

125

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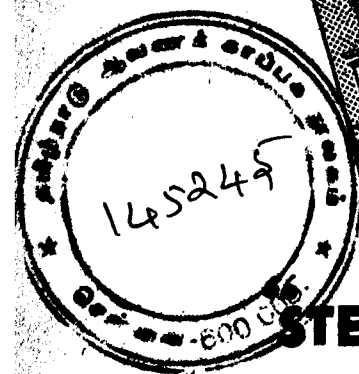
PERFECT SATISFACTION!!

The central image is a rectangular advertisement for Asafoetida. It features a woman in traditional Indian attire (sari) holding a small box of the product. The box has a logo with the letter 'J' and the text 'GOPALJEE & CO. MADRAS'. Above the woman, the text 'LADIES LOVE' is written in a stylized font. Below her, the text 'ASAFOETIDA' is prominently displayed, followed by 'FOR QUALITY ...'. At the bottom of the advertisement, a white box contains the text 'Sold Everywhere'. The entire advertisement is framed by a double-line border. On either side of the frame, there is a diamond shape containing the letter 'J'. Vertical lines with arrows at both ends extend from the top and bottom of the 'J' diamonds, passing through the central advertisement frame. In the top right corner, there is a handwritten number '125'.

GOPALJEE & CO.,

203, GOVINDAPPA NAICKEN ST., MADRAS.

BEAUTY IS BUT SKIN DEEP...
IN STEEL LIES THE STRENGTH

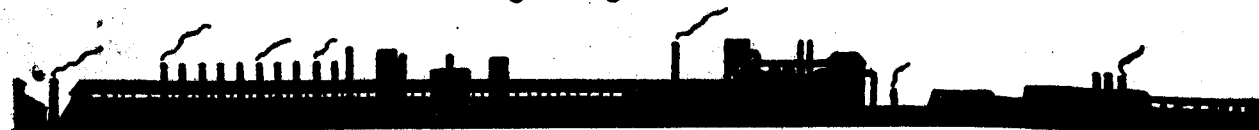


STEEL BY

TATA

a Sign
of
Strength

When you pay tribute to the beauty of some architectural form, think of the hidden factor that makes possible such beauty, that supports and holds together with enduring strength such monumental form.



Issued by The Tata Iron & Steel Co., Ltd. Head Sales Office: 102-A, Clive Street, Calcutta.

TELEPHONE:
2529
TELEGRAMS:
INDCHAMBER.

SOUTHERN INDIA COMMERCE

ANNUAL
SUBSCRIPTION
RUPEES FIVE
SINGLE COPY As. 8
FOREIGN 10 Sh.

Vol. III
No. 11

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN INDIA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, INDIAN CHAMBER BUILDINGS, MADRAS.

November
1940

War Restrictions

KNITTING WOOL EXEMPTED FROM DUTY:

The Government of India have announced that knitting wool imported by any society of voluntary workers for knitting into wearing apparel for the use of any of His Majesty's forces serving outside India, and so certified either by a Military officer of the rank not below that of a Brigade Commander or by a duly authorised official of Indian Red Cross Society will henceforth be exempt from customs duty.

FLAX GOODS:

The Board of Trade have made the Export of Goods (Control) order relating to goods manufactured wholly or partly of flax. The order came into force on 1st Sept. 1940. The effect of the above order is to continue to permit the exportation without license of manufactures wholly or partly of flax (with certain exceptions to all destinations other than Spain, Portugal and Turkey). The exceptions are yarns, hose pipes, seaming and roping twines, and certain articles of flax covered by previous orders, and manufacture of soft hemp.

AMENDMENT OF DEFENCE RULES:

By an amendment to the Defence of India Rules it is reported that "any person who without lawful authority or excuse has on any premises in his occupation or under his control any document containing any information likely to assist the enemy, any confidential information or any prejudicial report shall, unless he proves that he did not know and had no reason to suspect that the said document contained any such information or report as aforesaid or that the said document was on such premises without his knowledge or against his consent, be deemed to have contravened this Rule."

EXPORTS TO FRENCH INDO-CHINA:

In a press note issued, the Government of India have announced their decision to impose an embargo on exports of all goods subject to license from British Empire countries to French Indo-China as a retaliation

measure against the prohibition of exports from that country to any British territory recently introduced by that Government. Any person wishing to apply for special consideration in respect of business already arranged should get into touch at once with the Export Trade Controller at the Port from which shipment is made.

Cargo On Non-German Enemy Ships

The following press communique has been issued by the Government of India:—

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have adopted the following scheme for the recovery of cargoes on Italian, French and other enemy ships (but not German ships) which have taken refuge in neutral ports.

(1) An Enemy Shipping Claims Committee consisting of Mr. C. W. Bateson of Messrs. Thomas Cooper and Co., London, Mr. J. W. Boyle of the Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd., and Mr. Henry Morgan of Messrs. Morgan Brothers and Company, London, will recover cargoes in any manner it thinks best, and will have unfettered discretion to settle a compromise or refrain from prosecuting any claim.

(2) Cargo owners are given the choice of permitting the Committee to negotiate for their cargoes or of abandoning such cargoes until the end of the war, but all cargo owners are required by an order issued under the Defence Regulations to send to the Committee full particulars of their claims.

(3) All costs, risks and responsibilities will be met in the first instance by the Committee, but when any cargo recovered is returned to its owner he will be required to pay all expenses incurred in its recovery plus 5 per cent (or such other percentage as may be decided upon by the Committee) of the c.i.f. value of the cargo as contribution to the overhead and administration expenses of the Committee. Any excess out of the five per cent of actual expenses will be returned to the owner.

M. & S. M. RAILWAY

XMAS & NEW YEAR TRAVEL CONCESSIONS

13th December 1940 to 16th January 1941

"TRAVEL-AS-YOU-LIKE"
(II & III Class)
TICKETS

over the whole of the
M. & S. M. Railway.

"TRAVEL-AS-YOU-LIKE"
(II & III Class)
TICKETS

over the whole of the
M. & S. M. & S. I. Railways.

"TRAVEL-AS-YOU-LIKE"
(III Class)
TICKETS

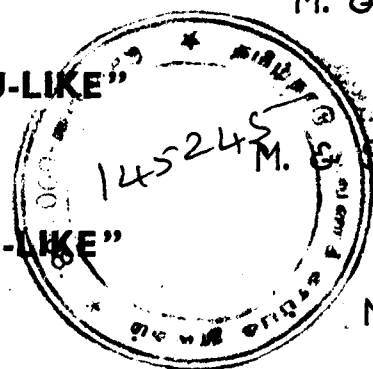
over part of the
M. & S. M. & G. I. P. Railways.

"TRAVEL-AS-YOU-LIKE"
(III Class)
TICKETS

over 'Zones' of the
M. & S. M. Railway.

Also CHEAP RETURN TICKETS.

For details please apply for a pamphlet to the nearest Station Master
or to The Chief Commercial Manager, M. & S. M. Railway,
Park Town, Madras.



His Majesty's Government consider it desirable that the Committee appointed by them should be the sole authority for dealing with the claims of cargo owners not only in the United Kingdom but also in other parts of the Empire, since, in their view, the more claims the Committee handles the stronger will be its negotiating power.

They have, therefore, invited India and other parts of the Empire also to come into the United Kingdom Scheme.

ORDER UNDER DEFENCE RULES:

The Government of India are satisfied that the United Kingdom Scheme offers cargo owners in India better prospects of securing their cargoes than if they are allowed to act on their own and have decided to adopt it. They understand that the Committee has been specially empowered to deal with cases expeditiously and that the bold methods contemplated are likely to yield better results than ever before obtained in connection with this difficult subject.

The Government of India have accordingly issued an order under the Defence of India Rules requiring cargo owners in British India to submit a return giving full particulars of their claims in respect of goods on Italian, French and other ships (but not German ships) in neutral ports. This return should be submitted by all concerned, and the covering letter should indicate whether owners decide to negotiate for the return of their goods through the Enemy Shipping Claims Committee or to abandon their goods until the end of the war. Claims should be addressed to the Enemy Shipping Claims Committee, Norman House, Strand, London, W.C.2

If cargo owners intend to abandon their goods till after the war, they should also register their claims with the Director-General, Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. They will not, on any account, be permitted to undertake any private negotiations.

Despatch Of Shipping documents-carriage in ship's boxes

Before the outbreak of war, shipping documents were received at the port of destination well in advance of the arrival of the consignment, but now documents are received two or three weeks after the consignment resulting in heavy demurrage payment. The mercantile community all over the country have been making representations about this additional hardship. Government of India in order to overcome this difficulty have made arrangements for transport of essential documents in the vessel carrying goods. The following is the press communique issued in this connection:—

Arrangements are being made whereby consignees' mails may, with effect from the 10th November 1940, be carried in ships' boxes, in order that shippers may be assured of the arrival of essential documents at the port of destination at the same time as the goods to which they relate.

2. Such consignees' mail may include signed Bills of Lading, Consular Invoices and any documents relating to the cargo carried on the ship that are essential to its prompt handling on arrival at the port of destination.

3. No remittances may be included in this mail, nor any document relating to any subject other than the cargo carried on the ship.

4. Control of the contents of ships' boxes will be exercised by the Naval Officer-in-charge at the port of departure or arrival in India.

5. In the case of outward bound ships, consigners should send documents in an addressed but unsealed envelope, under cover of a letter addressed to the Master asking him to deliver them to the addressee on arrival. All such documents will be placed by the Master in the ships' box, which will be taken for inspection to the Naval Officer-in-charge at the port of departure at a time to be arranged by him shortly before the sailing hour. Consignors should ensure that the mail for each port in censorable countries is contained in separate packages.

6. In the case of inward bound ships similar conditions apply. The ships' boxes containing consignees' mail will be brought to the Naval Officer-in-charge for examination as soon as possible after arrival.

7. No censorship restrictions will be imposed in the case of ships sailing to or arriving from ports in the British Empire or the United States and not calling at intermediate ports in other countries.

8. Nothing in the preceding paragraph abrogates or infringes the normal responsibilities of the Customs official in regard to the contents of the box.

9. Any documents found in ships' boxes that do not fall within the definition given above will be removed and forwarded to the local Censor Station for examination. They are therefore likely to be delayed and will probably not be returned in time to travel in the ship from which they are removed.

10. It is suggested that in all cases duplicate copies of documents should be forwarded by air mail or ordinary post.

11. In the case of inward cargoes, the duplicate documents should preferably be sent separately from any other documents in envelopes endorsed outside "Shipping documents only". This procedure will facilitate the handling of the documents by the Censor Stations concerned and therefore assist in avoiding delay in delivery. It is hoped that shipping houses will not only adopt this procedure but make it known to their branches and agents in censorable countries, which include all countries except the British Empire and the United States of America and dependencies thereof.

POSTAL: MAIL COMMUNICATION TO SWITZERLAND AND VATICAN CITY STATE:

The Director General of Posts and Telegraphs has notified that until further notice, insured letters and parcels and boxes addressed to Switzerland as well as insured letters and parcels addressed to Vatican City State will not be accepted by Post Offices for transmission.

Such articles already booked for these countries, will as far as possible be returned to senders.

Another notification says that only private communications addressed to French Somaliland will be accepted by the Indian Post Offices for transmission to destination but not communications relating to trade or business. Parcels and money orders also will not be accepted until further notice for transmission to that country.

In a notification the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs says that it has been decided that the outer cover of parcels presented for booking at Post Offices addressed to the United States of America, territories under the Sovereignty of the U.S.A., the Philippine Islands and Switzerland should bear in addition to the name stamp of the authorised dealer in Foreign Exchange his signature under the words "Certificate Issued".

Parcels and samples of diamonds addressed to countries other than the United Kingdom should not be booked unless accompanied by a license from an Export Trade Controller.

Taking Currency Abroad Reserve Bank's Notification

The Reserve Bank of India, in the course of a notification states:

In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-rule (2) of rule 90-B of the Defence of India Rules, the Reserve Bank of India is hereby pleased to grant:—

(a) general permission for any person, to take or send at any one time, out of British India to a place outside India and Burma, Bank of England notes up to £ 10 in value or foreign currency notes up to an equivalent of £ 10 in value or Reserve Bank of India or Government of India notes and coin up to Rs. 150. This general permission does not apply to the following places: Ceylon, Portuguese and French India, Aden, Iraq, Arabia, Iran and Persian Gulf Ports;

(b) general permission for any person to take or send out of British India to the following places: Ceylon, Portuguese and French India, Aden, Iraq, Arabia, Iran and Persian Gulf ports Reserve Bank of India or Government of India notes and or coin up to Rs. 1,000 and foreign notes or coin without limit provided it is the currency of the country to which the foreign notes or coin are being taking or despatched.

EXCHANGE CONTROL:

A press communique states:— "Action has been taken to transfer to the Central Government all balances expressed in the currency of the United States of America.

A notification has been issued under the Defence of India Rules, requiring every person who owns any such balance whether held in British India or abroad to offer it within one month for sale to the Reserve Bank of India at any of its offices at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Karachi and Delhi against payment of the equivalent value in rupees calculated at the current buying rate for telegraphic transfers on the United States of America.

The order does not apply to persons who satisfy the Reserve Bank that the balances in question are required for any of the purposes specified in Rule 91 (4) nor to authorised dealers in foreign exchange, licensed cotton dealers and persons, not being subjects of His Majesty or of an Indian State who in the opinion of the Reserve Bank of India are resident in British India for purposes of business only.

It should be noted that such balances must be actually delivered into the hands of the Reserve Bank or its nominees by December 23, 1940, and if holders who come under the provisions of the order fail to communicate with their bankers in New York in time to effect delivery before the date specified they will be rendering themselves liable to prosecution."

Note: Rule 91 (4) of the Defence of India Rules reads as follows:—

The provisions of this Rule shall not restrict the doing of anything within the scope of his authority but a person authorised or on behalf of the Central Government to deal in foreign exchange and shall not restrict the doing of anything which is authorised by or on behalf of the Central Government for the purposes (A) of meeting reasonable requirements of a trade or business carried on in India or (B) of performing a contract made before 3rd September 1939, or (C) defraying reasonable travelling or other personal expenses."

Import Control Scheme

ADDITIONAL QUOTA ALLOTTED:

The Government of India have, under the import trade control scheme, decided that an additional quota of ten per cent of the annual permissible figure should be allotted to importers to cover the period May 27 to June 30, 1940, and the previous contract licences granted for shipment during that period should be adjusted on the basis of the increased quota now allowed.

When the import trade control scheme was introduced on May 20, 1940, it was arranged that applications for import licences should be made separately (1) for goods already under order on that date and (2) for goods to be ordered on new business, so that the Government of India could decide the extent of preferential treatment that could be equitably granted to the applications of the first category, says a Press Note. In September last, after an examination of the material and representations received, it was decided that no preference should be granted to applications of previous contracts beyond that which they have already received upto the end of August 1940, and that further amounts covered by previous contracts should be adjusted against the individual applicant's quotas for a period of twelve months.

It has now been represented that whereas the quotas had been fixed for this purpose on a basis of the licensing period extends to a period of thirteen months and six days, viz., from May 27, 1940 to June 30, 1942, and that shipments during the period May 27, 1940 to June 30, 1941, are being adjusted against the annual quota.

War Risks Insurance Scheme

GOVERNMENT RATE OF PREMIUM RAISED:

The rate of premium for the Government's War Risks Insurance (Commodities) Scheme in England has been advanced from 5sh. to 7sh. 6d. per cent per month. The rate is revised quarterly.

The present increase reflects the intensification of air bombing, but it is still 2sh. 6d. below the rate fixed at the beginning of the war.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO STERLING AREAS:

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Defence of India Rules, the Reserve Bank of India is pleased to grant:—

(a) General permission for any person to take or send out of British India to the United Kingdom or to any British Dominion, Protectorate, or Crown Colony (with the exception of Canada, Newfoundland and Hongkong) and to Egypt, Iraq, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and any mandated territory, cheques, drafts or bills of exchange drawn on any place in these countries or in India or Burma and expressed payable in the following currencies:

Sterling (including the sterling currencies of the British Dominions, Protectorates and Crown Colonies), rupees, British East African shillings, Straits Settlement dollars, Egyptian pounds and Iraqi dinars.

(b) General permission to authorised dealers in foreign exchange to send out of British India to any place outside India or Burma, bills of exchange in any currency which have been acquired by them in the normal course of their business and in accordance with the exchange control regulations in force at the time.

(c) General permission for any person to take or send out of British India to a place outside India or Burma drafts which have been drawn in any currency on any place outside British India by a bank authorised to deal in foreign exchange in India.

Best in Lenses—Best in Frames

WHITE BROS

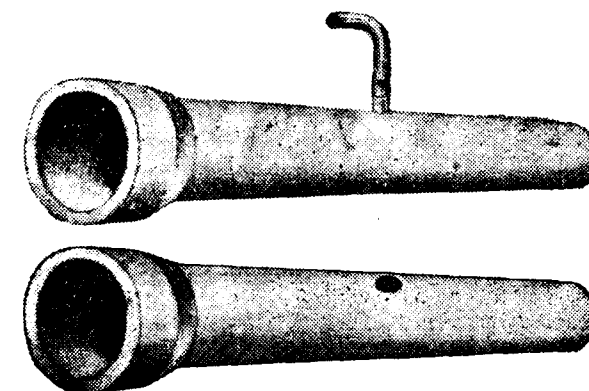
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS



**3-173, BROADWAY
MADRAS**

ECONOMICAL WATER SUPPLY

Permanent "Hume Pipes" for
Water Mains &
Distribution System.



Advantages:

Saving in the Pipe Cost;

Longer Life and superior flow of water.

Smaller bore of the pipe can be selected.

Additional saving owing to smaller bore.

Brass Ferrules can be fixed beforehand for house connections.

Pipes are free from rust and tuberculation.

Found more suitable in Salt Area and adverse soil conditions.

Need not be sold as scrap; can be re-used elsewhere.

Good scope for Local Industry.

Excellent Tests and Testimonials—Hume Pipes for Distribution in India are working satisfactorily for the last seven years.

32 Factories All Over India.

THE INDIAN HUME PIPE CO., LTD.

Head Office: Construction House, Ballard Estate, BOMBAY

Branch: 9, Bishop Waller Avenue Edward Elliotts Road, MYLAPORE, MADRAS

Telegrams: "HUMEPIPE" Madras.

Telephone: 8514. Madras.

Madras Commerce Report for the Month of September 1940

In the Madras commodity markets, prices of food grains continued to advance during September, but were offset by a further weakening in the prices of commercial products taken as a whole, with the result that the index number of wholesale prices remained steady at 106, the index for the food grains group rising by one point to 113, and the index for the commercial products group declining by one point to 99. The cotton market showed an upward tendency and quotations were firm during the second half of the month in sympathy with trends in the Broach and up-country markets in spite of heavy arrivals. There was a good demand during the month for tanned hides and an improved enquiry for buff and cow calf. The tanned sheep and tanned goat skins markets underwent little change during the month and, in some cases, prices eased slightly, though there were larger sales of special tannages and selections to the United States of America. The groundnut market was steady as a result of some demand on account of Calcutta buyers and local buyers for crushing. The market for paddy and rice was firm and prices showed an upward tendency. The Calicut coir yarn market was steady as a result of moderate European demand, but the Cochin coir yarn market continued lifeless in the absence of demand. The demand for copra and coconut oil improved and at the close of the month the market was active. The ginger market was fairly steady as a result of some Indian demand. The Calicut pepper market was also steady. The Madras sugar market was steady with moderate demand and prices improved a little. The demand for locally manufactured acids and chemicals was normal.

GROUNDNUT:

The groundnut market was steady mainly on local support. The average wholesale prices of standard varieties per candy of 531 lbs. at the main producing centres were as follows:

30th August 1940 Rs. 20-8-0 to Rs. 25-0-0
27th September 1940 Rs. 21-0-0 to Rs. 25-4-0

PADDY AND RICE:

The market for paddy and rice was firm and prices showed an improved tendency towards the end of the month. The average wholesale prices of standard varieties at the main producing centres were as follows:—

Indian paddy per bag of 170 lbs.

30th August 1940 Rs. 5-14-0 to Rs. 6 6 0
27th September 1940 Rs. 6-1-0 to Rs. 6 9 9

Indian rice per bag of 170 lbs.

30th August 1940 Rs. 8 12 0 to Rs. 9 8 0
27th September 1940 Rs. 9 0 0 to Rs. 9 8 0

Rangoon rice—raw, broken A, 1 per bag of 220 lbs.

31st August 1940 Rs. 9 8 0 } Madras.
30th September 1940 Rs. 9 12 0 }

Calcutta rice (Nagara) boiled, per bag of 164 lbs.

31st August 1940 Rs. 10 6 0 } Madras.
30th September 1940 Rs. 10 9 0 }

COCONUT PRODUCTS:

The market for Quilandy soaked yarn was fairly steady throughout the month as a result of fair European demand. Owing to European and Indian demand, the market for Beypore yarns improved and closed firm. The Calicut unsoaked yarn market remained steady throughout the month owing to moderate European demand. The Cochin coir yarn market was lifeless owing to the absence of European demand and very restricted Indian demand. Copra and coconut oil were absorbed freely by Indian dealers and prices improved in an active market.

COTTON:

Tinnevellies:—Arrivals were again fair during September and qualities in general were satisfactory. South Indian Mills, and Coimbatore Mills in particular, were eager buyers of ordinary Tinnevely and there was a fair turnover at prices around Rs. 190 per candy of 784 lbs. though during the last few days of the month prices from Rs. 200 to Rs. 210 were realised. There was a slight enquiry from Calcutta, but other Indian mill centres and foreign countries were disinterested.

Cambodia.—Arrivals were rather small during September and only few first crop lots were released. Coimbatore mills were the main buyers at prices ranging from Rs. 210 to Rs. 220 for second crop. There were no enquiries from outside Southern India.

SUGAR:

The Madras sugar market was better due to low stocks with wholesalers, good demand from up-country markets and despatches to Bombay. Prices increased by about four annas per cwt. The Indian Sugar Syndicate released a quota of about 13 lakhs of bags, which was slightly more than required, but still the market continued steady with moderate demand. The market later declined owing to heavy arrivals and dull demand, but closed steady with an improved offtake. The price of Nellikuppam sugar was Rs. 27-6-0 per bag of two cwts. at the end of September as compared with Rs. 26-10-0 at the end of August. West Coast markets opened steady, but as the demand was slack, prices declined slightly. Later, demand was satisfactory, and as monsoon conditions were over, dealers were desirous of increasing their stocks and consequently there was better enquiry in the second fortnight. Other South Indian markets were steady with good demand for ready sugars owing to an increase in demand due to festivals.

HIDES AND SKINS:

Tanned Hides.—There was a good demand throughout the month, especially for heavier average parcels for which prices were firm. Arrivals coming into the market were inclined to be on the light side. There was an improved enquiry for both buff and cow calf and prices were inclined to be firmer.

Tanned Goat and Tanned Sheep Skins.—There was little change in both markets during the month, though larger sales of Tanned goat and Tanned sheep and especially, the former, were made to the United States of America. These were for special tannages and selections and quite a fair amount of business was done during the month. Prices in Madras for both Tanned goat and Tanned sheep were on an average about Re. 1 per lb. lower than pre-war prices, the more noticeable drop being on lower grades and poor tannages, whereas Prime tannages, especially in Tanned sheep, have not decreased to such an extent. The Public Auctions in London were held in the middle of the month and prices were unchanged from those obtained in the Auction at the end of July. Only a small quantity of Tanned goats amounting to about Rs. 30,000 skins were sold and these contained only Prime and Best Tannages. In Tanned sheep, the Auctions closed similarly to Goats with Prime and Best tannages selling at previous sale rates, but, where sales were made, fair and ordinary lots and some parcels of rejections, were at easier prices.

ANNEXURE

Wholesale prices of commodities ruling in the markets mentioned on 27th September, 1940.

Commodity	Market	Quality or Variety	Unit	Price
Cotton	Tirupur	Cam-bodia	Per candy of 520 lbs.	Rs. 188 to 198
Do.	do.	Karun-ganni	do.	Rs. 168 to 173
Ground-nuts	Nandyal	Machine shelled	do. 531 lbs.	Rs. 25
Do.	Pollachi	do.	do.	Rs. 20-4-0 to 21-0-0
Pepper	Telli-cherry	Garbled	Per cwt. F.O.B.	Rs. 15-4-0
Paddy	Tenali	Kusuma	Per bag of 164 lbs.	Rs. 6-6-0
Rice	do.	do.	do. do.	Rs. 8-10-11
Coir Yarn	Alleppey	Allapat	Per candy of 672 lbs.	Rs. 30 to 50
Copra	Cochin	...	do. 655 lbs.	Rs. 55
Coconut Oil	do.	...	do. do.	Rs. 81
Jute	Vizia-nagaram	Bimli	do. 506 lbs.	Rs. 40 (nominal)
Tobacco	Erode	1st quality	Per maund of 28 lbs.	Rs. 3-6-0

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Market Reports

MADRAS

(28-11-1940)

Cotton Yarn—

	Rs. A. P.
80's (5 lb. Bundle)	7 7 0
Madura Mills	...
60's (5 lb. bundle)	5 10 0
Coimbatore Pioneers	...
"Laxmi"	5 10 0
Madura Mills	5 12 0
40's (10 lb. bundle)	6 8 0
Coimbatore Mills	...
30's (5 lb. bundle)	3 0 0
Madura Mills	...
20's (10 lb. bundle)	4 10 0
Coimbatore Mills	...
Madura Mills	5 0 0

Cement—

Gillingham "Hand" Brand (per cask)	20 0 0
(per bag of 94 lbs.)	5 0 0
"Nilgiri" Brand	1 11 0
A. C. C.	1 11 0
"Dalmia"	1 10 0

Metals—

Yellow Metal Sheets "Dittman" 500 lbs.	292 0 0
"I. C. C."	292 0 0
Copper Sheets	370 0 0

Tanned Hides—

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bangalore—8 to 8½ per lb.	0 13 3	to 0 13 9
Up Countries	0 12 9	to 0 13 6
Coasts—7 to 7½ lbs.	0 12 6	to 0 13 3

Tanned Goat—

Good, per lb. ...	1 1 0	to 1 2 0
Fair, " " ...	1 0 0	to 1 1 0
Common, " " ...	1 0 0	to 1 0 6

Tanned Sheep—

Good, per lb. ...	1 3 0	to 1 4 0
Fair, " " ...	1 0 0	to 1 2 0
Common " " ...	1 0 0	to 1 0 6

Oil Seeds—

Groundnuts, Machined (531 lbs.)	22 6 0
Castor Seeds	11 8 0

Produce—

Rice, Rangoon—Raw, Broken (220 lbs.)	10 12 0
Calcutta (Nagara) boiled (164 lbs.)	10 10 0
Jaggery, 500 lbs. 1st quality	25 0 0
" " 2nd quality	21 0 0
Horsegram, bag of 216 lbs.	2 8 0
Turneric, baram of 500 lbs.	3 0 0
Pepper, Tellicherry (pure) 25 lbs.	3 10 0
" " Byrdi	4 10 0
Ginger, Dry (Calicut) 500 lbs.	7 0 0
Tobacco leaf, Cigar & Chewing quality (500 lbs.)	135 0 0
" " Snuff quality (500 lbs.)	130 to 150
Salt, bag of 2 maunds	3 10 0
Pure Ghee, tin of 37½ lbs.	20 0 0

BANGALORE

(2-12-1940)

(By The Mysore Chamber of Commerce)

Silk—The market has remained steady without change in rates.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Sidlaghatta silk per seer of 26½ tolas	4 4 0	to 4 6 0
Closepet	3 8 0	to 3 12 0
Chickballapur	3 14 0	to 4 2 0
Kyalanur	4 2 0	to 4 4 0
Mudavadi	3 12 0	to 4 0 0
Channapatna	3 6 0	to 3 8 0
Kollegal per maund 1000 tolas	120 0 0	to 160 0 0
Silk-waste " 28 lbs	6 8 0	to 7 0 0

Calicut—No report

Tuticorin—No report

Coimbatore—No report

Madura—No report

BOMBAY

(22-11-1940)

(By The Millowners' Association, Bombay)

PIECE-GOODS.

Grey, Unbleached—

	inch.	yds.	lbs.	Per lb.	Rs. A. P.
Longcloth (Standard Quality)	37	37½	9	"	0 10 6
" (Fine Quality)	44	38	7½	"	1 0 11
Shirtings	35	38	9	"	0 9 8
" (Vegetable Quality)	37	37½	9	"	0 9 6
Leopard Cloth	43	38	11½	"	0 9 11
Dhoties (upto ½" nakhi Border)	32	9	1½	"	0 10 10
" (Calcutta, ½" P. B.)	44	10	1½	"	1 1 0
Drills	29½	40	13½	"	0 9 0
Domestics	35	40	13½	"	0 8 11
Salitra	40	66	25	"	0 8 6
Chadars	50	6	2½	"	0 10 3

White, Bleached—

Longcloth	34	40	Per Piece	13 4 0
Drill	27	42	"	9 5 0

Yarn—

	Per lb.	Rs. A. P.
4s (All Waste)	...	0 4 3
6s " "	...	0 4 7
8s " "	...	0 5 7
10s " "	...	0 6 0
12s " "	...	0 6 4
14s " "	...	0 7 8
16s " "	...	0 8 3
18s " "	...	0 8 10
20s " "	...	0 10 0
22s " "	...	0 11 2
24s " "	...	1 2 7
26s " "	...	1 9 2

COCANADA

(15-10-1940)

(By The Godavari Chamber of Commerce)

	Rs. A. P.
Per bag of 166 lbs. nett Loose	
Sarva Paddy	6 12 0
Dalva Paddy	4 12 0
Garikisannam Paddy	6 1 0
Per bag of 164 lbs. nett Loose	
Raw Rice No. 1 (Mill) With gunny	13 12 0
Horse Gram with gunny	4 0 0
Bhoot Gram	7 4 0
Green Gram	9 10 0
Black Gram	7 12 0
Red Gram big	5 12 0
Raggy	1 0 0
Fenugreek	1 0 0
Mustard	11 0 0
Coriander Seed	1 0 0
Castor Poonac Loose	Not quoted
Gingellyseed Pyru with gunny	13 0 0
Cottonseed per bag of 150 lbs. nett with gunny	4 4 0

Per Candy of 500 lbs. nett

Cane Jaggery	25 0 0
Chillies Country Loose	2 4 0
Turmeric	2 4 0
Castor Oil (Factory)	84 0 0
Coconut Oil	4 14 0
Ground Nut Oil	52 0 0
Ghee No. 1	250 0 0

Per Candy of 550 lbs. nett

Gunnies H. C 40x28	34 12 0
Chittivalsa D. W. 40x28	28 8 0
Yellow Metal Sheets 20 to 60 lbs. per ton	1,200 0 0
Parry & Co., Sugar per bag of 226½ lbs. includ-	
ing Gunny	26 12 0
Gold Musa per tola	41 0 0
Horse Sovereigns each	28 8 0
Silver Bullion per 100 Tolas	63 8 0

(Continued from page 302)

26th

Addressing the annual session of the Indian Railway Conference Association Sir Andrew Clow, Communications Member, dwelt on the effect of war on Indian Railways and said that the repercussions of the war had not as yet been grave but there were likely to be increasing calls on their resources.

29th

His Excellency the Governor of Bengal has given his assent to the Shops and Establishments Bill passed by the Provincial Legislature during its last session.

The Indian Railway Conference Association concluded its session after electing Mr. A. Duncan, Agent and General Manager of the Bengal Nagpur Railways, as President for next year.

30th

The Government of Bombay has again this year issued instructions that clerks and subordinate officials should not send Christmas and New Year cards to their superior officers and higher officials of the Government.

Changes in the list of companies in the month of September 1940, made by the Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies, Madras.

I. COMPANIES REGISTERED:

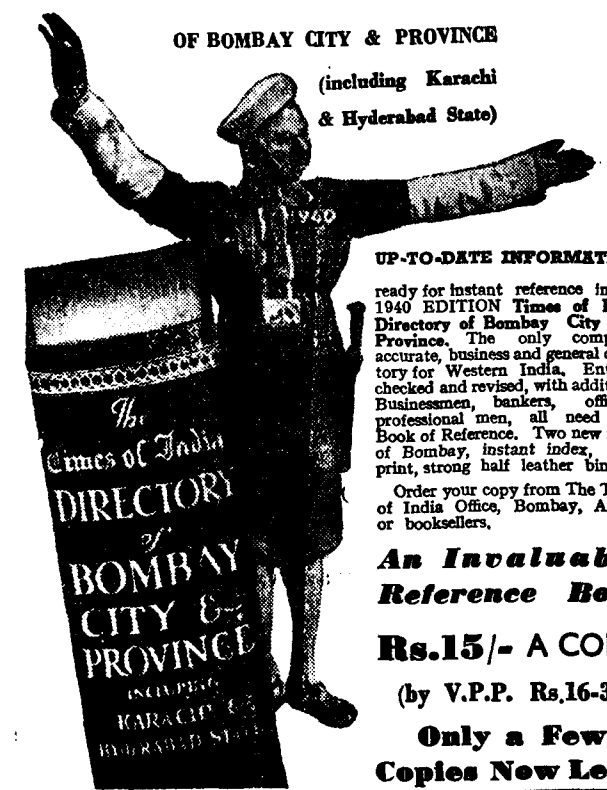
Cocanada Dayalbhagh Stores Ltd.
Palakonda Dayalbhagh Stores Ltd.
South Indian Lakshmi Nurseries Ltd.
Roopavani Pictures Ltd.
Sakthi Films Ltd.

II. COMPANIES DISSOLVED:

Oriental Commercial Chit Fund Ltd.
Premier Assurance Corporation Ltd.
Zenith Bank Ltd.
Hill Produce Trading Corporation Ltd.
P. R. Rama Ayyar & Co., Ltd.
South Indian Publishers Ltd.
United Tea Export Co., Ltd.
Film Distributors (India) Ltd.
Kalanidhi Films Ltd.
Kubera Films Ltd.
India Studios Ltd.
Union Bank Calicut Ltd.
Vellore Mercantile Bank Ltd.

II. COMPANIES THAT CHANGED THEIR NAMES:
NIL.The Times of India
DIRECTORY

OF BOMBAY CITY & PROVINCE

(including Karachi
& Hyderabad State)

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Monthly Diary - October 1940.

1st

The Senate of Burma has referred the Burma Land Purchase Bill to a Select Committee, with instructions to report before the February session.

4th

Steps for the stricter control of graded 'Agmark' produce were discussed at the Sixth Marketing Officers' Conference.

5th

The Indian Sugar Syndicate has revised the scale of its graded prices by increasing the price of good quality sugar and decreasing that of second crystal quality sugar; thereby widening the difference between the two.

7th

Following the cancellation of the resolution of the Madras Corporation on "Divisonal Allotments", the Government of Madras have drawn the attention of Municipal Councils in the districts to a similar practice obtaining in certain councils of providing in their budget a lump-sum termed "Ward Allotment" to be spent equally among each of the wards on items of works selected by the respective ward councillors.

8th

The Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act in regard to the disqualification of such councillors and candidates for election as fall into arrears in respect of amounts due by them to the Municipality was considered by the Council of the Corporation of Madras at its meeting.

9th

To give relief to low-paid government servants in view of the rise in the cost of living caused by the war, the Government of Assam has decided to institute a dearness allowance payable to government servants drawing a pay up to and including Rs. 30 per mensem.

11th

An ordinance was promulgated by the Government of India amending the Indian Coinage Act, by which it was declared that Victoria rupees and half rupees shall cease to be legal tender after March 31, 1941, but shall continue to be acceptable till September 30, 1941 at all Government Treasuries and post offices and thereafter, until further notice only at the offices of the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank at Bombay and Calcutta.

12th

The Court of Inquiry appointed by the Government of India, at the instance of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation to inquire into and report on the question of the rise in the cost of living of Railway employees, concluded its inquiry in Bombay to-day after having examined 41 witnesses. The inquiry was confined to the G.I.P. Railway.

14th

A meeting of the governing body of the I.M.M.T.S. "Dufferin" was held. The budget for the year 1941-42 was adopted and a sub-committee was appointed to award the Bombay Port Trust and Madras Port Trust scholarships to deserving cadets.

15th

In pursuance of its scheme for municipalising markets in the city of Madras, the Corporation Council decided to apply to the Government of Madras for a loan of Rs. 250 lakhs for acquiring six of the markets.

18th

The Government of India have approved of the reorganisation of the purchasing machinery of the Supply Department.

19th

His Majesty's Government have sanctioned the scheme for manufacturing aircraft in India. Mr. Walchand Hirachand the sponsor of the scheme, has left for Bangalore to decide finally on a site for the proposed air craft factory.

20th

Having obtained priority certificates from the Central Authorities required by them due to the war to carry out the scheme costing Rs. 27,00,000 to renew water mains in the city, the Karachi Municipal Corporation has deputed their Chief Engineer to inspect the pipes and arrange their freight for Karachi from Calcutta.

21st

The validity of the United Provinces Act of 1938 regularising remissions of the rent granted by the Government was called in question in an appeal on which arguments were heard before the Federal Court. The appeal arose from a declaration by the Allahabad High Court that the Act was *ultra vires* of the Provincial Legislature.

24th

Dr. T. E. Gregory, who along with Sir David Meek went on a trade mission to U. S. A., has returned to Delhi and has submitted his report to the Government of India.

The Labour Department of the Government of India has under consideration the details of a scheme prepared as the result of the recommendations of the Sargeant Committee on the training of technical men. Sixteen institutions seem to have been already selected for the purpose and there are forty one more on the list whose claims are being studied.

25th

The first full session of the Eastern Group Conference met. H. E. the Viceroy addressed the gathering and set up a central committee under the chairmanship of Sir Mohommed Zafrullah, leader of the Indian Delegation.

(Continued on page 303)

Tariff and Taxation

GOODS EXEMPTED FROM CUSTOMS DUTY:

Goods (other than tobacco in any form and wines, spirits and alcoholic liquors) imported by parcel post addressed to any rating or marine subject to the Naval Discipline Act are exempted from the customs duty provided that before delivery to the addressee they are certified to be 'war comforts' by the Principal Sea Transport Officer at Bombay or by the Naval Officer-in-charge or Senior Naval officer at other ports.

INDIAN TEA EXPORT QUOTA:

The Indian Export allotment of tea for the financial year 1940-41 is 354,499,697 lbs., being ninety two and a half per cent of India's standard export figure.

PROFESSION TAX ON COMPANIES:

The Government of Madras have framed a rule, for the levy of profession tax by local bodies on companies doing business within the limits of two or more local authorities other than cantonment authorities in the Province of Madras excluding the City of Madras. The rule provides that such companies may in respect of any half year, offer within 15 days of the serving of a notice on it by a local authority to

pay, in lieu of the profession tax payable by it, the tax leviable at the highest of the rates levied within the limits of the local authorities concerned, calculated on the company's total income in the province excluding the City of Madras and cantonment in the half year concerned and intimate the fact of having done so to the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipalities.

EXEMPTION OF SODA ASH FROM DUTY:

In 1935 the Government of India decided to afford the glass manufacturing industry in India a certain measure of relief by exempting imported soda ash from duty. This concession was sanctioned for a period of three years in the first instance and was extended up to 22nd June 1940.

The production of soda ash on a commercial scale has not yet developed in India, but two industrial concerns have made considerable progress with their schemes for the production of indigenous soda ash on a large scale. In the meanwhile same arrangements for a further period of 2 years are being continued until the Government of India are thoroughly satisfied that soda ash in commercial quantities is being produced in India.

COMMODITIES IN INDUSTRY

Startling new developments are occurring in American Industry in 1940. New manufacturing methods, new markets, shifting supply and demand sources, are all contributing to a new picture—contained in the new 720-page book:

COMMODITIES IN INDUSTRY

720 pages — 200 illustrations

Descriptions of step-by-step method whereby 75 basic raw materials are converted into finished form in the 1940 manner. Contributing to the great value of this remarkable volume are complete statistical records and price charts.

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75 BASIC COMMODITIES

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Transport

M. & S. M. RY. RATES:

The attention of members is drawn to the special rates recently introduced for wagon loads:

Description of goods.	STATIONS.	Rates Per md. Rs. A. P.
	From To	
Cigarettes	Shalimar and Bangalore City or Cant. (via Waltair and Madras)	2 3 2
Coconut Shells	Cochin Har- Andul (via Jalarpet, Madras and terminus Waltair)	1 4 0
Graphite	Rajahmundry Shalimar and via (via Waltair)	0 12 6
Groundnuts	Kovilpalayam Via Madras (for traffic to Shalimar and via)	0 10 6
Soap	Ernakulam Via Dadar for traffic to Ahmedabad, Asarva and Kankaria (via Jalarpet, Arkonam and Raichur)	0 10 6
Sugar	Bezawada Cochin Harbour terminus (via Madras and Jalarpet)	0 14 6
Tea	Cochin Har- Bombay (via Jalarpet, Arkonam and Raichur)	1 3 9
Vegetable Ghee	Ernakulam Guntur (via Jalarpet and Madras)	1 5 0
Vegetable Oils	Ernakulam Guntur (via Jalarpet and Madras)	1 5 0
Limes	Cocanada Port or Town Madras	1 1 0
Oranges	" " Madras	1 1 0
Firewood	Tirupati East "	0 2 0
Paper	Rajahmundry "	0 10 7

Closure of Branch Railway:

The following branch Railways have been closed for all descriptions of traffic with effect from the dates mentioned against them.
Shoranur—Nilambur (S. I. Ry) 42 miles.....5th December 1940.
Cocanada Town—Somagandam (M. & S. M.) 28 miles...6th November 1940.

ROAD MILEAGE:

India has 191 miles of roads per lakh of people, while Australia has 9,000 miles for the same number of people. The total road mileage in British India in 1935-36 was 306,717, of which metalled roads accounted for 82,284 miles and unmetalled roads for 224,433 miles.

MOTOR VEHICLES—MANUFACTURE OF:

The manufacture of motor vehicles in the leading countries in the years 1938 or 1939 was as under:—

Country.	Year.	Motor Vehicles produced.
United States	1939	3,577,058
Canada	1939	155,316
Great Britain	1938	477,561
France	1938	220,343
Germany	1938	328,000
Italy	1938	70,388
Russia (U.S.S.R.)	1938	215,000
Japan	1938	30,000

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CHRISTMAS

& NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

1940

TRAVEL CONCESSIONS

GO-AS-YOU-PLEASE tickets for 15 days unlimited Travel on S. I. Ry. and TRAVEL-AS-YOU-LIKE tickets for 20 days unlimited travel on both S. I. & M. S. M. Railways.

Also usual RETURN TICKETS for journeys over 100 miles.

For details please ask station masters.

SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY.

FINANCE

Current and Time Deposits of Scheduled Banks in India and Burma

(In Lakhs of Rupees)

Month.	Current Deposits.				Time Deposits.				Total.				
		1937	1938	1939	1940	1937	1938	1939	1940	1937	1938	1939	1940
January	...	132.80	130.19	128.93	145.63	102.60	110.00	108.50	108.42	235.60	240.19	237.43	254.05
February	...	131.30	129.03	127.37	151.38	103.40	110.13	108.29	108.88	235.60	239.16	235.66	259.26
March	...	133.20	128.58	130.66	150.37	104.70	108.27	107.29	108.88	238.90	236.85	237.95	259.25
April	...	135.54	128.04	128.61	149.82	105.63	110.09	108.50	113.23	238.10	238.13	237.11	263.05
May	...	134.51	127.28	129.49	145.42	107.38	110.43	108.96	112.13	237.70	237.71	238.45	257.55
June	...	133.19	127.14	131.90	143.93	106.05	107.70	109.12	107.75	234.80	234.84	331.02	251.68
July	...	133.64	129.71	140.74	153.48	108.42	107.11	107.39	106.60	236.80	236.82	248.13	260.08
August	...	134.00	129.27	141.39	160.60	110.27	106.97	106.46	101.88	236.20	236.24	247.85	262.48
September	...	132.95	131.16	139.19	165.49	110.18	101.21	102.10	101.36	232.40	232.37	241.29	266.85
October	...	134.28	134.21	140.81		109.45	106.30	99.75		243.73	240.51	240.56	
November	...	135.66	134.68	145.04		108.98	106.12	101.82		244.64	240.80	246.86	
December	...	131.53	130.15	146.57		110.96	108.44	104.76		242.49	238.59	251.33	

Madras Clearing House Returns

(In Lakhs of Rupees)

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.		1939	1940
1918—19	25,48	1928—29	65,73	January	777	857
1919—20	33,95	1929—30	82,19	February	795	851
1920—21	75,79	1930—31	50,36	March	1,035	1,444
1921—22	39,54	1931—32	43,97	April	798	875
1922—23	45,13	1932—33	48,85	May	791	1,127
1923—24	55,41	1933—34	53,19	June	910	839
1924—25	55,96	1934—35	56,22	July	750	721
1925—26	56,80	1935—36	69,23	August	665	479
1926—27	54,53	1936—37	91,39	September	846	781
1927—28	59,79	1937—38	104,05	October	651	791
		1938—39	127,48	November	707	1006
				December	990	

Purchase of Sterling by Reserve Bank of India (000's of £)

	1938	1939	1940
January	3,270	6,495	11,438
February	4,945	1,000	7,798
March	4,667	2,465	9,867
April	18	2,280	2,314
May	Nil	Nil	4,885
June	Nil	2,375	5,765
July	415	Nil	4
August	255	3,520	...
September	630	8,460	...
October	1,530	10,393	...
November	1,135	8,445	...
December	1,193	9,920	...
Total...	18,058	55,353	...

FOREIGN AND COASTING TRADE

MADRAS PROVINCE (IN RUPEES)

Merchandise Imports from and Exports to Foreign Countries					External Coasting Import and Export Trade (Indian and Foreign Merchandise) of Madras Province				
Imports		Exports			Imports		Exports		
1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940	
January	200,50,335	238,84,991	326,79,611	364,66,512	January	74,50,870	67,54,337	52,28,067	84,14,945
February	224,87,288	202,24,111	278,64,011	355,59,789	February	89,31,357	61,79,886	62,62,799	52,09,894
March	315,09,924	281,09,276	381,03,546	432,41,529	March	80,61,980	66,39,456	77,31,787	79,85,962
April	171,39,842		210,65,187		April	63,64,686	64,42,589	49,10,911	48,73,987
May	263,00,487		332,45,931		May	101,39,378	98,87,115	71,53,998	67,27,423
June	297,60,623		427,33,498		June	56,25,922	48,91,836	46,60,332	34,61,227
July	273,86,494		395,54,424		July	36,52,126	95,67,143	30,09,391	30,31,023
August	222,10,392		328,27,192		August	88,66,060	31,52,280	37,58,717	31,75,603
September	205,85,082		213,98,840		September	66,53,266		43,88,194	
October	201,09,004		305,99,954		October	60,75,424		44,56,698	
November	194,86,507		297,28,142		November	68,90,532		65,06,379	
December	130,39,342		191,30,277		December	67,37,168		54,66,313	
2,700,65,320		3,689,30,613			854,48,769		635,33,586		

RAIL-BORNE TRADE OF MADRAS PROVINCE—(In tons)

* CHIEF SOURCE

† CHIEF DESTINATION

CEMENT					COFFEE				COTTON YARN			
Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export	
1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	3,215	883	593	295	99	7	30	34	892	556	1,067	1,071
February	4,072	409	710	569	123	96	32	209	701	488	1,116	801
March	2,888	703	682	14	326	87	30	39	707	647	1,095	55
April	3,039	422	585	389	138	77	24	25	685	1,243	558	651
May	384	387	703	465	80	51	19	22	1,032	967	1,504	1,295
June	3,043		630		80		21		838		1,106	
July	2,392		497		74		28		83		1,033	
	644		827		62		19		806		1,504	
	3,336		513		73		33		1,066		1,038	
	1,699		389		51		37		408		1,433	
	1,108		417		55		34		840		2,191	
	229		457		64		40		955		1,947	
	26,054		7,009		1,429		351		10,017		15,597	

* Nizam's Dominions,
Central Provinces

† Mysore

* Mysore.

† Mysore.

* Bombay
and Mysore.† Calcutta, Bombay
and Mysore.

COTTON PIECE-GOODS

PADDY

RICE

COTTON PIECE-GOODS					PADDY				RICE			
Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export	
1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	1,536	755	652	461	36,911	5,605	250	161	9,505	3,731	12,164	17,486
February	1,354	1,118	645	861	5,969	9,301	206	111	8,200	7,927	11,608	18,115
March	1,128	1,472	782	866	4,614	7,573	240	108	8,393	7,243	12,433	16,229
April	1,327	1,915	701	78	4,657	468	440	151	7,824	5,170	10,883	9,864
May	158	2,701	671	706	4,966	4,704	341	131	7,653	484	12,302	14,669
June	1,324		542		3,663		558		1,874		13,871	
July	1,533		564		3,910		361		8,535		11,888	
August	1,333		732		438		731		5,044		15,096	
September	1,958		906		1,200		810		1,371		4,416	
October	1,358		895		2,006		450		6,640		13,060	
November	1,945		708		2,350		937		8,647		6,073	
December	1,487		952		276		638		8,706		17,260	
	16,447		8,754		70,965		5,966		82,397		1,41,060	

* Bombay and Mysore. † Calcutta, Bombay,
and Mysore.* Orissa and Central
Provinces. † Bombay* Orissa, Central
Provinces, Bengal,
Bihar and Punjab. † Mysore, Nizam's
Dominions,
Bombay.

RAW HIDES

RAW SKINS

LEATHER

RAW HIDES					RAW SKINS				LEATHER			
Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export	
1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	2,182	2,236	68	170	611	1,013	67	11	...	575	...	137
February	1,497	3,320	85	91	628	1,037	29	106	384	547	76	140
March	2,152	3,670	30	101	728	795	47	110	474	469	97	152
April	1,896	3,084	40	102	649	870	33	60	469	685	93	21
May	1,816	2,003	49	104	564	726	49	46	510	615	90	181
June	1,288		45		671		47		521		90	
July	2,176		84		802		96		56		80	
August	2,158		142		616		50		625		88	
September	1,804		87		452		37		537		100	
October	239		141		891		89		481		18	
November	3,067		278		1,026		49		522		119	
December	2,347		86		771		111		510		139	
	22,625		1,140		8,412		709		5,092		995	

* Bengal, Orissa, Central
Provinces. † Mysore.* Mysore, Central
Provinces, Bombay,
Nizam's Dominions. † Mysore* Mysore, Nizam's
Dominions. † Bengal, Bombay
and Mysore.

IRON AND STEEL GOODS

OIL CAKES

VEGETABLE OILS

IRON AND STEEL GOODS					OIL CAKES					VEGETABLE OILS				
Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export		
1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940	
January	6,783	10,150	2,571	2,351	6,259	1,593	90	41	874	250	2,146	3,118		
February	16,809	9,292	1,589	4,843	4,033	2,459	64	2,459	787	353	2,523	3,632		
March	10,124	8,991	5,477	3,762	3,712	3,572	34	68	1,035	469	2,379	2,845		
April	9,722	7,112	2,278	3,098	4,312	258	53	94	824	878	2,108	2,659		
May	9,712	7,699	1,770	4,015	4,856	2,304	104	140	1,096	630	1,739	2,633		
June	7,579		1,787		4,121		113		685		1,169			
July	9,694		2,967		3,428		68		651		1,228			
August	8,924		2,007		2,716		38		405		1,201			
September	10,441		3,189		2,327		101		445		1,737			
October	7,107		2,859		3,779		224		14		1,169			
November	6,448		2,034		2,217		11		359		1,600			
December	9,092		1,500		2,559		48		460		3,055			
	113,438		30,014		44,324		952		7,641		22,060			

* Behar, Bengal, Mysore,
Bombay.† Mysore, Bombay,
Nizam's Dominions.* Nizam's Dominions,
Mysore, Bombay,
Central Provinces,
Orissa.† Mysore and
Bombay.* Nizam's
Dominions,
Mysore,
Bombay. † Bengal,
Mysore,
Orissa,
Bombay, Behar.

CASTOR SEED

COTTON SEED

GROUNDNUT

CASTOR SEED					COTTON SEED					GROUNDNUT				
Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export		
1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940	
January	451	2,819	Nil	90	1,482	1,090	131	14	5,027	1,886	1,347	24,948		
February	1,248	8,304	Nil	169	533	972	56	7	3,113	1,730	12,155	7,881		
March	1,419	5,414	42	104	1,989	1,822	192	2,676	3,222	2,217	5,854	9,397		
April	1,144	4,036	16	131	2,206	2,822	274	34	2,794	3,132	4,017	6,706		
May	1,176	2,202	18	88	1,433	312	115	Nil	108	1,960	5,716	5,876		
June	765		18		1,834		48		3,513		2,145			
July	399		8		1,990		158		2,114		2,809			
August	416				1,921		123		678		3,258			
September	1,577	5,287			2,848		176		56		907			
October	2,564	155			1,724		14		71		871			
November	1,109	5			1,333		27		4,775		931			
December	227	103			1,999		1278		6,520		15,154			
	12,498	5,609			21,297		2,596		31,995		55,200			

* Nizam's Dominions,
Orissa.

† Mysore.

* Bombay,
Nizam's
Dominions.† Nizam's
Dominions.* Nizam's
Dominions,
Mysore.† Bombay,
Bengal.

RAPE AND MUSTARD

GINGELLY SEED

SALT

Import (In tons) Export					Import (In tons) Export				Import (In tons) Export			
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	261	354	7	283	2,439	1,053	1	17	1,123	284	4,263	3,877
February	1,013	1,181	581	730	2,808	3,669	4	77	827	1,906	3,335	8,678
March	561	613	337	55	1,404	3,272	1	74	1,789	1,272	4,079	3,706
April	228	509	308	16	1,776	1,427	8	3	2,709	2,140	6,368	6,774
May	117	432	90	4	511	859	9	7	2,743	2,769	8,051	7,084
June	53		39		528		Nil		275		3,691	
July	17		47		609		9		Nil		2,627	
August	32		57		748		1		4		3,121	
September	22		127		1,329		16		Nil		4,465	
October	30		88		2,116		2		1		5,187	
November	144		85		1,433		32		23		5,619	
December	75		39		2,776		80		537		6,975	
	25,558		1,809		18,482		159		10,034		57,737	

SUGAR—REFINED

	Import (In tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	5,720	4,098	677	289
February	4,071	8,913	881	751
March	2,487	1,864	438	279
April	705	1,980	665	389
May	1,266	2,620	1,405	60
June	78		701	
July	73		834	
August	827		118	
September	967		458	
October	1,141		914	
November	1,427		610	
December	4,082		300	
	22,847		8,005	

* United Provinces, Behar, Mysore.

† Bombay, Nizam's Dominions, Mysore, Orissa.

JAGGERY AND MOLASSES

	Import (In tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	263	161	3,085	321
February	582	446	5,559	6,703
March	366	753	386	5,627
April	263	555	3,801	3,848
May	174	741	2,132	2,263
June	47		1,247	
July	51		1,798	
August	76		1,315	
September	106		1,407	
October	95		1,452	
November	45		889	
December	103		1,869	
	2,177		24,944	

* United Provinces, Mysore, Punjab.

† Bombay, Nizam's Dominions, Mysore, Central Provinces.

TEA

	Import (In tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	70	122	373	380
February	110	94	321	257
March	96	79	321	312
April	95	115	383	315
May	104	76	419	361
June	89		367	
July	111		334	
August	118		411	
September	146		371	
October	102		388	
November	126		393	
December	145		481	
	1,317		4,666	

* Calcutta.

† Bombay, Mysore.

RAW TOBACCO

	Import (in tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	241	340	1,129	1,466
February	378	397	676	592
March	584	619	2,159	1,616
April	563	541	3,073	162
May	179	422	2,019	1,138
June	273		1,312	
July	211		1,241	
August	122		96	
September	127		1,191	
October	272		1,699	
November	273		2,076	
December	290		1,299	
	3,518		17,975	

* Mysore.

† Mysore, Bombay, Calcutta, Orissa, Behar.

WOOD AND TIMBER

	Import (in tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	4,293	5,543	1,074	928
February	4,532	5,080	981	628
March	5,444	6,853	1,070	1,682
April	7,237	8,045	788	867
May	6,560	5,375	388	340
June	5,922		792	
July	3,141		505	
August	2,007		1,385	
September	1,575		852	
October	1,285		669	
November	2,215		833	
December	3,832		780	
	48,050		10,322	

* Orissa, Nizam's Dominions, Central Provinces, Mysore, Bombay.

† Mysore.

* Bombay.

RAW WOOL

	Import (in tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	16	36	66	145
February	30	83	74	204
March	50	54	44	159
April	71	35	92	137
May	113	24	162	36
June	60		116	
July	58		68	
August	85		112	
September	76		167	
October	43		82	
November	9		83	
December	18		92	
	634		1,163	

† Bombay.

GOLD EXPORTS FROM INDIA

(In Thousands of Rupees)

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
January	2,71.71	2,38.62	1,54.37	6.54	8,12.27
February	2,63.80	1,15.09	1,99.39	97.38	
March	2,08.42	1,19.26	80.60	1,50.12	
April	2,79.88	1,83.27	1,24.04	1,04.02	
May	3,28.06	1,47.13	1,10.36	1,27.27	
June	2,79.58	81.52	70.17	73.32	
July	4,04.83	2,40.27	3,05.05	3,04.76	
August	2,25.74	1,44.01	2,01.15	1,53.82	
September	2,21.31	1,44.81	30.20	1,65.17	
October	2,19.07	1,30.46	2,15.90	4,88.76	
November	3,58.28	1,17.57	68.20	2,47.57	
December	1,55.71	1,65.73	38	3,87.08	
Total	33,15.94	18,27.74	15,59.81	23,05.81	

CURRENCY NOTES ISSUED IN INDIA AND BURMA

(In Crores of Rupees)

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
January	194	204	213	293	254
February	194	208	213	205	252
March	195	208	214	207	253
April	195	208	214	207	252
May	196	207	214	207	257
June	198	208	214	211	256
July	201	212	213	214	264
August	202	213	215	223	260
September	203	213	212	228	258
October	203	214	209	248	256
November	202	214	208	221	256
December	201	214	206	253	
Total	2284	2523	2545	2697	

Proceedings of Public Bodies

SOUTHERN INDIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Minutes of proceedings of the Meeting of the Committee held at 5 p.m. on thursday the 14th November 1940.

Present:

Khan Bahadur Adam Hajee Mohamed Sait, President.

Vice-President:—

Rao Bahadur C. Gopal Menan,
M. Kuppuswamy Pillai, Esq.

Mr. V. K. Chetty, Rao Sahib T. S. Kachapikesa Mudaliar, Messrs. Laldoss Govindoss, Manian Natesan, V. M. P. Muthuswamy, P. R. Nammalwar, V. S. L. Nathan, Naraindas J. Dutia, T. Ranganatha Mehta, M. N. Sakhi Gopal Naidu, G. M. Sharma, G. Sriram Babu, Yusuff Sait and S. F. H. Akbari.

Weekly holiday for Commercial Employees:

Read and approved report of the labour sub-committee regarding the weekly grant of a holiday to employees of commercial establishments, shops, restaurants and theatres. (See below.)

Organisation for exports of cotton piecegoods:

Read letter from the Indian Central Cotton Committee regarding their proposal for the establish-

ment of an organisation for facilitating export and more internal consumption of cotton and piecegoods and enquiring whether the Chamber will subscribe to the maintenance of such an organisation and resolved to reply welcoming the proposal and to point out that the Chamber representing as it does many trades and industries, cannot finance any scheme for the development of a particular industry.

Commission Agents and Bombay Stock Exchange:

Read letter from the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras, inviting the views of the Chamber on the resolution passed by the Salem District Chamber of Commerce regarding commission agents carrying forward transactions through Bombay Commercial Exchanges and resolved to reply after ascertaining the views of the Salem District Chamber of Commerce.

Situation in Japan:

Read telegram received from the Silk Merchants' Association, Kobe, regarding heavy speculative orders from India and the present situation in Japan and resolved to thank the Association for advising at the proper time, and also to advise members against placing of such speculative orders.

FOR SALE

PLANTING DIRECTORY OF SOUTHERN INDIA, 1940 Edition, revised and considerably enlarged. Contains a full list of all Tea, Coffee and Rubber Estates of the Madras Presidency, Coorg, Cochin, Mysore and Travancore, and an alphabetical list of Addresses of Planters and Estates.

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Transport of documents along with shipments :

Read and recorded letter from Government communicating the arrangement for transport of essential documents along with shipments to avoid delay in the clearance of goods at the port of destination. (Vide War Restrictions section.)

Railway Classification of goods :

Read letter from the Indian Railway Conference Association regarding the classification of pill boxes and resolved to agree to its classification at 2ARR 20R.

Nomination to Provincial Cotton Committee :

Read letter from the Director of Agriculture and President of the Provincial Cotton Committee inviting the Chamber to nominate a representative of the Chamber on the Committee in the place of Mr. V. M. P. Muthuswami who is due to vacate the seat on the 5th January 1941 and resolved to nominate Mr. Narandas J. Dutia for a term.

Election to Madras Port Trust Board :

Read letter from Government of India inviting the Chamber to elect a member to represent the Chamber on the Madras Port Trust Board in the place of Rao Sahib T. S. Kachapikessa Mudaliar, and resolved to fix 4 P.M. on the 5th December 1940 as the last hour and date for receipt of nomination and if contested to hold an election between 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. on the 11th December 1940 the rules being the same as for previous elections.

Subscription to New Magazines :

Resolved to subscribe to the Bulletin of Diwanchand Political Information Bureau and to Commerce and Industry.

Finance Bill :

Resolved to send telegram to the Government of India protesting against the proposals contained in the Finance Bill.

Chamber's Magazine :

Read and adjourned consideration of letter from Mr. V. S. L. Nathan, regarding the Chamber's Magazine.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE UNDER THE TRADE MARKS ACT :

Under section 66 of the Trade Marks Act 1940 the appointment of one or more Advisory Committees of persons vested in the usage of the textile trade is contemplated and the Registrar or the Deputy Registrar shall consult such Committee or Committees with respect to any circumstances peculiar to the textile trade arising on an application to register a trade mark in respect of textile goods. The Deputy Registrar of trade marks consulted commercial bodies regarding the constitution of the Committee. The Chamber in the course of a letter has pointed out that South India is vitally interested in the production and marketing of mill woven goods and yarns under definite trade marks and might require new marks to be registered. It has also been pointed out that the qualities and patterns

of piecegoods which are in the Madras markets under different labels are at great variance with those which are found in the Bombay market. Handloom weaving industry in the Madras Province has advanced and has nearly 50% of the looms operating in India, whose interests have also to be safeguarded. There are also a good number of knitting factories in the Province whose goods are moving in the market with definite marks. It was further pointed out the millowners in South India are not unaware of the backwardness of the province in respect of power looms and they having the necessary spindleage would not find it difficult to increase the loom equipment.

Having regard to the vital interests of South India in the production and marketing of mill woven cotton piecegoods and yarn, handloom production, knitted products etc., the Chamber has pointed out the necessity of associating representatives of such interests in the Committee proposed to be constituted.

ORGANISATION FOR FACILITATING EXPORT OF COTTON AND PIECEGOODS :

Owing to the outbreak of war, many European markets have been closed for Indian cotton so that the problem of disposal of surplus cotton is baffling. There are a good number of enquiries for exports of manufactured piecegoods and though Indian mills can stand up the strain of such production their exports to foreign countries in these days when shipping facilities are quite meagre are very difficult. There are many alternative uses for cotton such as road making, cotton bagging, imitation leather goods, substitute for wall paper etc. but their requirements will touch only a fringe of the problem. Therefore cotton produced in India has to be consumed mainly in India and intensive propaganda has to be carried on for purpose of increasing the consumption of Indian cloth in India and export to Ceylon, Malaya, Australia etc. could also be improved. The Indian Central Cotton Committee has now a proposal before them for the establishment of an organisation to carry on the above work and has asked all the commercial bodies whether they will subscribe to the maintenance of such an organisation. The Chamber in the course of reply has pointed out that many other raw commodities such as groundnuts, castorseed, coffeeseed, coir and fibre matings, spices, tobacco, mica, etc. are in a worse predicament than cotton and the Chamber representing as it does a great many trades, businesses and industries might not be justified in financing the operation of an organisation intended exclusively to support one particular commodity. It has been however suggested that there are special associations whose chief interests centre round cotton and cotton goods who and the many mills who are members of such associations will by themselves be able to finance the organisation whose benefits will go directly to them.

SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCE BILL :

"Owing to the decline in the receipts from customs, excise and salt and the increased amount of

incometax to be paid as their share to the provinces, revenue is down by three crores. The total initial outlay on defence expenditure is estimated at Rs. 33 crores and the extra recurring expenditure at Rs. 16 crores annually. Of this it is expected that Rs. 14 crores will fall in the current year. Civil expenditure has increased by Rs. 2½ crores. Against this increase of Rs. 17 crores in expenditure and the drop of Rs. 3 crores in revenue was set off last year surplus of Rs. 7 crores carried forward in the Revenue Reserve Fund thus leaving a prospective deficit of Rs. 13 crores." Thus observed Sir Jeremy Raisman in introducing the Supplementary Finance Bill in the Central Legislature on the 5th November 1940, providing for a 25% surcharge on all taxes on income including Super-tax and Corporation tax, to raise the initial rate for inland letters from 1 anna to one anna and three pies, for letters to Burma from one and half anna to two annas and for empire countries from two and half annas to three and half annas. Postal initial rate for book packets is also to be raised from six pies to nine pies. The other remedies prescribed by the Finance Member are a surcharge of one anna on each ordinary and two annas on each express inland telegrams and a ten per cent. surcharge on trunk telephone bills. It was stated that the additional taxation will bring in Rs. 6 crores in a full year.

The Committee of the Chamber after examining the above proposals have by telegram to the Government and Assembly Members communicated their protest stating that owing to the various taxation measures of the provincial and Central Governments the position of trade and industries has become very hard. Proceeding, the Chamber has pointed out that owing to the import and export restrictions trade has fallen resulting in shrinkage of buying power. The position of groundnuts, castorseed, tobacco, sugarcane has become very difficult with increased area and rockbottom prices. The Chamber also criticised the policy of the Government in packing the supply department with highly paid staff. In conclusion it was pointed out that this is the most inopportune time for any fresh taxation measures.

HOLIDAYS FOR SHOP ASSISTANTS :

The Government of India have under consideration a measure for the compulsory closing of shops and commercial establishments for a minimum period of one day in the week and in certain cases for an additional half day.

The draft Bill in this behalf, which appears to be now under circulation for eliciting the opinions of commercial bodies, provides for the closing of shops and commercial concerns for one day in the week—Sunday or such other day in lieu thereof as the local Government might fix—with the option to the local Government to require them to close for an additional half day. In respect of restaurants and theatres, the Bill provides that every person employed in other than a managerial or confidential capacity should be allowed one full day off every week and an additional half day.

The machinery for administration of the measure will, it seems, consist of an inspectorate

created for the purpose, while the penalty for violation of the provisions of the law has been fixed at Rs. 25 for the first and Rs. 250 for subsequent offences.

The Chamber, in forwarding its views on the measure, has urged that some distinction should be made between shops and commercial concerns many of which are already granting a full and an additional half day off. Further, many commercial establishments have, for the sake of public convenience, to work all days in the week. It would be desirable, the Chamber suggested, that the Bill should also provide for employers having the option of giving the holiday or paying an extra day's salary to the employee or at least of keeping open their establishments for part of the day on Sunday or other specified holiday.

The Chamber has suggested that the penalties should be a warning for the first offence and a fine of Rs. 5 for the second and Rs. 50 for subsequent offences. They urged that the measure should be applied in the first instance to bigger towns and municipalities and extended to other places only after watching the results in these areas.

PAWNBROKERS BILL.

Setting out its views on the Madras Pawnbrokers Bill, the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, in a communication to the Secretary to the Government in the Development Department, has pointed out that the Government have not explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill what impelled them to the conclusion that the business of pawnbroking has not been adequately controlled by the operation of the Madras Debtors Protection Act. It remains a point for investigation why that legislation has not proved effective so as to remedy the defects either in the provisions or in the administration of the measure.

Conditions in India are very similar to those prevailing in Burma and they might profitably follow the provisions and regulations in Burma in enacting this law. Referring to specific provisions of the Bill, the Chamber stated that there was no reason why pawnbroking done by small joint-stock companies should be exempt from the operation of this measure, as such an exemption is liable to be abused by two or more pawnbrokers joining together to form a limited company, whether private or public. All pawns above Rs. 100 in any single transaction may be kept beyond the competence of this law.

The Chamber suggested that it should be the responsibility of the Revenue Department to issue licences and interference by the police should arise only upon the requisition of their assistance for breach of the provisions of the law. If the suggestion of the Chamber that the revenue from licence fees should properly belong to the local bodies be accepted, then the burden of administration of the law might be vested with the authorities of the municipalities, District Boards and Panchayats concerned. The Chamber further suggested that the maximum rate of interest might be fixed at nine per cent for advances of Rs. 50 and above and at 12 per cent for advances of less than Rs. 50 subject to minimum of

annas 2 in any single case. The interest rate should not be too oppressive but at the same time should be sufficiently high to induce the pawnbroker to remain in business. The provision with regard to insurance should be made more practical.

To check evils and abuses and to ensure the proper administration of the statute, non-official inspectors might be appointed for different localities, pawnbrokers' accounts should be checked and inspected by a Government agency and not by the police.

THE MADRAS GENERAL SALES TAX ACT AND COMMISSION AGENTS:

In continuation of Government's reply (vide page 67 of the March 1940 issue) to the various points raised in the course of the Memorandum presented by the Chamber to His Excellency the Governor of Madras on the 12th February 1940 (vide page 47 of the February 1940 issue) Government have now communicated their decision with regard to the position of Commission Agents vis-a-vis the General Sales Tax Act. The position of indent agents has not yet been clarified. The following is the text of the Government's reply:

"Treatment of commission agents who receive commission from both the buyer and the seller:—The deputation represented that the Commercial Tax Department was adopting the principle that the turnover tax should be paid by agents who received commission from both the buyer and the seller and contended that this principle was wrong. The Government have examined the question in consultation with the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes. The orders issued by the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes on this subject are to the effect that an agent receiving a commission from the buyer as well as from his selling principal should, if he does not wish to be treated as a dealer in respect of the transaction, show both the commissions in his accounts and should also see that the selling principal includes the buyer's commission in his taxable turnover. As this involves a change in the accounts maintained by agents and their principals, the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes has given an opportunity to those concerned to avail themselves of the present orders and has directed that where agents are now willing to submit supplemental accounts to the Commercial Tax Department and to their principals showing the buyer's commission received by them up to date and the principals are willing to pay the additional tax consequent on the inclusion of such buyer's commission in their turnover, the agents will not be treated as dealers. A notification has been published in the District Gazettes allowing the agents two months' time to rectify their accounts and comply with the provisions of the Act. In the opinion of the Government, the orders issued by the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes are in accordance with the law, necessary for the protection of the revenue and fair to the parties concerned. Under the proviso to Section 8 of the General Sales Tax Act, 1939, no agent is entitled to exemption from the tax unless the amounts for which the goods are sold by him are included in the turnover of the principal. There can be no question that the

amount for which goods are sold is the amount which the buyer pays for them. In cases where the buyer pays a commission to an agent this commission is also part of what the buyer pays for the goods and therefore part of the amount for which the goods are sold. It follows therefore that unless such commission is also included in the turnover of the selling principal the requirements of the Act in respect of the agent's exemption are not complied with. It is not possible for Government to consider any relaxation of this requirement designed to exclude buyer's commission from the scope of the Sales Tax as such a relaxation would be liable to abuse. It may be urged that it is inequitable to require the selling principal to pay tax on the buyer's commission which stops with the agent and never reaches such principal. As against this there is the fact that the selling principal, owing to the fact that his agent receives a commission from the buyer also, is able to secure the agent's services at a lower rate of commission than he would otherwise have to pay. It is moreover always open to the principal and agent to come to an arrangement by which the extra tax thrown on the principal by the agent's receipt of a commission from the buyers should, as between the principal and the agent, be borne by the latter."

INDIAN MERCHANTS CHAMBER

The Indian Merchants Chamber, Bombay, has on the receipt of information that the Customs Department had introduced the inclusion of interest charges in computing real value for purposes of assessment to Customs duty, drawn the attention of Government to the change of practice in including bank commission and interest charges in ascertaining real value of goods. The Act, it was pointed out, contemplated to levy duty on the actual value or cost of goods and therefore addition of any assumed cost was unfair. They have therefore requested the Government to issue necessary instructions to resume the old practice of collecting duty in the actual amounts of the draft.

SOLICITOR TO THE BOMBAY PORT TRUST:

The question of appointment of a non-Indian Solicitor to the Bombay Port Trust was considered by the Committee at the instance of one of their representatives on the Port Trust Board. The Committee were on principle opposed to the practice of appointing non-Indian as Solicitor and instructed the representative to press for the appointment of an Indian. The representative was also advised to press for the creation of a legal department by the Port Trust under a qualified full-time Indian Solicitor.

MADRAS PORT TRUST BOARD

It is understood that the Madras Port Trust Board at their meeting held on the 11th October 1940, considered the question of engaging contract labour for working of lighters and barges employed in the landing of cargo by the Trust and resolved to adjourn its consideration until the necessity for it was further established.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce recently considered the following stipulation which appeared in an acceptance of a tender submitted to the Indian Stores Department but which was not included in the terms of the tender.

"As the delivery date is not guaranteed, this Department reserves the right to cancel the order if the delivery date is not observed or the extension required does not suit this Department."

The Committee of the Chamber considered such a provision as entirely unacceptable to responsible firms as in effect it made the acceptance of goods tendered completely optional and at the discretion only of the buyer. The acceptance by any tenderer of such a clause would show an irresponsibility of outlook on the part of the firm concerned which must be detrimental in the long run to sound business and unfair to responsible competitors.

The Committee has therefore addressed the Chief Controller of Stores to reconsider the matter and issue instructions that a clause of this nature should not be included in the terms of acceptance.

M. & S. M. Ry. LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the M. & S. M. Railway Local Advisory Committee held on the 18th November 1940, M.C.G.W. Cordon, Agent and General Manager, informed the members that it had been decided to introduce in the near future a 70 seater motor rail bus service between Hubli and Belgaum to meet the request for a morning train service on this section. The bus will leave Hubli at 6-50 hours and arrive Belgaum at 10-05 hours. In the reverse direction the bus will leave Belgaum at 15-05 hours and arrive at Hubli at 18-45 hours.

A request to reduce the cost of platform tickets to 6 pies was not acceptable as in the opinion of the Chairman a reduction would increase the number of entrants to platform where accommodation is limited causing inconvenience to the public and hampering railway work.

FEDERATION OF INDIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY:

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has, it is understood, in a letter addressed to Government suggested the setting up of one independent committee composed of members representative of Indian Commercial Organizations to advise the Government's Supply Department on problems of Supply of war materials. Though the Federation has no objection to committee elected by the Legislature it has been pointed out that as the Supply Department has in its day to-day business to do with the commercial community and as there is a persistent feeling of dissatisfaction among the members of the Indian commercial community with regard to the procedure and manner in which the orders of the department are executed, an independent committee composed

of persons nominated by representative commercial organisation should be set up. The functions of such a committee would be not only to advise the Supply Department on various problems relating to supply of war materials but also to secure the co-operation of all sections of the commercial community in India by assuring them of a fair and equitable distribution of orders.

MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Government's new insurance facility for c.i.f. charges under the export credits guarantee scheme relate to the guarantee of Government to the exporters against any increase in c.i.f. charges between the contract date and the date of shipment. The cover will expire at the end of six months from the date of declaration of the contract and for later shipment the compensation is limited to the six months period. The premium is based on the declared difference between f.o.b. and c.i.f. values, i.e., the c.i.f. charges and is fixed at 2½ per cent on that difference in respect of comprehensive policy and 5 per cent for the market and Specific Policies. (See also page 234 of the August issue).

There are three types of policy;

1. Comprehensive cover for all markets:—Government will compensate the exporter for increasing c.i.f. charges quoted taking place within seven days prior to the contract date.

2. Market policy:—Insuring c.i.f. charges to any special country or countries premium will be 5 per cent.

3. Specific transactions.

Tender Notices

PENDING TENDERS.

GOODS. LAST DAY FOR APPLICATION. ADDRESS.

Tender No. E. 6493 Poles, reinforced concrete tubular or square. Price of tender forms Rs. 8.	9th Jan. 1941.	The Chief Controller of Stores, Indian Stores Department (Electrical Section), New Delhi.
V. I. R. Insulated cables. Applications for forms to be accompanied by Rs. 3.	30th Jan. 1941.	The Secretary, Stores Purchase Committee, Govt. of Mysore, Bangalore.
Stationery, paper and printing materials for 1 year from April 1941. Cost of tender form Rs. 3.	7th Jan. 1941.	Agent and General Manager, M. & S. M. Ry. Co. Ltd., Madras.

New Admissions

The following members representing business noted against their names have been admitted as members of the Chamber:—

Names of Members or Associations.	Nature of business.
Adhavanath & Co., 1/120, Thambu Chetty St., G. T., Madras.	Indent Agents.
J. B. Advani & Co., Ltd., Post Box No. 1261 Loane Square, Broadway, Madras.	Paper, Straw boards, Printing Machinery & other allied Printers' Sundries.
A. Appadurai Mudaliar & Son, 55, Acharappan Street, G. T., Madras.	Snuff & Tobacco.
N. C. Arya Snuff Co., 171, Anna Pillai St., G. T., Madras.	Snuff.
The Central Bank of India Ltd., 208/9, Lingha Chetty St., G. T., Madras.	Banking.
M. A. Chidambaram Chettiar, Esq., "Chettinad House," Adayar, Madras.	Merchant.
Dara P. Moos, Esq., 43, Bunder Street, G. T., Madras.	Manufacturers' Representative.
Gopalji Champshi & Co., 229, Govindappa Naick St., G. T., Madras.	Merchants.
Gordon & Co. Ltd., 768/770, Triplicane High Road, Madras.	Printing, Bind- ing, Engraving & Block-making.
V. Govinda Mudaliar & Sons, 256, Thambu Chetty St., G. T., Madras.	Lungies.
The Indian Globe Insurance Co., Ltd., 310/311, Linghi Chetty St., Madras.	Insurance.
Indo-Ceylon Dental & Surgical Co., Ltd., 158, Broadway, Madras.	Dental & Surgical appliances.
A. Jainulabdeen Sahib, 13, Mint Street, Madras.	Snuff.
The Madras Auto Service Co., Ltd., 2/50, General Patters Road, Mount Road, Madras.	Motor parts, tools and accessories.

The Madras Co-operative Milk Supply Union Ltd., Ayanavaram, Perambur P. O., Madras.	Milk and its pro- ducts.
T. V. Mehta Esq., Mehta's Garden, Kilpauk Post, Madras.	Agent, Neptune Insurance Co.
Murugappa & Sons, 106, Armenian St., Madras.	Bankers and Businessmen.
M. T. Natesa Mudaliar, Malabari House, Gangadareswar Koil St., Puraswalkam, Madras.	Dubash (Shaw Wallace & Co.)
The National Cycle Importing Co., 7-A, Broadway, Madras.	Cycle merchant.
A. S. Nayagar & Co., No. 2, Subramanian Lane, Rattan Bazar, Madras.	Chemists and Druggists.
A. M. Ponnuswamy Chettiar & Bros., 97-98, Armenian St., Madras.	Timber, grain, rice etc.
K. S. Sahib Snuff Factory, 33/37, Muthu Naicker St., G. T., Madras.	Snuff.
M. C. Sundararajan & Co., 16, Lingha Chetty Street, Madras.	Hardware and Machinery.

Non-Resident.

M. Arumugam Pillai Esq., Thiruthanthoni Road, Woriur P. O., Trichinopoly.	Cigar manufac- turer.
C. V. Ct. S. Chidambaram Chettiar Esq., Banker, Kanadukathan, Ramnad Dt.	Banker.
C. Govindan Esq., Merchant and Contractor, Ootacamund, Nilgiris.	Merchant and contractor.
The Guntur Power & Light Ltd., Guntur.	Supply of Elec- trical energy.
The Guntur Tobaccos Ltd., Guntur.	Export of Tobacco.
Hajee Abdulla Hajee Abubaker Sait & Co., No. 25, Infantry Road, Bangalore (Cantt.)	General business.

The Jawahar Mills Ltd., Sunamangalam Road, Shevapet, Salem	Cotton Spinning
Johnson & Co., Thiruthanthoni Road, Woriur P. O., Trichinopoly.	Cigar Manu- facturers.
A. Kuppuswami Pillai, General Contractor, Old Agraharam, Ootacamund.	Contractor and General Mer- chant.
T. V. K. Naidu Esq., Editor, Varthgaoolian, Trichinopoly.	Journalist.
K. A. P. Nallathambi Pillai Esq., 68, Maniyakara Street, Trichinopoly.	Cigar Manu- facturer.
T. Natesan Pillai Esq., 'Saraswathi Vilas' Teppakulam P. O., Trichinopoly.	Cycle dealer.
K. S. Pl. A. Palaniappa Chettiar Esq., Merchant, Kanadukathan, Ramnad District.	Merchant.
K. S. PL. Ct. Palaniappa Chettiar Esq., Banker, Kanadukathan, Ramnad District.	Banker.
M. Periyaswamy Pillai Esq., Panchavarnaswami Koil St., Woriur P. O., Trichinopoly.	Cigar Manufac- turer.
Rao Bahadur S. P. Rajamanicka Pandaram Esq., Banker & Merchant, Kumaraswamipatti Main Road, Salem.	Banker and Merchant.
T. S. M. Sambasiva Pillai Esq., Merchant, Gandhi Market, Trichinopoly.	Paddy Merchant.
G. Sanjeeva Chetty & Co., Merchant, Pollachi.	Piece-goods and Cumbles.
P. Shanmugam & Co., Hardware & General Merchants, Ootacamund, Nilgiris.	General and Hardware Mer- chants.
A. S. A. Sivaraman Chettiar Esq., Banker, Nemathanpatti, Via Chettinad.	Banker.
P. L. Subbia Chettiar Esq., Manager, South India Corporation (Madras) Ltd., Kanadukathan, Via Chettinad.	Manager, Sout India Corporatio (Madras) Ltd.

T. Suliathia Pillai Esq., 319, Big Bazaar St., Kotwalchavadi, Pillayarkoil Lane, Trichinopoly.	Jeweller.
South India Corporation (Madras) Ltd., King George V Road, Karaikudi.	Importers and dealers in Hard- ware and Electri- cal materials.
Mothi R. Thandayuthapani Chetty Esq., Jeweller, Big Bazaar St., Trichinopoly.	Jeweller.

Affiliated Bodies.

Cloth Merchants Association, Sivalayam Street, Bezwada.
The Madras Kirana Merchants' Association, 18, Audiyappa Naick Street, G. T., Madras.
The Madras Mica Association, Gudur.
The Madura-Ramnad Chamber of Commerce, 114, South Masi Street, Madura.
Indent Agents Association of South India, 3, Sunkurama Chetty Street, Madras.

Trade Enquiries

(1) A firm in Bagalkot is interested in the purchase of Hydrorgery oxide rubrub (Italy or German); Calomel (Italy), Jelitin papers oil paper and ounce bottles.

(2) A firm in Great Britain wishes to appoint agents in India to represent them for the sale of Pulvis Patent Clutches.

(3) A firm in Great Britain is interested in the import of China grass.

D. D. 123 I. T. J. A firm in Amritsar enquires for suppliers of Belladonna and Ipecacuanha roots in India.

D. D. 124. A firm of gut manufacturers desires to be put in touch with purchasers of guts in India.

D. D. 106. A firm in Bombay desires to be put in touch with purchasers of Cashew-shell oil in India.

D. D. 108. A firm in Calcutta wants names and addresses of suppliers of Decorticated cotton seed cake.

D. D. 114. A firm in Mombasa desires to be put in touch with manufacturers of Wooden Shoe Lasts in India.

Commercial Holidays in 1941

Under the Explanation to Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 (Act XXVI of 1881), the following days besides Sundays have been declared holidays in the year 1941:—

MONTH	DATE	DAY	HOLIDAY
†January	1	Wednesday	... New Year's Day
"	9	Thursday	... Vaikunta Ekadasi and Bakrid
† "	13	Monday	... } Pongal
"	14	Tuesday	... }
• †February	7	Friday	... Last day of Muhar-rum
"	24	Monday	... Mahasivarathri
March	28	Friday	... Telugu New Year's Day
April	10	Thursday	... Meeladi Nabi
† "	11	Friday	... Good Friday
"	12	Saturday	... } Easter
"	14	Monday	... }
June	12	Thursday	... King-Emperor's Birthday
July	1	Tuesday	... Half-yearly Closing of Bank Accounts
August	7	Thursday	... Avani Avittam
"	26	Tuesday	... Vinayaka Chathurthi
September	20	Saturday	... Mahalaya Amavasai
† "	29	Monday	... Ayudha Puja
†October	22	Wednesday	... Ramzan
December	25	Thursday	... Christmas Day
"	26	Friday	... }
"	27	Saturday	... } Christmas
"	29	Monday	... }
"	31	Wednesday	... }

† The proposed postal holidays.

The following holidays fall on days which are holidays otherwise:—

Tamil New Year's Day	Sunday the 13th April 1941
Sri Jayanti	Sunday the 14th September 1941.
Deepavali	Sunday the 19th October 1941.
Vaikunta Ekadasi and Bakrid	Monday the 29th December 1941.

News and Notes

TENANCY LAW IN BURMA:

A second Tenancy Ordinance to cover the tenancy years 1940-41 and 1941-42 has been promulgated by H. E. the Governor making provision for fixing the "gross outturn of each tenancy."

The ordinance is an interim measure until such time as the tenancy legislation based on the findings of the Committee which examined the faults of the Tenancy Act is placed on the Statute Book. The draft Bill was referred to the Select Committee during the last session. A feature of the new ordinance is that it avoids the complicated procedure involved in fixing the fair rent of each holding (thousands of fair rents so fixed were thrown overboard by the decisions of the High Court recently) and the revenue officers are required to fix the gross outturn of each holding in the light of past years. The fair rent will be fixed as a percentage of the gross outturn.

WATER-PROOF PACKING PAPER:

It is gratifying to note that about 3,400,000 yards of water-proof packing paper are now being manufactured by several firms in Madras, Bombay and Calcutta. Samples of these packings submitted by several other firms have also been approved by the Department of Supply.

On the outbreak of war, the manufacture of water-proof packing paper in India on a large scale could not be undertaken because stocks of suitable bitumen were not available and the difficulty was overcome by locating supplies of suitable indigenous bitumen.

Efforts are also being made by the Department to put Indian manufacturers of water-proof packing paper in touch with makers of paper in India so that by using suitable substitutes they can produce an indigenous water-proof packing paper. About 400,000 cwts. of packing and wrapping paper valued at Rs. 67,00,000 were imported into India in 1938-39 from Sweden, Germany and Norway. These sources have now been cut off.

NEW 25-POUNDER SHELL:

India is making new strides in that the production of the new 25-pounder shell has started. Meanwhile many orders and enquiries continue to be received by the Department of Supply, the chief of these having been received including cotton duck, sheeting, hessian and khaki drill for Australia, coal and engineering stores for the Middle East and cotton, jute and union canvas for the United Kingdom. The Department of Supply is being reorganised to secure closer association of the purchasing sections with planning directorates.

JAPANESE ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY:

Japan has prepared a ten-year plan for making Japan self-sufficient. Japan wants to minimise her economic dependence on foreign nations. This idea of the Government of Japan can be construed as a corollary to that of Germany which has embarked on a new policy of her own for carrying on the war for the same period. This fresh plan of Japan invigorates her economic foundation and enables her to establish a new order in the Asiatic living space.

WAR EQUIPMENT FOR INDIAN ARMY:

India will shortly be self-sufficient in the provision of web equipment for the new armies she is now raising. Until the outbreak of war, production of such equipment has never been attempted in India. Production has now been undertaken however and the quality is stated to be comparable to that of the best imported equipment.

PRODUCTION OF CHEMICALS:

It is a matter of pride to India that she will be producing some industrial chemicals such as sulphuric acid, bichromate etc. by the early part of 1941. The Department of Supply have given an assurance to that effect probably with a view to meet the requirements of India in the event of the crisis like the present when England already entangled in war may not be in a position to satisfy the demands of the former. This will also stand England in good stead for she may as well get the supply of chemicals from India if England is so hard pressed.

However, this is the opportune moment for India to develop her industries and place them on parity with other leading countries of the world. It is for the Government of Britain to decide whether she should make or unmake India.

INDIA AND ITALY:

How far the entry of Italy into the war has affected India may be examined. Italy's participation in war has lost to India a comparatively minor customer for her goods. India's annual exports to Italy were worth about Rs. 2,50,00,000 of which raw jute, cotton and seeds accounted for the most part. On the other hand, India will have to look to some other country for getting supplies of artificial silk yarn, woollen piecegoods, millinery and electrical goods to the extent of about Rs. 1,00,00,000 out of the total import, worth about Rs. 2,50,00,000.

CANADA'S STEEL OUTPUT:

Canadian steel production in the first six months of this year was at the highest point in the history of the industry being 65% greater than in the first half of 1939 and 44% above the total for the first six months of 1938. The prospect for the second six months is fairly good, having regard to the increasing scale upon which war materials are being produced and the resultant demand for steel in its various forms. As for instance the production in the newsprint industry rose again in June last and at 315,343 tons was the highest monthly level ever recorded.

INDIANS IN CEYLON:

The delegates of the Government of India and the Government of Ceylon discussed the question of the status of Indians now resident in Ceylon but unfortunately the delegates were unable to find a basis for agreement. In consequence the subject of future emigration and trade relations between the two countries were not discussed.

COMMERCIAL MUSEUM FOR CAWNPORE:

A scheme to organise a Government commercial museum for the United Provinces, to be established at Cawnpore, has been formulated by the Industries and Commerce Department.

The museum will function as a store-house of what has been achieved in the industrial and commercial field. It would be a permanent exhibition of the products of major, minor and cottage industries. The museum will also provide a comparative study of local and foreign products.

FOREST UTILISATION ADVISORY BOARD FOR BENGAL:

The Government of Bengal have decided to constitute a provincial Advisory Board on forest utilisation, which will form a link between the Provincial Forest Department and Industry, as well as provide a means of tapping as wide a source as possible for suggestions to make the activities of the Forest Research Institute industrially more useful. The functions of the Provincial Board will be to examine the position of the timber and subsidiary trades in Calcutta to advise the Central Advisory Board on the selection of problems which require investigation in the Province and to maintain contact with the timber industry of the Province.

MIS-DELIVERY OF LETTERS

The practice of inscribing names and addresses of senders on envelopes has now been followed in the case of letters addressed to countries outside India. In order to avoid complaints of loss and misdelivery of letters, the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs has by means of a notification advised the public to inscribe the name and address of the sender on the left hand bottom corner or the back of the envelope for inland correspondence also to avoid all possibility of mistake. This is a customary practice in Europe so that a letter can be returned to the sender if it goes astray.

POSTS TO WAZIRISTAN:

It is notified for information of the public that the booking of insured articles by and for all post offices in the North and South Waziristan in the Punjab and North West Frontier Circle is suspended as a temporary measure till further notice.

SITUATION IN JAPAN

The Indian Chamber of Commerce in Japan has brought to the notice of the Southern India Chamber that very large orders in abnormal quantities have been coming to Japan especially from India even for forward deliveries. The Chamber further says that the Commercial conditions in Japan at the present time are such that even in case of an emergency non-fulfilment of such orders, such as refusal to take deliveries, will involve the exporters to a great extent. It has therefore been urged that sending such speculative orders may be stopped hereafter.

MADRAS GENERAL SALES TAX ACT:

The Southern Indian Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of their deputation to His Excellency the Governor of Madras on the Madras General Sales Tax Act has discussed with him the unreasonable assessment of a Commission Agent to sales tax merely because he issues his own invoice, notwithstanding the fact that he does not fix his own price but only adds his commission. Government have now replied to the Chamber that such commission

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agents would not be liable to the turnover tax provided the amount is included in the turnover of his principal.

WORLD PRODUCTION:

	metric tons.
The steel production in the world is	109,000,000
Petroleum	272,000,000
Wheat	122,600,000
Coal	1,307,400,000
Sugar	27,090,000
Cotton	8,280,000
Gold	1,100
Copper Ore	2,348,000
Rubber	919,000
Iron Ore	78,000,000
Tin Ore	158,000
Zinc Ore	1,856,000

* * *

There are about 40 million cars in the whole world, of which 30 millions are in the U. S. A.

INDIAN BARLEYS:

Investigations under the three-year scheme financed by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research into the malting and brewing qualities of Indian barleys have shown that some of the barleys grown in the United Provinces can hold their own against the best Californian barleys. Samples from Bihar are considered about equal to Chilean forage barley, which is largely used by English brewers. Types grown in the Punjab give analytical figures exceptionally high for Indian barleys. Samples sent from United Provinces farms were rated by the valuation committee of the Institute of Brewing in London to be of exceptional value, and fully equal to the best Californian barleys.

ASSAM AGRICULTURAL INCOME-TAX:

The total income realised up-to-date by the Assam Government from the Agricultural Income-tax for the assessment year 1939-40 is Rs. 9,22,348. A sum of Rs. 1,68,575 has still to be collected.

The total amount of the tax demanded from tea concerns during the year was Rs. 10,45,589.

BOARD OF FILM CENSORS:

The constitution of the Board of Film Censors, Madras, for the next year is announced. The Board will examine and certify films as suitable for public exhibition in the Province of Madras.

The total number of members has been increased from 16 to 17, of whom eight are new. The Commissioner of Police and the Station Staff Officer, Fort St. George, as usual, are ex-officio members, the former being President of the Board. The following non-officials have been appointed to the Board and their term of office will be one year: Roa Bahadur M. C. Raja, Mrs. Kuriyan, Mr. M. T. Rajan, Mr. Jamal Mahomed Ibrahim, Dewan Bahadur K. Daiwasikhamani Mudaliar, Mr. S. V. Vijayaraghavachariar, Mr. V. Venkateswaralu, Mr. T. A. V. Nathan, Mrs. T. L. R. Chandran,

Mr. G. E. Walker, Mr. B. Paker, Rao Bahadur P. Sambanda Mudaliar, Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan, Dr. U. Krishna Rao and Mr. C. Sambasiva Rao, The first eight are new members.

DUTY ON INLAND PROMISSORY NOTES:

In January of this year, the Central Government, by a notification reduced the duty on inland bills of exchange of not more than one year's usance to two annas per Rs. 1,000 or part thereof. It was not the intention of Government to make any difference in this respect between inland promissory notes and bills of exchange which have always been treated alike for purposes of taxation, but the notification as worded did not carry this intention into effect. The divergence of the rates of duty between usance bills drawn in the form of promissory notes and those drawn as bills of exchange has caused inconvenience to the business community whose normal methods of finance have been interfered with thereby.

The Central Government have, accordingly, by another notification, similarly reduced the stamp duty on inland promissory notes payable otherwise than on demand and of not more than one year's usance with retrospective effect from the date of the original notification relating to bills of exchange, viz., 13th January, 1940.

* * *

EUCALYPTUS OIL

The Eucalyptus Oil manufacturing industry in the country may receive an impetus if the cineol content in the oil is reduced by the British Pharmacopoeia Commission in England. A suggestion to this effect, it is understood, has been made by the Government of India to the British Pharmacopoeia Commission.

STATE BANK FOR HYDERABAD

The development of Hyderabad State in the agricultural and industrial fields has given rise to new problems in banking and finance, as a result of which the need for the establishment of a State Bank has been for some time past felt by the Government.

It is understood that Government have now decided to establish such an institution.

Details regarding the Bank's capital, control, management, etc. are being worked out by Mr. Patton of the Imperial Bank of India, whose services have been obtained by the Nizam's Government.

The Government, it might be remembered, have already decided to establish Land Mortgage Banks to function as adjuncts to the proposed State Bank for payment of conciliated debts of agriculturists.

BENGAL BOARD OF ECONOMIC ENQUIRY

The Government of Bengal, it is learnt, propose to reappoint the Provincial Board of Economic Enquiry, for a further term of two years from February 16, 1941.

List of Commodities required for War purposes

TEXTILES—COTTON:

Acids and heavy chemicals
Asbestos Cement sheets
Bicycles
Biscuits
Boots and Shoes
Brushes, Brooms, Cocoanuts
Cassein powder
Castor oil
Cement
Cigarettes and Tobacco
Coal and Coke
Cocoanut shell charcoal
Dholl
Emery powder, cloth etc.
Fuel oil
Ghee, rice and sugar
Glazed straw boards
Grains
Gram (crushed)

Absorbent gauze and bandage cloth
Bandages, lints and field dressings
Bleached and Dyed Khaki
Bleached and Khaki Drill
Blue Shirting (R. A. F.)
Cellular shirting canvas cloth
Cotton blankets & sheets
Cotton canvas
Cotton duck
Cotton ropes and yarn (for Camouflage netting):
Cotton waste
Cotton yarn
Drills
Drill and Blue Drill
Holland cloth
Hospital sheeting
Khaki shirting
Medical & Surgical dressings
Medicated cotton
Mosquito nets
Muslins
Pagree cloth
Pull through cloth
Raw cotton
Sewing cotton
Tape, Tents, Towels, Twills
Underwear

TEXTILES—OTHER:

Ground sheets & Gunny bags
Ropes & twines, Sandbags
Tossa jute canvas, Waterproofed canvas
Waterproof packing paper

TEXTILES—WOOLLEN:

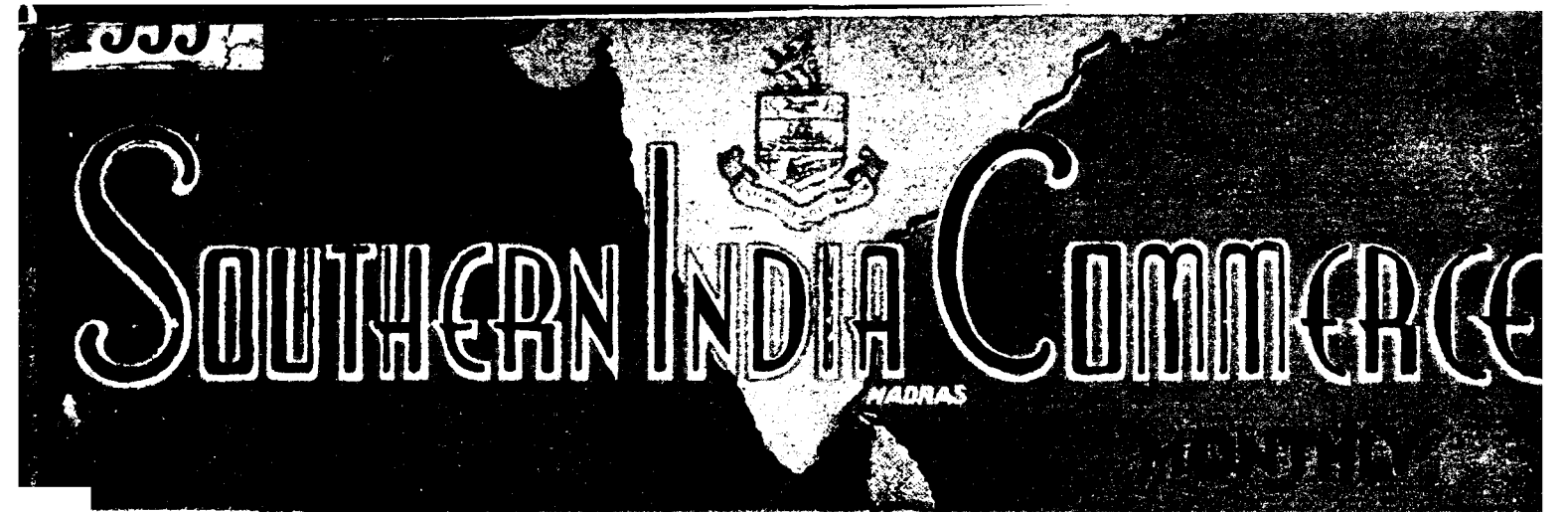
Blankets, Cloth, Drab Serge Suiting,
Engola drab shirting, Flannelettes
Great coat cloth, Mufflers, Pattees
Rugs, Socks, Stockings
Underwear and pants
Timber
Tubes
Turpentine
Tyres
Watermeters with frost protection
Weighing scales
Wheat products
Wooden handles for tools.

HARDWARE AND ENGINEERING

Batteries and cells
Electric cables
Engineering Stores
Expanded metal
Nibs
Petromax lamps
Pig Iron
Rails-second-hand
Rail fishplates and sleepers
Road-making machinery
Rolled steel joints
Steel huts
Steel sheets & Angles
Steel tanks & stagings
Table fans
Telephone
Wire
Wire gauze
Hessian
Hospital materials & fittings
Kapok filling
Mill board inventory
Myrobalams
Oilseeds
Paints, varnishes & enamels
Photo chemicals
Rectified Alcohol
Soaps
Tea

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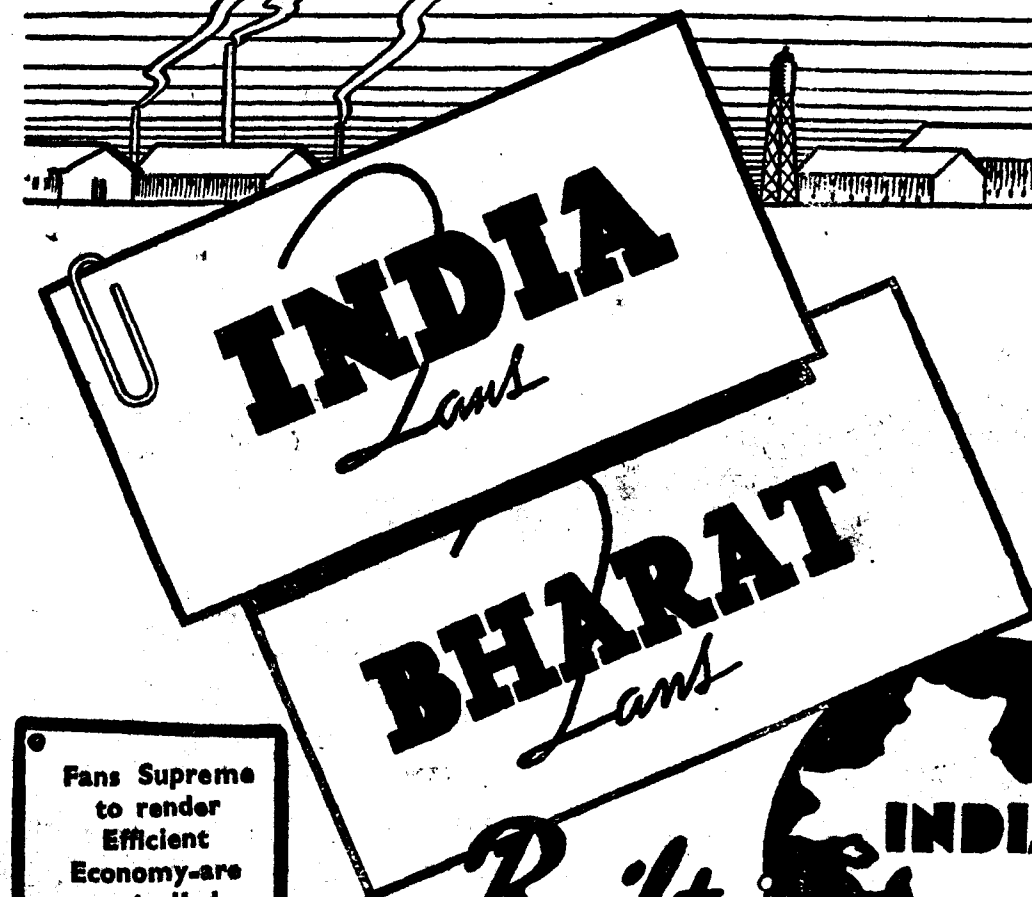
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1940 25 FEB 1941

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MADRAS.

Vol. III
No. 12



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INDIA

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War Restrictions

STEEL IMPORT CONTROL

Owing to restrictions in the export of steel from United Kingdom the following classes of steel were subjected to quota control:—

- Ingots, billets, blooms, and slabs.
- Plates, medium plates, angles, channels, tees, joists, piling sections, other sectional material, rounds, rods, squares, hexagons, flats, other sections and shapes (and whether black or bright) rails, sleepers, fishplates, soleplates.
- Sheets, coated and uncoated, less than 3 mm. thick including galvanized, lead-coated and cellactite sheets.
- Tinplates, terne plates, black plates, silver finished plates.
- Shell steel.
- Steel tubes and pipes (including imported hollows).
- Hoops, strip (whether coated or uncoated and whether hot or cold rolled).
- Tyres, axles, wheels.
- Steel castings, forgings, stampings.
- Colliery arches, and accessories thereof, pit props.
- Steel bolts, nuts, studs, washers, rivets and screws.
- Railway springs (whether laminated or coiled).
- Wire rods, coated or uncoated, wire whether plain or barbed wire rope, wire rope, wire strand, wire netting, wire chain link fencing, wire mesh, wire nails, excluding boot and shoe grindery, wire staple, excluding machine staple.

Government of India have now announced that owing to heavy war demands in the United Kingdom, His Majesty's Government have intimated that they are unable to accept any fresh orders from India for most of the classes of steel for which quota recommendation certificates have now to be obtained before the United Kingdom authorities will agree to make supplies.

Orders at present placed in the United Kingdom will be executed there as far as circumstances permit, but the Government of India have been requested to cease issuing quota certificates with immediate effect for all classes of steel for which quota recommendation certificates have been necessary except—

- forgings (including wheels, tyres, axles and buffers);
- iron and brass wood screws;
- grindery;
- baling hoops required for the cotton trade; and
- special steels of a type which only the United Kingdom can supply.

As a result of the inability of the United Kingdom to continue to accept orders for the classes of steel mentioned, orders from India will have to be placed, for the most part, on the United States of America and His Majesty's Government have offered to permit orders from India which are placed in the United States of America through the British Purchasing Commission to be executed against the contracts concluded with the American industry on behalf of the United Kingdom Ministry of Supply.

Explaining the import control of certain types of steel and iron a communique emphasises that the arrangements made should result in no shortage of steel for important purposes and that there should be no occasion for dealers to raise their prices on the plea of difficulty in obtaining supplies.

The Government of India, says the communique, will carefully watch for any tendency for firms to take advantage of the new arrangements as an excuse for profiteering and will not hesitate to use the powers which they possess to prevent an unreasonable disparity between import costs and sale prices to the public.

The communique says:—"It has already been announced in a communique that owing to heavy

war demands His Majesty's Government are unable to accept further orders from India for all classes of steel for which quota recommendation certificates have now to be obtained, with the exception of (a) forgings, castings, stampings and buffers; (b) iron wood screws; (c) boot and shoe grindery; (d) baling hoops required for the cotton trade; (e) special steels of a type which only the United Kingdom can supply; and (f) wheels, tyres and axles.

It has now been intimated that in addition to these types of steel, the United Kingdom will continue to accept orders for (1) baling hoops required for the coir trade; and (2) tin plates, terne plate, black plates and silver finished plates.

In the same communique it was also intimated that details would be announced later about the procedure by which firms in India would be able to place their orders in the United States of America so as to participate in the contracts concluded between the American industry and the United Kingdom Ministry of Supply.

STEEL CONTROLLER:

The Government of India have now decided that in order to ensure that unreasonable demands for steel involving a waste of dollar exchange are not made, and that essential needs at the same time receive full consideration, it is essential to establish import control over all classes of steel now covered by the steel quota system. With effect therefore from January 1, all persons wishing to import such steel into India will be required to obtain an import license. The Government of India have also decided to establish an organisation under a Steel Controller which will be responsible firstly for issuing the licenses for imports of steel required under the import licensing system, and secondly, for collecting and placing orders through the British Purchasing Commission on behalf of Government Departments and Railways and of those private firms which wish to benefit by the contracts placed with American interests by the British Ministry of Supply. The Steel Controller will be Sir Guthrie Russell, the Director-General of Munitions production, and he will be assisted by two Deputy Controllers, Mr. J. Walton and Mr. S. M. K. Alvi.

The Steel Controller will be concerned only with imports from the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Applications for licenses to import from other countries should be presented to the various import trade controllers. With regard to those classes of steel which can still be obtained from the United Kingdom, import licenses will be granted under the same conditions as quota recommendation certificates were until recently issued for such imports from the United Kingdom. It will be necessary for importers, in addition to the import license, to obtain a quota authorisation from the Steel Controller which will replace the quota recommendation certificate previously in use.

AMERICAN IMPORTS:

With regard to imports from the United States of America, the conditions to be satisfied before a

license is granted will be those which have had to be satisfied until recently in order to obtain a quota recommendation certificate for the import of the same classes of steel from the United Kingdom. It is not obligatory for firms to make use of the Government purchasing organisation as they are free to make their own arrangements direct with American firms to purchase the articles for which they have obtained import licenses, but the Government of India have been informed that it would be in the interests of the firms themselves to use the services of the Steel Controller's organisation and through it of the British Purchasing Commission in order to obtain supplies of steel at reasonable rates and within reasonable delivery periods. The extension of export control measures in the United States of America and the increasing demands for steel for defence purposes there and for the war needs of His Majesty's Government make the supply position difficult, and without the help of the British Purchasing Commission it is likely that firms in India will fail to obtain their supplies promptly, if at all.

WHERE TO APPLY:

Applications for licenses for importing steel, and for quota authorisations in the case of those classes of steel which can still be obtained from the United Kingdom should be made to the Steel Controller to the Government of India, 6 Esplanade, East Calcutta, and the particulars and necessary forms for placing orders on his organisations for imports from the United States of America can also be obtained from the Steel Controller on application, after January 1, 1941.

Particulars and the necessary forms will also be available with Controllers of Supplies in the various provinces as soon as they can be printed and distributed.

For guidance of importers Government has issued the following notification:

"The Central Government is pleased to prohibit the bringing into British India by sea from any place outside India of any iron or steel of the descriptions specified in the Schedule hereto annexed, except the following, namely:—

- (i) any iron or steel imported for transshipment to or under bond for re-export to, any country outside India;
- (ii) any iron or steel despatched on through consignment to India not later than 1st January 1941;
- (iii) any iron or steel covered by an open general licence issued by the Central Government;
- (iv) any iron or steel covered by a special license issued—

(a) in the case of goods imported from the United Kingdom or the United States of America, by the Steel Controller or a Deputy Steel Controller for India appointed in this behalf by the Central Government, on application made before the placing of an order: Provided that in respect of firm orders placed before the 1st of January 1941, applications are made to the Steel Controller for India before the 1st of April 1941, and

(b) in the case of goods imported from other countries by the Import Trade Controller

appointed for the purposes of the notification of the Government of India in the Department of Commerce No. 1-1.T.C/40, dated the 20th May, 1940:

Provided that nothing in these exceptions shall prejudice the application to any goods of any other prohibition or regulation affecting the import of goods that may be in force at the time when such goods are imported.

Schedule.

Types of steel under control—

- (a) Ingots, billets, blooms, and slabs.
- (b) Plates medium plates, angles, channels, tees, joists, piling sections, other sectional material, rounds, rods, squares, hexagons, flats, other sections and shapes (and whether black or bright) rails, sleepers, fish-plates, soleplates.
- (c) Sheets, coated and uncoated, less than 3 mm. including galvanized, leadcoated and cellacite sheets.
- (d) Tinplates, terne plates, black plates, silver finished plates.
- (e) Shell steel.
- (f) Steel tubes and pipes (including imported hollows).
- (g) Hoops, strip (whether coated or uncoated and whether hot or cold rolled).
- (h) Tyres, axles, wheels.
- (i) Steel castings, forgings, stampings.
- (j) Colliery arches, and accessories therefor, pit props.
- (k) Steel bolts, nuts, studs, washers, rivets and screws.
- (l) Railway springs (whether laminated or coiled).
- (m) Wire rods coated or uncoated, wire, whether plain or barbed, wire rope, wire strand, wire netting, wire chain link fencing, wire mesh, wire nails, excluding boot and shoe grindery, wire staple, excluding machine staple."

COAL-TAR DYES

By a notification Government of India have prohibited the import of the following substances:—

- "15A Dyes derived from coal-tar 30 (1)" and coal-tar derivatives,— used in any dyeing process.

This notification will not apply to goods

- (a) which have been despatched on through consignment to India before 10th December 1940, or
- (b) which are the subject of a firm order placed before the 10th December 1940, and which have been shipped on or after the 10th December 1940 but before the 1st January 1941.

For the purpose of claiming exemption under paragraph 2 (b) of the Notification importers should now register all the firm orders placed by them before 10-12-40 in respect of these goods. Applications for registration, furnishing full particulars of the order (country of origin, country of consignment, description of goods, quantity, real value in rupees, order No. and date, acceptance No. and date, etc.) should be accompanied by documen-

tary evidence (Indent and acceptance or other documents) to prove that a firm order was placed before 10-12-40 and should reach the Import Trade Controller, Custom House, Madras, on or before the 15th January 1941. When the goods are imported against such firm orders, importers may refer to such prior registration on the reverse of the relative Customs bills of entry if they claim exemption in respect of the importation under paragraph 2 (b) of the notification. Importers are also informed that the existing Open General Licence No. II for Imports from British Empire will apply to this item also.

Importations of these goods made after 21-12-40, and in respect of which exemption under paragraph 2 (a) or paragraph 2 (b) of this Notification or under the Open General Licence No. II is not permissible, should be covered by special licenses. Such importations for which licences are not produced at the time of importation will be dealt with as importations contravening the Import Trade Control regulations.

Applications for licenses for expected importations may be put in, wherever necessary, stating the full particulars thereof (description of goods, quantity, real value, name of shippers, month of shipment, country of origin, port of shipment, etc.).

WAR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Compulsory and Voluntary Schemes for Compensation

PROVISIONS OF NEW BILL IN THE UNITED KINGDOM:

Compensation for war damage to property of all sorts is provided for in a new Parliamentary Bill. The wording of the Bill is somewhat technical, but it is constructed on three schemes covering three main categories of property. The categories are:

Firstly: Buildings, land and other immovable property will be subject to the compulsory contributory scheme to provide compensation. The value of such property is between £6,000 and 8000 million and compulsory contributions are expected to realise about 200 millions. Any excess compensation, if war damage should be so large, upto a further £200 millions, will be provided by Government and large sums will be the subject of further legislation. A War Damage Commission will be established to supervise the operations of this scheme and the provisions for rebuilding.

Secondly: A compulsory insurance scheme for machinery, office equipment and other movable assets of business undertakings is provided for. The premium will be 30 sh. per £100 value of property insured, and insurance of all such assets is compulsory if the value exceeds £1000. In the case of both these schemes, property will be covered upto the end of August next year.

Thirdly: A voluntary scheme for the insurance of personal property such as furniture is offered. The annual premium rate will be 30sh. per £100 value of insured property. The maximum amount on which any one person may insure is £1,500 with an additional £500 for motor cars.

(Continued on page 326)

M. & S. M. Railway Co. Ltd.

COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISE.

—(o)—

Industrial development is growing rapidly in South India. If you propose extending your business in the South, the Chief Commercial Manager of the Madras & Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras, will be pleased to give you every assistance in selecting a suitable site for your factory best served by the Railway.

Madras Commerce Report for the Month of October 1940

In the Madras Commodity Markets, prices of food grains advanced during October by a further three points to 116 although the index for the commercial products group remained stationary at 99, the index of wholesale prices of all commodities advancing by one point to 107. The cotton market was steady. There was a good demand during October for tanned hides, and prices firmed up towards the end of the month. There was also a good enquiry at advancing prices for buff hides and both buff and cow calf. There was a better enquiry for tanned goat skins, especially light weights, and prices improved a little. There was a good trade in tanned sheep skins in the last week of the month and prices showed some improvement. Prices of groundnut declined as a result of large arrivals of new crop and restricted export demand. The paddy and rice market was active with satisfactory export demand and prices showed a rising tendency. The Calicut coir yarn market declined in the absence of European and Indian demand. The Cochin coir yarn market remained quiet. The tone of the copra and coconut oil markets improved and prices were firm. The Calicut ginger market declined towards the end of the month owing to less Indian demand. The Calicut pepper market was fairly steady throughout the month owing to moderate Indian demand. In the Madras sugar market, prices were maintained during the early part of the month, but later, the market weakened and prices declined. The demand for locally manufactured acids and chemicals was normal.

GROUNDNUT:

The groundnut market was slack and with the commencement of arrivals of stocks, prices tended to sag. As a result of large arrivals of new crop and restricted export demand, there was a decline in prices towards the end of the month. The average wholesale prices per candy of 531 lbs. of standard varieties at the main producing centres were as follows:—

27th September 1940	Rs. 21 0 0	to	Rs. 26 4 0
23th October 1940	Rs. 21 4 0	to	Rs. 24 0 0

PADDY AND RICE:

The paddy and rice market was active with satisfactory export demand and prices improved. The average wholesale prices of standard varieties at the main producing centres were as follows:

Indian paddy per bag of 170 lbs.

27th September 1940	Rs. 6 1 0	to	Rs. 6 9 9
25th October 1940	Rs. 6 12 0	to	Rs. 6 15 8

Indian rice per bag of 170 lbs.

27th September 1940	Rs. 9 0 0	to	Rs. 9 6 0
25th October 1940	Rs. 9 3 9	to	Rs. 10 0 0

Rangoon rice—raw, broken, A 1 per bag of 220 lbs.

30th September 1940	Rs. 9 12 0	} Madras.
31st October 1940	Rs. 10 2 0	

Calcutta rice (Nagara) Boiled, per bag of 164 lbs.

30th September 1940	Rs. 10 0 0	} Madras.
31st October 1940	Rs. 10 2 0	

COCONUT PRODUCTS:

Owing to lack of European and Indian demand, the market for Quilandy and Beypore soaked yarns and for Calicut unsoaked yarns declined and closed weak. The Cochin coir yarn market remained quiet. Supported by continued demand for oil, the tone of the copra and coconut oil market improved despite large arrivals.

COTTON:

Tinnevellies.—Fresh arrivals from the interior were moderate. South Indian mills were eager buyers and prices were steadily forced up from about Rs. 200 per candy of 784 lbs. to about Rs. 215 although the rates prevailing in leading markets

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BOMBAY & CALCUTTA

hardly justified such an advance. Other Indian mill centres and export interests were disinterested as respective prices were out of parity.

Cambodia.—Fresh arrivals from the interior were on a small scale. A moderate business was done by South Indian mills in first crop at from Rs. 260 to Rs. 280 and in the second crop at around Rs. 235 per candy. There were no enquiries from outside.

Good rains fell during October in the cotton tracts and by the end of the month cotton sowings were already far advanced.

SUGAR :

The Madras sugar market opened dull with an easier tone. Prices declined slightly. On the 5th October, the Indian Sugar Syndicate released a 10 per cent quota. Prices for bold grain sugars were increased by one or two annas per maund and small grain sugar reduced by two or three annas per maund. The demand was good due to Deepavali. Prices were maintained, although reports from Cawnpore indicated lower prices for small grain sugars which did not move as freely as the bold grains in Northern India. On the 19th October, the United Provinces and Bihar Governments issued a Communique fixing cane price for 1940-41 at Rs. 0-4-6 per maund and reducing the cess to three pies per maund and fixing sugar price for the coming season at a minimum of Rs. 9-2-0 per maund *except for Port market*. Production also was fixed at 7-2 lakhs of tons in these provinces. Although prices were fixed higher than the prevailing rates, dealers had no confidence in the future as they expected rebates to Port markets sooner or later. The dealers were cautious in their commitments and endeavoured to clear stocks as much as possible. Later in the month, the market was weak due to dull demand and prices declined. The market closed quiet and inactive. There was no stock of Nellikuppam Sugar. West Coast and other South Indian markets were steady with satisfactory demand.

HIDES AND SKINS :

Tanned hides.—In spite of lack of shipping opportunities, there was a good demand throughout October for tanned hides and by the end of the month prices had become firmer. There was also a good enquiry for Buff hides and both Buff and Cow calf and prices of all the three lines advanced, especially in the case of calf.

Tanned Goat and tanned sheep skins.—At the commencement of the month, business with the United Kingdom was very restricted and even business with the United States of America was quieter than had been anticipated. Prices of raw goat skins sold to America continued to advance steadily and this tended to restrict any activity on the part of Madras tanners. Subsequently, enquiries from London put some life into the Madras market, and light weights especially, were sold on a small but steady scale at prices which represented an advance of two to three annas over the nominal price existing in Madras, though the prices realised were still low compared with those ruling six months after the

war began. Advice was received from London informing exporters of tanned sheep skins of their quotas and the market for Primes, notably, Trichies, Coimbatore and Dindigul was quite active in the last week of the month. The prices realised were low, according to the accepted values of these types of skins, but the amount of trade done during that period was satisfactory. Semi-Primes were sold in fair quantities at prices which must have shown Madras tanners a fair profit considering the poor state of the raw sheep skins market previously.

ANNEXURE

Wholesale prices of commodities ruling in the markets mentioned on 27th October, 1940.

Commodity	Market	Quality or Variety	Unit	Price
Cotton	Tirupur	Cam-bodia	Per candy of 520 lbs.	Rs. 188 to 201
Do.	do.	Karun-ganni	do.	Rs. 176 to 182
Ground-nuts	Nandyal	Machine shelled	do. 531 lbs.	Rs. 22-8-0
Do.	Pollachi	do.	do.	Rs. 20-4-0 to 21-0-0
Pepper	Telli-cherry	Garbled	Per cwt. F.O.B.	Rs. 15-8-0
Paddy	Tenali	Kusuma	Per bag of 164 lbs.	Rs. 6-11-9
Rice	do.	do.	do. do.	Rs. 8-14-6
Coir Yarn	Alleppey	Allapat	Per candy of 672 lbs.	Rs. 37 to 42-8-0
Copra	Cochin	...	do. 655 lbs.	Rs. 55
Coconut Oil	do.	...	do. do.	Rs. 83
Jute	Vizia-nagaram	Bimli	do. 506 lbs.	Rs. 30 (nominal)
Tobacco	Erode	1st quality	Per maund of 28 lbs.	Rs. 3-6-0

(Continued from page 323)

Compensation will be paid for past damage while the existing scheme of free grants for persons of limited income, who have lost their possession owing to enemy action, will continue.

RATE OF CONTRIBUTION :

The rate of contribution on buildings and immovable property will be 2sh. per pound-sterling of the rateable value or value at which the property has been assessed for income-tax purposes for five years. The difference between these two is slight. According to calculation made by one of London's leading insurance experts for Reuter's, the contribution represents payment of 2½ per cent of the net capital value of a property.

Thus, on property with a net capital value of £1,000, the rateable value would be about £50. Two shillings in the pound on the latter sum gives a total annual payment of £5 and of £25 during five years. This represents 2½ per cent of the net capital value, but it is emphasised that this contribution entitles the property owner to compensation for any damage suffered from the beginning of the war until the end of Aug. 1941—a period of two years.

Trade and Commerce

Trade in certain commodities during the war period of 1st September 1939 to 31st August 1940 compared to the corresponding previous years.

COMMODITY :		1937-38	1938-39	1939-40
Cotton manufactures production in India	million yds.	4253	4172	3968
Cotton manufactures imports	...	630	651	464
Exports cotton manufactures	...	209	192	262
Consumption of Indian raw cotton in Indian mills	1000's of bales of 400 lbs.	2994	3130	2978
Export of raw cotton	...	2043	3274	2345
Import of raw cotton	...	784	412	495
Production of yarn (10 months only)	million yds.	949	1015	936

IRON AND STEEL :

Pig iron	1000 of tons	1586	1687	1919
Steel ingots production	...	932	986	1169
Finished steel	...	865	988	1143
Imports	...	266	311	216
Paper production	1000's of 100 bales	1123	1195	1544
Export of oilseeds	1000's of tons	1116'6	1149'7	785'6

TANNED HIDES :

Export of tanned hides	...	17'8	25'2	31'2
Raw hides and skins	...	40'3	37'8	38

NOTES IN CIRCULATION :

August 1939	180 crores Rs.
August 1940	233 " "

CHEQUE CLEARANCES

	1937-38 1897	1938-39 1919	1939-40 2333
Coasting Trade tonnage (in millions of tons)	15'2	16'0	10'9
Imports into India in crores of Rs.	168'3	164'1	162'7
Exports from India	170'8	180'0	223'3

Changes in the list of Joint-Stock Companies in the month of November 1940 made by the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Madras.

I. COMPANIES REGISTERED :

Vema Reddy Motors Ltd.
Ambika Oushadhalaya Ltd.
Coorg Electricity Co., Ltd.
Demellows Foundry Ltd.
French India Electrics Ltd.
Kausalya Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
Madras Electricals Ltd.
Standard Construction Co., Ltd.
Villupuram Industries Ltd.
Sri Ambika Knitting Company (Karur) Ltd.
Nadars Distilleries Ltd.
Shri Durga Pictures Ltd.
Sree Lalitha Films Ltd.
Kistna District Groundnut Mill Owners' Association.

II. COMPANIES DISSOLVED :

Ananda Provident Insurance Co., Ltd.
Uppilipalayam Vivasagal Bank Ltd.
Kotagiri Motor Transport Ltd.
Bharath Diary and Industrial Company Ltd.
Chockalingam & Co., Ltd.
Coimbatore Golden & Co., Ltd.
East Ramnad Electric Supply Corporation Ltd.
East Tanjore Electric Supply Corporation Ltd.
Jayabharathi Ltd.
Sangu Company Ltd.
Trichinopoly Srirangam Electric Supply Corporation Ltd.
Saraswathi Talkie Theatres Ltd.
Udayini Pictures Ltd.

III. COMPANIES THAT CHANGED THEIR NAMES :

NIL.

Market Reports

MADRAS

(15-1-1941)

Cotton Yarn—

	Rs.	A.	P.
80's (5 lb. Bundle)			
Madura Mills	...	7	0 0
60's (5 lb. bundle)			
Coimbatore Pioneers	...	5	10 0
"Laxmi"	...	5	10 0
Madura Mills	...	5	12 0
40's (10 lb. bundle)			
Coimbatore Mills	...	6	4 0
30's (5 lb. bundle)			
Madura Mills	...	3	0 0
20's (10 lb. bundle)			
Coimbatore Mills	...	4	3 0
Madura Mills	...	5	0 0

Cement—

Gillingham "Hand" Brand (per cask)	...	20	0 0
(per bag of 94 lbs.)	...	5	0 0
"Nilgiri" Brand	...	1	11 0
A. C. C.	...	1	11 0
"Dalmia"	...	1	10 0

Metals—

Yellow Metal Sheets "Dittman" 500 lbs.	...	280	0 0
"I. C. C."	...	280	0 0
Copper Sheets	...	370	0 0

Tanned Hides—

	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Bangalore—8 to 8½ per lb.	0	13	0	to	0	13 3
Up Countries	0	12	9	to	0	13 0
Coats—7 to 7½ lbs.	0	13	0	to	0	13 3

Tanned Goat—

Good, per lb.	...	1	4 0	to	1	5 0
Fair, " "	...	1	3 0	to	1	4 0
Common, " "	...	1	2 0	to	1	3 0

Tanned Sheep—

Good, per lb.	...	1	5 0	to	1	6 0
Fair, " "	...	1	3 0	to	1	4 0
Common, " "	...	1	2 0	to	1	3 0

Oil Seeds—

Groundnuts, Machined (531 lbs.)	...	20	12 0
Castor Seeds	...	8	12 0

Produce—

Rice, Rangoon—Raw, Broken (220 lbs.)	...	11	4 0
" Calcutta (Nagara) boiled (164 lbs.)	...	10	14 0
Jaggery, 500 lbs. 1st quality	...	23	0 0
" 2nd quality	...	18	0 0
Horsegram, bag of 216 lbs.	...	5	8 0
Turmeric, baram of 500 lbs.	...	45	0 0
Pepper, Tellicherry (pure) 25 lbs.	...	3	4 0
Bydgi	...	4	10 0
Ginger, Dry (Calicut) 500 lbs.	...	72	0 0
Tobacco leaf, Cigar & Chewing quality (500 lbs.)	...	135	0 0
Snuff quality (500 lbs.)	...	130	to 145
Salt, bag of 2 maunds	...	3	10 0
Pure Ghee, tin of 37½ lbs.	...	21	0 0

BANGALORE

(13-1-1941)

(By The Mysore Chamber of Commerce)

Silk—The market continues to be normal with moderate supply and demand. Rates remain almost unchanged.

	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Sidlaghatta silk per seer of 26½ tolas	4	7	0	to	4	9 0
Closepet	3	8	0	to	3	12 0
Chickballapur	4	2	0	to	4	8 0
Kyalanur	4	4	0	to	4	8 0
Mudavadi	4	0	0	to	4	2 0
Channapatna	3	8	0	to	3	12 0
Kollegal per maund 1000 tolas	125	0	0	to	160	0 0
Silk-waste " 28 lbs.	6	12	0	to	7	4 0

Calicut—No report

Tuticorin—No report

Coimbatore—No report

Madura—No report

BOMBAY

(17-1-1941)

(By The Millowners' Association, Bombay)

PIECE-GOODS.

Gray, Unbleached—

	inch.	yds.	lbs.	Per lb.	Rs.	A.	P.
Longcloth (Standard Quality)	37	37½	9	..	0	10	8
" (Fine Quality)	44	38	7½	..	1	0	5
Shirtings	35	38	9	..	0	9	9
" (Vegetable Quality)	37	37½	9	..	0	9	8
Leopard Cloth	43	38	11½	..	0	10	0
Dhoties (upto ½" nakhi Border)	32	9	1½	..	0	10	0
" (Calcutta, ½" P. B.)	44	10	1½	..	1	0	11
Drills	29½	40	13½	..	0	10	2
Domestics	35	40	13½	..	0	9	0
"	35	40	12	..	0	8	5
Salitra	40	66	25	..	0	9	6
Chadars	50	6	2½	..	0	10	6

White, Bleached—

Longcloth	34	40	Per Piece	13	12	0
Drill	27	42	..	9	5	9

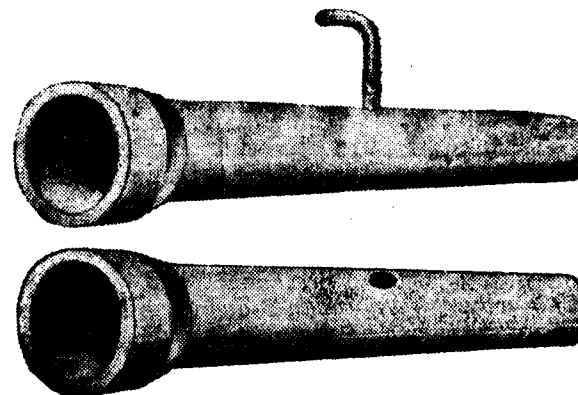
Yarn—

4s (All Waste)	...	...	Per lb.	0	4	1
6s (")	...	...	..	0	4	6
8s	...	...	..	0	5	10
10s	...	...	..	0	6	3
12s	...	...	..	0	6	6
16s	...	...	..	0	7	9
20s	...	...	..	0	8	3
24s	...	...	..	0	8	10
32s	...	...	..	0	10	3
40s	...	...	..	0	11	2
60s	...	...	..	1	2	1
80s	...	...	..	1	11	2

(Continued on page 341)

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Tariff and Taxation

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR 'AGMARK' LABELS TO BE AFFIXED TO BAGS OF RICE OF CERTAIN SPECIFIED VARIETIES:

The following Notification has been issued by the Government of India in the Department of Education, Health and Lands:—

In pursuance of clause (i) of rule 4 of the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) (General) Rules, 1937, the Central Government is pleased to fix, with effect from the 30th November, 1940, the following scale of charges for AGMARK labels to be affixed to bags of rice of the varieties commercially known as (1) Dehra Dun Basmati, (2) White Sirumani (parboiled), (3) Red Sirumani (parboiled), and (4) Molagolukulu (raw) (milled as well as hand-pounded), namely:

Quantity of rice contained	Charge per 100 labels.	Rs. A. P.
Less than 10 seers	...	0 4 0
Less than 20 seers, but not less than 10 seers	...	0 6 0
Less than 40 seers, but not less than 20 seers	...	0 12 0
Not less than 40 seers	...	1 0 0

STAMPING OF INACCURATE DIMENSION ON CLOTHS FOR EXPORT

It has been reported to the Indian Government Trade Commissioner, Mombasa, by the Customs authorities in Kenya and Uganda and the Indian Merchants' Chamber in Mombasa that Indian manufacturers and exporters of piece-goods stamp inaccurate dimensions on the cloth imported from India into East Africa and that in many instances among recent consignments from India the width has been under-declared by one or two inches and the length by one or two feet. Such under-declarations constitute an offence against the Customs laws of that country, and in the cases referred to minor penalties have been imposed on the importers for making wrong declarations. These declarations were made by the importers according to the invoices they had received from shippers in India and presumably those invoices were made out according to the dimensions stamped on the cloth by the manufacturers. The situation is reported to be very serious and it is feared that unless the present position is rectified, heavier penalties will be imposed by the Customs authorities to meet the requirements of the law.

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2. Another complaint that has been made to the Indian Government Trade Commissioner by the Customs authorities and the Chamber mentioned above is regarding the unsatisfactory external marking of bales and packages from India. The consignments of goods mainly relate to piece-goods and clothing. The indecipherable external markings on the packages and bales, which are apparently due to a complete disregard on the part of shippers in India of the Port rules at destination, result in delay in clearing the goods from the Port Warehouses and involve not only waste of time but unnecessary warehouse charges. Unless a considerable improvement is shown in this respect in regard to future arrivals, the Port authorities and the Customs authorities threaten to take action under the Harbour Regulations, which are as follows:

- Each bale or package must have external distinguishing marks and numbers written clearly in English. All old marks or writings on the wrapper must be obliterated.
- The invoices must show corresponding marks and numbers.
- The invoices must show the gross weight of each bale or package separately.
- The High Commissioner will not be liable for any loss, delay, or non-delivery of goods occasioned by insufficient or erroneous marking.
- When goods are insufficiently or erroneously marked, the High Commissioner, notwithstanding that all dues and charges shall have been deposited or paid, may require from any person claiming such goods a special release order, signed by the ship's agent, or an indemnification against any loss or damage the High Commissioner may sustain by reason of the delivery to such person. The ordinary rent shall be charged against all goods remaining on the harbour premises in consequence of such insufficient or erroneous marking.

It has been suggested by the Customs authorities in this connection that the bales and packages should have sewn-on to them a new piece of canvas in the form of a label bearing clear and distinctive marks rather than that the marks be merely painted on old packages.

3. The above facts are brought to the notice of exporters for their future guidance.

INACCURATE CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN FOR GOODS CONSIGNED FROM INDIA:

The Comptroller of Customs and Harbour Master, Port Louis, Mauritius, has written to the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta as follows.

"I have the honour to invite your attention to the increasing number of cases where certificates of origin for goods imported from India have been found to be incorrect.

Goods are certified by the supplier to have been wholly produced or manufactured in British India,

but actual examination shows that this certificate is not correct, since the components are of foreign origin. Typical cases are:—Musical instruments, i.e., gramophones, where the only Indian component apparently is a cheap deal case; and rayon piece-goods where the cloth is shown to have been woven from yarn imported from Japan. When duty is assessed at full rates and the importers are asked to produce evidence as to the 25% Empire content the claims for admission at Preferential Tariff rates are not persisted in.

"It is obviously unfair to penalise the local importer who has acted in good faith and who, in many cases, is able to produce evidence that he has definitely stipulated for goods of Empire origin. The question is rather of protecting the local importer from unscrupulous suppliers in India who are only too anxious to secure business turnover at any costs".

The following standard form has been recommended to cover consignments.

Combined Certificates of Value and of Origin and Invoice of Goods for Exportation to the British Dominion.

(1) Here insert
Manager, Chief
Clerk, or as the
case may be.
(2) Here insert
name of firm or
company.
(3) Here insert
name of city or
country.
(4) The words
should be omitted
where the manu-
facturer or supplier
himself signs the
certificate.

I,(1).....
of (2)(3).....
manufacturer
supplier/or stockist of the goods
enumerated in this invoice,
amounting to hereby
declare that I (4) have the author-
ity to make and sign this certifi-
cate on behalf of the aforesaid
manufacturer
supplier/or stockist
the means of knowing and do
hereby certify as follows:

VALUE

1. That this invoice is in all respects correct and contains a true and full statement of the price actually paid or to be paid for the said goods, and the actual quantity thereof.

2. That no different invoice of the goods mentioned in the said invoice has been or will be furnished to anyone; and that no arrangements or understanding affecting the purchase price of the said goods has been or will be made or entered into between the said exporter and purchaser, or by anyone on behalf of either of them either by way of discount, rebates, compensation or in any manner whatever other than as fully shown on this invoice, or as follows (5).....

(5) Here insert
particulars of any
special arrange-
ment.

3. That the domestic values shown in the column headed "Current Domestic Values" are those at which the above mentioned firm or company would be prepared to supply to any purchaser for home consumption in the country of exportation and at the date of exportation identically similar goods in the usual whole-sale quantities, at (6)..... subject to.....per cent cash discount, and that such values include the cost of outside pack-ages, if any, in which the goods are sold in such country for domestic consumption.

4. That the said domestic value includes any duty leviable in respect of the goods before they are delivered for home consumption, and that on exportation a drawback or remission of duty amounting to..... has been allowed by the revenue authorities in the country of exportation.

ORIGIN

I further certify that the goods herein invoiced are of Indian origin or manufacture.

MANUFACTURE OF ALUMINIUM:

Government of India have already announced their decision to permit the importation of alumina free of duty in order to enable the manufacture of aluminium to be started in India. The concession is to remain in force for four years or until adequate supplies of alumina made in India are available at a reasonable price, whichever may be earlier.

In view of the fact that the production of alminium in this country is an urgent war necessity, the Government of India are further pleased to give an assurance to all who wish to undertake its manufacture in India that, provided their affairs are conducted on sound business lines, they will be given such measure of protection against unfair competition from outside India after the war as may be necessary to enable them to continue their existence.

(6) Here insert "warehouse" "factory" or "port of shipment."

Pending Tenders

Goods.	Last day for application.	Address.
1. Textile such as, white blue and khaki drills, long cloth, pugree cloth, woollen blankets, cumblies, etc.	4th Feb., 41.	Agent & General Manager. M. & S. M. Rly. Madras.
2. Water quality galvanised M. S. pipes and fittings.	5th Feb., 41.	The Controller of Purchase. Indian Stores Department. Karachi.

During January the Chamber has received tender notices from the Purchase Officer, Indian Stores Department, Madras circle for the supply of the following commodities.

Angle iron straining pillars, Angle iron corner straining posts, Angle iron intermediate posts, Fencing wire, G. I. Barbed wire, White opal spherical domes, Khaki Dosuti, 2 H. P. G. E. C. Holder & Brook D. C., Cloth Drill red, Tape cotton.

Tender notices are received in the Chamber and they can be inspected during working hours.

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Transport

GOODS

Introduction of station-to-station rates:—The following station-to-station rates are introduced:—

Description of goods.	From	STATIONS	To	Rates per md. Rs. A. P.
Biscuits	Bombay	Tuticorin (via Raichur and Arkonam)		3 0 0
Biscuits	Bombay	Vizianagram (via Wadi, Bezwada and Waltair)		1 15 9
Casein	Via Dadar (for traffic from Anand)	Kallayi (via Raichur, Arkonam and Jalarpet)		1 6 4
Cashewnuts	Bombay	Nellore (via Wadi, and Bezwada)		1 3 0
Charcoal fuel	Mettur Dam	Madras (via Jalarpet)		0 5 3
Cocconut shells	Ernakulam	Andul (via Jalarpet, Madras and Waltair)		1 4 0
Coir fibre	Badagara	Bombay (via Jalarpet, Arkonam and Raichur)		0 11 3
Confectionery	Tirur Nellikuppam	Shalimar and via (via Arkonam, Madras and Waltair)		1 9 3
Cotton	Bombay	Trichur (via Raichur, Arkonam, and Jalarpet)		1 4 0
Ether	Shalimar and via	Madras and via (via Waltair)		2 8 0
Glue	Shalimar and via	Madras and via (via Waltair)		1 8 0
Iron or steel	Shalimar and via	Madras and via (via Waltair)		1 2 0
		Bombay (via Arkonam and Raichur)		0 13 6
		Kavali (via Arkonam and Madras)		0 9 6
Iron or steel	Negapatam	Ongole (via Arkonam and Madras)		0 10 2
		Singarayakonda (via Arkonam and Madras)		0 9 10
		Tenali (via Arkonam and Madras)		0 11 6
Iron or steel	Via Howrah (for traffic from Balmer Lawrie & Co's siding, Howrah)	Madras and via (via Waltair)		0 13 0
Iron or steel	Shalimar and via	Madras and via (via Waltair)		1 2 0
Jeer seed white	Bombay	Tuticorin (via Raichur and Arkonam)		1 0 6
Lamps, brass of tin	Karad	Shalimar and via (via Poonna and Nagpur)		2 8 0
Lanterns, brass or tin	Karad	Shalimar and via (via Poonna and Nagpur)		2 8 0
Machinery other than Electrical	Kirloskarvadi	Shalimar and via (Poonna and Nagpur)		2 13 7
Soap	Bombay	Bezwada (via Hotgi)		1 9 2
		Bezwada (via Wadi)		1 9 2
		Bezwadi (via Jalarpet and Madras)		1 0 2
Tea chests	Kallayi	Guntur (via Jalarpet and Madras)		1 0 2
Wood wool	Trivandrum Central	Bombay (via Arkonam and Raichur)		0 14 0
Wooden Articles	Quilon	Bagalkot (via Katpadi)		1 6 9
		Markapur Road (via Katpadi)		1 6 7

RAILWAY TRAFFIC:

In the six months April to September 1940 the State-owned Railways showed an increase in the gross earnings of 532 crores of rupees. The increase is reflected in traffic by an increase of about one lakh of wagons loaded on the Broad-guage, there being an increase from 23 lakhs from the previous years to 24 lakhs of wagons in six months of 1940. Similarly in the Meter-guage there was an increase of 36,000 wagons since last year. Probably most of the increase is contributed by the transport of goods for war requirements and the proper indicator of the traffic offered by the public will be seen by the increase in class 1 Railways from 85 lakhs of wagons to 89 lakhs of wagons, there being an increase of 38,000 wagons.

NATIONAL SHIPPING INDUSTRY:

Sheth Walchand Hirachand has released the following statement on shipping industry in India:

"After my recent conversations in Simla and New Delhi I was not prepared for the bomb dropped by Sir Alan Lloyd in the Council of State when he announced that "Government are not proposing to encourage actively the merchantship-building industry in India as part of their war effort." It was only in August last that Mr. Ronald Cross, the British Minister of Shipping, Mr. Walchand added, heartily welcomed all efforts for building ships in "the shipyards of the Dominions or elsewhere" and only the other day the British Government placed orders for the construction of 18 large merchant vessels in Canada. Australia has already concentrated in warship construction for British. Twenty-four ships of the small Indian mercantile marine were commandeered for naval defence at the outbreak of the war and Admiral Fitzherbert in his broadcast in August last earnestly urged for the development of a ship-building industry in this country. The Admiral remarked:

"It is obvious to me and, I think, to a great many other people that the sooner a ship-building industry is started the better for India."

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OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS



3-173, BROADWAY
MADRAS

If the building of ships is, therefore, welcomed and encouraged by His Majesty's Government in the Dominions and even in foreign countries and if such efforts are looked upon by them as helping them in their prosecution of the war, Mr. Walchand inquired how is it that effort for building ships in India are looked upon by Britain with suspicion if not with hostility? Proceeding, Mr. Walchand remarked that the declaration of Sir Alan Lloyd can only confirm the conviction of the Indians that the Government of India have often to echo the voice of their masters in Whitehall when the British vested interests are to be protected or new British interests are to be created in this country. Australia, Mr. Walchand remarked, is already subsidising her ship-building industry. So also England has been giving subsidies and financial help for the building of ships in her shipyards. He was, however, sure that the declaration so innocently made by Sir Alan Lloyd "that neither a subsidy nor a guarantee had been asked for from Government" for the building of ships in this country would not deceive any patriotic Indian. Will Sir Alan Lloyd declare that the Government of India would subsidise the building of ships, if representation was received for that purpose? That would be the test of his profession.

In reply to another question regarding the policy of discrimination Mr. Walchand remarked that Sir George Campbell was the Controller of Indian Shipping, that is, ships on the Indian Register. Sir Alan Lloyd has admitted that British registered ships based on India have already been requisitioned by His Majesty's Government. Why is then, Mr. Walchand inquired, Sir Alan Lloyd so anxious that these requisitioned ships, instead of helping in the prosecution of the war, are encouraged to maintain their position in the coastal trade of India. Is Sir Alan prepared to deny, added Mr. Walchand with some warmth, that the real duty of the Indian Shipping Adviser—he could not understand how a European can be called an Indian—is to see that the ships of the British India and the Asiatic Companies, which he admits have already been requisitioned by His Majesty's Government, are able to carry their quota of the coastal trade? That is the real task with which Captain Davis has been entrusted. In view of the past assurances of the Government of India, Mr. Walchand maintained that the duty of the Government of India was to further the cause of Indian shipping and not to maintain the dominant position of British ships in India's trade at the cost of national shipping.

Mr. Walchand pointed that the statement of Sir Alan Lloyd concealed the real truth. It was true that the original Notification for controlling the rates of freights and fares to be charged by ships on the Indian Register was withdrawn, but will Sir Alan Lloyd be prepared to deny that the Government have already decided to issue a further Notification controlling the rates of freights and fares to be charged by the ships on the Indian Register only and that they have called upon the Indian shipping companies to furnish the Government with detailed information of a variety of character in regard to the working of their ships. Concluding, Mr. Walchand

remarked that no one will be deceived by the misleading picture drawn in the Council of State by Sir Alan Lloyd and added that even Sir Alan Lloyd will have soon to learn that the art of evasion will not always conceal truth or that the special pleadings of the Government of India for furthering the cause of British vested shipping interests in this country will neither chill the patriotism of the nationally minded Indian nor prevent the Indian shipping industry from its onward march in India's maritime trades notwithstanding the struggles it will be compelled to face and the sacrifices which it is destined to undergo."

MEEK-GREGORY REPORT

American Market for Indian Manufactures.

"The report of Dr. Gregory and Sir David Meek who were sent by the Government of India in July last to the United States of America to investigate the extent to which it would be possible to find markets there for exports excluded from Europe as a result of the blockade, was made available to the Government at the end of October.

The main conclusions embodied are as follows:

(i) The economy of the U. S. A. is at present in the phase of recovery from the depression of 1938. This recovery has been brought about in part by the generally favourable business situation created by the earlier phases of the war, in part by Allied orders, and in part by the anticipation that the vast expenditure contemplated under the armament scheme will react favourably on business. It is not unreasonable to assume that, unless some unforeseen setback takes place, the national income of the U. S. A. at present running at some 75,000 million dollars per annum, might under the circumstances of full armament activity, run at the level of some 80,000 million dollars.

(ii) Under these circumstances, the normal movement of imports in the U.S.A. should be maintained and there should be some expansion as the aggregate income of the country expands. In addition, under the direct impulsion of the armament drive, there should be an expansion of the demand for products for stock-pile purposes and for armaments manufacture. In this connection manganese ore and mica are of particular significance, but other commodities referred to in detail in the report may also be affected.

(iii) In considering the export situation from India to the U.S.A., account must be taken of shipping difficulties. In this connection the inauguration of a new line between the two countries has improved matters appreciably, to judge by the opinions expressed in the U.S.A.

(iv) There is a growing interest in Indian consumers goods, such as cotton prints, druggets, etc. "Made-in-India" is itself a selling point and the anti-Japanese prejudice on the part of certain consuming section should assist the sale of Indian products. On the other hand, since a considerable proportion of the total sale of consumers goods takes

place through large-scale organisations it is imperative that Indian producers and merchants should pay regard to the special character of the American market. Variety, novelty, strict adherence to the specifications laid down, promptness of delivery, are essential.

(v) There is considerable reason to suppose that trade could be promoted if Indian business men were to visit the U.S.A. more frequently and were to make personal contacts with actual or potential buyers. Moreover, in view of the aggressive attitude of the producers of competing goods, such as paper-bag makers, it is necessary to promote interest in Indian products by the preparation of pamphlets and other propaganda material setting out the merits of the products it is intended to sell, the terms on which they can be obtained, etc. This is work which must be undertaken by business men themselves and cannot be undertaken by Government agencies.

(vi) Whilst the analysis of the position of individual commodities contained in the Report shows that in a certain number of cases expansion of importation is possible, thus providing new markets for products excluded from European markets and whilst, further armament expenditure is certain to increase the demand for certain special commodities, it is not possible for India to look to the U.S.A. as an effective substitute market for the entirety of lost European markets.

MARKET FOR INDIAN GOODS:

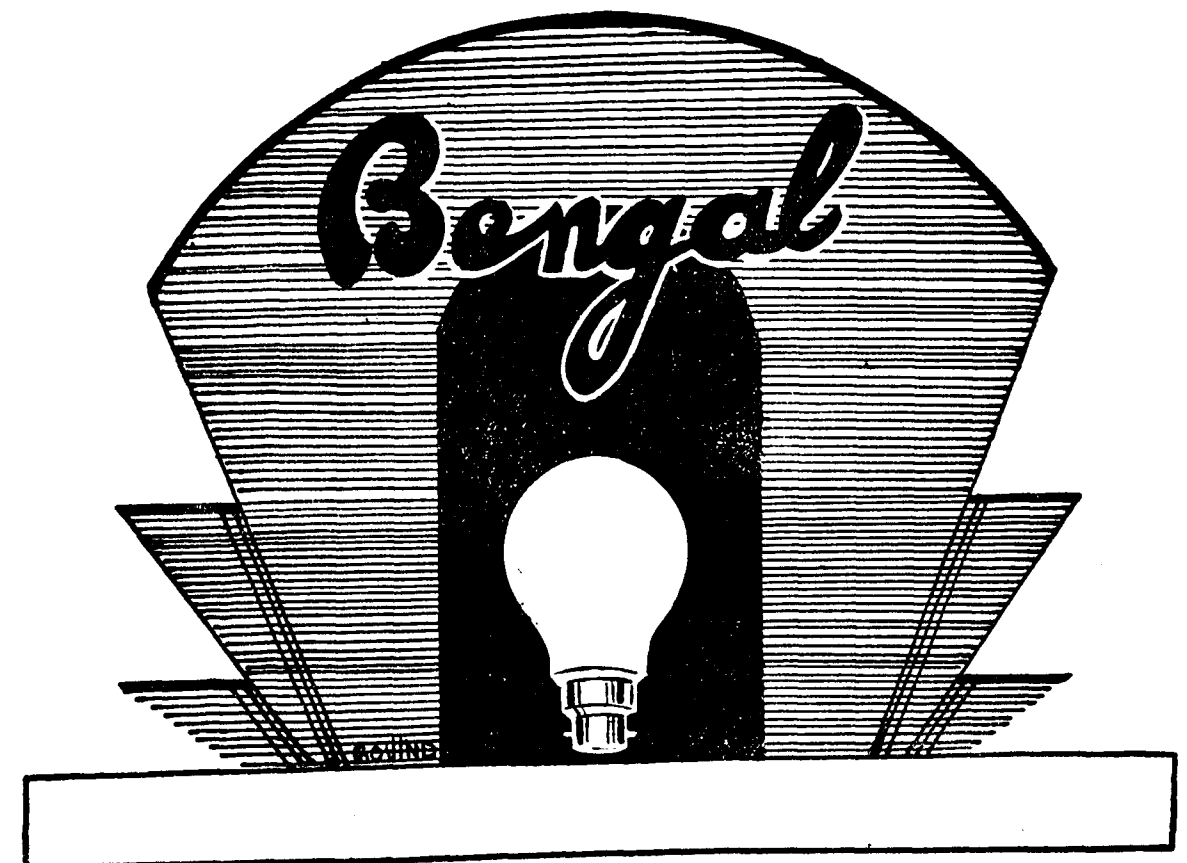
With regard to the sixth of these conclusions, the position of all commodities the exports of which to European countries before the war were of any significance was examined. These commodities, it may be pointed out, were primarily raw materials, some of which are largely produced by the United States itself and some of which enter into direct competition with American products. Complete substitution of the American for the European market is thus not easily possible. But a review of the findings on the various individual items make it possible to divide them into three groups.

The first consists of commodities of which it can be said that no problem of disposal arises owing to abnormal war demands in India or abroad or to other special conditions. These are tanned skins, raw rubber, pig iron and Chromite.

The second group comprises commodities of which Indian supplies would have to face competition from production within the United States themselves or in the Philippines or in South American countries, in the welfare of which the United States are especially concerned, as evidenced at the recent Havana Conference and which apart from this have, in some cases, long established connections with that country. Commodities in respect of which such competition is so effective as to leave little hope for expansion of Indian exports are; the whole group of oilseeds (including groundnuts) and oilcake; raw

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cotton and cotton waste; raw hemp; raw hides; wheat; bones; bone manure and bone meal; lexon-grass oil.

The third group represents Indian exports the prospects of which in the U.S.A. are such as to warrant special attention being paid to them: these are jute goods, raw wool, raw skins, mica, coffee, tea, lac, coir manufactures, myrobalans, cashewnuts, kepok cardamoms, pepper and ginger.

The Report does not suggest that the potentialities of the U. S. A. as a market for Indian goods is confined either to "munitions" raw materials or to certain staple Indian products. On the contrary, the authors of the Report attach much importance to the cultivation of the American consumer market for manufactured goods and in this connection the attention of manufacturers will be drawn to the conditions under which alone, in the opinion of the authors of the Report, contact can be successfully established with American buying organisations."

"EASTERN GROUP CONFERENCE"

Leaders' Statement

" We print below the statement issued by the leaders of Delegations to the Eastern Group Conference, which concluded its deliberations.

With the meeting of the 25th November 1940, the deliberations in Delhi of the Eastern Group Conference come to end, but the work which those deliberations have been designed to forward may be said only now to have been begun. The discussions that have taken place and the contacts that have been established have been of the greatest value. Our report will, we trust, prove to be the starting point on an intensive industrial war effort of very great importance. It is difficult to overestimate the value to the countries represented of the opportunity we had of examining supply problems affecting the countries of the Eastern Group, and of considering how best war effort can be forwarded over an area of such profound importance. Between them, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Southern Rhodesia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Northern Rhodesia, Nyassaland, Zanzibar, Burma, Ceylon, Malaya, Hong Kong, and Palestine, have a population of 416 millions, and their combined imports and exports amount to over £1,300,000,000. Australia is already all out on an immense programme. India and South Africa are both on the same way and the various other participants are ready and willing to take orders for munitions of all kinds and use such machine tools and facilities as they have in their countries. Already the interchange of information between the several Delegations has brought to light important facts and promising opportunities of which most of us at the opening of our proceedings were entirely unaware, while during the weeks that we have been together it has already been possible, by correlating surpluses in equipment with existing requirements, to supply important deficiencies without waste of time, or undue call on shipping space.

2. The report which we have prepared embodies our conclusions. But the work which the Conference has begun cannot end with the submission of our Report, for a report can do no more than make recommendations and indicate possible lines of enquiry. It is for that reason that we have recommended the appointment in India of a representative standing body, which would continue the work of the Conference and, within a defined field, co-ordinate supply, plan production and assist in arranging new sources of production. Such a body cannot be established by the Conference itself. For our recommendation, like all other recommendations included in our Report, is a matter for the consideration and decision of the participating Governments, though it is our hope as a Conference that our proposals will meet with their support and acceptance.

3. We feel strongly, however, that it will not be in the public interest, or in the interest of furthering war effort that while our recommendations are under consideration the Secretariat organisation placed by the Indian Government at the disposal of the Conference and already in being should be wholly dispersed. Pending a decision by the Government concerned as to the establishment of the representative standing body which we have proposed, it remains important that there should be some temporary machinery to collect and to transmit information, to deal with the records of the Conference, to handle enquiries relating to the Conference and to its recommendations promptly and adequately, and above all to preserve continuity between our work and any representative standing body that may be established, which will of course set up its own Secretariat and organisation apart from the Indian Government. We have carefully considered how best to ensure this. Few of the Delegations are in a position to leave any of their members behind them in India. In the first place, no Delegation is in a position to commit its Government to the acceptance of any particular recommendation of the Conference. Apart from that, many of the members of the Conference have urgent and important work to do in their own countries where each, his first duty, will report to his Government upon the particular subjects with which he has been specially concerned during the work of the various Committees of the Conference. In these circumstances, we have requested the Government of India to retain for the present such portion of the Conference Secretariat as may be needed for the purposes we have mentioned above, pending a decision on the establishment of the representative standing body proposed. We are glad to say that this recommendation has been accepted by the Government of India.

4. The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, in the inspiring message which he addressed to us on the opening day of our session, bade us look forward to the day when forces created by our efforts, both east and west, advance together for the final overthrow of the powers of evil. Our object

(Continued on page 344)

FINANCE

Current and Time Deposits of Scheduled Banks in India and Burma

(In Lakhs of Rupees)

Month.	Current Deposits.				Time Deposits.				Total.			
	1937	1938	1939	1940	1937	1938	1939	1940	1937	1938	1939	1940
January	132,80	130,19	128,93	145,63	102,60	110,00	108,50	108,42	235,60	240,19	237,43	254,05
February	131,30	129,03	127,37	151,38	103,40	110,13	108,29	108,88	235,60	239,16	235,66	259,26
March	133,20	128,58	130,66	150,37	104,70	108,27	107,29	108,88	238,90	236,85	237,95	259,25
April	135,54	128,04	128,61	149,82	105,63	110,09	108,50	113,23	238,10	238,13	237,11	263,05
May	134,51	127,28	129,49	145,42	107,38	110,43	108,96	112,13	237,70	237,71	238,45	257,55
June	133,19	127,14	131,90	143,93	106,05	107,70	109,12	107,75	234,80	234,84	231,02	251,68
July	133,64	129,71	140,74	153,48	108,42	107,11	107,39	106,60	236,80	236,82	248,13	260,08
August	134,00	129,27	141,39	160,60	110,27	106,97	106,46	101,88	236,20	236,24	247,85	262,48
September	132,95	131,16	139,19	165,49	110,18	101,21	102,10	101,36	232,40	232,37	241,29	266,85
October	134,28	134,21	140,81		109,45	106,30	99,75		243,73	240,51	240,56	
November	135,66	134,68	145,04		108,98	106,12	101,82		244,64	240,80	246,86	
December	131,53	130,15	146,57		110,96	108,44	104,76		242,49	238,59	251,33	

Madras Clearing House Returns

(In Lakhs of Rupees)

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.	1939	1940
1918—19	25,48	1928—29	65,73	January ...	777 857
1919—20	33,95	1929—30	82,19	February ...	795 851
1920—21	75,79	1930—31	50,36	March ...	1,035 1,444
1921—22	39,54	1931—32	43,97	April ...	798 875
1922—23	45,13	1932—33	48,85	May ...	791 1,127
1923—24	55,41	1933—34	53,19	June ...	910 839
1924—25	55,96	1934—35	56,22	July ...	750 721
1925—26	56,80	1935—36	69,23	August ...	665 479
1926—27	54,53	1936—37	91,39	September ...	846 781
1927—28	59,79	1937—38	104,05	October ...	651 791
		1938—39	127,48	November ...	707 1006
				December ...	990 957

Purchase of Sterling by Reserve Bank of India (000's of ₹)

	1938	1939	1940						
January	3,270	6,495	11,438						
February	4,945	1,000	7,798						
March	4,667	2,465	9,867						
April	18	2,280	2,314						
May	Nil	Nil	4,885						
June	Nil	2,375	5,765						
July	415	Nil	4						
August	255	3,520	Total	Purchase	of	Sterling	in	1933	27,900
September	630	8,460	"	"	"	"	"	1934	46,459
October	1,530	10,393	"	"	"	"	"	1935	28,961
November	1,135	8,445	"	"	"	"	"	1936	42,699
December	1,193	9,920	"	"	"	"	"	1937	33,946
Total...	18,058	55,353							

FOREIGN AND COASTING TRADE

MADRAS PROVINCE (IN RUPEES)

Merchandise Imports from and Exports to Foreign Countries					External Coasting Import and Export Trade (Indian and Foreign Merchandise) of Madras Province				
	Imports		Exports			Imports		Exports	
	1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940
January	200,50,335	238,84,991	326,79,611	364,66,512	January	74,50,870	67,54,337	52,28,067	81,14,915
February	224,87,288	202,24,111	278,64,011	355,59,789	February	89,31,357	61,79,886	62,62,799	52,09,894
March	315,09,924	281,09,276	381,03,546	432,41,529	March	80,61,980	66,39,456	77,31,787	79,85,962
April	171,39,842		210,65,187		April	63,64,686	64,42,589	49,10,911	48,73,987
May	263,00,487		332,45,931		May	101,39,378	98,87,115	71,53,998	67,27,423
June	297,60,623		427,33,498		June	56,25,922	48,91,836	46,60,332	34,61,227
July	273,86,494		395,54,424		July	36,52,126	95,67,143	30,09,391	30,31,023
August	222,10,392		328,27,192		August	88,66,060	31,52,280	37,58,717	31,75,603
September	205,85,082		213,98,840		September	66,53,266		43,88,194	
October	201,09,004		305,99,954		October	60,75,424		44,56,698	
November	184,86,507		297,28,142		November	68,90,532		65,06,379	
December	130,39,342		191,30,277		December	67,37,168		54,66,313	
	2,700,65,320		3,689,30,613			854,48,769		635,33,586	

RAIL-BORNE TRADE OF MADRAS PROVINCE—(In tons)

* CHIEF SOURCE

† CHIEF DESTINATION

	CEMENT				COFFEE				COTTON YARN			
	Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	...	3,215	883	593	295	99	7	30	34	892	556	1,067
February	...	4,072	409	710	569	123	96	32	209	701	488	1,116
March	...	2,888	703	682	14	326	87	30	39	707	647	1,095
April	...	3,039	422	585	389	138	77	24	25	685	1,243	558
May	...	384	387	703	465	80	51	19	22	1,032	967	1,504
June	...	3,043	225	630	649	80	67	21	23	838	664	1,106
July	...	2,392	...	497	...	74	...	28	...	83	...	1,033
August	...	644	...	827	...	62	...	19	...	806	...	1,504
September	...	3,336	...	513	...	73	...	33	...	1,066	...	1,038
October	...	1,699	...	389	...	51	...	37	...	408	...	1,433
November	...	1,108	...	417	...	55	...	34	...	840	...	2,191
December	...	229	...	457	...	64	...	40	...	955	...	1,947
		26,054		7,009		1,429		351		10,017		15,597

* Nizam's Dominions,
Central Provinces

† Mysore

* Mysore.

† Mysore.

* Bombay
and Mysore.† Calcutta, Bombay
and Mysore.

	COTTON PIECE-GOODS				PADDY				RICE			
	Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	...	1,536	755	652	461	36,911	5,605	250	161	9,505	3,731	12,164
February	...	1,354	1,118	645	861	5,969	9,301	206	111	8,200	7,927	11,608
March	...	1,128	1,472	782	866	4,614	7,573	240	108	8,393	7,243	12,433
April	...	1,327	1,915	701	78	4,657	468	440	151	7,824	5,170	10,883
May	...	158	2,701	671	706	4,966	4,704	341	131	7,653	484	12,302
June	...	1,324	1,315	542	537	3,663	1,289	558	102	1,874	3,163	13,871
July	...	1,533	...	564	...	3,910	...	361	...	8,535	...	11,888
August	...	1,333	...	732	...	438	...	731	...	5,044	...	15,096
September	...	1,958	...	906	...	1,200	...	810	...	1,371	...	4,416
October	...	1,358	...	895	...	2,006	...	450	...	6,640	...	13,060
November	...	1,945	...	708	...	2,350	...	937	...	8,647	...	6,073
December	...	1,487	...	952	...	276	...	638	...	8,706	...	17,260
		16,447		8,754		70,965		5,966		82,397		1,41,060

* Bombay and Mysore.

† Calcutta, Bombay,
and Mysore.* Orissa and Central
Provinces.

† Bombay

* Orissa, Central
Provinces, Bengal,
Bihar and Punjab.† Mysore, Nizam's
Dominions,
Bombay.

	RAW HIDES				RAW SKINS				LEATHER			
	Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export		Import (In tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	...	2,182	2,236	68	170	611	1,013	67	11	...	575	...
February	...	1,497	3,320	85	91	628	1,037	29	106	384	547	76
March	...	2,152	3,670	30	101	728	795	47	110	474	469	97
April	...	1,896	3,084	40	102	649	870	33	60	469	685	93
May	...	1,816	2,003	49	104	564	726	49	46	510	615	90
June	...	1,288	1,026	45	69	671	517	47	80	521	521	90
July	...	2,176	...	84	...	802	...	96	...	56	...	80
August	...	2,158	...	142	...	616	...	50	...	625	...	88
September	...	1,804	...	87	...	452	...	37	...	537	...	100
October	...	239	...	141	...	891	...	89	...	481	...	18
November	...	3,067	...	278	...	1,026	...	49	...	522	...	119
December	...	2,347	...	86	...	771	...	111	...	510	...	139
		22,625		1,140		8,412		709		5,092		995

* Bengal, Orissa, Central
Provinces.

† Mysore.

* Mysore, Central
Provinces, Bombay,
Nizam's Dominions.

† Mysore

* Mysore, Nizam's
Dominions.† Bengal, Bombay
and Mysore.

IRON AND STEEL GOODS

OIL CAKES

VEGETABLE OILS

	Import (In tons)				Export				Import (In tons)				Export				Import (In tons)				Export			
	1939		1940		1939		1940		1939		1940		1939		1940		1939		1940		1939		1940	
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	...	6,783	10,150	2,571	2,351	6,259	1,593	90	41	874	250	2,146	3,118	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
February	...	16,809	9,292	1,589	4,843	4,033	2,459	64	2,459	787	353	2,523	3,632	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
March	...	10,124	8,991	5,477	3,762	3,712	3,572	34	68	1,035	469	2,379	2,845	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
April	...	9,722	7,112	2,278	3,098	4,312	258	53	94	824	878	2,108	2,659	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
May	...	9,712	7,699	1,770	4,015	4,856	2,304	104	140	1,096	630	1,739	2,633	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June	...	7,579	6,998	1,787	2,988	4,121	3,141	113	218	685	218	1,169	1,873	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July	...	9,694	...	2,967	...	3,428	...	68	...	651	...	1,228	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
August	...	8,924	...	9,007	...	2,716	...	38	...	405	...	1,201	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
September	...	10,441	...	3,189	...	2,327	...	101	...	445	...	1,737	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
October	...	7,107	...	2,859	...	3,779	...	224	...	14	...	1,169	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
November	...	6,448	...	2,034	...	2,217	...	11	...	359	...	1,600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
December	...	9,092	...	1,500	...	2,559	...	48	...	460	...	3,055	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		113,438		30,014		44,324		952		7,641		22,060												

* Behar, Bengal, Mysore,
Bombay.† Mysore, Bombay,
Nizam's Dominions.* Nizam's Dominions,
Mysore, Bombay,
Central Provinces,
Orissa.† Mysore and
Bombay.* Nizam's
Dominions,
Mysore,
Bombay.† Bengal,
Mysore,
Orissa,
Bombay, Behar.

CASTOR SEED

COTTON SEED

GROUNDNUT

		Import (In tons)				Export						Import (In tons)				Export			
		1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940			1939	1940	1939	1940			1939	1940
January	...	451	2,819	Nil	90	1,482	1,090	131	14			5,027	1,886	1,347	24,941				
February	...	1,248	8,304	Nil	169	533	972	56	7			3,113	1,730	12,155	7,888				
March	...	1,419	5,414	42	104	1,989	1,822	192	2,676			3,222	2,217	5,854	9,397				
April	...	1,144	4,036	16	131	2,206	2,822	274	34			2,794	3,132	4,017	6,706				
May	...	1,176	2,202	18	88	1,433	312	115	Nil			108	1,960	5,716	5,876				
June	...	765	4,303	18	12	1,834	894	48	4			3,513	712	2,145	3,810				
July	...	399		8		1,990		158				2,114		2,809					
August	...	416				1,921		123				678		3,258					
September	...	1,577		5,287		2,848		116				56		907					
October	...	2,564		155		1,724		14				71		871					
November	...	1,109		5		1,333		27				4,775		931					
December	...	227		103		1,999		1278				6,520		15,184					
		12,498		5,609		21,297		2,596				31,995		55,200					

SUGAR—REFINED

JAGGERY AND MOLASSES

TEA

	Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export			Import (In tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940
January	5,720	4,098	677	289	263	161	3,085	321	70	122	373	380		
February	4,071	8,913	881	751	582	446	5,559	6,703	110	94	321	257		
March	2,487	1,864	438	279	366	753	386	5,627	96	79	321	312		
April	705	1,980	665	389	263	555	3,801	3,848	95	115	383	315		
May	1,266	2,628	1,405	60	174	741	2,132	2,263	104	76	419	361		
June	78	3,379	701	257	47	643	1,247	977	89	101	367	342		
July	73		834		51		1,798		111		334			
August	827		118		76		1,315		118		411			
September	967		458		106		1,407		146		371			
October	1,141		914		95		1,452		102		388			
November	1,427		610		45		889		126		393			
December	4,082		300		103		1,869		145		481			
	22,847		8,005		2,177		24,944		1,317		4,666			

* United Provinces, Behar, Mysore.

† Bombay, Nizam's Dominions, Mysore, Orissa.

* United Provinces, Mysore, Punjab.

† Bombay, Nizam's Dominions, Mysore, Central Provinces.

* Calcutta.

† Bombay, Mysore.

RAW TOBACCO

WOOD AND TIMBER

RAW WOOL

	Import (in tons)		Export			Import (in tons)		Export			Import (in tons)		Export	
	1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940		1939	1940	1939	1940
January	241	340	1,129	1,466	4,293	5,543	1,074	928	16	36	66	145		
February	378	397	676	592	4,532	5,080	981	628	30	83	74	204		
March	584	619	2,159	1,616	5,444	6,853	1,070	1,682	50	54	44	159		
April	563	541	3,073	162	7,237	8,045	788	867	71	35	92	137		
May	179	422	2,019	1,138	6,560	5,375	388	340	113	24	162	36		
June	273	148	1,312	1,063	5,922	3,789	792	861	60	6	116	71		
July	211		1,241		3,141		505		58		68			
August	122		96		2,007		1,385		85		112			
September	127		1,191		1,575		852		76		167			
October	272		1,699		1,285		869		43		82			
November	273		2,076		2,215		833		9		83			
December	290		1,299		3,832		780		18		92			
	3,518		17,975		48,050		10,322		634		1,163			

* Mysore.

† Mysore, Bombay, Calcutta, Orissa, Behar.

* Orissa, Nizam's Dominions, Central Provinces, Mysore, Bombay.

† Mysore.

* Bombay.

† Bombay.

GOLD EXPORTS FROM INDIA

CURRENCY NOTES ISSUED IN INDIA AND BURMA

	(In Thousands of Rupees)				
	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
January	2,71,71	2,38,62	1,54,37	6,54	8,12,27
February	2,63,80	1,15,09	1,99,39	97,38	
March	2,08,42	1,19,26	80,60	1,50,12	
April	2,79,88	1,83,27	1,24,04	1,04,02	
May	3,28,06	1,47,13	1,10,36	1,27,27	
June	2,79,58	81,52	70,17	73,32	
July	4,04,83	2,40,27	3,05,05	3,04,76	
August	2,25,74	1,44,01	2,01,15	1,53,82	
September	2,21,31	1,44,81	30,20	1,65,17	
October	2,19,07	1,30,46	2,15,90	4,88,76	
November	3,58,28	1,17,57	68,20	2,47,57	
December	1,55,71	1,65,73	38	3,87,08	
Total	33,15,94	18,27,74	15,59,81	23,05,81	

	(In Crores of Rupees)				
	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
January	194	204	213	293	254
February	194	208	213	205	252
March	195	208	214	207	253
April	195	208	214	207	252
May	196	207	214	207	257
June	198	208	214	211	256
July	201	212	213	214	264
August	202	213	215	223	260
September	203	213	212	228	258
October	203	214	209	248	256
November	202	214	208	221	256
December	201	214	206	253	225
Total	2284	2523	2545	2697	3073

Proceedings of Public Bodies

SOUTHERN INDIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Finance Bill

The Southern India Chamber of Commerce has sent the following communication to the Government of India on the Supplementary Finance Bill:

"In recent years there have been a number of taxation measures introduced both by the Local Government and by the Central Government. The Government of Madras have within the last two or three years increased taxation of motor vehicles and fees for registration of documents, have introduced the cloth licence fee, tax on sales of tobacco, a general Sales Tax, a tax on the consumption of electricity, a tax on Entertainments, a tax on sales of petrol and so on. Similarly the Central Government have introduced heavy rates of incometax which are still further steepened in the present Finance Bill and have introduced the Excess Profits Tax which has taken away most of the incentive for industrialisation. With the outbreak of war, on top of the above burdens, the mercantile community is faced with successive doses of increase of heavy railway and shipping freights, increased marine and war risk insurance charges, war risk insurance charges for goods on land and so on. Above all, merchants are being severely handicapped in their foreign trade, both imports and exports, by the system of licence and control of exchange of remittances. They have also been saddled with increased telegraphic charges owing to the removal of the use of several codes and owing to the compulsory insertion of full names and addresses. The suspension of the airmail services has resulted in longer time being taken in transit, resulting in increased warehousing and transit charges for goods and increased interest charges for remittances on drafts. The increase in postal, telegraph and telephone rates is the latest blow. The internal circulation of goods is also being very much affected by the lack of outlet for goods, and consequent fall in the buying power among the people. In the result the mercantile community is passing through a very severe crisis at the present time, and the extra doses of taxation as are contained in the supplemental Finance Bill are most oppressive under present circumstances.

What would be most reassuring to the public and to the mercantile community at the present moment would be an anxiety shown by the Local Government and the Central Government in the direction of the utmost scrutiny of all measures of new expenditure particularly with reference to items of war expenditure. Owing to the suddenness of the emergency and the great dimensions of the demand on the attention and energy of the Departments of the Government, there is bound to be some dislocation of the normal procedure of work, but important steps and decisions might still be taken with the usual deliberation and circumspection. It is just at a time of extraordinary expenditure that the public should be assured of syste-

matized check on such new expenditure. The normal statutory machinery for such check is the Legislature and it is therefore very disconcerting to know that Government have not been consulting the Central Legislature with regard to the very expensive measures of war effort and have not placed demands for supplementary grants before the Legislature, and the Legislatures of several Provinces have not been consulted by their respective Governments as to any war expenditure. Neither were the Legislatures in session more often than in peace times with a view to be consulted on emergent measures that have come necessary. In these circumstances the public have really good grounds for believing that sufficient check is not being exercised on the growth of war expenditure.

The Supply Department which has been created recently has been absorbing ever increasing numbers of officers and staff, mostly drawn from the

(Continued from page 328)

COCANADA

(16-1-1941)

(By The Godavari Chamber of Commerce)

	Rs. A. P.
Per bag of 166 lbs. nett Loose	
Sarva Paddy	... 5 4 0
Dalva Paddy	... 4 12 0
Garikisannam Paddy	... 6 1 0
Per bag of 164 lbs. nett Loose	
Raw Rice No. 1 (Mill) With gunny	... 12 12 0
Horse Gram with gunny	... 4 0 0
Bhoor Gram	... 1 0 0
Green Gram	... 6 12 0
Black Gram	... 7 0 0
Red Gram big	... 5 8 0
Raggy	... 1 0 0
Fenugreek	... 1 0 0
Mustard	... 10 0 0
Coriander Seed	... 1 0 0
Castor Poonac Loose	Not quoted
Gingellyseed Pyru with gunny	Not quoted
Cottonseed per bag of 150 lbs. nett with gunny	Not quoted

ranks of European Officers in other Departments, and what is worse, from European firms and companies working in India. What is called a reorganisation of the Indian Stores Department has resulted in eclipsing it and making it a subsidiary branch of the new born Supply Department. The Supply Department being in immediate charge of purchases for war purposes the policy of the Department is bound to be affected by the character of the personnel which dominates the Department, and it lends colour to the wide spread belief in the country that war supply orders have been issued on haphazard and discriminative considerations and that they supply evidence that neither the Central Government nor the Local Governments are determined to make the fullest use of this opportunity for industrialisation of the country in the ultimate interest of this country.

Imports from many countries have been stopped and from many others severely curtailed owing to the introduction of the quota basis. Restriction in exchange, higher freight and insurance charges, and the uncertainties of shipping have added to the difficulties of importers as well as of exporters, and severely curtailed the foreign trade. The introduction of licence for export is being very much criticised by exporters as the principles which are operating are not clearly defined and are not well understood either among the Officers of the Department or among the exporters. The severe control on remittance from and to countries has had deadly effect on foreign trade.

With a view to enlist the confidence of the cultivators, and with a view to answer the criticism that having scared other buyers from the market the British Ministry of Food is buying at rock bottom prices, the British Ministry introduced certain minimum buying limits for a few of the export commodities of India. It was then the hope of Government that by such fixation of buying limits an attempt could be made to steady price level in the market at a remunerative point, but it is now known conclusively that it has had no effect at all, particularly because the off-take by the Food Ministry is so disproportionately small that it cannot off-set the absence of other buyers. Groundnut kernel which should have stood round about Rs. 27-8-0 per candy of 531 lbs., in reaction to the Government buying limit has steadily declined during the last three weeks from round about that figure to round about Rs. 21 per candy. The price of Rs. 21 is prevailing at the ports of shipment and the price in internal markets which shippers pay is round about Rs. 16 per candy. Government could easily understand from their own statistics that even for an unirrigated groundnut crop no price below Rs. 20 per candy would pay expenses of cultivation, and consequently for the old crop and the new crop that is coming into the market the agriculturist is faced with the prospect of losing about Rs. 4 on every candy, far from making a profit on his investment. The groundnut area, in the stimulus of some rise in prices which was evident at the outbreak of war has increased from 2,863,200 acres in 1939 to 3,142,000 acres according to the latest forecast issued by the Government of Madras for

1940. Castor seed has similarly declined from Rs. 10-2-0 in April 1940 per cwts. to Rs. 7-7-0 in October 1940. The Indian Sugar industry for whose establishment the Indian consumer has been successively paying many crores by way of artificial prices has now reached its full stature but is being starved for want of outlet for its production. Price of sugar has fallen from Rs. 12-9-0 in April 1940 to Rs. 9-6-0 per maund in October 1940. The position of other commodities like coconuts, paddy, spices, hides and skins etc., which contribute so much to the buying power of the masses of the country has similarly registered a serious decline.

The Committee of the Chamber therefore appeals to Government to be good enough to keep in mind the severe economic chaos into which the country has been plunged, and to devise measures for relief instead of pursuing expensive methods of administration in full reliance on the taxable capacity of the people.

Disposal of Surplus Production of Commodities

In reply to the Government's communication regarding the disposal of surplus production of agricultural commodities, the Chamber has sent the following communication to the Government:

Scope of enquiry.—Government have apparently restricted the scope of this investigation to agricultural commodities, probably because they are under the impression that production of industrial goods and of minerals could be regulated at short notice unlike agricultural produce. However it should be clearly understood that the problem of finding outlet for India's exportable commodities is as great in the case of minerals and manufactures as in the case of agricultural commodities. This Province has surpluses for export of mica and manganese as well as sugar, cement, coir and grass mats and matings, woollen carpets, cotton lungies and handkerchiefs, vegetable oils and oilcakes, tobacco products, stoneware pipes and jars, roofing tiles, drugs and medicines, condiments and curry powder, and so on. These mineral and manufactured commodities are equally important and have been equally affected by the present war conditions, and the degree of stagnation that is seen in those trades is equally sapping the vitality of the producers of this Province. Similarly, agricultural commodities so far as this Province is concerned which have been mostly affected by the present difficult position are groundnut, cotton, castorseed, coffee, tobacco, sugar cane, indigo, myrabalams, turmeric and spices.

It is gratifying to note that Government have at last awakened to the need for an investigation of the economic distress caused by the present extraordinary circumstances. But it is a point for surprise that Government could not have anticipated such a situation many years in advance from many of the recommendations of Committees and Commissions which were engaged in the past in the investigation of the economic affairs of the country. A hotch-potch investigation like the present one attempted by the Government is not likely to help Government or Chambers of Commerce to arrive at correct and conclusive data.

Statistics.—Government themselves are partly responsible for it. They have shut out from the knowledge of the public the import and export statistics on the ground of preventing enemy from getting information. It is not clear what advantage the enemy could have taken from the Government trade statistics as their knowledge of the trade relations of this country with the other countries has been long available to the enemy countries. They also know that this country is still carrying on trade with certain countries. A knowledge of the particular commodities, their quantity and value, exchanged between this country and another country is not likely to be very useful to the enemy in their operations against Britain or this country. It was therefore urged before Government and before the Honourable the Commerce Member when he visited the Chamber in September last that the publications of foreign trade statistics could be resumed in the original form as early as possible. It is not yet known what reasons are still preventing or delaying a correct conclusion in this matter. The public are hardly able to know what amount or value of commodities is going out of the country or is imported, and the public are being kept in dense ignorance of the production or surpluses in the country. The public institutions are therefore left to make their best guesses instead of arriving at correct and definite data.

Warehouses.—Another point which makes one feel that Government is partly responsible for the helpless position the country has presently developed is that as long as ten years ago the Central Banking Enquiry Committee made very strong recommendation for the early establishment of Public Warehouses as storage granaries of the country, which could have been undertaken during the last ten years and developed into a successful organisation to meet the present situation. The agriculturists would then have had the advantage of depositing their commodities in them, and the credit institutions of the country might have without any difficulty or hesitation or compunction financed such storages. No public warehouses of that description have been started in the country and storage of present surpluses for a better market is practically out of the question.

Alternative crop.—Again there is the question of alternative crop. It is utterly impossible to expect the conservative ignorant cultivator to give up partly or wholly his crop and pursue a policy of experimenting with an unfamiliar crop. It is bound to confront him with many taxing problems of soil, climate, seeding, weeding, irrigation, manuring, harvesting, marketing and so on. Considering the large number of years he has been pursuing antiquated methods in cultivating the same crop year after year it would be futile to hope he will take kindly to new crops at the bidding of Government or of any other well-wisher. There should have been a public investigation held in the different areas for such substitute crops as may be profitably grown and marketed, and if the experiment had been tried and found successful in different areas the cultivator could have been persuaded in such a crisis to adopt

the experiment in a greater or smaller degree in his own land. Even if the Government were well equipped with knowledge and organisation for substituting crops in each area it is hard to expect that the cultivator would have readily risen to the occasion in the spirit in which Government want him to do.

Finance.—Again there is the question of finance. The crop movements and export, and financing of internal trade have remained in deplorable condition for many years now, and nothing has been done to rehabilitate finances in any manner. It was expected that the advent of the Reserve Bank would be the signal for a revitalisation of the credit machinery of the country for the permanent benefit of the agriculture and trade of the country. This has proved a moonshine and many banks have closed their doors during the last two or three years in South India without having derived the slightest benefit from the existence of the Reserve Bank. The Chamber has enumerated these circumstances only to show how far the seeds of the present situation were sown long ago with the full knowledge of Government, and the present situation has become so difficult to be dealt with only because of the neglect of the problem in the past years.

Surplus.—There are many circumstances which have operated to produce surpluses in several commodities which could not be assimilated within the country or exported. This Chamber is unable to give an exact idea of all such surpluses as Government have withheld relevant statistics, and Government should look to themselves to state the dimensions of the problem of stagnation in production, import and export.

Factors of depression.—Among the enemy countries there were several which figured largely in the import and export trade, and there is no question of replacing that trade but there are numerous other countries which are neutral or are British Empire countries whose doors are still open to India, but little trade is resulting, owing to many supervening circumstances. Members of the Chamber who have been receiving many enquiries from those countries find that few of them can fructify owing to the licence system. The system on which licences are based is still a sealed book to the public. Neither the importers nor the exporters have any idea on what principles the licences are issued or withheld, and they have to hang on the Customs Authorities for weeks and months together before they know the fate of their applications, one way or the other. Even when licence is obtained whether for one-third or one-fifth or one-tenth of the quantity applied for, shipping space is not available and many shippers have to wait for months before a vessel comes along. The charges for freight, insurance, interest and warehousing have all multiplied beyond all expectation. The uncertain international conditions have contributed to the uncertainty of payment of bills and opening of credit. In many cases banks refuse to handle bills or to open credit. The internal conditions have also become gloomy. The agricultural indebtedness which was estimated by the Banking Enquiry Committee at Rs. 150 crores in 1930 had increased to Rs. 200 crores by 1935, as disclosed

by Mr. Sathyanathan's Report, and must have progressed more violently afterwards owing to the severe economic depression. On top of this indebtedness the agriculturists' credit structure has been rudely shaken by the operation of the Agriculturists Relief Act and to a smaller extent by the Madras Debtors' Protection Act and by legislation against arrest and imprisonment of debtors or attachment of wages and salaries.

During this period the Central and Local Governments have been vying with each other in devising new increases in the tax burden. Railway freight has generally increased by 12½%, which has hampered the normal movement of goods in the country; the income-tax and super-tax rates have been effectively steepened; a cess on exports of 23 agricultural commodities has been introduced; the excess profits tax has been introduced; increased postal, telegraph and telephone charges have been enforced; and the position of employers has been hardened by legislation such as Payment of Wages Act, stopping of women and child labour, heavier Workmen's Compensation payments, reduction of factory hours, and so on, all of which coming in rapid succession have resulted in crippling employers. The Local Government of Madras followed the lead of the Central Government in a string of new taxes consisting of the tobacco tax, cloth licence fee, the petrol tax, the entertainment tax, the general sales tax, the electricity duty and so on. All these circumstances have conspired to reduce the buying power of the masses to the lowest possible ebb which, coming on top of the war, which has curtailed the outflow of Indian commodities to foreign countries, has simultaneously crippled internal consumption. The problem of surplus of commodities is therefore not an isolated phenomenon which has suddenly appeared, and it is moreover complicated both by the international situation and by the internal conditions.

Restriction of area.—The remedy is readily suggested that in the case of agricultural commodities the areas could be restricted. If this were feasible it could not apply to the 1940-41 season as the sowing in respect of many of the commodities is nearly over and harvesting in many of them is well advanced. If there is any restriction in the area of any commodity there is bound to be corresponding unemployment and Government could guess what will be the complexity of the unemployment problem in the country if it were to affect the agricultural industry also, a field in which 300 millions of the people are engaged. It should also be remembered that a scheme of restriction of groundnut or tobacco or cotton is none too easy like restriction of tea or rubber, as the average holding in the former case is probably less than five acres while the latter consists of thousands of acres in single estates. Neither is the farmer in such an advanced state of education and far-sight as readily to understand the problem and replace a crop by another by an over-night planning. He is too illiterate to follow the present propaganda of the agricultural department to use a better seed or a better manure or plough or weed in a more efficient manner. He is not the man to go

outside the familiar rut. Even if the new crop is such as to suit the soil and climatic condition, it should have been well tried to his satisfaction. Experimenting gives rise to many problems of seeding, watering, insect pest, harvesting and marketing. This Chamber is firmly of opinion that the Agricultural Departments of the different Provinces have contributed a great deal to the indifference and lethargy of the farmer in not taking kindly to a new crop. The Chamber has had many occasions to ask the Agricultural Department about certain new or alternative or improved crop for which the Department has never had a satisfactory reply to give. It should also be remembered that the present balance of crop structure is an evolution of many decades and centuries and violent changes will give rise to many new problems. The substitution of one crop for another is steadily going on from year to year according to economic circumstances and prospects of return. This is a time when almost all crops are in the same unhappy position of requiring to find a buyer, and it is hard to devise an entirely new crop which can replace an existing crop to any extent whatsoever and fetch a return which is satisfactory. On the other hand if it is only adjustment of present crops, if groundnut is replaced by millet or

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has been again, in the Prime Minister's words, to plan the more effective mutual integration of the resources of all our Governments in the Eastern Hemisphere. We realise to the full that in the short time available to us we may have fallen short in many respects of the ideal which we set ourselves. But we feel no doubt that this assembly of representatives of so many widely scattered Governments can hope to make a contribution of real value to the furthering of war effort. The problems we have had to deal with have been of great importance and great complexity. We have done our best to take full advantage of the opportunity we have had. We are well aware that there may be many respects in which the proposals we have put forward will call, on further scrutiny, for modification. But we are confident, for all that, the work of this Conference, the contacts established during it, and the greater understanding which emerges from it of the difficulties and the potentialities of all the participating countries, will be of deep and real significance and value in the prosecution of the war and the attainment of the ideals which are common to us all. And throughout our deliberations we have been profoundly conscious that, having regard to the general war position speed in execution is a first essential in all that we have sought by our labours to forward.

(Sd.) Walter Massy-Greene, Paw Tun; H. J. Huxam; G. C. S. Corea; Philip Mitchell; D. J. Sloss; Muhammad Zafrulla Khan; H. North-Hunt; Alexander Roger; J. Duigan, Major-General; G. Walsh; F. R. G. Hoare, Major-General; and F. E. Harris."

cotton is replaced by tobacco, and so on, it would only convert a groundnut problem into a millet problem, or a cotton problem into a tobacco problem and there can be no effectual relief to the country as a whole.

Storage.—The remedy is suggested that the surplus crop may be stored for a better time. As already stated there are no public warehouses where farmers could accommodate their marketable surplus. The Co-operative Societies have practically no accommodation for such an emergency. The ryots cannot wait for payment; neither are the shippers and merchants in a better position. Several crops like groundnuts, castorseed, cotton seed and turmeric are liable to deterioration and insect pest within a few months of storage and crops like cotton or tobacco or linseed will suffer deterioration in a few months more. At any rate all such commodities are liable to damage and deterioration. Moreover such storage could only be made in anticipation of a certain development to come, which is clearly impossible under the present circumstances. There are no indications as to the termination of the war or as to the enlargement of the market, when it comes, so as to absorb the accumulated surplus.

Remedies.—A serious attempt should now be made to get hold of all British Empire markets and of such foreign countries as Japan, U.S.A., and South America, either by means of active propaganda by Indian Trade Commissioners or by special Trade Missions. The Chamber much deplores the attitude of Government towards maintaining a Commercial Museum in the office of the Trade Commissioners abroad. They are of permanent value and do not require lakhs and lakhs of rupees for maintenance. In fact, if the Trade Commissioners do not perform any other service than propaganda for Indian goods as a mere salesman would do, it would be good enough service for this country. There are no Trade Commissioners in Burma, Malaya, or Ceylon and this is a deficiency which this Chamber has pointed out to Government times without number. If the Political Agent in those places is overburdened in the political work and cannot take up trade matters, there should be a Trade Commissioner appointed in each of those countries who should be charged with the duty of finding a market for Indian vegetable oils, drugs and medicines, provisions, tobacco products, handloom cloths, tiles, oilcakes, mill piecegoods, sugar, cement, tea, coffee and spices. These commodities are already in those markets and what is required is more activated propaganda. The countries lying nearest to India ought to receive the earliest attention. This is a step which Government could take straightaway without hesitation.

Then there is the question of financing. The chief obstacle to financing trade is the overstuff interpretation of the Reserve Bank of its statutory obligations, and hesitation to rediscount Bills backed by pledge of goods, without a physical transference of goods to their own godown. That is a most unpractical and unbusinesslike proposition. Government would be giving a practical solution to the problem of surplus commodities if the way for

financing of crops is readily opened by a liberal interpretation of section 17 or by a suitable amendment of the section. Government might also consider another handicap which has prevented the flow of the funds into the channels of internal trade. It is the statutory minimum of investment in Government Paper imposed upon insurance companies and the cash deposit made by scheduled banks in the vaults of the Reserve Bank. If these provisions are relaxed there would be a wide door open to the movement of surplus crops. Similarly the Co-operative Urban and Provincial banks should be enabled to release their funds in Government Paper to some extent and enabled to finance storage.

Development of indigenous industries.—More than anything else attention should be given to the development of the internal demand. It is not an easy problem so long as the buying power of the masses is held down by causes mentioned above. However, there is still scope for converting the commodities into various finished products, viz., groundnut crushing could be undertaken on a larger scale and either the crude oil or the hydrogenated oil could be preserved for a longer time than the seed, and their sale in the countries could be encouraged by shutting off competitive foreign oils. Their use for soaps, glycerine, paints and varnishes, canning purposes, etc., could be helped forward with financial aid and by special railway freight. Speaking of groundnut I may mention that while Government is searching everywhere for a solution of the groundnut problem they have not cared to remove a potent cause of its handicap in internal movement to the consuming or crushing centres by reason of its railway freight being kept up at 54 pies per maund per mile while for all other oilseeds, including costlier oilseeds, the rate is kept down at 38 p.p.m. Government do not want the mercantile community to discover and suggest this as the cause of the discrimination lies with themselves. These subsidiary industries could be developed by State loans or guarantee of minimum return on capital of not more than 3% and or exemption from income-tax, supertax and excess profits tax for a certain period. That will be a tangible step to help industries. Neither is it a novel method as many other Governments within India and abroad are known to be doing so for several years past.

In respect of cotton goods the market in Burma, Ceylon and Malaya could be assiduously developed at the expense of Japan. Other Colonial markets are not giving such preferential tariff to Indian goods as to British goods. That is a remedy which lies with Great Britain and if only Government of India takes it seriously, a satisfactory solution could be got. Above all, intensive propaganda is required within India itself as the home market is capable of absorbing larger quantities, and this is the time to start a 'Buy Indian' campaign in every village and town of the country. This is bound to have marvellous effect immediately as there are many commodities which are imported to the value of crores of rupees to compete with and undersell Indian products.

16. In conclusion this Chamber would urge that many of the customer countries of India being

excluded from the market by the force of present circumstances it is but fair for Britain to give the first refusal to Indian sellers in her purchases. Egypt has not been placed in the same predicament as India has been placed in her foreign trade relations, and still Britain has gone to the help of Egypt by offering to purchase the entire cotton crops which must obviously be to the detriment of Indian cotton to a great extent. Neither was Britain fair to Indian tobacco grower in the large purchases she has been making in Turkey. This Chamber urges that Britain may have some regard for the sacrifices that 400 millions of Indian people are making day in and day out, and may endeavour to make purchases in India of whatever materials are available."

Groundnut Trade

As a result of the loss of the continental markets the exports of groundnut have greatly dwindled and the prices have fallen considerably. The position of the agriculturists has become very awkward. The Chamber with a view to improve the trade has represented to Government as follows:

I am to point out that owing to the stimulus in price which was evident at the outbreak of war the area under groundnut in this Province has increased from 2,863,200 acres in 1939 to 3,142,000 acres for the corresponding period in 1940 according to the latest Crops Forecast issued by the Director of Agriculture, Madras. Similarly the all-India area forecasted is 7,329,000 acres as against 6,869,000 acres in the corresponding period of the previous year. It is one of the principal commercial crops of this Presidency upon the prosperity of which depend millions of people for their livelihood and buying power. The price of groundnut kernel has been rapidly falling in recent months. The fixation of price by the Food Ministry for their purchases has had no effect because the off-take by the Food Ministry is so small compared to the exportable surplus in the country, and because licences are not available for other foreign buyers. The price of kernel which should have stood round about Rs. 27-8-0 per candy of 531 lbs., in reaction to the Government's buying limit has now dropped to Rs. 21 per candy, and with the arrival of heavy new crops in December to March the tendency in the market is for a further decline in price. The price of Rs. 21 per candy is now prevailing at the ports of shipment but the price which shippers pay in the inland markets is round about Rs. 16 per candy. The cultivation expenses for an unirrigated crops come to Rs. 20 per candy and for an irrigated crops Rs. 3 extra so that the agriculturists are faced with the prospect of losing about Rs. 4 per candy for the old and the new crops even at the present level of prices. Their position will be nothing short of ruin if the price drops still further with fresh arrivals. Nothing would help to alleviate the panic except the immediate purchase by Government of large quantities at this time which will have a steadying influence in the price level for some weeks at least. It is a problem for consideration whether there would be any means of levelling up of shipper's offers to the Food Ministry's limits and, if so whether it

would be feasible and advisable to take necessary steps in that direction. As the accumulation of stock will be progressing up to the end of March it is during this period that a sufficient off-take should result in the prevention of a precipitous fall. It is therefore suggested that the Food Ministry should be advised to lift the bulk of their year's requirements before the end of March as otherwise the market will be glutted and be thrown into a panicky state. The policy of evenly distributed purchase and shipments should therefore be immediately revised.

In making purchases of groundnuts for their requirements the Food Ministry will be well advised in distributing their orders equitably as between different areas. Madras has, among the Provinces the largest area under groundnuts, and accounts for about 85 per cent to 90 per cent of the total export from India. It is a staple crop of the Province next in importance only to paddy and this Province is helplessly dependent upon export markets for off-take as the export figures conclusively show. It is therefore urged that the Food Ministry should allocate at least 75 per cent of orders for East Coast shipments."

VISIT OF CAPTAIN DAVIS:

Captain Davis, Indian Shipping Adviser to the Government of India, met the Committee of the Southern India Chamber of Commerce and representatives of shippers in Madras with a view to understand the present difficulties of merchants in obtaining freight. Khan Bahadur Adam Hajee Mohamed Sait, President of the Chamber, presided. He received Captain Davis and introduced him to the members present.

Captain Davis pointed out at the outset that his special mission was in connection with coasting trade and to investigate complaints if any about shipping facilities. But he said he could act only as a post office and advise the Government of India about the real state of affairs in respect of foreign trade.

Members drew his attention to the present difficulties in Madras-Rangoon trade which the passengers and shippers of perishables to Rangoon experience owing to vessels being very small as a result of which many hundreds of passengers and large quantities of perishable cargo are being shut out. Moreover in monsoon weather small vessels cause great inconvenience to passengers. Members also pointed out that in the course of its correspondence with the Government of India the Chamber had suggested that with a view to relieve congestion in Madras Port there should be an extension of the Coromandel-Rangoon service to cover Madras Port. Captain Davis noted the point and said that the addition of a third vessel s. s. "Esang" which could accommodate 1,000 passengers would be a substantial relief and that if necessary a fourth vessel would be added.

As regards stagnation of trade in the West Coast, Captain Davis said that there too some vessels had been requisitioned by Government and that consequently traffic was not moving as regularly as

before. He however stated that the requisitioned vessels might be restored as early as possible.

With regard to s. s. "Rajaputana" which was suddenly requisitioned by Government and left Rangoon with cargo to Tuticorin and unloaded the cargo at Karachi, the members urged him to address the Government to pay the extra expense of shippers by way of re-shipment, freight, warehouse charges, insurance etc. Captain Davis assured that he would represent the matter to the Government of India.

With regard to Indo-Ceylon trade he mentioned that the only difficulty was about September last when a ship was requisitioned and that he did not anticipate any further dislocation in the trade in the immediate future. With regard to the case of unfair allocation of space and waiting for a long time for shipment, such as for hides and skins crushed bones, rosewood, mica etc., he said that he would advise the Government on the matter.

Captain Davis also agreed that the case pointed out by members in which a steamship company refused to alter the buyer's name on the Bills of Lading when all other parties had agreed to it including the bank, when the shipper wanted it, was a hard one and that the Steamship company should not have placed the shipper in such a difficulty. He promised to look into the matter.

Captain Davis thanked the Chamber for the opportunity it had given him to meet its members and promised to go here as many times as necessary to enquire into the grievances and set matters right.

MADRAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MADRAS CHAMBER CHAIRMAN'S SURVEY:

"On the whole, business has been reasonably good, but the loss of trade owing to the closure of Continental markets leaves a gap which remains, to some extent, unfilled," declared Mr. R. D. Denniston, Chairman, presiding over the annual meeting of the Madras Chamber of Commerce held on 3rd December 1940. In his lucid survey of the economic and political situation in the Presidency, Mr. Denniston remarked that it was a tragedy that, at a time when the Dominions and the Colonies were putting forth a war effort equal to Great Britain's, India was hampered in her contribution, great though it was, by the uncompromising attitude of the Congress Party. The Chairman deplored the recrudescence of the civil disobedience movement and affirmed that no Government could tolerate wilful breach of the law, and he was sure that the India of the future would look back with sorrow and shame that a small but vocal minority of her sons remained neutral, or to employ a more fashionable phrase "non-belligerent," in the world struggle between good and evil.

Turning to general business conditions, Mr. Denniston gave a detailed survey of the industrial conditions with particular reference to the sugar, skins and hides, groundnut, coffee, rubber and tea trades. While the Chamber would welcome, he

said, any additional taxation for nation-building activities, he strongly criticised the Sales Tax passed by the former Congress Ministry. What the Chamber objected to, however, was not the Sales Tax as such, but the fact that the existing measure was, in effect, a tax on turnover. Mr. Denniston suggested that, if the Madras Government were in need of funds, there was a large source of revenue open to them in the districts where Prohibition was now in force, and that the best part of a crore of rupees, now denied to Government by reason of the Prohibition Act, was too high a price to pay for an out-of-date political slogan.

Mr. J. Nuttall was elected Chairman for the next year.

Trade Enquiry

D.D. 146. A firm in Calcutta desires to be put in touch with suppliers of horse hair in India.

D.D. 147. A firm in Mangalore wants names and addresses of buyers in India of pepper and cardamoms.

D.D. 150. A firm in Alexandria wants names and addresses of exporters of glue in India.

D.D. 152. A firm in Galle desires to be put in touch with suppliers in India of jewellers saws.

D.D. 158. A firm in Calcutta desires to be put in touch with purchasers of tin clippings.

D.D. 160. A firm in Melbourne desires to be put in touch with exporters of mercerised cotton in India.

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Rs. 54,56,000, M. S. plates and sheets Rs. 27,04,000, steel sections Rs. 25,16,000, permanent way material Rs. 17,21,000 and hangers Rs. 13,25,000. The Contracts Directorate spent over Rs. 87,33,000 on steel pickets, shells and steel for making shells and Rs. 11,00,000 on barbed wire.

During the first fourteen and a half months of the war, the Supply Department received orders for timber to the value of Rs. 2,05,05,426, and completed order to the value of Rs. 1,00,27,401. Overseas demands alone amounted to Rs. 1,31,77,500 of which orders to the value of Rs. 60,99,600 were completed up to October 15, 1940.

News and Notes

PRICE OF FOOD GRAINS:

Regarding the recent short spell of scarcity of rice in South India the Madras Provincial Marketing Officer remarks in his November report to Government "I noted the sharp rise in the price of rice and paddy to the extent of Re. 1 to Rs. 1-4-0 per bag of 246 lbs. The rise in prices was attributed to shortage of normal supplies of Burma rice at Vizagapatam due to shipping difficulties crippled that shortage of supply of rice from the Central Province. On account of contracts for army supplies Malabar was also reported to be drawing larger supplies of par-boiled rice from the circles than hitherto for the reason that Burma was not sending its normal supply.

CANVASSING BY AUDITORS:

Government of India have notified that the practice of business concerns advertising for the services of practising auditors by inviting tenders or otherwise is undesirable for professional auditors who are not allowed under the rules to respond to such advertisement and other tenders. Government therefore advised business concerns that in all such cases instead of a general advertisement there should be individually asking for their charges.

COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING IN INDIA:

The cotton spinning and weaving statistics of India for the three months April to June 1938, 1939 and 1940 show that the production of yarn in Bombay Province declined from 167 million pounds in 1938 to 148 million pounds in 1939 and 133 pounds in 1940. The corresponding figures of Madras were 38, 44 and 47 and the total for all-India declined from 311 million pounds in 1938 to 302 million pounds in 1940. The Weaving mills in Bombay similarly declined from 724 million yards in 1938 to 660 million yards in 1939 and to 625 million yards in 1940. Madras however showed an increase of 19 million yards to 17 million yards and 23 million yards respectively. Of all the Provinces, U.P. showed marvellous improvement from 36 million yards in 1938 to 66 million yards in 1939 and 72 million yards in 1940. The total for all-India declined during the period from 1079 million yards in 1938 to 1023 million yards in 1940.

PACKING SHORTAGE:

World is faced with grave scarcity of container and packing shortage which has led to devising of substitutes. Successful substitutions have taken place in the case of jute sacks by paper, of tin plate by glass, of metal sheets by impregnated cardboard. This process is being supplemented by careful recovery, repair, re-use etc. of all kinds of containers and packing materials, barrels, boxes, and sacks wherever possible. Measures for accelerating the return of empty containers to filling plants, reduction of stocks of goods in containers, and of empty containers in the hands of distributors have helped to relieve shortage.

The Committee of Enquiry into the industrial resources of the U. P., appointed jointly by the U.P. Merchants' Chamber and the U. P. Chamber of Commerce, consists of the following personnel:—

(1) Sir Jwala P. Srivastava, Cawnpore, former Minister, U. P. Government, representing cotton textile and turpentine industries. (2) Lala Padam-pat Singhania, M.L.A., Cawnpore, representing cotton textile, jute, oil, vegetable ghee, straw-board and bakelite industries. (3) Rai Bahadur Rameshwar Prasad Bagla, Cawnpore, representing jute industry. (4) Mr. Ram Kumar Bhargava, Lucknow, representing paper industry. (5) Mr. Edwards, Bareilly, representing forest products industry. (6) Mr. Bulchand Tekchand, Dayalbagh, Agra, representing dairy, tannery, shoe-making, electrical equipments and other miscellaneous industries. (7) Rai Bahadur Kedar Nath, Gorakhpur, representing sugar industry. (8) Mr. Muhammad Ismail, Sitapur, representing plywood industry. (9) Mr. L. D. Varshani, Bahjoi (Bijnor), representing glass industry. (10) Lala Lakshmi-pat Singhania, Cawnpore, representing steel-rolling industry. (11) Mr. Hari Raj Swarup, Muzaffarnagar, representing cottage textile industry. (12) Sardar D. Inder Singh, Cawnpore, representing engineering industries. (13) Mr. Bal-bhadra Prasad, Tanda (Fyzabad), representing handloom-weaving industries. (14) L. Jhabhu Lal, Mirzapur, representing carpet and shellac industries. (15) Rai Bahadur L. Chhote Lal, Moradabad, representing brassware industries. (16) Rai Bahadur L. Chiranjeeval, Aligarh, representing lock and cutlery industries. (17) L. Man Mohan Das, Allahabad, Financier. (18) Mr. R. R. Gupta, President, Merchants' Chamber of U. P.

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY:

"The production by handloom industry has increased from 124 crores of yards in 1934-35 to 160 crores of yards in 1938-39, as against the increase in mill production from 334 to 409 crores of yards. While the increase in the case of the former is 29 per cent, the latter has increased only by 22 per cent. Thus it will be seen that there is no case that the handloom industry is experiencing any severe competition from the Indian mill industry."

As a verification, as it were, of the accuracy of the above figures, the note prepared by the Mill-owners' Association, Bombay, is very helpful, for it includes the following figures showing the total quantities of mill-made cotton yarn made available to the handloom industry of this country in the last 30 years:—

Year.	Quantity of yarn (in million lbs.)
(Figures given at 5-yearly intervals.)	
1910-11	227
1915-16	272
1920-21	287
1925-26	283
1930-31	339
1935-36	494
1939-40	460

Just before the outbreak of the war, authoritative calculations place British resources in the manner indicated above as follows:—

	Million dollars.
Gold at home and abroad	2,200
Bank balance, in the U.S.A.	580
American negotiable securities	1,090
Direct investments in the U.S.A.	700
Total...	4,570

Even supposing the total value of present purchases amounts to "much more than \$1,000 millions," for above resources alone would appear to be ample for all present purposes—and for a fairly long time in the future too. Besides, British investments in Canada amount to \$2,500 millions, in South Africa to \$1,250 millions, and in Argentine to \$2,200 millions.

The London Financial Press would appear to have come to a similar conclusion like ours. It is of the opinion that Britain's gold and dollar resources will keep it going for several months yet.

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH:

The Governing Council of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, has appointed a Committee to set up a detailed scheme for the collection of scientific and technical data for dissemination among industrialists and for the formation of an industrial research information Bureau.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT PURCHASES:

The total value of orders from all sources for both civil and military purposes placed by the two purchasing organisations under the administrative control of the Department of Supply from the beginning of the war to the end of September amounted to Rs. 56,50,00,000 approximately.

For the United Kingdom Empire countries, certain non-Empire countries like Iraq and Egypt and India's own defence forces, the Supply Department placed over 108,000 contracts during the first fourteen months of war.

The orders ranged from soap to aeroplane engines, a few of outstanding interest being for electric plant and machinery, X-ray apparatus, stupital furniture, boots and shoes, timber, food-wafers, batteries and cells, lubricating oils, brush-tobacco, acids and heavy chemicals, cigarettes and anacoco, as well as a large number of items of textiles and engineering stores.

The value of stores purchased by the Indian Stores Department and the Contracts Directorate during the period September 1, 1939 to August 31, 1940 on behalf of various authorities for war purposes (excluding civil requirements) amounted to Rs. 36,00,00,000.

Of this total the Indian Stores Department purchased stores to the value of over Rs. 25,83,00,000. The following table shows the total value of purchases made by the Indian Stores Department for each country:

	Rupees.
India	11,21,31,568
His Majesty's Government	13,90,94,199
Ceylon	1,23,680
Burma	31,840

Australia	27,64,28
Aden	15,68
Egypt	374,50
France	748,97
East Africa	129,76
New Zealand	564,63
South Africa	18,76,86
Iraq	36,26
Fiji Islands	8,60

The approximate value of all the business done by the Contracts Directorate during the first year of war amounted to Rs. 10,36,00,000. The Directorate purchased among other articles, food-stuffs for men for the Indian defence forces to the value of Rs. 1,82,49,000, boots and shoes and half sole Rs. 1,45,00,000, cigarettes and tobacco over Rs. 28,00,000, hides Rs. 19,38,000, bamboo tent poles Rs. 18,12,000, and batteries and cells to the value of Rs. 10,00,000. The Directorate also purchased tanning materials, lubricating oils and petrol, metals coal and coke and miscellaneous stores.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS:

The total value of stores purchased by the Director-General, Indian Medical Service, from the trade in India between September 1, 1939 and August 31, 1940 was over Rs. 42,49,000. To this the Government Medical Stores Depots added their own manufactures valued at over Rs. 14,00,000. The total value of stores purchased by the Director-General from abroad during the same period was approximately Rs. 19,00,000. The Indian Stores Department also purchased chemicals valued at over Rs. 29,000.

During the first year of war, jute, one of India's principal industries, figured prominently with the supply of 700,000,000 sand bags to the United Kingdom and other Empire countries. Other prominent jute purchases included 86,300,000 yards of hessian packing. The total value of war supply orders received for sand bags, cotton-jute union canvas and other jute products was over Rs. 9,59,00,000 of which orders valued at about Rs. 3,97,00,000 were completed.

Of the total demands worth Rs. 17,59,00,000 for textiles, another important Indian industry, supplies were made to the value of Rs. 11,42,00,000. Among the important textile purchases were 23,080,400 yards of drill, 27,831,450 yards of tape and webbing, 10,173,700 yards of duck, and over 8,000,000 yards of Mock Leno. Indian tents have been much in demand, accounting for purchases valued at Rs. 3,70,00,000. For camouflage nets and components, orders were completed to the extent of Rs. 37,22,000. Over 2,000,000 blankets were purchased, 9,000,000 yards of cellular shirting, 6,000,000 yards of cotton yarn, and over 4,000,000 yards of canvas union.

ENGINEERING AND TIMBER:

India received large orders for engineering stores including such articles as telephone line equipment, steel staging and hutting, building material, water tanks, bridging material, railway wagons, electric cables and fans. The Indian Stores Department purchased over 2,000,000 yards of electric cables and wires, hutting to the value of

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