(813).**—A Hamburg firm desires to be placed in communication with Calcutta exporters of Indian products who are not already represented in the interior of Germany and Austria.

Milled Bone-meal and Poonacs.

(814).—A Tellicherry concern desires to be placed in communication with sellers of milled bone-meal and milled poonacs.

Cutch.

(815).—A Glasgow company desires to be placed in touch with manufacturers of cutch in Burma.

Rat Skins for Sale.

(816).—A Municipality in the United Provinces, which destroys 800 rats per diem, desires to find buyers for the skins.

Assafoetida, Chillies and Barberies.

(817).—A firm in Lahore desires to be placed in communication with importers in Ceylon and Japan of Indian produce, particularly assafoetida, chillies and barberies.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

The following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 7th December, 1910 :—

Parliamentary Publications.

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom, for each month during the year 1910—October 1910. Colonial Reports—Annual—No. 658—Grenada—Report for 1909.

Colonial and Foreign Publications.

Australia—Statistical Register of the State of Victoria for the year 1909 - Part IV—Accumulation; Part VI—Municipal Statistics for 1909. Board of Trade, London - Hand Book to the Commercial Intelligence Branch. Canada—Statistiques Mensuelle—Octobre 1910; Weekly Report, October 10th, 1910. France—Documents Statistiques dur le Commerce de la France—Aout 1910. Italy—Institut International D'Agriculture—Catalogue de la Bibliotheque—Annee 1909; Statistica del Commercio Speciale-Settembre 1910. Netherlands—Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland—Justitieele Statistiek—over het Jaar 1909. Norway—Faengselsstyrelsens Aarbok 1906. New South Wales—Monthly Statistical Bulletin—September, 1910. Queensland—Statistics of the State of—for the year 1909. Russia—Commerce Exterieur de la Russie—par la Frontiere d'Europe—1 Janvier 1 Septembre 1910. Straits Settlements—Return of Imports and Exports for the Qurater ended 30th September, 1910. United States—Quarterly Publications of the American Statistical Association—New Series, No. 91—Vol. XII—September, 1910.

Indian Publications.

Bengal Gazetteers—Feudatory States of Orissa, Vol. XXI. Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for the year 1909-10.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "Indian Trade Journal" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

Correspondence regarding advertisements in the "Indian Trade Journal" should be addressed to Reuter's Telegram Co., Ld., but all advertisements, blocks, etc., must be approved by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence before insertion.

Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

A full index is published as a quarterly supplement and should be filed for reference.

The annual rates of subscription to the "Indian Trade Journal" including quarterly index, are Indian, without postage Rs. 12 : with postage, Rs 13 ; Foreign, Rs. 18. Single copies, 4 annas.

Subscribers and advertisers in the United Kingdom may remit either through a bank or by money order. For the purpose of postal remittances, one penny should be taken as the equivalent of one anna, and 1s. 4d. as the equivalent of one rupee.

Back numbers, when available, may be had at a cost of Re. 1, for any number more than a week old.

The Indian agents of the "Indian Trade Journal" are :—Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., and Newman & Co., Calcutta ; D. B. Taraporevala, Sons & Co., Bombay ; Higginbotham & Co., G. A. Natesan & Co., and Kalyanarama Iyer & Co., Madras ; Thacker, Spink & Co., Simla ; Rai Sahib M. Gulab Singh & Sons, Lahore ; and A. M. & J. Ferguson, Ceylon.

The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1910.

CASSAVA EXPERIMENTS IN THE PUNJAB.

Some instructive information regarding the prospects of cassava cultivation in the Punjab is given in the Annual Report of the Lyallpur Agricultural Station for the year 1909-10. For some time back a great deal has been written on the possibilities of cassava as a famine crop in the Punjab, and it was resolved in 1908 to give it a trial. The plant is reported to be drought resistant to a very great extent, and to produce a very large amount of nutritive matter per acre. Its fresh roots are recorded to contain 30 to 40 per cent of starch and may be used as cattle food, while the starch makes an excellent human food. This in the refined state comes into the market as the well known tapioca. It is said that in Travancore an average of 20,000 pounds of fresh roots is got per acre, and sells at 9 to 10 pounds approximately per anna. The fresh roots ferment and become useless very quickly, but, if they are not fed to animals at once or the starch is not immediately extracted, they may be preserved by cutting them into slices half an inch thick and drying them in the sun. These dried slices can be stored for a long time in a dry place without deterioration. In Travancore, cassava may be planted at any time of the year, although they have there two main seasons for the crop—one crop being planted in March and harvested in October and November ; the other being planted in October and harvested in April and May. From a few cassava sets that were obtained and planted at Lyallpur in August, 1908, it was discovered, however, that it was useless to plant cassavas in the later season in the Punjab as the winter frosts killed out the plants before they had more than begun to store starch in their roots. This happened in spite of the fact that they were artificially sheltered from frost. It was also discovered that white ants attacked the young sets viciously before they became firmly established, and that those plants that did survive did best on a rich soil. It was thought that the bitter varieties might be less liable to attacks from white ants, so, to give the crop a fair trial in the Punjab, cuttings of both sweet and bitter varieties were obtained from Titabar, Pusa, Travancore, Eastern Bengal and Assam, Ceylon and Brisbane in the end of February, 1909, and were planted at Lyallpur, Ambala, Dharuhera and Pathankot in early March of the same year. The places at which the sets were planted were chosen as being more or less convenient and representing to some extent the different conditions of climate, etc., in the province. Each of the consignments of cassava cuttings was divided into four parts, and a part was planted at each station. An Agricultural Assistant from Travancore was obtained to see the sets planted.

At Lyallpur, a plot of rich medium loam was chosen and was well cultivated before the sets were put in. Planting throughout the plot was done on the flat system. In spite of every care white ants were eventually responsible for the death of about 70 per cent of the plants. Most of these were destroyed before the sets sprouted, but a good many succumbed to the ravages of these insects even after they had made new growth. Those plants that did survive grew vigorously, eventually crowding each other closely and reaching a height of 8 to 10 feet. The outturn of fresh roots calculated on the plants actually harvested was higher in Lyallpur than in any of the other stations excepting on one plot at Pathankot, but they seemed to contain a less percentage of starch than those from Rewari and Gurdaspur, although they appeared better than those from Ambala. The plants were harvested during the last week of December, 1909, and appeared to be in perfect health up to that time.

At Ambala three plots were put down, and each of the consignments of cassava cuttings set apart for Ambala were subdivided into three equal portions, so that each variety was tried on each plot. Plot *A* received moderate waterings as for any ordinary crop. This was intended to show whether cassava would grow under ordinary agricultural conditions in that climate. Plot *B* received one watering only. This was given just after planting the sets and was intended to show whether a crop of cassava would be grown in that district if a damp seed-bed is obtained in early spring. Plot *C* received no water at all. This was intended to show whether the extraordinary claims sometimes made for the plant as a drought register are justified. Before planting, some of them were dipped in a strong solution of sanitary fluid and others had wood ashes incorporated with the earth around them as a protection against white ants. In spite of all precautions white ants again did a lot of damage. As at Lyallpur, the plants that survived looked very healthy, and ultimately reached a height of 8-9 feet. Plots *B* and *C* practically failed. Very curiously, however, a few plants survived in both plots *B* and *C*, and these grew to about the same height and looked just as healthy as those of plot *A*. A few plants were left unharvested throughout the winter to show whether they would stand winter frosts. These plants lost their leaves, but started growing vigorously again in the spring.

In Rewari three plots, *A*, *B* and *C*, were laid down exactly as at Ambala and were intended to throw light on the same points. There was again the trouble with white ants, and again the plants that survived appeared in very robust health. In this case plot *C* failed altogether, but the plants harvested in plot *B* yielded a crop of fresh roots equal to 3,189 pounds per acre. Plot *A* was very disappointing, yielding a crop only equal to 4,697 pounds per acre. The roots appeared to contain a much higher percentage of starch than those from any of the other stations. A few plants were left standing throughout the winter, as at Ambala. They lost their leaves during winter, but started growing again in the spring.

At Pathankot a very large percentage of sets succumbed to the ravages of white ants. The sets that survived grew vigorously and reached heights up to 9 feet, one of them yielding 10,978 lbs. per acre.

The conclusions reached are : (*i*) Cassava must be planted in the Punjab as soon as the winter frosts are over, (*ii*) With a fair supply of water the plant above ground will grow vigorously in the Punjab. The outturn of roots obtained so far are very much below what is usually reported as a normal crop. (*iii*) White ants are so destructive on cassavas between the time the sets are planted and the time they become firmly established, that it is useless to put in a crop without special protection against these insects. For this reason alone cassava cannot be recommended to cultivators at present.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

The *Board of Trade Journal* published on the 10th ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations gives particulars about :—

Spain.—Revision of the Valuations on which the Spanish Import Duties are based. (Proposed.)

Commonwealth of Australia.—Commerce Decision. Drawbacks. Free Importation of Tools.

South Australia.—Importation of Explosives.

Barbados.—Trade Act, 1910.

Egypt.—Revised Valuation Tariff for Cotton Yarns.

Belgium.—Conversion of the *Ad Valorem* Duty on Matches into Specific Rates.

Italy.—Regulations respecting Margarine Cheese. Importation of Bovine Animals from Tunis, etc.

Roumania.—List of Machines Dutiable as Agricultural Machines.

Greece.—Consumption Tax on Gunpowder contained in Fuses for Mines.

Morocco.—Export Duty on Pigs.

Colombia.—Abolition of Export Duties on Cattle and Rubber.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, Nov. 29th.

The following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 28th ultimo:—

The weather is seasonable and dry.

The plucking of tea is nearly finished.

Ploughing for and sowing of *rabi* crops continue.

The harvesting of winter rice is progressing.

The prospects of standing crops are good on the whole, though damage by insects is reported from some districts.

The average price of common rice has fallen about two per cent since last week.

Cattle disease is reported in Goalpara, Nowgong and the Garo Hills.

JOINT STOCK COMPANY LEGISLATION.

Views of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce.

THE Secretary of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce has addressed the following letter to the Secretary to Government, United Provinces, Judicial (Civil) Department, Allahabad :—

I am directed to reply to your demi-official communication No. 162 of the 15th July last, on the subject of the present conditions of the law providing for the registration and control of Joint Stock Companies in this country. I have in the first place to convey an expression of the Committee's regret at the length of time which has been allowed to elapse in responding to your communication. In regard to the question of the adoption of the English Statute in India, which is at present under consideration by the Government of India, you point out that this may not in itself provide sufficient safeguards in the case of a country where the investing public has not always the inherent capacity to distinguish undertakings which are fundamentally unsound ; and you suggest that even more powerful protective measures may be desirable in the interests of the sound industrial development of the country.

You invite the Chamber to express an opinion upon certain specific points relating to the existing law and machinery, with special application to these Provinces, and in submitting the following replies I am directed to explain that the Committee have had the advantage of studying the report of a special Sub-Committee appointed to investigate the subject, and that in some respects its recommendations and opinions have prompted the Committee to modify the views conveyed in the Chamber's communication to you of the 3rd February last.

The Committee are of opinion, after careful consideration, that the machinery of the English law relating to the management and administration of Companies is far too elaborate for application to Indian conditions, and if adopted in its entirety, the Act would in many essentials remain a dead letter. Some of its provisions might, however, it is thought with advantage be employed for the improvement of the Indian Act and we may be ready in course of time for the entire adoption of the English Act and the amendments which will probably be rendered necessary during the next few years.

Question No. 1.—"As the law at present stands any seven or more persons may by subscribing their names to a memorandum of association and by a further compliance with the provisions of Act VI of 1882 (such compliance not involving them necessarily in any immediate payment) obtain the legal recognition of themselves as an incorporated company, provided that they are ostensibly associated together for a lawful purpose. The registering officer is not permitted to refuse registration or to demand security, even if he has good reason to apprehend that the association proposed to be registered is never likely to make a profit, that the associated members are a collection of rogues or fools (or both), or that the company has been started to attract dupes. Do you consider this is a satisfactory state of affairs ?"

The present condition of affairs is not regarded as satisfactory.

Question No. 2.—"The fact that a company is registered may, and frequently does, cause ignorant people in India to believe that there must be something genuine in its management. The facilities given to the registration of any associations undoubtedly assist persons who wish to start bogus concerns. The failure of bad companies operates as a check on investment in good companies. Capital is frightened away, lenders become timid, and thus the progress of honest business is impeded. U der the circumstances are you in favour of legislation which would enable the Registrar of Companies to require security and refuse to register in absence of security in any case where he had reason to apprehend the proposal to be financially unsound?"

While admitting the facts stated in this question, the Committee however feel that the suggestion to arm the Registrar with power to refuse registration might be attended with evil results. Overcaution on his part might easily result in the strangling of sound, though perhaps apparently venturesome undertakings, and so the conception of new ideas and the development of new industries might be checked. They are of opinion that the adoption of the provisions of the English Act as to "The Prospectus" would be of pronounced benefit in India. In the case of industrial undertakings it would constitute a safeguard to the investor. But the Committee feel very strongly that something more is needed in the case of banks, where the capital and confidence, not only of the shareholders but of the depositor, are involved. New banks are springing up with alarming rapidity, with little share capital subscribed ; these banks are trading on the confidence of the depositor who is little versed in money matters but is attracted by the name "Bank" and wishes to earn interest on his savings.

Of 47 new Banks registered in 1908-09 with a normal capital of Rs. 1,12,03,946 only Rs. 3,33,218 was paid up. The growth of confidence and the increase of deposits from £19¾ millions to £42¾ millions during the last decade in the larger Banks (*i.e.* those having more than five lacs combined Capital and Reserve) may have accounted for many of these mushroom growths. but the fear is that if one fails others will follow and the timid depositor, unable to discriminate between the sound and the unsound concerns, will make haste to get his money back from whatever Bank it is in, and his confidence in banking institutions, thus rudely checked, will take years to win back, and thus there will result a decrease in the volume of deposit capital available in the hands of the Banks for financing the country's industries. The Committee strongly favour legislation by which the deposit of security would be a condition necessary to the registration of a Bank.

Further, the Committee think that the words used by the learned Judge in the recent case of Saunders *vs.* Carbonneau, reported in the English papers, may apply with infinitely greater force to this country. where a Bank so called has included in its operations coach-building, medical attendance, pawn-broking, etc. Mr. Justice Eve is reported to have said :—

"Its existence (the National Securities Bank) only confirms the view which other cases have presented to my mind that a time has arrived when the Legislature might well impose some restriction on the indiscriminate use of the term "Bank" by individuals and corporations whose business has no relation to Banking properly so called."

Also in the case of Banking institutions—additional safeguards in the shape of compulsory provision for reserves, restrictions as regards the investment of a proportion of the deposits, restricted transfers of shares for say a period of two years and the insistence upon qualified auditors, suggest themselves to the Committee.

The Committee have not considered it necessary to refer to insurance legislation, which they understand is under the consideration of Government, and with which they have already expressed themselves in agreement.

Question No. 3.—"The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies has to—

(*a*) receive the memorandum of association, and articles of association, to examine, retain and register the same,
(*b*) certify the incorporation of the company,
(*c*) receive copies annually of lists of members and summaries,
(*d*) receive notices of consolidation or of conversion of capital into stock,
(*e*) receive notices of increase of capital and of members,
(*f*) receive notices of situation of registered office,
(*g*) receive notices of names, addresses and occupations of directors and managers in certain cases,
(*h*) receive balance sheets annually,
(*i*) receive and record copies of special resolutions,
(*j*) receive notices of winding up orders of courts,
(*k*) receive notices of dissolutions by courts,
(*l*) receive notices of winding up orders by liquidators,
(*m*) grant inspections and copies, etc., etc.

The duties of this officer are thus mainly confined to seeing that certain rules are kept, and recording results. Are you of opinion that it would be of advantage for the Registrar to exercise supervision over the manner in which business is conducted by companies ? If so how would you provide for the exercise of such supervision by him ?"

The Committee would favour the control of joint stock enterprise being conducted on more active lines, but it would not be possible, nor would it be desirable, that the Registrar should be invested with powers of interference with company management. If a breach of the law has been committed, or if there are good grounds for the Registrar suspecting that a breach has been committed, he should take action, but to enlarge his powers in any further degree would be to render the law needlessly vexations.

The Committee are very earnestly of opinion that the administration of the law governing joint stock companies should be assumed by the Government of India even at the risk of sacrificing the principle of decentralization. It is felt to be most important that there should be uniformity of procedure throughout the country, and that there should be one central authority for the disposal of actions arising out of breaches of the law. For this reason the Committee advocate the creation of the office of Imperial Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, to be filled preferably by an officer of the English Board of Trade, of undoubted attainments, who would exercise general control over the administration of Company law in India, and would be assisted by a Sub-Registrar for each of the Provinces whose duties would be the supervision of the ordinary regulations and the keeping of statistics.

Question No. 4.—"What do you consider the most suitable place in the United Provinces for the location of the office of Registrar of Companies ?"

If the Committee's proposal for the appointment of an Imperial Registrar-in-chief is accepted, they think his head quarters should be at Calcutta, as his office would naturally form a sub-department of the Commerce and Industry Department. The Registrar of the United Provinces should be located at Cawnpore.

Question No. 5.—"What sort of person in your opinion would make an efficient registrar in the United Provinces ? Do you consider—

(*a*) an official,
(*b*) a business man,
(*c*) a lawyer,

would make the most efficient registrar in the United Provinces ?"

A business man.

Question No. 6.—"Do you consider that the work which ought to be done by the Registrar is sufficient to occupy his whole time ?"

It is considered that the Registrar or Sub-Registrar might suitably combine with his proper duties, the collection and collation of Provincial trade statistics, especially those relating to joint stock enterprises, in association with the Commercial Intelligence Department.

Question No. 7.—"If the post can in your opinion be efficiently held by an officer, do you consider the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies could perform the duties efficiently in addition to his own duties ?"

Looking to the prospective expansion of the co-operative movement the Committee consider that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies will shortly have his time fully occupied if it is not already so.

Question No. 8.—"If the post can in your opinion only be efficiently held by a non-official, what do you consider would be a proper remuneration for performing the duties ?"

The Committee would suggest that the appointment of provincial Registrar should carry a salary of Rs. 1,200 rising to Rs. 1,800 on the supposition that the suggestion of an Imperial Registrar is not accepted.

Question No. 9.—"Are you satisfied with the present arrangement by which the District Judge of Cawnpore is Registrar ? If you object to this arrangement please give reasons for objections ?"

With the enlarged duties contemplated by the Committee's proposals, it is not thought that the office of Provincial Registrar could be effectively combined with that of Sessions Judge of Cawnpore.

Question No. 10.—"Would you be in favour of giving the Registrar facilities for personally prosecuting offences under the Act, or otherwise, committed by Directors of Companies ?"

The Provincial Registrar should personally conduct prosecutions for offences under the Companies Act involving fines, but in the case of fraud or other criminal charges, the prosecution should lie with the Registrar-in-chief. If no Registrar-in-chief is appointed prosecutions in cases of fraud, etc, should lie with the provincial Legal Remembrancer at the instance of the provincial Registrar.

Question No. 11.—"Will you please give any other alterations or improvements of which you may approve ?"

1. Under the existing law, Companies can, through the medium of their Articles of Association, prescribe the conditions which shall govern the voting powers of members. In view of specific cases which have come under the notice of the Committee where the holders of partly paid shares have exercised a controlling action upon the affairs of a Company out of all proportion to their share of the paid-up capital, the question arises as to whether section 78 of the Indian Act should not be amended so as to determine by law the principle that the voting powers of members should be in relation to their share of the *paid-up* capital.

2. In the Committee's communication of the 3rd February last, it was suggested that the management of a company should be restrained from borrowing on mortgages or contracting loans on interest where a portion of the issued capital of the Company is represented by partly paid shares. The Committee having further considered this question now desire to recommend that the restriction as to loans or borrowings should be limited to cases where any portion of the Company's block is charged as security.

3. The adoption of the provisions of the English Act relating to prospectuses has already been recommended, and with regard to the first question dealt with in the Committee's communication of the 3rd February, it is considered that Section 81, sub-section D of the English Act, might with advantage be made more restrictive by the inclusion of a condition that the minimum subscription on which the Directors may proceed to allotment shall not be less than a specific proportion of the capital asked for, section 85 of the Act being altered in a corresponding manner.

The Committee recognise that there are means of evading such a protective provision, but in spite of this, they consider the condition should be introduced.

4. The Committee consider that better provision should be made for the auditing of Joint Stock Companies' accounts, but, until the field of eligible auditors is enlarged, they recommend that Government should inaugurate schools of accountancy, a degree in which might eventually be made a qualification of auditorship of public companies, and in the meantime Government might compile and maintain a register of accountants, bankers and business men, eligible and authorised to undertake audits.

5. Section 249 of the Indian Act precludes a company from purchasing its own shares where as the English Statute contains no such prohibition. The Committee consider that such powers if honestly exercised could not be otherwise than beneficial by enabling a company to prevent violent and therefore undesirable fluctuations in its stock. The Committee understand that the purchase of shares is not unfrequently adopted as a temporary measure by English Banking institutions with this object. The Committee, however, realise that there are obvious advantages in the prohibition.

6. With regard to the disqualification of Directors, the Committee recommend that the provisions of section 57 of Schedule I of the Indian Act should be embodied in the Act itself and coupled with this the addition of section 112, sub-section 3 of the English Act.

7. The Registrar should see that the provisions of section 43 of the Indian Act are strictly enforced so as to avoid the registration of companies with similar names. Registration was recently admitted of a Bank under the title of "the National Bank of Upper India" although two Banks under the titles of "the National Bank of India" and "the Bank of Upper India" already existed.

8. The Committee recommend that sections 70 and 71 of the Indian Act providing for the maintenance of a register of Directors and Managers should be made applicable to all companies and the rights of inspection should be extended to "any person". The English Act strangely enough omits any provision for inspection.

9. The Committee recommend that section 64 of the English Act as to meetings should be substituted for section 74 of the Indian Act. Under the Indian Act it is possible to hold the annual meeting in January one year and in December the next, practically an interval of two years.

10. Section 65 of the English Act, prescribing regulation for the holding of the statutory meeting, might with advantage be adopted in place of section 75 of the Indian Act, which only provides for a meeting, but says nothing about what is to be done at that meeting.

11. Section 242 of the English Act providing for the removal of defunct companies might suitably be adopted, as there is at present no machinery under the Indian law to meet such circumstances.

BOMBAY CATTLE CENSUS.

It appears from the Supplement to the *Bombay Government Gazette* of November 24th that according to the recent census of cattle taken as directed in Government Resolution No. 7030, dated 20th July, 1909, Revenue Department, the total number of cattle in the Bombay Presidency (exclusive of Ratnagiri District) has been returned and contrasted with the cattle of 1895-96 as shown below under the several main heads :—

	1909-10.	1895-96.	Variation.
	Lakhs.	Lakhs.	Lakhs.
1. Plough cattle .	27·13	31·51	—4·38
			13·9 per cent.
2. Milch cattle . .	23·89	28·14	—4·25
			15·1 per cent.
3. Young stock and other cattle.	21·79	24·00	—2·21
			9·2 per cent.
4. Total cattle . . .	72·81	83·66	—10·85
			13·0 per cent.
5. Horses and ponies .	1·03	1·55	—0·52
			33·4 per cent.
6. Sheep and goats . .	38·61	33·79	+4·82
			14·3 per cent.

The total number of cattle is now returned at 72·81 lakhs as compared with 83·66 lakhs in 1895-96 or a decrease of 10·85 lakhs or 13 per cent. It will further appear from the above table that this decrease occurs under all the main heads.

Government have directed that the results of the present census of cattle should be compared with the stock of the year 1895-96 returned before the advent of the large famine of 1896-97. It should be noted that this period of 15 years includes two years (1896-97 and 1899-1900) of very severe famine besides many lean years. To give an adequate idea of the heavy losses caused during these two famine years and the recovery to normal condition which is being effected of late years, an abstract statement is published in the *Gazette* which compares for each main division the agricultural cattle as returned during the two big famine years as well as in the years 1905-06 and 1909-10. It appears from this statement that total cattle for the Presidency diminished during the famine years from 83·66 lakhs to 74·29 lakhs in 1896-97 and to 57·27 lakhs in 1899-1900. The recovery shows a return to 65·50 lakhs in 1905-06 and to 72·81 lakhs in 1909-10. The extent of variation in total cattle and percentages for each of these years is as shown below :—

	Total cattle.	Variation.	Per cent.
	Lakhs.	Lakhs.	
1895-96 . . .	83·66		...
1896-97 . . .	74·29	—9·37	—11·2
1899-1900 . . .	57·27	—26·39	—31·5
1905-06 . . .	65·50	+8·23	+14·4
1909-10 . . .	72·81	+7·31	+11·2

The Deccan and Karnatak Divisions were largely affected by the famine of 1896-97, while Gujarat and Konkan were practically immune. Thus out of the total loss of 9·37 lakhs caused in this famine year, 6·18 lakhs or 15·3 per cent occurred in Deccan and 3·32 lakhs or 18·4 per cent in Karnatak, while Gujarat and Konkan showed a small increase. In the next big famine of 1899-1900 all the main divisions except Konkan were severely affected and cattle showed a diminution of 7·28 lakhs or 47·2 per cent in Gujarat, 15·96 lakhs or 39·6 per cent in Deccan, and 3·12 lakhs or 17·2 per cent in Karnatak. The census of 1905-06 showed a recovery of cattle as compared with 1899-1900 to an extent of 3·94 lakhs or 48·5 per cent in Gujarat and 5·77 lakhs or 23·8 per cent in Deccan, while Karnatak showed a further decrease of 1·68 lakhs or 11·3 per cent.

Under the present census (1909-10) all the main divisions show an increase of cattle as compared with the previous census of 1905-06; being 1·79 lakhs or 14·9 per cent in Gujarat, 4·62 lakhs or 15·4 per cent in Deccan, 73,000 or 5·5 per cent in Karnatak and 15,000 or 1·5 per cent in Konkan. The present stock of cattle, however, still keeps short of the figure of 1895-96 by 10·85 lakhs and out of this diminution about 1·54 lakhs or 10 per cent occurs in Gujarat, 5·55 lakhs or 13·8 per cent in Deccan, and 4·07 lakhs or 22·5 per cent in Karnatak while Konkan gives a small increase of 32,000 or 3·3 per cent. A summary noting this variation and explanation as supplied for each district by the District Officers is given in an appended Note in the *Gazette*.

It may be further noted that in addition to the heavy losses caused by famine and scarcity during these fifteen years, rinderpest and other contagious cattle diseases have also contributed considerable diminution particularly during the past three years. The reported mortality during the last five years from cattle disease is 1,300 in 1904-05, 1,100 in 1905-06, 26,000 in 1906-07, 22,000 in 1907-08 and 8,000 in 1908-09.

FOREIGN SEA-BORNE TRADE OF INDIA IN OCTOBER, 1910.

THE trade returns for October, 1910, show increased values in imports, exports and re-exports in comparison with the returns for October, 1909. The following tables show the values of imports and exports of private merchandise for October, and for the seven months ending October, together with the increase or decrease compared with the corresponding periods of 1909 :—

October, 1910.

Imports	11,81,29,120	+ 1,20,09,301	+11·3
Exports	15,18,41,515	+ 1,72,12,173	+12·8
Re-exports	34,97,651	+ 11,78,299	+50·8

Seven months ending October, 1910.

Imports	72,27,37,393	+ 6,41,72,338	+ 9·7
Exports	113,71,93,392	+18,94,21,591	+20·0
Re-exports	2,48,01,436	+ 67,43,303	+37·3

In the following remarks the returns for October, 1910, are contrasted with those for October, 1909.

Animals, living.

The total value under this class advanced by Rs. 15·41 lakhs (+424·8 per cent). Arrivals of *horses* increased from 978 to 3,151 in number and from Rs. 3·43 lakhs to Rs. 17·69 lakhs in value, chiefly as a result of larger imports of Australian *horses*.

Articles of Food and Drink.

This class shows an improvement of Rs. 63·74 lakhs (32·5 per cent). *Sugar* advanced from 1,374,755 cwts to 2,090,637 cwts and from Rs. 127·55 lakhs to Rs. 193·2 lakhs—an increase of 52 per cent in quantity and 51·5 per cent in value, Java accounting for the entire expansion. Bengal took 650·270 cwts more than in the preceding year. *Provisions*, on the other hand, fell off from Rs. 34,36,561 to Rs. 31,35,416, smaller imports of *dates* (—21·3 per cent being responsible for the decline.

Metals and Manufactures of Metals.

The total value shows a small improvement of Rs. 2·94 lakhs (+1·5 per cent). The value of *hardware and cutlery* was higher by 4 lakhs of rupees (+17·5 per cent), the chief increases occurring under the omnibus head "other sorts." The increase of Rs. 4·49 lakhs (+18·3 per cent) under *copper* is mainly due to larger imports of *unwrought copper*. The combined value of *iron and steel* exceeded the figures of October, 1909, by Rs. 8·77 lakhs (+14·5 per cent). The excess of Rs. 5·58 lakhs under *iron* reflects larger receipts of *galvanised sheets and plates* from the United Kingdom. *Machinery* and *railway plant and rolling stock*, on the contrary, declined by Rs. 2·62 lakhs (—6·2 per cent) and Rs. 11·49 lakhs (—30·3 per cent) respectively.

Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines and Narcotics.

The total value aggregated Rs. 31·97 lakhs and is in excess of the figures of the previous year by Rs. 1·74 lakhs (+5·7 per cent). Chemicals increased by Rs. 1·2 lakhs (+17·7 per cent), and *aniline dyes*, chiefly from Belgium, advanced by Rs. 2·54 lakhs (+73 per cent), whereas, imports of tobacco, mainly cigarettes, declined by 300,663 lbs (—61 per cent) in quantity and by Rs. 2·87 lakhs (—40 per cent) in value.

Oils.

This class is marked by a net decline of Rs. 8·55 lakhs (—31 per cent). This is due to a remarkable lull in the imports of kerosine oil. Neither Russia and Sumatra, which sent between them 1,012,402 gallons in 1909, nor the Straits Settlements. Borneo and Sumatra, which contributed in 1908 jointly 4,138,213 gallons, figure in the months' returns, while the arrivals from the United States of America—and these constitute the only import of the month—contracted from 4,864,837 gallons to 2,123,304 gallons.

Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles.

The total value of this group shows a falling off of Rs. 3·71 lakhs (—6·7 per cent). Imports of coal declined from Rs. 6·25 lakhs to Rs. 3·17 lakhs (—49·3 per cent) in consequence of cessation of imports of South African coal into Madras. *Raw cotton* also decreased by Rs. 3·23 lakhs (—76 per cent). *Precious stones and pearls unset* and *wood timber*, on the other hand, increased by Rs. 1·74 lakhs (+7·8 per cent) and Rs. 1·56 lakhs (+28 per cent) respectively.

Articles manufactured and partly manufactured.

There was an improvement of Rs. 48·52 lakhs (+8·8 per cent) in the total value of this class, almost all the principal articles under this head sharing the general increase. *Manufactures of cotton* show an increase of Rs. 17·79 lakhs (+5·5 per cent). *Woollen manufactures* with an advance of Rs. 15·44 lakhs (+ 45 per cent) come next in importance. The other appreciable increases occur in apparel, Rs. 8·73 lakhs, *silk manufactures* Rs. 4·9 lakhs, *glass and glassware* Rs. 2·78 lakhs, and *carriages and carts* Rs. 2·77 lakhs. The only item marked by a decline is *cotton yarn*, the imports of which fell from Rs. 30·36 lakhs to Rs. 22·81 lakhs.

Treasure.

Imports of gold improved by Rs. 17·61 lakhs (+ 18·5 per cent). The United Kingdom showed an increase of Rs. 49·48 lakhs, but the receipts from Australia and Straits Settlements amounted to only Rs. 75,000 and Rs. 18,000respectively, in place of Rs. 23·62 lakhs and Rs. 11·4 lakhs in October, 1909. Imports of silver too advanced by Rs. 22·6 lakhs (+ 36·5 per cent) due again to increased imports from the United Kingdom (+ Rs. 27·2 lakhs) and to a small extent from Australia (+ Rs. 4·25 lakhs). The Straits Settlements show badly in silver also, the figure being a negligible one.

Government Stores.

The total value declined from Rs. 41·51 lakhs to Rs. 37·7 lakhs (— 9· per cent) due to smaller imports of *railway plant and rolling stock*.

EXPORTS.

Articles of Food and Drink.

A considerable increase of Rs. 108·36 lakhs (+29·2 per cent) is shown in the total value under this head. *Rice* with an advance of Rs. 51·2 lakhs (+52·2 per cent), *wheat and wheat flour* with one of Rs. 50·59 lakhs (+102·4 per cent) and *tea* with Rs. 13·36 lakhs (+7·3 per cent) are the three principal items responsible for the net increase. Exports of *rice* chiefly *not in the husk* aggregated 2,969,505 cwts and exceeded the figures of October 1909 by 1,147,468 cwts (+63· per cent), the bulk of the increase having been taken by Ceylon, Java and Japan. The movements of wheat during the month under report are marked by a considerable expansion, the quantity rising from 745,603 cwts to 1,843,577 cwts. Of this quantity some 1,206,667 cwts were declared for Egypt against nil in the preceding year. *Black tea* exhibits an excess of 2,605,966 lbs. (+6·8 per cent) over the figures of October, 1909, and this is due to shipments on a large scale to Russia. The demand from Ceylon was poorer by 2,680,527 lbs. (—85·2 per cent).

Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines and Narcotics.

The total value of this class were higher by Rs. 16·45 lakhs (+21·5 per cent) as a result of high prices ruling for *opium*. Shipments of opium declined by 2,698 cwts (—39·7 per cent), but the declared value was higher by Rs. 15·48 lakhs (+23·5 per cent), a rise of 105· per cent in the specific value per cwt.

Oils.

This class is marked by a net decline of Rs. 1·49 lakhs (—10·3 per cent). Exports of *paraffin wax* amounted to 21,603 cwt with a value of Rs. 4·97 lakhs and were in excess of those of the past year by 11·767 cwts (+119·6 per cent) in volume and Rs. 2·71 lakhs (+120·4 per cent) in value. *Cocoanut oil*, on the other hand, fell off by 453,650 gallons (—77·2 per cent) in consequence of smaller shipments to Germany.

Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles.

The total value under this group rose from Rs. 537·69 lakhs to Rs. 590·98 lakhs (+9·9 per cent). There was considerable expansion in the exports of cotton raw; 305,089 cwts with a declared value of Rs. 116·56 lakhs were shipped, and these figures represent an increase of 156,341 cwts (+105·1 per cent) in volume and of Rs. 68·25 lakhs (+141·3 per cent) in value. The bulk of the increase went to Italy; Germany, Belgium, Spain and Japan also took larger quantities. The increase of Rs. 37·6 lakhs (+39·2 per cent) under *seeds* was mainly brought about by larger shipments of *cotton seeds* and *rape seeds* from Bombay. *Jute*, the largest single item of export in this group, declined by Rs. 34·93 lakhs —13·6 per cent) owing to smaller takings by the United Kingdom. The heavy fall of Rs. 25·22 lakhs (—40·5 per cent) in the combined value of *hides and skins* results from smaller shipments of *hides* to Italy, the United Kingdom and Germany, and of *skins* to the United States of America.

Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured.

This class shows a net fall of Rs. 5·49 lakhs (—1·6 per cent), the value declining from Rs. 336·83 lakhs to Rs. 331·34 lakhs. Instances of heavy decreases are furnished by lac —Rs. 10·48 lakhs (—49·2 per cent), under cotton yarn, Rs. 7·14 lakhs (—8·3 per cent) and coir Rs. 5·77 lakhs (—56·3 per cent). On the other hand, the more important increases occurred under *Jute*, Rs. 10·71 lakhs (+7·2 per cent), *skins* Rs. 3·42 lakhs (+15·1 per cent) and *cotton piece-goods* Rs. 2·18 lakhs (+10·4 per cent). The loss under lac results restricted shipments of *shell lac* to the United States of America. An abnormal demand of *gunny bags* (Rs. 12·2 lakhs) from Chile explains the expansion in the total value of *jute goods*.

RE-EXPORTS.

The total value of exports of foreign merchandise increased by Rs. 11·78 lakhs (+ 50·8 per cent), important increases occurring under *cotton manufactures* of Rs. 5·66 lakhs (+65·3 per cent) and *sugar* of Rs. 2·5 lakhs (+147·4 per cent). *Raw wool* also showed a small advance of Rs. 1·07 lakhs (+56·1 per cent).

Treasure.

Exports of *gold* rose from Rs. 26·73 lakhs to Rs. 29·65 lakhs (+10·8 per cent), larger shipments of the metal having taken place from Bombay to the United Kingdom. *Silver*, on the other hand, fell off by Rs. 14·75 lakhs (—38·1 per cent), China taking a smaller quantity than in October, 1909.

Miscellaneous.

There was an improvement of Rs. 18·47 lakhs (+30 per cent) in the collection of duty on imports, the duty on exports also advanced by Rs. 2·93 lakhs (+66 per cent).

—His Majesty's Trade Commissioner for **New Zealand** (Mr. G. H. F. Rolleston) reports, under date 23rd September, that the winter now over has not been a severe one in the Dominion, and livestock throughout the country are in good condition. There is every prospect of another **heavy export year.** Imports are steadily increasing, and with conditions generally favourable further improvement may be looked for in the coming busy season.

TRANSFRONTIER TRADE OF BENGAL.

THE particulars below are taken from the Report on the Trade of Bengal with Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan for the official year ending, March 31st, 1910, compiled by the Commercial Intelligence Department :—

The total value of the trade of Bengal with the adjacent States of Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan in the year ending 31st March, 1910, was, excluding treasure—the registration of which remains defective—Rs. 313·83 lakhs. This figure falls short of the total of the preceding year by Rs. 65·21 lakhs, or some 17 per cent, imports being responsible for 80 per cent and exports for 20 per cent of this decrease. The decline is spread over all the States except Sikkim, which shows a small improvement. The import trade, consisting as it does largely of agricultural and pastoral products, is subject to considerable fluctuations from year to year, and of the decline noticed above, the trade in grain and pulse is responsible for 45·6 per cent, and that in animals, hides and skins 24·4 per cent, the inevitable sequelæ of an adverse agricultural season. The export trade, on the other hand, is made up largely of manufactures, cotton yarn and piece-goods—mostly of foreign origin—forming the most conspicuous item. The other articles of importance on the export list are grain and pulse, metals and their manufactures, oils, provisions, salt, spices, sugar and tobacco. Transactions in cotton goods were, during the year under review, only some 4 lakhs, or 8 per cent, lower than in 1908-09, but there was considerable contraction of trade in brass and copper manufactures, tobacco and spices.

The fluctuations in the trade during the last three years and the relative importance of the trade with each State will be clear from the tabular statement below. For the reason already stated, transactions in treasure are excluded from these figures :—

NAMES OF STATES.	Years.	Imports into Bengal.	Exports from Bengal.	TOTAL TRADE. Amount.	TOTAL TRADE. Percentage of share to the total trade.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Per cent.
Nepal	1907-08	2,29,26,671	94,59,224	3,23,85,895	88·5
	1908-09	2,28,16 357	1,07,82,741	3,35,99 098	88·6
	1909-10	1,82,14,820	1,00,13,757	2,82,28,577	89·9
Tibet	1907-08	13,68,022	11,86,696	2-,54,718	7·0
	1908-09	12,53,683	13,36,853	25,90,- 36	6·8
	1909-10	5,75,135	7,09,536	12,84,671	4·1
Sikkim	1907-08	8,23 822	7,97,562	16.21,384	4·4
	1908-09	9,29,263	7.62,232	16,91,495	4·5
	1909-10	9,30,351	9,24,443	18,54,794	5·9
Bhutan	1907-08	9,738	28,946	38,684	·1
	1908-09	8,232	15,244	23,476	·1
	1909-10	7,266	8,339	15,605	·1
Total	1907-08	2,51,28,253	1,14,72,428	3,66,00,681	100
	1908-09	2,50,07,535	1,28,97,070	3,79,04,605	100
	1909-10	1,97,27,572	1,16,56,075	3,13,83,647	100

Nepal.

The leading commodities which Bengal derives from Nepal are animals, living, grain and pulse—the predominating group being rice, husked and unhusked—hides and skins, jute, oil-seeds and *ghi*.

The largest single item of imports has consistently been **rice.** Compared with the imports of the preceding year, unhusked rice shows a quantitative decrease of 44,575 maunds, but husked rice is marked by an advance of 41,801 maunds; yet, under the influence of a relatively lower range of prices the total value of husked rice contracted by 19·9 per cent and of unhusked rice by 38·7 per cent. The trade in **live animals** is practically confined to cattle, sheep and goats. The figures for the year 1909-10 show a considerable shrinkage, namely, 32·3 per cent, as contrasted with those of the preceding year; nevertheless they are on a par with the traffic in normal years, and it is noteworthy that more remunerative prices were realised than in the previous two years. The quantity of **hides** received was slightly better than in the previous year, but in spite of high prices ruling in international markets the average value showed a fall of 13·8 per cent. The reverse was the case with raw **skins**; for, while the quantity fell by 25 per cent, the value rose by 47 per cent. Arrivals of **jute** were somewhat smaller than in the preceding two years, but the difference is not such as to call for special comment. It is worthy of note that during the last decade Nepal has almost quadrupled her production of jute. The two classes of **oilseeds** which have bulked largely for several years running in Nepal's trade with Bengal are rapeseed (including mustard) and linseed. The trade in them in the year under review was, on practically the same level as in 1907-08 and 1908-09.

The predominating group on the export side is that of cotton manufactures. The statistics for the last three years disclose a progressive decline in the despatches of yarn and twist; but piece-goods have continued steady and, if anything, show a tendency towards further expansion. The bulk of the piece-goods are, however, of foreign origin, the proportion of consignments of Indian goods being only 17·4 per cent. Under normal conditions the group next in rank of importance is that of metals and manufactures of metals; but in the year under review, owing to a poor rice crop in Nepal, it has had to surrender its position to **grain and pulse.** The feature of interest in this group lies, as hinted above, in the abnormally large, indeed the record, quantities of husked rice which Nepal drew off from Bengal. In the **metals** class, the leading subclasses, brass and copper and iron, are characterised by large decreases, and it will be interesting to watch whether these decreases are the beginning of a return to the level which prevailed during the quinquennium ending 1906-07. The other principal commodities of export are provisions, other kinds, spices, salt and tobacco; all of them, excepting salt which has an increase of 17·2 per cent to its credit, exhibit decreases varying from 1·5 per cent to 33·3 per cent.

Tibet.

The trade with Tibet is marked by a serious collapse to which political unsettlement and a severe cattle epidemic largely contributed. The shrinkage cannot, therefore, in fairness be regarded as a definite retrograde movement in the history of the trade. The sum of imports and exports aggregated a bare 13 lakhs as contrasted with 25 lakhs in each of the two previous years. The difficulties and expenses connected with transport, with which Tibetan trade has to contend, have been emphasised in previous reports. **Raw wool** constitutes the backbone of the Tibetan trade, and the decline in this commodity was one of 48·6 per cent. Besides wool, the only articles of any importance on the import side are **musk** and **yaks' tails**; in fact, wool, musk and yaks' tails between them answered for a share of about 5 lakhs of a total of 5·75 lakhs and were jointly responsible for 70 per cent of the total decrease in the volume of trade.

As in the case of Nepal, **cotton piece-goods**—but of Indian make—used to be the biggest item of export from Bengal. But in the year under review the traffic in them, as well in almost all the other articles, shrank to insignificant dimensions. The aggregate value of the export trade was Rs. 7,09,536, as against Rs. 13,36,853 in 1908-09 and the only items which were able to hold their own were **woollen manufactures** and **tobacco. Earthenware** and **porcelain,** the trade in which had improved from Rs. 31,098 in 1907-08 to Rs. 1,27,838 in 1908-09, reverted in the year under review to their former level. Similarly **corals,** in which a fairly active trade had developed in recent years, receded from 1·41 lakhs in 1908-09 to Rs. 8,000 in 1909-10; but curiously enough **precious stones** show an advance from Rs. 27,080 in 1908-09 to Rs. 47,312 in the year under report.

Sikkim.

The improvement in the trade with Sikkim constitutes the single relieving factor in the combined statistics. Imports remained, on the whole, on the preceding year's level. The principal articles entering into this trade are animals, gram and pulse and other rain crops, *ghi*, and spices; the only comment called for is that the increases and decreases occurring in these items tend to balance themselves. Exports advanced by some two lakhs; the articles which contributed towards this expansion were cotton piece-goods and yarn (Indian), rice, and tobacco.

Bhutan.

The figures of trade recorded in this and the two previous issues of the report cover the traffic which passes through the Darjeeling district, and are not comparable with the statistics contained in the earlier reports which embraced as well the trade carried on *viâ* Jalpaiguri, now credited to the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam. The value of the traffic *viâ* Darjeeling is inconsiderable, the imports and exports aggregating only some Rs. 15,605 and it would serve no purpose to follow the small fluctuations revealed. It is, perhaps, sufficient to state that the entire trade declined by some 33 per cent.

Treasure.

Is generally carried as personal luggage and the registration is consequently defective. The recorded figures show that both silver and gold maintained the preceding year's level on the import as well as the export side.

PEARL FISHING IN THE RED SEA.

THE following information regarding the pearl fisheries in the Red Sea is taken from a report of the French Consul at Jeddah :—

Pearl oyster fishing is carried on in the Red Sea by means of small native boats, which collect both shells and pearls. On the Arabian Coast the shells are the principal object. The oysters are opened directly they are obtained, and when the boat is fully loaded it runs for the nearest port, where the cargo is sold for the best offer obtainable. There are no real fishing stations, and all places on the coast receive a visit at some time from the boats. Certain ports, however, are never visited; such is the case with Jeddah, where no pearl fishing boat has called for many years, although in former times the trade in pearl shells and pearls was very flourishing. This is due to the fact that the best prices are realized at Port Sudan, Massawah, Hodeidah, Djibutil and Aden, owing to the competition amongst merchants at those places. The quantity of pearls obtained is not considerable, but the quality on the whole is reported to be very good. They are white, but not often round; pear-shaped and button pearls of a remarkably fine surface are found and realize high prices. The pearl fishers use slow and somewhat clumsy sailing boats, which are provisioned for several weeks, and manned by crews of 10, 15, up to 50. The ships proceed to the fishing grounds about the month of May, and continue fishing until September, when the temperature of the water falls too low for the divers, who are generally slaves. The primitive methods of fishing employed render the field of action very limited, and the deeper oyster beds are quite untouched. These are situated at distances up to 30 miles from the coast and at depths of 6 to 30 metres. The native divers cannot work at greater depths than 10 metres. It may safely be stated that quite half the beds of pearl oysters on the Arabian coast are untouched, and it is probable that steam fishing boats, properly equipped, and using dredges, would obtain good results both in pearl shells and pearls. At the same time one must not fail to mention the difficulties of such an enterprise which have hitherto deterred firms and individuals from pearl fishing in these seas. Navigation is difficult, and the coasts are strewn with rocks and infested with

pirates. Victualling is most difficult owing to the lack of fresh water and vegetables and to the hostility of the inhabitants of the coastal districts. Finally, the climate is hot and unhealthy, and sharks abound. However, an organization on a sufficiently large scale might overcome these difficulties. It is stated that a German company of Bremen with a large capital is in process of formation. Its first attempts have, however, not been fortunate, as its steamer has run on the rocks of the Sinai peninsula. The company proposes to have a fleet of several rapid steamers which will obtain not only pearls and pearl shells, but also fish. Factories will be established at Suez for drying and preserving the fish and extracting oil; fish would also be supplied to ships passing through the Suez Canal. Amongst the Arab fishers each boat is a profit-sharing undertaking; half the pearls gathered belong to the "naouda" or pilot-captain of the vessel, the other half being the share of the owner of the boat, who has also the right to all the shells, but who provides for the needs of the unfortunate slave divers who receive nothing but their food. To the south of Aden, where slave labour is less common, the divers and the crew are remunerated in the following fashion:—A fifth of the pearls is the share of the owner, also takes the shells; out of the other four-fifths the expenses of equipment and provisioning are paid, and the remainder is divided among the divers and crew, the former receiving half as much again as the latter. All the divers are equally remunerated. It is not possible to determine the cause, but the proprietors are generally poor, and robbery seems to be the principal reason. The naouda, after putting to sea, often arranges with the divers, in order to gain their complicity, a new system of sharing the profits of the fishery in which the proprietor is forgotten. The slaves in their turn lose no opportunity of appropriating the pearls whenever the chance offers. The shells when landed are usually bought by European firms established on the coastal places of the Red Sea, and are sent direct to Europe either to Trieste or London, where they are sold by auction to manufacturers. They are carefully cleaned before being packed in clumsy barrels of native make, which are then covered with sacking. Each barrel contains from 100 to 110 kilos of shells, the weight of the empty barrel varying according to the wood used, from 25 to 35 kilos. The freight from Jeddah to London or Trieste is about £2 per ton of 1,000 kilos; the cost of loading is small, and the customs collect 1 per cent *ad valorem* for export duty.

—His Majesty's Consul at Chinkiang (Mr. G. D. Pitzipios) reports that about one-fourth of the total quantity of **soy beans** exported through that port is grown in the north of the Chinkiang consular district, the rest being transit cargo from other provinces. This year the local output may be reckoned as practically nil, owing to floods in that part of the district where the bean is grown.

INDIAN WHEAT PRICES.

On the 25th March, 1909 (p. 272), 17th June, 1909 (p. 300), 8th July, 1909 (p. 40), and 19th August, 1909 (p. 220), we published statements showing the extent to which the wholesale price of wheat in certain centres in India increase from harvest time onward. As wheat that has been held for some time in India is liable to show damage by weevil, etc., an enquiry has been made as to whether the prices quoted in the later months are for wheat constant or at least comparable in quality, or for wheat containing a substantial proportion of damaged grain. The replies show that in most cases the rates relate to wheat of qualities approximately comparable. From this it may be assumed that the higher rates in later months cover loss by damage. The details regarding the several Provinces are tabulate below:—

Summary of replies from the different provincial Directors of Agriculture.

—	Whether prices quoted in the later months of the season are comparable with those quoted in the earlier months.	Admixture of other grain.	Admixture of dirt, weevil.	Remarks.
Bombay .	Prices quoted are for fairly uniform quality and are comparable.	*Nil.*	Not exceeding 5%	...
Sind .	Ditto .	6 to 10% Barley.	...	...
United Provinces.	Comparable (except in two districts).	2½ to 5%		In districts where barley and wheat are grown mixed, the proportion of barley mixed is likely to exceed 5%.
Punjab .	Comparable .	1 to 5%		In most cases the same degree of freedom from admixture or weevil is insisted on. In others allowance is made for any excess in fixing the rates.
C. P. and Berar.	Comparable .	Generally not exceeding 5% (except in 3 districts where it is 7½ to 10%) in the latter part of the season.		...
Bengal .	Generally comparable.	2½ to 12½%		...

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN OCTOBER, 1910.

I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for October, 1910, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1909, show increases in the value of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, and in the values of the **Exports** both of the **Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom** and of **Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.**

The value of the **Imports** in October was 58,047,427*l.*, an increase of 5,405,936*l.*, or 10·3 per cent as compared with October, 1909; whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 45,690,823*l.*, an increase of 4,158,992*l.*

The **Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom** show an increase of 3,760,454*l.* or 11·8 per cent, as compared with October, 1909; whilst there is an increase of 398,538*l.*, or 5·2 per cent, in the **Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.**

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for October, 1910, as compared with the corresponding month of 1909 and 1908, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

Imports (Value C.I.F.*)—October.

	Month of October			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—	£	£	£	£	£
A. Grain and flour	6,686,960	7,118,535	6,587,862	— 530,673	— 99,098
B. Meat, including animals for food	4,175,751	3,500,961	4,061,311	+ 560,350	— 114,440
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	5,752,424	5,444,157	5,947,739	+ 503,282	+ 195,315
2. Dutiable	5,035,026	4,797,563	5,177,348	+ 379,785	+ 142,322
D. Tobacco	485,033	502,479	459,988	— 42,491	— 25,045
Total, Class I	22,135,194	21,363,995	22,234,248	+ 870,253	+ 99,054
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and manufactured fuel	1,335	1,547	835	— 712	— 500
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	431,759	434,050	503,190	+ 69,140	+ 71,431
C. Other metallic ores	824,669	653,065	725,424	+ 72,359	— 99,245
D. Wood and timber	2,879,511	2,787,042	3,190,862	+ 403,820	+ 311,351
E. Cotton	4,050,686	6,062,748	8,645,127	+ 2,582,379	+ 4,594,441
F. Wool	1,375,421	1,457,395	1,677,916	+ 220,521	+ 302,495
G. Other textile materials	1,004,447	896,242	1,010,609	+ 114,367	+ 6,162
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	2,453,607	2,168,380	2,648,760	+ 480,380	+ 195,153
I. Hides and undressed skins	949,072	1,121,554	1,088,537	— 33,017	+ 139,465
J. Paper-making materials	397,134	404,621	351,902	— 52,719	— 45,232
K. Miscellaneous	2,038,843	2,687,017	2,531,009	— 156,008	+ 492,166
Total, Class II	16,406,484	18,673,661	22,374,171	+ 3,700,510	+ 5,967,687
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	758,634	689,725	788,755	+ 99,030	+ 30,121
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,978,461	2,063,713	2,311,913	+ 248,200	+ 333,452
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	343,207	355,078	461 958	+ 106,880	+ 118,751
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	112,914	122,600	155,600	+ 33,000	+ 42,686
E. Machinery	308,047	298,361	355,129	+ 56,768	+ 47,082
F. Ships (new)	66	147	392	+ 245	+ 326
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	172,696	188,771	206,791	+ 18,020	+ 34,095
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	778,510	762,577	866,220	+ 103,643	+ 87,710
2. Wool	729,277	768,584	702,584	— 66,000	— 26,693
3. Silk	1,027,342	1,046,519	1,045,372	— 1,147	+ 18,030
4. Other materials	466,640	571,846	547,362	— 24,484	+ 80,722
I. Apparel	424,859	482,122	451,074	— 31,048	+ 26,215
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	855,918	930,385	998,022	+ 67,637	+ 142,104
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	1,092,718	993,292	952,828	— 40,464	— 139,890
L. Earthenware and glass	316,489	344,757	370,743	+ 25,986	+ 54,254
M. Paper	495,235	486,648	547,082	+ 60,434	+ 51,847
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron) motor cars, cycles, carts, etc.	282,991	348,590	437,520	+ 88,930	+ 154,529
O. Miscellaneous	1,870,155	1,962,927	2,052,162	+ 89,235	+ 182,007
Total, Class III	12,014,159	12,416,642	13,251,507	+ 834,865	+ 1,237,348
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	190,442	187,193	187,501	+ 308	— 2,941
Total value	50,746,279	52,641,491	58,047,427	+ 5,405,936	+ 7,301,148

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Exports** of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom for the month of October, 1910, as compared with the corresponding month of 1909 and 1908, and the increase or decrease in each principal category :—

Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom. (Value F.O.B.*)—October.

	Month of October.			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco –					
A. Grain and flour	331,914	303,245	357,329	+ 54,084	+ 25,415
B. Meat, including animals for food	83,933	78,351	96,002	+ 17,651	+ 12,069
C. Other food and drink	1,703,091	1,826,414	2,069,004	+ 242,590	+ 365,913
D. Tobacco	133,641	146,388	182,568	+ 36,180	+ 48,927
Total, Class I	2,252,579	2,354,398	2,704,903	+ 350,505	+ 452,324
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured–					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	3,757,219	3,242,195	3,243,724	+ 1,529	— 513,495
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	39,783	39,373	31,439	— 7,934	— 8,344
C. Other metallic ores	2,330	11,402	3,873	— 7,529	+ 1,543
D. Wood and timber	5,661	9,251	13,300	+ 4,049	+ 7,639
E. Cotton	—	—	—		—
F. Wool	294,450	521,725	339,960	— 181,765	+ 45,510
G. Other textile materials	15,369	16,478	20,248	+ 3,770	+ 4,879
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	308,392	367,926	524,160	+ 156,234	+ 215,768
I. Hides and undressed skins	123,659	136,307	130,927	— 25,380	+ 7,268
J. Paper-making materials	50,260	62,184	71,132	+ 8,948	+ 20,872
K. Miscellaneous	219,563	238,103	249,513	+ 11,410	+ 30,010
Total, Class II	4,816,626	4,664,944	4,628,276	— 36,668	— 188,350
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	3,193,173	3,487,345	3,736,458	+ 249,113	+ 543,285
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	870,907	859,780	952,839	+ 93,059	— 81,932
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	490,492	517,646	598,638	+ 80,992	+ 108,146
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	160,542	173,430	246,179	+ 72,749	+ 85,637
E. Machinery	2,925,208	2,541,927	2,650,333	+ 108,906	+ 274,375
F. Ships (new)	1,246,547	294,962	469,468	+ 174,506	— 777,079
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	126,031	133,097	178,327	+ 45,230	+ 52,296
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	7,384,296	8,249,949	9,229,271	+ 979,322	+ 1,835,975
2. Wool	1,824,304	2,331,306	2,772,525	+ 441,219	+ 948,221
3. Silk	140,728	176,968	204,974	+ 28,006	+ 64,246
4. Other materials	1,018,971	1,056,787	1,177,451	+ 120,664	+ 158,480
I. Apparel	772,503	891,896	1,191,738	+ 299,842	+ 419,235
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,424,079	1,499,180	1,698,505	+ 199,325	+ 274,426
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	386,509	420,292	462,597	+ 42,305	+ 76,088
L. Earthenware and glass	328,466	358,583	420,415	+ 61,832	+ 91,949
M. Paper	195,655	233,285	294,895	+ 61,610	+ 99,240
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron) motor cars, cycles, carts, etc.	536,962	567,365	637,347	+ 69,982	+ 100,385
O. Miscellaneous	2,301,681	2,463,602	2,602,256	+ 138,654	+ 300,575
Total, Class III	25,327,054	26,248,340	29,515,716	+ 3,267,376	+ 4,188,662
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	611,327	663,096	842,337	+ 179,241	+ 231,010
Total value	33,007,586	33,930,778	37,691,232	+ 3,760,454	+ 4,683,646

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.*—October.

Total value	£ 7,082,070	£ 7,601,053	£ 7,999,591	£ + 398,538	£ + 917,521

*The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

IV.—IMPORTS.—TRADE DURING THE TEN MONTHS, JANUARY—OCTOBER.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** of foreign and colonial merchandise during the ten months ended October, 1910, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1909 and 1908 :—

Imports (Value C.I.F.*)—Ten Months ended October.

	Ten months ended October			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910, as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	59,997,186	68,871,531	63,673,000	— 5,198,531	+ 3,675,814
B. Meat, including animals for food	40,953,011	39,555,302	40,646,036	+ 1,090,734	— 306,975
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	56,660,109	55,273,425	59,492,909	+ 4,219,484	+ 2,832,800
2. Dutiable	39,506,296	39,532,204	44,490,010	+ 4,957,806	+ 4,983,714
D. Tobacco	4,183,706	4,148,651	3,555,625	— 593,026	— 628,081
Total, Class I	201,300,308	207,381,113	211,857,580	+ 4,476,467	+ 10,557,272
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	4,051	5,082	26,720	+ 21,638	+ 22,669
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel	4,100,176	4,074,931	5,190,470	+ 1,115,539	+ 1,090,294
C. Other metallic ores	7,611,127	6,829,484	7,409,171	+ 579,687	— 201,956
D. Wood and timber	21,229,975	19,812,310	22,921,373	+ 3,109,063	+ 1,691,398
E. Cotton	39,872,639	41,669,667	42,301,785	+ 632,118	+ 2,429,146
F. Wool	25,457,290	28,656,110	31,730,552	+ 3,074,442	+ 6,273,262
G. Other textile materials	10,674,093	9,287,435	9,670,534	+ 383,099	— 1,003,559
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	24,119,252	25,413,160	31,821,527	+ 6,408,367	+ 7,702,275
I. Hides and undressed skins	7,891,115	9,514,184	10,788,495	+ 1,274,311	+ 2,897,380
J. Paper-making materials	3,767,459	3,530,073	3,786,644	+ 256,571	+ 19,185
K. Miscellaneous	18,393,002	22,464,818	35,993,436	+ 13,528,618	+ 17,600,434
Total, Class II	163,120,179	171,257,254	201,640,707	+ 30,383,453	+ 38,520,528
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	6,309,027	6,550,583	7,297,640	+ 747,107	+ 988,613
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	20,707,785	19,893,018	19,906,076	+ 13,058	— 801,709
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	3,065,454	2,941,340	3,726,148	+ 784,808	+ 660,694
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	1,018,197	1,043,975	1,311,179	+ 267,204	+ 292,982
E. Machinery	3,953,641	3,736,636	3,698,431	— 38,205	— 255,210
F. Ships (new)	17,851	23,723	22,727	— 996	+ 4,876
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	1,674,198	1,687,898	1,900,641	+ 212,743	+ 226,443
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	8,025,506	8,178,851	9,162,047	+ 983,196	+ 1,136,541
2. Wool	8,152,766	8,231,233	8,150,226	— 81,007	— 2,340
3. Silk	10,781,458	10,885,837	11,559,606	+ 673,769	+ 778,148
4. Other materials	5,330,350	6,076,482	6,736,181	+ 659,699	+ 1,405,831
I. Apparel	3,617,231	4,363,433	4,391,625	+ 28,192	+ 774,394
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours	8,453,334	8,686,700	9,341,896	+ 655,196	+ 888,562
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	9,523,559	9,404,256	9,890,827	+ 486,571	+ 367,268
L. Earthenware and glass	3,056,873	3,064,023	3,084,955	+ 20,932	+ 28,082
M. Paper	4,894,488	4,611,659	5,232,286	+ 620,627	+ 337,798
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron), motor cars, cycles, carts, &c.	3,907,916	3,886,888	4,646,179	+ 759,291	+ 738,263
O. Miscellaneous	17,739,954	18,394,335	19,680,194	+ 1,285,859	+ 1,940,240
Total, Class III	120,229,388	121,660,820	129,738,864	+ 8,078,044	+ 9,509,476
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	1,860,402	2,105,702	2,098,784	— 6,918	+ 238,382
Total value	486,510,277	502,404,889	545,335,935	+ 42,931,046	+ 58,825,658

*The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

V.—EXPORTS.—TRADE DURING THE TEN MONTHS, JANUARY–OCTOBER.

The value of the **Exports** of home produce, and of foreign and colonial produce, during the ten months ended October, 1910, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1909 and 1908, is as shown in the following table :—

Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom (Value F.O.B.*)—Ten Months ended October.

—	Ten months ended October			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	2,048,093	2,800,167	2,737,841	— 62,326	— 210,252
B. Meat, including animals for food	677,375	641,455	754,746	+ 113,291	+ 77,371
C. Other food and drink	12,694,038	13,938,161	15,852,810	+ 1,914,649	+ 3,158,772
D. Tobacco	1,138,931	1,367,096	1,724,248	+ 357,152	+ 585,317
Total, Class I	17,458,437	18,746,879	21,069,645	+ 2,322,766	+ 3,611,208
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and manufactured fuel	35,207,258	30,762,824	31,710,828	+ 948,004	— 3,496,430
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	338,611	411,926	418,430	+ 6,504	+ 79,819
C. Other metallic ores	65,247	82,342	52,837	— 29,505	— 12,410
D. Wood and timber	83,852	94,078	100,915	+ 6,837	+ 17,063
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	2,439,143	3,768,725	3,472,661	— 296,064	+ 1,033,518
G. Other textile materials	212,721	169,319	268,583	+ 99,264	+ 55,862
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	2,574,273	2,694,302	4,110,584	+ 1,416,282	+ 1,536,311
I. Hides and undressed skins	1,129,304	1,511,666	1,443,656	— 68,010	+ 314,352
J. Paper-making materials	436,761	535,243	610,750	+ 75,507	+ 173,989
K. Miscellaneous	1,712,911	1,940,559	2,197,386	+ 256,827	+ 484,475
Total, Class II	44,200,081	41,970,984	44,386,630	+ 2,415,646	+ 186,549
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	31,433,195	31,313,868	35,671,452	+ 4,357,584	+ 4,232,257
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	7,422,212	7,108,015	8,579,103	+ 1,471,088	+ 1,156,891
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	4,638,314	4,387,173	5,264,861	+ 877,688	+ 626,547
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	1,499,618	1,758,854	3,280,904	+ 1,522,050	+ 1,781,286
E. Machinery	26,129,994	23,631,113	24,185,350	+ 554,237	— 1,944,644
F. Ships (new)	9,520,995	5,126,463	8,044,529	+ 2,918,066	— 1,476,376
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	1,017,899	1,156,056	1,509,860	+ 353,804	+ 491,961
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	82,071,531	77,410,356	87,032,680	+ 9,622,324	+ 4,961,149
2. Wool	23,861,207	25,355,726	31,602,769	+ 6,247,043	+ 7,741,562
3. Silk	1,412,392	1,521,217	1,885,830	+ 364,613	+ 473,438
4. Other materials	8,920,916	10,202,724	11,109,927	+ 907,203	+ 2,189,011
I. Apparel	7,463,840	8,052,760	10,598,035	+ 2,545,275	+ 3,134,195
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	13,734,994	13,813,832	15,331,193	+ 1,517,361	+ 1,596,199
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	3,170,257	3,408,737	3,897,148	+ 488,411	+ 726,891
L. Earthenware and glass	3,122,338	3,026,136	3,575,964	+ 549,828	+ 454,576
M. Paper	1,926,424	2,103,520	2,572,247	+ 468,727	+ 645,823
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron), motor cars, cycles, carts, etc.	5,319,534	5,101,663	6,064,857	+ 963,194	+ 745,323
O. Miscellaneous	19,345,750	20,527,156	24,279,330	+ 3,752,174	+ 4,933,580
Total, Class III	252,016,370	245,035,369	284,486,039	+ 39,450,670	+ 32,469,669
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	4,995,700	5,514,860	6,325,962	+ 811,102	+ 1,330,262
Total value	318,670,588	311,266,092	356,268,276	+ 45,000,184	+ 37,597,688

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.*—Ten Months ended October.

Total value	£ 64,796,850	£ 74,978,654	£ 86,440,879	£ + 11,462,225	£ + 21,644,029

*The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Number and particulars of New Companies working exclusively in India with sterling capital and similar companies increasing their capital, registered in the United Kingdom in the month of September, 1910.

No.	Class and Name.	Shares.	Capital.		New Debentures issued.
			Nominal.	Extra.	
	I.—Trading.	£ s.	£	£	£
	Printing, Publishing and Stationery.				
1	Butterworth and Company (India)	1 0	5,000	...	...
	II.—Tea and Other Planting Companies.				
2	Victoria Point (Burma) Rubber Syndicate	1 0	30,000	...	...
3	Teekoy Rubber Estate	1 0	60,000	...	...
	Total, Tea and other Planting Companies	...	90,000	...	...
	III.—Mining and Quarrying Associations.				
4	Anglo-Burma Oil Company	1 0	500,000	...	...
	GRAND TOTAL	...	595,000	...	...

THE TRADE IN FEATHERS.

In the Council Room of the London Chamber of Commerce, Mr. J. F. Downham, managing director in London of Messrs. Sciama and Co., Ld., read a paper entitled, "some facts and fallacies in connexion with the trade in fancy feathers." Mr. Corby, of Messrs. Corby, Palmer, and Stewart, and chairman of the textile trades section of the Chamber, presided.

Mr. Downham dealt first with the misrepresentation and abuse from which, he said, the feather trade was suffering. Natural agencies were always at work to destroy wild life, and did far more harm than any trade. The feather trade did not desire and never has desired to use rare birds. For trade purposes, nothing that was not plentiful could be of use, full and free supplies being of the first importance. No bird that had been used for trade purposes is now extinct. The evidence of the British Minister to Venezuela and the sworn testimony of naturalists showed that the egret was strictly preserved in every part of South America, either in garceros, the homes of the mated herons, or in dormitories, the homes of the unmated birds. Most of the egret plumage that reached this country was picked up after the birds had moulted, and the garceros were leased by owners to collectors on terms that definitely prohibited the shooting. This custom prevailed in Venezuela, Brazil, and Colombia, and in the first-named country garceros were taxed by the Government, and the shooting of the egrets was a punishable offence. The disappearance of the egret from the more frequented part of Florida was due entirely to the opening up of the country. The exports from the Southern United States had never been worth mentioning.

As to birds of paradise, the Dutch Government protected the birds; as a rule, neither females nor young were shot, and various statements about their wholesale destruction had been denounced by the Dutch Minister in London. For humming birds there had been no trade demand for many years. The Notification of 1902, prohibiting the export of the green parrot from India, had merely availed further to impoverish the ryot. He must still kill the birds to save his grain, but he might not export the skin of his worst enemy, though it was marketable. The feather trade was ready and willing to do all in its power to save from extermination birds of admitted rarity; but it protested strongly against an ill-founded agitation against the use of plumages of birds that were in no danger of extermination, plumages that helped the feathers of game and farmyard birds to build up a considerable and ever-increasing trade, at present employing in this country alone thousands of work people. If the trade were destroyed by legislation the wild birds of the tropics would still be sent to European markets, and France, Germany, and Belgium would divide between them a trade that, quite exclusive of ostrich feathers, was worth a million pounds per annum.

A resolution was unanimously passed, expressing the opinion that the paper read by Mr. Downham was a fair and reasonable statement of the whole case, and should be printed and circulated extensively.

SEA-BORNE TRADE OF INDIA.

THE following is a summary of the accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India for the month of October 1910, and for the seven months, 1st April to 31st October, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of the years 1908 and 1909 :—

	Month of October			Seven months, 1st April to 31st October		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
IMPORTS—						
MERCHANDISE, PRIVATE—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bengal	4,93,82,616	3,67,66,324	4,26,96,780	26,87,97,424	25,59,15,129	27,90,11,993
Eastern Bengal and Assam	1,43,489	6,31,499	3,47,977	36,37,855	37,17,550	26,30,073
Bombay	3,56,98,642	3,93,30,026	4,38,49,140	23,83,21,499	22,26,28,307	25,85,80,172
Sind	89,96,234	1,06,73,947	1,26,94,496	7,03,45,735	6,11,51,147	6,71,27,810
Madras	1,02,07,190	86,59,737	89,00,349	7,43,66,000	5,44,07,968	5,54,44,012
Burma	1,24,31,339	1,00,58,286	96,40,378	7,81,95,112	6,07,44,654	5,99,43,333
TOTAL	11,68,59,510	10,61,19,819	11,81,29,120	73,36,63,625	65,85,65,055	72,27,37,393
DITTO, GOVERNMENT STORES	71,93,579	41,51,139	37,70,321	4,72,33,250	3,90,30,852	2,09,58,601
TOTAL MERCHANDISE	12,40,53,089	11,02,70,958	12,18,99,441	78,08,96,875	69,75,95,907	74,36,95,994
TREASURE, PRIVATE—						
Bengal	25,86,283	43,16,985	44,50,562	2,14,84,541	2,62,91,761	2,61,55,647
Eastern Bengal and Assam	...	...	15,366	79,697	1,15,162	91,832
Bombay	1,74,97,751	96,46,185	1,40,86,958	11,70,48,226	9,47,69,853	12,45,51,161
Sind	3,57,888	5,06,523	5,10,932	36,82,259	40,55,755	63,12,772
Madras	3,36,937	11,87,495	5,13,761	39,85,888	76,51,293	47,19,976
Burma	616	24,635	1,25,427	1,48,455	3,76,983	4,35,249
TOTAL	2,07,79,475	1,56,81,823	1,97,03,006	14,64,29,066	13,32,60,807	16,22,66,637
DITTO, GOVERNMENT	43 834	1,29,343	7,579	8,89,900	9,73,999	6,84,212
TOTAL TREASURE	2,08,23,309	1,58,11,166	1,97,10,585	14,73,18,966	13,42,34,806	16,29,50,849
GRAND TOTAL OF IMPORTS	14,48,76,398	12,60,82,124	14,16,10,026	92,82,15,841	83,18,30,713	90,66,46,843
EXPORTS—						
MERCHANDISE, PRIVATE—						
(*Foreign Merchandise*)—						
Bengal	1,47,776	81,049	97,053	13,23,367	10,70,211	16,29,129
Eastern Bengal and Assam	1	...	...	8,739	480	1,862
Bombay	19,90,417	17,12,559	27,80,450	1,29,90,257	1,37,07,474	1,89,16,599
Sind	4,11,981	3,19,553	4,04,018	23,62,341	22,20,939	27,14,034
Madras	1,13,943	1,66,905	1,75,424	6,85,585	7,99,763	11,86,809
Burma	31,602	39,286	40,706	2,96,409	2,59,266	3,53,003
TOTAL	26,95,720	23,19,352	34,97,651	1,76,66,698	1,80,58,133	2,48,01,436
(*Indian Merchandise*)—						
Bengal	6,26,02,003	6,98,02,549	6,81,29,759	37,24,84,684	39,15,67,677	44,33,91,305
Eastern Bengal and Assam	93,72,122	90,22,098	1,06,26,232	2,58,71,905	2,07,97,348	2,64,55,208
Bombay	2,29,44,427	2,42,53,376	3,50,05,808	19,86,95,594	22,24,67,589	32,75,14,701
Sind	71,50,935	97,55,808	1,19,31,348	3,89,17,246	12,55,15,895	11,34,21,135
Madras	1,27,41,252	1,43,73,231	1,30,04,135	10,75,60,062	11,24,41,852	12,34,72,423
Burma	41,53,066	74,22,280	1,31,44,233	6,62,35,422	7,49,81,440	10,29,38,620
TOTAL	11,89,64,465	13,46,29,342	15,18,41,515	80,97,64,823	94,77,71,801	113,71,93,392
Total Foreign and Indian Merchandise exported—						
Bengal	6,27,49,779	6,98,83,598	6,82,26,812	37,38,08,051	39,26,37,888	44,50,20,434
Eastern Bengal and Assam	93,72,123	90,22,098	1,06,26,232	2,58,80,644	2,07,97,828	2,64,57,070
Bombay	2,49,34,844	2,59,65,935	3,77,86,258	21,16,85,761	23,61,75,063	34,64,31,300
Sind	75,62,976	1,00,75,361	1,23,35,366	4,12,79,587	12,77,36,834	11,61,35,169
Madras	1,28,55,195	1,45,40,136	1,31,79,559	10,82,45,647	11,32,41,615	12,46,59,232
Burma	41,85,268	74,61,566	1,31,84,939	6,65,31,831	7,52,40,706	10,32,91,603
TOTAL	12,16,60,185	13,69,48,694	15,53,39,166	82,74,31,521	96,58,29,934	116,19,94,828
DITTO, GOVERNMENT STORES	1,23,743	19,371	1,55,982	7,63,705	3,72,987	4,70,862
TOTAL MERCHANDISE	12,17,83,928	13,69,68,065	15,54,95,148	82,81,95,226	96,62,02,921	116,24,65,690
TREASURE, PRIVATE—						
Bengal	21,321	14,516	1,75,912	37,55,297	2,75,706	35,96,218
Eastern Bengal and Assam	...	...	...	...	...	15,367
Bombay	34,66,229	52,25,942	41,38,986	2,61,42,263	2,77,11,524	3,28,62,539
Sind	1,38,000	2,90,570	1,26,759	5,87,626	23,47,945	35,78,578
Madras	15,09,203	10,10,656	9,16,649	40,44,650	54,94,963	63,52,635
Burma	17,000	...	...	2,82,000	25,000	1,10,500
TOTAL	51,51,753	65,41,684	53,58,306	3,48,11,836	3,58,55,138	4,65,15,837
DITTO, GOVERNMENT	3 000	...	1,200	36,06,729	7,000	19,620
TOTAL TREASURE	51,54,753	65,41,684	53,59,506	3,84,18,565	3,58,62,138	4,65,35,457
GRAND TOTAL OF EXPORTS	12,69,38,681	14,35,09,749	16,08,54,654	86,66,13,791	100,20,65,059	120,90,01,147
GROSS AMOUNT OF IMPORT DUTY COLLECTED, *including Salt*	67,43,453	61,32,206	79,79,164	4,39,79,106	4,10,41,331	5,38,72,878
DITTO, EXPORT DUTY COLLECTED	3,41,758	4,46,629	7,40,269	36,30,572	44,03,681	59,80,627

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 26th November, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	217,044
	Bombay	„	177,348
	Madras	„	339,005
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	170,800
	Bombay	„	2,555,850
	Madras	„	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	13,762,272
	Bombay	„	5,587,183
	Karachi	„	978,831
	Madras	„	2,956,317
	Rangoon	„	288,318

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	2,120,458
	Bombay	„	4,900,279
	Karachi	„	2,578,300
	Madras	„	644,978
	Rangoon	„	513,787

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	2,394,510
	Bombay	„	4,675,756
	Karachi	„	2,581,889
	Madras	„	2,068,289
	Rangoon	„	1,236,090

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*17,796
	Bombay	„	9,172
	Karachi	„	15,469
	Madras	„	4,545

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	897
	Coastwise	„	8,581
	By rail	„	198,247
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	74,834
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*12,153

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*744 664
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	16,705 990
	„ cloth	yds.	37,460,050
	Jute	cwt.	478,291
Exports by sea from Chittagong	Jute	„	29,032

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from	Bombay	cwt	24,111

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into	Calcutta	cwt.	*3,821
	Bombay By sea	„	74
	Bombay Coastwise	„	170
	Bombay By rail	„	7,316
	Karachi By rail and river	„	2,034
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	7.006
	Bombay	„	30,005
	Karachi	„	4,634

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into	Calcutta	cwt.	*44,263
	Bombay By sea	„	...
	Bombay Coastwise	„	...
	Bombay By rail	„	6,657
	Karachi By rail and river	„	20,042
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	374
	Bombay	„	52.000
	Karachi	„	15,849

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*162.945
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	123,256
	Chittagong	„	7,708
	Bombay	„	11,809
	Karachi	„	25,761
	Madras	„	...
	Rangoon	„	322,688

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*10,536,400
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	6,356,336
	Chittagong	„	1,853,280

WHEAT.

Imports into	Calcutta by rail and river	cwt.	*38.423
	Karachi by rail	„	550,000
	Bombay By sea	„	...
	Bombay Coastwise	„	2.054
	Bombay By rail	„	58,791
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	6,598
	Bombay	„	127,071
	Karachi	„	220,943

* B. N. Ry. figures not included.

The correct figure of white piece goods imported into Karachi for the week ending 19th November, 1910, is 634,394 yards.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta . . Cwt.	3,375,452	2,564,818	3,423,475	5,244,090	1,076,494	1,049,515	Not	reported.
Bombay . . „	2,611,851	1,806,430	2,034,410	2,871,417	1,463,977	2,585,526	6,500,262	12,945,314
Karachi . . „	14,169,238	15,213,554	...	14,679	2,980,419	4,573,215	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 26th NOVEMBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From All other foreign countries.	Total.
	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.
Calcutta	...	...	713,727	713,727
Bombay	...	1,057	...	1,057
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	...	...	...

Exports by sea from Burma to		
	Bengal	437,200
	E. B. & Assam	...
	Bombay	...
	Sind	...
	Madras	881,700
	Indian Ports, Non-Br.	...
	Foreign Ports	...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 26th NOVEMBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	90	...	20	85	7	92	294
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	875	...	...	...	875
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	107,914	...	41,490	37,618	...	10,968	197,990
Mauritius	...	...	1,743	1,373	...	...	3,116
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	...	18	...	9,321	9,339
					Total refined		211,614
					Total unrefined		27,000
					Grand Total		238,614

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 25th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 25th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 26th November. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 26th November. Packages	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	6,617	7 6·9	149,595	7 4·2	5,488	6 10·5	129,566	7 5·6
Cachar	4,899	6 5·6	111,055	6 2·4	3,678	5 11·4	119,121	5 9·8
Sylhet	4,316	6 8	76,135	6 3	2,897	5 9·4	79,652	5 9·5
Darjeeling	1,270	8 10·1	61,487	9 4·7	833	10 4·7	54,219	9 11·8
Doors	6,813	7 4	157,882	6 8·3	7,185	7 0·6	156,817	6 9·7
Terai	416	7 11·5	20,526	6 6·2	217	6 3·7	15,044	6 3·2
Chittagong	420	6 6·6	7,341	6 2·6	238	5 9·3	6,092	5 10·8
Chota-Nagpore	...	...	1,343	7 6·3	...	...	1,574	6 7·1
Kumaon and Kangra	123	6 4·5	3,089	6 4·3	100	6 0	2,795	5 8·5
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	20	5 0	110	5 11·7
Debra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	5 9
Nepal	...	...	495	6 4·7	...	...	474	6 2·9
All other places	...	...	76	5 11	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	24,874	7 2·2	589,067	6 11·7	20,656	6 8·8	565,552	6 10·6

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 31,285 packages Dust* sold to 25th November 5*a.* 9·7*p.*
" 1909-10 " 29,230 " " " 26th " 5*a.* 6·5*p.*

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

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8¾×5½, 172 pp. . . . . 3*s.* 6*d.* net.
P. S King.
(An expanded version of a course of lectures delivered early this year at the London School of Economics and Political Science).

—Reports from **Italy** indicate that **commercial conditions** there are still far from satisfactory. The cholera outbreak in the South has had very serious effects on business, and traders are finding great difficulty in obtaining payments now falling due. There is great variation in the **crops** in different parts of the country. The olive oil crop, for instance, is good in the inland districts, but near the coast has been a complete failure. The total production will not be above half the mormal, and though prices have risen very considerably, this is poor consolation to producers who have seen their crops destroyed. The **textile industries,** silk and cotton, are depressed. The attempts of the cotton trade to improve the position by forming conventions to raise prices have not proved of any great assistance, the productive capacity of the industry being much in excess of normal requirements. The **metal industries** are faring the best. Manufacturers of rolling stock are principally engaged on repair work at the moment, but the State railway authorities are about to place orders for 20,000 goods waggons. Automobile manufacturers who survived the late crisis in this industry are pretty well employed, and are doing a fair trade in commercial vehicles. Expenses, particularly in connection with racing and, advertising generally, have been drastically reduced.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

COMMERCIAL GUIDE (MONTHLY).

	Rate. Rs.	A.
Per annum	100	0
Per half-year	54	0
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First copy per annum	100	0
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" " " quarter	28	0
Additional copy per annum	20	0
" " " half-year	12	0
" " " quarter	8	0
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To Subscribers per copy	1	0
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One copy of either per annum	65	0
" " " " " half-year	35	0
" " " " " quarter	20	0
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POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20	0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.		

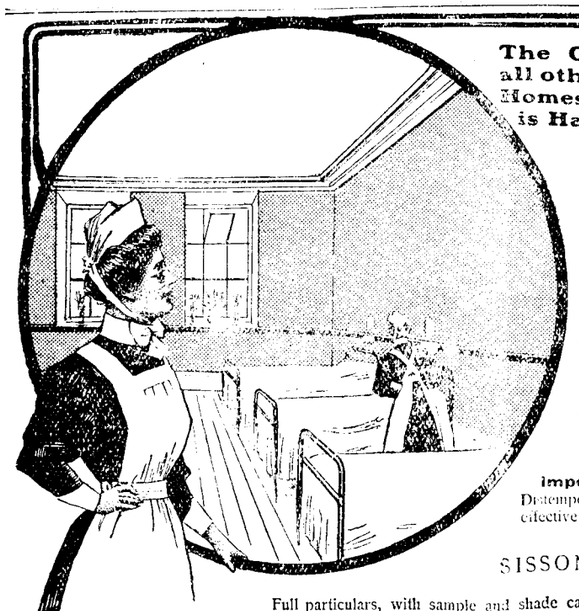
MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1	0
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Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0	6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.



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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Wednesday Evening.

Presidency Bank Rates	Calcutta	7 per cent. (Dec. 1).
	Bombay	6 per cent. (Nov. 17).
	Madras	6 per cent. (Nov. 18).
Exchange	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 5/16
	6 months	1-4 7/16

Government Paper (3½ per cent.) Rs. 94 5/8.

The **Third General Memorandum** on the **cotton crop** of the season 1910-11 will appear in the *Indian Trade Journal* of the 15th instant. The gist of it in tabular form will be exhibited as usual at the street door of the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, No. 5, Clive Street, Calcutta, on the 14th instant at 4 P.M.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 3rd December was Rs. 29-1-7 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 6th December was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia-Bhawnagar cotton**, December delivery, Rs. 316 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **wholesale spot prices** of the undermentioned articles in Calcutta on the 7th instant were as under :—

Jute—C. D. M. and Co. (Red) Group per 400 lbs.	Rs.	55	8 0
„ M. per 400 lbs.	„	47	0 0
Rice—Ballam No. 1 per B. md.	„	4	6 0
„ Mooghy „		*Nil.*	
Linseed—Bold 4°/₀ per B. md.		*Nil.*	
Rapeseed—Yellow, mixed, bold, Cawnpore, 4°/₀ per B. md.		*Nil.*	

The total approximate **gross earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 19th November, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,77,10,390 and Rs. 3,17,89,531 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09, respectively.

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales of cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 45 weeks ended 10th November, 1910 :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 10th Nov., 1910.	45 weeks ended 10th Nov., 1910.	Week ended 10th Nov., 1910.	45 weeks ended 10th Nov., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	159,871	1,939,485	2,167	191,571
Brazilian	...	55,819	200	3,388
East Indian	...	188,828	184	42,675
Egyptian	21,480	249,865	766	55,686
Miscellaneous	762*	108,686†	93	7,276
Total	182,113	2,542,683	3,410	300,596

* Including 49 bales British West Indian, 4 bales British West African, and 604 bales British East African.

† Including 6,249 bales British West Indian, 6,677 bales British West African, 13,929 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

Writing from Cairo on November 5th a correspondent says :—**Crop reports** from the **Soudan** are very satisfactory. Good spates came from Khor Baraka on five different occasions during August, and the prospects for 1911 are above the average. The price of **cotton** at Wad Medani during August was as follows :—Highe st 30 piastres ; lowest, 26 piastres. (1 piastre=2½ annas.) Upper Nile Province prospects are very good. There has been rain almost continuously since the beginning of September, but not too violent. Heavy rain is also reported at Sinkat and Erkowit, in the Red Sea Province. Reports from other districts may be summarised as follows :—Berber : cultivation good. W. Wedani : Crop prospects generally very fair. Kassala: Rain light and well distributed. Elobeid : Sixteen heavy crops, eleven light crops, six moderate crops. Singa : Crops and rainfall good throughout province. Ducim : Rains heavy, crops good in all districts, except Geteina, crops fair. Blue Nile Province : Crops fair. Mowagil and south part of Medani Merkez ; Good rains. Gedaref : Crops good. It is anticipated that the area cultivated this year in Gallabat will be larger than last. Kordofan : Good rains during August. Reports all foretell a very good harvest if rains continue. White Nile Province : Rains good during August, and all districts well forward and promising. The Alexandria General Produce Association has published the following note on cotton for October :—"Lower Egypt : The temperature has been favourable during October and hastened the opening of pods of the second pickings, which have given satisfactory results. In the Central and Southern Provinces the first and second pickings have been made without interruption and almost simultaneously. Ginning yields remain from 1 to 3 per cent more than those of last year. As regards the third pickings they are very irregular and generally of little importance. Upper Egypt and Fayoum : The temperature was not very favourable during the first fortnight, nights being cool and dews abundant. However, during the second fortnight the temperature has been fairly warm. In general Upper Egypt and the Fayoum have given about the same results per feddan as last year, but owing to the larger acreage the total yield will be rather larger. The third pickings will be insignificant. The whole of informations received lead us to hope for good results, and we estimate the crop at about 7,000,000 cantars." At the same time I have it on good authority that the Association's opinion is not unanimous in Alexandria, still less in Cairo. There are certain experts who mention 6 to 6½ million cantars as being the more probable quantity. A cantar is equivalent to 99·05 lbs.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market**, dated 10th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray and Co., Ld., say :—The firmness of holders of **Indian yarns** in face of the rather higher exchange on India, has not coincided with the ideas of buyers, and consequently business from first hands, as reported, is of a very meagre description. There are orders in from Tientsin but prices offered are so far much too low to satisfy importers, who in view of the comparatively light unsold stock decline to make any concessions. However, a small beginning has been made which may lead to further transactions in the near future, as the time is rapidly approaching for the cessation of the direct steamer traffic. The demand for the North is for No. 10s. and the business reported is 5 bales Naranjee at $99·00 and 100 bales Swadeshi Kose at $103·00. In the higher counts 5 bales Queen Mill No. 12s. is reported at $96·00 for Women Chop and 100 bales Currimbhoy Mule, No. 20s., at $113·25—113·50, which latter marks a slight advance.

The statement below shows the quantity of **cotton goods calendered** and the proportion thereof to the total production in **Indian mills** in the month of September, 1910, and in the six months from April to September, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of 1909-10 :—

	1909-10.		1910-11.	
	Sept.	Six months, April to Sept.	Sept.	Six months, April to Sept.
BRITISH INDIA—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	13,114,432	60,766,012	16,337,950	70,551,092
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	60·86	57·81	65·86	61·72
NATIVE STATES (excluding Hyderabad)—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	181,906	795,401	115,552	771,175
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	37·3	25·16	14·42	16·60
TOTAL INDIA (excluding Hyderabad)—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	13,296,338	61,561,413	16,453,502	71,322,267
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	60·34	56·80	64·25	60

Writing on November 4th the New York correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says :—The trade is more at sea regarding the size of the **American cotton crop** than at any time this season. Estimates are being received almost daily, and a difference of 3,400,000 bales is noted between the most bearish and most bullish estimates. Every report, and even rumours of reported estimates, is given serious consideration by the traders. The following are some of the estimates published by leading cotton authorities, with the dates of issue :—

September	8,	National Farmers' Union	9,500,000
„	9,	New York "Commercial"	11,897,000
„	29,	Miss Giles, New York	10,750,000
„	29,	A. Nordon and Co., New York	11,625,000
October	10,	H. L. Scales, New Orleans	11,050,000
„	18,	O. D. Hammond, New Orleans	11,300,000
„	28,	Moyse Holmes, New Orleans	11,770,000
„		M. F. Cordill, New Orleans	12,600,000
„	29,	M. H. Gunther and Co., Memphis	12,685,000
November	1,	Sterling Price	12,900,000
„	3,	50 Members Savannah Ex'ge	11,790,000
„	3,	50 Members Augusta Ex'ge	11,800,000
„	3,	"Cotton and Cotton Oil News," Dallas, Texas	11,435,000

The New Orleans *Picayune* reports on the recent frost as follows :—"The cold spell that has spread over the whole country during the past few days has undoubtedly produced killing frost in the greater portion of the cotton belt. In fact it is likely that only the southern portion of Texas and the immediate Gulf coast escaped the severity of the weather. It must be admitted, however, that as the cold was unaccompanied by rain or even moisture, it has probably done less harm to vegetation than might otherwise have been the case. That the further growth of cotton has been arrested there can be no doubt, but that mature or nearly mature bolls have been damaged is not very probable. The killing frost has come several weeks later than last year and much later than is usually the case. It is therefore probable that the crop has been pretty well made in the greater part of the belt. Nevertheless the frost has undoubtedly put a stop to further additions to the yield, and the so-called crop authorities can now safely promulgate their estimates of the yield. These estimates are not of any great value, however, as they are guesses pure and simple, but still they add to the gaiety of the situation and afford speculators material for influencing the market. The crop was probably later in Oklahoma and North Texas than in any other part of the belt, yet reports from that section indicate that no very serious damage has been done, as the crop was practically made. If that is the case with respect to Oklahoma, the damage in the Eastern belt cannot have been very extensive, as the crop there, though backward, was not as late as in the North-West."

The Government of India have on the recommendation of the Government of Bombay approved of a proposal that in the case of **Indian-made cotton goods exported to Persia** by the **Nushki-Seistan route** the **whole of the excise duty levied** on them under the Cotton Duties Act, 1896 (II of 1896), should be **refunded** whether they pass *viâ* Karachi or not. The procedure to be adopted will be as follows : All goods intended for export to Persia by the Nushki-Seistan route will be inspected at the mill before issue, the bales will be sealed and a descriptive list of the bales sent by the Collector of Bombay, who assesses to duty under the Cotton Duties Act all goods produced in the Bombay Presidency, to the Consul at Seistan. In the case of goods intended for export by sea *viâ* Bombay and Karachi, the numbers of the bales will be communicated to the Customs authorities and the bales being sealed will be passed by them without examination. Goods manufactured in the mills in Guzarat will be sent by rail and will not pass through the hands of the Customs authorities at either port. On the arrival of the goods at Seistan, the consignee will be required to apply to the Consul at that place, who, after examining the goods, will send a statement of the numbers of the bales and a certificate that the seal was intact to the Collector of Bombay. On the receipt of this certificate the Collector of Bombay

will grant a refund of the duty paid. The procedure will resemble that adopted for goods exported *viâ* the Srinagar-Leh and Hoshiarpur-Leh routes, except that there will be no breaking of bulk.

A Washington message, dated November 25th, states that the **United States** Census Bureau report the **supply of cotton** at 6,082,000 bales.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 12th November, 1910, were as follows :—Wheat, 29*s.* 11*d.*; barley, 25*s.* 4*d.*; and oats, 15*s.* 11*d.*

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 15th ultimo—*United States of America*—Dry weather continues over considerable area of winter belt, complaints increasing but not serious; receipts continue decreasing, stocks increasing. *Canada*—Government increased estimate last wheat crop about 6,000,000 bushels; big increase acreage indicated next season; Winnipeg receipts show good decrease, stocks increased. *Argentina*—Northern region recently had rather too much rain whilst Bahia Blanca region needs rain; estimates of wheat surplus circulated in America not large. Our editor cables us from Buenos Ayres this evening an estimate of 12,500,000 quarters for wheat surplus, which is moderate. *Australia*—Harvest prospects continue good; a fair number of boats already fixed load new season. *India*—Sowings of wheat, oilseeds continue, and germination in early districts good. *Russia*—Weather more wintry generally, but mild in Azoff; reports new seedings favourable; arrivals smaller, stocks still heavy. *Roumania*.—Weather seasonable and some further sowing reported; decrease in acreage of winter wheat again mentioned and estimated 25 to 30 per cent below last year's, which was large; arrivals small, stocks decreasing. *Hungary*—Weather rather winterly, but sowing continues; condition of early sowings improved; supplies scanty. *France*—Weather wet and very unfavourable sowing; much winter wheat still to be planted, and growers fear early sowings are in danger. *Germany*—New crop satisfactory to good; supplies good quality native wheat scanty, inferior larger. *Italy*.—Weather seasonable, new crop satisfactory; supplies native wheat larger, arrivals foreign heavy. *Spain*—Good rains; supplies liberal. *North Africa*—Some rain has fallen, but more wanted. *United Kingdom*.—Some complaints of delayed sowing.

Reuter wires from Shanghai that there is a **famine** in Northern **An-Hui**. Three million people are affected. The famine covers a wider area, but is less severe than that in 1907.

The following note on the **cultivation of soy beans** has been furnished by Officiating Inspector General of Agriculture and will be read with interest:—Soy bean should be grown as a kharif—(rainy season) crop, but in certain localities as in Burma, it is cultivated during the cold weather. The seed should be sown in June-July. The cultivation is similar to that of other pulses grown in India, *i. e.*, gram, which however is grown in the cold weather. The crop is ripe in October—November. Superior varieties of this pulse have much more robust plants with broader leaves and larger pods and seeds and require more careful cultivation. Fairly fertile loamy soils and moderate rainfall are the most suitable The land should be thoroughly ploughed and cleaned and should be in a good state of tilth before sowing. There should be sufficient moisture in the soil when the seed is sown. It is advisable either to drill the seed in rows 12 to 15 inches apart or to sow it by hand behind a plough and then level the surface with a log of wood or otherwise. Care should be taken not to cover the seed below 2″ in depth at the most. It should be sown very sparingly at the rate of 15 to 20 lbs. per acre and the seedlings should if necessary be thinned out so as to leave a space of 9″ between them. The plants require ample room for their growth as they branch so freely that a mass of vegetation is produced which completely shades the ground. After sowing, the only care required is to keep the land clean by hoeing and hand weeding if necessary. The crop matures as soon as the leaves begin to fall and then it should be harvested. In a good year, the crop yields from 500 to 1,000 lbs. of grain per acre. In an experiment at the Poona farm in 1906-07 the average yield of different varieties introduced from Japan was 660 lbs. of grain per acre. The straw affords a very valuable fodder for all kinds of stock who eat it most readily.

At the request of this Department the British Consul at St. Louis, United States of America, is making enquiries as to the **method of manufacturing cotton seed flour**, and proposes to send samples at an early date. In the mean time he gives some useful information. Some experiments have been made by a company at St. Louis; and, while there is some reticence shown as to actual processes, it seems probable that they consist merely in the grinding of cake made from decorticated seed and very careful "bolting" and shifting after reduction. While seed is not commonly crushed in the undecorticated state in the United Kingdom when the cake or meal is to be fed to cattle, decortication must presumably be carried out if flour is to be made for human food. Experiments in cooking cotton seed flour seem to show that yeast has no effect on it and that the bread does not rise; but this defect would not be serious in the case of chapaties commonly used by the natives of India. The inactivity of yeast is due to the presence of cotton seed oil; nevertheless bread can be made in the usual way by the addition of wheat flour.

The definite agreement which was finally fixed up recently with regard to the renewal of the **International Zinc Syndicate** was in accordance with general anticipations. One important point of difference between the present Syndicate and the last is the complete inclusion of the English producers, who have hitherto merely had an agreement with reference to production, but under the new terms, which come into force with the new year, will be subject to precisely the same conditions as other members. It has been decided to fix the allotment of each member from quarter to quarter, but on an entirely new basis from that hitherto existing. For the first quarter of 1911 there will be no limit to output, each member being at liberty to produce according to his capacity. At the end of the quarter, and at the end of each succeeding quarter, there will be a stock taken of unsold metal, and if this exceeds a certain fixed maximum a general curtailment will be enforced, the proportion of the entire reduction allotted to each member being in the same ratio as his individual output is to the whole output of the Syndicate for that quarter. It is hoped by this means to maintain prices at a pretty regular level. The new Syndicate will expire on April 1st, 1914, and sales will remain under the control of Messrs. Beer, Sondheimer, and Co., Frankfort, A. Hirsch and Son, and the Metallgesellschaft, Frankfort.

The total quantity and value of **gold** extracted from the **Indian mines** during the month of October, 1910, were 46,926 ozs. and Rs. 26,75,822. The output for the same month as compared with the corresponding months of 1909 and 1908 was as follows :—

Month of October.

		1910.	1909.	1908.
Mysore	Ozs.	45,712	45,874	45,728
	Rs.	26,06,822	26,12,318	26,33,193
Nizam's Territory	Ozs.	1,214	1,400	1,476
	Rs.	69,000	78,434	85,301

In its issue of November 15th the *Manchester Guardian* says :—There has been a slight set-back in the **copper market** during the past week, but taking all the circumstances into consideration it is not so great as might have been expected. The loss in value in comparison with the two Friday closing prices was only 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton. Apparently a too sanguine view of the early possibilities of American reduction had been taken, and when the figures came out the market was disappointed. No doubt the October output was a surprise to many people. The *Ironmonger* suggests that it is caused by smelters using more imported ore, and thus "the restricted home production of the mines has been nullified." It is, however, possible that this explanation is not altogether correct. There is, of course, a stock of ore, and until this is cleared the effect of curtailment in the actual daily output of ore is not felt at the refineries, nor is it reflected in copper output figures. It is possible that there may be some tendency to increase the use of imported ore, but probably not to the extent of nullifying the efforts to reduce copper output. We shall know more on this subject when the November and December figures are published, because these will be freer from the influence of accumulated stocks of ore. The total visible supply of copper stands at 150,593 tons; truly a formidable figure, but the quantity was 178,434 tons at the end of May. The price of standard warrants then was £56 17*s.* 6*d.*, and at the end of last week it was only £57 5*s.*, with business prospects (apart from the political disturbance) much better.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows :—

For the week ending 3rd December, 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 3,250; 3,250; 3,225; 3,200; 3,200; 3,225; 3,225.

Benares opium—Rs. 3,200; 3,200; 3,150; 3,125; 3,125; 3,150; 3,150.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 12th sale of 1910 were Rs. 3,250; 3,250; 3,225; 3,200; 3,200; 3,225; 3,225.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange, Rs. 137½ to 139 per $100).

Behar opium—$2,340; 2,350; 2,350; 2,340; 2,340; 2,350; 2,375.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

At Shanghai—(Exchange, Rs. 186½ per 100 Taels).

Behar opium—On the 1st instant Taels 1,730.

Benares opium—On the 1st instant Taels 1,730.

For the week ending 26th November, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

From the 20th to 26th (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,985; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,500 to 3,100.

The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new) Rs. 3,047 and 3,307; (old) Rs. 3,116 and 3,402, respectively.

At the present juncture when the **sugar market** is being watched with anxiety the following remarks extracted from the last issue of *Czarnikow's Circular* is interesting :—"We are in height of production, and yet there is comparatively little actual sugar offering of the new crop. It gets stored inland so much that the store room becomes scarce, and that is a feature of steadiness in the market until next Spring, when prospects for the following crops will regulate prices. When United Kingdom refiners want actual sugar they may have to compete with the

German refiners for the daily factory offerings, because if once storing expenses have been incurred, those stores generally remain closed till Summer. This, of course, changes whenever prices tempt holders, and at same time the statistical position may induce them to sell."

—•—

It is reported that **sugar dealers** in **Karachi** are expected to suffer heavy losses this year due to prices having gone down in consequence of an exceptionally abundant supply of the European beet crop. The outturn of the present year is likely to exceed that of 1905, which was a record one, by about one million tons. This has brought a slump in sugar prices all round. Java sugar has suffered in value as well as Continental sugar. The loss to Karachi merchants is estimated at fifty lakhs, and although the amount is small compared with the amount of speculative transactions in other cities, much of the bulk of the sugar is in the hands of less substantial merchants. The December and March consignments, it is feared, may bring about a commercial crisis. Already three failures are announced at Karachi. It may be added that the conditions alluded to above are by no means confined to Karachi.

—•—

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal*, writing on November 10th regarding the **Hull oil market**, says :— **Rape oils**, Jamba, 26*s.* 6*d.* **Soy oil** quiet at 33*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. ; and 31*s.* 9*d.* for naked for prompt. **Linseed** : The market for linseed oil is steady, with spot at 43*s.* 9*d.*, 43*s.* 4½*d.* November—December, 41*s.* 6*d.* January-April. The exports for the week amounted to 38 tons, of which America took 26, Austria 5, Denmark 1, Egypt 2, Germany 2, Norway 1, and West Indies 1. **Cottonseed Oil** : The market is steady with refined cotton oil at 28*s.* 9*d.* spot, 28*s.* 7½*d.* November-April ; crude cotton oil, 27*s.* 6*d.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 132 tons, of which America took 52, Belgium 20, Egypt 14, France 1, Germany 2, Holland 42, and Sweden 1. **Lard oil** steady at 60*s.* per cwt. for best English refined, ex-mill. **Olive oil** dull. Spot, Spanish, £58 to £59, and Levant £55 per ton, ex-store. **Cocoanut oil** continues steady at £42 to £42 10*s.* per ton for English, ex-mill. **Castor oil** quiet, but continues steady at 3⅞*d.* to 3½*d.* per lb. for Calcutta. **Palm oil** steadier with rather more inquiry. Spot Lagos, sold at £37 12*s.* 6*d.* ; Benin at £34 15*s.* ; Saltponds £31, and November Hards at £32 10*s.* Benin reported sold at £34 10*s.* transit. Refined sorts steady at £35 5*s.* for clarified and £38 5*s.* for bleached. **Petroleum** quiet but continues steady at 5½*d.* to 6½*d.* for American and 5*d.* for Russian. **Turpentine** steady November—December 56*s.* 3*d.* ; January-April 57*s.* 3*d.* per cwt.

—•—

In their weekly report on the **Australian wool sales** dated Melbourne, November 10th, Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort and Co., Ld., say :—We held our sixth sale of the season yesterday, submitting 4,494 bales, of which, including private sales, we disposed of 4,253 bales. With the progress of the series our catalogues are becoming more attractive, and more particularly does this apply to the smaller lots, of which our offerings are, as is now usually the case, largely composed. The northern clips are now being replaced by the product of the Wimmera, Western, and North Eastern Districts, with the result that prices are, generally speaking, on a higher level. The attention paid to the smaller lines has been one of the chief features of the past few seasons, and this year is no exception, every lot, no matter how small, being carefully valued and eagerly competed for. This is naturally more noticeable in those lots where care has been taken in the get-up, and we cannot too strongly impress upon owners the necessity of putting as much work as possible into their clips. Last week's rates were fully maintained for good wools of all descriptions, but there was considerable irregularity in the bidding for all faulty and inferior merino. In crossbreds, Koortnong from Camperdown headed the list at 14*d.*, while in the merino section E S T/II G/RHODES, from Tasmania, sold at 13¼*d.* In lambs, 14*d.* was obtained for a single bale of a showy little parcel marked CAHIRBLONIG, from Middle Creek.

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It is notified in the *Calcutta Gazette* of yesterday's date that in exercise of the power conferred by sections 137, 63 and 66 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878 (VIII of 1878), the Board of Revenue direct that a **shipping bill** shall not be required in the case of any goods shipped or water-borne to be shipped for exportation from the port of Calcutta to any Customs port, except goods of the following classes, namely :—(*a*) goods shipped from foreign ports and transhipped or retained at Calcutta for Customs ports ; (*b*) goods to be transhipped at a Customs port for a foreign port ; (*c*) goods specified in schedules II and V to the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 ; (*d*) tea, sulphur, lead, saltpetre, opium, and salt ; (*e*) exciseable articles, such as *charas, ganja, chandu*, rum, etc. ; (*f*) goods exported under claim for drawback or under bond for duty of Customs or excise ; (*g*) goods the importation or exportation of which is prohibited or restricted under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, or any other law for the time being in force ; and (*h*) such other goods as the Collector of Customs may, for special reasons, prescribe : Provided that the owners or agents of the vessel in which shipment is to be made have given a guarantee to the satisfaction of the Collector of Customs—(*i*) for the production in duplicate of a manifest, or General Account of Cargo, covering the goods within five days (which period may, at the discretion of the Collector, be extended to seven days) from the date of the grant of port clearance ; and (*ii*) for the payment to the Port Commissioners, within the same period, of the port charges on the goods which are known as the special toll, the payment being evidenced on a third copy of the said manifest. A shipping bill is required for goods of the following classes :—(*a*) Goods shipped from foreign ports and transhipped or retained at Calcutta, for Customs ports. (*b*) Goods shipped for foreign ports at Calcutta, whether to be transhipped at any Customs port or not. Transhipment goods should be indicated by a note in the column of remarks. (*c*) Goods specified in Schedules II and V to the Indian Tariff Act, 1894. (*d*) Tea, sulphur, lead, saltpetre, opium and salt. (*e*) Exciseable articles, such as *charas, ganja, chandu*, rum, etc. (*f*) Goods exported under claim for drawback or under bond for duty of Customs or Excise. (*g*) Goods, the importation or exportation of which is prohibited or restricted under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, or any other law for the time being in force, and (*h*) such other goods of the Collector of Customs may, for special reasons, prescribe.

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For some years past we have been drawing attention in these pages to the **importance of effectual drying of certain commodities** in India, Throughout the world there has been a fuller realization of the need for sounder methods in this respect, and the book under review (*Drying Machinery and Practice* by Thomas G. Marlow, Crosby Lockwood and Son, London, 1910, price 12*s.* 6*d.* net) is intended to meet the demand that has consequently arisen for exact information regarding the best practice and appliances. The author points out that it is the first book on the subject though naturally there has in recent years been a good deal of scattered writing upon branches of it. For students in a country of high temperatures and high humidity the work is not quite adequate, and it does not discuss specifically the treatment of such important tropical poducts as copra. In the account of various appliances for the testing of moisture in grain no mention is made of the interesting and expeditious electrical resistance method. The first chapters, however, bring together the scientific data on a comprehension of which must be founded any sound theory of drying in any country. In the Preface to the volume the author expressly invites criticisms and suggestions with a view to repairing in a new edition any deficiencies marked in the first. The book is divided into eleven chapters, the first of which is devoted to a statement of the general principles which govern the various methods of removing moisture from different kinds of materials. The next three chapters give a summary of the different methods employed in drying by gravitation, absorption and condensation ; by pressure and by centrifugal force, and by evaporation. The two chapters that follow deal with the methods of applying the heat and removing the vapour. There is a separate chapter devoted to the handling of material. The last four chapters are devoted to a description of the evaporative drying installations. There are two useful appendices to the volume giving the bibliography on the subject and a glossary of the terms used. The photographic reproductions of the apparatus, machinery and installations described add to the interest of the book.

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A pamphlet entitled *Egypt and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan : Resources and Development, especially in relation to cotton Growing* has been published by the British Cotton Growing Association and is priced at a shilling. It is a reprint of an address by the Rt. Hon. Sir William Mather delivered in Manchester in October last. Speaking of the cost of growing cotton in that part of the world, Sir William says :—The actual area under cotton last year was about 720 acres, the average yield of which was 400 lbs. of lint, or about 1,309 lbs. of unginned cotton per acre ; but there were some large areas, which had been especially well cultivated, which produced as much as 700 lbs. of lint per acre. The whole crop was sold at from 6*s.* to 8*s.* more than the price then obtainable for "fully good fair" on the Alexandria market while the seed fetched one pound per ardeb (266 lbs.). At these prices the approximate average return per acre of the crop was :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
400 lbs. of lint at £6 per 100 lbs. ',	24	0	0
920 lbs. of seed at £1 per 266 lbs.	3	10	0
TOTAL	27	10	0

I may remark here that the area under cotton this year is much larger, and amounts to 3,270 acres, and as the prospects of the crop were pronounced by experts to be extremely good, the Syndicate confidently anticipate an even better result, both in quantity and in quality, than that of last year, and, of course, a proportionately enhanced profit both for themselves and for their tenants. Under these improved circumstances the results that may be looked for would be as follows :—An average tenant, cultivating 10 acres, should produce as crop of 4,500 lbs. of cotton and 9,000 lbs. of seed, the cost of ginning and baling which would be £7, and that of their freight to Alexandria £17, making a total cost of £24. Taking the average net price of cotton at Alexandria last year at 1*s.* per lb., the above crop would realise £225 for cotton and £30 for seed—a total of £255. Adding to the abovenamed costs of ginning, baling, and freight—which amounted to £24— a sum of £40 for rent (or £4 per acre, whereas similar land in Egypt is rented at nearer £12 per acre) and £30 for cultivation and picking, thus bringing the total cost to £94, we find that the difference between the receipts (£255) and the expenditure (£94) is £161, which represents the tenant's profit on the cultivation of his land. I have received the opinion of men well qualified to judge, and who are not biassed by any interest in the holdings, that the crops of which I have given particulars are not the usual temporary results

from absolutely virgin soils, but represent the normal capacity of the soil when properly cultivated, and in the absence of exceptionally adverse climatic conditions such as may obtain from time to time in any country.

The latest issue of the *Agricultural Ledger* series deals with **Bat and Bird Guanos in India and Edible Frogs**. The author is Mr Birkill, and copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Government Printing, India, Calcutta, at four annas per copy.

A Parliamentary Blue-book is issued (Cd. 5224) containing correspondence relating to the **International Conference on Bills of Exchange** which met at The Hague in June and July last. The conference was attended by the representatives of 32 nations, including Great Britain. It was summoned by the Netherlands Government at the suggestion of the German and Italian Governments for the purpose of drafting a scheme for the unification of the law relative to bills of exchange and promissory notes payable to order. The result of the deliberations of the conference was that a draft convention and draft uniform law were adopted without division (England and the United States standing aside). It is proposed that another conference shall assemble at the Hague in September, 1911 to determine the final shape of the two drafts. This conference will also discuss a uniform law with regard to cheques.

On the 28th, 29th and 30th December, 1910, the **Calcutta Custom House** including the Treasury will be open for work as usual. On the 24th, 27th and 31st December the Treasury will be closed but the office will be open for the despatch of urgent business from 11-30 A.M. to 1-30 P.M. On the 26th December, 1910, and the 2nd January, 1911, the Custom House will be entirely closed, work on boardship being allowed on payment of the special holiday fee of Rs. 100 per each day in addition to the ordinary fee.

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by the occurrence of some snowfall in Kashmir and the hills to the north of Simla. The weather has been dry in other parts, except in the Andaman Islands.

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 28th November, 1910 :—C. W. Gray, Civil Engineer, Caven House, Kingsway, London—Improvements in glazing bars or astragals for skylights, windows and the like. Allen-Liversidge Portable Acetylene Co., Ld., of 106, Victoria Street, London—Improvements in or relating to acetylene gas generators. J. W. Ginder, assistant, Messrs. Martin & Co., 76, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta—An apparatus for securing railway carriage doors automatically. R. S. Dickie, works manager, Indo Burma Petroleum Co., Ld., residing at Seikgyi Refinery, Hanthawaddy, Burma—Improvements in refining paraffin wax. J. Von Riegen, superintendent, Marine engineer, Victoria, Hongkong—Improvements in furnaces and more particularly to a combined grate and fire bridge construction. J. N. Sanyal, Government pensioner, Serampore—A specific for removing, destroying and eradicating paint, varnish, enamel, electro-plating, etc., from wood, metals, glass, marble, etc. L. E. Ralli and P. L. Argenti, carrying on business as merchants among other places at Bombay under the name and firm of Ralli Brothers, of 25, Finsbury Circus, London—A self-feeding arrangement to be attached to Platts' Macarthy double roller cotton gins. W. J. Tinline, engineer, Market Steet, Hastings, New Zealand—Improvements in means for, and mode of, sharpening and dressing parts of horse clipping and other machines. E. Eaton, Engineer, 5, Dowgate Hill, London—Improvements in the treatment and process of solidification of tar. O. V. Forbes, late officer in the Army, 11, Regent Street, London—Improvements in the manufacture of detachable heels for boots, shoes, or the like. Societe des Raccords et Fermetures Rapides 'Dayol,' and J. M. Dayol, manufacturer and engineer, respectively, Toulon, France—An arrangement applicable as a union or plug for connecting or closing pipes or tubes. E. Prein, technicist, Hanover 10 A Am Bokemahle, Germany—Apparatus for laying down projecting fibres or yarn. R. S. Dobbie, engineer, Albion Road, Sutton, England—Improvements in and relating to the prevention of over-charge or over-discharge, or of both over-charge and over-discharge of secondary batteries. G. Johnston, engineer, 140, West George Street, Glasgow—Improvements in or relating to crushing or grinding auriferous quartz and other hard ores or substances: and improvements in or relating to filtering apparatus. R. C. Dickson, engineer, Demyat, San Sebastian, Colombo, Ceylon—Improvements in and connected with liquid fuel furnaces which are particularly adapted for heating air but may be used for other purposes. M. Z. Ghatala, editor of the *Muhammadan*, 26 Pycroft's Road, Triplicane—The cure of (1) bites by all venemous snakes and (2) Hydrophobia. W. Fisher, engineer, of North Tawton, Devonshire, England—Improvements in and relating to rotary engines, pumps, air compressors and the like.

NOTICES.

Municipal Rat Destruction.

Municipal bodies who have undertaken the systematic destruction of rats are requested to communicate with the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, furnishing an approximate estimate of the number destroyed daily.

CALLS FOR TENDERS.

Kerosene.

The Divisional Supply and Transport Officer, 8th (Lucknow) Division, Lucknow, is receiving tenders up to 11th January, 1911, for the supply of kerosene oil required for the 7th and 8th Divisions for the official year 1911-12.

Miscellaneous Stores.

The Superintendent, Ammunition Factory, Dum-Dum, is calling for tenders up to the 16th instant for the supply of cordage, cloth, timber, soft-soap and other miscellaneous stores.

The Divisional Contract Officer, 6th Division, Poona, invites tenders for Balaclava caps, woollen comforters, putties, puttee cloth and mittens; cotton socks and sheeting, mineral grease, soap, candles, Indian tar and jerseys, all for the use of the 4th, 5th and 6th Divisions and the Aden Brigade during 1911-12.

ENQUIRIES.

(For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.

An asterisk (*) preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered.)

Bone Crushing Machinery.

(818)—A correspondent requires the addresses of firms supplying bone-crushing machinery.

Cocoanut Oil Machinery.

(819)—A Madras correspondent desires to be placed in communication with sellers of machinery for the extraction of cocoanut oil.

Decorated Tin Boxes, Show Tablets and Novelties.

(820)—A British firm desires to appoint agents for the sale on a commission basis of decorated tin boxes, for the tea, coffee, grocery, tobacco and similar trades, also show tablets and novelties.

Dari or Rangoon Millet.

(821)—A Baltimore firm desires to be placed in communication with shippers of Dari or Rangoon millet.

Wool.

(822)—A Consular Officer desires to be placed in communication with Calcutta exporters of wool.

Cotton Seed Flour.

(823)—A London firm holding patents for the conversion of cotton seed into flour for food purposes desires to communicate with parties interested in this industry.

Card Clothing.

(824)—An Oldham manufacturer of all kinds of card clothing desires to be placed in communication with cotton spinning mills or agents in a position to handle goods of his manufacture.

Indian Furniture and Matting.

(825)—A firm in Bulawayo desires to be placed in communication with manufacturers of lounge chairs, furniture, coir mats and matting.

India Rubber.

(826)—A firm in Russia would like to represent a firm in India for the sale of India rubber.

Glass Beads and Curios.

(827)—A firm in Japan desires to be placed in communication with importers of hollow glass beads of various colours and Japanese curios generally.

Calico.

(828)—A firm in Natal desires to be placed in communication with manufacturers in India of grey and white calico.

Paper.

(829)—A London firm desires to be placed in communication with importers of paper.

Lemon Grass Oil.

(830)—A Calcutta correspondent desires the addresses of merchants in India dealing in lemon grass oil.

Lock Woven Mesh.

(831)—A Liverpool shipper desires to appoint agents in Madras to handle lock woven mesh for reinforced concrete.

Plumbago.

(832)—A Government Factory Superintendent desires to be placed in communication with firms in a position to supply plumbago or graphite of Indian production.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

The following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 14th December, 1910 :—

Parliamentary Publications.

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions, including figures received up to 31st October, 1910.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

Austria-Hungary—Auswartiger Handel des Vertragszollgebiets IX—September, 1910. Belgium—Bulletin Munsuel du Commerce Special de la Belgique avec les pays Etrangers, en ce qui Concerne les Principales Marchandises—Octobre 1910. Egypt—Bulletin Mensuel du Commerce Exterieur de l'Egypte—Vingt-Quatrième Année—No. 10—Octobre 1910. Mauritius Blue Book, 1908 and 1909—Shipping Returns.

Indian Publications.

Madras Port—Statement of Imports and Exports for the month of October 1910 for. Land Revenue Administration Report—Part I—of the Bombay Presidency, including Sind, for the year 1908-1909.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

Correspondence regarding advertisements in the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be addressed to Reuter's Telegram Co., Ld., but all advertisements, blocks, etc., must be approved by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence before insertion.

Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

A full index is published as a quarterly supplement and should be filed for reference.

The annual rates of subscription to the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" including quarterly index, are Indian, without postage Rs. 12 : with postage, Rs 13 ; Foreign, Rs. 18. Single copies, 4 annas.

Subscribers and advertisers in the United Kingdom may remit either through a bank or by money order. For the purpose of postal remittances, one penny should be taken as the equivalent of one anna, and 1s. 4d. as the equivalent of one rupee.

Back numbers, when available, may be had at a cost of Re. 1, for any number more than a week old.

The Indian agents of the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" are :—Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., and Newman & Co., Calcutta ; D. B. Taraporevala, Sons & Co., Bombay ; Higginbotham & Co., G. A. Natesan & Co., and Kalyanarama Iyer & Co., Madras ; Thacker, Spink & Co., Simla ; Rai Sahib M. Gulab Singh & Sons, Lahore ; and A. M. & J. Ferguson, Ceylon.

The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1910.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS IN EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

THERE is a good deal of information on this subject in the Report of the Agricultural Department of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the year ending 30th June, 1910, recently published. Attempts have been made by the Department since 1908 to introduce "Buri" **cotton** in the hill districts of the Province. The crop grows well in parts and gives fair to good yields, but the cultivators do not seem to have decided as yet whether the new cotton will pay them better than the coarse varieties which they have grown hitherto. The Agricultural Department believe that the "Buri" cotton produced last season (1909) was of a decidedly better quality than the indigenous kind, but owing to its novelty and the small amount produced, the growers were unable to obtain a higher price for it than for local cotton; but the Department propose to take steps to assist the cultivators in obtaining proper value for their produce. It is reported that from the "Buri" cotton seed supplied to the Lushai Hills last year a Lushai chief succeeded in getting a fair amount of cotton. More seed has been distributed among the Lushais this year. Experiments were made on the Chittagong Khas Mahal farm with two varieties of cotton, *viz.*, Dharwar American and *Burikapas*. The Dharwar variety yielded at the rate of 64seers per acre and "Buri" 42 seers per acre. The crops were severely damaged by insects ; otherwise larger yields might have been obtained. Mr. Hector examined samples of these cottons and considered them to be of good quality and superior to the cotton produced in the Garo Hills.

Mr. G. A. Gammie, Imperial Cotton Specialist, visited Eastern Bengal and Assam in October, 1909, and, in company with Mr. Hector, Economic Botanist, held an enquiry into the cultivation of cotton in the Garo Hills and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The recommendations made by Mr. Gammie for the improvement of cotton in these places are that (*i*) no alteration should be made in the type of cotton grown, as the experience of generations has taught that it is the only variety capable of growing under the conditions of excessive rainfall and primitive methods of agriculture of the hill tracts ; (*ii*) any selection to be done should be undertaken with the view of increasing the length of the staple and the percentage of cotton to seed and not with the idea of modifying the special characteristics of the product ; (*iii*) Garo Hills cotton should be experimentally introduced into all the other hill tracts so that it can pass under the judgment of local cultivators ; (*iv*) Chittagong cotton should be tried on a small scale in the Garo Hills to find out whether the change of locality will affect it as regards the size of boll and quantity and quality of produce. Following the above recommendations, arrangements are being made for the cultivation of Garo Hills cotton in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in the next cotton season. Further work in the directions suggested by Mr. Gammie will not be possible until the supervising staff of the Department is strengthened.

The experiments with **jute**, started in Chittagong in 1908, have progressed so far as to show that jute can be grown successfully there on high lands. The experiment was repeated during the past season. The crop germinated well and looked promising in the beginning, but a long drought succeeding, and the seed being that of an early race, the plants matured too soon, and the experiments proved a failure. It is proposed to repeat the experiments next season with a later race of jute.

An enquiry was made during the year to ascertain whether the experiments made by some raiyats of village Fulbari in the Bogra district in the use of **bone-dust as a manure for jute** had led to any increased use of this manure in the neighbourhood. The Collector reports that its use is at present limited to a single raiyat who has been using it on his jute fields for five years past. The cultivators, it is reported, are prepared to use it if they can get it cheap. An effort will be made to bring this manure within the reach of the cultivators of the locality in order to encourage them to use it.

The experimental **cultivation of potatoes** in the **Lushai Hills** is reported to be making good progress. Local seed, of which 120 maunds was planted in the spring of 1909, did very well and produced a crop of 1,191 maunds. Some of the returns were unusually good. In one large field on the top of Sailam Hill, 18 maunds 5 seers of Naini Tal and Khasi seed gave 450 maunds. In another case at Champai a Lushai got 10 maunds from 10 seers of seed.

The present Manager of the Jaipur Government Estates in Bogra reports that the results of the experiments made by his predecessor with Dacca Ganderi **sugarcane** were satisfactory. This variety of cane is also being tried near Dhubri and is reported to be doing well. Some sugarcane cuttings obtained from the Dacca Seed Depôt have been planted in the garden of the Baikunthapur Ward's Estate in Jalpaiguri, and the result is expected to be satisfactory. An interesting experiment was made during the year at Barpathar in the Sibsagar district. The object was to ascertain if old exhausted forest clearings, which have been abandoned after growing sugarcane for two or three years in succession, can be profitably cultivated with sugarcane again with the help of manure. A piece of old forest clearing, measuring two-thirds of an acre, was selected for the experiment. It was hoed and manured with the refuse of the *dhaincha* crop and also with 240 maunds of cowdung. The cane was planted in April 1909 and harvested a year later. The total yield of *rab* amounted to 42 maunds 35 seers 5 chittacks, which, on being treated in a centrifugal machine, yielded 16 maunds 17 seers 8 chittacks of sugar and 21 maunds 14 seers of *gur*. These on being sold fetched a gross income of Rs. 228-7. The total cost of cultivation and manufacture, excluding the price of cowdung and charges for the wear and tear of the machinery, amounted to Rs. 74-14-11. Thus a profit of Rs. 153-8-1 was gained from this cultivation. The supply of cowdung manure being limited, a new series of experiments has been started to find out if oilcake or sulphate of ammonia can be profitably used instead. The results of these experiments will be reported next year.

Experiments in **terraced cultivation of rice** at Mokokchang in the Naga Hills proved successful and the outturn, some 35 maunds an acre, is satisfactory. This outturn is said to be much more per acre than the outturn from *jhum* land. The work of cutting out the terraced fields at first is heavy, and for this reason the people are not so keen on taking it up. Several varieties of rice which had been obtained from the Dacca Seed Depôt were grown last year near Dhubri. Among these, two fine scented varieties named *Manikmadhuri* and *Gobindbhog*, a middling variety named *Chaplas*, and a coarse variety called *Hatisali* did extremely well. The *Hatisali* variety gave a particularly heavy yield. It is strong in the stalk and stands erect and is, therefore, immune from the attacks of rats and mice. The neighbouring raiyats who saw this rice in the field took such a fancy to it that they took the whole of the outturn for seed. During the last season (1909) the use of bonemeal in combination with saltpetre as manure for wet land rice was demonstrated in fifteen different villages in the Khasi Hills, and the results on the whole were satisfactory. The manured plots were treated with three maunds of bonemeal and 30 seers of saltpetre per acre. It is probable that the saltpetre was washed out, as the fields were full of water when it was applied. The average outturn per acre in the case of the manured plots was about 17 maunds of grain and 20 maunds of straw as compared with 10 maunds of grain and 13 maunds of straw per acre obtained from the unmanured plots. The increase in grain alone was nearly 7 maunds per acre, which valued at Rs. 3 per maund would more than cover the price of 3 maunds of bonemeal and 30 seers of saltpetre at Rs. 4-4-0 and Rs. 9-0-0 per maund, respectively. If the price of saltpetre which was possibly washed out and therefore had but little effect on the crop be excluded, the margin of profit would be considerably increased. The effect of bonemeal is expected to last for some years. Certain plots which had been manured with bonemeal in 1908 were found in the following year to give increased yields of grain and straw as compared

with the control areas which had been left unmanured.

The experiment in budding **oranges** on various citrus stocks has not so far met with much success. The object of this experiment is to produce plants which may prove immune to the orange disease which has prevailed for some years in the Khasi Hills, and also to study the effect of the various stocks on the scions. Other experiments started two years ago with the object of finding some means of combating the disease have not produced results of any value. **Wheat, oats and barley** were tried in the Lushai Hills. Wheat succeeded well in certain villages near Champai, and to a moderate extent at Aijal, but in nearly every instance the crops were damaged by wild animals or rats. Oats were a failure. One or two sowings of barley are well reported on. A variety of pulse known as "Behliang" in the Lushai Hills is reported to have given good yields. This crop grows vigorously at Aijal, and the plants attain a girth of 9" to 12" in their third or fourth year. It is very similar to arhar, but takes a longer time to cook. It is reported that the Assam Plantation Company at Baroma in the Kamrup district were successful in growing 50 bighas of wheat. Barley and oats were also grown with satisfactory results. The experiment in growing **mahua trees** in the Chittagong Khas Mahal Farm has not been very successful.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(By Telegram.)

Shillong, Dec. 6th.

THE following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 5th instant :—

The weather is seasonable and dry.

The tea season is nearly over.

Ploughing for and sowing of *rabi* crops continue.

Reaping of winter rice is in progress.

Prospects of standing crops generally are good, though insects are reported to be damaging crops, specially winter paddy, in Mymensingh and parts of Assam.

The average price of common rice is stationary.

Cattle disease is reported in Sylhet, Nowgong, and the Garo Hills.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

THE *Board of Trade Journal* published on the 17th ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations gives particulars about :—

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—Proposed Uniform Regulations regarding Foodstuffs and Drugs.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—Proposed Opium Enactment.

DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.—Prohibition of Importation, etc., of Phosphorus Matches

JAMAICA.—Importation of Motor Cars, etc., by Visitors.

PERAK.—Export Duty on Tin produced in Upper Perak.

RUSSIA.—Proposed Extension of Existing Customs Exemptions in respect of Agricultural Machines, Implements and Manures.

FRANCE.—Treatment of Furniture Removal Vans. Importation of Cottonseed, etc. Oils for the Manufacture of Alimentary Fats. Customs Decisions.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—Customs Decisions.

VENEZUELA.—Tariff Classification of certain Rubber Articles. Tariff Classification of Knitted Articles of Cotton.

COLOMBIA-BRAZIL.—Ratification of Treaty of Commerce and Fluvial Navigation.

URUGUAY.—Abrogation of Prohibition of Importation of English Cattle.

CHINA.—Prohibition of the Importation and Manufacture of Cocaine

We give the following particulars of changes interesting to Indian trade :—

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Proposed Opium Enactment.

The *Federated Malay States Government Gazette* of 29th September contains a draft of an Enactment to prohibit the importation of opium, and to vest in the Government the sole right of importing and dealing in chandu in the Federated Malay States. The proposed Enactment provides for the extension of the Government monopoly of the importation and sale of chandu established in the coast districts of Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan under the Federal Coast Chandu Enactment of 1909 to other districts of those States and to the State of Penang. The draft follows closely the lines of the Federal Coast Chandu Enactment which it is designed to replace, but with the addition of sections giving such powers to search for, and seize, opium and chandu as appear necessary to supplement the powers in that respect given to the Customs Department in the case of prohibited articles under the Customs Regulation Enactment of 1907. The Enactment is not applicable to the importation, preparation, sale or possession of opium or chandu for medical purposes, by or on behalf of the Government, or by or on behalf of persons licensed to sell poisons in the Federated Malay States.

DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

Importation, etc., of Phosphorus Matches—Prohibition of.

The Board of Trade have received, from H. M. Trade Commissioner in New Zealand, copy of the Phosphorus Matches Act, 1910 (No. 4 of 1910), dated 17th September last, which prohibits, with effect from 1st January, 1912, the importation of white or yellow phosphorus matches into the Dominion.

The Act also provides for the prohibition of the **sale** of such matches, but this provision is not to take effect until 1st January, 1913.

FRANCE.

Cottonseed, etc. Oils for the Manufacture of Alimentary Fats—Importation of.

In accordance with the French Tariff Revision Law of the 29th March, 1910, cottonseed, sesame and ground nut oils intended for the manufacture of alimentary fats are admitted into France at the reduced rate of 6 frs. per 100 kilogs. gross weight, subject to official supervision (at the expense of the manufacturers) of the factories importing such oils. A recent French Customs Circular contains the regulations with which manufacturers will be required to comply, and describes the nature of the supervision exercised over the use to which the imported oils are put.

Customs Decisions.

Some of the more important of these decisions are noted below :—

Articles.	Tariff No. and Tariff heading under which dutiable.
Carpets of jute chenille, double-face, velveted	401.—Carpets of jute on canvas velvet, or with knotted pile.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
Brattice cloth, a jute fabric treated with wood tar, oil and mineral matter, weighing not less than 6 oz. per square yard, dutiable as "plain woven fabrics of single jute yarns" and not as a manufacture of jute."	352	Various rates according to number of threads.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

PUNJAB.

AT a committee meeting of the Punjab Chamber of Commerce, held on 8th November, 1910, the following among other items of business received attention :—

Insect Pests.

Read letter No. 17-141-2, dated 22nd September, 1910, with pamphlet from the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agriculture Department, to the Secretary to the Government, Punjab, forwarded by the Director of Agriculture, Punjab, Lyallpur, regarding correspondence and measures to prevent the introduction of insect pests and fungoid diseases in India through the importation of foreign plants.

Resolution - The Director of Agriculture, Punjab, to be thanked for the letters and pamphlet and to be informed that the Committee are pleased to see Government are considering means to combat the danger. The letters and pamphlet to be circulated to members for information.

Mutilation of Cablegrams.

Read letter, dated Delhi, 17th October, 1910 from Messrs. J. Khunnah and Son regarding mutilation of cablegrams.

Resolution—Messrs. J. Khunnah and Son to be informed that the Committee are prepared, with their permission, to represent the matter to the Telegraph Department of India as they consider such mutilations to be unpardonable carelessness on the part of the Telegraph Staff.

BURMA.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Burma Chamber of Commerce held on 27th October, 1910, the following matters received attention.—

Insect Pests and Fungoid Diseases.

Read letter, dated 15th October, 1910, from the Revenue Secretary forwarding three copies of a pamphlet regarding a proposal to control the importation of plants, grafts, etc., so as to prevent the introduction into Burma of insect pests and fungoid diseases and asking for the opinion of the Chamber on the advisability of issuing under Section 19 of the Sea Customs Act a notification specifying the conditions under which plants, grafts, seeds, etc., might be imported. The proposal originated from, the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, who pointed out the great danger attendant on the unrestricted importation of a great variety of foreign plants into India, and that very stringent precautions were taken on this matter in Europe, America and Australia.

Resolved—That the proposal be supported.

Bonded Warehouse System.

Read letters, dated 12th and 15th October, 1910, from the Revenue Secretary and the Assistant Secretary to the Financial Commissioner asking for the opinion of the Chamber on a proposal to extend the bonded warehouse system to the Chief Cities in the interior of India, and report from the Sub-Committee on Excise that they saw no objection to the proposal.

Resolved—That the proposal be supported.

Insanitary Cooly Barracks at Rangoon Mills.

Considered draft letter addressed to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Burma in reply to his letter dated 27th and 29th August, 1910. The letter, while sympathising with the efforts being made by Government and the Municipality to improve the sanitary condition of the town, expressed the opinion that those property owners who had done their best to keep their land and buildings sanitary should be safeguarded in some way under the amended Act, apart from the right of appeal to the Local Government within 90 days, and suggested that before the Municipal Committee required the owners to reclaim the land or holding the following procedure should be followed, *viz.* :—(I) It shall be incumbent on the President of the Municipality to grant both time and facilities for the owner to represent his case in person or by counsel or both, so that it may not be decided entirely upon the evidence of the Municipal Inspectors. (II) That no private owner or company shall be called upon to raise any part of their land or holding unless all adjoining Municipal roads and property are at the same time raised to a similar level and properly equipped with "pucca" drains.

This letter had been approved of by the meeting of members who met to consider the matter and it was therefore

Resolved—That the letter be despatched.

—The Publicity Committee of the Cottonseed Crushers' Association of Georgia is undertaking an active campaign to make known the growing uses and importance of **cottonseed products**. Dr. A. M. Soule, President of the Georgia State College of Agriculture, has consented to write a series of articles on the subject, which are to be distributed amongst the members of the Association, who in turn are to induce the editors of local papers to publish them. In his first article, entitled "A Vagrant become King," Dr. Soule says that cottonseed has risen in forty years from a position of insecurity to being the basis of an industry of international importance. Its remarkable enhancement in value is not hard to understand when its chemical analysis is taken into consideration. Nearly 20 per cent of cottonseed consists of oil, which when properly refined supplies the housewife with an admirable substitute for lard. "Through a wise provision of nature, which man has been slow to appreciate, the oil consists entirely of carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen—three elements which plants secure chiefly from the air, and water which falls as rain." In this elementary manner Dr. Soule describes the oil, and continues the same strain when describing the uses of cottonseed products. He says :—"It is not difficult to see the important part which cottonseed plays now and is destined to exercise in the future development of the live stock industry of the South and in the maintenance of soil fertility on that high basis essential to the production of maximum crops at a minimum of cost."

EASTERN COMPETITION IN THE COTTON TRADE.

In the course of a second article to the *Manchester Guardian* on this subject a correspondent says :—

Mr. Shoji, the Secretary of the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association, points out in his recently published pamphlet that one of the main causes of the progress of the Japanese cotton industry has been the proximity of the large Chinese and Korean markets. Indian spinners have been complaining of the Japanese competition in China; and it is remarkable to notice that at the same time Japanese spinners are complaining of Indian competition. In the Japanese Year-book of 1910 it is pointed out that before 1899, the year of the embarkation of Japan on a protective policy, Japanese exports of yarn to China rose to a maximum of 340,000 bales, but that in recent years, with Indian yarns competing, the trade has not made such progress as might have been expected, the amount having fallen to 250,000 bales on an average. The value of Indian yarns exported to China shows no falling off within the last ten years for which statistics are available. Indian exports to China (treaty ports) from 1898-99 to 1908-09 were in millions of pounds ;—1·6, 2·3, ·8, 3·2, 2·8, 2·7, 3·4, 3·9, 3·9, 2·6, 3·1. The exports of Indian cotton manufactures to China have always been very small and fluctuating in amount, being never above £115,000 (in 1905—08) or below £7,000 (in 1900-01). The figure in the last year (1908-09) was £30,000. The real cause of the decline of Japanese yarn exports to China, and the slow progress of those of India, is that China is manufacturing yarn for herself.

The recent report of our Commercial Attaché at Pekin on the foreign trade of China in 1909 refers to the close competition, especially in the North of China, from the products of the Shanghai mills. The output of the Shanghai mills amounted to :—

24,900,000 lbs. in 1907.
50,400,000 lbs. in 1908.
56,700,000 lbs. in 1909.

In the spinning of cotton yarns China is progressing without protection, for, owing to the pressure of the Indian Government, an excise duty is levied in China on the output of Chinese mills to balance the import duty on imported yarns. The progress of China in the yarn industry accounts also for the comparative stationariness of the United Kingdom exports of yarn to China. From 1900 to 1909 the value of our yarn exports to China has been, in thousands of pounds :—

28, 126, 112, 83, 36, 122, 189, 169, 158, 89.

Our exports of piece-goods, however, have risen at a rapid rate, which has been checked only by the depression of trade in the last two years. In millions of pounds the value since 1900 has been :—

3·7, 4·6, 5·1, 4·4, 6·1, 9·0, 7·8, 7·7, 6·0, 5·4.

Manufactures other than piece-goods have also risen, though they are small in amount. In 1900 their value was £78,000 ; in 1909 £130,000. Our cotton trade with Korea likewise has shown a satisfactory increase. Neither in the case of China nor that of Korea has the cotton trade of India or the United Kingdom shown signs of injury from Japanese competition. This view is supported by the recent report from Pekin already referred to. The Commercial Attaché gives the following tables of the imports into China of British, American, Indian, and Japanese plain cottons, which shows that British piece-goods are holding their own :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
		(thousand pieces)		
British . .	10,735	8,224	8,993	10,691
American . .	8,544	578	1,586	3,856
Japanese . .	733	840	986	1,396
Indian . .	85	67	141	133

The increase of the imports of Japanese piece-goods, says the Attaché, hardly affects British products, but competes severely with American cloths, which are of the same kind, especially in Manchuria. In China, he says, the Japanese have natural advantages, but British goods are better than Japanese, and the cheap inferior goods of Japanese and other makes have created a taste and opened the way for the more solid and expensive British products.

In Japan itself British products, with the exception of cotton yarns, have maintained their position. Cotton yarn has always been produced in Japan and the imports of yarn into Japan were always a very small proportion of the total consumption. The imports of piece-goods from the United Kingdom have remained fairly steady, if we except the universal drop in 1909-10. Before 1900, and before the Japanese tariff revision of 1899, our exports of cotton manufactures to Japan were, for some years, just over £1,000,000. In millions of pounds our exports of piece-goods to Japan since 1900 have been :—

1·5, ·8, 1·3, ·8, ·5, 1·6, 1·6, 1·9, 1·7, 1·4.

Similarly cotton manufactures other than piece-goods have maintained their position. The Japanese mills are, according to the Japanese Year-book, able generally to supply the home demand for common cotton fabrics, but for the finer and lighter sorts Japan is still dependent upon foreign supply.

It is contended in some quarters in this country that Japan is becoming a severe competitor with us in the Indian market, but the Japanese exports to India are still of very small amount. The total in the boom year 1907-08 was £258,000, of which no less than £256,000 was cotton hosiery. The competition of Japan, therefore, in India, outside of hosiery, may be neglected, or rather is non-existent. In cotton hosiery it is true that Japan has made rapid progress. The following gives the values of cotton hosiery imported into India during the last five years—1905-09—in units of £1,000 :—From the United Kingdom : 30¼, 27, 20½, 26, 30½. Thus the trade has not been taken away from the United Kingdom. The total imports into India have been :—

449, 420, 374, 448, 423.

Thus the trade in hosiery has not been filched from Indian manufacturers. It has been taken, as a matter of fact, from Austria-Hungary, France, Italy, Spain and China. In each case, as the following table shows, the trade of these countries has declined very considerably. The figures give the imports of hosiery into India, in units of £1,000 :—

From Austria-Hungary . .	58,	33,	29,	15,	27
Do. France . .	28,	15,	15,	34,	23
Do. Italy . .	85,	65,	46,	30,	5
Do. Spain . .	31,	38,	2,	2,	¼
Do. China . .	14,	5,	3,	12,	½, 1·5

Whatever progress, therefore, Japan has made in the Indian market has been made at the expense of Protectionist competitors. The same is true of the Chinese and Korean markets. In the Far East the cotton textile trade of the United Kingdom and India has not only retained its position but has shown substantial increase. In the case of yarns, Chinese native competition has been brought to bear equally on all countries. In Japan itself the only decline appears in the yarn trade, and the reasons for this decline are obviously not that Japan is benefited by Protection, for her own output of yarn has decreased, but that she has always been naturally favoured for the development of the spinning industry.

By way of completing the remarks of the correspondent quoted above we append a statement showing the quantity and value of cotton yarn exported by sea to China from British India during the past ten years :—

Years.	lbs.	Rs.
1900-01	108,559,145	3,79,95,832
1901-02	260,233,396	8,84,80,886
1902-03	232,412,908	7,95,73,926
1903-04	235,961,880	8,20,28,015
1904-05	229,107,329	8,98,70,357
1905-06	282,095,892	11,67,73,497
1906-07	223,425,598	9,49,84,748
1907-08	160,275,494	6,66,55,554
1908-09	208,397,848	8,54,09,412
1909-10	200,288,256	8,46,63,973

—The **exports of cultivated rubber** from the **Federated Malay States** during the month of August, 1910, and during the eight months ending August, 1909 and 1910, were :—

—	January-August, 1909.	January-August, 1910.	August, 1910.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Perak	535,359	1,412,300	251,626
Selangor . . .	2,335,747	4,970,601	598,770
Negri Sembilan . .	576,232	843,652	129,957
Pahang . . .	*Nil.*	2,731	669
	3,447,338	7,229,284	981,022

Of the rubber exported from Selangor during August, 1910, 4,128 lbs. were produced in Perak and 81,885 lbs. in Negri Sembilan. Of the rubber exported from Selangor during the eight months ended August, 1910, 42,017 lbs. were produced in Perak and 709,749 lbs. in Negri Sembilan.

FOREIGN TRADE AND SHIPPING OF CHINA IN 1909.

THE following further particulars on the Foreign trade of China in 1909, showing the value of the trade by ports and by countries, and the shipping at treaty ports in 1909, have been compiled by the *Board of Trade Journal* :—

Foreign Trade by Ports.

The following table shows the value of the **net foreign imports** into each Treaty port, and of the **total imports** of native produce from each Treaty port in the years 1908 and 1909 :—

(NOTE.—The average value of the Haikwan tael is stated to have been 2*s.* 8*d.* in 1908 and 2*s.* 7/16*d.* in 1909. 100 Haikwan taels = 111·40 Shanghai taels, for which exchange quotations are made. Picul = 133⅓ lbs. av.)

Treaty Ports.	1908.		1909.	
	Net Foreign Imports.	Exports of Native Produce.*	Net Foreign Imports.	Exports of Native Produce.*
	Hk. Taels.	Hk. Taels.	Hk. Taels.	Hk. Taels.
Newchwang . .	15,151,734	19,999,231	19,058 911	26,082,358
Chinwangtao . .	3,150 006	1,972 525	4 033,327	3,012,397
Tientsin . .	35,903,450	19,144,941	44 289,156	28,076,685
Chefoo . .	9,887,649	11,156,463	9,845,495	18,243,071
Kiaochow † . .	15,718,278	12,033,307	19,422,133	14,736 620
Chungking . .	13,864 770	12,999,698	14,017,863	14,177,158
Ichang . .	1,798,943	5,481,620	873,578	13,644 404
Shasi . .	1,088,023	502 411	1,103 743	760 651
Changsha . .	4,520,773	3,934,285	4,853,871	4,890,287
Yochow . .	287 386	2,396,486	777,575	1,709,352
Hankow . .	41,421,702	67,598,265	37,788 249	72,147,825
Kiukiang . .	10,328,233	16,292,246	9,889 796	17,001,954
Wuhu . .	8,381,243	14,626,810	6,780,663	14,910,841
Nanking . .	5,310,803	2,017,877	4,960,594	3,490,999
Chinkiang . .	17,512,881	8,130,527	16,740,129	9,557,791
Shanghai . .	35,3 6 234	77,881,785	46,884,187	92,708,925
Soochow . .	792,749	2,301,959	1,190 752	2,148,035
Hangchow . .	5,070,753	11,833,917	5,655 614	12,557,729
Ningpo . .	10,498,910	9,245,218	9,076,891	9,923,477
Wenchow . .	1,066,309	941,991	1,070 103	800 896
Santuao . .	101 257	2,504,308	151,672	2,397,069
Foochow . .	7,677,229	7,696,577	7,125,758	7,580,817
Amoy . .	10,129,292	2,730,181	9,936,898	2,642,651
Swatow . .	14,381,585	13,062,652	15,260,943	11 585,305
Wuchow . .	5,988,182	3,598,409	5,967,753	3,691 990
Samshui . .	3,060,3 6	1,326,679	4,837,307	1,333,413
Kongmoon . .	3,118,099	1,504,728	3,956,410	1,344,832
Canton . .	29,753,077	47,752,794	28,056 056	48,768 645
Kiungchow . .	3,720,495	2,911,486	4,243 837	2,657,164
Pakhoi . .	1,819,272	1,144,381	1,826,869	1,144 579
Kowloon† . .	30,979,381	15,359,210	27 275,394	15,115,579
Lappa† . .	13,522,561	4,644 512	10,663,441	4,824,080
Lungchow† . .	143,573	88,879	191,514	122 898
Mengtsz† . .	4,857,197	5,237,017	6,696,508	4,246,740
Szemao† . .	158,922	42,865	163,153	42,614
Tengyueh† . .	1,272,847	493,021	1,101,863	461,493
Antung . .	2,133,924	3,341,381	2,905,728	4,427,164
Tatungkow . .	26,519	299,568	22 349	439,750
Dairen . .	18,472 544	12,411,535	14,220,965	26,744,359
Nanning . .	1,721,941	1,320,385	1,840,464	1,829,735
Suifenho . .	3,481,296	8,501,449	6,983,474	15,372,116
Manchouli . .	2,852,551	977,234	5,732,031	1,717 731
Aigun . .	—	—	249,724	3,517
Sansing . .	—	—	93,221	734,121
Harbin . .	—	—	‡	2,405,497
Total . Hk. Taels	396,261,991	438,735,094	417,586,237	522,136,518

* Inclusive of exports to other Chinese ports.

† In the case of these ports the imports are styled "Foreign goods inwards" and the exports "Native goods outwards."

‡ The excess of re-exports over imports amounted to 312,505 Hk. taels.

NOTE.—The difference between the values of the net total foreign imports as given above and those shown on page 22 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th October is explained as follows :—The figure, in the above table show the total foreign imports received at each port, whether as direct shipments from foreign countries or as reshipments from other Treaty ports, less re-export to foreign countries and Treaty ports; while those previously given represent the *direct* imports of foreign goods at each ports from foreign countries, less *direct* re-exports to foreign countries.

In addition to the net *foreign* imports shown in the above table, the value of the net **native** imports for all the Treaty ports in 1909 was 201,243,409 Hk. taels, as compared with 178,544,248 Hk. taels in 1908. The values of the exports of native produce from each port given in the foregoing table include those sent abroad and those sent to other Chinese ports. In the returns under review these figures are not distinguished separately for each port, but the values of the total exports from all ports are stated to have been made up in 1908 and 1909 as follows :—

Exports of Native Produce from Chinese Treaty Ports.

——	1908.	1909.
	Hk. Taels,	Hk. Taels,
Value of exports, abroad .	276,660,403	338,992,814
„ „ home trade .	162,074,691	183,143,704
Total exports Hk. Taels. .	438,735,094	522,136,518

IV—Foreign Trade by Countries.

The following table shows the value of the imports (not deducting re-exports to foreign countries into and the exports (domestic) from all the Treaty ports from and to the principal foreign countries in the years 1908 and 1909 :—

From and To—	1908.		1909.	
	Imports (including re-exports).	Exports (domestic).	Imports (including re-exports).	Exports (domestic).
	Hk. Taels.	Hk. Taels.	Hk. Taels.	Hk. Taels.
United Kingdom .	72,560,900	12,554,797	68,220,788	19,579,097
Hong-Kong* . .	150,252,300	92,107,963	150,171,220	96,919,388
British India .	30,198,855	4,090 111	40,433,828	4,813,447
Singapore and Straits.	5,418,410	3,786,160	6 778,823	4,709,522
Australia, New Zealand, etc	795,506	202,791	625,870	240,626
South Africa and Mauritius.	458	37,631	—	15,974
Canada . . .	1,202 661	1,148,138	1 390,947	1,254,411
BRITISH EMPIRE .	260,730,090	113 927,591	267,930,485	127,622,465
Japan† . . .	52 500,969	37,119.948	59,975,187	51,558,155
United States of America.‡	41,245,704	23,824,059	32,606,549	32,446,245
Russian Empire§ .	8,652,505	29,558 616	15,415,029	30,432,606
Germany . . .	14,029,232	7,093,870	15,188,966	7,529,464
Belgium . . .	8.449 883	4 887,905	10,868,266	5,059.763
France . . .	2,403 458	32,129,193	2,181,627	38 598,327
Other foreign countries.	21,532,821	28,619 321	25 892,506	35,745,789
TOTAL .	400,554,653	276,660 403	430,048,606	338,992,814

* The imports from Hong-Kong come originally from, and the exports to that Colony are further carried on to, United Kingdom, the Continent of Europe, America, Japan, Australia, India, Straits Settlements, and the cost Ports of China.

†Including Formosa. ‡Including Hawaii. §Including Siberia.

The Tea Export Trade.

The report also gives particulars of the export of tea direct to foreign countries. The total quantity thus exported for the last five years is stated to have been as follows :—

—	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Black . .	597,045	600,907	708,273	685,408	619,632
Green . .	242,128	206,025	264,802	284,085	281,679
Dust . .	6,768	262	22,095	9,510	2,212
Brick . .	518,498	586,727	604,226	590,815	584,976
Tablet . .	4,859	9,307	10,729	6,288	9,944
Total . Piculs	1,369,298	1,404,128	1,610,125	1,576,136	1,498,443
All kinds overland to Siberia and Mongolia from Hankow *viâ* the Han River and Fancheng .	2,728	8,652	2,092	1,717	2,332
Grand total { Piculs	1,372,026	1,412,780	1,612,217	1,577,853	1,500,775
Grand total { Lbs.	182,937,000	188,371,000	214,962,267	210,380,400	200,102,333

The following table shows the countries of destination of all kinds of tea exported in the three years 1907, 1908 and 1909 :—

Exported to—	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
British Empire—			
United Kingdom . . .	157,372	118,222	87,239
Hong-Kong	99,141	80.719	103,287
British India . . .	9,342	12,239	9,879
Singapore and Straits Settlements	4,137	3,631	5,152
Australia and New Zealand .	7,175	6,130	4,112
South Africa and Mauritius .	1,725	475	407
Canada	13,382	20,806	14,621
Total British Empire .	292,274	251,222	224,697
Russian Empire—			
European ports . . .	189,002	154,646	142,921
Overland *viâ* Tientsin and Kiakhta	190,542	215,674	249,786
Pacific ports	669,167	594,712	521,289
Amur ports	—	—	3,321
Overland from Hankow . .	2,092	1,717	2,332
Total Russian Empire .	990,803	966,749	919,649
United States of America (including Hawaii) . . .	201,740	208,647	211,983
Europe (except Russia and United Kingdom) . . .	91,509	119,576	108,642
Other countries . . .	35,891	31,659	35,804
Total . { Piculs	1,612,217	1,577,853	1,500,775
Total . { Lbs.	214,962,267	210,380,400	200,102,333

Picul = 133⅓ lbs. avoirdupois.

TRADE OF BUENOS AYRES.

THE details below are taken from the Consular Report on the Trade of Buenos Ayres during 1909.

The Consular district of Buenos Ayres shared in the prosperity which the Argentine Republic enjoyed during the year 1909. This prosperity was due more to improved prices than to increased production. The imports into the whole Republic were valued at £60,550,000, an increase of £5,956,000—about 11 per cent. over last year. The value of the imports into the Buenos Ayres Consular district was £52,080,000, an increase of £4,950,000 over 1908. The increase was in all classes of goods, except live-stock, foodstuffs, and stones, earths, glass and coal. There was also a small decrease in tea. In most other lines there was an increase.

The exports were valued at £79,470,000, an increase of £6,270 000—about 8½ per cent—over last year. The exports from the Buenos Ayres Consular district were valued at £54,113,000, an increase of £6,643,000 over 1908. Animal products such as frozen meat, hides, wool, etc.; the details under this heading are significant. They show that part of the increase is due to better prices and part to the mortality among stock caused by shortage of pasture arising from drought and locusts. The export of wool was only 1,100 tons more in 1909 than in 1908, but owing to a higher price having been reached the increase works out at £2,000,000. Wool was valued 30 per cent higher in 1909 than in 1908. There was a large increase in the export frozen beef and a decrease in chilled beef and frozen mutton. There was an increase of 8,000 tons in the export of sheep-skins and of 24,000 tons of cattle hides. Those figures, especially those of the sheep-skins, point clearly to losses from want of pasture. The effects of drought and locusts are most evident in the export of agricultural products. Wheat, linseed and oats were very hard hit, and in spite of increased values these three show a falling-off of £5,700,000. Fortunately the maize crop was a good one. The export was 500,000 tons more than in 1908 and the value £3,000,000. Three-fourths of the wheat and oats exported was shipped in bulk.

The percentages of trade of the principal countries were as follows during 1908-09 :—

	1908.		1909.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom .	34·2	21·4	32·8	20·3
British Possessions .	3	..	2·5	..
France . . .	9·7	7·9	10·2	9·8
Germany . . .	13·9	9·5	14·7	10·4
United States . .	13	3·6	14·2	6·6
Italy	9·1	2·1	8·9	3·2

The output of sugar was less than the average. Unseasonable frost stunted the cane and reduced the amount of juice in it. It is estimated that from

30,000 to 50,000 tons will have to be imported to supply local consumption. The total production has been estimated at 125,000 tons (Tucuman 103,000 tons, other provinces 22,000 tons.)

During the year 1909 a considerable amount of work has been done in prospecting for petroleum. Oil has been found at various points, such as Comodoro Rivadavia in the south, in the provinces of Mendoza and San Juan in the west, and in the province of Jujuy in the extreme north of the Republic.

There are now attached to the British Consulate Vice-Consulates at Tucuman, Campana, La Plata, Bahia Blanca and Port Madryn, and Agencies at Ensenada and Galleges.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE RESEARCH WORK.

The Report on the work of the Imperial Institute in 1909 has been issued. The subjects investigated during the year included minerals, cotton and other fibres, rubber, timbers, oils and oil seeds, volatile oils, food grains and feeding stuffs, tanning materials, gums and resins, dyestuffs, drugs and tobacco. There are several references to India, and among these we note that:—

A tungsten ore from Burma, corundum from Southern India, kaolin, limestone and marl from the Central Provinces, lignite, monazite sands, molybdenite and pyrrhotite from Travancore, graphites from Madras, etc., were received for examination. The tungsten ore, molybdenite, pyrrhotite and monazite sands were all of considerable economic value, and the kaolin proved to be suitable under certain conditions for the manufacture of pottery. The graphites were all of poor quality.

Ten samples of jute, two of Bimlipatam jute, and one of each of the fibres of *Malachra capitata* and *Hibiscus Abelmoschus* were examined. The jutes were, on the whole, of good quality and valued at from £10 to £16 per ton (with First Native Marks at £15 per ton). The Bimlipatam jutes were regarded as worth £13 10*s.* and £14 10*s.* per ton. The *Malachara capitata* fibre was considered suitable as a jute substitute and worth £13 per ton. The *Hibiscus Abelmoschus* was too coarse for spinning with jute, but worth about £18 per ton for rope-making.

A sample of Sunn hemp was found to be brittle and worth £17 to £18 per ton (November, 1909). Ten samples from Eastern Bengal and Assam were, on the whole, of very good quality, and were valued at from £17 to as much as £27 per ton (May, 1909).

A specimen of "Mooga" fibre (probably *Sansevieria sp.*) from Bengal was of good strength, but only 12—18 inches long. The fibre was too short for rope-making, but if well prepared and about 3 feet long would probably find a market at about £28—£30 per ton.

The samples of wheat reported on included "durum" or "macaroni" wheats from India and Uganda and wheats from the East Africa Protectorate. All these proved to be of good and readily saleable quality.

The examination of a number of samples of Indian turpentines and of Indian rosin was completed, and it was shown that rosin of excellent quality and quite equal to the best French and American rosins can be made by careful distillation of Indian turpentine. Enquiries are being made in India as to the possibility of putting Indian rosin on this market cheaply enough to enable it to compete with the American product.

A series of eight samples of Indian lac was received, and is still under examination.

A large number of investigations were undertaken on Indian drugs. Twenty-one samples of Indian aconites were under examination, including the following species:—*Aconitum heterophylloides*, *A spicatum* (?), *A. laciniatum*, *A. laciniatum*, x *A. spicatum*, *A.Soongaricum*, *A.palmatum*, and other unidentified species. Work on the isolation of the alkaloids characteristic of each made considerable progress.

Strychnos potatorum seeds from India were found to yield a trace of alkaloid, but this was too small in amount to be isolated and identified.

The whole plants of *Hyoscyamus reticulatus* from Baluchistan were found to contain 0·116 to 0·240 per cent of total alkaloid, chiefly hyoscyamine, whilst 0·082 per cent of total alkaloid was present in the seeds. *Datura Stramonium* from Madras and the Punjab yielded in some cases hyoscyamine alone, in others scopalamine alone, but generally a mixture of the two alkaloids with possibly a third unidentified alkaloid in one sample of roots from the Punjab. No atropine was found in any of the samples examined. The percentage of alkaloids present in this Indian Stramonium was on the whole equal, if not superior, to that generally found in the European plant.

Datura fastuousa from Assam contained scopolamine as the predominant alkaloid in the twigs and leaves and this alkaloid alone in the roots. The quantity present was about the same as that recorded for this plant in Europe.

Datura metal from the Punjab was under investigation in continuation of this work at the close of the year.

Over 100 samples of poppy-heads, opiums, soils and other products collected from the chief opium-producing district in India were received during the year for examination in connection with a general investigation of opium-production in India, and considerable progress was made with the analysis of these products. In the same connection a memorandum dealing with improvements in a new process of opium alkaloid manufacture was supplied to the Indian Government.

Twelve samples of pipe tobaccos were received from India, but these proved to be of rather poor burning quality, and were not likely to be saleable in London. recommendations were made for the better cultivation and preparation of this tobacco.

Among other matters of commercial interest, we note that two samples of soy bean seeds from Weihai-wei were examined and found to contain 17 and 17·1 per cent soil respectively.

SUGARCANE CULTIVATION.

We give below the text of a press note recently issued by the Bombay Government on the subject of measures now being taken to relieve the sugar producers in Poona district from certain burdens under which they have hitherto conducted their industry:—The question of improving the condition of the sugarcane cultivators on lands irrigated by the Nira Canal in the Purandhor, Bhimthadi and Indapur Talukas of the Poona District has been under the consideration of Government for some time past. The cultivation of sugarcane is costly, but pays well when the cultivator has at his command capital sufficient to permit of proper manuring and careful culture. It was represented to Government that the cultivators on the Nira Canal had to depend entirely for the financing of their crops on the local sav ars who frequently obtained the bulk of their capital from distant parts at fairly high rates of interest, and charged in their turn still higher rates. The cultivators were also dependent on the savkars not only for their supplies of oilcake manure, for which high prices were charged but also for the disposal of the jagri, on the sale of which they were charged heavy brokerage fees. The system under which their industry was financed was thus an expensive one for the cultivators. Not less important however was the handicap imposed by the limited amount of capital at the command of the local savkars and the difficulty of obtaining the loans at the proper seasons. Instead of making handsome profits the cultivators were considered to be labouring under a double disadvantage and losing their proper share of the return for their skill and energy. The only solution of these difficulties was the provision of outside capital at moderate rates of interest. Government decided to make an experiment for the purpose of demonstrating how far the business of financing the sugarcane cultivators on an extensive scale would be profitable for a private joint stock or other banking concerns or might justify the establishment of an institution like the Agricultural Bank of Egypt, of which the inception was preceded by a similar experiment, and to what extent the cultivators would benefit by providing them with sufficient capital at the proper times and on reasonable terms and by promoting the prompt conversion of their produce into cash. Accordingly it was arranged to make advances under the Agriculturists Loans Act at 9 per cent interest to the extent, of Rs. 2,00,000 afterwards increased to Rs. 2,50,000, and an officer was placed on special duty for the purpose of carrying out the experiment. An essential part of the scheme was that the recovery of the loan, and interest was to be ensured by the Special Officer taking delivery of the jagri and selling it on behalf of the cultivators. The average outturn of jagri per acre was estimated to be worth Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 and on this basis it was proposed to grant advances not exceeding Rs. 450 per acre and a total of Rs. 4,000 in the case of any one cultivator. The advances were to be made either in cash or in oil-cake manure, or in both forms and at such times as the advances were absolutely required. The loan and interest were to be repaid out of the sale-proceeds of the jagri handed over to the Special Officer for sale on account of the cultivators to whom all surplus proceeds were to be repaid. Special rules were drawn up, and it was calculated that the experimental scheme would pay all expenses and result in a return of 3½ per cent on the amount of takavi advanced.

The facts given above are published with the object of inviting public discussion on the question of devising measures for continuing the work which Government have begun and of expanding it in accordance with the requirements of this important industry. The question of finding a suitable agency to take over the work which is being carried on under the scheme is engaging the attentive consideration of Government. In the meantime the present operations will be continued, so that the good results already obtained may be kept up until a decision on the point has been reached.

SUGARCANE IN PERU.

Peru is divided into three agricultural sections; the West Coast, the mountain region, and the tropical interior. The West Coast, with the exception of the far north, is practically without rain. Although lying in the tropical zone, its climate is not truly tropical. The thermometer ranges from about 50° to 90° F. The principal crops grown are sugar, cotton, and rice, and this section is the seat of the greatest commercial activity.

The mountain region has abundant periodic rains, and the climate is temperate. It grows chiefly wheat, potatoes, and corn, and the high table-lands of the Andes afford large areas for pasturage.

The interior lies on the east side of the Andes. It has abundant rain, and a warm tropical climate. It is the land of jungles. It produces rubber, a little muscovado sugar, and other tropical products. Although the area is extensive comprising the greatest part of Peru, it is thinly populated, and its agriculture is little developed.

The West Coast lies in latitude between about 4 and 18 degrees south, or a distance of about a thousand miles. It runs inland from the coast to the base of the Andes for distances of from 10 to 50 miles. This area is made up of fertile valleys and barren plains. With the exception of the extreme north, all crops are grown under irrigation, the barren plains adjoining the valley would be fertile if water were brought to them.

The water for irrigation is derived from rivers having their sources in the high Andes, and are fed by the melting snows of the high elevations. Their courses are down the ravines through the valleys to the Pacific. The agriculturists take the water from

the rivers on to their lands through ditches. When crops suffer from a dry season, as mentioned by a recent French Consular Report, it means that there was a shortage of water, due to the lack of rainfall in the mountains, or such cold weather that the snow did not melt.

The Fowler steam plough, and many modern agricultural implements, are used in preparing and cultivating the soil. Plant cane in the far north matures in from 16 to 18 months, Around Lima, and in the south, it requires 20 to 22 months, and occasionally 24 months, according to the season.

About 30 tons (of 2,240 lbs.) of plant cane to the acre is a fair yield for the best plantations. There have been exceptional yields of as high as 80 tons on small areas. One instance can be recalled where the first ratoon gave 79·8 tons per acre on an area of 85 acres.

One estate has had an average for the past four or five years of 46 tons of cane per acre including plant and first, second and third ratoons.

The cane contains about 13·5 to 16·5 per cent sucrose, and 13 to 15·5 per cent fibre. The purity of the juices range from 85 to 93 per cent. The yield of sugar per acre is very variable on account of the difference in efficiency of the sugar houses. One estate his kept up an average of 4·6 tons of sugar per acre for the past four or five years, and with an up-to-date milling plant the yield would have been 6 tons per acre. As many as 8 tons of sugar have been obtained on small areas. There are estates that do not average over 2 to 2·5 tons of sugar per acre.

The area under sugarcane cultivation is not, we think, over 125,000 acres. We have estimated that the West Coast of Peru is capable of producing 300,000 tons of sugar. Its present production is about 150,000—170,000 tons. The interior of Peru, like the far interior of Brazil, is capable of producing large quantities of sugar, but until easy means of transportation are established, the sugar industry in that part of the country will be insignificant.

Some of the sugar factories have thoroughly up-to-date boiling appliance. The defecating is carried on for the most part in the old-fashioned double-bottomed defecators. The mills in general are out of date. Some houses use one mill of three rollers, others two three roller mills without maceration. In a few houses maceration is employed. A few plantations have lately installed nine and eleven roller mills, and there is a general movement to re-model the sugar houses just as fast as the finances of the estates will allow.

In 1906 an experiment station was established by the Peruvian Government for the sole benefit of the sugar planters. It is modelled as far as possible after the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Experiment Station, and the work it has done and is doing is helping to place Peru's sugar industry on a modern scientific basis. The West Coast of Peru is particularly adapted to a heavy production of cane with a high sugar content.

FORMOSAN SUGAR UNDER JAPANESE CONTROL.

The following article from the *International Sugar Journal* of July, 1910, gives fairly recent information about the progress of the sugar industry in Formosa :—

It is only a few years since the Japanese Government turned particular attention to the development of the sugar industry in Formosa. In the year 1908 the first sugar factory on an extensive scale was completed, and in the course of that year the quantity of Formosa sugar introduced into Japan proper was valued at 9,400,000 yen (1 yen=2*s.* 0½*d.*). From that time the development of the sugar industry in the island has proceeded with extraordinary speed, and at the present moment, besides a whole series of completely equipped factories, there is now being built another series of large new works.

Thus the Nitakskaya Sugar Company, consisting of Tokio capitalists, has just constructed a factory which can crush 1,000 tons of cane per day. By the year 1911 this company proposes to have completed two more factories of this capacity.

Another influential capitalist, Rin-chon-Gen, a Formosan, has begun the construction of a factory to be finished this year capable of crushing 750 tons of sugarcane daily, and by the close of the current year the work of constructing a large factory by the Takazasky Sugar Company will be begun. Its crushing capacity will also be 1,000 tons of cane per day.

In the current season, from November, 1909, to April, 1910, the active sugar factories of Formosa, it is expected, will have delivered the following quantities of sugar :—The Tokio Sugar Company, 160,000 bags of 180 lbs. each, the Meidshi Sugar Company, 300,000 bags; the Taivan Company, 700,000 bags; the Schinko Sugar Company, 85,000 bags; the Ensuiko Company, 270,000 bags; and the Dai Nippon Company, 250,000 bags; or a total of 1,765,000 bags, making a weight of 170,000,000 kin (1 kin=1·32 lbs.) of molasses and about 100,000,000 kin of raw sugar, equal to 156,451 tons.

According to the account of the Minister of Agriculture and Trade for 1908, the total consumption of sugar in Japan amounts to 450,000,000 kin. The consumption is no doubt higher now. Thus in the current year Formosa will be able to supply half the consumption of Japan. At the end of 1911, therefore, when all the factories now being built have been completed, the production of the Formosan sugar industry will amount to 500,000,000 kin, or 289,646 tons.

Besides this, in various parts of Japan itself there are being produced about 100,000,000 kin of sugar. Thus there is not the slightest doubt that when the new enterprises are at work under the protection of the proposed new tariff, Japan will be able to do entirely without foreign sugar, for the duties will be practically prohibitive.

In the interest of the regulation of the sugar production for the future the [illegible] has decided not to allow the formation of any more sugar companies on the island. For the encouragement of the sugar industry, in the Budget of 1910-11 a sum is being allocated of 1,850,000 yen to give premiums to the manufacturers. Besides this, it is proposed to give 1·90 yen for each bag of raw sugar exported from Formosa into Japan, so that payment of this premium will affect at least 250,000 bags. This, however, will be paid out of the Customs duties raised on the importation of foreign sugar.

CASEIN.

Casein appears on the market in the form of a yellowish hygroscopic solid, and it shows an acid reaction with turmeric; it is insoluble in water, but perfectly soluble in alkalis and salts with an alkaline reaction, and it forms insoluble salts with the metallic salts. This property of submitting to double decomposition is taken into account, in certain finishing processes, to render insoluble those soluble metallic salts with which a fabric may have been previously prepared; for instance, in the so-called whitening of certain classes of fabrics which are generally impregnated with barium chloride and sulphate of barium formed on the fibre by subsequent treatment with soda and sulphate of soda.

From the chemical point of view, the reactions of casein closely resemble those of gelatine, and the knowledge of this fact is of some interest to the finisher, for if employed as a thickening agent along with metallic salts as weighting agents, or as antiseptics, colorations may result which vary as the bath may be acid or alkaline. For example, in the presence of air and of hydrochloric acid vapour—a circumstance which may arise by the decomposition of chlorides used for weighting purposes—the casein takes on a reddish-blue hue; under the action of nitric acid it acquires a yellowish coloration, which may pass to orange under the influence of ammonia; sulphuric acid in the presence of ammonia; sulphuric acid in the presence of a small quantity of glucose causes a purplish coloration; by the action first of sulphate of copper and then of potash, casein takes on a violent coloration.

These inconveniences in the case of finishing are not singular to casein, for many such may be set against one or other of the commoner thickening agents; but its employment for many of the purposes for which gelatine, the dextrines, and gums are called into use, offers some advantage, because of its most remarkable colouring properties. Furthermore, casein is still more valuable because its compounds are readily decomposable by the action of acids or even a rise in temperature, and, again, because of its property of forming, under conditions already mentioned, stable insoluble compounds.

As early as 1830 Draconnet pointed out the interesting properties of this body, and at that time made certain proposals for its industrial application that have since secured adoption in practice, notably as a substitute for gelatine in the finishing of certain classes of fabrics.

Casein is, of course, insoluble in water, but readily enters into solution when mixed with soda or borax. But the solution should be complete and thorough, otherwise serious faults may result, especially in instances where material that has been treated with an imperfect solution has to undergo storage for a prolonged period—because then a separation of the two compounds may take place by virtue of density, the free alkali causing the trouble. Its proper solution may be effected by first dissolving the alkali in proportion to water varying with the nature of the salt employed—carbonate of soda 8 per cent; silicate of soda (36 deg. Be.) 10 to 12; and borax, 13 to 15 per cent. To the solution of the alkali add the casein, and raise the temperature of the mixture to 50 or 60 deg C. By this mode of preparation simplicity is gained, as well as certain regularity in composition To replace gelatine in finishing, the casein is preferably employed in the form of its magnesium compound, in which state it readily enters into solution in ammonia, supplying a viscous mass. There does not appear to be any opening for the application of casein to woollen fabrics, because of its varnish-like character, but to cotton it is said to have given excellent results in the majority of cases, even as a substitute for albumine.

Caseinate of magnesium supplies a very transparent solution, in which fabrics may be treated, and, after draining, passed into a bath of alum and metallic earths, so as to form on the fibre, by double decomposition, an insoluble salt, a deposit that may serve to impart a brilliant appearance to the material upon hot calendering. In the form of caseinat of soda a mordant is afforded for the acid dyeing-stuffs, though this sphere of usefulness is more successful in printing than in dyeing. As a substitute for albumine in calico-printing, however, casein offers great advantages. Pigments may be fixed in the same way as with albumine, the manner of working being varied according to circumstances. The colours may be mixed with casein and applied in the usual way, steaming to bring about coagulation being relied upon; formaldehyde may be used for the purpose of fixation.

According to reports from a large printing works it appears that the cost of the casein method is much lower than the albumine process. The following figures, according to Maguire, show the relative costs :—

Chrome-yellow or black with albumine 4·20, as against 0·70 with casein, blue lake 3·60, against 0·60; pink lake 1·50, against 0·25; red lake 11·25, against 1·88; and chrome-yellow or vat blue 6·30, as against 1·10. The same authority states that the colours are much brighter and the material softer when casein is used in preference to albumine. Still, some drawbacks attend the use of casein, the chief of which is the disclosed fact that the mineral colours fixed with it do not exhibit the same degree of fastness as those fixed with albumine.—*Textile Mercury.*

THE RISE IN TEA.

A correspondent contributes the following article to the *Times* Financial and Commercial Supplement :—The recent activity in the tea market imparted more than usual interest to the Board of Trade returns published on the 7th instant, as the movement was based upon observation that the statistical position was changing in a direction favourable to producers, and importers, which is now seen to be the case. Home consumption is increasing, and moderate imports have not allowed heavy stocks to accumulate, the total in bond in the United Kingdom on October 31st being not more than 109,352,000 lb., compared with 107,846,000 lb. in 1909, whereas there was a surplus of 10,000,000 lb. three months ago, October deliveries having reached the high total of 30,360,000 lb. The position called for attention from the wholesale and retail vendors, and when they grasped it an active demand arose at higher prices for low and medium grades than were paid for many months, although not quite up to the level reached in 1907.

Supplies and Demand.

Inquiry as to the nature of this movement in the market, unusual at this time of the year, shows that it originated with and is still supported by home traders and exporters, who find that their sales are now increasing, see that the use of tea abroad as well as at home is growing, and are not sure that future supplies will be large enough to meet any further expansion in trade that may take place next year.

An abundant yield in India down to September promised a sufficient increase from that source to compensate for the reduction in the supply from Ceylon, but definite information received by cable from India that since then less than last year has been made, and that the cold weather has set in, warrants an estimate that the total available for this country will be less than was expected. This has brought into the market buyers from all sections of the trade who are anxious to replenish their stocks while prices are still at a moderate level, and as the importers have followed their usual policy of selling freely when tea is most wanted, a large business has been done between the London dealers and their customers in the provinces.

The additional quantity made throughout India to September 30th was about 14,000,000 lb. Of this about 11,000,000 lb. have been brought into sight by recent heavy shipment, but very little of it will be landed here, as the foreign and colonial buyers in Calcutta have taken away 8,500,000 lb. of it, and another 1,500,000 lb. have been diverted from London by transhipments to America. As our total imports are less than last year, an interesting position seems to be developing.

Important Factors.

Attention is concentrated upon two points—(1) India's present yield and its probable output in coming years, for it is agreed that Ceylon's production is likely to diminish and that the expected increase from Java will not be obtained at once, while it is realized that a few million pounds more or less of such tea as China now principally contributes can make no difference to a trade amounting to 650,000,000 lb., the quantity now taken annually by consumers outside the countries of production, to which India and Ceylon contribute about 450,000,000 lb.; (2) the future action of the Russian merchants. It is recognized that the increase year after year in the quantity of British-grown tea that they buy in preference to other varieties has been largely instrumental in creating the present position, and that their future operations will materially influence the course of the market, according to the quantity they divert from London by their purchases in Calcutta and Colombo. The quantity may depend upon the supplies offered for sale there as the Moscow merchants buy more freely when they can do so on the spot, for direct importation, than they do through London channels; for instance, during the first nine months of this year they bought 36,000,000 lb. in the two local markets, including what they ship to their brick-tea factories in China, whereas they only took 6,000,000 lb. from London.

About 3,000,000 lb. more than last season have been brought to sale in Calcutta so far, but it is said to be insufficient to satisfy all the foreign buyers, and that some of them have found difficulty in executing their orders. About 4,000,000 lb. more than in 1909 have been sold in Colombo out of the smaller total crop available.

The outlook seems to be hopeful, but it is not yet sufficiently clear to justify hasty speculation, for there is enough tea here or on the water for present requirements, and although it is known that many of the planting companies are doing extremely well, it is possible that when the *interim* reports shortly due from them are published it will be found that they have not all been equally fortunate.

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Nelson.

BULLETIN OF THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE
(International Institute of Agriculture, Rome.)
First year. First volume, September 30th, 1910. 9 × 6¼, xxiv + 430 pp.
Rome: Printers to the Chambers of Deputies.

CASH AND CREDIT.
By D. A. Barker, Indian Civil Service. 6¾ × 4¾. 143 pp. (The Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature) . . . . . 1s. net.
Cambridge University Press.

TRANSPORTATION IN EUROPE.
By Logan G. McPherson. 7¾ × 5¼, 285 pp. 5s. net.
Constable.

TRADE OF PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

The following summary table has been prepared at the Board of Trade showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to August, 1910, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, *viz.*, the eight months ended August. The corresponding figures for 1909 and 1908 are added for comparison :—

—	Imports (*see* Note). Eight months (January-August).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* Note). Eight months (January-August).		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	Not stated.	274,401,000	*274,900,000*	Not stated.	204,335,000	235,334,000
Belgium*	82,856,000	91,839,000	*97,033,000*	62,994,000	66,957,000	*71,903,000*
France	147,608,000	163,381,000	*171,489,000*	130,783,000	145,144,000	*156,916,000*
Spain	24,927,000	24,813,000	*25,671,000*	22,528,000	22,278,000	*24,061,000*
Italy	74,376,000	81,330,000	*81,375,000*	44,150,000	47,697,000	*51,418,000*
Austria-Hungary	*69,153,000*	71,428,000	*74,605,000*	*63,212,000*	62,164,000	*64,106,000*
Egypt	15,908,000	14,080,000	14,597,000	12,683,000	14,024,000	13,178,000
United States	145,848,000	197,413,000	219,816,000	223,975,000	206,054,000	214,049,000
Japan	32,951,000	28,387,000	31,809,000	24,317,000	25,627,000	28,819,000
British India	60,971,000	51,020,000	53,908,000	65,588,000	76,522,000	96,931,000
Canada	38,259,000	45,532,000	58,474,000	29,428,000	29,797,000	33,199,000
British South Africa†	16,694,000	17,845,000	24,449,000	29,461,000	31,733,000	35,971,000
United Kingdom	335,356,000	339,404,000	364,147,000	254,042,000	244,536,000	281,613,000

* Value of *principal* articles only. † Including bullion.

A comparison of the total figures for the nine months ended 30th September is possible for five countries as follows, *viz.* :—

—	Imports (*see* Note). Nine months (January-September).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* Note). Nine months (January-September).		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	276,404,000	307,463,000	*309,354,000*	232,672,000	231,386,000	267,805,000
Belgium*	93,940,000	102,993,000	*110,266,000*	71,450,000	76,396,000	*81,759,000*
France	165,715,000	181,581,000	*192,548,000*	148,389,000	164,814,000	*176,054,000*
United States	166,354,000	222,624,000	244,245,000	252,572,000	237,715,000	248,608,000
United Kingdom	378,064,000	382,404,000	408,871,000	285,663,000	277,337,000	318,577,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade are as follow :—

—	Imports (*see* Note).			Exports (Domestic) (*see* Note).		
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (7 months)	44,827,000	44,836,000	57,910,000	47,896,000	67,247,000	72,536,000
Switzerland† (6 months)	28,667,000	30,307,000	*32,575,000*	20,076,000	20,845,000	22,769,000
Mexico‡ (7 months)	11,255,000	9,808,000	12,820,000	13,415,000	14,721,000	16,860,000
Australia Commonwealth‡ (7 months)	28,706,000	27,424,000	32,082,000	30,435,000	31,285,000	36,340,000

* European, Russo-Finnish and Black Sea Frontiers. † Including bullion. ‡ Including bullion and specie.

Note.—The values stated for the *latest* year shown in the foregoing statements are provisional and subject to rectification. In some cases all the values are those declared by importers or exporters, as in the United Kingdom; in others they are based on an official schedule of values which is subjected to revision after the close of each year, the values used in the current returns being those fixed in the latest completed revision. In general, the values so fixed represent the level of prices in the preceding year. The countries adopting the system of official values annually revised are :—Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, and (for imports) Germany and Switzerland. Exports from Switzerland are returned at declared values; and, since April, 1909, only about one-third of the exports from Germany have been returned at official values, the values of the remainder being declared. *The figures in italics are based, wholly or mainly, on the prices of some earlier year than that under which they are shown.* The values of the exports from Germany for the eight months ended August, 1910, and for the nine months ended September, 1910, are based, in each case, partly on declared values and partly on the prices of the year 1909.

In the case of Russia, Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, *and the United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

FOOD-GRAINS AND SALT.

Retail Prices of certain Food-grains and Salt at selected stations for the first half of November, 1910. (Prices are stated in annas and pies per seer of 2·06 lbs.)

	Rice, common.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jawar.	Bajra.	Ragi.	Gram.	Salt.
	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.
BURMA—								
Rangoon	1 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
Toungoo	1 4	...	...	..	...	...	...	1 2
EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM—								
Rangpur	2 0	2 0	..	.	...	...	...	1 1
Backerganj	2 2	...	...	...	...	..	...	0 11
BENGAL—								
Calcutta	2 7	1 7	..	...	...	...	...	0 10
Patna	1 2	1 1	0 8	...	...	...	...	0 10
UNITED PROVINCES—								
Cawnpore	...	1 3	0 9	0 10	0 11	..	0 10	0 9
Fyzabad	..	1 4	0 9	...	...	...	0 11	0 10
Meerut	...	1 2	0 8	...	...	...	0 10	0 8
PANJAB—								
Delhi	..	1 3	0 9	0 10	1 0	...	0 9	0 9
Amritsar	...	1 1	0 8	0 11	0 11	...	0 9	0 7
Rawalpindi	...	1 2	0 8	0 8	0 11	...	0 10	0 7
SIND—								
Karáchi	...	1 7	...	1 1	1 3	...	1 2	0 7
BOMBAY—								
Belgaum	...	1 8	...	1 1	1 0	...	...	0 10
Ahmadnagar	...	1 7	...	0 10	0 11	...	...	1 0
Bombay	...	2 3	...	1 4	1 6	...	...	0 11
Ahmadabad	...	1 6	...	1 0	1 3	...	...	0 7
CENTRAL PROVINCES—								
Jubbulpore	...	1 3	...	...	...	...	0 10	0 11
Nagpur	1 4	1 2	...	0 10	...	...	1 0	1 0
Raipur	1 3	1 1	..	...	...	...	0 11	1 0
MADRAS—								
Bellary	2 0	.	...	1 0	...	1 0	...	0 11
Madras	2 2	..	..	...	..	1 3	..	0 7
Salem	2 5	...	...	1 3	1 7	1 1	...	1 2

—Writing on November 10th the *Manchester Guardian* says :—The question of **illegitimate competition** for the **trade of the Levant** in cotton yarns and textiles is one of pressing interest to English merchants. For a long time past the Turkish Government has been moved by the (British) Chambers of Commerce of Constantinople and Smyrna to take action by the adoption of legislation which shall be a check upon the importation of short-reeled yarn and pieces that have been fented. Italians and Austrians have reduced short reeling to a fine art. Hanks which are nearly 25 per cent less in length than they ought to be are no uncommon thing in the Levant, Bulgaria excepted—where they have been shrewd enough to adopt a Merchandise Marks Law which protects their people from sly robbery of this kind. The Bucharest newspapers recently announced that the Roumanian Chambers of Commerce, which occupy a more intimate and closer connection with the Administration than do corresponding organisations in this country, are at present considering the adoption of the Bulgarian Law for their own country. If they do, nefarious competition in the yarn and piece goods trade will have received a hard knock, and as a by-product, English trade will correspondingly profit. We do not know how far it may be proper or prudent for English influence to be used in a matter as to which the event has so direct a bearing on the prospects of English trade with Roumania : but certainly the other beneficiary of the proposal—the Roumanian consumer—will have cause to feel obliged to whomsoever may be attributed the enactment of a piece of legislation which will ensure his getting what he pays for.

INDIAN CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Total Gross Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) in thousands of rupees :—

SEA CUSTOMS.	In the eight months, April to November of									
	1901-02	1902-03	1903-04	1904-05	1905-06	1906-07	1907-08	1908-09	1909-10	1910-11
IMPORTS.										
Special Import Duties.										
Arms, ammunition, and military stores	2,05	2,21	2,10	2,72	2,63	2,69	3,54	3,40	3,31	3,29
Liquors—										
Ale, beer, porter, cider and other fermented liquors	1,35	1,48	1,67	1,81	1,80	1,97	1,88	3,26	3,27	5,16
Spirits and liqueurs	41,66	44,72	48,61	49,03	51,93	48,43	59,94	61,01	61,02	69,14
Wines	2,17	2,53	2,39	2,23	2,49	2,38	2,52	2,48	2,40	3,65
Opium and its alkaloids	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	4
Petroleum	34,75	36,65	29,85	29,25	26,05	23,15	29,92	35,35	30,56	35,97
Silver, bullion and coin	19,47	28,25	25,05	26,26	18,32	29,48	33,46	49,52	37,18	1,21,32
Sugar (countervailing duties, 1899)	19,54	16,23	1,97	10	1	1	...	...	...	1
Sugar (countervailing duties, 1902)	—	3,21	14	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tobacco	1,13	1,15	1,34	1,66	2,03	1,94	2,46	2,22	2,98	19,83
General Import Duties.										
Articles of food and drink (excluding sugar)	9,45	8,88	9,43	10,97	12,18	12,66	15,56	17,25	15,54	16,27
Sugar (ordinary duties)	18,29	16,58	18,42	20,23	22,01	32,42	29,17	34,79	39,45	42,23
Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics (excluding opium and its alkaloids and tobacco), and dyeing and tanning materials	6,51	6,33	7,57	7,02	7,25	7,75	9,68	8,65	9,38	10,90
Cotton manufactures—										
Piece-goods, grey	33,63	35,00	30,44	36,93	41,69	43,26	45,25	36,06	39,95	37,38
„ white	18,81	10,71	12,54	17,89	18,68	15,88	25,49	19,78	14,98	20,18
„ coloured	16,23	14,85	18,60	21,43	21,93	22,26	25,33	25,29	18,65	26,90
Other goods	2,12	1,66	2,63	3,81	4,23	4,54	4,71	4,60	4,44	5,88
Metals (excluding silver, bullion and coin) and manufactures thereof	15,19	19,98	20,63	24,40	20,67	22,38	26,60	32,53	28,88	33,75
Oils (excluding petroleum)	1,28	1,03	65	58	78	1,38	1,83	98	81	92
Manufactured articles	41,67	40,01	46,85	55,84	56,15	55,63	65,23	66,77	61,19	76,88
Raw materials and unmanufactured articles	6,42	5,97	5,81	6,67	8,02	7,55	9,33	11,08	9,65	9,59
TOTAL IMPORTS	2,91,74	2,97,45	2,86,71	3,18,94	3,18,87	3,35,78	3,91,93	4,15,04	3,83,66	5,39,29
EXCISE DUTY ON COTTON GOODS	10,68	11,14	12,57	13,47	15,98	16,28	18,30	19,05	20,93	22,10
EXPORT DUTIES—										
Rice, husked or unhusked, including rice-flour	50,00	67,07	62,68	74,48	65,87	54,64	52,96	38,68	48,48	64,75
LAND CUSTOMS AND MISCELLANEOUS	5,42	5,46	6,29	6,45	5,60	6,05	6,79	5,85	6,58	6,46
GRAND TOTAL	3,57,84	3,81,12	3,68,25	4,13,34	4,06,32	4,12,75	4,69,98	4,78,62	4,59,65	6,32,60

—A Constantinople correspondent of the *Kolnische Zeitung* states that absolutely no credence need be attached to the various adverse rumours which have emanated from Paris during the past few months with reference to the progress of the **Bagdad Railway.** Special mention is made of the latest rumour to the effect that serious financial difficulties have arisen which render the actual execution of the proposed extensions beyond Bulgurlu very questionable. The syndicate to whom the concession has been granted will require 223 million marks for the proposed line of 840 kilometres. The rumour referred to states that the Deutsche Bank, through whom the capital is being negotiated, have so far only succeeded in placing certificates to the amount of about 23 million marks, the remaining bonds to the value of 200 million marks being still in the portfolio of the bank. This assertion is emphatically denied by the Constantinople correspondent, who professes to have authority for saying that the Syndicate have already 108 million marks at their disposal, and that the rest will be available as required. It is admitted that actual building progress has been slow during the summer, but the delay is said to have been due partly to the difficulty in obtaining labour, but chiefly to the excessive heat which has prevailed this summer, especially on the plains of Adana and Aleppo.

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 3rd December, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	104,601
	Bombay	„	151,935
	Madras	„	4,060
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	50,400
	Bombay	„	5,075,110
	Madras	„	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	13,915,619
	Bombay	„	3,956,590
	Karachi	„	75,873
	Madras	„	56,469
	Rangoon	„	261,761

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	999,898
	Bombay	„	2,565,774
	Karachi	„	244,180
	Madras	„	920
	Rangoon	„	437,947

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	771,062
	Bombay	„	4,563,747
	Karachi	„	294,839
	Madras	„	156,168
	Rangoon	„	1,025,145

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*16,039
	Bombay	„	10,249
	Karachi	„	15,459
	Madras	„	5,067

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	164
	Coastwise	„	16,833
	By rail	„	251,682
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	76,918
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*17,267

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*617,505
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	8,475,750
	„ cloth	yds.	29,406,990
	Jute	cwt.	457,269
Exports by sea from Chittagong	Jute	„	83,664

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from	Bombay	cwt	133,771

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*4,760
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	74
	Coastwise	„	284
	By rail	„	6,884
Imports into Karachi	By rail and river	„	1,166
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	4,010
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	24,007
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	...

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*49,602
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	1,002
	By rail	„	4,498
Imports into Karachi	By rail and river	„	500
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	586
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	86,058
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	19,057

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*151,783
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	169,398
Exports by sea from Chittagong		„	...
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	18,548
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	12,885
Exports by sea from Madras		„	...
Exports by sea from Rangoon		„	319,266

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*5,982,994
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	6,608,413
Exports by sea from Chittagong		„	773,849

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta by rail and river		cwt.	*116,955
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	162,000
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	2,015
	By rail	„	110,332
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	8,079
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	66,126
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	381,913

* B. N. Ry. figures not included.

The correct figure of other piece goods imported into Karachi during week ending 26th November, 1910, is 2,581,789 yards.

EXPORTS RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

		From April		From January					
		1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
		Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta	Cwt.	3,375,756	2,572,897	3,449,509	5,248,100	1,076,508	1,050,101	Not	reported.
Bombay	„	2,612,165	1,872,556	2,057,908	2,895,424	1,480,354	2,671,584	6,903,923	13,079,085
Karachi	„	14,399,701	15,595,467	...	14,697	3,004,072	4,592,272	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 3rd DECEMBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From all other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	917,562	917,562
Bombay	...	...	502,746	502,746
Karachi	...	...	507,851	507,851
Madras	...	...	...	...

Exports by sea from Burma to	Bengal	430,900
	E. B. & Assam	481,984
	Bombay	...
	Sind	...
	Madras	...
	Indian Ports, Non-Br.	...
	Foreign Ports	...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 3rd DECEMBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon.	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	19	...	58	4	22	1	104
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	25	20,000	...	...	20,025
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	63,061	...	41,258	33,733	17,315	...	155,367
Mauritius	...	...	6,750	...	...	...	6,750
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	535	...	...	2,381	2,916
					Total refined		185,162
					Total unrefined		...
					Grand Total		185,162

The correct figure of refined sugar imported into Rangoon from United Kingdom and other Non-European countries are 42 cwt. and 4,321 cwt. respectively; and the total imports of refined sugar from United Kingdom and other Non-European countries are 244 cwt. and 4,339 cwt. respectively and of total refined and grand total are 206,564 cwt. and 233,564 cwt. respectively during week ending 26th November 1910.

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 2nd December		Sold to 2nd December.		Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 3rd December.		Sold to 3rd December.	
	Packages.	Average price per lb.	Packages.	Average price per lb.	Packages.	Average price per lb.	Packages.	Average price per lb.
		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.
Assam	6,734	7 7·3	156,329	7 4·3	8,469	6 11·9	138,035	7 5·3
Cachar	2,467	6 6·8	113,522	6 2·5	4,101	6 0·3	123,222	5 9·9
Sylhet	4,456	6 8	80,591	6 3·3	3,128	5 9·6	82,780	5 9·6
Darjeeling	1,087	9 11·2	62,574	9 4·8	620	11 0·3	54,839	10 0
Dooars	7,727	7 5·6	165,609	6 8·7	6,112	7 3·3	162,929	6 9·9
Terai	502	6 10·9	21,028	6 6·3	726	6 5	15,770	6 3·3
Chittagong	84	6 8·6	7,425	6 2·7	150	5 2·6	6,242	5 10·6
Chota-Nagpore	...	...	1,343	7 6·3	...	...	1,574	6 7·1
Kumaon and Kangra	...	..	3,089	6 4·3	100	6 4	2,895	5 8·7
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	110	5 11·7
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	5 9
Nepal	...	...	495	6 4·7	...	...	474	6 2·9
All other places	...	...	76	5 11	...	...	...	...
Total	23,057	7 4·3	612,124	6 11·9	23,406	6 9·7	588,958	6 10·5

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 33,293 packages Dust* sold to 2nd December 5a. 10·7p.

„ 1909-10 „ 31,023 „ „ „ 3rd „ 5a. 6·2p.

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

APPARATUS FOR CANNING MEAT, FRUIT, ETC.

AN inquiry which reached us recently requested us to supply the names of makers of Canning Plant. For the benefit of other readers who may be interested in this class of business we take this opportunity of illustrating a canning vat and a preserved provisions retort, which in conjunction with a steam boiler and soldering appliances, comprises an ordinary small installation. Each of these items may, of course, be duplicated or enlarged, according to the extent of the trade to be dealt with. In the case of large firms, what is frequently done is to lay down, in addition, machinery for making their own tins, but this we do not propose to deal with here.

The vat and retort illustrated represent designs made by a London firm who specialise in this class of machinery. Before referring in detail to the apparatus, we will just briefly outline the usual operation of canning.

The Canning Process.

A strong brine made of calcium chloride dissolved in water is placed in the vat, which as will be seen, is an oblong tank open at the top. This mixture is used because it has a very high boiling temperature and may be heated to about 240 deg. F., by means of steam coils arranged inside the vat. The raw meat, or whatever food is being dealt with is first cut up and packed into tins by hand; air-tight covers, having a small hole punched in them, are soldered on, and the tins are placed in the vat, where they remain for about forty minutes, with their tops above the level of the liquid. The latter must not, of course, be allowed to get at the contents. The holes are then soldered up, and the tins removed and allowed to cool. This cooling operation causes the steam inside the tins to condense and forms a vacuum.

The Retort.

The retort, which is a closed apparatus, is made use of when the meat or food material is required to be put up into glass moulds. In this case steam only is used, and consequently fewer breakages occur than if the glass moulds were dealt with by placing them in the vat in the liquid. Shelves are fitted inside the retort, as in an oven, upon which the moulds are placed. The door is then closed and bolted up, and steam to a pressure of from 10 to 20 lbs. per square inch is admitted. The average time taken to thoroughly cook the food is about the same as in the vat.

Capacity of Plant and Output.

The chief thing to be carefully watched in running a plant of this description is the temperature, but experience will soon show how and when to regulate this to the best advantage. The output depends upon the size of the tins, etc., used, as it is obvious that the larger the tins the fewer will go into the vat or retort at the same time and *vice versâ*. Anyone wishing to lay down such a plant as this should first of all determine the quantity of material they will require to cope with, and the size of the tins and moulds they wish to use. The makers can then supply them with suitable estimates. The vat illustrated is 36 inches by 30 inches 18 inches deep, and is fitted with two steam and one drain valve. The retort is 36 inches high by 36 inches wide by 72 inches from front to back. The body is strongly built to withstand hard usage, and is fitted with a small swivel crane to sling the door.—*Machinery Market.*

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

COMMERCIAL GUIDE (MONTHLY).

		Rate. Rs.	A.
Per annum		100	0
Per half-year		54	0
Per quarter		28	0
FOR LESS THAN 3 MONTHS :—			
To Subscribers	per copy	8	0
To Non-Subscribers	„	10	0
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—			
Abroad	per copy	5	0
In India	„	2	8

WEEKLY MANIFEST.

First copy per annum	100	0
„ „ „ half-year	54	0
„ „ „ quarter	28	0
Additional copy per annum	20	0
„ „ „ half-year	12	0
„ „ „ quarter	8	0
FOR LESS THAN 3 MONTHS :—		
To Subscribers per copy	1	0
To Non-Subscribers „	2	0
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad per copy	5	0
In India „	3	8

DAILY LISTS—IMPORTS OR EXPORTS (separately).

One copy of either per annum	65	0
„ „ „ „ „ half-year	35	0
„ „ „ „ „ quarter	20	0
For less than 3 months whether to Subscribers or Non-Subscribers, annas 5 per copy		
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20	0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1	0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6	0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4	12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0	6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Wednesday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	7 per cent. (Dec. 1).
	Bombay	6 per cent. (Nov. 17).
	Madras	6 per cent. (Nov. 18).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic Transfers	1-4 1/16
	3 months	1-4 5/16
	6 months	1-4

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 94-15.

The following **General Memoranda on crops** of the season 1910-11 will appear in the *Indian Trade Journal* of the 22nd instant :—

Indigo.—Final General Memorandum.
Rice.—Second General Memorandum.

The gist of these in tabular form will be exhibited, as usual, at the street door of the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, No. 5, Clive Street, Calcutta, on the 21st instant at 4 P.M.

In the Third **General Memorandum** on the **cotton crop** published on another page it is estimated that 4,688,900 bales of 400 lbs. each would be the outturn of cleaned cotton in India in the season 1910-11. Assuming the proportion of **cotton seed** to be 70 per cent of raw cotton the total outturn of seed may be roughly estimated at 1,953,700 tons.

The following particulars relating to the cotton crops in **other countries** will be of interest: the **American cotton crop** is estimated at 11,600,000 bales as against 10,610,000 bales last season. The **Sea Island crop** is estimated at 90,000 bales as against 96,718 bales in 1909-10. The crop now being picked in **Uganda** is estimated to produce from 8,000 to 10,000 bales as against 6,000 bales last season. In regard to the **Egyptian crop** estimates vary from 1,183,600 bales to 1,386,700 bales as against 911,000 bales last season. The **Russian crop** is roughly estimated at 722,240 bales as against 720,000 bales last season. It may be noted that the estimates of foreign cotton have all been expressed in bales of 500 lbs.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 10th December was Rs. 28-14-10 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 13th December was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia-Bhawnagar cotton**, December delivery, Rs. 314 per candy of 784 lbs.

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales** of **cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 46 weeks ended 17th November, 1910 :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 17th Nov., 1910.	46 weeks ended 17th Nov., 1910.	Week ended 17th Nov., 1910.	46 weeks ended 17th Nov., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American . .	145,089	2,084,574	2,211	193,782
Brazilian . .	397	56,216	...	3,388
East Indian . .	112	188,940	196	42,871
Egyptian . .	23,787	273,652	2,592	58,278
Miscellaneous .	2,794	111,480*	90	7,366
Total .	172,179	2,714,862	5,089	305,685

* Including 6,240 bales British West Indian, 6,677 bales British West African, 13,929 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

Note.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

In their **American cotton** letter dated November 11th, Messrs. Hubbard Bros. and Co., of New York, say that with estimates of the crop showing so wide a difference as a million bales, the natural tendency is to credit the lower figure as agreeing with the bullish view so strongly held by the majority of the trade. Consequently the short interest is small in all markets, while the long interest is holding the hedges against the slowly accumulating stocks in the south. From now on the movement last season fell off rapidly each week, so that it should this season show an increase weekly, if even the small crop estimates are correct. The movement will, therefore, be closely watched, as being one of the principal controlling factors. With regard to the new Government cotton standards they write:—"Our friends in the Atlantic States will be interested in the question of the adoption of the Government standards of grades now before the Board of Managers of the New York Cotton Exchange. It appears that the standards have been made up from Texas and Gulf cotton. It does not seem right to class upland cotton on standards made from other cotton, and it is this question which is receiving earnest attention in the many meetings which have been held to consider the question of the adoption of the Government Standards."

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market**, dated 17th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray and Co., Ld., say:—In spite of the strained relations existing in some branches of trade during the interval a welcome revival in the demand for **Indian yarns** has to be recorded. Buyers and sellers of these spinnings seem at last to have hit upon a workable basis, and with a little give and take on both sides quite a respectable amount of business has taken place. The chief demand is for the River markets, but Tientsin has participated to a certain extent in the transactions in No. 10s. The market closes steady, with a decidedly better feeling. The sales amount in the aggregate to 2,300 bales as under:—No. 6s. 5 bales; James Greaves (Cow Chop) $90·00. No. 10s. 840 bales; Apollo (Mule) $95·00/95·50, James Greaves Mill $98·00, Sun Mill (Photo) $98·50. Currimbhoy Mill (Ring) and Tea Carrier $99·50, Connaught Mill $99·75/100·00, Howard and Bullough Mill Co. $99·50/101·00, Finlay Mill $103·50 and Svadeshi (Ring) Kosc $105·50/106·00. No. 12s. 155 bales; Queen Mill (Woman Chop) $96·00, Currimbhoy Mill (Mule) $103·50 and Fazulbhoy Mill $106·00. No. 20s. 1,300 bales; Currimbhoy Mill (Mule) $113·00/114·00, James Greaves Mill $113·75/114·00, Empress Mill and Imperial Mill $114·00, Connaught Mill $114·00/114·50, Tea Carrier $115·00/115·50 and Howard and Bullough Mill Co. $115·50.

Lord Strathcona, High Commissioner for Canada, has received the following bulletin on the **wheat crops** of Canada, compiled by the Census and Statistics Office at Ottawa, to date November 11th, 1910:—The report on fall wheat sown this year shows an area of 790,300 acres, whereof 682,500 acres are in Ontario and 107,800 acres in Alberta. Last year the area was 609,200 acres for Ontario and 98,000 in Alberta. The condition of the crop is reported at 98·40 as compared with 93·60 last year.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 19th November, 1910, were as follows:—Wheat, 29*s.* 8*d.*; barley, 25*s.* 1*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 1*d.*

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 22nd ultimo:—*United States of America*—Some rain fallen in winter belt and drought appears to be breaking up, condition of seedings not unfavourable; primary receipts decreased last week, visible increased. *Canada*—Some claims of unusually free marketings this season, but this not certain; receipts last week larger, visible decreased. *Argentina*—Complaints of unfavourable weather and deterioration of crops are increasing; our own advices generally indicate moderate crop, but some worse than this; Buenos Ayres market firm with no wheat sellers, wheat and oats being cut in early districts. *Australia*—An estimate of surplus given out by Dalgety and Co. indicates exports in 1911 fully as big as this year's; new season chartering on liberal scale. *India*—United Provinces have had rather too much rain, moderate complaints; Punjab reports are still favourable. *Russia*—Weather in southern region generally fine and favourable for crops; arrivals at ports generally smaller; stocks decreased in Azoff but large elsewhere. *Roumania*—Favourable weather has enabled ploughing and sowing to continue; arrivals larger, stocks increased. *Hungary*—Ploughing and sowing continue, but decrease winter wheat acreage expected; supplies light. *France*—Weather continued wet and most unfavourable for new seedings; decreased wheat acreage predicted; holders of native wheat firm. *Germany*—Reports of seedings generally favourable, but officials put condition about 4 per cent less than year ago; supplies native grain fair; markets are steady on export demand. *Italy*—Weather generally seasonable, crops about normal; imports foreign wheat large. *Spain*—Estimate of last crop reduced, but described as regular. *North Africa*—Some parts still want rain. *United Kingdom*—Wet weather hinders sowing.

The British Acting Consul-General at Odessa (Mr. H. E. Dickie) has furnished the following further particulars in connection with the **oil crops of Russia**:—The crops of oleaginous seeds during the spring and early summer gave the same promise of a record harvest as the grain crops, but owing to the hot weather in June, it is estimated that the crops, both as regards quality and quantity, will prove to be only medium. In the lower Volga and Don valleys, in the north and north-eastern districts, and in parts of Little Russia, the harvest was even less satisfactory. In the south and south-western regions and in some of the central provinces, however, the results were distinctly above the average. **Sunflower seed** gave good results in the northern Caucasus, Voronezh, and Kursk, but proved less satisfactory in Tambov and Saratov. The **rapeseed** crop was generally satisfactory, except in the provinces of Ekaterinoslav and Chernigov. It is believed that, in the near future, agriculturists on the eastern side of the Urals and on the Siberian steppes will turn their attention to the cultivation of oilseed. It would be pressed on the spot, and the oil forwarded to European Russia for consumption. The oilcake could be utilised locally as fodder, and this, it is thought, would give a fresh impetus to dairy farming.

Owing to the high price of raw jute the **German Jute Syndicate** has just announced an advance of from 2 to 3 marks per double centner, according to quality of yarn, and of 0·5 to 0·8 pfennigs per square metre for piece goods. The South German Jute Industry Company, Waldhof-Mannheim, is paying a dividend of 7 per cent against 5 per cent last year. The German Union of Hemp Spinners has announced an advance of 5 pfennigs per kilo in all qualities of yarn on account of the increase in raw material. It is reported that trial bales of the new crop of Dutch flax have just appeared on the market and found buyers at firm prices. The spinning quality is said to be very much better than that of the old crop, of which there are no stocks. Buyers of linen yarns still pursue a very cautious policy, and very few sales of importance are going through. The demand for piece goods continues good.

It is reported from Zurich that the protracted negotiations between the European aluminium producers with regard to the formation of an **international aluminium syndicate** have now been successfully concluded. The new organisation includes all the Continental makers, but it has not been found possible to induce the British Aluminium Company to join, though they are said to have a working agreement with the Syndicate as to standard prices. Owing to the formation of the new cartel, the principal German consumers of the metal have already formed a buyers' cartel, and all purchases will be made through a central department. This arrangement includes the Krupp Company, Julius and Aug. Erbsloch, Kar Berg, Eveking, the United German Nickel Works, Schwerte, Th. Goldschmidt, Essen, and Basse and Selve, Ludenscheid. It is reported that a representative of the buyers' cartel is now in Switzerland, with a view to arranging terms with the Aluminium Industry Company, Neuhausen. It is generally thought that aluminium producers will find their interests best served by endeavouring to open out new sources of consumption rather than by drastic reductions in production and corresponding advance in price. The use of aluminium for cooking utensils is said to have far exceeded early expectations, the consumption having increased with exceptional rapidity during the past twelve months. It is

considered, however, that if the metal be advanced to much over 150 marks per 100 kilos, which would bring rolled aluminium sheets, as employed in the industry, to over 2 marks per kilo, it would be a very difficult matter to compete effectively with enamelled ironware. There is also an increasing tendency to employ the metal in place of copper for electrical cables; in several of the latest Norwegian schemes, for instance, aluminium cables are being adopted. That the aluminium industry itself is still unprofitable is pretty clear, for only those works which have been able to utilise part of their power for other branches of the electro-metallurgical or electro-chemical industries appear to be obtaining anything like satisfactory financial results.

According to a report from Trieste, says the *Manchester Guardian*, the negotiations which were carried on for some time with the object of forming **a new association of Austrian manufacturers of cement** succeeded so far that all the manufacturers of cement included in the old combination and some others will join the new "combine". The actual producers of cement have not yet decided on the attitude they will assume towards the new cement factories now in course of construction. It is the general belief that if all the projected factories are built the condition of the cement market will become exceedingly critical, and that for this reason measures should be taken to prevent over-production. The cement factories which are subject to German competition have lowered their prices greatly, and have thus reduced the importation into Austria of German cement. The German producers, in order to meet this competition and to avoid the payment of the Austrian Customs dues, propose to send the cement in a semi-manufactured state, and to complete the article in specially constructed factories situated within the Austrian frontier. This scheme is to be frustrated by the Austrian Custom authorities levying the same duty (£4 3*s.* 4*d.* per ten metric tons) on both semi-manufactured cement and cement ready for use.

In its issue of November 21st the *Manchester Guardian* says:—The **standard copper market** has, according to general anticipation, remained steady. The highest price last week was £58, and the lowest £57 10*s.* There is no doubt that confidence in the stability of copper prices is returning, but the evidences of it are still far more plentiful in London than in the North of England. It is noticeable that manufactures of copper such as loco and condenser tubes, plates, etc., are steadier, and the tendency to sell much below the nominal makers' prices has lessened. Copper tubes, for instance, may probably be reckoned ¼*d.* per pound dearer, although the nominal basis price of 8⅛*d.* has not been altered. Brass tubes are also dearer. Buyers in the North, however, do not seem willing to support the market in any way, and probably standard warrants will have to go to £60 before they are convinced that the very low prices for copper are a thing of the past. The market in London appears to be expecting £60 within a short time. The mid-November European statistics were favourable, and a further reduction in the visible supply is indicated by them. The market will now await with considerable interest the next issue of the American figures.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows:—

For the week ending 10th December 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Behar opium—Rs. 3,225; 3,300; 3,105; 3,125

Benares opium—Rs. 3,150; 3,200; 3,005; 3,025.

The prices in the time bargains of the Behar opium of the 12th sale of 1910 and the 1st sale of 1911 were Rs. 3,225; 3,300; 3,120; 3140.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange Rs. 136¼ to 137¼ per $100).

Behar opium—$2,375 and 2,380; 2,365; 2,370; 2,350; 2,350; 2,350; 2,350,

Benares opium—$2,360; 2,310.

At Shanghai—(Exchange Rs. 185⅓ per 100 taels).

Behar opium—No quotations received.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

For the week ending 3rd December, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

On the 27th and 28th ultimo (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,985; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,500 to 3,100. From the 29th ultimo to 3rd instant (new 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,950; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,490 to 3,100. The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new), Rs. 3,047 and 3,162; (old) Rs. 3,116 and 3,205 respectively.

The improvement of wheat in the Central Provinces has been receiving close attention as may be seen from a perusal of the pamphlet entitled the *Improvement in the quality of Wheat exported from the Central Provinces*, from the pen of Mr. G. Evans, Deputy Director of Agriculture. No decision seems to have been arrived at yet as to the best variety to grow, but experiments are proceeding, and, in the meantime, it is thought that something may be done by inducing the cultivator to grow pure wheat instead of the usual mixture of varieties. Copies of the pamphlet may be obtained at the Government Press, Nagpur, at one rupee each.

The **prospectus** of the District **Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition** to be held in **Gwalior** from the 16th instant to the 4th proximo has been issued and copies may be had from the Secretary, Gwalior State.

Jacquot's *Incendies en Foret* (Forest Fires) has now been translated into English by Mr. C. E. C. Fischer, Deputy Conservator of Forests, and copies are on sale by the Superintendent of Government Printing, Calcutta, at fourteen annas each. The book deals with protective measures, principles of appraisement of damage, estimation of values and areas, dislocation of working, accessory and indirect damage, specimen reports, etc., and should prove particularly useful to those interested in forests in India, as the literature on this subject is very scanty.

Writing on November 19th the *Manchester Guardian* says:—The latest intelligence to hand in usually well-informed quarters regarding the **war of prices in the oil trade** indicates that there is little prospect of an early cessation of hostilities. Indeed, it did not require the official denial of the reported negotiations by the Standard Oil Company through the medium of Reuter's Agency to tell us that. The popular idea that the two great protagonists in the industry are engaged in a desperate struggle to the death does not receive much support among experts, who rather favour the view that the combatants are skirmishing for position with the view of being as favourably situated as possible when the time arrives for coming to an arrangement which will embrace at least the principal consuming markets. Interest at present is largely concentrated on the doings of the Standard Oil Company. It is argued that the Standard Oil magnates realise as clearly as anyone that they cannot hope to secure and retain a monopoly of the world's oil trade or even of any predominant portion of it, and that accordingly they do not seriously mean to challenge the right of the Royal Dutch-Shell Combine, earned as it has been by a carefully and sedulously fostered growth, to an entry into the leading consuming markets on equal terms. It is believed that the Standard Oil Company is aiming first at the creation of such a feeling of insecurity as will discourage the subscription of additional capital for new oil-fields, and, secondly, the forcing of their more formidable competitors to come to an arrangement with them for the parcelling out of the world's markets into well-defined spheres of influence. Finding itself faced with strong opposition, backed up in most cases by the Government, in European markets, and particularly in Austria, Roumania, France, Germany, and Italy, the Standard Oil Company is now turning its attention more seriously to the development of Far Eastern markets, where the future of kerosene would appear to a large extent to lie. Meantime other producers, and the Royal Dutch-Shell Combine in particular, are also energetically cultivating those markets, and developments will be watched with keen interest.

In a message dated November 21st the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Times* says:—The question of the recognition of the British companies in the **Maikop oilfields** may, I understand, be regarded as settled favourably. The great majority of the Council of Ministers opposed M. Timasheff's suggestion that restrictions should be imposed. The Tsar is understood to have adopted their views, the sole condition laid down by His Majesty being that foreign companies desirous of obtaining recognition in Russia should prove that they are *bonâ fide* undertakings.

The **price of glycerine**, which has been steadily increasing for many months, advanced in London on November 24th £5 a ton, reaching the highest price on record. The increase since the earlier part of last year amounts to over 50 per cent and is due to the scarcity of fat and oils and the demand for glycerine for the manufacture of high explosives, of which enormous quantities are required in the construction of the Panama Canal and in other great engineering undertakings. A number of industries are affected by the rise in price.

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on November 17th regarding the **Hull oil market**, says:—The market for **linseed oil** is steady, with spot at 43*s.* 3*d.*, November-December 43*s.* 3*d.*, January-April, 41*s.* The exports for the week amounted to 49 tons, of which America took 2, Australia 5, Holland 10, India 23, Norway 5, Portugal 2, and Turkey 2 tons each. **Cotton oil**: The market is quiet, with refined cotton oil at 28*s.* 7½*d.* spot, 28*s.* 7½*d.* November-April, crude cotton oil 27*s.* 3*d.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 233 tons, of which America took 86, Belgium 28, Germany 65, Holland 31, Sweden 5, and Turkey 18 tons each. **Soy bean oil,** 31*s.* spot, 30*s.* January-April. **Lard oil** easier Best English refined, 59*s.* per cwt. **Olive oil** dull, unchanged. Levant on spot, £56, and Spanish £58 to £59 per tun ex-store. **Cocoanut oil** steady with a fair demand. English ex-mill, £42 to £42 10*s.* per ton. Ceylon, £40 10*s.* per ton. **Castor oil** continues firm with a good inquiry. Calcutta on spot 3⅞*d.* to 4*d.* per lb., and forward 3⅞*d.* per lb. **Palm oil** quietly steady at late rates. November Lagos at £37, and November-December Accra, £33 5*s.*, refined sorts firm, unchanged. **Petroleum** steady, quiet, Russian 5*d.*, American 5½*d.* to 6½*d.* per gallon. **Turpentine** firmer. Prompt and November-December 56*s.*, and January-April 57*s.* per cwt.

In connection with the **oil war** the *Kolnische Zeitung* contains a report of an interview with Mr. Deterding, the managing director of the Asiatic Petroleum Company and the Royal Dutch Company. He stated that the assertion of the Standard Oil Company to the effect that they were reducing prices in order to stimulate consumption need not be taken seriously, for if this were really the reason

they should first commence the policy in those countries in which they had a virtual monopoly, that is in Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, and Italy. though they appeared to have hitherto made no reduction in these markets. In any case a reduction in the price of lamp oil would not have any great influence in stimulating consumption, and the opinion was expressed that this could only be effected by the offer of cheap mel oils. There could be no doubt but that the sole reason of the Standard Company in beginning the price-cutting policy was to crush out competition, but it was not thought that they would have any great success. In the Far East, the chief market of the Royal Dutch Company, the high freight charges would seriously affect the American producers, and this would also be the case in the East and South European ports. No concern is felt as to the ultimate effect of the struggle on the Royal Dutch interests, but every confidence was expressed that they would emerge from this as from previous struggles stronger than at the commencement. The suggestion that the United States might introduce an import duty on petroleum was not regarded as worth consideration, as the only result would be that American consumers alone would obtain absolutely no advantage from the price reductions. In connection with the present struggle it is also reported from Yokohama that the Standard Company have notified their withdrawal from the Japanese Petroleum Cartel, which is composed of the four principal petroleum companies in Japan—the Standard Company, The Rising Sun Company, the Hodensekku, and the Nippon Sekku. It is stated that the Standard Company intend to make drastic reductions in selling prices there.

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The **Formosan sugar industry** has grown to such unwieldy proportions owing to the Government measures of protection that over-production is threatened from next year. The *Asahi* states that already a surplus of 300,000 bags of brown sugar will be left this year in Japan proper, and the associated sugar merchants have suspended shipments of brown sugar from Takow to Japan until January 31st next, in order that the stocks congesting the market may be cleared. The merchants have also framed a scheme for the export of brown sugar from Formosa to China. However, on sugar exported from Formosa to China duty is imposed at the rate of 45 sen (100 sen=1 yen = Re. 1-8-6) per picul (picul = 133⅓lb.) on brown and 56 sen on white sugar. This duty impedes the export trade, and sugar merchants have accordingly demanded of the Formosan Government the withdrawal of the duty, pointing out that it is causing great hardships to those engaged in the sugar business of the country. The Government has now given ear to the complaint and has decided to discontinue the impost. The Osaka journal adds that the imposition of a duty on goods exported from Formosa to China was adopted when Formosa was annexed by Japan in order to remove the feeling among the Formosans that the island was still a Chinese possession, and also to divert the export of goods to Japan proper. The continued existence of the regulation is a great hindrance to the trade of Formosa, and it is stated that the export duty on all goods shipped from Formosa to China will be removed in due course. If Formosa can already glut the Japan market, we have reached with unexpected quickness that position which we foretold in a previous article, that the Java sugar that went to Japan must be diverted to India.

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The total approximate gross **earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 26th November, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,77,25,966 and Rs. 3,28,33,824 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09 respectively.

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The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a disturbance in the North-West Frontier which passed into Kashmir, causing local snowfall. In the extreme south of the Peninsula conditions are reported to be unsettled. The weather has been dry in other parts.

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Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 5th December 1910 :—C. R. Brown, fibre grower, Bhatowilia, Goraul, Mozufferpore—Improvements in decorticating and fibre cleaning machines. A. Chatterton, Director of Industries, Madras—Lifting water. J. A. Magill, Assistant Locomotive Foreman, Rohilkund and Kumaun Railway, Kashipur—A Chula or cooking stove. R. A. G. Russell, engineer, 23, Mall Road, Dum Dum—Improved mechanism for operating swinging punkahs. F. Mohamed, kulla maker, Serai Kala (Dheri Shahan), Rawalpindi district—Kulla or Indian cap. I. H. Storey, Manufacturer, White Cross Mills, and W. E. McCalla, manager, Queen's Mill, both of Lancaster, England—Improvements relating to enamel faced bricks, slabs, wall-tiles, and the like. S. N. Dass, mechanic, 7 Kinu Sircar's Lane, Howrah—A pulley power baling press with an improved follower. H. P. Rasmussen, 1, Council Street, St. Kilda, Dunedin, New Zealand—Composition for the use of electric insulating and other commercial purposes. P. N. Nissen, engineer, Dinsdale Spa Hotel, Middleton St. George, Durham, England, and Head Wrightson and Co., Ld., engineers and iron founders, Teesdale Ironworks, York, England — Improvements in stamp mills. R. S. Benson, engineer, "Riverside", Middleton, St. George, England, and Head Wrigthson and Co., Ld., engineers and iron founders, Teesdale Ironworks, York, England—Improvements in machines for washing coal and other granular material.

J. Lecoche, electrical engineer, 41, Schubert Road, Putney, London, S.W.—Improvements in and connected with worm gearing. H. T. McLeod, assistant engineer, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras—An improved type of cast-iron pot sleeper to take flat-footed rails H. B. Lupne, merchant, residing at Karad (Southern Mahratta Railway), district Satara—A machine for shelling and cleaning groundnuts. H. Siegwart, architect, 3 Sempacherstrasse, Lucerne, Switzerland—A method of manufacture of tubular bodies such as pipes, hollow masts or the like. J. Stone and Co., Ld., engineers, Deptford, Kent, England, and A. H. Darker, engineer in the employ of the said company —Improvements in and connected with change over switches for electric lighting and other systems for railway carriages and other vehicles. O. E. Wilson, engineer, Meadow Bank, Kingston Road, Didsbury, Lancaster, England — An improved adjustable bonding stirrup and tie bar for use in reinforced concrete constructions. J. Moyes, gas engineer, 13, Bogton Avenue, Cathcart, Glasgow, and C. A. Stevenson, civil engineer, 28, Douglas Crescent, Edinburgh — Improvements in and relating to signalling apparatus. J. Hines, engineer, Sedlescombe Lodge, Sedlescombe Road, St. Leonards on Sea, county of Sussex, England— Improvements in apparatus for heating, drying and otherwise treating stone and other materials for use on roads and like surfaces. G. W. Beadle, mechanical engineer, 367, Avenue A., Bayonne, New Jersey, United States—Improvements relating to machines for crimping the ends of vessel bodies, and for printing on the outside of said bodies during the same operation.

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The *Times* writes :—We have received from Sir James Buckingham a copy of a letter dated November 9th, which has been addressed to the Secretary of the **Port of London Authority** by the Indian Tea Association (London), 21, Mincing Lane, E.C. It is estimated that on the present basis importers of **Indian tea** will pay **port rates** of more than £9,000. The letter, which is signed by Sir James Buckingham as Secretary of the Association, is as follows :— "During the inquiry by Lord St. Aldwyn into the Provisional Order and Schedule of Maximum Port Rates on goods entering the Port of London, there appears to have been a solid understanding, supported by a definite statement by the Chairman of the Port Authority, that it was the intention of the Port Authority to charge about one-half, or 50 per cent of the maximum rates. From the list of Port rates now in force the import rate for tea has been increased to 63 per cent without intimation to importers that such an enhanced rate would be levied, or any reason given for such enhancement. My committee, representing practically the whole of the importers of Indian tea into London, therefore strongly protest against the import rate of 2*s.* 3*d.* per ton (*i. e.*, 67 per cent of the, maximum schedule) being imposed. They also desire to add their protest to that of the Mincing Lane section of the London Chamber of Commerce with regard to the heavy burden of the *entrepôt* trade of the Port by the imposition of both import and export rates on this trade. As pointed out in our letter of February 18th last, unless a rebate is given on tea exported from bond my committee have every reason to believe that a large proportion of the distributing trade will, in consequence, be lost to the Port of London. My committee would again urge on the Port Authority the necessity for prompt action being taken with a view to exempting teas which are re-exported from bond to foreign countries."

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About 200 candies of **coir yarn,** the produce of the **Laccadive Islands,** will be sold by **public auction** by the Port Officer at **Mangalore** (subject to the confirmation of the sale by the Collector of South Canara) in convenient lots on Tuesday, 10th January, 1911, at 10-30 A. M. at the Coir Godown at Mangalore.

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It is said that a decision has been arrived at by all the **jute mills** whereby they bind themselves to keep to the present **short time** system until September 30th, 1911. In former agreements *re* short time work all the mills have not come into line, but it is said that they have now shown unanimity in coming to the new arrangements.

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From the 15th instant **wireless telegraphy between Aden and Berbera** will be opened for paid traffic-rate for State or private telegrams to Berbera from India or Burma *via* Bombay and will be same as for Aden *plus* six annas per word.

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Rules for the **denaturing imported spirit** in the **Custom House** are published in yesterday's *Calcutta Gazette.*

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According to the census the **population** of the **United States** is 91,972,266. There is an increase of 21 per cent in the last ten years.

NOTICES.

Municipal Rat Destruction.

Municipal bodies who have undertaken the systematic destruction of rats are requested to communicate with the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, furnishing an approximate estimate of the number destroyed daily.

CALLS FOR TENDERS.

Tents, etc.

THE Assistant Director of Ordnance Stores, Ferozepore, is calling for tenders up to the 3rd proximo for the supply during 1911-12 of tents,

components of tents, bamboos, cotton cordage, dosootie, etc.

Flour, Atta and Bran.

The Divisional Contract Officer, 6th (Poona) Division, invites tenders up to the 4th proximo for the supply of flour, atta and bran.

Sale of Government Rubber.

Sealed tenders will be received at the office of the Conservator of Forests, Western Circle, Eastern Bengal and Assam, Shillong, up to noon of the 31st January, 1911, for the purchase of the whole quantity of rubber which will be collected and packed by the Forest Department during the season 1910-11 from the Government Rubber Plantations of Charduar and Kulsi. The yield is estimated to be:—Charduar Plantation 15,000 lbs., Kulsi Plantation 3,000 lbs. The outturn of last year was Charduar 14,000 lbs., Kulsi 3,230 lbs. The Charduar rubber will be delivered f. o. b. at Tezpur and the Kulsi rubber f. o. b. at Palashbari. The rubber will be packed in the usual way, namely, by being pressed into cubes weighing about 1 cwt. and covered with "markin" cloth and double gunny bags. The cubes will be marked A—Tree rubber, B—Other rubber obtained by cleaning "A" rubber, C—Mat rubber, and bear the Government Plantation stamp. The rubber will be delivered as soon after collection as possible and should all be delivered by the end of March, though this is not guaranteed. Tenders should state the price per pound offered. Offers may be made separately for each class of rubber but an average rate would be more acceptable.

Canvas.

The British Consul-General, Bushire, Persian Gulf, invites British firms to send him price lists of canvas of all sorts to be used for the equipment of the Customs flotilla and the fleet.

—:—

ENQUIRIES.

(For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.

An asterisk (*) preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered).

Rice Bran.

(833)—A rice mill in Bhawalpur desires to be placed in communication with purchasers of rice bran.

Dried Fruit and Sheep Guts.

(834)—A Quetta firm desires to be placed in communication with London purchasers of dried fruit and sheep guts.

Indian Produce.

(835)—A firm in Hamburg desires to be placed in communication with firms in India not already represented at that port with a view to act as agent for the sale of Indian products such as cotton, rice, myrabolans, etc.

Plumbago.

(836)—A correspondent desires to be placed in communication with shippers of plumbago or graphite from Calcutta.

Hides, Skins and Guts.

(837)—A Trieste company desires to be placed in communication with exporters of buffalo, cow and other hides, sheep and goat skins and guts.

Pressure Gas Engines.

(838)—The names of firms supplying pressure gas engines are required.

Oil Engines.

(839)—The names of firms supplying oil engines are requested.

Canadian Hardware.

(840)—A firm in London dealing in Canadian hardware such as lawn mowers, radiators, saws, harrows, hay forks, wooden buckets, etc., desires to be placed in communication with buying agents in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Karachi and Rangoon.

Cotton yarn.

(841)—A Leicester spinner desires to be placed in communication with large exporters of Indian cotton yarn suitable for the manufacture of hosiery

Jute Cloth.

(842)—A firm in Holland desires to be placed in communication with exporters of jute cloth, etc.

Heating Stoves.

(843)—A British firm desires to be placed in communication with likely buyers in Bombay and Madras of interior and other warming or heating stoves or grates.

Indian Products.

***(844)**—A Hamburg firm desires to be placed in communication with Calcutta exporters of Indian products who are not already represented in the interior of Germany and Austria.

Manioc or Cassava.

(845)—A London firm desires to be placed in communication with large exporters of manioc, or cassava in its crude state.

Dacca Hides.

***(846)**—A firm in Bulgaria desires to be placed in communication with shippers of Dacca buffalo and cow hides.

Textile Appliances.

(847)—A firm of manufacturers in Japan desires to be placed in communication with importers of textile appliances such as bobbins and wheels of all kinds, spindles and spindle tubes, rollers, pressers, collar travellers, lubricating oils and other goods relating to the textile industry.

Cotton, Cotton and Mustard seed and Rags.

(848)—A firm in Japan desires to be placed in communication with exporters of raw cotton, cotton waste, rags of all descriptions, cotton and mustard seed.

—:—

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

The following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 21st December, 1910:—

Parliamentary Publications.

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions—Including figures up to 31st October, 1910. Colonial Import Duties, 1910. Mines and Quarries—Part 3—Output. Consolidated Fund—Abstract Account 1909-10. Ceylon—Further Correspondence relating to the Constitution of the Ceylon Legislative Council.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

Bulgaria—Bulletin Mensuel de la Direction Générale de la Statistique du Royaume de Bulgarie. Belgium—Bulletin Trimestiel Public par le Bureau de la Statistique Générale du Ministère de L'Intérieur. Canada—Reports, Returns and Statistics of the Inland Revenues of the Dominion of Canada for the year ended March 31st, 1910—Part II—Weights and Measures. Gas and Electricity. Weekly Report—November 14th, 1910, Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department—Bulletin No. 215—Maple Sugar, Bulletin No. 216—Ground Coffee. Ceylon—Customs Returns—for each month during the period July 1st, 1910, to June 30th, 1911—October, 1910. China—Imperial Maritime Customs—Returns of Trade (51st Issue) and Trade Reports (45th Issue), 1909. France—Documents Statistiques sur le Commerce de la France—Octobre, 1910. Germany—Monthly Accounts of Trade—October 1910. Italy—The International Institute of Agriculture—Its Labours in Behalf of Economic Betterment—November 7th, 1910. Mexico—Resumen de la Importacion y de la Exportacion Agosto de 1910; Boletin de Estadistica Fiscal—Junio de 1910. Netherlands—Statistiek van het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden October, 1910. Soudan Government—Central Economic Board—Monthly Report—No. 46—October, 1910. Koninkrijk der Nederlanden—Statistiek van den in—, uit—en Doorvoer het Jaar, 1909, Uitgegeven Door het Department van Financien—Tweede Gedeelte. New Zealand—51st Annual Report—Chamber of Commerce—August, 1910. Queensland—Vital Statistics, 1909. United States of America—Bureau of Soils—Bulletin No. 70—Some Effects of a Harmful Organic Soil Constituent; Plant Industry—Circular No. 65—Grape-Spraying Experiments in Michigan in 1909; Bulletin No. 190—Orchard Green-Manure Crops in California, Bulletin No. 191—The Value of First-Generation Hybrids in Maize; Annual Industry—Bulletin 125—Part I—The Gid Parasite and Allied Species of the Cestode Genus Multiceps—I—Historical Review. Index—Catalogue of Medical and Veterinary Zoology—Part 32. Bureau of Chemistry—Bulletin No. 134—Maple-Sap Sirup. Bureau of Statistics—Bulletin 78—Agricultural Graphics. Forest Service—Bulletin 80—The Commercial Hickories. Farmers' Bulletin 419—Experiment Station Work—LIX—July, 1910; Bulletin 410—Potato Culls as a Source of Industrial Alcohol; Bulletin 409—School Lessons on Maize; Bulletin 408—School Exercises in Plant Production; Bulletin 407—The Potato as a Truck Crop; Bulletin 417—Rice Culture, Bulletin 416—The production of Cigar-Leaf—Tobacco in Pennsylvania. Bulletin 415—Seed Maize. Office of Experiment Stations—Experiment Station Work—Vol. III—No. 19; Consolidated Rural Schools and Organization of a County System; Annual Report of the Office Experiments Stations for the year ended June 30th, 1909. Annual Report of the Porto Rico Agricultural Experiment Station for 1909. Proceedings of the Twenty-Third Annual Convention of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Station held at Portland. Oreg., August 18—20, 1909. Bureau of Entomology—Bulle 64—Part IX—Notes on a Colorado Ant. Bull. 66—Some Insects Injurious to Truck Crops. Bulletin No. 85, Part VII—The Smoky Crane-Fly. Bull. No. 89 The Grape Roof-worm. Biological Survey—Bulletin No. 35—Distribution and Migration of North American Shorebirds; North American Fauna—No. 31—Revision of the Wood Rats of the Genus Neotoma.

Indian Publications.

Department of Agriculture, Bengal—Annual Report of the Kalimpong Demonstration Farm for the Year 1909-10. Incendies En Foret (Forest Fires).—Agriculturl Research Institute, Pusa—List of names used in India for Common Insects Complied in the Laboratory of the Imperial Entomologist. Annual Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh for the year 1909-1910.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1910.

TRADE OF BUS RE.

IT is evident from the Report on the Trade of Bushire for the year ending March 21st last that the unsafe state of the roads in Southern Persia led to a decreased volume of trade.

The total value of imports into Bushire is this year 35,854,550 Krans (£717,091) as against 39,673,250 Krans (£793,465) for the preceding year, and of exports 20,044,600 Krans (£400,892) as against 21,629,800 Krans (£432,596). In other words, there has been a total decrease in trade of £108,078. This makes a drop of £432,050, or nearly 28 per cent on 1907-08, which was normally healthy trade year. It may here be explained that the average rate of exchange during the year under report was 56·15 Krans to £1. Exports to the United Kingdom lost very little during the past year, but imports fell from 48 to 28 per cent of the total from all sources. India's trade increased 14 per cent for imports and 3 per cent for xport .

The general diminution of imports was most noticeable in candles, coal and piece-goods ; of exports in specie, opium, wool and tobacco. The hopeless state of the road was mainly responsible for the absence of piece-goods, opium and tobacco. With regard to the effect of this on, for instance, piece-goods passing through Bushire and destined for the interior, the following figures supplied by the local managers of two well-known British firms largely interested in the trade may throw further light. The one firm was compelled to divert 1,037 bales in 1908-09 and 730 packages in 1909-10 from Bushire to Ahwaz or the Baghdad route, independently of goods shipped direct from England to Ahwaz instead of to Bushire as usual, in spite of their declared determination to adhere to the Bushire route at all hazards. The second firm forwarded in 1908-09 *viâ* Bushire 3,323 bales and 435 cases of sundries ; in 1909-10, 909 bales and 87 cases only, no piece-goods whatever going forward to Ispahan or Tehran during the latter year ; instead, 1,301 bales were diverted to Ahwaz from Bushire and 163 from England direct (in 1908-09 none of the firms' goods had taken the Lynch route).

The 1910-11 harvest has been a complete success and if coupled with renewed security and credit would doubtless insure a more prosperous new year.

In the matter of **imports** attempts to introduce British manufactured matches of uniformly good quality have hitherto proved fruitless owing to their prohibitive cost. A really good safety match would be welcome, but the price must not exceed 200 Krans (say £4-0-0) per case of 50 gross, c.i.f. Bushire, calculating some 65 matches to a box.

The year's imports of **wood** for building purposes has increased very slightly in value. The bulk of it still comes from India, being largely imported in sailing craft from the Malabar coast. "Teak" and "Benteak" are favourites for the construction of ships and houses, whilst for lighter work, such as doors and door-posts, "Mango-wood" is preferred.

Stearine **candles** of Dutch manufacture of a high melting point are still most in demand. Burmese paraffine wax candles were already overstocked and their import consequently fell this last year from 137 to 7 tons. Prices have ruled at about 10 shillings per case of 30-32 packets, with 6 candles to a packet. Latterly, however, 8*s*. 6*d*. has been quoted for Burma candles.

Bahrain has this year shared the import of **charcoal** with India. In addition there has been a plentiful supply from Borazjun and neighbouring Persian villages, in consequence of which the price has dropped from 13 Krans per man to 10 Krans or about 3*s*. 7*d*. a cwt.

The supply of **Indian rice** still further increased from 1,218 to 1,926 tons, owing to continued wheat famine. Persian rice was also plentiful and prices were very moderate.

Bushire rates :—

Balam rice (Indian) fell from 43 to 36 Krans.
Anbarbu „ „ „ „ 39 to 34 Krans.
Champer rice (Persian) ruled as high as 48 Krans per Hashem man or about 2*d*. a lb.

The difference in price is probably accountable for by the fact that the Persian product is a larger grain, heavier and of better quality than the other. It swells in cooking and is therefore considered more nourishing. Notwithstanding, nine out of every ten Persian consumers prefer the cheaper Indian varieties.

The import of **loaf sugar** which has steadily fallen during the past three years from 7,217 to 3,324 tons rose slightly in 1909-10 to 4,898 tons. **Local prices** have been as under :—Belgian loaf from 63 to 67 Krans (22*s*. 6*d*.) to 24*s*. 1*d*. per case of 36 cones weighing 1·60 kilograms each. Marseilles loaf touched 73 Krans (26*s*.), Hungarian stood at 68 to 69 Krans (24*s*. 6*d*. to 24*s*. 10½*d*.). Retail bazaar rates averaged 4 Krans at 1-2 months' credit (to allow drafts on Shiraz time to mature) or 1*s*. 7*d*.

In December, 1909, there was very little **crystal sugar** in the town excepting Java. Shortly afterwards, however, 600 bags of Mauritius crystals arrived. The interesting experiment of importing a British grown crystal from Mauritius has been, on the whole, a success, and this sugar has won for itself a definite place on the Bushire bazaar for purposes of confectionery and cooking. Austrian crystals have hitherto been first favourites, but quite recently a well-known British firm made an experimental import of an English crystal.

American kerosene is still in favour among the European Colony and well-to-do Persians. No British mined oil is at present on the market, as the Burma Oil Company has by agreement excluded itself from competition on Persian soil, and the Anglo-Persian oil of the Arabistan fields is not yet ready for trade purposes.

The legitimate import of **tea** has shrunk from £69,654 to £38,609 (280 tons only from India appearing in Customs' statistics as against 672 tons of the previous year). As, however, the smuggling of this article has been repeatedly observed to be a malpractice which can be carried on with perfect impunity and much profit, it need not necessarily be assumed that the actual import of Indian tea has suffered any diminution. There is certainly no indication of less tea being consumed in Persia than formerly : the more the opium habit grows, the more Indian tea and (incidentally) the more foreign sugar will there be consumed.

The imports of cotton piece-goods from Manchester decreased in value by £144,936. The import of **Indian piece-goods**, however, increased by £36,212 (355 tons).

Tissues of wool show a marked rise all round on 1908-09, but still fall far short of former years.

As regards **exports**, these have decreased in value to the extent of £31,704, a thing which is easily accounted for by a fall in the opium exports of over £78,000. On the other hand gum arabic (insoluble) and almonds have been healthy. Prospects for next season are brighter always provided that security of the roads is made permanent.

A good rainy season led to a good harvest of **cereals** in 1910. In spite, however, of the removal of the embargo on export of grain and the reduction of the duty by one-half it is not expected that the total export from Bushire will exceed 1,500 tons as against the 2,390 tons sent out in 1900. **Prices of wheat** per Hashem man of 124 lbs. fell from 30 to 13 Krans rising to 15½ as the effect of competition among the various European buyers made itself felt. This latter rise in price caused loud complaints amongst the native population and the local authorities did what they could to obstruct exporters by hinting darkly at the revival of the embargo, and by levying illegal taxes on various pleas and without the slightest warning at the very moment when the grain arrived in port from the outlying districts. Barley similarly fell from 23 Krans to 8½ Krans.

The **opium crop** was again good. Shiraz prices rose from 4,000 to 5,200 Krans (£72 15*s*. to £92 17*s*. actual exchange) per chest of 160 cakes weighing 232 lbs. and Krans 165 (£2-18-11) per man of 7½ lbs. Ispahan price touched 6,700 Krans with price in China at 1,700 dollars. Not long ago the price reached 10,000 Krans and 2,000 dollars : the average price is 4,500 Krans.

China again received considerably more of the export than the United Kingdom, the figures being 53 and 30 tons, respectively.

The **almond export** was the highest known for three years, probably on account of short production in Southern Europe and America which created a good demand. It amounted to 627 tons against 410 tons in the previous year. Prices ruled at Ispahan for the 1909 crop as follows :—At the opening of the season (June-September) Krans 18 to 19 (6*s.* 8*d.* to 7*s.*) per Shah man of 16 lbs.: at its close Krans 21 to 24 (7*s.* 9*d.* to 8*s.* 10*d.*). Shiraz prices were fairly steady at 13-14 Krans (4*s.* 10*d.* to 5*s.* *d.*) per $7\frac{1}{3}$ lbs. and in Bushire itself Krans 16 to $17\frac{1}{2}$ (5*s.* 11*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*) per $7\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. was the rate. London rates were 95*s.*, 92*s.* 6*d.*, and 90*s.* per cwt.

Owing to favourable prices and a brisk demand in London as well as in Bombay, the export of **insoluble gum** rose from 745 to 929 tons. Moderate profits were made locally on shipments in the early part of the season (July 1909). Prices have ruled high. The cheaper sorts from Kazerun and district improved from 31 Krans (11*s.* 6*d.*) 40 Krans (14*s.* 10*d.*) per 124 lbs. in sympathy with English prices of 12*s.* 6*d.* and 16*s.*, and have continued strongly on the rise since March 1910. The Shiraz gum is a whiter and cleaner variety and can be utilized in divers manufactures of starched materials. It is some 3 Krans (1*s.* $2\frac{1}{2}$*d.*) dearer than the other, and London prices have ranged from 17*s.* to 21*s.* 6*d.*

Exports of tragacanth gum declined from 621 to 589 tons.

The best kind of **Persian wool** (selected Arabi) fetched 6*d.* a lb. at home and prospects for the present season are also good. Persian fleeces however, always need re-sorting and cleaning in Europe. Local prices were 80 to 90 Krans per Hashem man, or about 3*d.* per lb., which leaves a fair margin of profit.

Enquiries are sometimes received for **openings for machinery**, motors and the like. No power machinery has at present any demand in Southern Persia, the only machinery likely to be appreciated generally must be hand-driven (or capable of being worked by donkeys) and should be separable into component parts of about a hundredweight and a half, if intended for transport up-country. There are at present in Bushire itself some ten flour mills, wheat cleaners and wool presses of that description. There might possibly be an opening in Bushire for a small flour-mill worked by machinery. There would also appear to be some opening for an **export business in dried fruits**, such as Shiraz quinces, sultanas and other raisins, of which some fifteen different kinds exist in Persia.

CROP FORECAST.

COTTON.

Third General Memorandum on the COTTON crop of the season 1910-11.

This memorandum summarises the provincial reports of the cotton crop up to 30th November and compares them so far as possible with those for the two preceding years.

The character of the season has been fairly satisfactory except in the Central Provinces, the Punjab and the United Provinces.

The **total area** under cotton in all territories reported is 21,267,000 acres as against 20,308,000 acres (revised figure) at this date last year—an increase of 4·7 per cent. The **total outturn** is estimated at 4,668,000 bales of 400 lbs. each, as against 4,948,000 bales last year—a decrease of 5·7 per cent. To this figure might be added some 20,800 bales consisting of 20,000 bales estimated as the production of Bombay tracts from which returns are not received and 800 bales from Bengal Native States which also make no returns.

British territory, which usually represents 64 per cent of the total area, returns 12,763,000 acres and 2,877,000 bales as against 12,502,000 acres and 3,263,000 bales last year.

Native States report a total area of 8,504,000 acres estimated to yield about 1,791,000 bales, as compared with 7,806,000 acres and 1,685,000 bales last year.

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The figures in brackets, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the entire cotton area of India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

Bombay *(28·6%)*.—The latest reports show the total area under both early and late cotton in the British districts as 3,563,000 acres—a decrease of 177,000 acres or 4·7 per cent as compared with the revised area at the corresponding date of last year. The Native States (excluding Baroda) report 2,166,000 acres as against 1,988,000 acres at this date last year—an increase of 9 per cent. The rains for sowing were generally favourable and the high prices fetched by the crop last year stimulated cultivation. The crop progressed well every where till the end of September. Subsequently, however, it suffered in North Gujarat and Kathiawar from deficiency in late rains. In the Deccan excessive rains at the beginning and end of October damaged the early sown crop, causing shedding of flowers and bolls in eastern tract and discolouring the lint in Khandesh. These rains, however, proved very beneficial to the young crop in the Karnatak where it is reported to be thriving everywhere. The gross yield is at present estimated at 820,000 bales in British Districts as compared with 833,000 bales for last year—a decrease of 1·6 per cent, and in Native States 526,000 bales as against 574,000 bales last year—a decrease of 8·4 per cent. Besides these, about 71,000 acres (the greater part being in the Ahmedabad District) are estimated to have been under cotton in tracts for which statistics are not usually received. These are expected to yield about 20,000 bales.

Central Provinces and Berar *(21·6%)*.—The total area is now reported to be 4,398,000 acres (1,206,000 in the Central Provinces and 3,192,000 in Berar) as compared with 4,167,000 acres (1,138,000 in the Central Provinces and 3,029,000 in Berar) for last year—a net increase of 5·5 per cent. Favourable climatic conditions at sowing time and last year's high prices were the main causes that conduced to extensive sowing. Sowings were generally successful and germination was good. But continuous rain in August, September and in the beginning of October, greatly retarded weeding and stunted growth, and in places necessitated a certain amount of resowing with other crops. A break then caused great improvement, but the plants again suffered from excessive rain in the middle of November. Altogether the season has not been a good one. The total yield is estimated at 1,028,000 bales (345,000 in the Central Provinces and 683,000 in Berar) as against 1,353,000 bales (486,000 in the Central Provinces and 867,000 in Berar) for last year—a decrease of 24 per cent.

Madras *(8·1%)*.—The total area sown in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of November is reported to be 1,456,000 acres which is about 11 per cent more than the area at the corresponding date of last year. Villages *other than raiyatwari* report a total area of 145,000 acres which is about 8 per cent more than the area at this date last year. The increase is attributed to timely and sufficient rainfall but is probably due in part to the introduction of the American cotton, the cultivation of which is spreading in some places. The crop is reported to be generally good. The yield is at present estimated at 164,000 bales in *raiyatwari* and 21,000 bales in other villages, as compared with 146,000 and 12,000 bales respectively for last year—the net increase being 17·1 per cent. Native states report a total area of 26,000 acres estimated to yield 3,000 bales.

Punjab *(7·8%)* reports the actual area sown in British districts to be 1,228,000 acres compared with 1,285,000 acres last year—a decrease of 4 per cent. There was an increase in the irrigated area which is accounted for by last year's excellent results as regards yield and prices, but unfortunately the season was adverse for unirrigated sowings. Spring rains were short in the Centre and North-West, and the monsoon opened badly in the Delhi Division. In all districts of this Division except Ambala the crop was seriously affected by the heavy rain in early September and by an untimely fall at the end of that month. In the submontane districts also, the early September rainfall was too copious for the crop. Native States report a total area of 135,000 acres as against 151,000 acres last year—a decrease of 10·6 per cent. The total yield is estimated at 288,000 bales in British Districts and 42,000 bales in Native States, as against 348,000 and 48,000 bales respectively for last year—a decrease 16·6 per cent on the whole.

United Provinces *(6·6 %)*.—The total area sown is reported to be 1,325,000 acres as against 1,224,000 acres last year—an increase of 8·2 per cent. The season was generally favourable up to the end of September when the crop, though backward, was uniformly good ; but the excessive rain which fell in the beginning of October caused serious damage reducing both the outturn and the quality of the fibre. The total yield is estimated at 343,000 bales compared with 380,000 bales for last year—a decrease of 9·7 per cent. The Native State of Rampur reports 14,000 acres and 3,000 bales compared with 17,000 acres and 4,000 bales last year.

Sind *(1·21%)* now reports a total area of 236,000 acres as compared with 214,000 acres at this date last year—an increase of 10 per cent. The crop is reported to be generally fair. The yield is estimated at 117,000 bales as against 104,000 bales last year—an increase of 12·5 per cent.

Burma *(0·9%)* now reports the area sown to be 176,000 acres as compared with 195,000 acres at this date last year—a decrease of 9·7 per cent. The total yield is estimated at 29,000 bales as against 33,000 bales last year—a decrease of 12·1 per cent.

Bengal *(0·3%)* reports the total area shown to be 63,000 acres as compared with 67,000 acres last year—a decrease of 6 per cent ; but sowing of the late crop is reported to be still incomplete in places. The season has been favourable for both early and late cotton, and the crop is reported to be fairly good in most districts. Some damage, however, was done by floods in places. The total yield is at present estimated at 16,000 bales as against 17,000 bales last year—a decrease of 5·9 per cent. The crop in the Native States, for which no statistics are available, is roughly estimated at 800 bales.

Eastern Bengal and Assam *(0·3%)*.—The total area sown is estimated at 99,000 acres compared with 98,000 acres last year—an increase of 1 per cent. The season has, on the whole, been favourable for cotton. There was some heavy rain in October but from the latter part of that month there has been practically no rain in the cotton growing tracts. The total yield is at present estimated at 24,000 bales which is about 35 per cent more than that of last year.

North-West Frontier Province *(0·3%)* now reports the actual area sown to be 33,000 acres as compared with 32,000 acres for last year—an increase of 3·1 per cent. The yield is estimated at 8,000 bales compared with 7,000 bales last year—an increase of 14·3 per cent.

Ajmer-Merwara *(0·2%)* reports 45,000 acres and 20,000 bales with 39,000 acres and 13,000 bales last year.

Hyderabad *(14·03%)* now reports the total area to be 3,562,000 acres as compared with 3,401,000 acres last year—an increase of 4·7 per cent. When the October forecast was prepared, the crop was in a flourishing state, and owing to the favourable condition of the weather, a bumper crop in some parts was anticipated. But the rain that fell

in October and November seriously affected the prospects of the crop in places. According to District returns the total yield comes to 587,000 bales; but the Revenue Secretary to the Nizam's Government is of opinion that this is an over estimate, and says that having regard to the damage done to the crop by unseasonable rain the estimate may be taken at 420,000 bales, as compared with 461,000 bales for last year —a decrease of 8·9 per cent.

Central India ***(4·7%)***.—The total area so far as reported, now comes to 1,210,000 acres as compared with 1,002,000 acres last year—an increase of 20·7 per cent. The total yield is reported as 364,000 bales as against 206,000 bales last year.

Baroda ***(3·1%)*** reports 806,000 acres compared with 675,000 acres last year—an increase of 19·4 per cent. The yield is estimated at 290,000 bales as against 235,000 bales last year—an increase of 23·4 per cent.

Rajputana ***(1·9%)***.—The total area is reported to be 481,000 acres compared with 464,000 acres last year—an increase of 3·6 per cent. The yield is estimated at 132 000 bales as against 147,000 bales last year—a decrease of 10·2 per cent.

Mysore ***(0·36%)*** reports 100,000 acres and 10,000 bales compared with 80,000 acres and 6,000 bales last year.

FREDERICK NOËL-PATON,

Director General of Commercial Intelligence.

December Estimate of the Cotton crop of India.

Provinces and States.	1910-11.		1909-10.		1908-09.	
	Area (acres).	Yield (bales).	Area (acres).	Yield (bales).	Area (acres).	Yield (bales).
Bombay (*a*)	5,729,000	1,346,000	5,728,000	1,407,000	5,617,000	1,111,000
Central Provinces and Berar .	4,398,000	1,028,000	4,167,000	1,353,000	4,176,000	767,000
Madras (*a*)	1,627,000	188,000	1,469,000	161,000	1,324,000	133,000
Punjab (*a*)	1,363,000	330,000	1,436,000	396,000	1,562,000	324,000
United Provinces (*a*) . .	1,339,000	346,000	1,241,000	384,000	1,392,000	426,000
Sind (*a*)	236,000	117,000	214,000	104,000	259,000	101,000
Burma	176,000	29,000	195,000	33,000	204,000	41,000
Bengal (*b*)	63,000	16,000	67,000	17,000	64,000	14,000
Eastern Bengal and Assam .	99,000	24,000	98,000	18,000	97,000	21,000
North-West Frontier . .	33,000	8,000	32,000	7,000	54,000	12,000
Ajmer-Merwara . . .	45,000	20,000	39,000	13,000	40,000	9,000
Hyderabad	3,562,000	420,000	3,401,000	461,000	2,902,000	307,000
Central India	1,210,000	364,000	1,002,000	206,000	986,000	144,000
Baroda	806,000	290,000	675,000	235,000	623,000	171,000
Rajputana . . .	481,000	132,000	464,000	147,000	407,000	86,000
Mysore	100,000	10,000	80,000	6,000	65,000	3,000
Total .	21,267,000	4,668,000	20,308,000	4,948,000	19,772,000	3,670,000

N.B.—A bale contains 400 lbs of cleaned cotton.
(*a*) Including Native States within provincial boundaries.
(*b*) Excluding Native States for which the yield is roughly estimated at 800 bales.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

The *Board of Trade Journal* published on the 24th ultimo in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations gives particulars about :—

Commonwealth of Australia.—Proposed Tariff Amendments.

British Guiana.—Proposed Prohibition of Importation of Balata and Rubber from Venezuela.

United States of America.—Bill for the marking of Food Containers to show their Capacity—Proposed.

Commonwealth of Australia.—Free Importation of Certain Tools of Trade. Quarantine Proclamations. Commerce Act: Importation of Quinine. Import Entries respecting Port of Shipment.

Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate.—Imposition of Import Duties of Kerosene and Tobacco.

British Guiana.—Re-importation of Duty-Paid Articles.

Sierra Leone.—Prohibition of Importation of Phosphorus Matches.

Egypt.—Revised Valuation Tariff for certain Oils, and Provisions.

Netherlands.—Customs Decisions.

France.—Duty-free Imports of Olive Oil from Tunis.

France (Indo-China).—Prohibition of Importation of Indian Hemp.

Portugal.—Provisions respecting Casks used for the Exportation of Wine, etc.

Portuguese Colonies.—Temporary Duty-free Admission of Commercial Travellers' Samples.

Servia.—Duty-free Admission of Sacks.

United States of America.—Decision as to "Commissions", and "Duress." Importation of Canned Foods containing Salts of Tin.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Shillong, Dec. 13th.

The following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 12th instant :—

The weather is seasonable, Lakhimpur alone reports slight rainfall.

The tea season is nearly over.

The cultivation and sowing of *rabi* crops continue.

The reaping of winter rice is in progress.

The prospects of standing crops are generally good.

The average price of common rice is the same as last week.

Cattle disease is reported in Dacca, the Khasi Hills and Nowgong.

COMPANY MEETINGS IN LONDON.

Delhi, Umballa, Kalka Railway.

Mr. Alexander Izat, presiding at the ordinary general meeting held at Winchester House on November 23rd, said that the directors had elected Sir Frederick Upcott to fill the vacancy on the board caused by the death of Mr. R. L. Crawford. The new branch from Thanesar to Kaithal was expected to be opened for traffic next month. During the year the capital expenditure amounted to £69,250, of which £66,537 was incurred on the construction of the new branch, and £2,712 on the main line, chiefly for stations and buildings. The gross revenue for the period under review was R24,31,669, as compared with R21,33,759 in 1908-9, and the earnings exceeded those of the previous record year of 1906-7, by R21,10,339, the increase occurring in both passengers and goods. Last year the increase in the passenger traffic was general in all classes, and in the goods traffic it arose mainly under general merchandise and coal. These satisfactory results were due to the districts of Northern India having recovered from the scarcity caused by deficient crops in the years 1907-8 and 1908-9, and to the recovery and development of trade. The negotiations with the Government regarding the construction of the Panipat Jhind branch by the agency of this company were progressing. He moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Colonel T. Gracey and agreed to. The final dividend and bonus on the ordinary stock, making 7 per cent for the year, were confirmed.

Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway.

Presiding at the meeting of the Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway Company, Colonel T. Gracey said that although the payment of the bonus was at one time doubtful they were on the present occasion able to recommend the payment of both the dividend and bonus. That satisfactory result was entirely due to the care and economy with which the staff in India had worked the railways, the ratio—39·13—of working expenses to earnings being the lowest for many years past, and 5½ per cent lower than for the corresponding half of 1909. The gross receipts had remained practically stationary, a small increase in earnings from passengers having been more than counterbalanced by a small decrease from goods. In regard to the Railway Board not having sanctioned the company's working estimates, the board had appealed to the Secretary of State against certain instructions that had been issued in India without their being in any way consulted, and which they considered would be very detrimental to their interests. They had received an answer from the Secretary of State, which, although not unsympathetic, yet did not meet their arguments, and the matter was still under discussion. In the meantime they had instructed their Agents in India to give the Railway Board all the returns they required, but so far as the company was concerned

the Directors had ordered that the usual half-yearly estimates must be submitted to them for approval and sanction exactly as hitherto. As to the current half-year, the earnings of their lines were improving, although the rains had been heavy—so heavy, indeed, that the railway had been breached in several places. They had not yet received an estimate of what the repairs would cost, but so far as they could foresee at present the outlay would not stand in the way of the usual dividend and bonus being declared when they next met. The new extension of their own line and of the State line was making good progress while the Sarda Bridge and the extension of the State line beyond Dudwa would be opened for traffic early in January next. He concluded by moving the adoption of the report, which was unanimously agreed to.

Indian Midland Railway.

The Secretary of State for India having exercised his option to terminate his contract with the Indian Midland Railway Company, will repay on December 31st to the company the amount of the capital held by the stockholders. The Directors state that :—

Before the distribution can take place certain legal requirements under the Companies Act have to be fulfilled, including the formal passing of resolutions for winding-up the company, and the appointment of liquidators to ascertain and discharge the liabilities and distribute the assets of the company. So far as the Directors are aware, the company has no debts for which provision will have to be made. Under the agreement of December 21st, 1900, for the working, management, and maintenance of the company's railway system by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, all contracts for supplies have been made in the name of the latter company, by whom these obligations will be met as they fall due. All liability in respect of the interest and principal of the debenture bonds issued by this company will on and after January 1st, 1911, be undertaken by the Secretary of State. As regards any liabilities of this company to Native States, "it is not intended that the existing arrangements for the working of the Native States' branches of the company's line shall be disturbed in any way by the termination of the company's contract. The Secretary of State has requested the Government of India to arrange with the Native States concerned for the substitution of his name for that of the company in the working agreements ; if this can be done, the desire of the company to be indemnified against their liabilities under the agreementsin question will be effectively met."

The Directors do not anticipate that there will be any difficulty in making a return of the capital in full to the stockholders as soon as the formalities imposed by the Companies Act have been complied with. As the accounts between this company and the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company for the current year cannot be received from India and adjusted before April or May next, it is considered advisable that the present Directors should be continued in office for that purpose. The returns received to date indicate that there will be no surplus profits for the current year. It is proposed as a matter of convenience that the present Directors (other than the Government Director) should be appointed as liquidators. The expenses of the liquidation will be a first charge on the assets of the company, but there is a sum of about £2,500 standing to the credit of the surplus profit account which will probably be sufficient to meet these expenses, and it is proposed that this sum shall be placed at the disposal of the liquidators, on the understanding that no further demand shall be made on the stockholders in respect of such expenses. The Directors propose that a meeting of the stock-holders shall be held on November 30th for the purpose of passing the necessary resolutions for the winding up of the company. The liquidators will summon a meeting of creditors on December 30th. Should no creditor be forthcoming by that date, they will be in a position to return the capital by January 2nd, 1911, but in no case can payment be made to any stockholder until proof of his title has been fully established and he shall have handed over the certificates evidencing his holding. The transfer books will be finally closed on December 1st, 1910.

COMMERCE IN PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons on November 18th Sir Charles Dilke asked the Under Secretary of State for India : Whether in consideration of the desirability of India adhering to the Berne Convention on the prohibition of the use of **white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches,** the Government will take into account the recent adherence of the Government of the Dutch Indies where the manufacture of matches had been set up in one residency, and it was thought necessary to join in the exclusion of the danger of phosphorus poisoning.

Mr. Montagu : Yes, sir. The Secretary of State is obliged to my right hon. friend for bringing the point to his notice.

Sir Seymour King asked the Under Secretary of State for India : What measures are taken in India to prevent **high explosives,** which contractors, quarry owners, and others are allowed to purchase on license for their own consumption, being used for **improper purposes,** such as dynamiting fish in the rivers.

Mr. Montagu : Under the Indian Fisheries Act, IV of 1897, the use of dynamite or other explosive substance in any water with intent thereby to catch or destroy any of the fish that may be therein is punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two months or with fine which may extend to Rs. 200. Further, the Indian Penal Code, the Indian Arms Act, 1878, the Indian Explosives Substances Act, 1908, contain provisions for the punishment of other offences connected with or arising out of the unlawful use of explosives.

Sir J. D. Rees asked the Under Secretary of State for India : Whether the Secretary of State proposes to advise the Government of India to take any action to obtain the abolition of the **Ceylon import duty on tea,** in view of the disabilities and disadvantages caused to South Indian planters by the retention of such duty.

Mr. Montagu : No, sir. The Ceylon Government regard the duty as essential to the preservation of the reputation of Ceylon teas. The Secretary of State and the Government of India are not therefore prepared to press the matter.

On November 23rd Sir J. D. Rees asked the Under Secretary of State for India : Whether a letter has been addressed by the British-Indian Association of Calcutta to the Bengal Board of Revenue deprecating the issue of further and more stringent regulations regarding the **traffic in opium,** in view of the fact that the large majority of persons who use preparations of the poppy employ such as medicine, the ratio of persons who use the drug as an exhilarating narcotic being small, recalling the overwhelming evidence given before the Opium Commission regarding the beneficial effect of opium in small doses as an alleviator of pain and as a giver of staying power in various diseases and disorders ; and, if the answer be in the affirmative, what action has been taken by the Government of Bengal, and what action, if any, by the Government of India upon such memorial.

Mr. Montagu : The hon. member is presumably referring to the reply of the committee of the British-Indian Association to a request for their opinion on the recommendations of the Shanghai Commission. The committee take the view that existing regulations for curtailing the consumption of opium are sufficient. The Government of India will take no action until they have received and considered the replies to similar inquiries addressed to other societies and associations.

On November 24th Sir J. D. Rees asked the Under Secretary of State for India : Whether, in view of the increased **production of rubber, tea, pepper,** and **cardamoms** in **South India,** the Government of Madras propose to pass an enactment similar to the Coffee Stealing Prevention Act, in order to protect these valuable products **from theft on the plantations** or in transit to the coast.

Mr. Montagu : No such proposal has been made by the Government of Madras.

—The *Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie* (Berlin) of 1st November states, on the authority of the German Consul-General at Buenos Ayres, that the **production of wool in Argentina** for the twelve months ending 30th September last is estimated at 186,800 tons, being 20 per cent less than that of the preceding twelve months. This diminution is accounted for by the epidemic among the sheep, and the unusually light average weight of the fleece. The principal markets for Argentine wool in 1909 in order of importance were France, Germany, Belgium, and the United Kingdom.

OIL AND SHELLAC MARKETS.

In the course of an article in its issue of November 26th, 1910, the *Ironmonger* says :—In one or two sections of the market there has been a fall in prices since our last monthly report, but, generally speaking, values have remained steady, with rather a dull tendency all round. Merchants and oil brokers are beginning to complain of the slackness of business, but there is no doubt that prices generally are upon too high a level to make it safe for consumers to hold much stock.

Linseed Oil.

The value of linseed oil is still far too high, although the actual price as we write is about 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. down, as compared with last month. The fluctuations have been much smaller than might have been expected in so risky a time ; and it is something of a puzzle to understand why prices should be sustained. Of course it is true that many mills are still busy on soya beans, hence the supply of linseed oil is perhaps restricted ; but the available quantity of seed, and the large importations of foreign oil, ought to have some effect. It is said in some quarters that the market is being held up by speculators, if so, the position of these gentlemen is certainly not enviable. The imports of linseed oil up to the end of October were 31,324 tons, against 12,380 tons in 1909, and 6,792 tons in 1908. An increase of about 450 per cent in two years is a remarkable circumstance. The imports of seed are now not very much under last year, the failure of the Argentine supply having been largely compensated for by the shipments from India. The following are our usual figures to October 31st :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports of linseed	1,399,361	1,819,947	1,898,990	1,468,135	1,318,241 qrs.
Price of oil, Nov. 1st.	£20,17*s.* 6*d.*	£24 10*s.*	£21	£30 10*s.*	£44 5*s.*

Cotton Oil.

The edible cotton oil market has experienced a slump, but this was not unexpected. It was clear that the "squeeze" price £45 [illegible] for American edible oil (P. S. Y.). could not [illegible] the first fall brought this down to £40 and [illegible] subsequently another £5 drop. The price as we write is about £35 per ton for shipment, although as there is not much stock yet on this side, rather more is asked for spot lots. The fall in American edible oil has, of course, helped to bring down the price of English, but this must have occurred in any case because of the new arrivals of Egyptian seed. The receipts of this class of seed in October were about twice as great as the average for the previous nine months, and are likely to be much larger from now onwards until the spring. English edible oil now bears its normal relation to ordinary refined cotton oil, *viz.*, about £1 per ton premium for the lower and £2 to £2 10*s.* for the better qualities. Soap-making cotton oil has not moved very much in November, the fall being slightly under £1 per ton. The

following are the statistics of cotton-seed and cotton-oil prices (naked in Hull) to the end of October :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Imports of seed—;					
From Egypt .	265,492	285,045	257,000	232,228	95,631
,, India, etc.	233,929	329,078	220,261	242,656	462,674
Totals .	499,421	614,123	477,261	474,884	563,305
Imports of soy bean.	...	..	...	...	491,901
Price of cotton oil, Nov. 1st.	£24	£22 10s.	£20 17s. 6d.	£26 15s.	£28 10s.

Rape Oil.

The market for rape oil has been quiet but steady, and the hope that November would bring a large increase in the orders has not been realised. The supply of foreign rape seed is much greater than for two years, but is not yet excessive. The comparative cheapness of Stettin colza remains a curious feature. This is the season for compounding cycle oils, and one would think that makers would take advantage of this peculiarity and use Stettin oil for their mixtures rather than rape. The statistics are as under :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports of seed .	99,064	216,192	113,804	111,650	191,494 qrs.
Price of oil, Nov. 1st.	£33 5s.	£39 5s.	£30 10s.	£28	£28

Turpentine.

There has been practically no change in the market for American spirit, fluctuations being confined within 10*s.* per ton, or say about 1 per cent. The price as we write is about 5*s.* dearer than at the end of October. The demand has been steady, and there is not the slightest suggestion in the appearance of the market that prices are likely to come down, on the contrary dealers seem to look for higher figures early next year. Russian turpentine is in good demand, and there has been a tendency to ask rather higher rates, say, up to £32 for good qualities. It is not improbable that the difference between the two grades may tend to decrease as time goes on, and as consumers find that they must use the Russian spirit. The following are statistics up to October 31st :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Imports .	424,606	447,541	526,474	382,935	373,471 cwt.
Price .	£40	£37 5s.	£28 5s.	£40 7s. 6d.	£35 15s.

Shellac.

The price has moved down again after having touched 90*s.*, and the present figure is much the same as last quoted. The demand is very irregular.

—His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Guatemala (Mr. G. D. N. Haggard) reports, under date 28th October, that the 1909-10 **coffee crop** in the **Guatemalan Republic** amounted to about 650,000 quintals of clean coffee, and that the prices obtained were on the whole good. The 1910-11 crop is expected to amount to some 800,000 quintals (a quintal is equal to 101·4 lbs.) and, judging from present indications, should realise good prices.

THE COTTON TRADE.

Cabinet Ministers Interviewed.

The International Cotton Committee, who are holding their meetings in London, were received on November 21st at the offices of the Board of Trade by the President, Mr. Sydney Buxton. The countries represented were Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Holland, India, Italy, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, the United States of America, and Switzerland. There were also present the chairmen of the employers' organisations in the English cotton industry.

Mr. C. W. Macara, president of the International Committee, in introducing the deputation, said that 125 years ago England imported only four bags of American cotton. To-day the actual value of the cotton trade of the world was over £600,000,000, and in addition to that, there were all the innumerable expenses in connection with the transport and distribution, both wholesale and retail. Not long ago, in a great crisis which threatened to be disastrous to the cotton industry of England, through shortage of raw material, organised short time was established, 40 hours being run instead of 55½ per week, and it was found necessary, in order to cope with the enormous difficulties, that the Continental nations who were large users of raw cotton should co-operate. In 1904 the International Cotton Federation was established at Zurich. Since that date seven international congresses had been held in Europe and one in America, and perfect harmony had characterised the whole of their deliberations. All the countries amalgamated had felt that they had mutual interests and difficulties to cope with, and that it was impossible to combat these difficulties without international organisation.

M. Berger (France) spoke of the great satisfaction which the French people felt in showing the continued increase of trade between England and France.

Herr Langen (Germany) said the relations existing between Germany and England were as pleasant as the relations between France and England. The Germans were glad to say that the extension of the commercial transactions between the two countries was not only to the advantage of the industries but it helped to cement the friendly feeling between the nations.

Herr Kuffler (Austria) spoke of the great assistance which the International Cotton Federation had given to nations which were not very largely engaged, comparatively speaking, in the cotton trade.

Government Reply.

Mr. Sydney Buxton, in reply, said every one of them fervently desired greater friendliness between nations, and on behalf of the Board of Trade he welcomed these international gatherings. The Board of Trade were anxious to keep in the closest possible touch with the great industries of the country, and of late years that policy had been considerably extended. Action on these lines was of mutual advantage, not only to the trade but to the country. Every country in the world was interested either in the growth or the manufacture of cotton or in the utilisation of the finished article. Two things were of real importance at the present moment — first, to diminish the amount of speculation and gambling which took place in regard to the raw material, and, secondly, how far the nations interested could encourage increased production of the raw material. There was any amount of demand for the finished article, the difficulty was to obtain sufficient of the raw material. In various parts of the British Empire efforts were afoot to accomplish this end, and all of them agreed that these efforts would be crowned with success. He was glad to have had an opportunity of meeting the International Committee, and congratulated them heartily on the great success which had attended their offorts.

Message from the King.

In the afternoon the Committee and others were entertained by the Government at luncheon in the House of Commons. Mr. Lewis Harcourt, Colonial Secretary, presided, and among those present were Sir Edward Grey, M. P., Lord Carrington, Mr. Sydney Buxton, M. P., Lord Derby, Mr. Alfred Emmott, M. P., Lord Rotherham, Mr. Tennant, M. P., Mr. A. A. Haworth, M. P., Mr. G. A. Arbuthnot, M. P., and Mr. W Barton, M. P. Letters of apology were received from Mr. Balfour and Mr. Bonar Law.

The Chairman, proposing the health of the King, said he had the honour to be charged with a message from the King to the foreign members of the Committee—a message of welcome to our shores and to his Palace of Westminister and the expression of the deep interest which His Majesty felt in the prosperity of the cotton industry throughout the world. King George's subjects, the speaker continued, were the largest consumers and the largest manufacturers of cotton, and it was therefore to him a matter of deep concern that the greatest enlargement in the production of the raw material should take place, whether in his own dominions or in any other part of the world.

Foreign Secretary on the Cotton Trade.

Sir Edward Grey proposed "The International Cotton Federation".

He said the cotton industry was great in size great in importance, and great from whatever point, of view one looked at it. The worth of an industry could be measured by the value of its product. The making and the demand for cotton goods were sometimes said to be one of the first signs of civilisation. It would be going too far to say that cotton was the ultimate end of civilisation, but this at least could be said, that no people had yet reached such a stage of civilisation as to have outgrown the use of the products of the cotton industry. In no great centre of industry had the development of character and the social development been greater than in those districts which were connected with the cotton industry. One reason why they were all pleased to meet was that this Federation emphasised not the rivalry but the great points of agreement in the industry. They were searching for the progress of common international interests, and at the present moment every nation was specially interested in matters affecting the supply of the raw material. He was sure that those present who represented nations other than England would do their utmost to press upon their Governments wherever the opportunity existed that the development of the growth of cotton should be encouraged in every possible way. The English Government would do its part whereever the British dominions enabled them to encourage that growth. Their Chairman, the Colonial Secretary was fully aware of the importance of this subject—As regarded Egypt and the Soudan to which the British Government stood in a special connection, the Agricultural Department was being organised in Egypt at the present moment with a view to overcoming the dangers to which the Egyptian cotton crop was subjected, and in the Soudan the Government were making experiments not as to whether the growth of cotton was possible there, because that was known, but as to what was the greatest scale on which the growth of cotton could be encouraged. In doing that the Government had to be careful not to interfere with the growth of cotton in Egypt, because it was no good encouraging the growth of cotton in one place if thereby they prejudiced it in another. They were not looking at the growth of cotton merely from the national point of view. They were anxious to encourage its growth because they knew that the crops would not only benefit England but the whole industry, and because they hoped there would be reciprocity by other nations on similar lines.

Committee's Work for Peace.

As members of an International Federation those present were contributing to a greater work than was openly specified in their reports or in the immediate objects which they had set before the Federation In the scheme of things in this world there were both people and things which, while labouring for one immediate object, might yet be doing work which might be contributing to an ultimate end and object much greater than the one they had immediately before them. The immediate object of their Federation was the prosperity of the cotton industry, but he hoped that the ultimate end to which their efforts were tending was to bring home to nations a greater sense of their interdependence upon each other making that not merely known but felt. Nations had now reached the point of industrial development and welfare when each was bound up with the welfare of the others, and he believed that financial circles-finance was intimately bound up with the connection between nations were already feeling this. When all those engaged in industries felt

this also, then they might agree that the peace of the world was assured. He said that because it was the industrial nations which were the strongest at the present moment, and it was precisely those who would be the first to realise the interdependence of the nations on each other in regard to industries like the cotton industry, and to feel how much the prosperity of the industries in one country were bound up with industries in another. With the toast he coupled the name of Mr. Macara. They knew well in this country how much Mr. Macara had done for the cotton industry and how much his energy, thought, and ability had contributed to the work of the International Federation, which was necessary for the prosperity of the industry. In doing this work he had been serving not merely the cause of the cotton industry, but the cause of comity between nations. He (Sir Edward) would also couple the name of Mr. Syz, whose acquaintance he had had the pleasure of making that afternoon.

Mr. Macara on the Trade.

Mr. C. W. Macara, in reply, said he and his colleagues highly appreciated Sir Edward Grey's words, which would have a great effect. They heartily acknowledged their indebtedness to the English Government and to other Governments, who had given them invaluable help in this world-movement from the day when Lord Lansdowne, then Foreign Secretary, arranged to circulate the reports of the first international congress, through the English Foreign Office, to the heads of States throughout the world. Cotton fabrics, he might mention, were produced in India 500 years before the Christian era, and it was India which first introduced the industry into Europe. In those days Barcelona was the Manchester of Europe, and it was not without interest that the eighth international congress, next year, would be held at Barcelona. Cotton was not indigenous to America, and it took ten years for the Americans to produce an annual crop of 100,000 bales a fact which might be usefully remembered by the British Cotton-growing Association and by the Continental Cotton-growing Association, which had followed the lead of England in developing cotton cultivation in their respective colonies and was making splendid progress. Just now one heard much about the relative positions of the English cotton trade to-day and 35 years ago. He would like to point out that 35 years ago the cotton crop of the world was about seven million bales. Now it averaged twenty million bales. It was impossible for a nation of 44 millions to cope with that tremendous increase of raw material and the demand for cotton goods from the rapidly increasing population of the world. England had no divine right to the cotton trade, any more than America had any divine right to be the sole grower of cotton. England's position in the industry was due to skill, enterprise, energy, and cheapness of production, and it might be pointed out that all the countries that were represented there were large consumers of English cotton goods as well as being associated with England in carrying on a world industry. Having explained that, owing to the great fluctuations in the price of the raw material, the value varying from one season to another by as much as £100,000,000, the Board of Trade returns of exports and imports in the cotton industry were often misleading to those who were unacquainted with the trade, Mr. Macara said that the International Federation had now held eight congresses—seven in Europe and one in America, —and throughout the whole of them absolute harmony had prevailed. That day they had represented in that room the whole of the cotton industry of the world, and they had also representatives of that great movement initiated by the King of Italy to bring the agricultural world into line. The two, working hand-in-hand, would accomplish a great work not only for the industry but for the peace of the world.

Herr Syz (Switzerland) also replied, contending that the interests of all the nations engaged in the cotton industry were identical.

Cotton Growing in India.

Later in the afternoon the Committee and the delegation were received at the India Office by the Earl of Crewe.

Mr. Macara, in introducing the deputation reminded the Secretary for India that a deputation recently waited on his predecessor (Lord Morley) with regard to the supreme importance of improving and increasing the cultivation of Indian cotton. In recent years, Mr. Macara said the cotton crop of the world had been inadequate for the requirements of the industry, and they had an impression that it was from India they would get the speediest relief. They believed that with the assistance of the Government a great development might take place both in the quality and quantity of the cotton produced in that vast Empire. There was a great call from other European countries for Indian cotton, and the more it was used by them the larger was the amount of American cotton available for England.

Herr Langen (Germany) said the question of the improvement and extension of cotton growing in India was of the highest importance. Germany was, after India and Japan, the greatest consumer of Indian cotton, its mills using annually about 400,000 bales, so that the more Indian cotton the world was enabled to take the less American cotton would be needed, and this would be an undoubted advantage in a time of scarcity like the present. A little improvement in the quality of Indian cotton would mean a great advantage to all European spinning, resulting of course at the same time in more remunerative returns to the cotton planters in India.

Herr Kuffler (Austria) pointed out that one-third of the consumption per Austrian spindle was of East Indian cotton, and further more there was no speculation in futures.

Signor G. Mylius (Italy) trusted that it would be possible to obtain in the near future larger crops of fine quality from India.

Mr. J. B. Tattersall and Mr. J. W. M'Connel also spoke.

The Earl of Crewe, in reply, recalled facts brought forward by the deputation to Lord Morley a few months ago and the promise that their suggestions would be submitted to the Government of India. He said they had not yet received the full views of the Government of India on the subject, but when they did arrive they would receive the most careful consideration of the India Office. He would be glad if they found it possible in any way to meet the spinners in regard to this question of cotton growing in India. As to improving the quality, he understood that some of the experiments which had been made with foreign seed had not been altogether successful, and that there they must look rather to careful crossing with the indigenous varieties. As to quantity, he need not repeat what was said by Lord Morley. It would not, of course, do for cotton growing to compete in India with the production of foodstuffs, but he was glad and willing to believe that there was room for both. It was a pleasure to receive such a deputation, and to have the conviction that on such an important question they had no international jealousies or rivalries, and that all might be able to work together for the common good.

INTERNATIONAL CROP REPORTING SERVICE.

In the course of an article in the Quarterly Publication of the American Statistical Association, dated September, 1910, Mr. C. C. Clark, Statistician, International Institute of Agriculture, U. S. A., writes :—

Many difficulties confront the statistician in drawing up a plan for the International Crop Reporting Service, a system of measuring the conditions of crops ; and a service, in a way, supplementary to the system which each country follows.

In the first place, it is provided under Article 2 of the Convention that the Institute is to be a government of state Institution, and in Article 20 of the " Rules and Regulations " governing the Institute, that the documents and statistical information required by the Institute are to be supplied directly by the different Governments adhering to the Convention, or under their responsibility, or through their intervention. Therefore, the Statistical Service of the Institute, in collecting and preparing statistics of agricultural products, is limited absolutely to information furnished directly by the Governments of the adhering countries or by their regular statistical services, or under the responsibility and intervention of the several countries.

Also, wide diversities exist at the present time between the data furnished by the different countries, owing to differences in definitions and methods of expressing the information, differences in periods of time to which the data relate, and the different dates of publication. The statistics of different countries covering the same subject matter are now often meagre and incomplete. Thus, the preparation of comparative statements of international statistics of agricultural areas, conditions and productions is rendered very difficult and sometimes impossible.

For example, only a small number of countries have heretofore prepared and published reports with the object of showing the monthly condition and progress of the growing crops ; and they are not comparable. The United States and Canada indicate the " condition " of their growing crops in terms of a percentage of a " normal " crop, and a " standard " crop respectively. Hungary indicates monthly the total estimated yield for its cereals in absolute figures. Great Britain expresses the " condition " of her crops in terms of a percentage of the " average " yield. Other countries express their condition reports by figures, but these are only conventional symbols qualifying the condition of the crops. Thus Germany and Austria use the following scale, 1, meaning " very good " ; 2, " good ", 3, " average ", 4, " poor ", 5, " very poor ". Bulgaria uses a scale of points ranging from 6 to 1. France uses a different scale in which 100 means " very good " ; 80, " good ; " 60, " fair " ; 50, " passable " ; 30, " mediocre " ; 20, " bad ". Sweden employs the same scale as Germany, but inversely applied : 1, " very poor " ; 2, " poor " ; 3, " average " ; 4, " good " ; 5, " very good ". Other countries make use of qualifying adjectives. Thus Argentina expresses conditions by the words " very good, " " good, " " regular, " " bad. " Austria uses the word " very good, " " good, " " mediocre, " " poor. " Mexico, the words " good, " " regular, " " bad, " and Holland the words " excellent, " " very good, " " good, " " pretty good. " " average, " " pretty bad, " " bad, " " very bad. " There are other countries which make use of no technical terms, but report the condition of their crops by describing the meteorological conditions and the appearance of the fields.

Another difficulty is that the condition reports have been published by the different countries at divergent and even at undetermined dates. The United States and Germany publish them every month from April to December, Austria once a month from April to October ; France, Belgium and Mexico once every month ; Great Britain on the 15th of July, 15th of August, and 15th of September. Ireland and Sweden in June, July, September and October, Canada once a month from May to December, Hungary twice a month from April to October, and once a month from November to March ; Holland

in April, June, July and September; Russia once a month from April until August. Thus while an information service already exists in many countries, the systems employed differ one from another, although they all have the same important aim in view, *i.e.*, to follow step by step the development of the growing crops.

Notable divergences also exist between the statistical statements published by the different countries in regard to harvest results or yields. In studying the question of these statistics we must distinguish between countries which publish forecasts of harvest yield whilst the harvest is being reaped, and before publishing their final returns, and countries which only publish a final statement when the harvest is over.

To the first category belong: Argentina, which publishes toward the close of the year a forecast of the harvest (*pronostico de la cosecha*); the United States and Canada, which publish preliminary returns of harvest yields progressively during the period of harvesting, and follow the period of harvest with final statements in December of each year; France, which publishes in August and September, preliminary data on the harvest yield of winter and spring cereals; Japan, which publishes in June the approximate results of its cereal harvest; Jussia, which publishes in the middle of August a forecast of the cereal yield; Switzerland, where the Secretariat Suissee des Paysans publishes a statistical forecast just before the harvest for cereals and before the vintage for grapes; Italy, which, in accordance with its new agricultural statistical organisation, will publish shortly before the harvest of its principal products a forecast of the amount produces; and Hungary, which publishes a forecast of the probable harvest yield expressed in absolute figures. On the other hand, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Chile, Denmark, Great Britain, Ireland, Luxemburg, Mexico, Norway, Holland, Roumania and Sweden only publish returns of harvest yields when the crops are already harvested. It should be noted that Denmark and Sweden publish preliminary statistics, but in the case of Denmark the quality of the yield only is indicated, in accordance with a conventional formula, and in Sweden the preliminary statistics are drawn up at the end of the harvest and published toward the end of the year. As to cereals, it should be remarked that important differences occur between the dates of publication of the statistical returns, whether preliminary or final, in the different countries, Argentina publishes toward the end of the year, *i.e.*, immediately after the harvest, Great Britain publishes in November; Germany and Austria in December, Ireland and Norway toward the end of the year; whilst Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Roumania and Sweden only publish the results of their harvests in the following year, Roumania publishes in the beginning of the year, Denmark in May, and Sweden at the close of the year following the one to which the harvest data relate.

WHEAT AND RICE PRODUCTION.

THE *Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics* for November 1910, issued by the International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, publishes tables relating to the area and production of the principal cereal crops. The tables below relate to wheat and rice crops and are self-explanatory:—

Wheat.

Name of country.	Total Area. Harvested in 1909.	Total Area. Harvested in 1910. Compared with area harvested in 1909.	Total Production. 1909.	Total Production. 1910. Compared with 1909.
1	2	3	4	5
EUROPE.	Hectares.*	Per cent.	Quintals.†	Per cent.
Prussia	1,059,659	108·2	22,647,920	105·5
Bulgaria	1,040,140	105·9	8,728,681	153·2
Denmark	40,788	98·1	1,026,190	106·7
Spain	3,782,695	100·7	39,218,885	95·4
France	6,596,240	98·9	97,752,200	73·5
Great Britain	737,966	99·2	16,721,881	92·0
Ireland	17,647	109·2	477,448	95·3
Great Britain and Ireland	755,613	99·4	17,199,329	92·1
Hungary (including Croatia and Slavonia).	3,549,453	108·6	34,266,393	157·6
Italy	4,709,000	101·0	51,699,000	80·7
Luxemburg	11,029	110·0	168,016	101·0
Norway	5,020	100·0	85,009	100·8
Netherlands	51,268	104·1	1,119,472	105·1
Roumania	1,689,044	115·3	16,022,536	188·2
Russia in Europe	23,081,211	109·8	195,504,400	97·9
Sweden	92,500	97·3	1,880,709	96·3
Switzerland	42,400	100·0	971,000	95·8
AMERICA.				
Canada	3,136,587	119·9	45,380,300	73·6
United States	18,908,798	104·4	200,630,041	93·8
ASIA.				
British India	10,540,412	106·9	77,154,621	126·0
Japan	448,363	100·6	6,054,962	99·1
Russia in Asia	3,402,570	100·4	19,565,200	133·2
AFRICA.				
Algeria	1,138,882	121·8	9,462,444	113·2
Tunis	404,627	111·2	1,750,000	85·7
Totals and averages	84,486,299 = 208,769,024 Acres	106·47	848,287,308 = 83,488,134 Tons.	99·97

* 1 Hectare = 2·47104 acres.
† 1 Quintal = 220·46 lbs.

Rice.

Name of country.	Total Area. Harvested in 1909.	Total Area. Harvested in 1910. Compared with area harvested in 1909.	Total Production. 1909.	Total Production. 1910. Compared with 1909.
1	2	3	4	5
EUROPE.	Hectares.*	Per cent.	Quintals.†	Per cent.
Bulgaria	3,901	143·4	51,826	308·7
Spain	37,206	99·8	2,072,693	101·5
Italy	142,360	100·0	4,999,800	87·6
AMERICA.				
Costa Rica	.....	...	.....	...
United States	291,475	99·6	4,973,914	...
ASIA.				
British India	22,253,927	98·9	.....	...
Japan	2,913,889	95.5	74,723,668	88·7
	25,643,261		86,821,901	
Totals and averages	=63,365,524 Acres.	...	=8,544,980 Tons.	

* 1 Hectare = 2·47104 acres.
† 1 Quintal = 220·46 lbs.

—An Austro-Hungarian Consular Report just published on the **Italian silk industry** refers to the factors which have brought about the depression in the business during the past few years. Mention is made of the increase in Italian imports of manufactured silk goods, although the tariffs have been framed with the idea of keeping out foreign silks. It is not thought, however, that Italian manufacturers have kept pace with those of other countries in the matter of mechanical improvements, and they are also unable to place so extensive a range of patterns on the market. They are further inclined to favour the home raw product, whereas the raw silk importing countries, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, England, and America, buy as best suits them with regard to quality and price. Attention is drawn to the great strides made by Japanese silk, which last year was relatively much cheaper than the Italian product, whilst it was also favoured by the prevailing fashions, being largely used, along with other Asiatic varieties, in the manufacture of "Shantung" silks. It is not thought that Italian producers can hope to compete with Japan in price, and the only real chance of success lies in still further improving the quality. Italian silk is recognised as superior to Japanese, but the superiority is by no means so marked as it was a few years ago. Credit is accorded to the systematic and scientific efforts of Japan for effecting so distinct an improvement, and work on similar lines is considered imperative in Italy. Attempts are being made to obtain cocoons yielding a finer and more regular fibre, and a good measure of success appears to be obtained. Mention is also made of artificial silk as probably a more dangerous competitor than is generally believed.

COTTON DUTIES.

IN exercise of the power conferred by section 7 (1) of the Cotton Duties Act, 1896 (II of 1896), and in supersession of the Notification in this Department No. 9299—6, dated the 16th December, 1909, the Governor General in Council is pleased to fix, for the descriptions of cotton goods hereunder specified, tariff values as follows, with effect from the 1st January, 1911:—

Gray goods, plain or bordered.

	Tariff value per lb. a.	p.
1. Chadars and bedsheets, plain, or having only borders not over ¼"	8	6
2. Dangari and Khadi cloth	7	3
3. Dhuties, cholas, dupattas, lungis, and gumchas, plain, or having only borders not over ¼"	8	9
4. Dhuties, cholas, dupattas, lungis, and gumchas, plain, or having only borders over ¼" but not over ¾"	9	3
5. Dhuties, cholas, dupattas, lungis, an gumchas, plain or having only borders over ¾" but not over 2"	10	3
6. Patals and saris with headings over 4" wide and only coloured borders not over ¾"	9	6
7. Domestics, T cloths, shirtings, longcloth, sheetings having borders not over ½"	8	6
8. Drills and jeans, plain	8	9
9. Fents	7	0
10. Printers	9	0
11. Printers (bhagavad)	8	6
12. Shirtings, twilled, unbleached	10	6
13. " " bleached	12	6
14. Tent, sail, commissariat, and double threaded cloth (dosuti)	8	0
15. Zanzibar cloth	8	6

Provided that for calendered grey goods 3 pies shall be added to the above values.

Figured or coloured goods.

	Tariff value per lb. a.	p.
16. Bedcovers, twilled sheets, quilts, and table-cloths, with borders not over ½"	8	9
17. Bedcovers, quilts, table-cloths, twilled or plain wove sheets and chadars, coloured warp or weft	10	0
18. Bedcovers, quilts, table-cloths, twilled or plain wove sheets and chadars, coloured warp and weft	11	0
19. Bed ticking, plain or drilled	9	3
20. Check gumchas	11	0
21. Cholis and saris (coloured)	12	3
22. Cotton tweed, commonly called hunting cloth, plain or striped, including leheria, Thana susi, Thana drill, Thana twill, and Thana check	10	6
23. English patterned checks, trouserings and coatings	11	6
24. Drills, striped	9	6
25. " checked	10	0
26. " dyed	11	0
27. Fancy dobby pattern checks, coloured warp and weft	11	6
28. Fents	8	3
29. Flannel pattern susi and dobby susi, grey weft	10	6

	Tariff value per lb. a.	p.
30. Flannel pattern susi and dobby susi, coloured weft	10	9
31. Lungis, coloured	11	0
32. Lungis, grey with coloured stripes and borders	9	3
33. Napkins, grey	9	6
34. „ bleached	12	6
35. Susi check, English, grey ground	11	3
36. „ checks, ordinary, grey ground	10	9
37. „ „ „ coloured warp or weft	11	3
38. „ checksheets, ordinary, grey ground	10	9
39. „ ordinary, coloured stripes, grey ground	9	9
40. „ ordinary coloured weft	11	3
41. Tent cloth, blue and red	10	0
42. „ „ khaki	11	0
43. Towels, Turkish, grey	11	6
44. „ „ bleached	12	9
45. „ honycomb and other sorts, grey	9	3
46. „ „ bleached	11	0
47. Zephyr cloth	10	6
48. „ striped and checked	11	9

Provided that any goods specified in the foregoing lists shall, when woven with borders of silk, be assessed to duty *ad valorem*.

THE HIDE SUPPLY OF THE FUTURE.

THE demand of some of the nations for an increased supply of meat becomes more and more pronounced, judging by the reports we see in the daily papers and other journals. Apparently as the people advance in civilisation there comes about a decided change in their diet. Whether or not this change arises from the necessity for food that will better enable them to bear the strain of increased calls upon their energy as the result of living a more strenuous life is a subject which opens out a wide field for investigation. Such an enquiry is one well suited for those interested in the evolution of races that have in the past been content to live upon a more or less vegetable diet, until partly as a result of the growth of manufacturing industries and the ever-growing stress of living in the 20th century, they have found their requirements for food of a more substantial nature increased as their labours have made more demands upon their strength.

Probably the one example which stands out most prominently just at the moment is that exhibited by the Japanese. Before the great war with Russia this energetic nation, so recently emerged from a state of strict exclusiveness, lived for the most part upon a vegetable and fish diet. It is now well known that with the adoption of Western modes of living these people are cultivating a distinct taste for a meat diet, as evinced, for instance, by the rapidly increasing shipments of chilled beef and mutton from New Zealand and Australia to the Japanese Empire.

Nearer home we notice the agitation on the part of the working class population of such countries as Austro-Hungary, Italy, and Germany for increased supplies of meat. Only quite recently a very influential body of officials came over to this country from Austria and Hungary to investigate the method adopted here to deal with meat supplies from foreign sources. After a very exhaustive examination of our storage systems, and the supervision adopted to ensure the food being in every way free from any taint likely to prove harmful to the consumer, they returned to their own land satisfied with the possibilities of being able to successfully provide their people with meat of good quality from foreign sources.

The British Consul at Naples reports that the frozen meat stores in that city which have up to the present been used to supply the needs of ships calling there have now been opened to the public. The capacity of storage at present is about 2,000 cwt but no doubt this will shortly be increased as the demand grows. The supplies are obtained mainly from Argentina, a country much favoured by Italians who emigrate from their native land.

Then there is the report that under increased pressure from the people the German Government have permitted for a time the free importation of live cattle from France to Baden, and as these animals must of necessity pass through other portions of the German Empire before reaching their destination, there is no doubt that demands from other States of the Fatherland will be made upon the authorities for similar privileges.

It is, therefore, reasonable to anticipate that with the increased demand for meat an impetus will be given to the cattle raising countries of the world to take the steps necessary to meet these requirements.

Such a prospect can only be viewed with pleasure by tanners and all those who are interested in leather manufacture in this country, as it naturally foreshadows an increase in the supply of hides and skins which is so much needed.

Leather of all kinds is now used for such a great variety of purposes that the quantity of raw material coming into the market has for a long time not been adequate to supply the needs of the trade, hence the high prices ruling.

That the movement is affecting the production of cattle and sheep is evident on perusing returns recently published respecting the foreign trade of Argentina. There we find that for the six months ending June, 1909, that country exported over 50¼ million kilogs, of raw hides and skins, while for the corresponding period of 1910 the quantity increased to a little more than 58 million kilogs; therefore if this rate of increase is maintained it would appear that eventually easier rates may rule for raw material.

Whether this will be the result is somewhat difficult to forecast, as the uses to which leather is now put seem ever on the increase. Regardless of the fact that we see various substitutes coming on the market to take the place of the product of the tanner, there is no apparent diminution in the demand for leather. Even our vegetarian friends do not appear as yet to have found a really reliable article as a substitute for a bit of good English sole leather upon which to stand while enforcing their arguments against the general practice of taking the lives of the lower animals in order to provide food for mankind.—*Leather Trades' Review.*

THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION IN STEEL.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the *Times* Engineering Supplement :—

Though Great Britain fell to the third place in point of iron and steel production some few decades ago she managed, by a comparatively small surplus, to lead Germany in exportation up till the end of 1909. Now, however, for the first half of 1910, Germany leads in exports, and with Russia entering the field as a supplier of cheap iron and steel to her home and adjoining markets we seem likely to lose pride of place permanently. Again the closing down of the "valley" furnaces in America on account of their having reached the cost limit in pig production inclines us to expect absorptions and amalgamations with the Steel Corporation, and a resulting vigorous struggle between European manufacturers and this formidable concern to test the truth of the oft-boasted statement that the Corporation have the cheapest production rate for iron and steel in the world. Gemany has made a disproportionately rapid progress in the industry during the past decade, at the beginning of which we exported practically three times as much as she did in iron and steel. The latest figures will serve to show the relative position of the four productive countries under consideration :—

Pig-Iron Production.

—	Great Britain.	Germany.	America.	Russia.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1909 . . .	9,664,000	12,918,000	25,796,000	2,817,000
1910 (first half) .	Unobtainable.	7,202,000	15,012,000	Unobtainable.

Steel Production.

—	Great Britain.	Germany	America.	Russia.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1909 . . .	5,882,000	12,050,000	23,955,000	2,900,000
1910 (first half) .	...	...	...	...

Iron and Steel Exports.

—	Great Britain.	Germany.	America.	Russia.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1909 . . .	4,381,000	4,044,000	Unobtainable.	156,000
1910 (first half) .	2,671,000	2,374,000	Unobtainable.	Unobtainable.

Iron Ore Imports.

—	Great Britain.	Germany.	America.	Russia.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1909 . . .	6,329,000	8,367,000	1,696,000	*Nil.*
1910 (first half) .	3,769,000	4,641,000	825,000*	*Nil.*

* First four months.

Before 1909 the competitive powers of America and Russia cannot be gauged from the figures of production and exportation, for in neither country was there anything like a possible collapse of the price-maintenance understanding, and, moreover, the increasing productive capacity had not materially exceeded home demands. But once America manages to reconcile the private interests of the "valley" furnaces with those of the Steel Corporation there is no reason why she should not annex the world's trade quite easily during the generation or so required to develop the younger Russian industry, which possesses fundamental advantages of rich ore and coal in close proximity.

This brings us to the governing fact in iron and steel competition. The cheapest raw iron *per se* gives its producer the start in the race in making cheap steel. Labour, efficiency, and fiscal conditions are but secondary considerations, the cost of raw iron is that upon which the price of finished steel practically and sentimentally depends. It is this fact, and this only, which has held America back, and enabled us to sell five tons to her one on the world's markets during the past eight years or so.

Ten years ago the cost of making Bessemer pig at Pittsburg was 32*s.* 5½*d.* per ton, against 52*s.* 3*d.* in this country. Two years later raw material cost per ton had increased by 14*s.* This increase continued with the fall of the iron ore standard till the cost of producing pig iron per ton in the "valley" concerns has doubled itself. The production cost of pig iron by the Steel Corporation is unknown, but it is an average of many individual costs. Owning and leasing both ore and coal mines and also owning three railways serving them, this concern has realized that it is wrong to expect increased exportation to distribute fixed charges, and by concentrating temporarily, on the supplying of home markets and securing control of ores it avoids bringing into operation the least profitable properties. It has been argued that with ore deposits so far removed from coalfields and furnaces so far from seaports America cannot possibly ship iron and steel as cheaply as we can, but that is merely a presumptive argument on our part and will be dealt with by the Americans when they have secured monopoly of the home trade and the control of the richer non-phosphoric ores at home and abroad.

Neither the British nor the German pig-iron industry is so self-contained as the American as regards raw supplies, and, indeed, figures of ore imports go to prove that Great Britain is relatively

the most dependent on foreign sources of supply. This in itself gives cause for uneasiness when one remarks the practical eagerness displayed by our competitors to investigate and control rich mines, and this uneasiness increases in view of the characteristic methods by which they have secured a practical monopoly of the rich non-phosphoric ores in one European country.

Our most persistent competitor has always been Germany, and the rapid development of her export trade since she adopted the export-bounty system in 1897 speaks for itself. Starting that year with 768,000 tons exports, against our 3,318,000 tons, she has made such rapid strides in competitive exportation that the wisdom of her action is justified to its fullest extent. Arguments touching production do not account for German advance. In fact we have the advantage of her in raw supplies, for our coal and fuel cost less to assemble at furnaces. We even get the best Swedish and Spanish ores at a less cost for freight than the Germans. We have the further geographical advantage of having manufacturing areas near to ports, and the commercial advantage of furnaces in the heart of coal areas. As an iron and steel producing country we stand first in our ability to assemble ships, furnaces, ore, and coal. Germany, like America, has nothing in the shape of fundamental resources—geographical, financial, or in a labour sense—to compare with ours, but despite the ever-increasing demand for iron and steel during the past quarter of a century we have not increased our *per capita* production or consumption or exportation. Yet in that same period Germany's *per capita* production and exportation have increased by 200 per cent and 300 per cent respectively and in America the increase is more pronounced by 300 per cent and 800 per cent. Thus our rivals make headway in spite of difficulties, while we mark time in production and lose ground in exportation.

The rapid development of German exportation is particularly due to the organised pushing of sales in foreign markets and the elaborate syndication of machine-like methods of production and distribution. As in textiles, so in iron and steel. The Germans have ousted us from the Levant and the East African trades in both manufacturing and carrying branches. Following the Hamburg attack came the creation of fictitious through-rates on the German State Railways from inland manufacturing areas to foreign ports. So low were these rates that only in the case of shipping full cargoes from Middlesbrough could the Briton hope to compete. The aggregate amount shipped by this means is not enormous, and it is but a small sacrifice for the railways to carry it for practically nothing, but there are steamer running costs also to be considered, which practically amount to more than the total amount paid to the shippers for inclusive sea and rail freights. This scheme is succeeding, as it was meant to, at any cost. We cannot combat it with similar weapons, and the matter must be referred to our statesman. Anything like a show of determination on our part to have fair play, in the way of reciprocity, would convince our competitors that we intend to make a struggle to keep our hold on the markets, and if we openly shut our colonial ports on them they would not be entitled to complain. Though we have combinations in Great Britain and international agreements regarding prices we have nothing approaching the combined control of industry to be found in Germany and America. We cannot expect to retain or recover our premier position in the world's markets without effective organization, and our industry must organize or decline. Public opinion will not allow us to organize on the lines of American trusts or German syndicates, but there is no reason why the facts and figures of the world industry in iron and steel should not be prominently placed before the workers in this country in the hope that they, bearing in mind the fact that the iron group is the chief of our manufactures, will see the need for reforms, commercial and otherwise.

The higher the organisation the greater the progress of industry is an axiom to be derived from the truly wonderful developments of the iron and steel industry in Germany and America. "Combines" are but the ultimate development of a national desire to foster home industry, and nations realizing this build up their industries and beat loose-knit competitors, despite the ability of the latter to produce more cheaply.

Protected by tariffs, fed by bounties, fostered by organization of a high commercial efficiency, these are the rivals we have to meet on the markets of the world, and because of the loose character of our organization we have to submit to trading methods and prices which we—not they—ought to be dictating.

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THE SUGAR MARKET.

Revised Factory Estimates.

In his Weekly Price Current dated London, November 24th, C. Czarnikow says:—

The revised estimates of fabricants were published on Sunday and compare as follows to October figures, the roots being in millions and Sugar in thousand tons:—

	Germany.		Austria.		France.		Belgium.		Holland.		Old Convent		Russia.		Denmark.		Sweden.		Italy.		Spain.		Roumania.		Others.		Europe.	
	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.
Roots, 1910.	14,95	15,28	9,58	9,98	5,77	5,38	1,95	1,93	1,53	1,52	33,73	34,09	12,40	13,08	0,75	0,75	1,06	1,09	1,50	1,50	0,48	0,49	0,28	0,28	0,14	0,14	50,39	51,41
„ 1909.	12,95	12,77	7,77	8,05	6,32	6,24	1,76	1,74	1,31	1,29	30,12	30,08	6,96	6,93	0,45	0,47	0,86	0,89	1,00	1,00	0,65	0,65	0,17	0,17	0,10	0,12	40,31	40,32
„ 1908.	12,05	11,82	7,91	7,93	5,80	5,95	1,77	1,71	1,36	1,35	28,90	28,76	8,50	8,18	0,45	0,44	0,90	0,89	1,50	1,53	0,85	0,8	0,17	0 17	0,10	0,10	41,37	41,03
„ 1905.	14,76	15,73	9,01	9,68	7,98	8,08	2,37	2,36	1,37	1,43	35,50	37,27	7,75	7,89														
Sugar, 1910.	2,324	2,425	1,442	1,530	733	703	275	272	221	221	4,994	5,151	1,936	2,085	105	105	156	167	160	170	58	60	35	35	19	18	7,465	7,791
„ 1909.	1,948	1,959	1,209	1,256	709	796	242	237	181	172	4,379	4,421	1,105	1,134	59	62	122	125	116	116	83	83	25	25	13	15	5,901	5,980
„ 1908.	1,978	2,075	1,355	1,387	746	792	258	257	197	214	4,535	4,725	1,299	1,240	64	66	134	138	173	179	83	110	23	25	10	13	6,321	6,494
„ 1905.	2,115	2,394	1,325	1,495	978	1,076	317	328	187	205	4,966	5,500	1,007	980	64	67	118	133	95	95	83	90	32	32				6,932
Probable, 1910 .	2,500		1,550		720		290		240		5,360		2,075			107		170		172		61		35		20		7,940
„ Tons, Roots	15,60		10,15		5,50		1,95		1,55				13,25 Against 6,84 and 8,18 tons in 1909 and 1908.															
Yield per cent. .	16·00		15·27		13·10		14·87		15·50				15·7	„	16·4	„	15·1 per cent.											
Sugar per Hectare	5·26		4·25		3·06		4·14		4·36				3·07	„	2·02	„	2·23 tons.											
Roots „	32·09		27·8		23·4		27·9		28·2				21·1	„	12·1	„	14·7	„										

The French figures have been lowered still further, and if part of the area had gone for distilling, the yield per hectare could not be correctly calculated. But some people consider the reduction not justified, and also believe that 2,500 and 1,550 thousand for Germany Austria may be exceeded. The Russian figure is absolutely staggering, 75 per cent. more roots per hectare (if they are correctly given) shows that Russia must have changed her methods of cultivation, which evidently were susceptible of improvement, and with the aid of better weather, have this year reached the French level in results. We may next year have to add returns of an English factory which has grown roots experimentally (to be worked up this year in Holland), and the *Hereford Times* publishes weights from 42 farmers, five of whom claim to have raised from 23 to 300 tons per acre (57½ to 75 tons per hectare), which perhaps may be put down to miscalculation or artificial cultivation. But seven farmers had about 20 tons, and the remainder 15 to 20 tons, *viz.*, on average (leaving out those over 20) about 18 tons = 44 tons per hectare, polarizing 16·7 per cent. against German 32·9 tons, polarizing 18½ to 20 per cent. The weights may require revising if the roots have been grown under ordinary conditions.

The Convention estimates seem to virtually confirm the Trade anticipations, and 50,000 tons more or less make no difference this season, but the Russian estimate was rather surprising, and it is supposed that 200,000 tons will be fully exported, and that a further quantity of Convention Sugar will be displaced in Persia, Finland, etc. Nevertheless, the market remains fairly steady.

—The *Dépêche Coloniale* (Paris) of 15th November states that the **Government of Cochin China** are taking measures to foster the **rubber industry**. New regulations concerning the grant of concessions for so called "red earth" lands have lately come into force. In the provinces of Tayninh, Thudaumot, Bienhoa, and Baria, concessions are now only granted subject to the express condition that the lands are used for rubber planting. In every case the holder of a concession must each year plant a least one-tenth of the holding if it be less than 500 hectares, and one-twentieth if it be more than 500 hectares in extent, with rubber trees, so that at least one-half of the holding must be under rubber cultivation within ten years. Each hectare must be planted with not less than 120 trees. The planter only becomes absolute owner of his concession when half of his land is planted with rubber.

SPINNING AND WEAVING RETURNS.

The following statistics of cotton spinning and weaving in Indian mills in September, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of 1908 and 1909, are published by the Commercial Intelligence Department:—

No. 1.—Abstract Statement of the Quantity (in pounds) of Yarn Spun.

	Month of October			Seven Months, April to October		
British India.	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
Bombay	37,599,456	31,766,073	35,019,725	267,770,938	263,114,132	266,845,092
Madras	3,672,603	3,003,458	3,359,331	22,538,158	24,268,855	24,080,376
Bengal	2,987,887	2,385,904	3,459,137	23,159,536	19,313,552	21,872,231
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh (also Ajmer-Merwara)	2,747,540	3,235,562	3,321,397	21,824,804	23,092,548	22,450,836
Panjab	764,390	645,634	616,334	7,782,379	5,924,847	4,407,890
Central Provinces and Berar	2,282,176	2,266,716	2,240,591	16,888,551	18,681,883	16,386,721
Total	50,054,052	43,303,347	48,016,515	359,964,366	354,395,817	356,043,146
Foreign Territory.						
Native States of Indore, Mysore, Baroda, Nandgaon, Bhavnagar, Hyderabad, Wadhwan, Quilon (*a*), Kishengarh, Ujjain and Pondicherry(*b*)	2,209,748	2,618,745	2,664,706	16,146,796	20,619,948	19,702,533
GRAND TOTAL	52,263,800	45,922,092	50,681,221	376,111,162	375,015,765	375,745,679

(*a*) Mill closed since October 1909 (*b*) Including the production of one mill only from April 1909

No. 2.—Abstract Statement of the Quantity of Woven Goods Produced.

[*N.B.*—The weight in pounds represents the weight of all woven goods; the measure in yards represents the equivalent of the weight of the grey and coloured piece-goods]

		Month of October			Seven Months, April to October		
British India.		1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
Bombay	pounds	13,826,359	21,221,816	18,916,938	87,605,059	110,132,801	118,197,924
	yards	59,527,865	89,864,099	78,335,332	388,828,323	478,338,906	515,556,502
	dozens	59,794	78,491	68,740	231,134	354,912	388,607
Madras	pounds	578,244	657,828	610,824	4,325,963	4,584,963	4,149,696
	yards	1,853,806	1,931,955	1,887,414	14,179,503	14,077,942	13,148,230
	dozens	888	1,385	4,313	6,090	9,256	16,332
Bengal	pounds	47,501	292,585	224,833	1,653,922	1,549,737	1,583,809
	yards	204,363	1,430,691	1,278,844	7,593,356	7,651,228	8,529,982
	dozens	536,232	829,424	759,872	5,579,760	6,805,426	5,769,493
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh (also Ajmer-Merwara).	pounds	2,004,692	3,352,173	2,886,668	21,599,937	25,154,480	23,628,746
	yards	2,079	3,682	3,859	18,450	33,012	27,776
	dozens	22,396	22,160	34,596	284,425	257,898	257,039
Panjab	pounds	62,191	59,643	96,098	706,867	627,854	759,202
	yards	600	56	10	3,136	2,034	92
	dozens	668,795	886,127	912,954	5,029,659	5,705,657	5,802,664
Central Provinces and Berar.	pounds	2,672,266	2,300,710	3,450,058	20,072,639	22,032,576	22,166,525
	yards	395	511	440	2,769	3,454	3,138
Total	pounds	15,679,527	23,909,940	21,460,017	104,478,788	129,036,482	135,760,025
	yards	66,325,183	99,939,271	87,934,414	452,971,625	547,882,986	583,789,187
	dozens	63,756	84,125	77,362	361,579	402,668	435,945
Foreign Territory.							
Native States of Indore, Mysore, Baroda, Nandgaon, Bhavnagar, Hyderabad, Wadhwan, Kishengarh(*a*) and Pondicherry(*b*)	pounds	691,110	987,779	1,338,166	4,563,913	7,036,307	8,637,078
	yards	2,588,427	4,001,948	4,999,907	17,140,338	28,312,323	35,325,205
	dozens	7,417	14,563	12,247	43,247	48,003	41,751
GRAND TOTAL	pounds	16,370,637	24,897,719	22,798,183	109,042,701	136,072,789	144,397,103
	yards	68,913,610	103,941,219	92,934,321	470,111,963	576,195,309	619,114,392
	dozens	71,173	98,609	89,609	404,826	450,671	477,696

(*a*) From August 1910
(*b*) Including the production of one mill only from April 1909

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 10th December, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	221,415
	Bombay	„	102,046
	Madras	„	347,015
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	40,000
	Bombay	„	3,225,152
	Madras	„	16,000

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	26,000,298
	Bombay	„	4,273,323
	Karachi	„	732,861
	Madras	„	3,344,426
	Rangoon	„	235,774

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	3,768,465
	Bombay	„	3,725,721
	Karachi	„	1,243,382
	Madras	„	1,097,930
	Rangoon	„	925,157

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	3,329,820
	Bombay	„	4,895,668
	Karachi	„	1,109,000
	Madras	„	1,898,478
	Rangoon	„	1,393,508

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*16,405
	Bombay	„	8,193
	Karachi	„	16,278
	Madras	„	6,193

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	587
	Coastwise	„	32,145
	By rail	„	266,252
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	76,582
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*12,407

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*635,699
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	5,948,650
	„ cloth	yds.	15,659,500
	Jute	cwt.	334,293
Exports by sea from Chittagong—Jute		„	31,879

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from Bombay	cwt.	108,906

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*2,730
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	148
	By rail	„	8,441
Imports into Karachi	By rail and river	„	2,316
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	228
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	9,502
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	...

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*45,208
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	...
	By rail	„	6,399
Imports into Karachi	By rail and river	„	54,402
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	15
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	29,082
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	17,024

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*178,038
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	80,785
	Chittagong	„	...
	Bombay	„	15,371
	Karachi	„	22,055
	Madras	„	22
	Rangoon	„	47,385

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*4,127,446
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	4,326,070
	Chittagong	„	1,229,275

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta by rail and river		cwt.	*145,758
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	167,154
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	2,974
	By rail	„	139,011
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	21,219
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	3,768
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	463,511

*Incomplete.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta Cwt.	3,376,051	2,594,116	3,472,609	5,248,328	1,085,780	1,050,116	Not	reported.
Bombay „	2,619,624	1,876,324	2,071,397	2,904,926	1,493,304	2,700,666	7,401,687	13,187,991
Karachi „	14,687,193	16,058,978	...	14,697	3,023,790	4,609,296	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 10th DECEMBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From			
	Russia.	America.	All other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	389,741	632	390,373
Karachi	...	418,702	...	418,702
Madras	...	...	615,076	615,076

Exports by sea from Burma to	gallons.
Bengal	1,116,680
E. B. & Assam	322,572
Bombay	1,197,565
Sind	355,100
Madras	547,800
Indian Ports, Non-Br.	...
Foreign Ports	...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 10th DECEMBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into						
	Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt	cwt.
United Kingdom	31	...	46	7	58	97	239
Germany	...	...	...	19,000	...	...	19,000
Austria-Hungary	...	...	10,810	...	...	...	10,810
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	...	...	41,938	19,105	2,254	30,155	93,452
Mauritius	...	...	43,325	...	...	...	43,325
Other Non-European Countries	243,200	...	119	1,116	...	29	244,464

Total refined	411,290
Total unrefined	...
Grand Total	411,290

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11.				Season 1909-10.			
	Sold in sale of 9th December.		Sold to 9th December.		Sold in sale of 10th December.		Sold to 10th December.	
	Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Packages	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	6,008	7 6·3	162,365	7 4·4	5,899	7 0·3	143,934	7 5·1
Cachar	3,224	6 10·7	116,746	6 2·7	4,375	5 11·8	127,597	5 10
Sylhet	3,215	7 0·3	83,806	6 3·7	4,128	6 0·6	86,908	5 9·7
Darjeeling	1,396	10 4·2	63,970	9 5	1,783	11 7·3	56,622	10 0·6
Dooars	6,962	7 8·9	172,571	6 9	5,285	7 8·3	168,214	6 10·2
Terai	277	7 6·1	21,305	6 6·5	495	6 8·9	16,265	6 3·5
Chittagong	173	6 7	7,598	6 2·8	279	6 1·1	6,521	5 10·7
Chota-Nagpore	48	3 1	1,391	7 4·5	26	7 1	1,600	6 7·2
Kumaon and Kangra	...	..	3,089	6 4·3	...	...	2,895	5 8·7
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	..	110	5 11·7
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	19	5 10	107	5 9·2
Nepal	...	...	495	6 4·7	...	...	474	6 2·9
All other places	...	...	76	5 11	...	...	...	...
Total	21,303	7 7·1	633,455	7 0·2	22,289	7 1·8	611,247	6 10·7

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 35,158 packages Dust* sold to 9th December 5a. 11·8p.
" 1909-10 " 32,514 " " " 10th " 5a. 6·4p.

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

RICE TRADE OF INDO-CHINA.

The details below are taken from the Consular Report on the Trade of French Indo-China for the year 1909:—Rice is by far the most important export of Indo-China as well as the chief food of its inhabitants. The total quantity of rice and paddy of all sorts exported in 1909, as given by the customs, was 1,081,897 tons valued at £5,913,024. Of this total 3,352 tons were re-exported after temporary admission (for milling at Saigon) and the remainder consisted of the following:—

	Tons.
White rice	734,461
Cargo rice	145,184
Rice flour and dust	115,766
Broken rice	60,373
Paddy	22,761
Total	1,078,545

The different countries of the Indo-Chinese Union supplied the export in the following proportions:—

	Tons.
Cochin-China	901,753
Tonkin	171,055
Annam	5,326
Cambodia	411
Total	1,078,545

As is shown above, by far the greater portion of the rice exported comes from Cochin-China. The figures, however, are deceptive as regards Cambodia; most of the rice of that country being exported from the port of Saigon, appears in the returns as coming from Cochin China. The lower or delta region of Tonkin also produced much rice, but the population is so dense that the surplus generally left for export is not large in comparison.

The exports of rice and paddy for the last seven years as given in the customs statistics, have been as follows:—

	Tons.
1903	665,340
1904	950,355
1905	625,750
1906	728,786
1907	1,413,540
1908	1,224,521
1909	1,081,897

French Indo-China now comes next after Burma as a rice exporting country, the average export of recent years being slightly ahead of that from Siam. The area under rice cultivation in Cochin-China has increased from about 2,000,000 acres in 1888 to about 3,800,000 acres at the present time. In Tonkin about 2,000,000 acres are said to be under rice.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

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One copy of either per annum	65 0
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" " " " " quarter	20 0
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Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5 0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20 0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5 0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.	

MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1 0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6 0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4 12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0 6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.



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India, F. D. Order 4319 of 1883.
Bengal, Rev. D. Order 5602 of 1896.
Bombay, F. D. Resolution 1957 of 1892.
Burma, F. D. Cir 107 of 1897.
" " " 53 of 1899.
C. P. G. D. " 1416 of 1895.
" Excise D. Cir. 111 of 1894.
N.-W. P., G. D. Order 1525 XII—805 B. of 1894

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Wednesday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	7 per cent. (Dec. 1).
	Bombay	7 per cent. (Dec. 12).
	Madras	7 per cent. (Dec. 19).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 3/32
	Telegraphic	1-4 1/16
	Transfers	
	3 months	1-4 3/16
	6 months	1-4 7/16

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 94-15.

The **First General Memoranda** on the **wheat and the spring oilseeds crops** of the season 1910-11 will appear in the *Indian Trade Journal* of 29th December, 1910. The gist of them in tabular form will be exhibited, as usual, at the street door of the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta, on the 28th December at 4 P.M.

In another column will be found the Final General Memorandum on the **Indigo crop** of the season 1910-11. The second general memorandum on the **rice crop** of the season is also published, and in this connection the following particulars relating to the crop in **other countries** will be read with interest: In **China** the harvest this year has been an exceptionally good one, being according to Chinese reckoning a "ten-tenths" crop; that of

last year was only an "eight-tenths" one. The latest estimates about the rice crop in **Japan** place it at 44 million koku (6,600,000 tons). As regards the **Philippines** mail reports dated early November stated that the new crop had suffered severely from want of rain. The rice planted in high lands in many districts was practically lost, but the low land crop in the irrigated districts was expected to be good. The crop at all points was then estimated at probably about 25 per cent less than for the last season. The prospects of the new crop in **Indo-China** are considered favourable.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 17th December was Rs. 29-0-0 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 20th December was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia-Bhawnagar cotton**, December delivery, Rs. 355 per candy of 784 lbs.

The **wholesale spot prices** of the undermentioned articles in Calcutta on the 21st instant were as under:—

Jute—C. D. M. and Co. (Red) Group per 400 lbs.	Rs.	50	8 0
„ M. per 400 lbs.	„	44	8 0
Rice—Ballam No. 1 per B. md.	„	4	5 0
„ Moonghy „		*Nil.*	
Linseed—Bold 4°/₀ per B. md.		*Nil.*	
Rapeseed—Yellow, mixed, bold, Cawnpore, 4°/₀ per B. md.		*Nil.*	

The following **return** shows the **number** of **bales** of **cotton imported** and **exported** at the **various ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 47 weeks ended 24th November, 1910:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 24th Nov., 1910.	47 weeks ended 24th Nov., 1910.	Week ended 24th Nov., 1910.	47 weeks ended 24th Nov., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	166,883	2,251,457	4,127	197,909
Brazilian	5,077	61,293	195	8,583
East Indian	1,507	190,447	85	42,956
Egyptian	33,313	306,965	4,426	62,704
Miscellaneous	214*	111,694†	...	7,366
TOTAL	206,994	2,921,856	8,833	314,518

* Including 110 bales British West Indian and 102 bales British West African.

† Including 6,350 bales British West Indian, 6,779 bales British West African, 13,929 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

In their latest circular the H. B. Claflin Company suggest that the absence of stocks, as well as the revival of demand, makes for higher prices in the **American dry goods trade.** The large crops should ensure a great purchasing power in the home trade. Exporters have lately had to rely mainly on the smaller markets, for "no business of any moment seems practicable with the large Eastern markets." In this, says the *Manchester Guardian*, the experiences of American exporters do not tally with those of merchants in England. A considerable trade has been done in Lancashire lately for the East, and even for China, which is usually the best customer the States have for cotton goods. Messrs. Claflin think that we had better not make up our minds too soon about the American cotton crop, as the estimates even now vary from 10,500,000 bales to 12,500,000.

The **Lancashire cotton trade** improved during October, and in November the improvement continued. Both spinners and manufacturers are in a better position than at the beginning of the month and a good many of both will now cautiously admit that they are not losing money. Some of them, however, are still making unprofitable orders, though the recent business has been good enough. Spinners can hardly hope to mend their margins much while cotton continues to advance towards unexplored heights, and there is a good deal of anxiety about the future of prices. From 7·69*d.* on November 3rd middling American advanced to 8·19*d.* on the 28th, and was 8·06*d.* on the 29th. Spinners are complaining that the advances in real cotton are considerably greater than appear in official quotations. Egyptian cotton has declined during the month, fully good fair being now 11⅞*d.*, as compared with 12*d.* on November 1st. This decline is less from a slackening of demand than from a better prospect of supply. There have been estimates of 7,000,000 cantars and more, and though reports are not decisive it is clear that the crop is a good one. The prospects of the East Indian crop, too, are good, and so the pressure upon the American crop may be relieved both above and below. Messrs. Neill Brothers on November 9th estimated this at 11,600,000 bales, which, though it would be about a million bales more than last season's would be nearly two and a quarter million bales less than that of 1908-09. The ginning returns are still indecisive. Up to November 14th the total, according to the Government returns, was 8,764,000 bales, against 8,112,000 at the same date last year, 9,596,000 in 1908, and 7,301,000 in 1907.

Messrs. Hubbard Brothers and Co. writing on November 18th say that the large cotton receipts were depriving the **American cotton market** of support because "the outside speculative public do not like to buy cotton or any other commodity in face of an increasing supply". On the other hand, those in the trade know that large receipts are necessary in order to give what may be even an inadequate supply. Messrs. Hubbard say:—"We look forward to a period before the Government estimate of the crop when fluctuations will be within a moderate range, unless indeed the movement should unexpectedly be so heavy as to foreshadow a larger estimate of the crop on December 9th than now appears probable. We take this view because we see that the large crop estimates are received in a spirit of incredulity by all connected with the trade." They say, too, that a revival of business in America, which seems to lag behind Lancashire at present, "would induce investment buying, based on the expectation of large takings by spinners." In another circular—that of Messrs. Edward Moyse and Co., of New York—it is suggested that the public is being misled by the large receipts. They believe that after December 1st "there will remain a much smaller percentage of late cotton to be ginned than perhaps ever recorded."

Mr. E. E. Wenger, of the Eastern Omnium Trust, Ld., says:—"On September 23rd last we published some notes on the prospects of the **Egyptian cotton harvest.** After having taken into consideration all the serious information at our disposal, we were led to forecast the figure of 6,750,000 cantars (cantar=99·05 lbs.). The second picking is now in the sack. The results of this picking permit us to regard the figure of 6,750,000 as a minimum. Optimists speak of 7,500,000 cantars. A great part of the harvest, probably about three-quarters of it, is sold to-day at a considerably enhanced average price. Taking as basis the figure of 7,000,000 cantars, one may estimate that to-day three-quarters of this amount, say 5,250,000, is realised. Taking the average price as £E5 (cotton and cottonseed) this produces £E26,250,000. Allowing for the balance of 1,750,000 cantars an average price (cotton and cottonseed) which is sensibly below current market rates, this will represent £E7,330,000. The total harvest, therefore, will produce in round figures £E33,500,000, against £E22,500,000 last year. The second picking has been completed and has proved as satisfactory as the last. The cotton passing through the ginning factories, the arrivals at Alexandria all go to substantiate the estimate." The correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says: "By some of the best-informed people in Egypt Mr. Wenger's estimate is regarded as over-sanguine. I do not quite understand on what Mr. Wenger bases his figures, as the quantity received in Alexandria up to-day (November 23rd) is only 3¼ million cantars. I understand, however, that arrivals would be much heavier if railway accommodation were not so limited. It has been pointed out that the ratio of arrivals at this date does not correspond to the figures of the total crop. For instance, the actual figures of the arrivals at Alexandria on November 18th, 1909, were 2·4 millions, and the total crop was 5·0 millions. On November 18th 1908, arrivals at Alexandria were 2·0 millions, yet the total crop reached 6·75 millions. The ratio of the arrivals this year (3·3 millions) to the arrivals last year (2·4) indicates a crop of 6·6 to 6·7 millions of cantars. The cotton harvest this year was started very early, so it was to be expected that it would get through sooner. The crop was sold rapidly. Growers have realised as fast as possible. There are some who even now have not taken out a single insurance. This being so it is odd that the ratio does not point to a larger crop."

The statement below shows the quantity of **cotton goods calendered** and the proportion thereof to the total production in **Indian mills** in the month of October, 1910, and in the seven months from April to October, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of 1909-10:—

	1909.		1910.	
	Oct.	Seven months, April to Oct.	Oct.	Seven months, April to Oct.
BRITISH INDIA—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	15,362,128	76,128,140	12,692,669	83,243,701
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	64·25	59	59·15	61·32
NATIVE STATES (excluding Hyderabad)—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	176,003	971,404	99,471	870,646
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	33·18	26·31	11·89	15·86
TOTAL INDIA (excluding Hyderabad)—				
Quantity calendered lbs.	15,538,131	77,099,544	12,792,080	84,114,347
Ratio of calendered goods to production %	63·57	58·09	57·37	59·55

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market,** dated 24th ultimo, Messrs. Noël, Murray and Co., Ld., say:—Although business in **Indian yarn** during the interval has been rather more restricted it is more on account of the firmness of holders than the lack of demand. This is certainly rather more general, the buying at present being for Tsingtau, Tientsin, the River Ports and Szechuen and at prices that show a good deal of strength. The enquiry, or at all events, the resultant transac-

tions are about equally divided between No. 10s., 12s. and 20s., the market closing firm. The total sales reported amount to 1,981 bales, as under :—No. 10s. 775 bales; Apollo Mill (Mule) $96·00, Jubilee (Mule) $98·00, James Greaves Mill $99·00/99·25, Connaught Mills Co. and Currimbhoy Mills (Ring) $100·00, Howard and Bullough Mill Co., $101·50 and Sorab Mill $104·50. No. 12s. 660 bales; Queen Mill Woman Chop $98·00, Pabaney Mill (Mule) $103·50/104·00, Currimbhoy Mills (Mule) $103·50/105·00 and Fazulbhoy Mills $106·00/106·50, No 20s. 546 bales; Ripon (Mules) $113·00. Currimbhoy Mill (Mule), Empress Mill and Imperial Mill $114·00, Pabaney Mills (Ring) $114·50, Damoder Lukhmidass $115·00 and Tea Carrier $116·00.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crops** as on the 29th ultimo :—*United States of America*—Winter belt had some further rains; some reports say crop deteriorated, others indicate fairly good condition; primary receipts were rather larger last week, but total well below last year's for same week; visible supply decreased. *Canada*—Reports of fall ploughing not so good as recently; receipts at Winnipeg well maintained. *Argentina*—Beneficial rains have fallen; our Editor cables confirmation crop damage in the south, but still estimates wheat surplus 11½ to 12½ million quarters, which indicates moderate crop; an estimate published in America by "North-western Miller" gives surplus 10,000,000 qrs.; Linseed surplus estimated 4¾ million qrs. against 3½ million current year; Oats poorish crop on large acreage. *Australia*—Crop indications generally maintained, although our mail reports contain confirmation of damage by frost and drought in New South Wales. *India*—Some increase in wheat and linseed acreage expected. *Russia*—Weather rainy, cold and stormy in southern region; crop conditions satisfactory; arrivals at ports generally light, but stocks remain large. *Roumania*—Weather has been favourable for ploughing and some people now expect the wheat acreage will equal last year's; arrivals smaller and include more maize. *Hungary*—Weather wintry, with snow; offerings, receipts and stocks light. *Austria*—Condition of winter wheat estimated 74 per cent; supplies native wheat light. *France*—Weather continued most unfavourable for sowing, much of which work still remains undone; holders native wheat very firm, and foreign difficult to move from ports. *Germany*—Weather and crop conditions generally favourable; supplies of native wheat larger, also the demand for home and export. *Italy*—Weather is seasonable; crops favourable. *United Kingdom*—Weather too wet for sowing. *Turkey-in-Asia*—Some good rains mentioned; Barley sowing has made satisfactory progress. *Turkey-in-Europe*—Wet weather reported, and small arrivals native grain mentioned.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 26th November, 1910, were as follows :—Wheat, 29*s.* 11*d.*; barley, 24*s.* 10*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 4*d.*

The third forecast of the **Burma groundnut crop** comprises returns from six districts. The area under cultivation is estimated to be 102,126 acres. This is 34,130 acres less than last year and 3,802 acres less than the area estimated in the second forecast. In Myingyan the favourable rainfall has led to the substitution of sesamum on land originally prepared for groundnut. An outturn of eleven annas is anticipated in Pakôkku and the Lower Chindwin, and in the other districts except Magwe, the crop is expected to fall a little below the normal. The outturn of the six districts is estimated at 110 million pounds of unshelled nut. The outturn of all other districts may be placed at two million pounds, making for the Province a gross outturn of approximately 50,000 tons.

The British Acting Consul at Harbin reports as follows, under date 8th November, regarding the **soy bean crop** in his district, *i.e.*, **that part of Manchuria** north of Changchun or 44° N. lat :—An estimate of an increase of from 20 to 30 per cent in the yield this year, as compared with last, comes from Chinese sources; other authorities place the increase at 50 per cent. It is not easy at so early a date to make a correct estimate of the total crop, and any estimate must be to a certain extent guesswork. The unanimity in the reports from various sources, however, leaves no doubt as to the general excellence of the crop. The stalks are stated to have had more pods this year than last, and the pods to have contained three beans in place of two. The bean is of better quality, and is expected to produce more oil than that of last year. At a conference of local exporters of beans and grain products, held at Harbin on 15th October, it was decided that the quantity of beans available for export from North Manchuria might be placed at 24-28 million pouds (about 390,000—450,000 tons). The figures were calculated on the basis of a total crop of 48 million pouds (about 775,000 tons), of which about half was expected to be available for export. The estimate of the total crop submitted by the representative of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha who attended the conference, however, was only 38 million pouds (about 610,000 tons). The present high price of bean oil also makes the quantity of beans that may be required for local consumption uncertain. The Chinese Eastern Railway is prepared, if necessary, to provide daily five freight trains, each of 30 cars of 900 pouds (15 tons) capacity for the carriage of the beans.

The total approximate gross **earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 3rd December, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,79,28,742 and Rs. 3,79,82,808 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09, respectively.

An estimate has been sanctioned of the cost of relaying with 90 lbs. **steel rails** and new **wooden sleepers** 26 miles of the main line of the **Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway** between Bareilly and Moradabad.

In the House of Commons on November 28th Sir J. D. Rees asked the Under Secretary of State for India: Whether the Secretary of State can give the House any information regarding the proposed extension of the **metre-gauge railway system from Hyderabad to Kurrachee.** Mr. Montagu: The Secretary of State has not recently received any direct communication from the Government of India on the subject of a metre-gauge railway connection between Hyderabad and Kurrachee. Proposals by a private firm for the construction of this connection were recently submitted to the Railway Board, who were unable to accept them.

At the colonial **wool auctions,** which began in London on 23rd November, prices opened on a level which must have proved a pleasant surprise to owners. Although the total available amounts to 118,000 bales, or 20,000 bales more than was the case at the corresponding sale of last year, good combing merinos and crossbreds showed practically no change since the close of the September sales. Medium and inferior merinos, however, declined 5 per cent and being in heavier supply on succeeding days have, it is said, showed increased weakness, and not seldom a fall of from 7½ to 10 per cent. All classes of Cape produce sell at a decline, but it is only in the case of heavy greasies and inferior scoureds that the drop is more than 5 per cent. For fine greasies the chief competition comes from the Continental section of the trade. Advices from Boston state that the market for wool there, after a temporary rally, has again relapsed into a very parlous condition. Cablegrams report all over-sea markets tolerably firm at about the opening rates with the usual slight fluctuations from day to day. The home trade seems to be more and more resolved to go strictly from hand to mouth, as many experienced users think that supplies during the coming year will be ample.

With regard to the probable **exports of wool from Australia and New Zealand** during the present wool year, which ends on June 30th next, Messrs. Dalgety estimate that the Australian clip will amount to 2,015,000 bales, or 93,000 bales more than last year, whilst the New Zealand clip they put down at 520,000 bales, being an increase of 7,000 bales on that of the preceding season. We think, says the *Manchester Guardian*, Messrs. Dalgety will not be far wrong in their calculation as to the size of the New Zealand clip, but we differ from them about the probable amount of the exports from Australia. Owing to the splendid season, the greatly increased number of sheep shorn, and the increased weight of each fleece due to improved breed, we should suppose that 2,125,000 bales, or about 200,000 bales more than last year, would be nearer the figure. At the end of October, or for the first four months of the present wool year, the exports from the Commonwealth exceed those for the corresponding period of last season by no fewer than 77,000 bales, and our advices so far during the present month suggest that when the Australian exports are cabled at the end of this month it will be found that the increase which Messrs. Dalgety estimate for the whole year will have been exceeded during the first five months. Perhaps our most hopeful source of supply during the next few years is South Africa. Since the close of the war its exports of wool have doubled, having gone up from 200,000 to 400,000 bales. The increase last year amounted to about 100,000 bales, although some experts only expected an increase of from 20,000 to 30,000 bales. There are some who look for an increase of only 25,000 bales this year, but our advices lead us to expect an increase of more than double that quantity. Doubts will soon be resolved, for, unlike the Australasian wool year, that of South Africa runs with the calendar, and early in January we shall know what the exports for 1910 have been. There are still millions of sheep in South Africa that are hardly worthy of the name, and for these, first class animals are rapidly being substituted. Not only are South African pastoralists importing large numbers of splendid stud merino sheep from Australia, but the Transvaal and Orange River States are also importing high-class merino sheep from many of the best studs in the Commonwealth.

In their **Australian wool report** dated Melbourne, November 24th, Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort and Co., Ltd., say :—We held our ninth sale of the year yesterday, submitting an attractive catalogue of 4,918 bales, of which we disposed of 4,678 bales. The offering included some standard choice clips, but were mostly composed of small parcels from the Wimmera, Western and North-Eastern Districts of this State, together with a good display of Tasmanians, forming one of the best collections placed before the trade this season. Competition at yesterday's sale was characterised by great keenness on all good wools, late rates being fully maintained. Choice wools, when exhibiting any quality, of which but few so far have been seen, were perhaps a shade higher than at any sale of the season to date, but this may be accounted for, to a great extent, by the high standard of the offerings. Wasty, shabby and faulty parcels have not improved their position, and are difficult to quit at late rates. Mount Camel,

from Heathcote, established a record in Australian sale rooms for fleece wools at 17¼*d.* while the lambs sold up to 18¾*d.* In the Tasmanian section, EST/HG/Rhodes sold up to 16¾*d.* for merino, and Dalness 14*d.* for crossbred. Western District clips made up to 14¾*d.* for Rockview/JW, while several smaller parcels sold to 13½*d.* In North-Eastern wools 11*d.* was obtained for the crossbred of EYS/Azwarby from Yea.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest for the periods mentioned below were as follows :—

For the week ending 17th December 1910—

In the Calcutta market—

Market closed.

In the China market—

At Hongkong—(Exchange Rs. 136½ per $100).

Behar opium—$2,350 ; 2,350 ; 2,350 ; 2,350 ; 2,350; 2,350 ; 2,350.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

At Shanghai—(Exchange Rs. 184 per 100 taels).

Behar opium—On the 15th taels 1,735.

Benares opium—No quotations received.

For the week ending 10th December, 1910—

In the Bombay market—

On the 4th and 5th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385 (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,950; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,490 to 3,100. From the 6th to 10th instant (new 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385 ; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,950 ; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,450 to 3,100. The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new), Rs. 2,997 and 3,128 ; (old) Rs. 3,066 and 3,220, respectively.

In its issue of November 29th the *Manchester Guardian* says :—The **copper market** has become rather uninteresting of late because of the lack of movement. The steadiness of values during the past two or three weeks is remarkable, but it applies to a good many of our staple markets just now. There can be no doubt that if it continues much longer there will be a considerable growth of confidence and business will profit, but probably nothing of importance is likely to be undertaken until the general election is out of the way. The highest price of standard warrants during the week was £57 17*s.* 6*d.* and the lowest £57 10*s.* The premium for three months' metal keeps very even between 17*s.* 6*d.* and 20*s.* per ton. It is noticeable that the general feeling in the London market is favourable to the future of prices, and the bulk of the speculators in the metal seem to be going for a rise, estimated to reach at least £60. Seeing that the statistical position moves gradually towards improvement, this estimate of the reasonable value of copper does not appear extravagant; and unless some unexpected set back in the bi-monthly figures occurs £60 per ton for warrants is likely to be realised. Assuming favourable producers' statistics for November and December, the prospect is far from being bad.

The **transmission of opium through the post,** except on Government account, is absolutely **prohibited.**

The provisions of clause 224 of the current edition of the *Post Office Guide*, regarding the payment of **indemnity** in the case of loss of, or damage to, **uninsured foreign parcels** or their contents, have been extended to uninsured parcels exchanged between India and British North Borneo.

The authorities of the **Allahabad Exhibition** have issued an *Official Handbook*, a neatly printed and illustrated volume of over 200 pages. It is intended as a guide to the various sections of the exhibition, each of which is described in detail. There are several useful Appendices to the volume giving information about the various competitions in connection with industrial improvements. The lists of exhibits which are given in the book should prove useful for purposes of reference. It is printed by the Superintendent, Government Press, Allahabad from whom copies may presumably be had.

The December number of the *Commercial Journal*, published by the Gwalior State officials, is to hand. It is quite a readable number.

The 1909-10 **German beet sugar campaign** was carried out on an area officially put at 449,172 hectares (1,109,455 acres), an increase of roughly 3 per cent as compared with the area of the previous season ; unofficial calculations however estimate the area at 456,135 hectares, or an increase of 4·6 per cent. The production has not increased at quite the same rate. The output of beets per hectare was indeed slightly better, but the sugar content fell a long way behind that of the record year of 1908-09. This was largely due to a late winter (culminating in a heavy snowfall last March), which delayed field operations for several weeks in the Spring. The two most important factors in sugar beet production are moisture and sunshine. The rainfall during the winter months of November to March was only 166 mm. as compared with the normal of 201 mm. The beets, therefore, started their growth in a somewhat dry soil. But during the months of vegetation the rainfall was amply sufficient, being somewhat over the normal. As to sunshine, the records show that whereas May was rich in it, June, July, and August were deficient. The quantity of roots worked up in the factories amounted to 12,904,795 metric tons (of 2,200 lbs.) as compared with 11,815,318 tons in 1908-09. This works out at 28,300 kg. per hectare (11·24 tons per acre) as compared with 27,100 kg. per hectare (10·76 tons per acre) in 1908-09. The yield in sugar based on the total quantity of beets worked up during the campaign amounted to 15·04 per cent as compared with 16·77 in 1908-09. The number of factories at work was further reduced by two and amounted to 356. The total sugar production (in raw sugar value) was as follows :—

1909-10.	1908-09.	1907-08.
Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.
2,027,272	2,079,221	2,138,731

The *Handels Museum* (Vienna) of 24th November states that, according to a report from Havana, dated 27th October, the **total production of sugar in Cuba** this year is 1,804,349 tons, as compared with 1,513,582 tons in 1909. Up to the end of September, 119,418 tons had been shipped to the United Kingdom, and 1,565,084 tons to the United States of America. As regards the **prospects** for the **next crop**, in the districts untouched by the recent cyclone, the sugarcane is making good progress. The cyclone has not done so much damage as might have been expected to the cane, which were beaten down, but are, nevertheless, continuing to grow.

The following information is from the report by the British Acting Consul-General at **Manila** (Mr. G. H. Phipps) on the **Trade of the Philippine Islands** in 1909, which will shortly be issued :—**Oil** has been found at two places in the Island of Cebu, and also in the Island of Leyte. Considerable attention has lately been directed to the oilfields in Tayabas, where the prospects are said to be very encouraging. It is stated that the crude petroleum from the latter region has a very low specific gravity, surpassed by only two or three regions in the world. It would command a high price in the market, as it contains an unusually large proportion of gasolene and kerosene, and would accordingly be very desirable for distillation purposes.

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on November 24th regarding the **Hull oil market** says :—The market for **linseed oil** is dull with spot at 43*s.* 3*d.* ; November-December, 43*s.* ; January-April, 40*s.* 6*d.* The exports for the week amounted to 7 tons, of which America took 5 and Norway 2 tons each. **Cotton Oil.**—This market is dull with refined cotton oil at 28*s.* spot ; November-April, 28*s.* 1½*d.* ; crude cotton oil, 25*s.* 9*d.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 292 tons, of which America took 87, Austria 9, Belgium 44, Germany 53, Holland 84, and Sweden 15 tons each. **Soy bean oil** 30*s.* spot, 28*s.* 6*d.* January-April. **Lard oil** dull and easy. **Olive oil** slow and unchanged. Candia for shipment £52 c. i. f. and Spanish £52 10*s.* to £54. **Cocoanut oil** continues quiet at £41 10*s.* to £42 per ton for English, ex-mill. **Castor oil** continues firm, with little offering on spot and Calcutta quoted 4½*d.* to 4⅝*d.* per lb., ex-store. **Palm Oil.**—Lagos more plentiful and offered at lower rates. Early arrival £36 12*s.* 6*d.* ; December, £36 10*s.* ; sellers ; other descriptions continue steady for spot and near with softs quoted at £36 to £35 15*s.* ; Benin at £35 to £34 15*s.*, and hards £32 15*s.*, all transit ; but December-January and outward positions flat and neglected, and quotations are quite nominal. A retail lot Niger sold at £32 7*s.* 6*d.* transit. Refined sorts quoted at £35 5*s.* per ton for clarified, in casks. **Petroleum** quiet and steady at 5⅛*d.* to 6½*d.* per gallon for American and 5*d.* for Russian. **Turpentine** continues steady at 55*s.* 9*d.* per cwt. for prompt and December and 56*s.* 9*d.* per cwt. for January-April.

The following information is from the report by H. M. Vice-Consul at Hodeidah (Mr. G. A. Richardson) on the trade of that district in the years 1905 to 1909, which will shortly be issued :—**Petroleum** has been known to exist in the **Farsan Islands** in the **Red Sea** for many years past. A concession to work it has been obtained by an Ottoman subject, who, in the company of a French engineer, recently visited the islands, when experimental borings were made. It would appear that the results obtained were fairly satisfactory. The concessionaire will most probably sell his rights at Farsan to a French company, with whom negotiations are proceeding.

Writing on November 28th the *Manchester Guardian* says :—Milan reports state that the past week has been a fairly brisk one in the **Italian silk market.** Thrown silk was in good demand, and not only were prices firm but for many qualities show an advance of from ½ to 1 lire. America purchased several hundred bales at the advanced rates and made offers for several thousand bales, but could not come to terms. Throwsters are now occupied for some months ahead, and it is not easy to place orders for quick delivery. Cocoons have been in good demand during the past few days at hardening prices. Attention is drawn to the present low visible stocks of raw silk and cocoons. At this time last year these totalled over three million kilos, whilst present stocks are only just over two million kilos, 300,000 kilos below the average for the past six years. All the Far Eastern markets are firmer and brisk, prices being about 20 per cent above the lowest rates for the year. Stocks at Yokohama at the beginning of November were only 8,000 bales, against 21,000 bales at the corresponding period last year and 20,000 bales in 1908, whilst Canton stocks are also small. The waste silk market remains unchanged.

It is notified that all the **trees** except the ones whose girth measures 6 feet and below, which are

marked for preservation, numbering in all 7,420, and also stems under 9" in girth on an area of 168 acres of land known as Coupe No. 2 in the **Holangapar Forest Reserve** just close to the Jorhat State Railway and Moriani-Jorhat cart road will be sold standing. Persons desirous of purchasing the same are invited to apply to Ex-Deputy Conservator of Forests, Sibsagar Division, for terms personally or by letter on or before the 15th January, 1911, for the whole area or any part of it not less than a fourth. Facilities for inspecting the Coupe will be given on application to the Forester at Moriani (A. B. Ry.)

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 12th December, 1910 :—C. W. Martin, locomotive foreman, Bengal Nagpur Railway, Bilaspur—Improvements in apparatus for exchanging articles between a running train and station staff. Mansfield and Sons, Ld., Derby Square, Liverpool—Improvements in and relating to oil gas apparatus. H. R. Clayton, 4, Russel Road, Crouch End, London—Improvements in or relating to the treatment of lac. U. N. Das, foreman instructor, Bengal Technical Institute, Calcutta—An automatic hinge which can be used as a spring bead joint hinge and a spring butt hinge by the different position of spring. Nikola Tesla, gentleman, 149 Broadway, New York, United State of America—Improvements in fluid propulsion. H. D. Gill, engineer, Byculla Iron Works, Bombay—An improved governing mechanism for oil or gas engines. D. C. Barooah, Messrs. J. R. Barooah and Sons, Dibrugarh, Assam—Stone concrete well rings. G. N. Barooah, Messrs. J. R. Barooah and Sons, Dibrugarh, Assam—An improved method or methods of controlling automatically establishing plane, ailrons or the like in aëroplane and the like. R. S. Benson, engineer, "Riverside", Middleton St. George, Durham, England, and Head, Wrightson and Co. Ld., engineers and iron-founders, Teesdale Ironworks, Thornaby-on-Tees, England—An improved coal washer. T. Nogier, doctor of Medicine, 11 Rue de la Charite, Lyons, France—Process and apparatus for the sterilization of liquids. Kunst Plastik Gesellschaft m. b. H., of Frankfort-on-the-Main, Bethmanstrasse 21, Germany—Improved process and composition for the production of relief coating on surfaces. Good Inventions Co., 1055 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, United States of America—Combing machine. J. A. Hill, engineer, Ordnance Works, Sheffield, England, and Ada Schofield, widow, West Don Place, Sheffield, and S. Hadfield, Commercial traveller, Blake Street, Sheffield, the two last named being executors of H. Schofield, deceased—Improvements in and relating to the fire bridges of steam boiler furnaces and like furnaces. F. A. Molony, assistant engineer, Bengal Nagpur Railway, of Raigarh, Central Provinces, and H. G. Remfry, patent agent, of 8-2, Hastings Street, Calcutta—Improvements in rail joints.

The Bombay Health Department are destroying over 500,000 rats in Bombay every year. Had these rats not been destroyed, and assuming that the same ratios hold good instead of 14,000 plague-infected rats being found in the city yearly, something—approximately 4,000,000—would be the number capable of spreading this disease as well as other diseases. It is estimated by Mr. Boelter in his book, **"The Rat Problem,"** that every rat will do one farthing's worth of damage every da in Bombay. In addition to the rats caught and collected, there must be about the same number dying of other causes—or, roughly, 1,000,000 per annum—and this represents, on the above basis, about 400,000—or 60 lakhs of rupees—per annum saved to the commerce of the city. But it means a great deal more than that, as, had these rats not been destroyed after deducting deaths from natural diseases, 25 per cent of these could have increased to 200,000,000. In many of the grain godowns and shops in Bombay, in B. Ward especially, rats are not allowed to be killed. On the contrary, they are encouraged to live. The Health Officer has seen tins of water placed in the godown for the rats to drink. These rats can be seen in large numbers in the godowns any day coming to drink. He estimates that in the grain godowns in the city there are rats doing a damage to grain of at least fifty lakhs of rupees per annum.

The *Manchester Guardian* writes in its issue of November 30th :—Although the tone in the **jute market** is distinctly quieter and prices steadier after their recent decline to well under £20, the outlook for the immediate future is as uncertain as ever. Rarely has the jute trade been so unprofitable or so unsatisfactory as it is at present. The latest intelligence cabled from Calcutta that a certain mill is going into liquidation because of bad trade does not clarify the situation, and buyers continue to act with the utmost circumspection. Latterly London buyers have again shown some inclination to buy, and the bulk of the business is believed to be either in the nature of covering transactions or on continental account. Meantime the attention of Dundee operators is concentrated on the Indian market, where the outlook is more than usually disturbed.

The **weather conditions in India** for the week ended Tuesday last were marked by a disturbance in the extreme north which caused local snowfall in Kashmir and a few falls of rain in the Punjab and Kumaon Hills. Dry weather prevailed elsewhere.

NOTICES.

ENQUIRIES.

(For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.

An asterisk (*) preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered).

Tea, Coffee, Sugar and Lead Sheets.

(849)—A Commissariat contractor in Bombay desires to be placed in communication with sellers of tea, coffee, sugar and lead sheets used for packing.

Aloe and Palmyra Fibres.

(850)—A Travancore correspondent desires to be placed in communication with buyers of aloe and palmyra fibres.

Mica and Magnetic Black Sands.

(851)—A firm in Burma desires to be placed in communication with purchasers of mica and magnetic black sands.

Cheap Oilcloths.

(852)—A British firm desires to be placed in communication with importers of cheap oilcloths in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Rangoon.

Cutch.

(853)—A Glasgow company desires to be placed in touch with manufacturers of cutch in Burma.

Cotton Yarn.

(854)—A firm in Glasgow desires to be placed in communication with spinners of Indian cotton yarn in counts 20's to 60's twist.

Arrowroot.

(855)—A correspondent desires the addresses of Calcutta exporters and British importers of arrowroot.

Starch-making Machinery.

(856)—A correspondent requires the addresses of manufacturers and sellers of starch-making machinery.

Paper.

(857)—A London firm desires to be placed in communication with importers of paper.

Wool.

(858)—A Consular Officer desires to be placed in communication with Calcutta exporters of wool.

Carbon Dioxide, Oxygen and Hydrogen.

(859)—A London firm desires the addresses of manufacturers of carbon dioxide, oxygen and hydrogen.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

The following publications have been received and may be consulted by any desirous of studying them at the office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, where they will be displayed in the ante-room till Wednesday, the 28th December, 1910 :—

Parliamentary Publications.

Foreign Import Duties, 1910—Return of Statement of the rates of Import Duties Levied in European Countries, Egypt, the United States, Mexico, Argentina, Japan, China, and Persia upon the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom. Statistical Table relating to British Self-Governing Dominions, Crown Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates.—Part XXXIII, 1908.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

Australia—Trade and Customs and Excise Revenue of the Commonwealth of Australia for the Year 1909. Belgium—Releve Officiel Du Chiffre de la Population du Royaume par Province, par Arrondissement administratif et par Commune A la date du 31 Dècembre 1909; Statistique Medicale de L'Armèe Belge—Annèe 1908; Annuaire Statistique de La Belgique Quarantième Annèe—1909; Catalogue de la Bibliothequede la Commission Centrale de Statistique Tome VI. Canada—Report of the Department of Labour for the Fiscal year ending March 31st, 1910. Denmark—Statistisk Tabelværk (Danmark) V Litra D 25 (La Marine Marchande et la Navigation du Danemark), 1909. Greece—Bulletin Trimestriel du Commerce Special de la Grece avec les pays Entrangers--Premiere Partie—Importation et Exportation—Seconde Partie—Divers—No. 2—Second trimestre 1910. Mozambique—Relatorio do Servico de Saude—Anno de 1909. Estatistica du Commercio E Navegacoa, 1907 and 1908. United States Department of Commerce and Labor—Bureau of Statistics—No. 3—Series 1910-11—Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance of the United States—September, 1910, Department of Agriculture—Office of Experiment Stations—Experiment Station Record—Vol. XXIII—October, 1910.

Indian Publication.

Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Burma—(Buildings and Roads Branch)—Excluding Irrigation—For the year 1909-10.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

Correspondence regarding advertisements in the "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL" should be addressed to Reuter's Telegram Co., Ld., but all advertisements, blocks, etc., must be approved by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence before insertion.

Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

A full index is published as a quarterly supplement and should be filed for reference.

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The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1910.

SEA-BORNE TRADE OF CALCUTTA IN NOVEMBER.

THERE was an improvement in the total value of Calcutta's trade during November in comparison with that for October, and compared with November of 1909 the total value (13·41 crores) was greater by 68·65 lakhs, an increase of 5·39 per cent. The results would have been better had there not been a smaller demand for imports. While exports valued at 8·61 crores rose by 1·21 crores or 16·3 per cent, imports aggregating 4·8 crores in value decreased by 52 lakhs or 9·82 per cent. Both under merchandise and treasure imports were smaller. The former declined by 40 and the latter by 12 lakhs, the demand for both gold and silver having lessened. Exports of the precious metals valued at 5·8 lakhs showed but little variation. Eight months of the current financial year have now passed and Calcutta's trade during that period valued at 88·59 crores has risen by 8·54 crores, an improvement amounting to 10·67 per cent. Exports have largely contributed to this result and, valued at 53·27 crores, demonstrated an increase of 6·76 crores or 14·55 per cent. Merchandise accounts for 6·44 crores of the larger business and treasure (15·57 lakhs gold and 17·23 lakhs silver) for 32·8 lakhs. On the other hand, imports have certainly risen, but, standing at a total value of 35·32 crores, have only advanced by 1·77 crores or 5·29 per cent. Merchandise improved by 1·91 crores, but there was a decline under treasure of 13·6 lakhs. The total landings of treasure amounted in the eight months to over 3 crores ; gold 1·77 and silver 1·31 crore in value.

Duty collections during the month were not so good as in November, 1909, and, aggregating over 31 lakhs, fell by Rs. 1,93,741. Fluctuations exhibiting larger receipts were over one lakh under tobacco, and 1·5 lakh under silver, both due to the high tariff rates now ruling. Decreases of Rs. 1,20,754 under cotton goods and of Rs. 2,19,576 under salt are noticeable, the former the result of a contracted demand owing to the high price of the raw material ; the latter due to the credit system introduced this year. To the end of November the total revenue received this year (inclusive of Tea Cess, Rs. 1,87,953) has been Rs. 2 42 crores, an increase of 21·5 lakhs ; of this increase no less than Rs. 19·61 lakhs may be credited to the influence of the new tariff—for liquors have contributed 2 lakhs, tobacco 6·49, and silver 11 lakhs more than in the previous year. But this increase of Rs. 21·5 lakhs is a fictitious one, being based, as it is, on a decrease in salt revenue of 13 lakhs. It has been explained in these articles in previous months that, by reason of the introduction of the salt credit system, large quantities of salt are cleared for consumption against securities deposited : these deposits have a currency of six months by the end of which period adjustment is compulsory, and it is only on such adjustments that the actual duty payable is credited to revenue. At the close of November, the amount of revenue on salt remaining unadjusted approximated Rs. 14 lakhs. That being so, the increase in revenue so far this year was more nearly Rs. 35 5, than 21·5 lakhs. Duty receipts on cotton goods are disappointing and the increase on 1909 is under one lakh. Even woollen goods have risen by over one lakh. Sugar has contributed this year four lakhs in excess of 1909 in spite of the fact that for the past month imports were on a smaller scale. Rice has given an increase

of four lakhs or 65·2 per cent on last year's contributions.

The import trade generally was satisfactory and most of the principal articles exhibited a larger demand. The only considerable exceptions to this were in landings of cotton goods, sugar and tobacco. The cotton trade is feeling the effects of the high prices for the raw material which have now existed for some considerable time—the decrease in value in November was 30 lakhs, and under cotton piece-goods there was a contraction in quantity of 27 millions yards and in value of 27 lakhs, equivalent to 23·5 and 16·1 per cent, respectively. During the year while white and coloured (etc.) cotton piece-goods have each risen in quantity by 16 millions yards, the demand for grey piece-goods has fallen by 110 millions yards or a loss in value of 61 lakhs, being a decrease in the 8 months of 17·3 per cent in quantity and of 7·0 per cent in value. Only in two months of the current year has there been an increase in the yardage for grey piece-goods. In the past 3 months the decline has been great ; at the same time, the demand for woollen goods has risen by 22 lakhs in the year. There was in the past month a set back in sugar and the quantity declined by 145,699 cwts. and the value by 22 lakhs. As a matter of fact, the decrease in actual sugar was greater, for molasses rose by 49,783 cwts. whereas refined sugar fell off in quantity by 202,573 cwts. The Java crop has been brought forward more quickly this year and the high prices, which at one time ruled for the continental product, diverted a considerable amount of sugar from Java westwards. The fall in value of tobacco is mainly due to the higher duties now imposed, but there is no doubt that the locally-made cigarette has interfered considerably with the foreign article : this fact was in evidence long before the trade was faced with the new and enhanced duties. In the past month cigarettes fell in number by 22 millions : in the 8 months by 197 millions and their place has now been largely taken up by the Indian cigarette and the native *biri*, the latter being more and more in evidence in the streets of Calcutta.

Under metals and their kindred headings the following fluctuations have occurred :—

000 omitted.

	November.	8 months (April to November.)
	Rs.	Rs.
2 Hardware and Cutlery	+ 21	+ 11·79
1 Metals	− 3·61	+ 34·95
3 Machinery	+ 4·23	+ 4·06
4 Railway plant	− 2·21	− 104·72

Copper, iron, and steel have all improved in the year ; and it must be borne in mind that although railway material on private account, as shown above, has fallen in total value, under imports on behalf of the *State*, the receipts have risen in value during November by 20 lakhs chiefly under construction. There was an improvement also under mineral oil and, owing to larger imports from the United States, both quantity and value were greater, the latter amounting to five lakhs. With the cutting in rates by the large producers in the war now being fought between them, there should be a larger demand for consumption of the foreign product. There has been a satisfactory advance both in landings and in clearances for consumption of salt. All other articles have shown by their increased imports the general prosperity of the country, which is greater than it has ever been.

The highly prosperous state of Calcutta exports in November was mainly due to the very large shipments of raw jute : in fact, if such a word can be applied to a dry record of statistics, the exports of raw jute may be described as sensational. The total quantity shipped in the month was 2,816,928 cwts. (734.321 bales) valued at 3·35 crores or an increase of 637,793 cwts. and Rs. 1·17 crores. In no previous month in any year have the exports been so heavy ; the nearest approach was in November, 1906, when 2,568 479 cwts. were sent away. Yet imports into Calcutta and the mill stations were less in the month by 502.101 maunds and for the season by 1,770.610 maunds. The heavier shipments which have now gone forward are presumably influenced by smaller purchases for local consumption. To the United Kingdom 284,035 bales were sent : to Germany 161,016 bales and to France 103,650 bales, leaving only 185,620 bales for other countries. For the year (8 months) the total shipments now amount to 7,416,152 cwts. valued at 8·2 crores : this is a decrease of 841,671 cwts. but an increase in value of Rs. 3·31 lakhs. There is now every indication that the crop will be up to the estimates. From Chittagong exports have risen during the year (7 months) by 47,190 cwts. to 472,216 cwts. Althongh exports of gunny cloth were greater in November there was a large falling off in gunny bags and for the month the total value of jute manufactures was less by 26 lakhs : yet for the year the value of shipments is greater still by 41 lakhs. It is reported that the jute mills have agreed to continue the present short time arrangement up to the end of June, 1911, and possibly up to the end of

September, 1911: this should render more raw material available for foreign competitors. It is possible that the short time per week will be still further reduced, for the supply continues in excess of the demand and some mills are not working at a profit. Exports of jute manufactures to Dundee have now risen in value to over 10 lakhs.

At the present time no industry in India is more prosperous than that of tea: prices are now almost constantly rising, influenced by the possibility of short supplies: dividends are mounting higher and, as a result of what has been described as the "silent boom," the aggregate value of shares and debentures for 170 selected companies has risen this year to end of November by over £7 millions. At the 28th sale in Calcutta on 9th December, prices averaged 7 pies higher than at the same period last year; and the latest London advices state that a keen demand for lower and medium grades continues the feature of the auctions, advances of ·25*d.* being frequently quoted: fine teas have also found ready buyers at full prices. Owing to the spread of teetotalism and to the ever increasing taxation on alcoholic liquors, the increase in tea consumption is becoming world-wide: and in the United Kingdom an immense increase in consumption is also largely attributed to Old Age Pensions. Coffee is being consumed in smaller quantities in the United Kingdom: in the year ending 31st March, 1910, the decrease was 7,008 cwts. and, if the calendar year (1910) be taken, the first ten months give a decrease of 1,539 cwts. Recently prices have risen enormously owing to speculation and this should still further benefit tea. Up to the 19th December exports of tea from British India have been 207·5 million lbs., an increase of over 7·4 million lbs.: to the United Kingdom exports are less by over 2·56 million lbs: but to Russia 7·2 million lbs. more have gone. From Calcutta exports in November were over 30 million lbs: for the year 135 millions have gone forward, an increase of 2·3 million lbs. and Rs. 22 lakhs in value. Chittagong to the end of October has exported 36·5 million lbs. or an increase of nearly six million lbs. From Ceylon to the 5th December exports (165·67 million lbs.) are less by 4·28 millions, but to the United Kingdom the decrease was as much as 8·42 million lbs. Great hopes are entertained that the shortage at Home will rehabilitate China teas: but lost reputations are not easily regained. In Sylhet and Cachar the season is closing rather abruptly. Exports of opium were less by 1,266 chests in November, but the value was larger by Rs. 9 lakhs: during the year there has been a falling off of 7,050 chests, but the value is greater by Rs. 2·25 crores: the net gain to date to the Supreme Government has been Rs. 3·16 crores. Owing to the large movements of wheat, rice and pulse, November was a record month. The aggregate total for grain and pulse rose by 301,214 cwts. with a value of Rs. 11·74 crores: of wheat 229,252 cwts. were exported against only 824 cwts. in November, 1909. For the 8 months which have passed, the quantity has improved by 1,740,603 cwts. and the value by Rs. 62 lakhs. It is interesting to note that to Indian ports exports of grain and pulse have this year risen in value from 48 to 72 lakhs. Coal was shipped in larger quantities to foreign ports during November and increased by 46,637 tons: to Indian ports the increase was only 2,638 tons. Space again limits any further remarks: it is sufficient to show the fluctuations of the remaining more important articles of Indian merchandise:—

000 omitted.

	November Rs.	8 months (April to November). Rs.
Raw Cotton .	− 9·60	− 8·47
Oil seeds . .	− 4·21	+ 273·19
Lac . .	− 4·61	− 29·14

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

The *Board of Trade Journal* published on the 1st instant in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations gives particulars about:—

Southern Nigeria.—Proposed Amendment of the Folded Woven Goods Ordinance.

Dominion of Canada.—Certificates on Invoices for Fuel Oil and Gas Oil (not Crude) Imported.

Commonwealth of Australia—Customs Decisions. Free Importation of certain Articles.

Dominion of New Zealand.—Assessment of Drapers' Samples for Duty.

Finland.—Proposed Continuance of Export Duty on Unsawn Timber.

France.—*Visa* for Invoices in respect of certain Imported Tools.

United States of America.—Customs Decisions.

Nicaragua.—Abolition or Reduction of the Customs Duties on certain Articles.

Costa Rica.—Alteration of Import Duties: Gasoline, Salt Pork.

Venezuela.—Customs Classification of Cinematograph Films. Duty-Free Admission of Disinfecting, etc. Apparatus.

CROP FORECASTS.

RICE.

Second General Memorandum on the RICE crop of the season 1910-11.

On the average of the five years ending 1908-09 the area under rice in the provinces to which this memorandum relates represented some 78 per cent of the entire rice area of British India.

The **total area** reported amounts to 56,022,500 acres as compared with 56,740,600 acres last year—a decrease of 718,100 acres or 1·3 per cent. The character of the season has been generally favourable.

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets**, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the total rice area in British India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

Bengal *(33·3%).*—The total area under **autumn** (*bhadoi or aús*) rice is now reported to be 4,710,100 acres as compared with 4,752,600 acres last year—a decrease of about 1 per cent, attributed to defect of moisture at the sowing season. Rainfall was sufficient later on, and favourable weather conditions prevailed. But at the end of July and beginning of August excessive rain and floods damaged the crop in places. The rainfall in September was general. Injury was done by insects in places. According to the estimates of the District officers the average outturn per acre comes to 83 per cent of the normal; but the Provincial Director is of opinion that the crop will not be less than 90 per cent of the normal, and he accordingly estimates the gross yield at 31,144,300 cwts of cleaned rice against 34,917,100 cwts last year—a decrease of 10·8 per cent.

The area under **winter** (*aman*) rice is estimated at 20,733,400 acres as compared with 21,232,900 acres last year—a decrease of 2·3 per cent. The rainfall in September was well above the average in Orissa and Chota Nagpur but slightly defective in Lower Bengal and Bihar. In October it was above the average in most districts. The crop was much benefited by the rainfall during these two months. Some injury was done by insects in Sambalpur. The season was, on the whole, a very favourable one for the rice crop. According to district returns the average outturn comes to 98 per cent of the normal; but the Provincial Director is of opinion that the crop will be not less than 112 per cent of the normal, and he accordingly estimates the gross yield at 255,909,400 cwts of cleaned rice against 257,394,700 cwts of last year—a decrease of 0·6 per cent.

An area of 151,000 acres and an outturn of 998,400 cwts were reported in March last for **summer** (*boro*) rice, as compared with 148,100 acres and 805,200 cwts in the preceding year.

Eastern Bengal and Assam *(22·32%).*—The revised area under **autumn** (*aús*) rice comes to 4,672,200 acres as compared with 4,651,600 acres last year. The average outturn for the province as a whole is estimated at 80 per cent of the normal. On this basis the gross yield comes to 22,426,600 cwts which is 13 per cent less than that of last year.

The area under **winter** rice is estimated at 11,833,600 acres compared with 11,926,900 acres last year—a decrease of nearly 1 per cent. The rainfall in October was generally in excess of normal, but November was dry and seasonable. In some places transplanting of the winter rice crop continued throughout October and the weather has been favourable for even the latest transplantings. It may be doubted whether the present estimates make sufficient allowance for the land planted late. Probably the total area this year is greater than last year. Although a certain portion of the early planted crop was destroyed by floods, the land was in most cases successfully replanted. The average outturn for the province is estimated at 97 per cent of the normal. On this basis the gross yield comes to 109,046,600 cwts which is about 5 per cent less than that of last year.

The area and outturn of **summer** rice (in Eastern Bengal districts only) were reported in March last to be 266,500 acres and 2,371,800 cwts respectively, as compared with 263,500 acres and 2,371,500 cwts in the preceding year.

Madras *(11·8%).*—The total area under rice in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of November is reported to be 5,752,800 acres, which is 2 per cent less than the area at the corresponding date of last year. Villages *other than raiyatwari* report a total area of 366,200 acres, which is about 14 per cent less than that reported at this date last year. The condition of the crop is reported to be generally good, but the crop in some places is said to have suffered from heavy rains. The expected outturn is estimated at 81 per cent of the normal. [Normal= 900 lbs. per acre.]

Lower Burma *(10·2 %)* now reports the total area under rice in the fifteen chief rice-growing districts to be 7,536,700 acres—an increase of 70,100 acres over last year's area. The November rains were favourable generally though some damage is reported from three districts. The average outtur

is at present estimated at 93 per cent of the normal. [Normal=1,029 lbs. per acre .] It is at presen estimated that 2,600,000 tons of cargo rice equivalent to nearly 45,000,000 cwts of cleaned rice will be available for export.

INDIGO.

Final General Memorandum on the INDIGO crop of the season 1910-11.

On the average of the five years ending 1908-09 the area under indigo in the four provinces dealt with in this memorandum represented some 97·8 per cent of the entire area under indigo in British India.

In the five years named the average total area of the reported indigo crop in these provinces was 402,800 acres, while that in 1909-10 was 289,100 acres.

The **total area** of the present season is estimated at 263,700 acres, which represents a net decrease of 25,400 acres or 8·8 per cent on the figure for 1909-10. As compared with the average of the five years ending 1908-09 the present area falls short by 34·5 per cent.

The **total yield** of dye is estimated at 38,100 cwts which is less than last year's figure by 1,200 cwts or 3·1 per cent.

In Madras and the Panjab the season has been favourable, but in Bengal and the United Provinces excessive rain and floods caused considerable damage to the crop.

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets**, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the total indigo area of British India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

Bengal *(39·2%)*.—The total area sown is reported to be 114,900 acres as compared with 107,400 acres last year—an increase of 7 per cent. In the early part of the season weather conditions were generally favourable but the defective rainfall between March and May retarded the growth of the crop. In July and August excessive rain and floods caused considerable damage to the crop in the important districts of North Bihar and in Purnea. Injury was also caused by insects in places. The yield is estimated at 20,300 factory maunds (=13,600 cwts) as compared with the trade estimate of 20,000 factory maunds (=13,400 cwts). Last year the official estimate was 17,000 maunds (=11,400 cwts) against the trade estimate of 16,000 maunds (=10,700 cwts).

Madras *(31·7%)*.—The total area under indigo in *raiyatwari* villages up to the end of November is reported to be 46,500 acres which is about 25 per cent less than the area at the corresponding date of last year. The decrease is reported to be due to a reduction in the demand for natural indigo on account of the introduction of the synthetic dye and in some districts to preference for the cultivation of groundnut. The condition of the crop is fair to good and the expected outturn is estimated at 78 per cent of the normal. On the basis of these figures the total area and yield in *raiyatwari* villages for the whole of the current season may be estimated at 70,900 acres and 12,400 cwts respectively, as compared with 94,800 acres and 14,200 cwts last year. Villages *other than raiyatwari* report an area of 1,300 acres expected to yield 200 cwts, as against 1,600 acres and 200 cwts of last year.

United Provinces *(14·7%)*.—The total area is now reported to be 31,200 acres compared with 41,900 acres last year—a decrease of 25·5 per cent. In Gorakhpur where about one-third of the total area under indigo was sown this year, half of the crop has been lost owing to floods and excessive rain. Elsewhere the season has been favourable. The total yield is estimated at 5,100 factory maunds (=3,400 cwts) compared with 7,700 maunds (=5,200 cwts) for last year—a decrease of 34·6 per cent. The quantity available for the Calcutta market will probably be less than the estimated outturn as some portion of the dye is consumed locally or exported to other places.

Panjab *(12·2%)* now reports the total area to be 45,400 acres as against 43,400 acres last year—an increase of 4·6 per cent. The season has been favourable. The yield of seed is estimated at 1,376,800 *srs* (=23,000 cwts) and of dye at 507,500 *sers* (=8,500 cwts).

Exports.

The exports by sea to foreign countries in each of the last five years have been (in cwts.):—

From	1905-06.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1908-09.	1909-10
Calcutta .	19,062	19,309	16,627	17,698	11,221
Madras ports .	7,756	11,159	10,619	4,636	3,655
Bombay .	1,898	2,367	2,206	856	1,828
Karachi	2,463	2,246	2,336	1,751	1,357
Rangoon .	7	21	2	5	...

The exports from Calcutta of the past season's crop during the eight months April to November, 1910, were 848 cwts, compared with 2,472 cwts in the same months of 1909 from the crop of 1908-09.

FREDERICK NOËL-PATON,
Director-General of Commercial Intelligence

Estimate of the Indigo crop of the season 1910-11.

PROVINCE.	AREA (IN ACRES)						
	Of current year's crop (1910-11).	Of previous year's crop (1909-10).	Average of preceding		Percentage by which column 2 exceeds (+), or is less than (−), area in		
					Column 3.	Column 4.	
1	2	3	4		5	6	
			Five years.	Ten years.		Five years.	Ten years.
Bengal	114,900	107,400	160,900	243,100	+ 7·0	−28·6	−52·7
Madras	72,200	96,400	128,500 (a)	186,400 (a)	−25·1	−43·8	−61·3
United Provinces	31,200	41,900	57,800	122,800	−25·5	−46·0	−74·6
Panjab	45,400	43,400	55,400	75,800	+ 4·6	−18·1	−40·1
TOTAL .	263,700	289,100	402,600	628,100	− 8·8	−34·5	−58·0

PROVINCE.	YIELD (IN CWTS.) OF DYE.						
	Estimated yield of current year, *i.e.*, of area in column 2.	Yield of previous year, *i.e.*, of area in column 3.	Average of preceding		Percentage by which column 7 exceeds (+), or is less than (−), yield in		
					Column 8.	Column 9.	
1	7	8	9		10	11	
			Five years.	Ten years.		Five years.	Ten years.
Bengal	13,600	11,400	17,100	27,000	+19·3	−20·5	−49·6
Madras	12,600	14,400	(a) 19,500	(a) 30,000	−12·5	−35·4	−58·0
United Provinces	3,400	5,200	5,300	11,800	−34·6	−35·8	−71·2
Panjab	8,500	8,300	9,200	11,300	+2·4	−7·6	−24·8
TOTAL .	38,100	39,300	51,100	80,100	−3·1	−25·4	−52·4

(a) For raiyatwari villages only.

NEW REFERENCE BOOKS.

ENGLISH BANK BOOK-KEEPING.
With an introduction on the Theory and Practice of Accounts. By H. T. EASTON, Associate of the Institute of Bankers, Author of "The Work of a Bank," etc. 8½ × 5½, 199 pp. . . 5s. net.
E. Wilson.

PRACTICAL ADVICE ABOUT LIFE ASSURANCE.
By W. SCHOOLING. Reprinted from the *Daily Telegraph*. 7½ × 5, 182 pp. . . . . 2s. 6d. net.
Constable.

THE STORY OF SUGAR.
By G. T. SURFACE, PH.D., M.Sc., Assistant Professor of Geography, Sheffield Scientific School, of Yale University. 7½ × 5, 238 pp. . . . 4s. net.
Appletons.

BRITISH WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.
As described in the Laws of England from Anglo-Saxon times. By COLONEL SIR C. M. WATSON, K.C.M.G., C.B. 7½ × 5, 107 pp. . 2s. 6d. net.
Murray.
(A quite short and simple account explaining the changes which have taken place.)

TRADE OF MADRAS PORTS.

In the Administration Report of the Madras Port Department for 1909-10 the following particulars appear regarding trade :—

The figures for the year show a decided improvement in the trade of the ports in this Presidency. The total trade of all the ports excepting Madras which amounted to 25·09 crores in 1908-09 have risen up to 27·59 crores, and is the largest on record since 1865-66. The increase is due almost entirely to the expansion of the coasting trade.

The sixteen principal minor ports have as a whole exhibited material progress both under imports and exports, the total trade value amounting to 25·70 crores against 23·41 crores in 1908-09. The other petty ports have traded to the extent of 188·94 lakhs against 168·01 lakhs in the previous year and represent about $\frac{1}{14}$th of the entire trade value of the Presidency, excluding Madras, in spite of the fact that a large number of these, which did little or no trade for the past few years, were closed during the year.

Of the sixteen minor ports, Tuticorin heads the list as regards trade as usual, Cochin coming next. Cocanada, Calicut, Negapatam, Mangalore, Cuddalore, Tellicherry, Porto Novo, Cannanore, Bimlipatam, Masulipatam, Pamban, Vizagapatm, Gopalpore and Calingapatam then come in order.

Compared with last year, the ports of Tuticorin, Cochin, Negapatam, Porto Novo, Bimlipatam and Pamban have done increased trade both in imports and exports; Calicut, Cocanada, Cannanore, Cuddalore, Tellicherry and Vizagaptam in imports; Gopalpore and Calingapatam in exports. The import trade of Cochin and the export trade of Tuticorin for 1909-10 are the largest on record since 1875-76.

The increase in trade at Tuticorin was due to larger imports of machinery and millwork and exports of raw cotton and cotton twist. The trade of Vizagapatam fell through owing to smaller exports of manganese ore and sugar. Bimlipatam rose as a result of larger exports of rape and gingelly seeds. Porto Novo continued to export large quantities of groundnut seeds. Larger imports of grain and pulse especially from Burma, increased the trade of Cannanore.

The chief articles of import and export are specified in appendix G. The largely imported product was rice in the husk, and this was chiefly at Cochin, Tuticorin, Negapatam and Calicut. In exports, cotton (raw) heads the list, and this was mostly from Tuticorin and Cocanada.

The exports of coffee in 1909-10 at all the ports of this Presidency was 230,441 cwt. valued at Rs. 109 lakhs againts 299,938 cwt. valued at 138 lakhs in the previous year and show a decline of 23 per cent in quantity and 21 per cent in value. The decrease in the volume is partly attributed to shortness of local crops.

Exports of tea in 1909-10 was 17,094,516 lb. valued at 116 lakhs against 16,611,005 lbs. valued at 112 lakhs in the previous year. The increase is partly attributed to the expansion in home consumption and to the more attractive quality and character of the blends.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY IN THE PUNJAB.

In an Appendix to the Report on the Operations of the Punjab Agricultural Department during the year ending June 30th, 1910, Mr. S. Milligan, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Punjab, says :—

Questions relating to tillage and farm machinery have occupied the greater part of my time and that of the staff working under me. A special area has been set aside at the Lyallpur Agricultural Station for experimental and demonstration work in this direction. It has been recognised for some years back that any real improvement in the agriculture of the Province generally and more especially of the canal colonies must be preceded by an improvement in tillage and other farm implements.

During the last three years, attempts to reduce the wheat harvesting season by the introduction of reapers and winnowers have met with a large measure of success in the case of the former and modified success in that of the latter.

During the year under report, the popularity of reapers has increased considerably as shown by the increased sales, which have gone up from 42 in 1909 to 72 in 1910. These machines have been mostly taken up by people in the Lyallpur District, but a few centres such as Kasur and Raewind have taken a fair share. Two satisfactory features deserve comment. In the first place, the new machines have mostly gone to the same or surrounding villages as those of the last year. In the second place, co-operative purchasing has increased considerably, the number of partners ranging from three to as many as ten. Similar arrangements for teaching and visiting, as were made last year, were carried out and proved satisfactory. The detailed results were similar to those of last year and need not be repeated. Generally speaking, with a few exceptions, the machines were well handled by their users and gave entire satisfaction, although many crops were lodged.

As mentioned in last year's report, the winnower designed for dealing directly with the *bhusa* and gram mixture on the threshing floor was not an unqualified success owing to the coarse nature of the straw, which has been severely weathered before reaping time. The design has been entirely remodelled and a trial machine has given excellent results with both coarse and fine *bhusa*. We expect to be able to put a number on the market for next season.

There remains the question of threshing. The Department has not directly tackled the question of wheat threshing, it having been left in the hands of private engineering firms to produce a machine suitable to the Provincial conditions. Last year, a steam thresher was given an extended trial at Lyallpur but as was forecasted in our Annual Report, local conditions are all against expensive machinery. The final results confirmed the impression then formed that unless stacking comes into fashion there is little chance for a steam plant with the short season in vogue. Several trials conducted at Lyallpur at the end of the threshing season this year, however, lead us to hope that the high speed drum may be dispensed with and that a new and more economical way of making *bhusa* will yet be arrived at. If these ideas are confirmed by actual experience it may be possible to develop a moderately cheap and efficient bullock power machine, which if successful, would undoubtedly become popular.

Starting in 1908 with the definite object of improving the kharif crop cultivation in the colonies and more especially the improvement of the cotton crop, this side of our work has developed extensively. It is a well known fact that while the wheat crop in the Lyallpur District is on the whole fairly well done, the cotton and other kharif crops are not at all what they should be. This is largely due to the unnecessary prolongation of the wheat harvest season and the general accumulation of farm work at that time. Much of the cotton crop is put in after one or two ploughings with the *desi* plough, although it is generally known that land for cotton should have a deep, fine, and moist tilth.

A light handy furrow-turning plough used at the Agricultural station last year showed the possibility of rapidly securing a suitable seed bed with one ploughing. A further improvement in the design of the implements has given even better results this year. The operations have been keenly followed by many people and, without any advertising, over 200 ploughs costing from Rs. 26-8-0 to Rs. 30 have been taken up. These implements have been found very useful in thoroughly aërating land, destroying perennial weeds, and in rapid cultivation. They have in several cases outside the station produced good results on grassy rice land, the effect in one case being described as like that of a heavy manuring, while, for gram and wheat I have seen several excellent results.

The rapid ploughing up of land after wheat, after occasional showers in June especially, is recognised as being very beneficial to succeeding crops. Spring toothed harrows have been found very useful for this purpose. A specially designed implement for ordinary bullocks capable of dealing with 4 *killas* ($4\frac{4}{5}$ acres) per day has met with a fairly large sale, thirty-eight having been disposed of since January 1st, 1910. These harrows are useful for all sorts of tillage work and can be used to replace the *khurpi* (trowel) in the after cultivation of the sugar-cane crop, saving 90 per cent of the labour involved. In addition, trials at Lyallpur seem to indicate that by their use the tillering of the cane crop is very largely increased.

THE POSITION OF RUBBER.

Since the beginning of October the price of rubber has only undergone slight changes. Fine hard Para on October 6th was worth about 6*s.* per lb. and within four days from that date it rose to 7*s.*, chiefly owing to the news that a revolution had broken out at Manaos and fears of a possible cutting off of this source of supply for some time. But the rising was soon quelled by the Brazilian Government, and the price relapsed to the 6*s.* level almost as suddenly as it had risen. Since then values have been comparatively steady, sometimes rising a few pence above, sometimes sinking 3*d.* to 4*d.* below, the basis mentioned. Receipts at Para during October were slightly smaller than those of the corresponding months of the three preceding years, amounting to 3,150 tons against 3,270, 3,495 and 3,200 tons, respectively, but during November they have increased to 3,500 tons. Meanwhile the consumptive demand continued slow throughout October, and the deliveries during the month fell to 1,890 tons, against 2,340 and 2,760 tons in the two previous years, whilst the visible supply of Para on November 1st was 2,662 tons in excess of last year at 5,850 tons against 3,198 in 1909 and 3,776 in 1908. The November receipts of Para will reach about 3,500 tons.

Plantation Varieties in Demand.

On the other hand an expansion in the demand for plantation rubber has been witnessed during recent weeks, and although the quantities offered at auction had been increased to 249 tons on October 18th, the prices rose 4*d.* to 10*d.* above those of the previous public sale, and everything found ready buyers. From October 18th to November 1st Para fell from 6*s.* 4*d.* per lb. on October 20th to 5*s.* 8½*d.* per lb. Notwithstanding this decline, the auction on November 1st of the record quantity of 308 tons went off very satisfactorily at a net decline of $4\frac{3}{4}$*d.* and 5*d.* This, with reports of better sales on the Continent, stimulated the Para market to greater activity and advances and reactions followed each other in regular succession within a range of 2*d.* per lb. The public sale of plantation product on November 15th, comprising 266 tons, resulted in the full recovery of the loss registered a fortnight previously. This week practically the same quantity was offered and sold at a improvement of 2*d.* to 3*d.* per lb. Fine Para remained quiet but steady at about 6*s.* 3d. Smoked Malay sheets rose from 5*s.* 5*d.* early in October to 6*s.* 2½*d.* on October 18th, reacted to 5*s.* 10½*d.* on November 1st, recovered to 6*s.* 7¾*d.* on November 15th, and this week sold up to 6*s.* 11½*d.* for Highlands and Lowlands. Medium and darkish kinds of crepe were in most request during the last few auctions, and their prices showed the largest recovery.

The American Market.

It would appear from the ready absorption of the larger quantities available that the 6*s.* basis may be considered reasonable, and also that consumption

is expanding. It has been urged that the American demand still shows no signs of revival, but it should be borne in mind, not only that the United States bought large quantities for forward shipment early this year, but also that she has recently been buying quite freely in the East for direct importation. It is understood that she paid higher prices for these direct imports than the same qualities could have been secured for in London, and it is quite possible that the discovery of this may bring the American consumers back to the London market.—*Times.*

IMPORT DUTIES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

THE *Board of Trade Journal* directs attention to the Return just published under the title of "Foreign Import Duties. 1910," which contains information relating to the rates of import duty leviable in foreign countries on the principal articles, the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom.

The present Return brings up to date the particulars as to the rates of import duty (with their English equivalents) levied in the various countries for which information was given in the previous Return ("Foreign Import Duties, 1908," Cd. 4,414) issued in the early part of 1909. All European countries (except Montenegro) are included in the Return, together with the United States, China, Japan, Egypt, Persia, Mexico, and Argentina.

The Return also gives some information, in the case of goods dutiable by weight, as to whether duty is levied on the gross or on the net weight, and in the latter event, as to the tare allowances made where actual weighing of the unpacked goods is not resorted to. Articles dutiable on the gross weight of the merchandise are indicated in the Return by the addition of the letter *g* to the unit of weight in the columns showing the rates of duty and English equivalents, while such further information as is available respecting the weight on which duty is levied in the various countries is summarised in Appendix I.

With a view to increasing the practical usefulness of the Return, a second Appendix has been added to this issue, in which information is given as to the calculation of the values of imported goods for the purposes of levying *ad valorem* duties in Turkey, Egypt, Holland, Belgium, the United States of America, Japan, China and Persia. In Turkey and Egypt duties are levied *ad valorem* on practically all imported merchandise; and *ad valorem* duties figure largely in the Customs Tariffs of the other countries mentioned.

The Return is arranged with the object of bringing together the tariff classification and rates of duty for each principal group of articles, the information being shown for each foreign country under the following heads:—Yarns of cotton, linen, hemp, jute, silk and wool; woven and other manufactures of the same materials; all kinds of metals and metal manufactures (iron and steel, copper and brass, lead, tin and zinc, as well as wares of gold and silver), including machinery and cutlery; earthenware and porcelain; glass and glassware; hides, skins and leather and manufactures thereof; india-rubber and gutta-percha, and manufactures thereof; paper, books and stationery; paints, colours and varnishes; dyeing and tanning materials; various oils, fats and resins; earths, stones, minerals, etc. (including fireclay, coal, cement, and roofing slates); chemicals; the principal articles of food and drink; and a number of miscellaneous groups of articles—*e.g.*, arms, clocks and watches, carriages, cordage, cycles, furniture, matches, perfumery, tobacco, umbrellas, etc.

The rates shown embrace the latest tariff changes notified to the Board of Trade up to the date of the preparation of the Return (October, 1910).

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E. C. is prepared, as far as possible, to furnish information in reply to applications from British traders with regard to the rates of import duty levied on any articles not included in the Return.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

AT the seventieth ordinary general meeting of the **P. and O. Steam Navigation Company** which was to have been held in London on the 13th instant the directors, after providing for the usual dividend at the rate of five per cent per annum on the preferred stock, proposed to recommend a dividend on the deferred stock of six and a half per cent for the six months, and a bonus of three per cent, making, with interim dividend of three and a half per cent paid in May, a distribution on the deferred stock of thirteen per cent for the year, or a total distribution of nine per cent on the paid-up capital.

Colonel T. Gracey presided at the meeting held on November 29th of the **Bengal and North-Western Railway Company,** and said that, compared with the corresponding period, 1,400,000 more passengers had been carried, giving increased earnings of 4 lakhs of rupees. About 50,000 tons more general merchandise had been dealt with, but owing to the shorter leads the earnings from goods of all kinds were less by about Rs. 35,000. The earnings from all sources were up by about 4 lakhs, and that increase might be welcomed as the first sign of a return to general prosperity from the bad seasons that had been experienced for the last three or four years. While there had been an increase in earnings, the working expenses were down by about 3 lakhs, so that on the whole the net receipts were about 7 lakhs better. Since the last meeting a reply had been received from the Secretary of State to their appeal against certain orders issued by the Railway Board. That reply, although not unsympathetic did not meet their wants, as it supported the Railway Board in endeavouring to compel the company to adopt a system of working which the directors were satisfied would not produce good results. The whole question was still under discussion, and in the meantime they had instructed their agent in India that he must continue the present system of working and control by the board as hitherto, and that he must also supply to the Railway Board all the information and returns that they might require. For some years past the districts served by their railways had suffered from a deficiency of rainfall resulting in poor crops and poverty amongst the people, so that both goods and passenger traffic had suffered. Last season the rains were too abundant so that, whilst the crops were good and the passenger traffic was improving rapidly, unfortunately the lines had been breached in many places, and some minor bridges had been washed away. The repairs of the damage done, he was afraid, would cost a good deal of money, but there did not seem to be any reason why the usual dividend and bonus should not be paid when they next met. He moved the adoption of the report, which was agreed to.

The report of the **Southern Punjab Railway Company** for the half-year ended June 30th states that the net revenue was £78,352. After reserving £23,466, being the share of surplus profits due to the Secretary of State, there remains £54,885, to which is added £80,893 brought forward, making £.35,779. Of the four per cent cumulative preference stock, the interest on £1,000,000 is chargeable to Sutlej Valley Railway capital, and the dividend on the remaining £500 000 for the half-year was paid on September 1st from revenue, leaving £125,779, out of which the board recommend the payment of an interim dividend on the ordinary stock for the half-year at the rate of 6 per cent per annum. This will leave £95,779 to be carried forward.

The Report of the **East Indian Railway Company** for the half-year ended 30th June, 1910, which was to have been presented at the sixty-third half-yearly general meeting in London on the 14th instant, shows that the gross receipts and working expenses during the period were Rs. 4,61,61,661 and Rs. 1,78,16,016 as against Rs. 4.36.12,756 and Rs. 1.88,80 058 respectively during the corresponding half-year of 1909—an increase of Rs. 25,48,905 in the former and a decrease of Rs. 10,64 042 in the latter. It is noted that both the gross and net receipts are the highest recorded in any half-year. After meeting interest and other charges against net earnings there was a surplus of Rs. 1 05,24,661 as against a surplus of Rs. 71,35,401 during the corresponding half of 1909. The total capital outlay during the half-year was Rs. 60,41,87,670 and the expenditure Rs. 72,24,029. The earnings from coaching traffic were Rs. 1,42 32,939, an increase of Rs. 12,46,963 over the receipts of the corresponding period of 1909, of which nearly Rs. 9 lakhs were derived from third-class traffic. The total earnings from the goods traffic show a net increase of Rs. 11,44,794 as compared with the corresponding period of 1909, while the weight lifted was nearly 500,000 tons more. The half-year under review showed a satisfactory revival in the coal traffic, the increase in the weight carried having been 646,371 tons and Rs. 19,71,860 in the receipts therefrom.

UNITED PROVINCES EXHIBITION.

THE Exhibition Committee furnish the details below:—

An interesting exhibit which has just arrived in the Agricultural Court is a **model grain elevato and silo** exhibited by Messrs. Duncan Stratton & Co., Bombay, on behalf of Messrs. Simmonds & Co. This exhibit is a perfect working model illustrating the most modern system of grain storage. It is electrically driven and electrically lighted. In view of the interest recently aroused in India in the elevator question this exhibit should be of serious interest.

A main feature in the **Engineering Court** is the large, well arranged and well classified exhibit of modern railway plant and appliances. On his way from the main Entrance Gate to the Engineering Court proper the visitor's attention is not merely attracted but compelled by the magnificent loco.. motives and carriages shown by the kindness of the East Indian Railway Co. in the main cross avenue These exhibits, with the valuable photographs and models shown in the Wood, Stone and Metal Court by the East Indian Railway, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, and Great Indian Peninsula Railway, along with the models sent in by private exhibitors, give such a useful illustration of the progress of railway enterprise that the visitor has practically a complete guide to this before him. The collections of the Engineering Court will lead him into details of couplings, carriage construction and lighting, brake gear and the countless items which enter into modern railway practice The smaller devices for the safety of goods and the comfort of the travelling public are well represented in the Wood, Stone and Metal Court. In this latter the patent lock by a well-known resident of Allahabad should not be passed without notice.

One of the features of the Exhibition which will appeal to the practical man and which is yet such that no one can see it on view nor inspect it, is that by a recent notification of the Government of India no models of actual appliances of new inventors, shown at the Exhibition can, legally, be copied or patented by others than the original inventors. The importance of this **notification to inventors** and designers who have been so public spirited as to exhibit their inventions before actually patenting them is very great.

The **Textile Section** of the Exhibition contains numerous and splendid examples of the development of the cotton tracts of the United Provinces. From these one sees what the resources of the Provinces would be in case of war or any sudden demand for supplies. The exhibit of the Hewett weaving School, Bara Banki is full of much interest to the thoughtful observer who deals with cause rather than effect. The efforts of this school are directed to the introduction of improved methods of weaving and of better appliances, to the village and handloom work of the Provinces. That these efforts are successful may be ascertained at a glance

by comparison between the indigenous methods of weaving as shown in the artisans stalls, and the more modern, faster, more economical and more profitable methods shown by the Hewett school. It is perhaps as well that the Exhibition Committee had to discourage the exhibits of all the weaving schools except the Bara Banki school. Had it not been so the whole Exhibition space could hardly have contained the exhibits of this remarkable industrial development. Yet the efforts of the provincial weavers will have every fair chance in public of being tested and suitably rewarded in the weaving competition to be held in the second week of January next. In this local weavers will display their skill against that of all comers from all over India, and while the former will necessarily learn much from the latter, the village users of the old method will not be debarred from competing in the classes specially reserved for excellent work on village looms.

Owing to the intervention of the Muharrum holidays it has not yet been finally decided whether the public exhibit of individual skill shall precede or follow the private trials—admission to which is necessarily confined to the jury and competitors only—but the competition will take place between January 9th and 17th and will prove a source of much public interest to the factory owner and the public generally. In this connection one must return for a moment to the Hewett School in order to state that the branch of the school work which deals with women's work in the line of embroidery, needle work and hosiery is not less important than this weaving section proper.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Dacca, Dec. 20th.

The following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 19th instant :—

There has been no rain during the week. The weather is cold and seasonable.

Harvesting of transplanted winter rice is in full swing ; that of broadcasted varieties is complete.

Harvesting of matikalai mustard has commenced in parts of Assam.

Insects are damaging the crops in some districts, but generally the prospects of the winter rice, sugarcane and *rabi* crops vary from fair to good.

The supply of rice seems everywhere sufficient and the average price of common rice is practically the same as last week.

Cattle disease is reported from the Khasi and Garo Hills and Nowgong.

TRADE OF THE BAHREIN ISLANDS.

The information below is taken from the Report on the Trade of the Bahrein Islands for 1909-10:—

The year under report has been a most successful one for Bahrein trade. The results are entirely due to the favourable market for pearls, prices of which averaged about 30 per cent higher than the preceding year and showed an upward tendency throughout the season, enabling old stocks to be got rid of and the season's pearls to be readily disposed of.

The whole wealth of the island depends upon pearls and this is also true of the adjacent mainland coast line.

Bahrein is a centre of distribution of many articles for the mainland, the most important being rice, coffee, kerosene oil, sugar (soft), sugar (loaf), piece-goods, sail-cloth, gold lace and gold thread (when mainland inhabitants are prosperous , tea (increasing but never likely to make much progress, so long as the Arabs remain so fond of coffee), ghee, spices and tobacco.

To arrive at some conclusion about the future possibilities of Bahrein from a trade point of view, we must therefore consider both Bahrein itself and the mainland.

The population of Bahrein may now be estimated at close on 100,000 inhabitants and is likely to continue to increase owing to the influx from other places and to the natural increase of population. It seems probable that the population will continue to increase for the next 10 to 20 years at the rate of about 3 per cent per annum. This however depends principally on the pearl market and the number of divers available, and also to some extent on the date cultivation which is capable of considerable extension. It should be noticed that the increase in population is likely to be among the poorer classes chiefly who will be attracted from other countries by the comparatively high rates wage and the freedom from oppression.

The mainland the requirements of which are practically supplied from Bahrein consists of the Katar peninsula and the provinces of Hasa and Nejd. Owing to constant fighting there appears to be no present probability of any rise in population or increase in the prosperity of Hasa and Nejd. Katari s generally free from fighting but it seems to be such a miserable country that no large increase can be expected in that direction.

Nejd is supplied from Bahrein *vid* Hasa and this route is utilized to supply Bedouin wants up to a point probably somewhere half way between Riadh and Zilfi, from whence and beyond either the Koweit or Zubair routes are used. There appears to be little likelihood during the next few years of many improvements being made in the line of communications or in diminutions of looting and fighting. The utmost that can be expected is for the Ojair Hofuf (Hasa) route to be kept clear of Bedouin when trade would have some chance of increase but even then this country is of too poor a

nature to make much difference to trade for some years to come. It may therefore be said that there is little to be expected from increased trade with the mainland for some years, and at no time is it ever likely to rise to great dimensions.

The increased use of luxuries during the last few years has been noticeable in the town of Manama and among the richer inhabitants of Bahrein, no doubt consequent upon their visiting Bombay in connection with pearl transactions. Among the poorer classes no such symptoms are visible (except perhaps as regards food) and they continue to live contentedly in their mat and date-palm huts. Neither does there appear to be much prospect of the ignorant inhabitants on the mainland making any attempt to better their condition.

The rise in cost of living continues steadily. I am told by old inhabitants that some 40 years ago the richest people in Bahrein only owned about half a lakh of rupees (£5,000 at then rate of exchange) while at the present time there are one or two whose property is valued at 10 lakhs (£66,000) and several at over 1 lakh. It is said that in the meantime cost of living has risen about 400 per cent.

This is due almost entirely to necessities of life having increased in value and also to a larger consumption of rice, flour and animal foods, in addition to the cheap date which formerly formed a much greater percentage of their staple food. From this point of view, therefore, we may expect an increase in the money value of the trade.

Beyond pearls there is only one article which can be termed a natural export and which can aid the prosperity of Bahrein to any extent, and that is the pearl oyster shell, which is exported in large quantities to Hamburg (other exports shown in the report are mere transhipments). Formerly these shells were shipped to London but owing to greater facilities, or better machinery, practically the whole trade has been transferred to Hamburg. In the year under report the exports under this head have exceeded those of any previous year ; this is due to greater number of exporters and to higher prices. This trade is now nearly at its zenith as regards quantity, but it will probably improve in value. The quantity could, of course, be very largely increased but for the fact that there is at present no demand for thin or inferior oyster shells, and so large quantities of these which are fished up are discarded.

Before leaving the subject of pearls, I would submit that it is a pity that no British firm can see its way to sending a representative to Bahrein for the pearl season. A member of a Paris firm has regularly come to Bahrein for the last four seasons and his transactions in these years are said to have amounted to 1,57,000 rs. (£12.467), 3 50,000 rs. (£23,333), 13,00,000 rs. (£86,667) 40,00,000 rs. (£266,667) respectively, this includes buying and reselling perhaps three or more times in the course of the season, so actual capital was not nearly so much. He is able to get the best available information by telegraph direct from Paris, which enables him to effect his transactions on much more substantial grounds than his rivals, and to such extent is this recognised that as far as his transactions become known he is used by the other merchants as an indicator of the state of the market. The profits made by him last year are estimated at about 6 lakhs of rupees. Such excellent results could not be hoped for annually, and were largely due to the gradually increasing prices. So successful, however, was he that since the termination of the year under report his firm have sent another representative to Debai.

Other European pearl merchants have visited Bahrein but their visits were not, I believe, successful. This I understand is attributable to want of local knowledge, unfortunate years, and the fact that in the brighter light of the East pearls assume a lustre greater than they possess in the duller European lights.

Should any British firm feel disposed to send a representative, I would be glad to answer any questions in my power, and would here simply state that the favourable time would be from the end of June till the end of October, and that the representative should have experience of the East, and, if possible, some knowledge of Arabic.

Imports.

The import trade of those articles which are not procurable in the vicinity may be divided into two portions, *viz.*, (*a*) necessities of life such as rice, sugar (soft and loaf), coffee (a necessity for Arabs), kerosene oil, flour, tallow, piece-goods (to a large extent) ; and (*b*) non-necessities.

Of the articles mentioned in (*a*) the supply is practically in the hands of the two European firms in Bahrein and the native merchants, and there is no apparent opening for anybody else.

The articles referred to above in (*b*) to which I would draw attention are the following :—Gold thread, hardware, copper and copperware, cheap watches, broadcloth and other woollen piece-goods, and iron wire. (Strange though it may appear this wire is being utilised for fishing nets and large cage baskets like rat traps for catching fish and may possibly have a future. Sea areas are fenced in and any fish swimming inside these areas are caught by the fall of the tide. This wire is locally made into netting and thus utilised.)

I would be glad to answer the questions of any British firm interested in the above articles and put them in connection with local dealers. The total value of trade during the year under report was 4,59,66,016 rs. (£3,064,401). This gives an increase over 1908-09 of 2,38,16,095 rs. (£1,587,740), or 107·5 per cent, and over 1907-08 of 44·4 per cent. The total imports amounted to 2,84,23,948 rs. (£1,894,929) against 1,18,51,176 rs. (£790,078) in 1908-09, or an increase of 139·8 per cent and 1,53.23,160 rs. £(1021,544) in 1907-08, which is an increase of 85·5

per cent. In 1909-10 1,07,51,908 rs. (£716,794) of the total imports consisted of specie as against 23 07,000 rs. (£153,800) in 1908-09 and 32,70,000 rs. (£218,000) in 1907-08. Pearls worth 63,10,000 rs. (£420.667) were imported against 21,00,000 rs. (£140,000) in 1908-09 and 42,81,000 rs. (£285,400) in 1907-08. Excluding these two items (pearls and specie) the imports of general merchandise amounted to 1,13,62,040 rs. (£757,469) against 74,44.176 rs. (£496 265) in 1908-09 and 77,72,160 rs. (£518,144) in 1907-08. This gives an increase of 52 per cent on last year and of 47 per cent on the preceding year. The imports from India, including specie, amounted to 63·8 per cent, and excluding this item 25·1 per cent. The imports from the United Kingdom amounted to 1,72,330 rs. (£11,462), which is an increase of 82,330 rs. (£5,489) over last year. This is due to an increase in price-goods. This item is probably largely under-estimated, owing to the difficulty of differentiating between imports of these goods from India and from the United Kingdom. Next year it is hoped that the exact figures will be obtainable. The imports from Germany amounted to 1.29,645 rs. (£8,643), being a decrease of 62,355 rs (£4,157) over last year, which is chiefly due to loaf and soft sugar being placed against the countries of their origin. Last year owing to their importation by German steamer they had erroneously been entered as imported from Germany.

Exports.

The total value of the exports amounted to 1,75,42,068 rs. (£1.169,471) which includes 1,09.90,000 rs. (£732 667) worth of pearls and 25,58,950 rs. (£170,597) worth of specie. The value of general merchandise exported was 39,93,118 rs. (£266,208), an increase of 7 per cent on last year. In general merchandise the imports exceeded the exports by 73,68,922 rs. (£491,261) of exports including pearls and specie 56·2 per cent went to India. Excluding pearls and specie only 2·2 per cent went to India. The exports to Germany amounted to 4,16·422 rs. (£27,761), an increase of 61 per cent on last year. Of this amount 3,85,122 rs. (£25,675) represented oyster shells

—The statistics of the **shipments of salt from the river Mersey,** recently issued by the Salt Union, Ld., through the medium of Falk's Table Circular, show that for October, the total was 43,524 tons, as compared with 35,607 tons in October, 1909. Of these quantities shipments from Liverpool amounted to 30,957 tons and 27,966 tons respectively whilst the shipments from the Manchester Ship Canal amounted to 12,573 tons during October, 1910, compared with 7,651 tons. The total shipments for the ten months ending October, 1910, were 318,855 tons from Liverpool (282,157 tons, 1909) and 122,352 tons from the Manchester Ship Canal (118.436 tons 1909). The feature in the shipments from the canal during the month was the loading of several cargoes of salt for the coast of Florida, in addition to the usual large shipments by the regular steamers to Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.

INDUSTRIAL PROFITS.

In July last, says the *Economist*, we presented our usual quarterly statistics of the profits of British companies as analysed week by week in our "Summary of Profit and Loss Accounts." Three months ago the general improvement in trade was beginning to have a marked effect on the aggregate profits of British companies, and we then anticipated an even more striking increase in the total profits shown in the company reports issued during the quarter ending with September. This expectation has been justified, as the following figures show:—

Net Profits.

	No. of Cos.	1908-09.	1909-10.	Increase.	
		£	£	£	%
First quarter .	267	14,892,000	15,751,000	859,000	5·5
Second quarter	221	11,618,000	12,984,000	1,366,000	11·6
Third quarter .	133	7,105,000	8,649,000	1,544,000	21·7
	621	33,615,000	37,384,000	3,769,000	11·2

The net profits of the 133 companies whose reports were issued in the quarter amounted to £8,649,000 compared with £7,105,000 in the period covered by the previous accounts, an increase of 21·7 per cent. This is an enormous rise in earning power, and is due, as investigation will show, more to the preponderance of a particular class of company than to a higher rate of profit upon general Industry. The above figures expressed as averages per company compared as follows:—

	1908-09.	1909-10.	Increase.
	£	£	£
First quarter . . .	55,800	59,000	3,200
Second quarter . .	52,600	58,750	6,050
Third quarter . . .	53,400	65,050	11,650
Nine months .	54,200	60,200	6,000

These figures show that the profit per company for this quarter has risen from slightly below to well above the general average for the nine months.

The appropriation of the profits was as follows:—

	Net Profit.	Ordinary Dividend.	Preference Dividend.	Reserve, etc.
	£	£	£	£
First quarter	15,751,000	8,878,000	3,620,000	3,014,000
Second quarter	12,984,000	7,577,000	2,420,000	2,869,000
Third quarter	8,649,000	4,356,000	2,064,000	1,846,000
Total	37,384,000	20,811,000	8,104,000	7,759,000

Of the total profits shown in nine months' reports 56 per cent went in ordinary dividends, 22 per cent in preference dividends, and the remaining 22 per cent in increasing the reserves or carry forward. The figures of net profits correspond very closely with the results shown in our article at this time last year, when 611 companies were included against 621 this year, and the appropriation last year showed

55 per cent to ordinary dividend, 25 per cent to preference shareholders, and 18 per cent to reserve or carry forward. If anything can be learned from the figures, therefore, they indicate that the larger profits are being used in the first place to strengthen the financial positions of the companies. This policy was most marked in the third quarter, when nearly 26 per cent of the total profits was so applied. The companies included in this quarter's figures were, therefore, those whose profits rose most sharply, but a percentage of these profits larger than the average was retained in reserve and other appropriations.

In view of this showing, the relation of profits to capital deserves particular attention. The rate of profit on the total capital employed, £143,265,000, is 6 per cent, compared with 5 per cent. last year. The corresponding figure was 9·5 per cent. for the June quarter and 7·25 per cent in the March quarter of this year. The average rates of dividend on ordinary and preference capital are shown in the following tables:—

	Ordinary Capital. £	Capital. Dividend. £	Per cent.
First quarter .	142,281,000	8,878,000	6·24
Second quarter .	86,393,000	7,577,000	8·77
Third quarter .	90,283,000	4,356,000	4 83
Total .	318,957,000	20,811,000	6·52

	Preference Capital. £	Capital. Dividend. £	Per cent.
First quarter .	74,902,000	3,620,000	4·83
Second quarter .	50,798,000	2,420,000	4·78
Third quarter .	52,982,000	2,064,000	3·90
Total .	178,682,000	8,104,000	4·54

Here again the third quarter compares very badly with the two previous quarters, and our general conclusions may be summarised as follows:—(1) The companies included in this quarter's summary earned profits more than 20 per cent higher than in the previous year; (2) the average profit per company was high compared with the general average, but (3) the return on the capital employed was much below the average. Therefore, there was a preponderance of large companies in the quarter's summary, but these companies were large only in respect of their capital. Taking the total ordinary and preference capital, and dividing by the number of companies, we find that the average capital for the first quarter was £813,600, for the second £620,900, and £1,075,000 for the third, and these figures justify our conclusion.

An investigation of the actual companies whose figures are summarised shows that these included a fairly large number of breweries, some canal companies, and several very heavily capitalised unsuccessful combines. The largest company was the Gas Light and Coke, which has ordinary and preference capital amounting to nearly £23,000,000. upon which ar average dividend of about 4 per cent is paid. Among the breweries were Meux's, Barclay Perkins, and Watney, Combe, Reid, of which the latter pays a small preferred ordinary dividend, and the others nothing at all. The canal companies include the Manchester Ship Canal and the Regent's Canal. The former is believed by many to have a future, but last year's accounts showed a deficit of nearly £29,000, which in our summary has to be made good from the aggregate profits. As this company has £4,000,000 ordinary and over £5,000,000 preference capital, its results have considerable effect on our figures. The Regent's Canal has ordinary stock of £1,358,000, which receives less than 2 per cent per annum. Two large combines with huge capitals are Apollinaris and Johannis, and Associated Portland Cement, of which the former paid 3 per cent and the latter nothing on its ordinary capital. The position of these companies has been discussed in the *economist* when the annual reports have appeared, and there is no need here to do more than refer to the ordinary and preference capital, which amounts to £2.380,000 in the case of Apollinaris and over £4,000,000 in the case of the Associated Cement. With so many companies of this nature it is not surprising that the aggregate results are so poor, but a favourable feature is the ability of the profits to respond to an improvement in general trade. To the investor, however, these results convey a warning to avoid companies whose capital is unduly large, for it can only be in times of great prosperity that anything like a reasonable return on the capital may be expected, and the intervals of depression may prove very disheartening. Even if a combine proves successful at first, it will always be harassed by independent competition, and profits will either be reduced or the competitors must be bought out on their own terms, a proceeding which only aggravates the over-capitalisation of the larger concern and must ultimately undermine the company's position.

—It is reported from Zurich that a statement regarding the definite formation of an **International Aluminium Syndicate** was premature, and that negotiations between the various interests have for the present been broken off without any satisfactory arrangement having been made. The chief obstacle to an agreement between the various makers is said to have been the uncompromising attitude adopted by American-producers. The Aluminium Industry Company, Neuhausen, Switzerland, state that they have decided not to proceed with their proposed capital increase for the present. The failure to complete the aluminium syndicate will not particularly affect them, for the demand for the metal is increasing steadily, and they have succeeded in improving the process of manufacture so that a fair profit should be possible without the aid of a syndicate. It is considered in some well-informed quarters, however, that the attempt to form an aluminium syndicate will presently be renewed.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION IN INDIA.

An engineering correspondent contributes the article below to the *Times* :—

The increase in the number of railways which traverse India has caused a considerable demand to be made upon the funds of the local and district boards for the purpose of constructing new "feeder" roads and better bridges, and for the general improvement of the ordinary country transport facilities. The funds available for general district work such as schools, roads, bridges, making of tanks and cattle-drinking places, and other works of public utility, are quite inadequate in almost every district, and now that the educational movement is spreading rapidly throughout the peninsula the district engineer finds the funds allotted to him for the mantenance and improvement of the means of transport tend to grow smaller, while the claims made upon him increase in inverse ratio. The native is quick to appreciate the advantage which the railway affords of getting his produce to the best market at any particular moment, and in the flood season when nullahs (dried watercourses) become flowing streams it is only by the building of additional bridges that the advantages created by the construction of new lines of railway can be properly utilised.

Bridge work is expensive at any time, but when available funds are small the problem of a cheap and efficient road bridge to meet Indian conditions becomes very important.

Small rivers in India have a habit of changing their course ; and it is by no means an uncommon experience to find that two or three seasons after an expensive brick bridge has been erected in response to popular clamour the "river" has changed its course, and that the bridge, the funds for which were obtained only after great difficulty merely spans a gentle trickle of water, while the main stream has completely cut communications a mile further down the road. It may be said that engineers ought to know better than to build bridges at a point where such a change of course is possible. No doubt in the construction of a large railway bridge it is a comparatively easy matter to discover a suitable site, because a distance of 20 or 30 miles is of small consequence, but when it comes to the question of keeping open communication between villages the engineer is lucky if he can find a length of 200 yards in which he can safely put his bridge.

The ordinary brick-arch bridge is of common occurrence in India, though in many places the arches have given way owing to the banks of many of the lesser Indian rivers being almost like quicksands in their formation. In these cases the thrust of the arches have caused the foundations of the abutments to tilt, with the result that arches first cracked and then collapsed. Open foundations are expensive on account of the large plant necessary to cope with the water percolation through the fine silt. Well kerbs, single and twin, are also in use ; but the operation of sinking them to a sufficient depth to secure complete immunity from scouring of the foundation is an expensive matter. The difficulty of obtaining suitable earth for brickmaking near the bridge site, the impossibility of continuous European supervision by the district engineer, whose district may be as large as half-a-dozen English counties, the scarcity of skilled labour, and other causes all tended to show that steel would have to replace brick if sound work of a moderate cost was to be carried out.

The introduction of the screw pile steel bridge at first met with considerable opposition. It was said that the building of such bridges gave no employment to local labour and that they were most safe or suitable to the soft banks and beds of the Indian rivers ; while, needless to say, the subordinate staff in the engineer's office did not welcome their introduction owing to the lessened work which they necessitated in the office themselves, and also on account of the fact that, as they were usually constructed in Calcutta by large engineering firms, it was not possible to obtain any of that "largesse" which the dwellers in the East know so well how to extract.

The screw pile bridge consists essentially of round steel bars from 3 in. to 5 in. in diameter, to the ends of which cast-iron screws, about 3 ft. in diameter and of small pitch, are firmly fixed. These piles are screwed by hand or steam power into the bed of the river at the selected spot to a depth of 10 ft. or more, according to the nature of the subsoil encountered and the load to be borne. The friction between the sides of the pile and surrounding mud plays an important part in preventing the pile from being driven further into the ground when a heavy load passes over the bridge. The exact ratio of the portion of the total load borne by the screw alone to the portion borne by this frictional effect is not known ; nor is it easily calculable ; and it is usual in designing such pile bridges to neglect this frictional effect, and to take the load per square inch of screw area only. The piles are grouped in pairs, fours, or in larger numbers, according to the width of the bridge and the nature of the work. The width of bridges of this type varies from 8 ft. to 20 ft. The depth to which the piles must be driven depends upon the scouring action which is known to have taken place in the past or near the bridge site. Ten feet is usually a *minimum*, while generally piles at steam centre, where the greatest scour usually but not always takes place, are driven deeper than those which support the end spans.

After the main piles have been screwed down and levelled their tops are fitted with cast-iron caps, on which rest the I-beams forming the roadway. The length of the different spans varies from 10 ft. to 30 ft. ; longer spans are not economical, because steel beams of ordinary section are not rolled to a greater length in standard commercial practice. A common length for the centre spans is 25 ft. ; while the approach spans are often shorter. The steel roadway is rivetted to the I-beams while handrails and wheel-guards on either side complete the structure.

It would be impossible to conceive a simpler and yet a more efficient form of bridge to meet Indian conditions. In the flood-swept districts lying between the Ganges and the Himalayas it is of the utmost importance to allow the floodwater to escape down stream in the shortest time—*i.e.*, to hold back as small amount of water as possible. The blocking effect of a series of brick piers each 2 ft. to 4 ft. wide, is such that at least one and sometimes two extra spans have to be built—with their additional cost—in order to give the clear waterway required. With a screw pile bridge this blockage is practically negligible, while the scouring effect at the foot of 4 in. steel piles is as nothing compared to the scour of a rapid stream at the foot of a brick pier near the stream centre.

In addition to this cheapening by diminished length, should the stream change its course from any cause, the bridge can quickly and cheaply be taken up from its old site and screwed down in a new one. This is the great advantage which the screw pile bridge possesses over the brick type. The cost of upkeep is also smaller, since the renewal of the paint every few years serves to keep the bridge in good order. It is sometimes advisable to pitch the sides of the bridge with brick or rough stone at the bridge site on the up-stream side. This adds but slightly to the cost, and prevents the road approaches from being swept away should a high flood occur. The danger of a large floating log or piece of heavy *debris* striking and bending a pile is present, but it is also present, though not in such a dangerous form, with the brick pier. Should damage of this kind occur, or should even the whole bridge be swept away, the broken parts can be recovered and put in place again directly the flood subsides.

—The Federated Malay States *Government Gazette* of 28th October publishes the following particulars of the **exports of cultivated rubber** from the **Federated Malay States** during the month of September, 1910, and during the nine months ending September, 1909, and 1910 :—

	January-Sept., 1909.	January-Sept., 1910.	Sept., 1910.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Perak	641,044	1,649,269	236,969
Selangor	2,757,178	5,730,328	759,727
Negri Sembilan	652,060	956,804	113,152
Pahang	...	3,359	628
Total	4,050,282	8,339,760	1,110,476

Note.—Of the rubber exported from Selangor during September, 1910, 8,676 lbs. were produced in Perak, 119,372 lbs. in Negri Sembilan, and 355 lbs. in Pahang. Of the rubber exported from Selangor during the nine months ended September, 1910, 50,693 lbs. were produced in Perak, 829,121 lbs. in Negri Sembilan, and 355 lbs. in Pahang.

TRADE OF BRAZIL.

In the extracts below from the Consular Report on the Trade of Brazil during 1909 particulars are given of some of the more important industries that find favour in that country :—

For many years past the **sugar industry** in Brazil has made but little progress, and in the opinion of many high authorities only a radical reform both in the methods of cultivation and of extraction can enable the industry to develop.

The backward state of the industry is explained by some authorities as due to the unscientific methods of cultivation and the consequent degeneration of the canes, while the sugar factories, though as a rule set up with modern machinery, suffer from a shortage of skilled labour and of expert management, so that there is much waste and the production is limited accordingly. The factories in most States complain that the supply of cane is insufficient ; according to a report from Pernambuco, arrangements are being made for financing some large factories with foreign capital and for working them on more economic lines.

Much was written during the year of the state of the sugar industry in Brazil. Dr. Mendonca Guimaraes, a competent authority reviewed somewhat severely in the *Jornal de Commercio*, the methods of cultivation, especially the methods of preparing the sugar. After alluding to the high import duties, he points out that Brazilian sugar cannot compete with foreign sugar abroad advantageously owing to the Brazilian export duties and that it is only by abolishing these that the sugar can enter foreign markets on normal lines and that progress can be made.

Mandioca flour is exported from Florianopolis, Porto Algre and other southern ports of Brazil to other South American Republics and to Portugal.

Exports from Brazil :—

	Tons.
1908	5,458
1909	5,161

Manioc, a small shrub which nearly takes the place of potatoes in the diet of the South American farmers, has a large consumption in Brazil, where it grows in great profusion, almost without cultivation, even on the poorest soil. Alcohol is extracted from it, similar in some respects to that extracted from beets. Hitherto it has been exported almost entirely in the form of flour, but a movement is on foot to encourage the export of dried roots of manioc, partly for the fabrication of tapioca. As the French market is closed to these imports by customs duties, shipments were made to Trieste, Genoa and Hamburg, which latter port buys almost entirely from India. It was sold for prices about half of those of tapioca. The Northern States of Brazil—Alagoas, Pernambuco and Parahyba produce the best qualities the roots being cut round and dried in the sun, and fetch a more remunerative price than was formerly obtained by its export in the form of flour owing to the difficulties of grinding and preparing it. It is also grown in the States of Sao Paulo and Rio Grande.

The efforts to export it without any preparation failed, as only the dried manioc seems able to resist rot and stand the journey.

The **exports of tapioca,** chiefly from Rio de Janeiro, fell off from 248 metric tons in 1908 to 141 tons in 1909. The shipments were solely to France.

Goat-skins were exported in greater quantity in 1909, chiefly from Ceara, Bahia, Pernambuco and Alagoas. About two-thirds of these were shipped to the United States chiefly *viâ* Liverpool or Bremen. The Brazilian skins are more highly valued in the United States than in the United Kingdom :—

Exports of Goat-skins from Brazil.

	Tons.	£
1908	2,579	571,141
1909	2,906	823,681

Sheep-skins were shipped chiefly from Ceara, Bahia and Alagoas. Of these, 572 out of 896 tons were exported to the United States, where many firms give preference to Brazilian skins and several exporters from Brazil ship exclusively to those firms.

Exports of Sheep-skins from Brazil.

	Tons.	£
1908	760	101,262
1909	806	127,388

Deer-skins were also exported but in smaller quantities than previously. **Calf-skins** were chiefly shipped from Para to the United States.

Hides (dried and salted) were exported from Rio Grande do Sul, Minas, Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Ceara and Para, those from the south being larger and of better quality. The chief buyers were the United Kingdom, Germany and France, where they are used for the leather industries for soles, belts, etc. The quantities exported were :—

	Tons.
1908	23,314
1909	25,386

Dried hides are shipped almost exclusively from the ports of Rio Grande do Sul, Matto Grosso and Bahia. About 50 per cent are shipped to Germany. The quantities of dried hides exported were :—

	Tons.
1908	7,096
1909	10,391

Value of total Exports of Hides from Brazil :—

	£
1908	1,316,403
1909	1,819,541

The Rodeio deposit of **manganese** at Miguel Burnier (Minas) was opened. Work continues on the deposits already in existence, but progress is slow, though the transport difficulties on the Central Railway are being remedied.

More interest was shown in 1909 in these deposits owing to schemes for establishing the iron industry in Brazil. Exports of manganese ore from Bahia were resumed owing to an improvement of price in the European markets, and 54,000 tons more were shipped from Rio in 1909 than in 1908. The United Kingdom was the largest buyer.

INDIA'S TRADE WITH AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

The following note which is extracted from the Consular Report on the Trade of Austria-Hungary in 1909 gives some information regarding the extent of the trade between India and Austria-Hungary :—The Indian exports to this country increased by almost £1,000,000 and have nearly attained the figure of 1907. The articles to which this rise is due were chiefly the following :—

	1908. Tons.	1909.
Sesame	14,513	34,839
Copra	5,020	19,749

Both are included under "Sundries" in the table; rape seed, which sprang from 3,500 tons in 1908 to over 20,000, tons, hides and skins, manganese ore, 11,700 tons (last year none), and a rise of 6,000 tons under cotton as against 1908, though the import of cotton is still nearly a £1,000,000 below that of 1907. The rise in the price of copper and an increase in the import of tin account for nearly £100,000 increase under metals. Indiarubber and tobacco are practically new items in the Indian exports to this country. Indian tea appears to be gaining in favour. Twenty tons of bristles were imported from India in 1909 while none appear in the returns for 1908. "Turners' materials" included cane for chairs and mother-of-pearls, both of which were imported in larger quantities. There are relatively heavy decreases under grease, chiefly cocoanut oil, the price of which fell from £34 to £26, while the quantity decreased by 1,500 tons, and under pepper, chemical products and refuse. A serious decline is in cotton yarn, the import of which from India jumped up to £146,033 in the year of the high demand 1907, and has now practically stopped. The quantity of jute remains the same but the value declined by nearly £300,000 owing to lower prices. Sugar accounts for nearly half the total value of **exports to India.** There was a considerable decline in quantity but the higher prices realised made the decline in value less than £100,000. There was a general increase in the export of textiles including cotton goods(£22,000), and particularly woollen yarn and tissues, which returned to the figure of 1907 after the drop of last year, the improvement being in woven goods. Garments show a large relative rise having increased from £260 in 1907 to £17,600 in 1909, this is chiefly due to the £11,000 worth of fuzes sent to India for the first time last year in consequence of the Turkish boycott at the beginning of the year. Paper shows a large rise, chiefly in printing and packing papers which appear for the first time in the return, the same is true of shoes, the £2,100 worth of which increase the exports of leather tenfold. The increase of nearly £240,000 in the value of the glass and glass ware is due to the item "Painted, gilded and silvered bead." These Gablonz goods accounted for nearly three-quarters of the total export under this heading. The rise under fancy goods is due to the exports of 47 tons of silver coins (not Austrian currency).

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Number and particulars of Joint Stock Companies registered in each province in British India in the month of October, 1910.

No.	Class and Name.	Situation of Registered Offices.	Objects.	Nominal Capital.
				Rs.
	I.—Banking, Loan and Insurance.			
	(a) Banking and Loan.			
1	Gaibandha Loan Office	Gaibandha, Eastern Bengal and Assam	Money-lending	50,000
2	Swami Kariya Manika Perumal Dravia Sahava	Kadayanallur, Madras	.....	
	E'a Nidhi Company	.....	Money-lending	80,000
	Total, Banking and Loan	.....	.....	1,30,000
	(b) Insurance.			
3	Irawati General Business Company	Lahore, Panjab	Insurance, banking and general trading	1,00,000
4	Popular Marriage Fund	Multan „	To collect funds to pay members on occasions of marriage	50,000
	Total, Insurance	.....	.....	1,50,000
	Total, Banking, Loan and Insurance	.....	.....	2,80,000
	II.—Trading.			
	(a) Navigation.			
5	Bangiya Inland Steam Navigation and Trading Company	Calcutta, Bengal	Carriers by land and water	1,00,000
	(b) Others.			
6	Srimajibi Samavaya	Calcutta, Bengal	General traders	1,00,000
7	Panjab Traders Company	Lahore, Panjab	Importers, exporters, and commission agents	25,000
8	Vaisya Vyaparotejak Co.	Belagiri, Bombay	Merchants and commission agents	1,00,000
9	Hind Lights	Bombay „	Manufacturers of lamps, burners, etc.	50,000
10	Indo-Arabian Trading Co.	„ „	Brokers and agents	2,00,000
	Total, Others	...	.....	4,75,000
	Total, Trading	...	.....	5,75,000
	III.—Mills and Presses.			
	(a) Cotton and Jute Screws and Presses.			
11	Bansilal Gungaram Cotton ginning, Pressing and Industrial Manufacturing Company	Nandgaon, Bombay	Ginning and Pressing Cotton	1,00,000
	(b) Rice Mills.			
12	Baniyachang Rice Mills Company	Baniyachang, Eastern Bengal and Assam	Manufacturing, rice planting, trading, etc.	1,00,000
	Total, Mills and Presses	...	.....	2,00,000
	IV.—Tea and other Planting Companies.			
	(a) Tea.			
13	Ballacherra Tea Company	Calcutta, Bengal	Cultivators and manufacturers of tea, etc.	2,00,000
	(b) Others.			
14	Mergui Brown Rubber Estates	Rangoon, Burma	Cultivating Para Rubber, etc.	22,50,000
	Total, Tea and other Planting Companies	.....	.....	24,50,000

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES—*contd.*

No.	Class and Name.	Situation of Registered Office.	Objects.	Nominal Capital.
	V.—Mining and Quarrying Associations.			Rs.
	(a) Coal.			
15	Burma Coal Company	Rangoon, Burma .	Carrying on business of colliery proprietors, coke manufacturers, miners, etc.	2,50,000
	(b) Gold.			
16	Egari (Tavoy) Mining Company . .	Rangoon, Burma .	Exploring, prospecting for gold minerals, and precious stones . . .	50,000
	(c) Others.			
17	Bisra Stone Lime Company . . .	Calcutta, Bengal . .	Manufacturing lime and dealing in stone, cement, etc. .	4,00,000
	Total, Mining and Quarrying Associations	.....	.....	7,00,000
	GRAND, TOTAL .	.....	.....	42,05,000

ABSTRACT TABLE OF COMPANIES REGISTERED IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1910.

		Rs.
2	Banking and Loan Companies	1,30,000
2	Insurance Companies	1,50,000
1	Navigation Company	1,00,000
5	Trading Companies (other than those specified above)	4,75,000
1	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Company	1,00,000
1	Rice Mills Company	1,00,000
1	Tea Planting Company	2,00,000
1	Planting Company (other than those specified above)	22,50,000
1	Coal Mining Company	2,50,000
1	Gold Mining Company	50,000
1	Mining and Quarrying Company (other than those specified above) . . .	4,00,000
17	Grand Total .	42,05,000

Number and particulars of New Companies working exclusively in India with sterling capital and similar companies increasing their capital, registered in the United Kingdom in the month of October, 1910.

No.	Class and Name.	Shares.	Capital.		New Debentures issued.
			Nominal.	Extra.	
	I.—Trading.	£ s.	£	£	£
	Railways and Tramways.				
1	Yeni Light Railway Company	1 0	1,000	...	...
	II.—Tea Planting Companies.				
2	Assam Estates	5 0	25,000	...	...
3	Langharjan Tea Estate	1 0 / 1 0	12,000	...	...
	Total, Tea Planting Companies .	...	37,000	...	...
	III.—Mining and Quarrying Association.				
4	British Burma Petroleum Company . . .	...	...	...	525,000
	GRAND TOTAL .	...	38,000	...	525,000

FOOD-GRAINS AND SALT.

Retail Prices of certain Food-grains and Salt at selected stations for the second half of November, 1910. (Prices are stated in annas and pies per seer of 2·06 lbs.)

	Rice, common.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jawar.	Bajra.	Ragi.	Gram.	Salt.
	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.	a. p.
Burma—								
Rangoon . .	1 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
Toungoo . .	1 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 2
Eastern Bengal and Assam—								
Rangpur . .	2 0	2 0	...	...	...	...	...	1 1
Backerganj . .	1 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 11
Bengal—								
Calcutta . .	2 7	1 9	...	...	...	...	...	0 10
Patna . .	1 1	1 1	0 7	...	...	...	...	0 10
United Provinces—								
Cawnpore . .	...	1 4	0 9	0 10	0 11	...	0 10	0 9
Fyzabad .	...	1 3	0 9	...	...	...	0 10	0 10
Meerut .	...	1 2	0 9	...	1 1	...	0 10	0 8
Panjab—								
Delhi .	..	1 3	0 10	0 10	1 0	...	0 10	0 9
Amritsar .	...	1 1	0 9	0 11	0 11	...	0 9	0 7
Rawalpindi .	...	1 2	0 8	0 8	0 11	...	0 10	0 7
Sind—								
Karachi .	...	1 7	...	1 2	1 4	...	1 2	0 7
Bombay—								
Belgaum . .	...	1 8	...	1 1	1 1	...	...	0 9
Ahmadnagar .	...	1 7	...	0 10	0 11	...	...	1 0
Bombay . .	...	2 3	...	1 4	1 6	...	...	0 11
Ahmadabad	...	1 7	...	1 0	1 3	...	...	0 7
Central Provinces—								
Jubbulpore . .	...	1 4	...	...	...	...	0 10	0 11
Nagpur . .	1 4	1 2	...	0 10	...	...	0 11	1 0
Raipur . .	1 3	1 1	...	...	...	...	0 11	1 0
Madras—								
Bellary . .	2 0	...	...	1 0	...	1 0	...	0 11
Madras . .	2 2	...	...	...	...	1 3	...	0 7
Salem . .	2 5	...	...	1 4	1 7	1 2	...	1 2

—In a communication dated November 28th the Washington correspondent of the *Times* says :—Mr. James J. Hill is made responsible in a despatch from St. Paul for a statement concerning the **financial and commercial outlook** in the **United States** which, if correctly reported, is of more than usual interest. He thinks that the country is confronted not by a panic, but by a period of business stagnation brought on primarily by past extravagance. Mr. Hill last week was a visitor at the White House. He says:—"When I told the President that there would be many thousands of men thrown into idleness next year he was almost incredulous about my sincerity. But I am not making a guess. It will be a fact. . . . Nobody is at present contemplating business improvements or extensions." Simultaneously with Mr. Hill's interview the National Association of Manufacturers publishes the result of a detailed investigation of business conditions. Its finding is summed up as follows :—"There is no calamity in sight, nothing so menacing that people need be unduly alarmed, but conditions are unsatisfactory. Political agitation, uncertainty about the tariff, the railway rate controversy, and undue speculation are given as the most important factors in the situation. Nearly all the correspondents of the association are in favour of a fair increase in freight rates. There is also a strong demand for Tariff Reform by the Commission and not by politicians in Congress. Though some allowance must be made for a possible desire on the part of the business community to frighten Radical politicians into quiescence, there is undoubtedly much truth in the views.

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 17th December, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign— Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	39,000
	Bombay	„	179,149
	Madras	„	238,846
Indian— Exports by sea from	Calcutta	„	93,000
	Bombay	„	3,244,920
	Madras	„	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	10,407,626
	Bombay	„	4,917,260
	Karachi	„	1,680,789
	Madras	„	195,092
	Rangoon	„	244,143

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	1,804,223
	Bombay	„	3,662,936
	Karachi	„	3,908,453
	Madras	„	5,001
	Rangoon	„	389,550

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	1,483,036
	Bombay	„	3,449,990
	Karachi	„	1,804,548
	Madras	„	192,798
	Rangoon	„	530,739

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	960
	Bombay	„	8,697
	Karachi	„	16,172
	Madras	„	6,723

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	9
	Coastwise	„	32,050
	By rail	„	244,874
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	78,048
„ „ Calcutta by rail and river		„	*5,145

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in Calcutta		cwt.	*618,991
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	5,836,400
	„ cloth	yds.	22,466,950
	Jute	cwt.	411,813
Chittagong—Jute		„	7,618

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from Bombay		cwt.	178,737

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*3,927
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	318
	Coastwise	„	12
	By rail	„	2,870
Imports into Karachi	by rail and river	„	17,500
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	1,000
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	16,026
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	2,072

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta		cwt.	*21,019
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	...
	By rail	„	3,704
Imports into Karachi	by rail and river	„	8,040
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	3
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	34,754
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	17,935

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in Calcutta		cwt.	*177,327
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	157,112
Exports by sea from Chittagong		„	...
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	11,229
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	11,859
Exports by sea from Madras		„	...
Exports by sea from Rangoon		„	106,978

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in Calcutta		lbs.	*5,383,724
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	4,481,123
Exports by sea from Chittagong		„	569,641

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta by rail and river		cwt.	*81,586
Imports into Karachi by rail		„	228,200
Imports into Bombay	By sea	„	...
	Coastwise	„	1,225
	By rail	„	111,101
Exports by sea from Calcutta		„	71,980
Exports by sea from Bombay		„	44,682
Exports by sea from Karachi		„	362,119

*B. N. Ry. figures not included.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta . . Cwt.	3,376,111	2,666,096	3,480,677	5,249,328	1,085,780	1,050,119	Not	reported.
Bombay . . „	2,632,766	1,921,006	2,080,065	2,920,952	1,512,383	2,735,420	7,803,167	13,366,728
Karachi . . „	14,859,028	16,421,097	...	16,769	3,040,310	4,627,231	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 17th DECEMBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From all other foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	..	...	...	...
Bombay	755,930	1,162,921	...	1,918,851
Karachi	440,770	...	...	440,770
Madras	...	...	...	...

Exports by sea from Burma to	Bengal		459,600
	E. B. & Assam		...
	Bombay		384,800
	Sind		...
	Madras		...
	Indian Ports, Non-Br.		616,300
	Foreign Ports		...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 17th DECEMBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	3	...	8	32	5	3	51
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	...	...	6,962	1,000	...	...	7,962
Other European Countries	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	23,697	...	29,964	6,116	...	...	59,777
Mauritius	1,200	...	53,368	...	...	...	54,568
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	807	...	...	757	1,564
Total refined							123,922
Total unrefined							...
Grand Total							123,922

IMPORTS OF CYCLES, MOTOR CYCLES AND MOTOR CARS.

The statement below shows the number of Cycles, Motor cycles and Motor cars imported into British India during the five years 1905-06 to 1909-10 :—

Imports into	1905-06.			1906-07.			1907-08.			1908-09.			1909-10.			Remarks.
	Cycles.	Motor cycles.	Motor cars.	Cycles.	Motor cycles.	Motor cars.	Cycles.	Motor cycles.	Motor cars.	Cycles.	Motor cycles.	Motor cars.	Cycles.	Motor cycles.	Motor cars.	
Calcutta	4,420	...	231	5,174	...	205	7,965	...	416	9,769	...	325	9,019	..	342	The figures for "cycles" include "*cycles and parts thereof*." The figures for cars include *motor cycles, motor cars* and parts thereof.
Chittagong	5	...	2	12	...	1	6	...	1	33	...	1	46	...	6	
Karachi	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,323	20	30	1,839	13	25	1,808	15	36	Figures for 1905-06 and 1906-07 are not available.
Madras Presidency	...		...	1,800	30	66	2,185	57	67	3,268	54	54	4,032	141	69	Figures for 1905-06 not available.
Bombay Presidency	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,470	30	473	3,063	58	262	4,748	54	263	Two years' figures not available.
Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	Only figures for 1907-08 are available.

FOREST FIRES IN AMERICA.

IT has been estimated by the Forestry Bureau of the Department of Agriculture that the recent forest conflagrations which took place in Montana and Idaho in the national forests have killed or destroyed over six billion board feet of timber.

Of this heavy loss the heaviest was probably in the Idaho forests, where over three billion board feet of timber has been reported killed or destroyed, with a burned-over district of more than 450,000 acres.

This great burn began just north of Wallace in Idaho, and extended in a southerly direction for a distance of nearly one hundred miles. At its widest point this burn was about 40 miles wide and had a very irregular shape.

It is the opinion of Forester Graves, that as usually happens in cases of big fires, there will be found to be considerable areas of living timber within the regions now mapped as entirely burned over. The figures given are necessarily tentative, for it has been impossible to examine all the burned areas thoroughly, owing to the fact that the big fire was really a union of a number of separate fires, which were driven to fury by the fierce hurricane of last August. Certain regions of the burned district lie in a very inaccessible mountainous country, into which, on account of the absence of trails and of forage, it has been almost impossible for the fire fighters to penetrate.

There will be of necessity a great quantity of fire-killed timber, both on the national forests and on private lands, and this is to be disposed of as soon as possible, for if not marketed quickly it will not be worth cutting at all. This will be sold on the stump millmen, who will lumber the land, paying a set price per thousand board feet for the timber.

The price at which this fire-killed timber will be sold will be lower than would be asked for the timber under usual circumstances, since the amount to be disposed of is doubtless greater than can be marketed in any event. It is not considered good policy by the Department of Agriculture to sell off the national forest timber except when it is in good demand, but with the fire-killed timber it is a case of now or never, for otherwise it would go to waste in the woods. Consequently, there is an unusual opening for lumbermen, who are ready to buy this stumpage at bargain prices.

At the present rate of cutting from the national forests, the six billion feet is equal to about twelve years' supply; but it is less than one-sixth of a single year's cut in the whole country, or enough to keep all our lumber mills busy for something like two months. It is estimated that the lumber burned up or killed amounts to between one or two per cent of the total stand of national forest timber.

It is almost impossible at this time to estimate how much of the six billion feet which was destroyed can eventually be salvaged. If it proves to be a total loss, and should its stumpage value be placed at the same figure at which national forest timber was sold last year, it would mean a money loss of about fifteen million dollars.

This valuation does not of course include the destruction of the many towns and villages and the loss of homes and life. It proves, however, the advocacy of a better force of men to look after the forests of the country, and better means of protection.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned publications can be purchased from the Statistical Department of the Custom House.

COMMERCIAL GUIDE (MONTHLY).

	Rate. Rs.	A.
Per annum	100	0
Per half-year	54	0
Per quarter	28	0
FOR LESS THAN 3 MONTHS :—		
To Subscribers per copy	8	0
To Non-Subscribers „	10	0
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad per copy	5	0
In India „	2	8

WEEKLY MANIFEST.

First copy per annum	100	0
„ „ „ half-year	54	0
„ „ „ quarter	28	0
Additional copy per annum	20	0
„ „ „ half-year	12	0
„ „ „ quarter	8	0
FOR LESS THAN 3 MONTHS :—		
To Subscribers per copy	1	0
To Non-Subscribers „	2	0
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad per copy	5	0
In India „	3	8

DAILY LISTS—IMPORTS OR EXPORTS (separately).

One copy of either per annum	65	0
„ „ „ „ „ half-year	35	0
„ „ „ „ „ quarter	20	0
For less than 3 months whether to Subscribers or Non-Subscribers, annas 5 per copy		
POSTAGE FOR ONE YEAR :—		
Abroad—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
In India—One copy despatched daily	20	0
In India—One copy despatched in batches once a week	5	0
The above charges apply also to back numbers.		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Review on the Maritime Trade of Bengal (per copy)	1	0
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency (per copy)	6	0
Rules under the Sea Customs Act (VIII of 1878) published by the Board of Revenue, L. P., with appendices (per copy)	4	12
Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894 with subsequent amendments) (per copy)	0	6

N.B.—All communications regarding the above Publications should be addressed to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by designation only and not by name.

H. F. HOWARD,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

23rd September, 1909.

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NOTES.

MONEY MARKET.

Wednesday Evening.

PRESIDENCY BANK RATES	Calcutta	7 per cent. (Dec. 1).
	Bombay	7 per cent. (Dec. 15).
	Madras	7 per cent. (Dec. 17).
EXCHANGE	On demand	1-4 1/8
	Telegraphic	1-4 3/32
	Transfers	
	3 months	1-4 5/16
	6 months	1-4 7/16

GOVERNMENT PAPER (3½ per cent.) Rs. 95.

The **spot price of wheat at Karachi** on the 22nd December was Rs. 28-12-0 per candy of 656 lbs. This is for white wheat on a basis of 30 per cent red wheat, 5 per cent barley and 3 per cent dirt; the price of bags included. The **price of Indian grey yarn** (20's) at Bombay on the 28th December was Re. 0-7-6 to Re. 0-8-3 per lb. and of **Muttia-Bhawnagar cotton**, December delivery, Rs. 323 per candy of 784 lbs.

The daily **prices of opium** per chest, in the Bombay market, for the week ending 17th December, 1910, were as follows :—

On the 11th and 12th instant (new, 1909-10) Rs. 1,375 to 1,385 (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,950; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,450 to 3,100. From the 13th to 17th instant (new 1909-10) Rs. 1,370

to 1,375; (new, 1908-09) Rs. 1,425 to 2,730; (old, 1907-08) Rs. 1,450 to 2,900. The latest prices at Hongkong and Shanghai were (new), Rs. 2,997 and 3,063; (old) Rs. 3,066 and 3,081, respectively.

The total approximate gross **earnings of State and Guaranteed Railways** from 1st April to 10th December, 1910, show a gain of Rs. 1,78,53,951 and Rs. 3,51,74,964 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1909-10 and 1908-09 respectively.

The **prices of British corn** per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended 3rd December, 1910, were as follows:—Wheat, 30*s.* 6*d.*; barley, 24*s.* 7*d.*; and oats, 16*s.* 7*d.*

In regard to the **Argentine wheat crop** the Buenos Ayres correspondent of the *Times* states under date December 4th:—Mr. G. S. Broomhall, the cereal expert, has returned from a tour of the grain districts. In an interview he speaks glowingly of the harvest prospects. He found in Buenos Ayres alone 36 million hectares (about 90,000,000 acres) under wheat, and enormous crops in Santa Fé, Cordoba, and the north of the Pampa Central district; only in the South of the last-named district the wheat is somewhat injured by drought. He was astonished at the yields in some districts, which reached 25 fanegas (37½ bushels) per hectare (2½ acres). The lowest estimate of the surplus for export is 3,000,000 tons.

The *Corn Trade News* gives the following summary of the **world's crop** as on the 6th instant:—*United States of America*—The weather still dry in winter wheat belt; some reports indicate severe damage, others only moderate damage, but all agree that the plant is not doing well and needs rain; Snow's estimate of condition is 82·8 per cent against 96 per cent last year, but he gives full acreage seeded, namely, roundly 35,000,000 acres, compared with his own estimate of 30,000,000 a year ago and 33½ million acres estimated by officials; receipts running quite moderate, but visible not further decreased. *Canada*—Nothing fresh about crops; receipts decreased, also visible supply. *Argentina*—Our Editor's latest estimate of wheat surplus is roundly 14,000,000 qrs., some other estimates and indications smaller; latest reports mention rains and lower temperatures, which not favourable in harvesting districts, and these cover now very wide area; our Editor also reports rather more favourably of Linseed and Oats; present rains favourable for Maize. *Australia*—Official and unofficial estimates issued during past week indicate crop about equal last year's; some rain lately, but probably insufficient to do harm. *India*—Sowings continue, germination earlier seeding satisfactory. *Russia*—Weather turned colder; crop reports generally favourable; arrivals southern ports tending increase, and larger quantities expected; last wheat crop officially estimated only 1,000,000 qrs. smaller than 1909, but quality known to be inferior, with light weight. *Roumania*—Weather seasonable, condition seeding satisfactory, interior reserves reported large, but arrivals lately only moderate; stocks decreased. *Hungary*—The weather has turned mild, renewed complaints about wheat seedings; supplies lightish. *France*—Agricultural situation unimproved; supplies native wheat still light. *Germany*—Plant of late sown fields is poorish, otherwise agricultural situation all right. *Italy*—Seedings satisfactory; still buying foreign wheat. *Spain*—Dry weather mentioned. *North Africa*—Still wants rain. *United Kingdom*—Weather unseasonably wet, unfavourable.

Mr. W. C. Renouf, I.C.S., Director of Agriculture, Punjab, states under date December 23rd that the low **export of wheat** during the autumn months has led to enquiries being made by the President of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce as to whether the yield of last year's crop was overestimated, or whether a large balance is being held up in the expectation of higher prices. Enquiries instituted in Lyallpur and Muzaffargarh show that about a quarter of last year's crop is still in the hands of merchants or well-to-do agriculturists in those districts and it is probable that those districts are fairly typical of other exporting tracts. Current rates are not regarded as sufficiently remunerative. The fact should also be borne in mind that wheat is more commonly consumed in the Province than it was some years ago. This must tend in some degree to reduce the quantity of wheat available for export.

In another column will be found the first general memoranda on the **wheat** and the **spring oilseeds crops** of the season 1910-11. In this connection the following particulars relative to these crops in **other countries** will be read with interest. In the case of **wheat** the figures are summarised below:—

	Yield in qrs. (estimates). 1910.	Yield in qrs. 1909.
United Kingdom	7,285,000	7,899,000
Austria-Hungary	32,725,000	23,181,000
Bulgaria	6,150,000	4,570 000
France	32,520,000	44,966,000
Germany	17,700,000	17,277,000
Italy	19,197,000	23,157,000
Roumania	13,411,000	6,876,000
Russia	96,650,000	97,650,000
Canada and the United States	126,948,000	134,095,000

Linseed crop prospects in **Argentina** are reported to be favourable, the critical growing period having been passed through without let or hindrance. The **American linseed crop** is officially estimated at 376,000 tons and that of **Canada** (excluding Quebec, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island) at 108,000 tons. The **rapeseed** crop in Bulgaria is reported satisfactory and from present appearances sanguine expectations are made. This season's **soy bean crop** in Manchuria is variously estimated at from 610,000 to 775,000 tons.

In their outturn report on the **castor crop** of 1910-11, the **Madras** Board of Revenue say:—The total **area** sown with **castors** in ryotwari villages up to the end of November, 1910, is 297,000 acres or about 12 per cent less than the area sown in the corresponding period of 1909. It is also less than the averages of five and ten years by 26 and 34 per cent, respectively. The decrease, as compared with the previous year, is marked in the districts of Guntur, Kurnool and Bellary and is attributed to the preference shown by ryots to the cultivation of other **crops.** It is reported that the crop was as usual **sown** in July or August. It is generally in fair to good condition. In the majority of taluks it was **harvested** in November which may be regarded as the **normal** time for harvest. The estimated outturn of **the** crop is 76 per cent of the normal. Villages **other** than ryotwari report a total area of about 23,000 acres estimated to yield 73 per cent of a **normal** crop.

As reports have lately been current to the effect that a big American **steel "dumping" campaign** is impending, it may be useful, says the *Manchester Guardian*, to set out a few facts and figures about United States competition in iron and steel. In the last five calendar years British and American iron and steel exports have compared as follows:—

	United States. Tons.	United Kingdom. Tons.
1905	1,010,000	3,721,000
1906	1,325,000	4,682,000
1907	1,301,000	5,311,000
1908	964,000	4,233,000
1909	1,243,000	4,380,000

In the present year the comparison for the first nine months is:—

	United States. Tons.	United Kingdom. Tons.
1910 (9 months)	1,080,000	3,554,000

During the 1906-07 boom in the iron and steel trade, when our American competitors were planning a large number of new furnaces and mills, we were constantly told that whenever the home demand in the United States fell off that country would dump its surplus products into our markets. In the closing months of 1907 the home demand did fall off enormously; indeed, it was suddenly cut in half, and remained practically at that low level for 18 months. But instead of a big dumping campaign American exports were diminished, as indicated by the foregoing figures. To-day there are as many plants standing idle in America as could undertake an export trade of 10,000,000 tons of iron and steel a year, yet for every dollar's worth of iron products exported by our rivals we export nearly a sovereign's-worth.

The statement below shows the **quantity and value** of **manganese ore exported** by sea from each Province of British India to countries of final destination in the month of November, 1910:—

Countries of final destination.	Bengal. Quantity.	Bengal. Value.	Bombay. Quantity.	Bombay. Value.
November, 1910.	Cwts	Rs.	Cwts.	Rs.
United Kingdom	45,000	40,500	266,320	2,03,490
Belgium	44,000	42,000	50,000	45,375
France	45,000	45,000	102,000	91,225
United States of America	...	...	116,000	87,000
TOTAL	134,000	1,27,500	534,320	4,27,090

	Madras Quantity.	Madras Value.	TOTAL. Quantity.	TOTAL. Value.
	Cwts	Rs.	Cwts.	Rs.
United Kingdom	30,000	9,000	341,320	2,52,990
Belgium	...	...	94,000	87,375
France	...	...	147,000	1,36,225
United States of America	...	...	116,000	87,000
TOTAL	30,000	9,000	698,320	5,63,590

The following figures represent the quantity and value of **gold and silver** imported from and exported to foreign countries into and from **British India** during the month of November, 1910:—The total imports of gold were 546,742 ozs. valued at Rs. 3,32,22,900; of these 177,541 ozs. priced at Rs. 1,13,68,349 represented bullion, 365,826 ozs. worth Rs. 2,16,59,473 represented sovereigns and other British gold coin, and 3,375 ozs. valued at Rs. 1,95,078 represented other coined gold. The exports of gold totalled 50,486 ozs. in quantity and Rs. 28,69,104 in value, and of these 49,533 ozs. valued at Rs. 28,13,902 represented bullion, 4 ozs. worth Rs. 285 represented sovereigns and other British gold coin, and 949 ozs. valued at Rs. 54,917 represented other coined gold. The total imports of silver were 6,114,480 ozs. priced at Rs. 1,04,96,858; of these 6,062,148 ozs. valued at Rs. 1,03,57,593 represented bar, 51,939 ozs. worth Rs. 1,38,504 represented Government of India rupees, and 393 ozs. valued at Rs. 761 represented other coin. The total exports of silver were 1,577,143 ozs. valued at Rs. 32,42,592; of these 23,381 ozs. worth Rs. 42,645 represented bullion, 542,046 ozs. priced at Rs. 14,45,745

represented Government of India rupees, 1,011,671 ozs. valued at Rs. 17,54,112 represented British dollars, and 45 ozs. worth Rs. 90 represented other coin. During the month the imports of gold amounted to 332·2 lakhs, while those of silver to 72·5 lakhs (net).

In its issue of December 6th the *Manchester Guardian* says :—The movements in the **copper market** have been downward during the past week, but the difference between the two Fridays' closing prices for warrants is only 10*s.* per ton. Some adverse rumours about the state and the prospects of American trade are said to have caused the dullness in the copper market, but it may be doubted whether there is any truth in these rumours. A little while ago American authorities confidently anticipated an expansion of trade, and it is difficult to find any adequate reason for the change of view. It is, of course, possible that the Democrats may propose some tariff changes when they come into power, but it is the most difficult thing in the world to make changes in tariffs, except in the direction of increasing the rates. More probably the recent small decline in copper is a preliminary to buying before the new statistics come out. With regard to trade prospects, it it generally believed that next year will be a better one generally than was 1910 and if this be so copper will participate in the spurt which is likely to occur in iron, steel, and other metals. Some fresh rumours as to the approaching completion of that hitherto elusive "merger" have found expression. Should these be true, there will be an increase in buying which will rapidly make up for the dullness of the last fortnight.

The Report on the **Sericulture Industry in the Kalat State** for 1910, prepared by Major R. E. Benn, C.I.E., the Political Agent, gives a brief history in tabular form of the sericultural operations year by year from 1904, when they were first introduced, up to the close of the operations of the current year, showing that the industry has caused a loss to the State of Rs. 35,535, after crediting the present value of the factory and plant. This failure is attributed to (1) the exorbitant rate demanded for mulberry leaf which rose from 6 annas per maund in 1906 to Re. 1 in 1910 and (2) the want of enterprise on the part of the local inhabitants who have steadily refused to take any interest in the scheme or to be persuaded to introduce it into their homes as a cottage industry, and this in spite of the fact that every effort had been made to make the operations both attractive and remunerative locally. At the beginning of the present year the supervision of the operations, which had been in the hands of the Assistant Political Agent for the past six years, was handed over to the State officials and it is reported that the estimated loss for the year will amount to Rs. 4,316 exclusive of the cost of mulberry leaf which is estimated at Rs. 4,051. It has accordingly been decided to suspend further operations for another four or five years when it is hoped that the growth of a sufficient number of State owned mulberry trees will enable operations to be renewed with more hope of success.

The **Indian Electricity Act** comes into force on the 1st proximo, and **Rules** framed under it are published in the *Gazette of India* of the 24th instant.

Mr. E. P. Stebbing has brought out a revised edition of his informative *Note on the Lac Insect : Its Life History, Propagation and Collection*. The new edition is justified by the great demand which exists for lac and the impetus which has been given to its cultivation in recent years; and it will be found that much of the information in it now appears for the first time. Copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Government Printing, India, Calcutta, at one rupee each.

Messrs. Hubbard Brothers and Co., writing on November 25th at New York, say that "the sentiment of the trade has ceased to be two-sided," as those who believed in a large crop of **American cotton** "have joined the ranks of the bulls with belated eagerness". Advances in price are attributed to the buying of these old-time bears. Yet Messrs. Hubbard warn us that there is danger when everybody gets to one side. "Meanwhile the advance goes on merrily, and buyers are rewarded with quick profits, which serves to whet the appetite. We can hardly believe that this will continue unchecked. Unless the crop should prove to have met with a disaster, which earlier observers failed to see before the frost came to end the yield, there must soon be a halt, and a reaction from what may appear unreasonably high prices."

In his message to Congress President Taft recommends that legislation be passed in connection with **cotton bills of lading** making the carrier absolutely liable in one case, and secondly that the carrier shall assume no liability except for goods actually delivered. The law should be so framed as to protect foreign buyers, and should provide for punishment by fine or imprisonment or both of all agents and shippers for fraud or misrepresentation in connection with the issue of all bills for foreign or inter-State shipment. Representatives of eighteen of the largest exchange buying banks in the United States, at a meeting held in New York on December 5th, decided that the railways of the South must adhere strictly to the rule providing that cotton bills of lading shall be validated only when the cotton is actually in the possession of the railway company; otherwise the banks may refuse to buy the bills.

The following return shows the number of bales of cotton imported and exported at the various ports of the United Kingdom during the week and 48 weeks ended 1st December, 1910 :—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	Week ended 1st Dec., 1910.	48 weeks ended 1st Dec., 1910.	Week ended 1st Dec., 1910.	48 weeks ended 1st Dec., 1910.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	91,326	2,342,783	11,747	209,656
Brazilian	87	61,380	...	3,583
East Indian	2,732	193,179	1	42,957
Egyptian	14,568	321,533	5,185	67,889
Miscellaneous	2,150*	113,844†	86	7,452
TOTAL	110,863	3,032,719	17,019	331,537

* Including 6 bales British West African.
† Including 6,350 bales British West Indian, 6,785 bales British West African, 13,929 bales British East African, and 24 bales foreign East African.
NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, is not included in this return.

Statements as to the total amount of **ginned cotton in Egypt** up to date must be received with caution, says a Cairo correspondent. Until the cotton arrives at Alexandria it is impossible to measure just how much there is, although of course it is generally known that there is a large quantity "waiting to come". The point is that the Ginners' Association, which consists of Europeans, does not by any means represent the total number of ginners in the country. Even if the Ginners' Association furnishes statistics, there are hundreds of native ginners about the country who, from sheer suspicion, would not give quantities, nor could they if they would, for there are often no books kept. The distribution of the cottonseed of Egypt is in the hands of the ginners. Mr. Sydney H. Wells, Director-General of the Administration of Agriculture, has contributed an interesting paper to *L'Egypte Contemporaine* on "L'Industrie du Tissage en Egypte." He remarks that the figures at the last census show that the textile industry is the most important in Egypt, and employs more hands than any except agriculture. Seventy-five thousand men are engaged in this occupation, and the total (including women and children) reaches 83,378. This includes workers in straw, wool, hemp, rope-makers, dyers, and lace-makers. The weaving industry proper gives occupation to 45,456 persons, of whom 42,355 are men. The whole group of workers classed under "textile industries" represents about 29 per cent of the male workers occupied in Egyptian crafts and industries.

In their weekly report on the **Shanghai piece-goods market,** dated 1st instant, Messrs. Noel, Murray and Co., Ld., say :—Business in **Indian Yarn** has been greatly restricted owing to the firmness of holders, caused by the continued decline in exchange. Buying is confined entirely to Szechuen and the River markets, the transactions reported only amounting to 820 bales, prices at the close showing an advance of a tael per bale. The following is the business published :—No. 6*s.* 30 bales, James Greaves Cow Chop $90·00. No. 10*s.* 250 bales, James Greaves Mill $99·50/100·00. No. 12*s.* 140 bales, Moon (Noor Chop) $99·00, Queen Mill (Woman Chop) $98·00/100·00 and Jam Spinning and Manufacturing Co. $100·00. No. 20*s.* 400 bales, Ripon (Mule) $113·00, James Greaves Mill $115·00, Tea Carrier $116·00/116·50 and Howard and Bullough Mills Co. $116·50.

The **sixth report** of the United States Department of Commerce and Labour on the **ginning of American cotton** gives 10,139,000 bales ginned up to December 1st and this compares with 8,777,000 a year ago and 11,009,000 two years ago. The amount ginned between November 14th and December 1st is 1,375,000 bales, which compares with 765,000 bales a year ago and 1,413,000 two years ago. This is favourable to the bears, and seems to put some of the very small crop estimates out of court. Waiving the comparison with last year, which is not, perhaps, the most significant one, we may note that though the amount ginned during this last period is only 38,000 bales less than that in the corresponding period of 1908, this represents a considerable decline in the comparative rate. During the period between November 1st and November 14th this year the ginnings were 20,000 bales more than in the corresponding period of 1908, so that the relative decrease is 58,000 bales. This is not, perhaps, very large when we consider that the 1908-09 crop was the biggest on record. Between December 1st and the end of the season in 1908 no less than 2,423,000 bales were ginned, and if we should add even 2,000,000 to the present return of ginnings it would bring the crop well above 12,000,000 bales. If, again, we should add last year's figures to the end of the season—1,509,000 bales—the crop would be 11,648,000 bales, or very near what Messrs. Neill Brothers estimated it at. The bull case for a very small crop still rests on the assumption that there is to be a very sudden and large decrease in the ginnings and so far the proofs are not forthcoming. It must be remembered, however, that even the most sanguine bears do not anticipate a very big crop, as big crops go, by the standard of recent years.

The Alexandria General Produce Association on 3rd December issued their second estimate of the total **Egyptian cotton crop** this season. They confirmed their previous estimate of about seven million cantars (cantar=99·05lb.) but added a note

to the effect that, in their opinion, the crop may ultimately turn out slightly larger.

Year.	Arrivals from 1st September.	Exports of Cotton.				Stock.
		England.	Continent.	America.	Total.	
	Cantars.	Cantars.	Cantars.	Cantars.	Cantars.	Cantars.
1910 .	4,139,976	1,472,551	785,072	240,059	2,497,682	1,924,594
1909 .	3,163,160	961,332	732,097	185,059	1,928,488	1,589,272

	Price of Egyptian Fully Good Fair.				Price of American, Middling.	
	In Alexandria.		In Liverpool.		In Liverpool.	
	Spot.	January.	Spot.	January.	Spot.	December—January.
30th November, 1910.	20½	20½	11 4/16	11	8·14	7·88
30th November, 1909.	...	22 1/16	12 3/16 d.	11 10/16 d.	7·65 d.	7·46 d.

The following statement shows the **imports of tobacco** from each principal country into British India in the month of November, 1910, and total **duty realised thereon**—

—	Unmanufactured.	Manufactured.					Total tobacco.
		Cigars.	Cigarettes.			Other sorts.	
			Weighing less than 3lbs. per 1,000.	Weighing 3 lbs. or more per 1,000.	Total.		
Imports.							
From the United Kingdom . . lbs.	...	500	...	...	1,03,205	33,454	1,42,159
From Holland ,,	696	1,975	...	...	...	...	2,671
,, Belgium ,,	622	877	...	...	...	5	1,504
,, Egypt . ,,	812	...	...	...	6,016	13	6,841
,, the United States of America ,,	...	3	...	..	89	4,174	4,266
,, other countries ,,	801	1,947	...	...	2,950	1,068	6,766
Total . ,,	2,931	5,302	...	...	1,17,260	38,714	1,64,207
Total duty realized thereon . . Rs.	5,802	12,077	2,04,846	17,448	2,32,294	68,681	3,08,854

In their report of **Australian wool sales**, dated Melbourne, December 1st, Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort and Co. Ld., say :—We held our ninth sale of the season yesterday, offering 5,198 bales, of which we disposed of 5,167 bales. The catalogue contained some good Western district clips, together with a large quantity of smaller, but equally choice parcels from Nareen Noradjuha, Horsham and St. Arnaud. Riverina was also well represented, while Gippsland and the North-east furnished their quota. Competition on all good wools was as keen as at any sales of the season, more especially where really fineness of quality was exhibited. Outside of such lots, the market showed considerable irregularity and, as was only to be expected, this was most noticeable in badly got up parcels. Lambs wool sold to 21¾*d.*, a record for this centre for many years, for the super, of the W H D/ Coliban Park, from Elphinstone. In fleece O (in diamond) M T Talbot, Balmoral, sold to 16*d.*, while A M C/ Chepstowe, made up to 15¼*d.* for comeback. The feature of the sale was the satisfactory prices realised for the smaller parcels, which, in many instances, compared favourably with the larger clips. In this connection must be mentioned N B/ Kestle at 14*d.*, J M/ Nareen and P C/ Nareen at 13¾*d.*, all from the same district. Our last sale of the current year will be held on Wednesday, the 14th December, and our first sale of the New Year is fixed for Wednesday, 11th January.

The Hull correspondent of the *Oil and Colour Trades Journal* writing on December 1st regarding the **Hull oil market** say :—The market for **linseed oil** is steady with spot at 43*s.* 6*d.*; December, 43*s.* 3*d.*; January-April, 40*s.* 9*d.* The exports for the week amounted to 94 tons, of which America took 2, Egypt 6, India 77, Norway 7, and Turkey 2 tons each. **Cotton oil :** The market is steady, with refined cotton oil at 28*s.* 3*d.* spot; 28*s.* 4½*d.* November-April. Crude cotton oil, 26*s.* 6*d.* spot. The exports for the week amounted to 334 tons, of which America took 32, Belgium 107, France 9, Germany 51, Holland 90, Italy 5, Sweden 5, and Turkey 35 tons each. **Soy oil** steady at 32*s.* 6*d.* to 33*s.* per cwt.; naked for prompt 30*s.* 9*d.* to 31*s.* 3*d.* **Lard oil** dull. English best refined 53*s.* per cwt. ex-mill, in barrels. **Olive oil** dull, and only a poor demand continues. Spot Spanish £56 to £56 10*s.* per ton ex-store, forward £52 10*s.* to £54. **Cocoanut oil** steady at £41 to £41 10*s.* per ton for English ex-mill with more demand. **Castor oil** firm and scarce on spot, and forward Calcutta well held for 3 7/8*d.* per lb. **Palm oil** scarce and firm, with £36 5*s.* paid for spot, Lagos; £35 for Benin, and £36 for near softs. Forward flat and neglected; December-January Lagos nominally £35 5*s.*; hards, £32 5*s.* to £32; and softs at £35 to £34 15*s.* transit. Refined sorts steady at £35 per ton for clarified, and £38 5*s.* to £38 10*s.* for bleached, both in casks. **Petroleum** quiet and steady at 5½*d.* to 6½*d.* per gallon for American, and 5*d.* for Russian. **Turpentine** weaker; spot and December 55*s.*, and January-April 56*s.* per cwt.

On page 314 of the *Indian Trade Journal* of December 15th it was stated that the **imports of sugar** from "other non-European Countries" in Calcutta during the week ending December 10th was 243,200 cwt. The imports in question were all from Java.

According to the *Manchester Guardian* quite a crop of rumours has followed the recent definite decision to abandon **negotiations** for the formation of an **international aluminium syndicate.** A Paris report professed to have good authority for stating that a long term agreement had been arrived at by the French producers, who represent an annual output of about 15,000 tons. It was asserted that these makers intended to take advantage of the fairly high import duties on the metal in France to carry on an aggressive selling campaign in the other European markets, with a view chiefly to forcing other producers to agree to an international agreement. It was even stated that full arrangements had been made whereby all sales would be made for them through the Metalgesellschaft, Frankfort-on-Main. This report is now, however, generally discredited, for it is said that the internal jealousy amongst French producers was one of the great stumbling-blocks in the way of the proposed international cartel. It is thought that some agreement has been made between various interests, and the rumour that the world's three principal manufacturers, the Neuhausen Company, the British Aluminium Company, and the American Aluminium Works, have decided on a close working agreement, is said by those in close touch with the industry to represent the actual position. The aluminium produced by these three is recognised as of the highest quality, and now amounts to over 40,000 tons annually.

The **weather in India** during the week ended Tuesday last has been dry throughout. Rain has fallen in Persia, but the unsettled conditions have not yet reached Baluchistan.

Applications in respect of the following **new inventions** were filed in the Patent Office, Calcutta, during the week ending 19th December 1910 :—Farbwerke vorm. Meister Lucius and Bruning, chemical manufacturers, Hoechst a Main, Germany —Manufacture of new derivatives of the para-oxyarylarsinic acids. E. Wiart, engineer, 51, Rue Croulebarbe, Paris, France—Improvements in steam generators. Mills Equipment Co., Ld., manufacturers, 72 Victoria Street, Westminster, London—Improvements in or relating to cartridge carriers and the like. V. Nightingall, electrical engineer, 260, Russell Street, Melbourne—Improvements in electric cooking appliances and water heaters. P. Hellburg, manufacturer, 16, Furnival Mansions, Wells Street, Oxford Street, London—Improvements in or connected with apparatus for the manufacture of threads of twine composed wholly or partly of paper. J. Drage, engineer, Ivanhoe Gold Corporation, Ld., Boulder, Western Australia—Improvements in filtering machines. P. R. J. Willis, consulting engineer, Fife House, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey, England—Improvements in excavating machines. Asa Norman Whitney, Captain, Marine Engineer and ammunition manufacturer, of the Melbourne Club, Melbourne—Improvements in and relating to rifle ranges, targets and the like. J. Levick, junior, manufacturer of Metal Spinning Works, Alma Street, Aston, Birmingham, England —Improvements in coolers for railway carriages and other vehicles and for analogous uses. J. May, Clerk, No. 139, Bourk Street, Melbourne—Improved apparatus for cooling liquids.

NOTICES.

CALLS FOR TENDERS.

Blankets and Wool.

The Divisional Contract Officer, 3rd Division, Lahore, is calling for tenders up to the 16th proximo for the supply, during official year 1911-12, at Peshawar, Rawalpindi and Lahore, of blankets and wool.

Tents.

The Assistant Director of Ordnance Stores, Allahabad, is calling for tenders up to the 3rd proximo for the supply of tents and tent components during the year 1911-12.

Arsenal Stores.

The Ordnance Officer in Charge, Rawalpindi Arsenal, is calling for tenders up to 30th proximo for the supply of miscellaneous stores, including timber, wool, turpentine, etc.

ENQUIRIES.

(For particulars address the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, 5, Clive Street, Calcutta.

An asterisk (*) preceding an enquiry indicates that bank references are offered).

Fish Guano.

(849)—A Consular Officer desires to be placed in communication with shippers of Indian fish guano or manure.

Spanish Saffron.

(850)—A correspondent requires the addresses of purchasers of Spanish saffron in Calcutta and Madras.

Malta Lace.

***(851)**—A firm of lace merchants in Malta desires to appoint agents in India for the sale of Malta lace.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All correspondence and remittances relating to the supply of the "Indian Trade Journal" should be forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta, to whom all bills are payable.

Correspondence regarding advertisements in the "Indian Trade Journal" should be addressed to Reuter's Telegram Co., Ld., but all advertisements, blocks, etc., must be approved by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence before insertion.

Retail trade advertisements cannot be accepted.

A full index is published as a quarterly supplement and should be filed for reference.

The annual rates of subscription to the "Indian Trade Journal" including quarterly index, are Indian, without postage Rs. 12 : with postage, Rs 13 ; Foreign, Rs. 18. Single copies, 4 annas.

Subscribers and advertisers in the United Kingdom may remit either through a bank or by money order. For the purpose of postal remittances, one penny should be taken as the equivalent of one anna, and 1s. 4d. as the equivalent of one rupee.

Back numbers, when available, may be had at a cost of Re. 1. for any number more than a week old.

The Indian agents of the "Indian Trade Journal" are :—Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., and Newman & Co., Calcutta ; D. B. Taraporevala, Sons & Co., Bombay ; Higginbotham & Co., G. A. Natesan & Co., and Kalyanarama Iyer & Co., Madras ; Thacker, Spink & Co., Simla ; Rai Sahib M. Gulab Singh & Sons, Lahore ; and A. M. & J. Ferguson, Ceylon.

The Indian Trade Journal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1910.

A DESIRABLE TANNING MATERIAL.

Attention has frequently been drawn in these pages to the scope that exists in India for the opening up of an important industry in connection with the preparation of tanning extracts. The country is rich in tanning materials, and Professor Dunstan of the Imperial Institute, London, assures us that *Cæsalpinia digyna* (Teri) occupies a very high place among them. An analysis of the powdered pod-cases of this plant made by Professor Dunstan some time ago showed over 50 per cent of tanning matter ; and in one instance amounted to nearly 60 per cent. These facts seem to indicate that the tanning value of this material is greater than that of the *divi-divi* of commerce, obtainable chiefly from South America, which contains from 30 to 50 per cent of tanning matter. In this connection it has also to be remembered that *divi-divi* is said to be regarded with some disfavour by the tanner on account of the acidity of its aqueous extract and its liability to undergo fermentation, which leads to the production of red stains on leather. In the case of "Teri" pod-cases the material could be used direct by the tanner without the previous preparation of an extract.

Professor Dunstan tells us that the merits of "Teri" have been recognised by tanners in England and that a demand for it exists. A trial consignment of 600 lbs. of the pod-cases (freed from the seed) collected by the Forest Department, Burma, was purchased recently by a large firm of tanners in England at the rate of £18 per ton, c.i.f. London, and the firm is prepared to take a regular supply of five tons per week of the same material. Professor Dunstan believes that a better price could be secured if a regular supply was forthcoming in commercial quantities.

As regards the occurrence of the tree it may be mentioned that it is fairly abundant in several parts of Burma and Assam, where it grows wild. This entails difficulties in collecting the pod-cases from the plant, and it is believed that the Forest Departments have, therefore, had under consideration the question of experimental cultivation with a view to ascertaining whether a large, or, at all events, a merchantable supply could not be produced profitably in suitable areas.

It appears from *Agricultural Ledger* No. 9 of 1899 that "Teri", as grown in Burma, is a thorny scandent shrub growing on low ground and near streams in forests without bamboo. It flowers in February or March and the seeds are ripe in April the next year. About 1,000 viss (1 viss=3·65 lbs.) yearly could be gathered and delivered in Prome at Rs. 30 to Rs. 35 per 100 viss. The juice of the crushed leaves of this tree is there used in cases of cataract in animals.

As regards the occurrence of the tree in the Toungoo Division, it is reported to be plentiful in suitable localities in the Zeyawadi Range, fairly abundant in the Bonmadi Range and scarce in the Thagaya Range. The tree is never found in country which is in the least hilly, nor in country which is swampy ; its habitat *par excellence* is on level ground either near the banks of streams, or on waste land near villages, deserted village sites being favourable spots. The tree flowers in the cold weather, generally in December, and the pods are fit for collection at the end of February or in March. No estimate can be formed of the quantity that could be collected, as there has, until Professor Dunstan interested himself in the matter, never been any demand for it ; but it is thought that there should be no difficulty in collecting 2,000 lbs. or so of the pods in the Toungoo Division, and the cost of collection would, it is estimated, come to about Rs. 5 per cwt. delivered at the nearest railway station.

In Bassein the fruit or pods are not, so far as is known, used much by the people of the country ; but the leaves are sometimes pressed and the juice used as medicine for the eyes of buffaloes and other animals, while the seeds are occasionally roasted and eaten.

Speaking generally, the leaves in the Myauaung Division bear a very close resemblance to those of the tamarind tree, but the pods are much smaller. A pod contains two round seeds. The plant itself is seldom higher than 10 feet. It is a spreading shrub and very spiny. The flowers appear about the middle of the rains and the pods ripen in February and March. The places in which it is found are the high ground near kevins, along road sides bordering the foot of small hills, on the banks of some chaungs, in hedges near villages, etc. It has also been found in laterite and sandy soils. It is never found on ground that is saturated during the rains. As regards the use of the plant, the pod-cases when ripe are roasted and the seeds then eaten, principally by the younger portion of the population. If a large quantity be eaten in this way it has an intoxicating effect. The root, when pounded and mixed with water, is drunk as a febrifuge by some people, and has also an intoxicating effect.

In Assam the high percentage of tannin found in the pods is said to be remarkable since it equals, and in some cases exceeds, the amount found in galls and other highly concentrated tanning materials. But the main point appears to be that the shrub can apparently be grown without much trouble, that a commercial demand for its pods exists, and that Professor Dunstan is decidedly of opinion that a more or less lucrative trade can be done in this material if only some one will undertake to produce it on a commercial scale.

—The need of a carefully compiled index to the enormous but scattered **literature bearing on the Races of Rice in India** has long been felt by workers taking up the study of this important cereal. This need has now been met by the publication, from the office of the Reporter on Economic Products to the Government of India, of Pamphlet No. 113 in the Vegetable Product series of the *Agricultural Ledger*. The first half, A—K, just issued, is priced at 12 annas and may be obtained of the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta.

CROP FORECASTS.

WHEAT.

First General Memorandum on the WHEAT crop of the season 1910-11.

On the average of the five years ending 1908-09 the areas under wheat in those provinces to which this memorandum relates represented about 99·7 per cent of the total reported wheat acreage in India.

The returns from a number of Native States (which in the aggregate usually contain about 14 per cent of the total wheat acreage) are incomplete owing to the absence of a definite estimate of the acreage sown. The British province of Eastern Bengal and Assam (which usually contains 0·5 per cent of the total) has also not given an estimate of acreage. In the remaining territory (representing about **85 per cent**) the **total area** under wheat reported up to date is 23,420,800 acres as compared with 22,663,600 acres at the same date last year—an increase of 757,200 acres or 3·3 per cent.

The sowing season has on the whole been favourable, and the condition of the crop is reported to be generally good.

The following is a summary of the provincial reports. The **figures in brackets**, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the total area under wheat in India is ordinarily cultivated in that province ; the ratio of irrigated to total wheat acreage in the province is also stated.

Panjab ***(33·6%***. Ratio of irrigated to total wheat acreage=52·7%). The area sown in British districts up to the end of November is estimated at 7,988,000 acres (irrigated 3,972,400 acres) as compared with 8,108,400 acres estimated at this date last year, and 8,148,700 acres finally reported for that year. For the Native States the total area is estimated at 971,400 acres as compared with 925,500 acres estimated at this date last year, and 1,095,900 acres the finally revised figure for that year. For both British and Native territory the present estimate comes to a total of 8,959,000 acres as against 9,034,000 acres at this date last year—a decrease of 0·8 per cent. Sowings are, however, still in progress in the central Panjab on irrigated land. The last phase of the monsoon, although excellent for wheat sowings in the south-eastern half of the province, was not as favourable as in 1909 on the much more imported central and north-western tracts. In the south-eastern districts there was ample rain in the second week of September followed by another unusual fall at the beginning of October. But in the important wheat growing districts, the monsoon withdrew prematurely 2 or 3 days before the end of August. Fortunately, however, the last fall was extremely heavy and left enough moisture for satisfactory sowings on much of the unirrigated land. The standing crops are promising and are doing well everywhere.

United Provinces (*22·9%*. Ratio of irrigated to total wheat acreage=52·1%).—August and September were wet months, and the preliminary tillage for the spring crops was somewhat hampered.

October opened with a few days of exceptionally heavy rain, and moisture was consequently ample when sowings of the wheat crop began about the middle of that month: in the low lands indeed the land was too wet and sowings were delayed in consequence. Unusually heavy rain fell in the second week of November in the eastern half of the province and facilitated late sowings. Germination has been good, and prospects of the crop are so far most promising. On the basis of the reports received the total area sown is estimated at about 7,200,000 acres, which is some 10 per cent more than last year's area. The provincial Director of Agriculture, however, remarks that the agricultural and economic conditions both favour a very large area, and judging by the results of previous years this figure is probably an underestimate; he therefore thinks that the area sown should this year approximate to 7½ million acres and may even exceed this estimate.

Central Provinces and Berar (*11·8%*. Ratio of irrigated to total wheat acreage=1·2%).—In the beginning of the monsoon continuous and heavy rainfall throughout the provinces and subsequently timely showers in the first fortnight of October left sufficient moisture in the ground. A most opportune rain was also received in the middle of November. Sowings were generally successful and germination on the whole good. Some re-sowing was necessary in places mainly owing to defective germination. The total area sown is estimated at about 3,259,000 acres, which is 6 per cent larger than last year's area (3,064,000 acres). The present condition of the crop is very satisfactory in most of the important wheat-growing districts. The weather is now clear and cold, and prospects are decidedly favourable. Two Native States (Khairagarh and Nandgaon) estimate a total area of 122,000 acres as against 112,000 last year.

Bombay and Sind (*8·4%*. Ratio of irrigated to total wheat acreage=12·4% in Bombay and 81·5% in Sind).—The information is up to 5th December, and is incomplete as sowings continued at that date. The total reported area in British districts and Native States (including Baroda) is 1,857,000 acres (431,000 being in Sind), which is 9 per cent over the area at the corresponding date of last year. In the Presidency proper wheat cultivation extended under stimulus of favourable late rains except in parts of Gujarat, Kathiawar and Karnatak, where lands usually reserved for spring crops had been utilized for cotton and other autumn crops. In Sind good rains and favourable inundation brought about an increase in area. The crop is fair in north Gujarat and Sind. Elsewhere conditions at present are very favourable, and the young crop is thriving. Irrigated crop is also doing well everywhere.

Bengal (*4·6%*).—The area sown is estimated at 1,259,000 acres against 1,428,000 acres last year—a decrease of nearly 12 per cent. Sowings are, however, reported to be still incomplete in places. Good rain fell in September and October and there was sufficient moisture for sowing. In November there was no rain except in parts of Chota Nagpur and in Bihar, where it was excessive. The season has been favourable so far. The present condition of the crop is reported to be good.

North-West Frontier Province (*3·7%*. Ratio of irrigated to total wheat acreage=24·2%).—The total area sown up to the end of November is estimated at 886,800 acres (irrigated 238,100 acres) as compared with 919,600 acres at this date last year and 1,007,800 acres finally returned that year. In Peshawar and Hazara want of rain at sowing time contracted the area, while in Dera Ismail Khan the July floods washed away all the embankments and interfered with irrigation operations to a considerable extent. If, however, favourable winter rains fall up till the middle of January further large sowings may be expected on unirrigated lands. The condition of the standing crop is fair.

Eastern Bengal (*0·5%*).—No estimate of the area sown is available at this time. The present condition of the crop is reported to be good in all districts; and as there is plenty of moisture in the soil, prospects are particularly favourable.

Central India (*7·5%*) and **Rajputana** (*2·9%*).—Most of the States from which returns have been received have not given any estimate of the acreage sown. The condition of the crop is reported to be generally good.

Hyderabad (*3·8%*).—Owing to excess of rain sowings were suspended in places for some time. No detailed information is as yet available as regards acreage; but prospects of the crop are reported to be favourable.

Mysore (*0·01%*).—Heavy rain is said to have interfered with wheat cultivation in certain places, and delayed sowing operations in certain others. No information regarding the acreage sown is as yet available; but prospects are reported to be generally good.

SPRING OILSEEDS.

First General Memorandum on the crop of SPRING OILSEEDS (Rape and Mustard and Linseed) in the season 1910-11.

The United Provinces do not at this season make an estimate of the large quantity of oilseeds sown interspersed with other crops, but figures relating to the area sown with oilseeds alone are now furnished. In the case of Eastern Bengal no estimate is available at this stage. The Native State of Hyderabad furnishes estimates of areas under both crops. The oilseeds areas of the Native States in Bombay and Sind are included in the figures for those provinces, Native States in other provinces do not report.

For each crop, summaries of the provincial reports are given below. The **figures in brackets**, following the name of each province, indicate what percentage of the total reported area under the respective crop in British India is ordinarily cultivated in that province.

RAPE AND MUSTARD.

On the average of the five years ending 1908-09 the areas under **Rape and Mustard** in those provinces to which this memorandum relates represented some 79 per cent of the total reported area under that

crop. In the same period the average acreage (excluding Hyderabad, Assam, and the "mixed" crop of the United Provinces) was 2,143,500 acres. Last year the figure for the same tracts and crops was 2,400,800 acres. This year it is 2,684,000 acres. There is thus an estimated net expansion of 283,200 acres, or nearly 12 per cent on the figures of last year, and one of 540,500 acres, or 25 per cent on the five years' average. Including Hyderabad, the total acreage reported up to date is 2,692,500 acres as compared with 2,408,900 acres last year, the increase being one of 283,600 acres, or nearly 12 per cent.

The sowing season has on the whole been favourable except in parts of the North-West Frontier, Bombay, and Sind. The condition of the crops is reported to be generally good.

United Provinces (*39·7%*).—The area sown with the *unmixed* crop is roughly estimated at about 212,500 acres, which is some 20 per cent more than last year's area. No estimate of the area under rapeseed grown in combination with other crops (chiefly for home consumption) is available at present, but this also is expected to be much greater than in the previous year. Sowings were generally somewhat later than usual owing to the wetness of the soil. Germination has been good, and prospects are so far most promising.

Panjab (*18·5%*).—The area sown up to the end of November is estimated at 1,321,000 acres against 1,135,000 acres at this date last year and 1,331,800 acres finally returned for that year. The season has been slightly more favourable for oilseeds than for wheat, and the crop is reported to be generally in good condition.

Bengal (*12·5%*).—The area sown with rape and mustard is estimated at 948,700 acres as compared with 836,000 acres last year—an increase of 13·5 per cent, attributed to favourable weather at sowing time. In September and October the rainfall was general and was above the normal in most districts. In November there was no rain except in some districts of Chota Nagpur and in Bihar, where the fall was above the average. On the whole the season has been favourable, and the condition of the crop is reported to be good.

Assam (*4·4%*).—There has been abundant moisture for the rape crop. In parts of Cachar and Nowgong the crop is backward, because, owing to rain and late floods, low-lying fields could not be sown till a later date than usual. No estimate of acreage can yet be made owing to absence of reports from two districts. Reports as to condition of the crop vary from fair to good.

North-West Frontier Province (*2·4%*).—The area sown up to the end of November is estimated at 77,800 acres as compared with 91,700 acres last year—a decrease of 15 per cent, attributed to heavy floods in Dera Ismail Khan and want of rain in Hazara. The prospects of the crop are reported to be fair.

Bombay and Sind (*1·36%*).—Estimates are up to 5th December, and the information is incomplete. The total area reported is 124,000 acres (48,400 being in Native States), which is 23 per cent short of the area at the corresponding date of last year, attributed mainly to deficient water supply. The crop, however, is reported to be doing fairly well everywhere.

Hyderabad reports 8,500 acres under mustard as compared with 8,100 acres last year.

LINSEED.

On the average of the five years ending 1908-09 the area under **Linseed** in those provinces to which this memorandum relates represented some 93 per cent of the total reported area under that crop. In the same period the average acreage (excluding Hyderabad and the "mixed" crop of the United Provinces) was 2,059,300 acres. Last year the figure for the same tracts and crop was 1,910,900 acres. This year it is 2,099,900 acres. There is thus an estimated expansion of 189,000 acres, or 10 per cent on the figures of last year, and one of 40,600 acres, or 2 per cent on the five years' average. Including Hyderabad, the total acreage reported up to the present time comes to 2,717,200 acres as against 2,459,800 acres last year—an increase of 10·5 per cent.

The state and prospects of the crop are reported to be good.

United Provinces (*29·8%*).—The area under the *unmixed* crop is roughly estimated at 372,200 acres, which is some 20 per cent more than last year's area. No estimate of the area under linseed grown in combination with other crops (chiefly home consumption) is available at present; but this also is expected to be much greater than in the preceding year. Reports as to the condition and prospects of sowings are the same as summarised above under "Rape and mustard."

Central Provinces and Berar (*32·6%*).—In all districts in which linseed is of importance a fairly substantial increase in the area is anticipated owing to favourable conditions at sowing time. The total area estimated (1,019.000 acres) shows a net increase of 10 per cent as compared with that (926.000 acres) of last year. Germination was generally good, and practically no re-sowing was necessary. Prospects are at present generally good everywhere.

Bengal (*22·8%*).—The total area sown with linseed is at present estimated at 605,000 acres as compared with 588,300 acres last year—an increase of 2·8 per cent. Reports as to character of the season and the general condition of the crop are the same as summarised above under "Rape and mustard."

Bombay (*8%*).—Estimates are made as at 5th December, and the information is incomplete. The total area reported is 103,700 acres (10,100 being in Native States), which is 20 per cent over the area at the corresponding date of last year, attributed to favourable late rains. The crop is reported to be doing well everywhere.

Hyderabad reports 617,300 acres under linseed as compared with 548,900 acres last year—an increase

of 12·5 per cent. The crop has been affected in parts by late rains, but on the whole the prospects are good.

FREDERICK NOËL-PATON,
Director-General of Commercial Intelligence.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.

Crop Reports.

(*By Telegram.*)

Dacca, Dec. 27th.

THE following is a summary of the weather and crop reports of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the week ending 26th instant :—

There has been no rain except light showers in Upper Assam.

The harvesting and transplantation of rice are approaching completion : the outturn is fair, though much damage has been done by insects.

The crushing of sugarcane has commenced.

The harvesting of pulses and mustard are in progress in Assam.

The weeding of *rabi* crops and the early ploughing for jute are progressing in places.

Most *rabi* crops promise to give a good outturn, though insects have done some injury.

The average retail price of common rice is about one per cent less than last week.

Cattle disease is reported in Tippera and Nowgong and the Khasi and Garo hills.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS NOTIFICATIONS.

THE *Board of Trade Journal* published on the 8th instant in the section relating to Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations, gives particulars about :—

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—Proposed Consolidation of Laws respecting Prohibition of Exportation of Ostriches, etc., and Angora Goats.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.—Proposed Amendment of Opium Regulations.

NETHERLANDS.—Projected Revision of the Customs Tariff.

CUBA.—Proposed Modification of Duties on Paper, Prints, etc.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—Free Importation of Certain Cotton Spinning Machinery. Commerce Regulation regarding "Vicuna." Commerce Act: Marking on Manures.

DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.—Customs Decisions.

LEEWARD ISLANDS; DOMINICA.—Prohibition of Importation of Cocoanuts, Banana Plants, etc., from Certain Countries.

EGYPT.—Revised Valuation Tariff for Sesame. Valuation Tariff for Russian Flour.

SPAIN.—Most-Favoured Nation Treatment for Imports from Cuba.

ROUMANIA.—Machines Dutiable as Agricultural Machines.

SERVIA.—Duty on Common Axles—Correction of "Foreign Import Duties" Return. Revised Tare Schedule to the Customs Tariff.

JAPAN (FORMOSA).—Abolition of Export Duties and Port Clearance Duties.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

BENGAL.

THE particulars below are taken from the abstract of the proceedings of Bengal Chamber of Commerce, for the month of November, 1910 :—

Railway Finance.

At their meeting on the 22nd November, the Committee decided to address the Government of India (Railway Board) on the subject of the allotment for capital expenditure on Indian railway construction and equipment. The letter has since been drawn up and submittted to Government. It has been also published for general information and there is, therefore, no need to detail it here. Its object is to urge upon Government the need for maintaining a Railway programme on a basis of at least £10 millions (Rs. 15·5 crores). The Commission which was presided over by Sir James Mackay, G.C.M.G., and which sat in London in 1907-08, recommended that the allotment should be £12·5 millions yearly.

Proposed Revision of the Administrator General's Act II of 1874.

The Committee have under consideration a request, which has been made to them by the Government of Bengal, for their views upon the question of the revision of this Act. A Bill revising the Act has been prepared by the Administrator General, Bengal, and by him submitted to the Government of India. That Government has placed the Administrator General and Official Trustee, Bombay, on special duty to examine the contemplated changes, and likewise certain proposals for amending the Official Trustees Act XVII of 1864.

The Committee are taking steps to formulate their views upon the question, and will reply to Government in due course.

Indian Explosives Act IV of 1884.

In September the Committee were asked by the Government of Bengal for their opinion upon certain amendments, which it was proposed to make in the rules regarding the manufacture, possession and sale of explosives. The changes contemplated were of a minor character and the Committee, after consulting the Indian Mining Association and the importers of explosives, expressed their approval of them. They remarked, however, upon one suggested new clause. Hitherto it has been permissible to keep a quantity, not exceeding 15 pounds, of an explosive in any building not specially constructed. But under the proposed new rules it will be necessary to provide a specially constructed building for any quantity, however small. It was suggested that the change might entail hardship on firms and individuals engaged in business in a small way. The Committee brought this point to the notice of Government; but they were not prepared to say that the modification was unnecessary. For they are fully alive to the serious results which may occur if explosives are permitted to be stored in unsuitable places.

Indian Ports Act XV of 1908.

A Bill to amend this Act has been recently introduced by the Government of India. Its object is to enable rules to be made for the preparation of a satisfactory Code of regulations, for the prevention of the spread of disease, by means of ships arriving at and departing from India. The provisions of the existing law are considered by the Government of India to be insufficient for this purpose. They have been accordingly expanded in the Bill, the provisions of the English Public Healths Acts being generally followed. The Committee were asked by the Government of Bengal to express their views upon the measure, and they complied with the request, after consulting the Liners Conference and the firms interested. They did not take exception to the terms of the bill. At the same time they expressed a hope that, before any new rules may be enacted, the Chamber will be given an opportunity of considering their provisions. For it is very desirable that the health regulations should not be made more stringent than they now are, unless the need for so making them can be very clearly shown.

The Australian Mail.

In the abstract for September, reference was made to the question of the day of the week on which mail letters for Australia may be posted. The Committee suggested to the Postmaster General, Bengal Circle, that Monday might be fixed as the day of despatch. The Postmaster General, in reply, stated that there might be delay in finally settling the matter, but that Monday had been decided upon as a temporary measure. On the 7th November the Postmaster General said that, after further communication with the Postmaster General, Madras, it had been decided that the mails for Australia could be safely despatched from Calcutta on Tuesday in each week. The Committee noted this information with satisfaction, and they thanked the Postmaster General for the action which he had taken in the matter.

Proposed System of Licensing Builders.

The Corporation of Calcutta have recently invited the Committee to express their views upon a proposal for the introduction of a system for licensing builders and building surveyors. In the existing state of the law, the only control which can be exercised over building operations in the city, is that prescribed by Schedules XVI and XVII of the Municipal Act. But these Schedules do not require that the plans of buildings to be erected must be drawn up under the direction of a qualified builder. It is considered by the Corporation that under the system effective control cannot be exercised : and that it is desirable to make such changes as will ensure that building operations are, in all cases, entrusted to properly qualified builders. The idea is that the Corporation should license builders and building surveyors, and that no plan should be sanctioned unless it be presented through a licensed building surveyor. And, further, that no building should be permitted to be constructed, except under the direct supervision of a licensed builder. To effect this object, it will be necessary to move the Government of Bengal to amend the existing Act. The opinion of the Chamber has been invited upon the question, with particular reference to :—(*a*) the qualifications to be required of a builder and building surveyor seeking a license ; (*b*) the composition of the body, or authority, granting such license, and the terms of the license ; and (*c*) whether any class of engineers, architects or builders should be exempted from the operation of the license. The Committee have the question before them, and they have consulted, in regard to it, those members of the Chamber who are interested in the building trade.

Insect Pests and Fungoid Diseases.

At their meeting on the 22nd November, the Committee had before them papers which they had received from the Director of Agriculture, Bengal, upon this subject. The Government of India have expressed the opinion that the exercise of some measure of control is desirable, in order to protect the staple agricultural products of this country from danger arising from the importation of insect pests and fungoid diseases, with foreign plants. It has been suggested that a notification should be issued under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act VIII of 1878. Such a notification would take the form of a schedule of what would be termed dangerous plants ; and it would restrict the importation of such plants, parts of plants, cuttings, roots, etc. In some cases the plants, or parts, imported would be subjected to fumigation. In others, importation would be permitted only when the consignments were accompanied by an official certificate, declaring that certain diseases were non-existent in the growing districts. And importers of flax seed and sugarcane, would be required to obtain a license from the Department of Agriculture in India.

The Committee examined the question thus raised, and they also submitted it to the Indian Tea Association. The Scientific Officers of that body expressed themselves as being in favour of it, and the Association consequently supported it. The Committee of the Chamber were also of the same opinion ; and they have since written to Government to that effect. They noticed that, under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, the Governor General in Council has a general power to restrict the importation of goods of any specified description into British India.

Post Office Holidays.

The Committee have consulted the members of the Chamber regarding a proposal, which has been made by the Government of India, for increasing the number of Post Office Holidays. The idea is that there should be six new Post Office holidays, in addition to those which are already granted to postal servants. The six days are to be selected, as far as possible, from those accepted as public holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act of 1881.

On receiving the views of members, the Committee will express to Government the opinion of the Chamber upon the proposal.

Calcutta Post Office Box System.

The Committee have recently published correspondence between the Postmaster General and themselves, in regard to the delivery of the English mail in Calcutta. Holders of post boxes had complained that sometimes their mails were not received until after the delivery of letters by the postman. It appeared that on the particular date which was mentioned in the correspondence, the mail had been exceptionally late; and that, as was usual on such occasions, it had been sorted in the train for the General Post Office and the town sub-offices. For the latter, the mail matter is of course much lighter than for the former; and it is in consequence more quickly distributed and delivered. Ordinarily, however, a box holder will receive his bag before he can receive a mail letter from a town sub-office. It is only on occasions when the mail is very late that such a case as that brought to notice can occur.

Interpretation of Shipment time in Piece-Goods Contracts.

Reference was made to this question in the last abstract. It arose with a representation from the Piece-goods Sub-Committee of the Chamber in September. The Sub-Committee suggested that the trade should be recommended to adopt a uniform method of defining the shipment time in piece-goods contracts, in those cases where the shipment is to extend over more than one month. On the 20th October the Committee pointed out, in a circular to members of the Chamber, that, in the case referred to, it is customary to define the shipment time in one of the three following ways, *viz* :—

20 cases . . .	Shipment	April-May equally.
Do. . . .	Do.	April-May unequally.
Do. . . .	Do.	April-May.

There was no difficulty in understanding the meaning of the first and second of these definitions. But it was believed that the trade did not uniformly interpret the third. From the replies which the Committee received to the circular, they gathered that this apprehension was correct. The phrase in question has no uniform meaning. In the circumstances, they have recommended members interested in the piece-goods trade to discontinue the use of the phrase, without qualification. The simplest way out of the difficulty will be, they have suggested, to state definitely, in every contract in which shipment is to extend over more than one month, the quantities which are to be supplied in that month, *e.g.*, $\frac{\text{April-May}}{10\quad 10}$ or $\frac{\text{April-May}}{5\quad 15}$, etc.

Fires in Coal Cargoes.

The question of the occurrence of fires in cargoes of Indian coal has engaged the attention of the Committee during the past month. The Bombay Chamber submitted a statement, received from the Bombay Port Trust, giving particulars of a number of fires which have taken place during the past three years. These particulars the Committee put before the Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents' Association, the Indian Mining Association and the members of the Chamber. From the replies which they have received, they gather that it is difficult to suggest remedial measures, beyond the following which were recommended by the Chief Inspector of Mines two years ago, namely:—(*i*) selecting the coal: (*ii*) screening it carefully at the mine: (*iii*) keeping it as dry as possible: (*iv*) giving as little drop as possible when loading into the ship: and (*v*) carefully ventilating the cargo to prevent any accumulation of heat in the ships' holds.

UPPER INDIA.

In the abstract of the proceedings of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce during October, 1910, just published, the following among other particulars appear :—

Refusal to renew Government Promissory Notes.

The question of the regulations governing transfers of Government Promissory Notes was brought to the Committee's notice in connection with a case where the Public Debt Office had refused to renew certain notes in view of declared irregularities in the endorsements. The Public Debt Office justified their action on the grounds that in certain cases neither the articles of association of the companies concerned, nor the powers-of-attorney granted to their agents, specifically conferred authority to deal in Government Promissory Notes. In other cases objection was raised as the endorsements on the notes did not comply with statutory requirements.

In addressing the Local Government on the subject, the Committee questioned whether the rules under which the endorsements have been declared invalid could be regarded as really effective precautions against fraud, and recommended measures being taken to bring about such modifications of the existing rules, consistent with the vital necessity for protecting the interests of the public as would obviate contractors, who in the course of their business deal in Government paper, being placed in the position of holding what was practically unsaleable security, as in many cases the endorsements could not be altered so as to comply with the strict letter of the rules.

Proceedings of the Board of Agriculture in India.

The Industries Department of the United Provinces was addressed on the 27th October with reference to a suggestion that the Agricultural Department might usefully confer with the Educational Department as to the courses of nature study followed at the training schools, the text books used, the practical work prescribed, the provision and up-keep of a model school garden at the training school, and the lessons given to the students under training. The Committee considered that co-operation of a somewhat analogous nature might appropriately be instituted in city schools between the

educational authorities and the Director of Industries: and that such co-operation would assist in the general desire existing on the part of Government and the commercial and industrial communities to improve the standard of intelligence amongst those destined for industrial careers.

Bill to amend the Public Gambling Act, 1867.

This measure is intended to check the practice of wagering on the occurrence or non-occurrence of rain or on the future prices of opium and other commodities. The Chamber was invited by the Local Government to give its views on the following points :—(1) whether the commercial community would welcome such legislation; (2) whether it would cover speculative operations incidental to commercial life with which it is undesirable to interfere; (3) whether legislation should be restricted to opium gambling; (4) how far the particular forms of wagering on the price of silver and other commodities, *viz*, "tezimadda," "nazrana," and "do-tarfa," are prevalent in these Provinces and ought to be penalised.

The Committee expressed the opinion that gambling of the kind undoubtedly did exist, and that it was not confined to any particular commodity or commodities. With regard to forward transactions where actual delivery was not contemplated, although such transactions were undoubtedly speculative, the Committee were opposed to their being penalised. Before giving the Bill their support, however, it was suggested that the opinion of the Legal Adviser to Government should be obtained as to the precise effect of the term "wager" as used in the Bill.

MADRAS.

The extracts below are from minutes of the proceedings of the Madras Chamber of Commerce at the monthly meeting held on the 29th November, 1910 :—

Fouling of the Coal Moorings.

Read a Note by the Chairman of the Madras Port Trust on the subject of dredging, from the bed of the harbour, coal dropped overboard between ship and shore in contravention of the provisions of the Indian Ports Act X of 1889.

Resolved to inform the Chairman of the Port Trust that the Chamber is not prepared to agree with him that the accidental dropping of coal overboard is in contravention of the Indian Ports Act, but that the Chamber trusts that, under the present condition of the harbour, and when further improvements have been effected in the facilities for landing coal, the dropping of coal overboard will be much less than it has been, and will cause little or no obstruction.

State Technical Scholarship in 1911.

Read a letter, dated the 1st November, from the Government of Madras, Educational Department, enquiring what industry or industries may, in the opinion of the Chamber, be selected for the award of the State Technical Scholarship during the year 1911.

Resolved to inform Government that, in the opinion of the Chamber, the Scholarship should be awarded to Electrical Engineering.

M. and S. M. Railway Rates of Freight on Cotton.

Read letters from Messrs. Binny & Co., Ld., and Messrs. Dymes & Co., Ld., on the subject of the increase of the M. & S. M. Railway rates of freight on cotton, and suggesting that the Chamber should make a protest against any increase of freight at this inopportune time.

After considerable discussion it was resolved to address the M. &. S. M. railway on the lines of the two letters.

PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

The following are the index-numbers of the prices of forty-five commodities worked out to the month of October, by Mr. A. Saurbeck, the average of the eleven years 1867—1877 being 100 :—

Average.				Monthly Numbers.	
1878—1887	= 79	February,	1895	=	60·0
1890—1899	= 66	July,	1896	=	59·2
1900—1909	= 73	May,	1907	=	82·4
	—	February,	1909	=	71·9
1883	= 82	October,	1909	=	75·2
1896	= 61	December,	1909	=	76·3
1900	= 75	March,	1910	=	79·1
1903	= 69	April,	1910	=	78·5
1904	= 70	May,	1910	=	78·2
1905	= 72	June,	1910	=	76·9
1906	= 77	July,	1910	=	78·1
1907	= 80	August,	1910	=	78·2
1908	= 73	September,	1910	=	77·6
1909	= 74	October,	1910	=	77·2

There is a further decline in the aggregate index-number, principally due to articles of food, corn being barely maintained and meat and sugar distinctly cheaper. Only coffee was firmer. Among materials iron, copper, lead and linseed oil were slightly better, tin and jute much higher, while other sorts experienced scarcely any change.

Silver had a much stronger market during the greater part of the month of October, and the prices and index-numbers compare thus (60·84*d.* per ounce being the parity of 1 gold to 15½ silver = 100) :—

	Price.		Index-Numbers.
Average, 1890—1899 . .	34*d.*	=	55·8
Average, 1900—1909 . .	26⅞*d.*	=	44·0
Average, 1898 . . .	35⅝*d.*	=	58·6
Average, 1902 . . .	24 1/16*d.*	=	39·6
Lowest, November, 1902 . .	21 1/16*d.*	=	35·6
End March, 1905 . . .	25 1/16*d.*	=	42·4
End December, 1906 . .	32 5/16*d.*	=	53·1
End December, 1909 . .	24½*d.*	=	39·9
End September, 1910 . .	24½*d.*	=	40·9
End October, 1910 . .	25 1/16*d.*	=	42·4

COMPANY MEETINGS.

Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company.

The report states that the proportion of working expenses to gross receipts is 45·51 per cent compared with 51·18 per cent in the corresponding half of 1909. The net earnings were Rs. 93,34,392 and the excess of net earnings over interest Rs. 33,34,765 (as compared with Rs. 21,18,578 for the corresponding period).

Dharwar Reefs Gold Mining.

The ordinary general meeting was held on the 8th instant at 6, Queen-street-place, Captain W. Bell McTaggar presiding. In moving the adoption of the report, the chairman said that all mining work was suspended at the end of last year, and it had since been decided to sell the Company's property in India to the Kabulgitti Gold Mines (Ld.) The consideration for the sale was £61,200, payable as to £58,700 by the allotment of 234,800 fully-paid ordinary shares of 5*s.* each of that Company and as to £2,500 in cash. It was proposed at once to distribute the assets, so that every shareholder should receive at least one fully-paid ordinary share of 5*s.* of the Kabulgitti Gold Mines for every fully-paid share of this Company, but in order that this might be done it was necessary that the Company should be wound up and the liquidator instructed to make such distribution. Mr. John Taylor seconded the motion, which was carried. A resolution was afterwards passed for winding up the Company voluntarily.

Champion Reef Gold Mining Company of India.

The report for the year ended September 30th states that the profit, which exceeded that of the previous year by £11,218, amounted to £130,040, making, with the balance brought forward, etc., a total of £136,131. Out of this sum two interim dividends, amounting to £34,667, have been paid, and appropriations have been made as follows :—Income-tax, £8,047 ; depreciation of machinery, plant, etc, £2,949 ; expenditure on Tennant's Circular, Carmichael's, and Garland's shafts £26,025 ; outlay on buildings, machinery, etc., £7,000 ; and mining and general expenditure on the Dharwar Option property, 28,117. The Directors recommend a final dividend for the year of 3*d.* per share, leaving £2,677 to be carried forward. Although there was an increase of 14,302 tons in the amount of ore milled, 15,741 tons have been added to the reserves of ore, a noticeable improvement, says the report, upon the results of recent years. The reserves now stand at 322,513 tons.

The P. and O. Company.

The net surplus of this Company of the year ended September 30th, 1910, amounts to £275,981, including £66,488 brought forward. After deducting the amount of the interim dividends, the balance admits of a further payment of 2½ per cent on the Preferred and 6½ per cent on the Deferred stock, together with a bonus on the latter stock of 3 per cent. The distribution for the year is therefore equal to 9 per cent on the paid-up capital. A balance of £67,181 is carried forward. The reports adds :—

Contracts were arranged in December last with Messrs. Caird and Messrs. Harland and Wolff for the construction of two steamers of the "M" class which now appear in the fleet list under the names of the *Medina* and *Maloja*. These vessels are larger than their prototypes of the same class, their tonnage being about 12,000 tons. They will be delivered in time for the outward passenger season of next year. The directors recently invited tenders for two steamers of 11,000 tons, with adequate power, intended chiefly for the new Australian line *viâ* the Cape. They will have extensive accommodation for third-class passengers and emigrants.

The directors recently acquired the steamers and business of the Blue Anchor Line, which has held a highly respectable position in the Australian trade, *viâ* the Cape, for many years. The steamers, five in number, aggregating 30,000 tons, appear in their place in the fleet list. They were taken over at their original cost price, subject to an annual depreciation at the rate of 5 per cent for every year they had been at work. At this rate the cost of these ships worked out approximately at £250,000. In addition to this sum the company paid Messrs. Lund, the managing owners, the sum of £25,000 for goodwill and compensation for the loss of management commissions, as the work will now be altogether in the hands of this company. The company have for some years been engaged in the Australian carrying trade by purely cargo vessels, but in a more or less irregular way. The purchase of the Blue Anchor interest will consolidate a policy which circumstances have hitherto prevented from being other than of a tentative character, and will enable the company to participate in the emigration business with Australia, which is rapidly developing at the present time.

. . . Opium shipments from India have fallen to zero, and other freights on cotton and cotton twist have been carried at lower rates than before, under the operation of contracts which it had been found necessary to accept rather than come to a rupture with shippers. Altogether the freight, etc., receipts have advanced from £1,518,818 to £1,734,248—a favourable difference of £215,430. The Indian business has probably been, on the whole, the best department of the company's work, but the Australian and China trades have also contributed to the improvement.

The coal account has been swollen by the outlay attending the supply of coal in Australia during a long strike of the miners, which threw difficulties in the way of loading ships. Depreciation amounts to £426,751, while the Suez Canal dues, under the present reduced tariff, amount to £357,980—a greater figure than that of last year. The coal expenditure stands at £818,907.

The working account of the year enables the sum of £84,000 to be set aside after payment of the usual dividend and bonus. The directors have thought it well to write off at once the £25,000 paid for the goodwill of the Blue Anchor Line, which will then leave the capital of this new business at a very moderate figure, and, secondly, appropriate £59,000 as extra depreciation, in pursuance of the policy of strengthening the reserves. The balance to be carried forward will be slightly in excess of that brought forward.

THE WORLD'S COTTON CULTIVATION.

The report on the "Present Position of Cotton Cultivation," which was presented by Professor Wyndham Dunstan, Director of the Imperial Institute, to the International Congress, of Tropical Agriculture held in Brussels last May, has now been published by the International Association of Tropical Agriculture and Colonial Development. To it are appended special reports on the present position and prospects of cotton growing in each of the actual and potential cotton-producing countries of the world. Attention is drawn to the fact that at present the sub-tropics produce the majority of cotton of the quality required by the Lancashire manufacturer —namely, the United States and Egypt. Information is given as to the present condition of cotton cultivation in both these countries. Emphasis is laid on the fact that in the United States the industry has had the great advantage of the assistance of an efficient Government Department of Agriculture, whose labours have contributed in no small measure to surmount the many obstacles with which American cotton cultivation has had to contend. In Egypt the absence of any Government Department of Agriculture to afford guidance to the cultivator and to conduct experiments is deplored, although credit is given for much valuable work to the Khedivial Agricultural Society. In a footnote it is added that the Egyptian Government has now decided to create the Agricultural Department which has been so long needed. It is understood that Mr. G. C. Dudgeon, Inspector of Agriculture in West Africa, who in that capacity has been attached to the Imperial Institute, has been chosen as the first Director-General of Agriculture in Egypt. The problems to be solved in connection with Egyptian cotton growing are discussed, and reference is made to the great possibilities presented by the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan for bringing a large area of that country under cotton cultivation, a subject which was dealt with in a leading article in the *Times of October 14th*.

The prospects of cotton growing in the British Empire have been discussed in Professor Dunstan's report to Parliament of last year. In the present report they are separately considered, as is also the position in India. Stress is again laid on the importance of continuous experimental work under Government auspices, since the problem in most countries is to establish an acclimatized type of cotton suitable for the purposes of the manufacturer. Progress, though slow, appears to be satisfactory. In Nyasaland success seems to have been achieved, a new cotton, to be known as "Nyasaland Upland," having been established. This cotton is said to be in some respects superior to the best "American Upland" and to satisfy all the requirements of Lancashire. The prospects in Uganda are mentioned as of special promise, and the progress made in West Africa is referred to, attention being drawn to the developments which are likely to occur through the opening of the Northern Nigeria railway now approaching completion. Accounts are given of cotton cultivation in French, German, Dutch, Portuguese, and Italian Colonies, and also in South America, the South Sea Islands, Japan, and China. In China it is stated that the production of a coarse cotton has now reached 600 million pounds annually, and the effects of an extension of this cultivation are considered.

Asia Minor is spoken of as a promising field for the growth of cotton of the "American Upland" type, and in this connexion reference is made to Professor Dunstan's previous report on this subject, and especially to the openings for cotton cultivation presented by the great plain of Cilicia. The importance of the work of the British Cotton-Growing Association is dwelt upon, and it is satisfactory to learn that the British Government has decided to assist its operations by the conditional grant of £10,000 a year for a term of years. It is also understood that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has under consideration the question of assisting British enterprise in the Sudan in operating on a large scale in a promising district of that country, in respect of which, as has been recently pointed out in these columns, Great Britian has an important vested interest and responsibility.

The report is a good example of the useful work which may be done by the International Association for Tropical Agriculture in subjects of this kind, which are materially advanced by discussion among workers of different nationalities, such as those who have contributed to this report. It also indicates the important place which is now being filled by the Imperial Institute in connexion with the Colonial Office as a centre for information and research relating to the development of the resources of the Tropics.

—With the vast increase in the world's demand for rubber, and the rise in price of this product, considerable attention has been given to **rubber cultivation in the Philippines**. Exhaustive experiments have been made by the Bureau of Agriculture and by private persons with, on the whole, very satisfactory results. Extensive planting has taken place in the province of Bataan, which forms the western wall of Manila Bay, and in the Islands of Mindanao and Basilan in the south of the Archipelago. These trees are not yet old enough to produce rubber, but it is hoped that in time the United States market will receive a large proportion of its supply from the Islands.

COFFEE TRADE OF BRAZIL.

In the Consular Report on the Trade of Brazil for 1909 the particulars below regarding the coffee trade appear :—

The value of coffee exports in 1908 was 52·2 per cent of the total exports from Brazil. In 1909 the percentage rose to 52·5 per cent of the total. Sao Paulo, the chief coffee-producing State, contributed about 40 per cent to the total exports from Brazil. The average value of coffee and rubber together during the five years 1904—08 was 78·4 per cent of the total exports, or more than two-thirds. In 1909 the percentage of coffee and rubber together rose to 82½ per cent of the total of Brazilian exports. From these figures it will easily be seen how greatly the prosperity of Brazil depends on the value of these two products. The value of coffee exported from Brazil in 1909 was £33,475,170, an increase of £10,435,939 over 1908, when the value was £23,039,231. The amount of coffee exported during the year 1909 was 16,880,696 sacks of 60 kilos., an increase of 4,222,239 sacks over 1908, when the amount was 12,658,457 sacks. The value of the Brazilian coffee crop of 1909-10 exported was £24,019,305, an increase of £9,307,454 over the value of the previous crop. The average value of a sack of 60 kilos. in 1909 was £1 19*s*. 6¼*d*. as compared with £1 16*s*. 4½*d*. in 1908.

The 1910-11 crop is, according to official reports, likely to be a small one and is not likely to exceed 12,000,000 sacks for the whole of Brazil (about 8,500,000 sacks from Santos and 2,500,000 sacks from Rio de Janeiro) during the 12 months June 1910, to June 1911. Owing to the existing State law of Sao Paulo limiting exports of coffee produced in the State, only 9,556,522 sacks of such coffee of the 1909-10 crop were exported from the port of Santos. The difference of 687,304 sacks, making up the total exports from Santos of 10,243,826 sacks from July 1st to December 16th, 1909, when shipments practically ceased, is coffee produced in the State of Minas Geraes, to which the export limitation law in question does not apply, the Federal Constitution not allowing it to do so. Shipments from July 1st to December 10th, inclusive, amounted to 10,084,598 bags, thus leaving 102,706 bags to be shipped on the 11th to complete the limit of 10,187,304 bags, say :—

	Bags.
Sao Paulo coffee . . .	9,500,000
Minas coffee	687,304
Total .	1,0187,304

It being impracticable to impose the 20 per cent the moment the above total of 10,187,304 bags should be reached, the State Government declared that shipments would be permitted at the ordinary rate of duty until 7 P.M. on that day, December 11th.

The result of this concession was that the limit of 9,500,000 of Sao Paulo coffee was exceeded by 29,237 bags.

The stock of coffee in Brazil on January 1st, 1910, was 1,500,000 sacks. On that date the world's visible supply was calculated at 16,564,000 sacks, of which 15,014,000 sacks were in other markets. 6,842,374 sacks of these are valorisation coffee and belong to the State of Sao Paulo, there remaining, therefore 8,171,626 sacks for general consumption. Taking this as 1,500,000 sacks a month on the average, or in all 9,000,000 sacks until July 1st, 1910, and calculating Santos receipts at 1,000,000 sacks for the same period, there would be an available stock of 171,626 sacks only on that date. Calculating the 1910-11 crop of Brazil at 12,000,000 sacks and that of other coffee-producing countries at 3,500,000 sacks, with the world's consumption at about 18,000,000 sacks, there should be a deficit or rather a reduction on stocks on July 1st, 1911, of about 2,500,000 sacks, not taking into account any increase of consumption.

State legislation of Sao Paulo in the shape of the law passed some eight years ago, and which is to remain in force until 1912, imposing a tax of 2 milreis (2*s*. 6*d*.) on each coffee tree planted on new land and a heavy fine for any attempt at evasion, has certainly prevented the formation of new plantations in the State of Sao Paulo, thus acting as a considerable check upon production. The fact, however, must not be overlooked that planters have taken full advantage of the tax in question not applying to trees planted within the area already under cultivation of coffee, with the result that the productive capacity of the Sao Paulo plantations is being fully maintained. Then, again, it is well to remember that new plantations have been laid out in the State of Parana, on the borders of the State of Sao Paulo. Many planters in the State of Sao Paulo are turning their attention to other produce, such as rice, maize, sugar and cotton, instead of relying as formerly solely upon coffee, and by this means their position has been considerably strengthened.

With regard to the organisation of the trade, it will be remembered that the State Government as far back as 1904 offered a guarantee of 6 per cent per annum in connection with a land bank to be established for the purpose of assisting Sao Paulo coffee planters who, in general, lack adequate capital. During 1909 such a bank was established under the title of Banco do Credito Hypothecario e Agricola do Estado de Sao Paulo, and organised by Messrs. Loste and Co., of Paris, with a capital of 50,000,000 fr. It commenced business in June, 1909. Under the auspices of this bank a number of small caixas de credito rural, or loan banks, are to be established in the interior of the State, organised as mutual societies, to effect credit operations based on crops and agricultural produce. The Banco de Credito Hypothecario would furnish the capital required. Furthermore 21 bancos de custeio rural or small rural loan banks, with a total capital of 1,500,000 milreis (at exchange 1*s*. 3*d*., £93,750) have been established in the interior of the State of Sao Paulo, receiving direct support from the Government in the shape of loans to each one of 50,000 milreis (at exchange 1*s*. 3*d*. £3,125) towards forming the working capital. These banks charge their clients interest at the rate of 6 per cent. Another development of the trade is the establishment of public warehouses which facilitate the raising of money on produce by means of warrants issued against goods deposited.

Three public warehouse companies have been formed offering considerable storage facilities both in Santos and Sao Paulo, and one of the said three companies, the Cia. Paulista de Armazens Geraes, has also now opened a warehouse at Taubate and has two in course of construction, one at Jahu and the other at Sao Carlos de Pinhal.

Under the auspices of the government of Minas Geraes several co-operative societies formed among planters with a view to placing the producer in direct contact with the consumer have been working on a small scale, but cannot be said to have proved a success. In theory the idea is excellent, but is impracticable on a large scale owing to the difficulties of financing.

The Sao Paulo Government continue to support the propaganda movement to further an increase in consumption of coffee, which was initiated by the formation in London in 1907 of the Sao Paulo (Brazil) Pure Coffee Company, Ld. Of late the above movement has been active and fairly successful in Italy and France ; the results, however, of the efforts commenced in 1908 to push the sale of coffee in Japan are not at all encouraging.

The lack of success in Japan is to be attributed to the fact of opposition on the part of the Japanese Government which, with a view to protecting the home cultivation of tea, levies an import duty of about 3*d*. per lb. on coffee. It is stated that an increased duty is contemplated next year.

The expenses of the transport of coffee from the railway station in the interior to the steamer are very high and have been calculated at 40 per cent of the value of the crop.

Valorisation Loan.

In connection with the scheme for the valorisation of coffee the State of Sao Paulo effected in December, 1908, a loan of £15,000,000 which carried the guarantee of the Federal Government. As security for this loan the State pledged the proceeds of a surtax of 5 fr. per sack to be imposed upon all coffee exported from the State. In 1909 the surtax produced £2,750,419. After paying the interest on the loan and the expenses of warehousing the valorisation coffee, a balance remained of £1,624,713, placed to a fund for the redemption of the loan. In addition to this surtax, the State pledged the value of the State-owned coffee, then stored in Europe and the United States, amounting to 6,842,374 sacks of coffee, superior to type No. 7. In order to deal with this State-owned coffee, termed "valorisation coffee," a commission was appointed, consisting of seven members, of whom the member nominated by the State was invested with the power of veto, to the extent that he was authorised temporarily to suspend the deliberations of the commission in connection with any proposed measure, the matter in dispute to be referred for final decision to the Governor of the Bank of England.

At a meeting held in London in January, 1910, the members of the commission decided on the following proceedings with regard to the disposal of the valorisation coffee, *viz*., that there should be sold, either by public auction or by sealed tenders, 500,000 sacks of coffee during 1909-10 ; 600,000 sacks during 1910-11 ; and 700,000 sacks, during each succeeding season, until such time as the entire stock of coffee should have been sold.

In February of the current year the following sales of valorisation coffee were effected :—50,000 sacks at Hamburg, 50,000 sacks at Havre, 25,000 sacks at Antwerp, *i.e*., 125,000 sacks by public auction at prices averaging the equivalent of £1 19*s*. 3*d*. cost and freight for superior ; 125,000 sacks were also sold in New York at 9½ c. per lb., or, say, 250,000 sacks in all. In April sales were effected of a further 50,000 sacks in Hamburg, 40,000 sacks in Havre, 25,000 sacks in Rotterdam, 10,000 sacks in Marseilles, *i. e*., 125,000 sacks were sold by public auction at prices averaging about the equivalent of £1 19*s*. 6*d*. per cwt. cost and freight for superior, *plus* 75,000 sacks in New York sold privately at 9½ c. per lb., store terms, for New York exchange type 4. Total, 200,000 sacks.

Limitation of Exports from Santos.

The State of Sao Paulo passed a law to the effect that, in addition to the surtax of 5 fr., an extra tax of 20 per cent *ad valorem* would be imposed on all Sao Paulo coffee exported in excess of 9,500,000 sacks during 1909-10 and upon all Sao Paulo coffee exported in excess of 10,000,000 sacks during 1910-11 and during succeeding seasons. The result is that from July 1st on there is rush and a scramble to ship the coffee before the extra 20 per cent tax is imposed. In 1908-09 the shipments were spread over eight months, but the 1909-10 crop was all shipped in 5½ months, the limit having been reached on December 11th. For the other 6½ months in 1909-10 there is complete stagnation in Santos and a consequent exodus of workmen, etc. The crowding of one year's work into five months has caused general dissatisfaction and loss to the trade. From the above it will be seen that the coffee trade was recovering from the crisis which led to valorisation and that measures are being taken to prevent its recurrence. In April, 1910, however, the planters were again perturbed by the President's Message to Congress advocating the raising of the rate of exchange.

COTTON PIECE-GOODS.

In a Resolution of the Government of India (Nos. 5443-5449-8, dated the 13th July, 1906) in the Department of Commerce and Industry it was decided that owing to the considerable diversity of practice in the treatment, for fiscal purposes, of certain classes of imported cotton fabrics, a new system of classification should be adopted. The basis of this system to be a comprehensive and authoritative list of "cotton piece-goods," the commercial acceptation of that term having been taken as the determining factor in its preparation. Such goods were to be excluded from the category of "apparel", assessed to customs duty under Article 17 of schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act. It was, however, recognised that owing to frequent changes in manufacture and to the constant introduction of new styles and descriptions of piece-goods, the list in question could not continue to be complete for any length of time, and it was decided that the Director General of Commercial Intelligence should, in consultation with the Chambers of Commerce, the Trades' Associations and the Bombay Millowners' Association, revise the list at the end of each year simultaneously with the revision of the tariff valuations in Schedule IV of the Indian Tariff Act. By a Resolution in the Department of Commerce and Industry, No. 9321-9327-139, dated the 22nd December, 1910, the Governor General in Council is pleased to prescribe the following revised "List of Cotton Piece-goods" in supersession of the list appended to the Resolution of that Department, Nos. 10714-10720-120, dated the 19th December, 1907 :—

Revised list of Cotton Piece-goods.

Alhambras.
Angolas (cotton).
Apron cloth (cotton).
Batistes (cotton).
Beaverteens (cotton).
Blankets (cotton).
Holland and blind cloth (cotton).
Book-binding cloth.
Brilliants.
Brocades (cotton).
Brochè.
Buckram (cotton).
Calicoes.
Cambrics, plain, dyed or printed.
Cantoons.
Canvas (cotton).
Canvas, French elastic (cotton).
Casement cloth (cotton).
Cashmeres (cotton).
Cellular cloth.
Checks, spots and stripes.
Chiffons (cotton).
Chinese dyed cloths.
Chintz, glazed or unglazed.
Choonris.
Chadars.
Chadar-pattas.
Coatings (cotton).
Corduroy and corded cloth (cotton).
Cotton flakes.
Counterpanes.
Crapes (cotton).
Crash (cotton).
Crepons (cotton).
Cretonnes.
Crimps (cotton).
Damask, cotton, table.
Dawanies.
Delaines (cotton).
Delametti.
Denims.
Dhotis.
Diagonals (cotton).
Diapers (cotton).
Dimity.
Domestics.
Domettes (cotton).
Dosooti.
Dupettas.
Dorias.
Dress, plain or printed (cotton).
Drills, plain, striped or checked.
Duck.
Dungari.
Dusters (when joined by the warp).
Embroidered allovers.
" flounces.
Fents (cotton).
Finduras.
Flannelette (cotton flannel).
Galateas.
Gambroons.
Gauze (cotton).
Ghagras (cotton).
Ginghams (cotton).
Glass cloths (when joined by the warp) (cotton).
Grenadines (cotton).
Gumchas.
Hair-cords.
Handkerchiefs (in woven pieces).
Harvards.
Hollands (cotton).
Italians (cotton).
Jaconets, plain or bordered.
Jeans, plain, dyed, or printed.
Lace curtain cloth.
Lace stripes.
Lappets.
Lastings.
Lawns.
Lenos.
Linenette (cotton).
Linings, plain striped or mercerised.
Long cloths.
Lungis.
Lustres (cotton).
Madapollams.
Madras cloth.
Marcella.
Matte shirtings.
Matting (cotton).
Mattress cloth.
Meltons (cotton).
Mercerised cloth.
Merinos (cotton).
Merins.
Mexicans.
Moleskins (cotton).
Molleton cloth.
Morias.
Moreens (cotton).
Mulls, all kinds, plain or bordered.
Muslins (cotton) all kinds.
Nainsooks.
Net (cotton).
Nun's veilings (cotton).
Oatmeal cloth.
Penelope canvas.
Pillow calico, tubular.
Piques.
Plushette.
Pompadour.
Pongees (cotton).
Poplinette (cotton).
Prayer mats (cotton).
Printed crepelle.
Prints.
Printers plain and coloured.
Putsoes.
Quiltings (cotton).
Quilts
Radium cloth.
Regattas.
Rep cloth (cotton).
Sail cloth (cotton).
Saris.
Sarongs.
Sateens, plain, dyed, or printed.
Satinette.
Satin stripes (cotton).
Scarves (cotton).
Serges (cotton).
Shawls (cotton).
Sheetings.
Shirtings.
Silecia.
Silkette, plain or stripes.
Spanish stripes (cotton).
Suraline.
Sussi cloth.
Suitings (cotton).
Swansdown calico.
Tambours
Tameins (unfinished).
Tanjibs.
Tapestries (cotton).
Turlatans.
T cloths.
Ticking, mattress or blind (cotton).
Towels (cotton) in woven pieces and towel cloth including Terry cloth.
Trouserings (cotton).
Tulle (cotton).
Turbans (cotton).
Turkey red cloth.
Tussor cloth (cotton) and Tussorette.
Tweeds (cotton).
Twills (cotton) plain, dyed or printed.
Umbrella cloth (cotton).
Valencias.
Velvets (cotton).
Velveteen (cotton).
Venetian cloth (cotton).
Vestings or waistcoatings (cotton).
Voiles (cotton).
Wadding.
Zephyrs.

COTTON-GROWING IN FRENCH COLONIES.

The French Colonial Cotton Association is meeting with much encouragement in its efforts for the cultivation of cotton in Senegal, Upper Senegal and Dahomey. As yet the output of cotton in these colonies is not large, but the work of experimentation has been in progress only seven years. The area under cultivation and the yield have increased with each season, as the Association gradually extends its work and the natives become more and more familiar with the methods of preparing the soil and harvesting. In 1908 the crop was 780 bales, while in 1909 it increased to 1,085 bales. In some of the French colonies irrigation is necessary, especially in Senegal, and possibly in Algeria, but in the rest of those vast African regions controlled by the French and British Governments the rainfall is sufficient. With so much money being expended under the direction of experienced agents and with an abundant supply of native labour, the predictions of those interested in the work appear reasonable, and it seems probable that in the course of time Africa will produce, outside of Egypt, several million bales of cotton each year. In the French Cotton Association's report it is stated that in 1909 the Association began the installation and equipment of two ginning plants, one at Noumea and the other at Richard-Toll. Each of these stations is supplied with a petroleum motor, two rotary gins, and a hydraulic press. In Dahomey the work is virtually completed. Two small hand machines have been sent to the Ivory Coast, and a new roller gin has been supplied to the station at Phillippeville, Algeria. In the Sudan a new station has been installed at M'Psoba in the Koutiala region, which produces an important quantity of cotton, and where it is expected that fifty tons of fibre will be ginned this year. Experiments conducted under the supervision of an Egyptian expert to determine whether cultivation of cotton in Senegal with aid of irrigation is possible, are thus referred to:—"Two hectares (about five acres) at the station were laid out, broken up, fertilized with farm manure and chemicals, and planted with several Egyptian and American varieties. At the same time ten hectares (about twenty-five acres) of the surrounding land were prepared. Trained oxen were scarce and the natives had to be taught how to cultivate the ground. The plant was normal but developed rather more rapidly than in Egypt. The crop reached full maturity. Some of it has already been shipped to Havre to be ginned. The yield is expected to be more than 1,100 lbs. to the hectare (approximately 450 lbs. to the acre). This compares favourably with what is done on the best fields in Egypt. One important result of the experiment will be the elimination of all varieties except the Mit Afifi and some Mississippi cotton in future experiments." Results in the Sudan were entirely satisfactory. About 75,000 lbs. of cotton were exported to France in 1909, and of this 4,000 lbs. were produced by a native who co-operates with the French Colonial Cotton Association. The rainfall during the season was satisfactory, and the yield at all stations in the territory was very good. A new ginning plant is to be established at Koutiala. The Sudan cotton is said to be of excellent quality, and sold in France, at a good price. Of Dahomey and the other colonies it is said that, so far as the former is concerned, the results indicate a decided advance, inasmuch as the production is expected to reach 150 tons. The 1909 season was one of excellent rainfall, and the natives considerably increased their plantations of cotton in the certainty that they would be able to sell their crops to the agents of the French Colonial Association. In the other colonies cotton cultivation continues to progress. In south-west Africa the British Government has been assisting in experiments which have been carried on with evident success for a number of years, covering a field vastly larger than that of the French.

—The **German** newspapers report the **discovery** of what appears to be an important **gold reef** in the Eifel region, near the Belgian frontier. Our Berlin correspondent writes that the deposit appears to be of extensive character, although exploration work is as yet too little advanced to speak in definite terms of the quality or amount of the ore. It is reported that claims to the amount of above 8,000 acres have already been pre-empted by a Dusseldorf banking house, while other extensive tracts have been leased for prospecting purposes by other parties. It is mentioned that one boring struck the reef at eight feet from the surface, and that it had not yet passed through it, after being carried 40 feet into it. The ore is described as of good paying quality, though exact analyses are as yet lacking. The character of the deposit is such that dry dredging can be applied with advantage in mining. The newspaper accounts of the discovery are pitched in an optimistic tone, foreshadowing the early establishment of an important mining industry.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN NOVEMBER, 1910.

I.—GENERAL.

THE trade returns for November, 1910, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1909, show increases in the value of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, and in the values of the **Exports** both of the **Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom** and of **Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.**

The value of the **Imports** in November was 64,091,443*l.*, an increase of 2,479,901*l.*, or 4·0 per cent, as compared with November, 1909; whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 44,356,031*l.*, an increase of 4,282,686*l.* The **Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom** show an increase of 3,575,970*l.* or 10·7 per cent, as compared with November, 1909; whilst there is an increase of 706,716*l.*, or 10·5 per cent in the **Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.**

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for November, 1910, as compared with the corresponding month of 1909 and 1908, according to the different categories of merchandise :—

Imports (Value C.I.F.*)—November.

	Month of November			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO—					
A. Grain and flour	6,392,726	7,320,300	6,974,923	− 345,377	+ 582,197
B. Meat, including animals for food	4,118,926	3,884,431	4,017,216	+ 132,785	− 101,710
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	5,835,497	6,221,879	6,173,418	− 48,461	+ 337,921
2. Dutiable	4,615,017	5,757,458	5,055,631	− 701,827	+ 440,614
D. Tobacco	481,755	418,252	482,201	+ 63,949	+ 1,446
Total, Class I	21,442,921	23,602,320	22,703,389	− 898,931	+ 1,260,468
II.—RAW MATERIALS AND ARTICLES MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED—					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	344	1,555	4,203	+ 2,648	+ 3,859
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	452,889	490,318	520,171	+ 29,853	+ 67,282
C. Other metallic ores	510,445	744,296	722,235	− 22,061	+ 211,790
D. Wood and timber	1,649,040	2,209,722	1,770,029	− 439,693	+ 120,989
E. Cotton	5,965,735	9,987,092	13,512,544	+ 3,525,452	+ 7,546,809
F. Wool	2,218,425	2,624,177	2,486,399	− 137,778	+ 267,974
G. Other textile materials	1,265,078	1,198,762	1,195,048	− 3,714	− 70,030
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	2,008,336	2,773,314	2,832,116	+ 58,802	+ 823,780
I. Hides and undressed skins	712,188	1,002,465	1,088,946	+ 86,481	+ 376,758
J. Paper-making materials	377,764	436,179	475,288	+ 39,109	+ 97,524
K. Miscellaneous	1,998,298	3,182,662	3,111,298	− 71,364	+ 1,113,000
Total, Class II	17,158,542	24,650,542	27,718,277	+ 3,067,735	+ 10,559,735
III.—ARTICLES WHOLLY OR MAINLY MANUFACTURED—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	694,842	699,501	826,963	+ 127,462	+ 132,121
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,927,829	2,220,896	2,232,046	+ 31,150	+ 304,217
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	347,414	404,397	495,196	+ 90,799	+ 147,782
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	109,421	130,165	175,903	+ 45,738	+ 66,482
E. Machinery	269,943	362,381	376,516	+ 14,135	+ 106,573
F. Ships (new)	8	82	1,470	+ 1,388	+ 1,462
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	140,798	173,988	207,671	+ 33,683	+ 66,873
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	664,814	770,223	815,067	+ 44,844	+ 150,253
2. Wool	628,035	729,180	727,267	− 1,913	+ 99,232
3. Silk	885,511	973,589	1,034,475	+ 60,886	+ 148,964
4. Other materials	521,187	637,084	685,080	+ 47,996	+ 163,893
I. Apparel	274,717	344,416	352,919	+ 8,503	+ 78,202
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	871,007	989,880	923,946	− 65,934	+ 52,939
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	958,508	1,159,998	977,742	− 182,256	+ 19,234
L. Earthenware and glass	299,994	352,388	365,291	+ 12,903	+ 65,297
M. Paper	432,168	520,096	580,760	+ 60,664	+ 148,592
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron) motor cars, cycles, carts, etc.	296,174	458,966	529,722	+ 70,756	+ 233,548
O. Miscellaneous	1,780,707	2,244,768	2,157,613	− 87,155	+ 376,906
Total, Class III	11,103,077	13,151,998	13,465,647	+ 313,649	+ 2,362,570
IV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND UNCLASSIFIED (INCLUDING PARCEL POST)	199,937	206,682	204,130	− 2,552	+ 4,193
Total value	49,904,477	61,611,542	64,091,443	+ 2,479,901	+ 14,186,966

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Exports** of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom for the month of November, 1910, as compared with the corresponding month of 1909 and 1908, and the increase or decrease in each principal category :—

Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom.
(Value F.O.B.*)—November.

	Month of November.			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO—					
A. Grain and flour	308,845	315,311	331,156	+ 15,845	+ 22,311
B. Meat, including animals for food	76,764	80,837	94,206	+ 13,369	+ 17,442
C. Other food and drink	1,766,112	2,007,814	2,241,553	+ 233,739	+ 475,441
D. Tobacco	124,750	147,943	170,857	+ 22,914	+ 46,107
Total, Class I	2,276,471	2,551,905	2,837,772	+ 285,867	+ 561,301
II.—RAW MATERIALS AND ARTICLES MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED—					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	3,172,847	3,209,374	3,001,754	− 207,620	− 171,093
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	26,452	45,375	29,445	− 15,930	+ 2,993
C. Other metallic ores	3,608	7,016	3,265	− 3,751	− 343
D. Wood and timber	6,776	8,076	10,972	+ 2,896	+ 4,196
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	283,472	432,021	397,262	− 34,759	+ 113,790
G. Other textile materials	16,324	21,076	24,767	+ 3,691	+ 8,443
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	269,880	353,338	457,714	+ 104,376	+ 187,834
I. Hides and undressed skins	149,435	199,274	153,858	− 45,416	+ 4,423
J. Paper-making materials	52,844	71,194	65,138	− 6,056	+ 12,294
K. Miscellaneous	238,707	264,760	287,917	+ 23,157	+ 49,210
Total, Class II	4,220,345	4,611,505	4,432,092	− 179,412	+ 211,747
III.—ARTICLES WHOLLY OR MAINLY MANUFACTURED—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	3,023,945	3,466,500	3,722,283	+ 255,783	+ 698,338
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	757,470	801,852	938,747	+ 136,895	+ 181,277
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	431,532	503,710	581,570	+ 77,860	+ 150,038
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	288,067	192,302	231,658	+ 39,356	− 56,409
E. Machinery	2,538,028	2,293,950	2,548,318	+ 254,368	+ 15,290
F. Ships (new)	663,507	534,046	596,327	+ 62,281	− 67,180
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	123,036	148,186	165,408	+ 17,222	+ 42,372
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	6,233,178	7,810,317	8,991,260	+ 1,180,943	+ 2,758,082
2. Wool	1,849,871	2,350,822	2,680,987	+ 330,165	+ 831,116
3. Silk	136,515	163,840	193,188	+ 29,348	+ 56,673
4. Other materials	873,558	1,096,554	1,128,580	+ 32,026	+ 255,022
I. Apparel	690,031	858,488	1,009,908	+ 151,420	+ 319,877
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,260,579	1,486,097	1,639,813	+ 153,716	+ 379,234
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	333,941	420,215	408,013	− 12,202	+ 74,072
L. Earthenware and glass	307,625	341,564	406,743	+ 65,179	+ 99,118
M. Paper	188,215	214,932	273,578	+ 58,646	+ 85,363
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron) motor cars, cycles, carts, etc.	538,334	508,521	726,815	+ 218,294	+ 188,481
O. Miscellaneous	1,926,881	2,294,256	2,482,286	+ 188,030	+ 555,405
Total, Class III	22,159,313	25,486,152	28,725,482	+ 3,239,330	+ 6,566,169
IV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND UNCLASSIFIED (INCLUDING PARCEL POST)	491,286	671,894	902,079	+ 230,185	+ 410,793
Total value	29,147,415	33,821,455	36,897,425	+ 3,575,970	+ 7,750,010

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.*—November.

Total value	£ 6,882,193	£ 6,751,890	£ 7,458,606	£ + 706,716	£ + 776,413

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

IV.—IMPORTS.—TRADE DURING THE ELEVEN MONTHS, JANUARY—NOVEMBER.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** of foreign and colonial merchandise during the eleven months ended November, 1910, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1909 and 1908 :—

Imports (Value C.I.F.*)—Eleven Months ended November.

—	Eleven months ended November			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910, as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	66,389,912	76,191,831	70,647,923	— 5,543,908	+ 4,258,011
B. Meat, including animals for food	45,071,937	43,439,733	44,663,252	+ 1,223,519	— 408,685
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	62,495,606	61,495,304	65,666,327	+ 4,171,023	+ 3,170,721
2. Dutiable	44,107,759	45,261,279	49,485,553	+ 4,224,274	+ 5,377,794
D. Tobacco	4,627,863	4,569,511	4,029,845	— 539,666	— 598,018
Total, Class I	222,693,077	230,957,658	231,492,900	+ 3,535,242	+ 11,799,823
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	4,395	6,637	30,923	+ 24,286	+ 26,528
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	4,553,065	4,565,249	5,710,641	+ 1,145,392	+ 1,157,576
C. Other metallic ores	8,121,572	7,573,780	8,131,406	+ 557,626	+ 9,834
D. Wood and timber	22,879,015	22,022,032	24,691,402	+ 2,669,370	+ 1,812,387
E. Cotton	45,838,374	51,656,759	55,814,329	+ 4,157,570	+ 9,975,955
F. Wool	27,675,715	31,280,287	34,216,951	+ 2,936,664	+ 6,541,236
G. Other textile materials	11,939,171	10,486,197	10,865,582	+ 379,385	— 1,073,589
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	26,127,588	28,186,474	34,653,643	+ 6,467,169	+ 8,526,055
I. Hides and undressed skins	8,603,303	10,516,619	11,877,141	+ 1,360,792	+ 3,274,138
J. Paper-making materials	4,145,223	3,966,252	4,261,932	+ 295,680	+ 116,709
K. Miscellaneous	20,391,300	25,647,480	39,104,734	+ 13,457,254	+ 18,713,434
Total, Class II	180,278,721	195,907,796	229,358,984	+ 33,451,188	+ 49,080,263
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	7,003,869	7,250,034	8,124,603	+ 874,569	+ 1,120,734
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	22,635,614	22,093,914	22,138,122	+ 44,208	— 497,492
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	3,412,868	3,345,737	4,221,344	+ 875,607	+ 808,476
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	1,127,618	1,174,140	1,487,082	+ 312,942	+ 359,464
E. Machinery	4,223,584	4,099,017	4,074,947	— 24,070	— 148,637
F. Ships (new)	17,859	23,805	24,197	+ 392	+ 6,338
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	1,814,996	1,861,886	2,108,812	+ 246,426	+ 293,316
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	8,690,320	8,949,074	9,977,114	+ 1,028,040	+ 1,286,794
2. Wool	8,780,601	8,960,413	8,877,493	— 82,520	+ 96,892
3. Silk	11,666,969	11,859,426	12,594,081	+ 734,655	+ 927,112
4. Other materials	5,851,587	6,713,566	7,421,261	+ 707,695	+ 1,569,724
I. Apparel	3,891,948	4,707,849	4,744,544	+ 36,695	+ 852,596
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours	9,324,341	9,676,580	10,265,842	+ 589,262	+ 941,501
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	10,482,067	10,564,254	10,868,569	+ 304,315	+ 386,502
L. Earthenware and glass	3,356,867	3,416,411	3,450,246	+ 33,835	+ 93,379
M. Paper	5,326,656	5,131,755	5,813,046	+ 681,291	+ 486,390
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron), motor cars, cycles, carts, &c.	4,204,090	4,345,854	5,175,901	+ 830,047	+ 971,811
O. Miscellaneous	19,520,661	20,639,103	21,837,807	+ 1,108,704	+ 2,317,146
Total, Class III	131,332,475	134,812,818	143,204,511	+ 8,391,693	+ 11,872,046
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	2,060,389	2,312,384	2,302,914	— 9,470	+ 242,575
Total value	536,364,602	563,990,656	609,359,309	+ 45,368,653	+ 72,994,707

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

V.—EXPORTS.—TRADE DURING THE ELEVEN MONTHS, JANUARY—NOVEMBER.

The value of the **Exports** of home produce, and of foreign and colonial produce, during the eleven months ended November, 1910, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1909 and 1908, is as shown in the following table :—

Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom (Value F.O.B.*)—Eleven Months ended November.

—	Eleven months ended November			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1909.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1910 as compared with 1908.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	3,256,938	3,115,478	3,068,997	— 46,481	— 187,941
B. Meat, including animals for food	751,139	722,292	848,952	+ 126,660	+ 94,813
C. Other food and drink	14,460,150	15,945,975	18,094,363	+ 2,148,388	+ 3,634,213
D. Tobacco	1,263,681	1,515,039	1,895,105	+ 380,066	+ 631,424
Total, Class I	19,734,908	21,298,784	23,907,417	+ 2,608,633	+ 4,172,509
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	38,380,105	33,972,198	34,712,582	+ 740,384	— 3,667,523
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel	365,063	457,301	447,875	— 9,426	+ 82,812
C. Other metallic ores	68,855	89,358	56,102	— 33,256	— 12,753
D. Wood and timber	90,628	102,154	111,887	+ 9,733	+ 21,259
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	2,722,615	4,200,746	3,869,923	— 330,823	+ 1,147,308
G. Other textile materials	229,045	190,395	293,350	+ 102,955	+ 64,305
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums	2,844,153	3,047,640	4,568,298	+ 1,520,658	+ 1,724,145
I. Hides and undressed skins	1,278,739	1,710,940	1,597,514	— 113,426	+ 318,775
J. Paper-making materials	489,605	606,437	675,888	+ 69,451	+ 186,283
K. Miscellaneous	1,951,618	2,205,319	2,485,303	+ 279,984	+ 533,685
Total, Class II	48,420,426	46,582,488	48,818,722	+ 2,236,234	+ 398,296
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	34,463,140	34,780,368	39,393,735	+ 4,613,367	+ 4,930,595
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	8,179,682	7,909,867	9,517,850	+ 1,607,983	+ 1,338,168
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements (except machine tools) and instruments	5,069,846	4,890,883	5,846,431	+ 955,548	+ 776,585
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)	1,787,685	1,951,156	3,512,562	+ 1,561,406	+ 1,724,877
E. Machinery	28,663,022	25,925,063	26,733,668	+ 808,605	— 1,929,354
F. Ships (new)	10,184,412	5,660,509	8,640,856	+ 2,980,347	— 1,543,556
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture)	1,140,935	1,304,242	1,675,268	+ 371,026	+ 534,333
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	88,304,709	85,220,673	96,023,940	+ 10,803,267	+ 7,719,231
2. Wool	25,711,078	27,736,548	34,283,756	+ 6,547,208	+ 8,572,678
3. Silk	1,548,907	1,685,057	2,079,018	+ 393,961	+ 530,111
4. Other materials	9,794,474	11,299,278	12,238,507	+ 939,229	+ 2,444,033
I. Apparel	8,153,871	8,911,243	11,607,943	+ 2,696,695	+ 3,454,072
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	14,995,573	15,299,929	16,971,006	+ 1,671,077	+ 1,975,433
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including gloves, but excluding boots and shoes)	3,504,198	3,828,952	4,305,161	+ 476,209	+ 800,963
L. Earthenware and glass	3,429,013	3,367,700	3,982,707	+ 615,007	+ 553,694
M. Paper	2,114,639	2,318,452	2,845,825	+ 527,373	+ 731,186
N. Railway carriages and trucks (not of iron), motor cars, cycles, carts, etc.	5,857,868	5,610,184	6,791,672	+ 1,181,488	+ 933,804
O. Miscellaneous	21,272,631	22,821,412	26,761,616	+ 3,940,204	+ 5,488,985
Total, Class III	274,175,683	270,521,521	313,211,521	+ 42,690,000	+ 39,035,838
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	5,486,986	6,186,754	7,228,041	+ 1,041,287	+ 1,741,055
Total value	347,818,003	344,589,547	393,165,701	+ 48,576,154	+ 45,347,698

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.*—Eleven Months ended November.

Total value	£ 71,479,043	£ 81,730,544	£ 93,899,485	£ + 12,168,941	£ + 22,420,442

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Number and particulars of Joint Stock Companies registered in each province in British India in the month of November, 1910.

No.	Class and Name.	Situation of Registered Office.	Objects.	Nominal Capital.
				Rs.
	I.—BANKING, LOAN AND INSURANCE.			
	(*a*) *Banking and Loan.*			
1	Uddiyog Sahaik Company	Bijnor, United Provinces	Banking business	1,00,000
2	Karachi Bank	Karachi, Bombay	" "	5,00,000
3	Sind Bank	Hyderabad, (Sind) Bombay	" "	25,00,000
4	Trichinopoly City Bank	Trichinopoly, Madras	" "	49,995
	Total, Banking and Loan	.....	.....	31,49,995
	(*b*) *Insurance.*			
5	Mohaluxmi Provident and Banking Company	Chittagong, E. B. and Assam	Insurance, banking and money-lending, etc.	5,00,000
6	Co-operative Provident Fund	Calcutta, Bengal	Carrying on business of provident company	20,000
7	Capital Assurance Company	Calcutta, Bengal	Life insurance	10,00,000
8	Popular Assurance Provident Fund	Rawal Pindi, Punjab	Life insurance, etc.	1,00,000
9	Amritsar Mutual Relief Fund	Amritsar, Punjab	Life and marriage insurance and banking	1,00,000
	Total, Insurance	.....	.....	17,20,000
	Total, Banking, Loan and Insurance	.....	.....	48,69,995
	II.—TRADING.			
	(*a*) *Railways and Tramways.*			
10	Central Provinces Railways Company	Bombay	Working railway	60,00,000
	(*b*) *Printing, Publishing and Stationery.*			
11	Clarke Industrial Works	Poona, Bombay	Manufacturing stationery	1,00,000
	(*c*) *Others.*			
12	Industrial Development Company	Sylhet, E. B. and Assam	Starting factories for manufacturing ivory, tin	20,000
13	Calcutta Tanning Syndicate	Calcutta, Bengal	Tanners, curers, dealers in hides, and leather articles	50,000
14	Berhampore Leather Manufacturing Company	Bengal	Manufacturers, and dealers of leather goods, hides	1,00,000
15	Ganesh Beopar Company	Beawar, Ajmer-Merwara	Trading	2,00,000
16	Tata Hydro-Electric Power Supply Company	Bombay	Supplying electricity	2,00,00,000
17	Bombay-Fishery Company	"	Fishing, etc.	2,00,000
18	Aspinwall and Company	British Cochin, Madras	General merchants	15,00,000
	Total, Others	.....	.....	2,20,70,000
	Total, Trading	.....	.....	2,81,70,000

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES—*contd.*

No.	Class and Name.	Situation of Registered Office.	Objects.	Nominal Capital.
				Rs.
	III.—MILLS AND PRESSES.			
	(*a*) *Cotton Mills.*			
19	Kalyan Revival Mills	Kalyan, Bombay	Spinning and manufacturing cotton, etc.	1,00,000
	(*b*) *Cotton and Jute Screws and Presses.*			
20	Tribhowandas Ginning Company	Viramgaum, Bombay	Ginning cotton, and selling fibres	71,000
	Total, Mills and Presses	.....	.....	1,71,000
	IV.—MINING AND QUARRYING ASSOCIATION.			
21	Irrawaddy Petroleum Oil Syndicate	Rangoon, Burma	Working, developing and exploiting oil bearing lands	30,00,000
	GRAND TOTAL	.....	.....	3,62,10,995

ABSTRACT TABLE OF COMPANIES REGISTERED IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1910.

		Rs.
4	Banking and Loan Companies	31,49,995
5	Insurance Companies	17,20,000
1	Railways Company	60,00,000
1	Printing, Publishing and Stationery Company	1,00,000
7	Trading Companies (other than those specified above)	2,20,70,000
1	Cotton Mills Company	1,00,000
1	Cotton and Jute Screws and Presses Company	71,000
1	Mining and Quarrying Association	30,00,000
21	GRAND TOTAL	3,62,10,995

—The Government of **Ceylon** notify that with effect from December 21st, 1910, the **import duty on the following articles** shall be as under :—**Coffee,** pure in bean, or ground in tins, and mixtures containing coffee.—Per lb., cents 3. **Kerosine Oil.**—Per gallon, cents 30. **Matches.**—Per gross of boxes containing in each box not more than 75 matches, per gross, cents 60 ; and so in proportion for each gross of boxes of matches containing in each box more than 75 matches. **Spirits** (not being sweetened or mixed with any articles so that the degree of strength thereof cannot be ascertained by Sykes's hydrometer).—For every gallon of the strength of proof by such hydrometer, and so in proportion for any greater or less strength than the strength of proof, and for any greater or less quantity than a gallon, provided that in no case shall the duty be less than at the rate of Rs. 6 per gallon :—**Brandy.**—Per gallon, Rs 7. **Geneva.**—Per gallon, Rs. 7. **Gin.**—Per gallon, Rs. 7. **Rum.**—Per gallon, Rs. 7. **Whiskey.**—Per gallon, Rs. 7. **Unenumerated.**—Per gallon, Rs. 8. **Other Spirits,** being sweetened or mixed so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained as aforesaid, *viz.* :—**Liqueurs and Cordials.**—Per gallon, Rs. 7. **Unenumerated.**—Per gallon, Rs. 8. **Tobacco, Manufactured.**—Per lb., Re. 1·40. **Tobacco, Unmanufactured.**—Per lb., cents 75.

EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Statement showing the exports of wheat and wheat-flour from British India to foreign countries in each of the eight months, April to November, of the years 1905 to 1910 :—

	1905		1906		1907		1908		1909		1910	
BENGAL—	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
April	169,368		9,014		12,855		3,360		272,044		341,028	
May	662,696		16,398		40,881		6,506		1,026,554		538,670	
June	631,938		29,860		42,065		5,019		748,294		508,869	
July	371,322		72,099		39,656		5,924		324,373		95,554	
August	52,489		10,967		16,779		6,610		264,333		169,455	
September	39,210		13,722		10,020		4,719		13,956		238,729	
October	112,865		12,545		10,256		9,432		4,985		349,970	
November	141,709		2,843		8,998		4,591		6,077		234,343	
TOTAL		2,182,597		174,448		181,501		46,161		2,660,616		2,476,618
BOMBAY—												
April	646,118		88,333		68,828		20,921		168,321		141,658	
May	881,105		167,451		166,153		42,477		716,519		361,016	
June	534,526		148,807		167,294		59,088		751,301		111,303	
July	333,117		180,630		276,581		45,589		465,304		161,979	
August	306,811		61,663		104,744		38,365		251,753		246,636	
September	349,378		72,300		107,104		68,259		64,433		206,185	
October	341,005		163,977		143,734		72,798		97,054		287,872	
November	304,367		110,542		111,818		70,816		100,746		315,002	
TOTAL		3,696,457		993,703		1,146,256		418,343		2,615,431		1,851,651
SIND—												
April	718,621		439,238		1,395,557		20,968		17,306		813,900	
May	1,542,890		1,145,804		1,341,517		14,573		212,803		765,843	
June	3,205,233		2,724,525		1,851,899		117,881		3,268,113		2,253,885	
July	2,501,383		3,178,056		2,886,485		490,141		4,831,931		3,114,364	
August	1,889,121		1,764,921		2,879,693		247,313		3,044,522		2,783,902	
September	502,399		665,183		2,775,133		467,967		416,967		1,507,237	
October	569,923		1,372,291		2,429,341		686,313		757,944		1,303,785	
November	1,002,671		956,909		1,061,105		220,400		698,865		1,585,969	
TOTAL		12,032,241		12,246,927		16,620,730		2,265,556		13,248,451		14,128,885
OTHER PROVINCES—												
April	110,370		136		212		90		...		135	
May	13,487		30		1		...		2,112		...	
June	4,056		37		225		3		...		31	
July	7,649		4		...		7		2,007		1	
August	268		...		6		...		2,004		30	
September	6		...		1		6		4		21	
October	63		7		5		...		...		...	
November	...		2,001		...		...		...		...	
TOTAL		135,897		2,215		450		106		6,127		218
TOTAL—												
April	1,644,507		536,721		1,477,452		45,339		457,671		1,296,721	
May	3,101,176		1,329,683		1,548,552		63,556		1,957,988		1,665,529	
June	4,475,753		2,903,229		2,061,483		181,991		4,767,708		2,874,088	
July	3,213,471		3,430,789		3,202,722		541,661		5,623,615		3,371,898	
August	2,248,689		1,837,551		3,001,213		292,288		3,562,612		3,200,023	
September	890,993		751,205		2,892,258		540,951		495,360		1,952,172	
October	1,023,856		1,548,820		2,583,336		768,543		859,983		1,941,627	
November	1,448,747		1,079,295		1,181,921		295,837		805,688		2,155,314	
GRAND TOTAL		18,047,192		13,417,293		17,948,937		2,730,166		18,530,625		18,457,372

N.B.—The figures of wheat-flour included in this statement are taken as representing 70 per cent of wheat used in its manufacture.

SEA-BORNE TRADE OF INDIA.

THE following is a summary of the accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India for the month of November, 1910, and for the eight months, 1st April to 30th November, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of the years 1908 and 1909 :—

	MONTH OF NOVEMBER			EIGHT MONTHS, 1ST APRIL TO 30TH NOVEMBER		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
IMPORTS—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
MERCHANDISE, PRIVATE—						
Bengal	3,75,35,584	4,74,15,371	4,33,94,577	30,63,33,008	30,33,30,500	32,24,34,504
Eastern Bengal and Assam	2,01,560	4,39,545	4,98,755	38,39,415	41,57,095	31,28,828
Bombay	4,10,20,072	3,74,70,423	4,42,39,082	27,93,41,571	26,00,98,730	30,28,19,254
Sind	1,12,91,753	78,33,606	98,5 ,952	8,16,37,488	6,89,85,053	7,69,83,762
Madras	88,33,997	88,41,254	94,88,374	8,31,99,997	6,32,49,262	6,49,32,386
Burma	1,14,75,417	1,06,10,031	89,11,428	8,96,70,529	7,13,54,685	6,88,54,761
TOTAL	11,03,58,383	11,26,10,270	11,63,88,168	84,40,22,008	77,11,75,325	83,91,53,495
DITTO, GOVERNMENT STORES	65,60,969	29,11,525	66,08,891	5,37,94,219	4,19,42,377	2,75,67,492
TOTAL MERCHANDISE	11,69,19,352	11,55,21,795	12,29,97,059	89,78,16,227	81,31,17,702	86,67,20,987
TREASURE, PRIVATE—						
Bengal	20,43,346	59,18,062	46,94,119	2,35,27,887	3,22,09,823	3,08,49,766
Eastern Bengal and Assam	7,794	15,406	15,367	87,491	1,30,568	1,07,199
Bombay	1,65,42,561	1,68,23,245	3,74,56,666	13,35,90,787	11,15,93,098	16,20,07,827
Sind	4,98,626	7,33,959	9,78,766	41,80,885	47,89,714	72,91,538
Madras	4,09,654	12,79,840	3,34,840	43,95,542	89,31,133	50,54,816
Burma	29,350	1,60,745	2,40,000	1,77,805	5,37,728	6,75,249
TOTAL	1,95,31,331	2,49,31,257	4,37,19,758	16,59,60,397	15,81,92,064	20,59,86,395
DITTO, GOVERNMENT	...	...	...	8,89,900	9,73,999	6,84,212
TOTAL TREASURE	1,95,31,331	2,49,31,257	4,37,19,758	16,68,50,297	15,91,66,063	20,66,70,607
GRAND TOTAL OF IMPORTS	13,64,50,683	14,04,53,052	16,67,16,817	106,46,66,524	97,22,83,765	107,33,91,594
EXPORTS—						
MERCHANDISE, PRIVATE—						
(Foreign Merchandise)—						
Bengal	1,29,467	83,853	1,25,391	14,52,834	11,54,064	17,54,520
Eastern Bengal and Assam	...	150	500	8,733	630	2,362
Bombay	17,69,668	23,37,161	26,64,854	1,47,59,925	1,60,44,635	2,15,81,453
Sind	8,39,813	4,10,878	1,21,485	32,02,154	26,31,817	28,35,519
Madras	67,891	85,679	92,441	7,53,476	8,85,442	12,79,250
Burma	30,778	36,010	38,999	3,27,187	2,95,276	3,92,002
TOTAL	28,37,617	29,53,731	30,43,670	2,05,04,315	2,10,11,864	2,78,45,106
(Indian Merchandise)—						
Bengal	7,28,15,948	7,36,89,463	8,57,26,618	44,53,00,632	46,52,57,140	52,92,09,829
Eastern Bengal and Assam	89,63,518	98,37,181	91,59,322	3,48,35,423	3,06,34,529	3,56,14,530
Bombay	2,34,40,573	2,84,75,826	3,25,99,881	22,21,36,077	25,09,43,415	36,01,14,582
Sind	53,26,269	1,05,50,200	1,47,05,437	4,42,43,515	13,60,66,095	12,81,26,632
Madras	1,09,64,317	1,23,13,798	1,35,49,056	11,85,24,379	12,47,55,650	13,70,21,479
Burma	43,49,361	71,62,458	91,30,388	7,05,84,783	8,21,43,898	11,20,09,008
TOTAL	12,58,59,986	14,20,28,926	16,48,70,702	93,56,24,809	108,98,00,727	130,21,56,060
Total Foreign and Indian Merchandise exported—						
Bengal	7,29,45,415	7,37,73,316	8,58,52,009	44,67,53,466	46,64,11,204	53,09,64,349
Eastern Bengal and Assam	89,63,518	98,37,331	91,59,822	3,48,44,162	3,06,35,159	3,56,16,892
Bombay	2,52,10,241	3,08,12,987	3,52,64,735	23,63,96,002	26,69,88,050	38,16,96,035
Sind	61,66,082	1,09,61,078	1,48,26,922	4,74,45,669	13,86,97,912	13,09,62,151
Madras	1,10,32,208	1,23,99,477	1,36,41,497	11,92,77,855	12,56,41,092	13,83,00,729
Burma	43,80,139	71,98,468	91,69,387	7,09,11,970	8,24,39,174	11,24,61,010
TOTAL	12,86,97,603	14,49,82,657	16,79,14,372	95,61,29,124	111,08,12,591	133,00,01,166
DITTO, GOVERNMENT STORES	30,372	1,49,569	55,398	7,94,077	5,22,556	5,26,260
TOTAL MERCHANDISE	12,87,27,975	14,51,32,226	16,79,69,770	95,69,23,201	111,13,35,147	133,05,27,426
TREASURE, PRIVATE—						
Bengal	5,12,289	6,23,033	5,82,859	42,67,586	8,98,739	41,79,077
Eastern Bengal and Assam	...	...	...	...	...	15,367
Bombay	38,22,350	37,23,897	49,52,565	2,99,64,613	3,14,35,421	3,78,15,104
Sind	4,884	97,204	4,357	5,92,510	24,45,149	35,82,935
Madras	19,250	13,069	5,04,190	40,63,900	55,08,032	68,56,825
Burma	53,000	10,000	50,000	3,35,000	35,000	1,60,500
TOTAL	44,11,773	44,67,203	60,93,971	3,92,23,609	4,03,22,341	5,26,09,808
DITTO, GOVERNMENT	...	8,100	17,725	36,06,729	15,100	37,345
TOTAL TREASURE	44,11,773	44,75,303	61,11,696	4,28,30,338	4,03,37,441	5,26,47,153
GRAND TOTAL OF EXPORTS	13,31,39,748	14,96,07,529	17,40,81,466	99,97,53,539	1,15,16,72,588	1,38,31,74,579
GROSS AMOUNT OF IMPORT DUTY COLLECTED, *including Salt*	66,99,563	67,40,647	83,22,403	5,06,78,669	4,78,08,918	6,21,95,304
DITTO, EXPORT DUTY COLLECTED	2,37,719	4,44,324	4,96,239	38,68,291	48,48,005	64,76,866

LAND TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA.

Total Value of Imports from, and **Exports** to, each country in the six months, April to September of each year.

Name of Country	Imports			Exports			Total		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Lus Bela—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	2,79,671	3,16,357	3,53,136	1,20,034	1,30,357	1,36,899	3,99,705	4,46,714	4,90,035
Khelat—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	4,28,685	1,96,865	3,87,926	2,55,237	2,08,679	3,79,468	6,83,922	4,05,544	7,67,394
Persia—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	86,291	1,36,093	1,48,324	2,33,019	3,38,283	2,84,183	3,19,310	4,74,376	4,32,507
Afghanistan—									
Northern and Eastern (including Kabul and Ghazni)—									
North-West Frontier Province	5,65,976	8,17,084	5,44,835	48,90,579	48,13,905	52,42,552	54,56,555	56,30,989	57,87,387
Southern and Western (including Kandahar and Herat)—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	24,02,692	27,13,952	26,00,954	30,00,258	26,40,601	29,72,851	54,02,950	53,54,553	55,73,805
North-West Frontier Province	24,528	12,674	3,743	3,03,300	3,30,306	2,78,369	3,27,828	3,42,980	2,82,112
Panjab	...	...	...	17,357	10,166	21,775	17,357	10,166	21,775
Total	29,93,196	35,43,710	31,49,532	82,11,494	77,94,978	85,15,547	1,12,04,690	1,13,38,683	1,16,65,079
Tirah—									
North-West Frontier Province	2,34,536	2,10,648	2,46,532	2,75,696	2,37,890	5,26,707	5,10,232	4,48,538	7,73,239
Dir, Swat, and Bajaur—									
North-West Frontier Province	23,90,914	22,80,377	18,59,833	32,71,405	32,69,129	22,91,567	56,62,319	55,49,506	41,51,400
Buner—									
North-West Frontier Province	71,752	1,07,596	1,19,461	1,10,723	1,45,033	1,86,949	1,82,475	2,52,629	3,06,410
Waziristan—									
North-West Frontier Province	1,02,319	1,34,484	1,69,308	21,648	1,73,835	51,709	1,23,967	3,08,319	2,21,017
Kurram Valley—									
North-West Frontier Province	67,232	1,18,982	88,255	4,76,688	4,27,565	6,70,614	5,43,920	5,46,547	7,58,869
Ladakh—									
Panjab	41,479	38,608	120	1,43,697	81,382	1,35,889	1,85,176	1,19,990	1,36,009
Tibet—									
Panjab	15,739	11,962	13,665	28,837	60,232	1,07,878	44,576	72,194	1,21,543
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	1,61,768	1,81,973	4,65,343	4,04,771	3,31,918	2,84,017	5,66,539	5,13,891	7,49,360
Bengal	7,59,388	3,84,971	3,08,210	8,37,370	2,80,114	3,00,260	15,96,758	6,65,085	6,08,470
Total	9,36,895	5,78,906	7,87,218	12,70,978	6,72,264	6,92,155	22,07,873	12,51,170	14,79,373
Nepal—									
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	37,25,714	47,20,942	35,81,146	12,46,055	10,68,609	12,08,682	49,71,769	57,89,551	47,89,828
Bengal	1,19,02,312	63,92,147	90,68,137	56,76,303	44,44,370	46,84,004	1,75,78,615	1,08,36,517	1,37,52,141
Total	1,56,28,026	1,11,13,089	1,26,49,283	69,22,358	55,12,979	58,92,686	2,25,50,384	1,66,26,068	1,85,41,969

LAND TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Total Value of Imports from, and **Exports** to, each country in the six months, April to September of each year—*continued.*

Name of Country	Imports			Exports			Total		
	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910	1908	1909	1910
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sikkim—									
Bengal	4,16,363	3,48,348	4,77,331	4,36,445	5,03,186	4,42,570	8,52,808	8,51,534	9,19,901
Bhutan—									
Bengal	6,143	2,479	8,106	8,189	2,614	4,111	14,332	5,093	12,217
Eastern Bengal and Assam	24,226	19,297	17,341	45,514	50,802	14,668	69,740	70,099	32,009
Total	30,369	21,776	25,447	53,703	53,416	18,779	84,072	75,192	44,226
Towang—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	1,104	52	89	...	...	425	1,104	52	514
Nágá and Mishmi Hills—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	44,757	23,985	1,14,673	1,314	1,646	5,940	46,071	25,631	1,20,613
Duffla and Aka Hills—									
Eastern Bengal and Assam	4,558	6,001	28,174	...	201	203	4,558	6,202	28,377
Western China—									
Burma	12,58,848	10,87,986	17,01,702	19,24,202	16,34,250	20,14,614	31,83,050	27,22,236	37,16,316
North Siam—									
Burma	11,55,712	15,96,343	12,43,368	11,24,499	14,12,776	11,22,752	22,80,211	30,09,119	23,66,120
South Siam—									
Burma	2,70,859	3,70,230	4,14,119	2,40,042	3,92,681	3,20,977	5,10,901	7,62,911	7,35,096
N. Shan States—									
Burma	36,33,471	49,22,243	56,40,688	37,32,075	35,06,898	33,48,613	75,65,546	84,29,141	89,89,296
S. Shan States—									
Burma	27,51,535	26,20,384	30,28,324	46,32,321	44,17,935	42,76,418	73,83,906	70,88,319	73,04,742
Karennee—									
Burma	7,49,761	11,14,425	12,35,102	4,92,663	8,10,315	5,20,268	12,42,424	19,24,740	17,55,370
GRAND TOTAL	3,37,78,383	3,08,87,498	3,38,67,940	3,39,50,241	3,17,25,678	3,18,35,932	6,77,28,624	6,26,13,166	6,57,03,872
Share of each Province in the total trade—									
Sind and British Baluchistan	31,97,339	33,63,267	34,90,340	36,08,548	33,17,920	37,73,401	68,05,887	66,81,187	72,63,741
North-West Frontier Province	54,57,257	56,81,845	50,31,967	93,50,039	93,97,663	92,48,467	1,28,07,296	1,30,79,508	1,22,80,434
Panjab	57,218	50,570	13,785	1,89,891	1,51,780	2,65,542	2,47,109	2,02,350	2,79,327
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	38,87,482	49,02,915	40,46,489	16,50,826	14,00,527	14,92,693	55,38,308	63,03,442	55,39,188
Bengal	1,30,84,206	71,27,945	96,61,784	69,58,307	32,30,284	54,80,945	2,00,42,513	1,23,58,229	1,52,92,729
Eastern Bengal and Assam	74,645	49,335	1,60,277	46,828	52,649	21,236	1,21,473	1,01,984	1,81,513
Burma	1,00,20,236	1,17,11,611	1,32,63,298	1,21,45,802	1,21,74,855	1,16,03,642	2,21,66,038	2,38,86,466	2,48,66,940
GRAND TOTAL	3,37,78,383	3,08,87,498	3,38,67,940	3,39,50,241	3,17,25,678	3,18,35,932	6,77,28,624	6,26,13,166	6,57,03,872

IMPORTS OF SUGAR.

Imports of Foreign Sugar (excluding Confectionery and Molasses) into British India in the month of November, 1910, and in the eight months ending the 30th November, 1910, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous year. The statement shows so far as possible the original sources of all such sugar imported :—

Countries of production of total imports.	Share of each country in the total imports in November 1909.	Share of each country in the total imports in November 1910.	Share in the eight months ending the 30th Nov. 1909.	Share in the eight months ending the 30th Nov. 1910.	Countries of production of total imports.	Share of each country in the total imports in November 1909.	Share of each country in the total imports in November 1910.	Share in the eight months ending the 30th Nov. 1909.	Share in the eight months ending the 30th Nov. 1910.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.		Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Russia . .	...	...	22,100	...	China . . .	320	1,643	2,553	113,595
Germany . .	375	486	50,618	4,375	Japan . . .	...	...	36	...
Holland . . .	61	65	594	586	Egypt . . .	...	...	...	7
Belgium . . .	39	61	1,144	487	Natal . . .	...	...	...	1
France . . .	14	76	167	147	Mauritius . .	276,247	183,599	1,391,461	1,647,114
					West Indies . .	16	44	79	364
Spain . . .	...	...	6	...	Mexico . . .	...	...	...	1
					South America .	38	...	370	136
Austria-Hungary .	24,018	940	537,867	75,401	Australia . .	...	...	7	2
Straits Settlements .	74	112	1,302	564	From non-producing countries—Origin unknown . .	1	137	425	383
Java . . .	1,072,631	1,084,507	5,915,948	6,665,263	Total .	1,373,834	1,271,670	7,924,677	8,508,426

Quantity of Beet and Cane Sugar imported by sea from foreign countries into each province of British India in the month of November, 1910, compared with the corresponding period of the year 1909 :—

Provinces.	Beet Sugar.		Cane Sugar.		Total.	
	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.	1910.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Bengal	167	228	834,601	639,024	834,768	639,252
Eastern Bengal and Assam . . .	...	1	6,226	1,965	6,226	1,966
Bombay	9,035	1,139	230,912	268,504	239,947	269,643
Sind	12,117	191	160,279	255,533	172,396	255,724
Madras	3,086	65	15,972	45,742	19,058	45,807
Burma	102	55	101,337	59,223	101,439	59,278
Total .	24,507	1,679	1,349,327	1,269,991	1,373,834	1,271,670

IMPORTS OF COTTON YARN.

Quantity of Cotton Yarn No. 31 and higher counts, imported by sea from foreign countries into each province of British India in the month of November, 1910 :—

	Bengal.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Bombay.	Sind.	Madras.	Burma.	Total.
	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb
Mule and water, Nos. 31 to 40 . .	114,500	...	205,605	....	276,405	8,000	604,510
,, ,, ,, 41 to 50 . .	62,208	...	64,786	...	119,100	...	246,094
,, ,, above No. 50 . .	100,607	...	184,185	...	83,445	...	368,237
Orange, red and other colours, Nos. 31 to 40.	390,011	...	110,531	64,889	344,099	15,805	925,335
Orange, red and other colours, Nos. 41 to 50.	600	...	13,200	...	...	4,375	18,175
Orange, red and other colours, above No. 50.	5,360	...	2,500	...	46,865	1,750	56,475
Total .	673,286	...	580,807	64,889	869,914	29,930	2,218,826

WEEKLY TRADE MOVEMENTS.

For the week ending 24th December, 1910.

COTTON GOODS.

Twist and Yarn.

Foreign—Imports by sea into	Calcutta	lbs.	234,499
	Bombay	,,	186,054
	Madras	,,	233,640
Indian—Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	...
	Bombay	,,	3,530,120
	Madras	,,	...

Grey Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	18,708,591
	Bombay	,,	3,940,004
	Karachi	,,	644,623
	Madras	,,	2,565,966
	Rangoon	,,	204,030

White Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	2,351,766
	Bombay	,,	3,242,892
	Karachi	,,	3,252,489
	Madras	,,	913,426
	Rangoon	,,	406,243

Other Piece Goods.

Imports by sea from Foreign ports into	Calcutta	yds.	1,690,624
	Bombay	,,	4,715,437
	Karachi	,,	2,108,173
	Madras	,,	1,798,500
	Rangoon	,,	572,050

Piece Goods.

(Indian and Foreign.)

Despatches by rail from	Calcutta	cwt.	*26,306
	Bombay	,,	7,148
	Karachi	,,	17,833
	Madras	,,	7,248

Raw Cotton.

Imports into Bombay	By sea	cwt.	340
	Coastwise	,,	37,817
	By rail	,,	275,773
Imports into Karachi by rail		,,	76,961
,, ,, Calcutta by rail and river		,,	*13,753

JUTE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*405,416
Exports by sea from Calcutta	Gunny bags	No.	11,423,476
	,, cloth	yds.	28,569,850
	Jute	cwt.	362,470
Exports by sea from Chittagong—Jute		,,	† ...

COTTON SEEDS.

Exports by sea from Bombay		cwt.	82,317

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed.

Imports into Calcutta			cwt.	*2,868
Imports into Bombay	By sea		,,	128
	Coastwise		,,	295
	By rail		,,	3,924
Imports into Karachi	by rail and river		,,	419
Exports by sea from	Calcutta		,,	2,004
	Bombay		,,	6,510
	Karachi		,,	198

Rape and Mustard Seed.

Imports into Calcutta			cwt.	*53,268
Imports into Bombay	By sea		,,	...
	Coastwise		,,	1,000
	By rail		,,	2,578
Imports into Karachi	by rail and river		,,	15,300
Exports by sea from	Calcutta		,,	145
	Bombay		,,	67,281
	Karachi		,,	17,226

RICE.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	cwt.	*100,382
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	173,190
	Chittagong	,,	† ...
	Bombay	,,	24,735
	Karachi	,,	10,018
	Madras	,,	17
	Rangoon	,,	45,022

TEA.

Arrivals by all routes in	Calcutta	lbs.	*4,720,295
Exports by sea from	Calcutta	,,	4,875,478
	Chittagong	,,	† ...

WHEAT.

Imports into Calcutta by rail and river			cwt.	*134,183
Imports into Karachi by rail			,,	245,638
Imports into Bombay	By sea		,,	...
	Coastwise		,,	282
	By rail		,,	108,680
Exports by sea from	Calcutta		,,	142,686
	Bombay		,,	46,573
	Karachi		,,	271,164

* Incomplete. † Figures not received.

EXPORTS—RUNNING TOTALS INCLUDING FIGURES RECORDED ABOVE.

	From April		From January					
	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910	1909	1910
	Wheat.		Linseed.		Rape and Mustard Seed.		Cotton Seed.	
Calcutta . . Cwt.	3,376,126	2,808,782	3,500,197	5,251,332	1,095,021	1,050,264	Not	reported.
Bombay . . . ,,	2,633,431	1,967,579	2,099,513	2,927,462	1,530,357	2,802,701	8,303,082	13,449,045
Karachi . . . ,,	15,025,723	16,692,261	...	16,967	3,055,551	4,644,457	Not	reported.

KEROSENE OIL, WEEK ENDING 24th DECEMBER, 1910.

Imports by sea into—	From Russia.	From America.	From All other Foreign countries.	Total.
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
Calcutta	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	...	...	...
Karachi	...	...	...	...
Madras	...	8	...	8

Exports by sea from Burma to	Total.
	galls.
Bengal	152,236
E. B. & Assam	332,800
Bombay	...
Sind	...
Madras	368,264
Indian Ports, Non-Br.	...
Foreign Ports	...

IMPORTS OF SUGAR, WEEK ENDING 24th DECEMBER, 1910.

Country of Shipment.	Refined sugar imported into Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Madras.	Rangoon.	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
United Kingdom	356	...	29	101	21	24	531
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	1,000	...	6,000	...	1,200	...	8,200
Other European Countries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Java	14,081	...	6,080	5,106	...	...	25,267
Mauritius	...	...	104,903	47,616	...	...	152,519
Other Non-European Countries	...	...	119	1,116	...	...	1,235

Total refined	187,752
Total unrefined	...
Grand Total	187,752

RESULTS OF AUCTION TEA SALES IN CALCUTTA.

Districts.	Season 1910-11. Sold in sale of 20th December. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 20th December. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Season 1909-10. Sold in sale of 17th December. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.	Sold to 17th December. Packages.	Average price per lb. A. P.
Assam	6,308	7 10·6	168,673	7 4·7	7,538	7 2·1	151,472	7 4·8
Cachar	5,361	6 11·2	122,107	6 3·1	4,734	5 11·8	132,331	5 10·1
Sylhet	4,238	7 1·6	88,044	6 4·1	2,566	6 1·4	89,474	5 9·8
Darjeeling	1,703	11 3·4	65,673	9 5·6	1,867	11 10·4	58,489	10 1·3
Dooars	7,242	7 11·8	179,813	6 9·8	7,432	7 6·5	175,646	6 10·6
Terai	504	7 8·2	21,809	6 6·8	109	6 2·9	14,374	6 8·5
Chittagong	210	6 11·1	7,808	6 3	129	5 10·6	6,850	5 10·7
Chota-Nagpore	93	9 5	1,484	7 6	...	...	1,600	6 7·2
Kumaon and Kangra	119	7 3·6	3,208	6 4·7	70	4 4·3	2,965	5 8·3
Madras	...	...	43	5 5·8	...	...	110	5 11·7
Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	107	5 9·2
Nepal	88	6 9	583	6 5·3	...	...	474	6 2·9
All other places	...	...	76	5 11	...	...	...	...
Total	25,866	7 9·7	659,321	7 0·5	24,445	7 3·3	635,692	6 10·8

(The above do not include second-hand Tea, damaged Tea and Dust from those concerns which sell only that grade on this market.)

Season 1910-11 Average price of 38,373 packages Dust* sold to 20th December 6*a.* 0*p.*
1909-10 " 34,073 " " " 17th " 5*a.* 8*p.*

*On account of gardens which sell only that grade on this market.

NEW REFERENCE BOOKS.

THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.
Its Physical Features, History, Fauna, Flora, Geology, Literature, and Commerce. By A. Stuart Pennington. 9×5¾, 352 pp.
Stanley Paul.

LORDS OF INDUSTRY.
By Henry Demarest Lloyd. 8×5½, 355 pp.
Putnam.
(These papers on American Economics, by the author of "Wealth against Commonwealth," were written at dates extending from 1881 to 1903, and are reprinted, some of them, from the *North American Review* and the *Atlantic Monthly*.)

STEAM TURBINES, THEIR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.
By R. Kennedy. 8¾×5½, 104 pp. 4*s* 6*d*. net.
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