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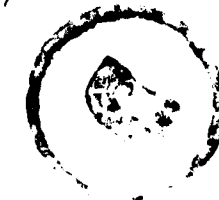
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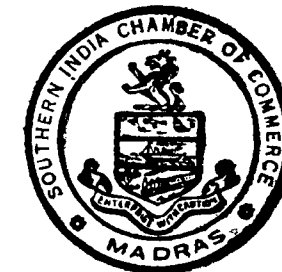
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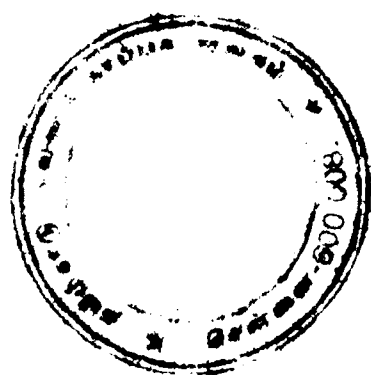


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**THE SOUTHERN INDIA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MADRAS**



SOUTHERN INDIA COMMERCE

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SOUTHERN INDIA COMMERCE

Vol. IV

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Dismantling of Feeder Lines

Government's decision early this year to dismantle about 600 miles of branch Railway lines in India without consulting the legislature or the Standing Finance Committee or even the Central Advisory Committee for Railways, but simply on executive fiat was avowedly based upon two grounds, firstly the unremunerative position of those branch lines and secondly the existence of good road communications. But the real purpose or immediate provocation for the dismantling is the greater utility for the railway track and materials in the war zone where the rails are required for transport of war supplies. The Communications Member made it a consoling point that the British Exchequer accepted a debit equivalent to the full value of materials supplied from the dismantled lines. Such explanation and enunciation of policy found easy acceptance in a thin house neglected by the desertion of political parties. It is a most intriguing factor that the Government of India should have considered transport facilities in India as having exceeded the limit of utility and become superfluous contrary to the policy of the most advanced countries in Europe and America in maintaining alternative systems of transport by road, rail and canal although the resulting competition has led to annoyance of Government necessitating examination of the problem from time to time with a view to co-ordination.

This presidency is particularly concerned with the order of the Railway Board to close down and dismantle the feeder lines of the Morappur-Hosur, Tirupatur-Krishnagiri and the Salem-Mettur lines altogether about 126 miles in which nearly Rs. 60 lakhs has been sunk. The two former have been feeding the main broad-gauge lines of the South Indian Railway for about 35 years and the last one for about 10 years now. The secret about the unremunerative nature of the lines appears to be the abnormal increase in the working expenses during the last war and after. The result is that although the Morappur-Hosur line

was earning only Rs. 43 per mile per week in 1911 the working expenses were considered not to exceed the revenue, but on the contrary in the year 1938-39 although it was earning Rs. 67 per mile per week, about 50% more, the expense ratio is said to be 127.7% of the income. Similarly in the Tirupatur-Krishnagiri line although it was earning Rs. 35/- per mile per week in 1911 the expenditure was not considered to exceed the revenue. But now its earnings amount to Rs. 60/- per mile per week and yet by some ingenious calculation the proportion of expenses is said to be 149.5%. The crux of the question seems therefore to lie in cutting the working expenses, and probably a scrutiny into the method of accounting adopted by the railways to show how they unduly burden the branch lines, will be profitable. In all these cases the railways have led the way to economic, social and intellectual development of those places and many of the enterprises located on the route have been established there in the full expectation that the railway facilities would continue; it will be most disastrous to the entire economic and social fabric over a part of the country in which 125 miles of railway runs, depriving it of the single certain means of cheap communication with the outside world if it should be cut off. It is also to be remembered that the Government and Local Bodies were responsible for inducing capitalists and entrepreneurs to start enterprises as in Mettur. It would be a sad betrayal not only of those interests but the general interests of the country for war purpose if they are to deprive the country of its life lines. Such a policy would not of course surprise us, when we remember that the Board of Trade specially deputed Mr. Locock of the Federation of British Industries to join the Eastern Group Conference to see that Indian war industrial activities do not militate ultimately against British post war industrial prosperity.

(Continued on page 276)

Trade and Commerce

MADRAS COMMERCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1941

(Issued by the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras)

In the Madras commodity markets, the general level of prices advanced sharply in July. The index number of prices for the Madras Province rose by eight points to 117, the index for the food grains group advancing by seven points to 129 and the index for the commercial products group advancing by nine points to 106. With continued purchases by local mills and paucity of free stocks on the market, there was a further rise in quotations in the cotton market. There was a good demand in the groundnut market and prices continued to rise. The tanned hides and skins markets were steady. Demand was normal in the paddy and rice markets and prices continued to advance. The Calicut coir yarn market was without any special feature except for a strong Indian demand for Beypore yarns towards the end of the month. The pepper market showed more activity towards the end of the month resulting in improved prices. The Calicut ginger market was maintained by strong Indian demand. The copra and coconut oil markets strengthened as a result of improved demand. The Madras sugar market was strong during the month but closed weak and dull. The demand for locally manufactured acids and chemicals was normal.

GROUNDNUT:

There were good enquiries from exporting firms and demand from millers for this commodity and prices rose above the pre-war level. The British Ministry of Food were reported to have enhanced their purchase price to £11-10-0 but transactions were reserved even at that higher level. The average wholesale prices per candy of 531 lbs. of standard varieties at the main producing centres were as follows:—

27th June 1941 Rs. 19 0 0 to Rs. 23 10 0
31st July 1941 Rs. 21 0 0 to Rs. 30 0 0

PADDY AND RICE:

Demand for paddy and rice was steady and quotations showed an upward tendency. The average wholesale prices of standard varieties at the main producing centres were as follows:—

Indian Paddy per bag of 170 lbs.

27th June 1941 Rs. 6 8 0 to Rs. 6 14 0
31st July 1941 Rs. 6 18 0 to Rs. 7 4 0

Indian Rice per bag of 170 lbs.

27th June 1941 Rs. 9 4 0 to Rs. 10 11 0
31st July 1941 Rs. 9 12 0 to Rs. 11 0 0

Rangoon Rice raw, broken A1 per bag of 220 lbs.

30th June 1941 No stock. } Madras.
31st July 1941 No stock. }

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

30th June 1941 Rs. 11 8 0 } Madras.
31st July 1941 Rs. 11 8 0 }

COCONUT PRODUCTS:

The market for Quilandy soaked coir yarn remained unchanged with little business passing and that for Beypore yarns opened weak, but owing to strong Indian demand towards the end of the month, it firmed up and closed strong. Owing to lack of European demand, the market for Calicut unsocked coir yarns dropped towards the end of the month. Increased demand for both coconut oil and copra especially the former, resulted in an improvement in the prices of both commodities.

COTTON:

Tinnevellics: There was an active demand throughout the month from local mills as well as from the Far East. Most of the first crop had been taken up by the end of the month. Prices of fair average quality advanced from about Rs. 285 per 784 lbs.—unpressed—at the beginning, to Rs. 305 towards the end, of the month, but then relapsed in sympathy with leading markets to Rs. 285.

Cambodia: There continued to be a good demand by South Indian mills and most of the first crop was sold out by the end of the month. Prices of fair average quality advanced from about Rs. 370 at the beginning to about Rs. 410 at the end of the month.

SUGAR:

The Madras sugar market opened firm owing to scarcity of arrivals and low stocks. On the 8th July, the Indian Sugar Syndicate Ltd., issued a 10 per cent quota. At this period, local dealers purchased heavily from North Indian factories at about Syndicate prices as spot prices were much higher. Wholesale dealers began to sell goods to arrive at attrac-

Trade and Commerce

tive prices to second hand dealers who purchased freely in view of the high ready prices, low stocks and good demand. Another 10 per cent quota was issued by the Syndicate on the 23rd July and immediately this was issued big operators purchased them and quoted four to six annas per maund higher than the Syndicate rates. Several rumours were current in the Cawnpore market, viz., intended purchase by the Government of India of two lakhs and odd tons for export, likely shortage of cane next season in the United Provinces and Bihar due to failure of monsoon, and expected demand in markets served by Java in the event of political developments in the Far East. All markets were strong and there was hectic buying. Prices reached a level which was not justified in view of the available stocks with the North Indian factories. In order to arrest this state of affairs, the Indian Sugar Syndicate Ltd., issued a notification explaining that an increase in sugar prices was not warranted and issued a 20 per cent quota without any change in prices with the sanction of the United Provinces and Bihar Governments. The issue of this quota at a time when market prices were 13 annas over the Syndicate prices had the immediate effect of bringing prices down. Prices dropped steadily and local wholesale dealers sold freely goods to arrive at less than current prices in Cawnpore. The market closed weak and dull with poor demand and prices were expected to fall to the equivalent of the Syndicate levels. The price of Nellikuppam sugar in the Madras market was Rs. 31-2-0 per bag of two cwts. in July as compared with Rs. 29 in June. The Calicut market opened dull as a result of heavy arrivals and poor demand and dealers were reluctant to purchase forward. Prices were firm in sympathy with advices from Cawnpore and low stocks of dry sugar in the market, which closed weak. The Cochin market was quiet and due to irregular arrivals prices were maintained at a premium. When Cawnpore prices increased considerably Cochin dealers also put up spot prices and sold as much as possible at the increased rates. Prices dropped immediately it was known that the Syndicate had issued a 20 per cent quota. The market closed weak and

inactive. The other markets fluctuated according to advices from port markets and dealers appeared to have overbought their requirements.

TANNED HIDES:

Owing to an improvement in the shipping position, the market remained steady throughout July, although towards the end of the month parcels averaging five lbs. and under showed a slightly easier tendency. By the end of the month the position in regard to stocks had more or less returned to normal. During the early part of July, an Import Quota was introduced in London based, it is understood, on shipments during the years 1937, 1938 and 1939. Prices for buffs, buff calf and cow calf remained firm. Towards the end of July, maximum selling prices were fixed for buffs, cow calf and buff calf as follows: Prime Buffs Av. 12/13 lbs. 13d; Prime Cow Calf Av. 1 1/4 lbs. 32d; Cow Calf Rejects 15d; and Prime Buff Calf 20d.

ANNEXURE

Wholesale prices of commodities ruling in the markets mentioned on 30th July, 1941.

Commodity	Market	Quality or Variety	Unit	Price.
Cotton	Tirupur	Cam-bodia	Per candy of 520 lbs.	Rs. 264 to 278
Do.	do.	Karunganni	do.	Rs. 229 to 238
Ground-nuts	Nandyal	Machine shelled	do. 531 lbs.	Rs. 21-0-0
Do.	Pollachi	do.	do.	Rs. 27 to 28-8-0
Pepper	Telli-cherry	Garbled	Per cwt. F.O.B.	Rs. 18-8-0
Paddy	Tenali	Kusuma	Per bag of 164 lbs.	Rs. 6-14-0
Rice	do.	do.	do. do.	Rs. 10-0-10
Coir Yarn	Alleppey	Allapat	Per candy of 672 lbs.	Rs. 30 to 39
Copra	Cochin	...	do. 655 lbs.	Rs. 59
Coconut Oil	do.	...	do. do.	Rs. 90
Jute	Vizianagaram	Bimli	do. 506 lbs.	Rs. 39
Tobacco	Erode	1st quality	Per maund of 28 lbs.	Rs. 4-8-0

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SUGAR CANE FORECAST:

The second sugar cane forecast for India published on 27th October 1941 records a shortage of 17% in area when compared to the previous year, the reduction being from 42,44,000 acres to 35,40,000. The reduction in the case of Madras is from 1,49,000 to 1,05,000 acres, that is nearly one-third. The reason for reduction is stated to be low prices prevailing at the time of sowing. The world production in 1940-41 also shows a reduction from 41.5 million tons to 40.7 million tons.

GROUNDNUT FORECAST:

The second groundnut forecast for India published on 30th October 1941 shows a reduction of 23% in acreage in India from 7.3 million acres to 5.6 million acres, the reduction in the case of Madras being from 3.1 million acres to 2.1 million acres. It shows a decrease of 34%.

OTHER CROPS:

The sesamum crop is expected to yield 4,22,000 tons as compared to 4,15,000 tons this time last year. Similarly the cotton crop shows an increase from 4.9 million bales last year to 5.8 million bales this year. Rice on the other hand shows a reduction from 25.2 million tons to 21.8 million tons.

EGG MARKETING SURVEY:

The Government has just published the Egg Marketing Survey. It is estimated that the whole production of eggs, both of ducks and hens together, is 336.48 crores eggs valued at Rs. 5.25 crores, the value being at three pies per egg. The export is estimated at 282 lakhs in a year chiefly to Burma, Ceylon and Nepal. It is estimated that 60.91 crores of eggs are used for hatching, 59.61 crores used by the consumers themselves and 207.57 crores valued at Rs. 3.25 crores are marketed. It is also found that the export from this presidency to Burma has been dwindling down because Burma takes duck eggs which we do not produce in sufficient quantities. The exports from this Presidency to Burma and Ceylon which stood at 206 lakhs eggs valued at Rs. 5.96 lakhs in 1930-31 has dwindled down to 7 lakhs valued at Rs. 14,000 in 1936-37. The chief cause that handicapped our trade with Ceylon was the duty of Rs. 3 per 100 eggs imposed in Ceylon on 28th July 1934 which is about 100% of the value. The result is the reduction of export from 73 lakhs eggs in 1933-34 to 19 lakhs in 1934-35.

RUBBER PRODUCTION IN INDIA:

Since the beginning of the war rubber export quota of India according to the international agreement has been steadily increasing from 60% in the 3rd quarter of 1939 to 120% in the 4th quarter of 1940. Simultaneously there has been tremendous increase in the consumption of Indian rubber in local enterprise. The local consumption was as low as 120 tons in 1929 and it is estimated that in 1941 the consumption would be as much as 15,000 tons. There are not less than 47 rubber factories in India which produce in addition to shoes and tyres all sorts of goods and it is expected that by March 1943 the Indian consumption would rise to 25,000 tons. However hard hit the Government of India are in the matter of trade regulations or in the matter of immigration, they are very considerate in tolerating the continued import of uncoupons rubber from Burma which averages about 6 million pounds (2769 tons) a year. It is high time that this injustice to Indian plantations perpetrated through international restriction scheme which is a running sore be stopped without further delay. Whatever justification there was in the bulking of quota between Indian and Burman production in the early days of the restriction scheme the moment of separation in 1937 should have been the proper time for differentiation purposes. It is a grave injustice to Indian planters that their production should have been curtailed to put money into the pockets of Burman planters who are probably all Europeans.

GROUNDNUT FUND:

After persistent agitation by the commercial interests, Government of India have come to an arrangement with groundnut shippers for depositing in a fund with the Government the difference stipulated by Government from time to time between the market price and the prices at which they are paid by the Food Ministry. The latter price used to be £10 for several months since September 1940. In recent months prices have been raised on different dates to round about £11/5. The accretion to the Fund has eventually stopped after the difference between the market price and the Food Ministry's price disappeared a few months ago. The Fund was instituted early in 1941.

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Even at the time when the Fund was instituted the agriculturists were suffering on account of low prices in the country. The proper use of the Fund would be to distribute it among cultivators according to some plan depending on acreage or production. Government have been all along agitating about a proper way of distribution and meanwhile there was much speculation among the public as to the probability which was once thought of that the Fund would be utilised for some research work in oil or in some other permanent work. It was also thought it would be set apart for building warehouses for keeping shelled or unshelled nuts until the time of shipment. The Fund is called the "Fund for the Relief of Groundnut Cultivators."

Its scope is as follows:

1. The amounts received by His Majesty's Government as the shippers' contribution according to the arrangements described above and passed on to the Government of India will be credited to the Fund.

2. Disbursements from the Fund will be authorised by the Central Government for expenditure of approved schemes which directly or indirectly will benefit the groundnut cultivator. For this purpose propaganda for restriction of the area under cultivation will be a proper expenditure from the Fund but it will be open to Provincial and State Governments to propose other schemes including (a) Schemes for the stimulation of consumption of groundnut and groundnut products and (b) research schemes connected with the utilisation of groundnuts and groundnut products.

3. Schemes of research relating to the use of groundnut production conducted under the supervision of the Central Government as also on schemes of non-groundnut growing provinces for encouraging the consumption of groundnut or groundnut products in their respective areas.

4. All the groundnut growing provinces and Indian States will be eligible for allotments from the Fund, on the condition that one half of the expenditure on approved schemes will be met from the Fund, and the other half will be financed by the Provincial Government or Indian State concerned from its own revenues.

5. The administrative committee will consist of representatives of the Government of India, Governments of Madras, Bombay and Hyderabad. Half-yearly allotments will be made.

6. Provincial Governments and Indian States receiving allotments will submit half-yearly reports on the utilisation of the money.

Area under Principal crops in the Presidency:

(Issued by the Director of Industries and Commerce)

GROUNDNUT:

1. The average of the areas undergroundnut in the Madras Province during the five years ending 1939-40 has represented 45.2 per cent of the total area under groundnut in India.

2. The area sown with groundnut up to 25th September 1941 is estimated at 2,076,500 acres. When compared with the area of 3,142,900 acres estimated for the corresponding period of the previous year, it reveals a decrease of 33.9 per cent.

3. The decrease is general outside Malabar and is due mainly to the propaganda for the restriction of groundnut cultivation. The decrease in area is marked in Guntur (-95,000 acres), Kurnool (-213,000 acres), Bellary (-156,000 acres) and Anantapur (-89,000 acres) where the sowing rains also were in defect.

4. The summer crop throughout has been harvested. The yield was normal except in South Arcot, Chittoor, North Arcot and Tanjore where it was below normal on account of drought. The yield of the early crop was normal in Salem and Coimbatore.

5. The condition of the main crop is reported to be satisfactory outside the Circars (Vizagapatam excepted), the Deccan and Chingleput where it was affected by drought to some extent. In parts of Bellary and South Arcot, the crop suffered to some extent from attacks by insect pests.

6. The wholesale price of groundnut (machine shelled) per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lb. (equivalent to 3,200 tolas) as reported from important market centres on 6th October 1941 was Rs. 4-12-0 in Vizagapatam and Guntur, Rs. 4-9-0 in Tadpatri, Rs. 4-8-0 in Vizianagram and Cuddalore, Rs. 4-2-0 in Vellore, Rs. 4-1-0 in Cuddapah and Coimbatore, Rs. 4 in Nandyal, Rs. 3-14-0 in Hindupur, Rs. 3-12-0 in Salem, Rs. 3-10-0 in Bellary and Rs. 3-9-0 in Adoni and Guntakal. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i.e., those which prevailed on 4th August 1941, these prices reveal a rise of approximately 16 per cent in Nandyal, 3 per

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cent in Tadpatri and 1 per cent in Vizagapatam and a fall of approximately 38 per cent in Guntakal, 20 per cent in Vellore, 17 per cent in Adoni, 12 per cent in Cuddapah, 11 per cent in Bellary 9 per cent in Hindupur, 8 per cent in Vizianagram and Cuddalore, 6 per cent in Salem and 3 per cent in Guntur.

7. Figures by districts are given below:—
(Area in hundreds of acres, i.e., 00 being omitted.)

District and group.	Estimate of the area sown up to the end of September		Increase (+) or decrease (—) of the area in column (2) as compared with the area in column (3)
	1941.	1940.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Vizagapatam ...	170.0	220.0	— 50.0
East Godavari ...	2.0	3.0	— 1.0
West Godavari ...	13.0	25.0	— 12.0
Kistna ...	100.0	125.0	— 25.0
Guntur ...	140.0	235.0	— 95.0
Circars ...	425.0	608.0	—183.0
Kurnool ...	222.0	440.0	— 218.0
Bellary ...	210.0	366.0	— 156.0
Anantapur ...	220.0	309.0	— 89.0
Cuddapah ...	80.0	103.0	— 23.0
Deccan ...	732.0	1,218.0	—486.0
Nellore ...	5.5	10.0	— 4.0
Chingleput ...	38.0	73.0	— 35.0
South Arcot ...	195.0	269.0	— 74.0
Carnatic ...	238.5	352.0	—113.0
Chittoor ...	90.0	150.0	— 60.0
North Arcot ...	240.0	310.0	— 70.0
Salem ...	94.0	152.0	— 58.0
Coimbatore ...	123.0	175.0	— 52.0
Trichinopoly ...	55.0	73.0	— 14.0
Central ...	606.0	860.0	—254.0
Tanjore ...	28.0	42.0	— 14.0
Madura ...	35.0	50.0	— 15.0
Ramnad ...	4.5	5.0	— 0.5
Tinnevely ...	5	1.0	— 4
South ...	68.0	98.0	— 30.0
Malabar ...	7.0	6.9	+ 0.1
West Coast ...	7.0	6.9	+ 0.1
Province ...	20765	3,142.9	10,664

PEPPER:

1. The area under pepper up to 25th August 1941 in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara is estimated at 105,900 acres (97,000 acres in Malabar and 8,900 acres in South Kanara) as against 102,500 acres (94,000 acres in Malabar and 8,500 acres in South Kanara) estimated for the corresponding period of the previous year. The yield is expected to be normal.

2. The wholesale prices of pepper per Imperial Maund of 82-2/7 lb. equivalent to 3,200 tolas as reported from important markets on 8th September 1941 was Rs. 11-13-0 at Calicut, Rs. 11-5-0 at Tellicherry and Rs. 12-2-0 at Mangalore. When compared with the prices

which prevailed on 6th January 1941, these prices reveal a rise of about 20 per cent at Mangalore, 24 per cent at Tellicherry and 33 per cent at Calicut.

PADDY:

The average of the areas under paddy in the Madras Province during the five years ending 1939-40 has represented 13.1 per cent of the total area under paddy in India.

2. The areas sown with paddy up to 25th September 1941 is estimated at 5,809,000 acres. When compared with the area of 6,437,000 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 9.8 per cent.

3. The estimated area is the same as that of last year in Bellary; an increase in area is revealed in Guntur, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, the Southern districts and the Nilgiris and a decrease in area in the rest of the Province, especially in the Carnatic, the Circars, North Arcot and Salem.

4. The first crop of paddy is being harvested in parts of Chingleput, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Tinnevely and the West Coast. The yield per acre is expected to be below normal in North Arcot and normal elsewhere. The condition of the standing crop is generally fair outside Vizagapatam, East Godavari, Kistna and Guntur.

5. The wholesale price of paddy, second sort, per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lb. equivalent to 3,200 tolas as reported from important markets on 6th October 1941 was Rs. 3-13-0 in Vellore, Rs. 3-12-0 in Vizianagram and Chittoor, Rs. 3-10-0 in Madura and Virudunagar, Rs. 3-9-0 in Cocanada and Rajahmundry, Rs. 3-8-0 in Ellore and Guntur, Rs. 3-7-0 in Bezpada, Masulipatam and Trichinopoly, Rs. 3-6-0 in Tinnevely, Rs. 3-3-0 in Hindupur, Rs. 3-2-0 in Kumbakonam, Rs. 2-15-0 in Conjeevaram, Rs. 2-11-0 in Cuddalore and Rs. 2-9-0 in Negapatam. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i.e., those which prevailed on 10th February 1941 the price reveals a rise of 49 per cent in Madura, 42 per cent in Conjeevaram, 39 per cent in Vellore and Kumbakonam, 34 per cent in Trichinopoly, 30 per cent in Chittoor, 29 per cent in Virudunagar, 27 per cent in Cocanada, 25 per cent in Vizianagram, 19 per cent in Hindupur and Cuddalore, 13 per cent in Tinnevely, 11 per cent in Negapatam, 6 per cent in Ellore and Bezpada and 4 per cent in Guntur, the prices remaining stationary in Rajahmundry and Masulipatam.

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6. Figures by districts are given below:—

(Area in thousands of acres, i.e., 000 being omitted.)

District and group.	Estimate of the area sown up to the end of September.		Increase (+) or decrease (—) of the area in column (2) as compared with the area in column (3).
	1941.	1940.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Vizagapatam ...	6.00	6.90	— 90
East Godavari ...	4.70	5.35	— 65
West Godavari ...	5.60	6.40	— 80
Kistna ...	5.00	5.60	— 60
Guntur ...	3.50	3.40	+ 10
Circars ...	2,480	2,765	— 2,85
Kurnool ...	30	50	— 20
Bellary ...	20	20	Nil
Anantapur ...	30	43	— 13
Cuddapah ...	34	52	— 18
Deccan ...	1,14	1,65	— 51
Nellore ...	1.50	2.70	— 1,20
Chingleput ...	3.25	3.85	— 60
South Arcot ...	2.00	2.10	— 10
Carnatic ...	6,75	8,65	— 1,90
Chittoor ...	50	90	— 40
North Arcot ...	1.40	2.08	— 68
Salem ...	65	1.21	— 56
Coimbatore ...	67	65	+ 2
Trichinopoly ...	1.25	1.00	+ 25
Central ...	4,47	5,84	— 1,37
Tanjore ...	7.75	7.48	+ 27
Madura ...	97	90	+ 7
Ramnad ...	40	30	+ 10
Tinnevely ...	1.20	85	+ 35
South ...	1,082	9,53	+ 79
Malabar ...	6.35	6.44	— 9
South Kanara ...	4.20	4.56	— 36
The Nilgiris ...	6	5	+ 1
West Coast and... Hills ...	1,061	1,105	— 44
Province ...	5,809	6,437	— 628

SUGARCANE:

The average of the areas under sugarcane in the Madras Province during the five years ending 1939-40 has represented 29 per cent of the total area under sugarcane in India.

2. The area planted with sugarcane up to 25th September 1941 is estimated at 104,990 acres. When compared with the area of 149,420 acres estimated for the corresponding period of the previous year, it reveals a decrease of 29.7 per cent.

3. The estimated area is the same as that of last year in South Kanara; a slight increase in area is revealed in Guntur, Kurnool and Tinnevely and a decrease in area in the other districts of the Province, especially in Vizagapatam (—5,000 acres), Bellary (—4,000 acres) South Arcot (—9,000 acres), North Arcot (—4,800 acres), Salem (—4,000 acres) and Trichinopoly (—5,800 acres). The decrease in area is due mainly to the low price of jaggery at the time of planting.

4. The condition of the crop is fairly satisfactory. The seasonal factor for the Province as a whole works out to 96 per cent as against 97 per cent for the corresponding period of last year. The total yield for the Province is accordingly estimated at 305,450 tons of jaggery as against 444,400 tons (revised) for the corresponding period of last year, representing a decrease of 31.3 per cent.

5. The wholesale price of jaggery per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lbs. (equivalent to 3,200 tolas) as reported from important markets on 6th October 1941 was Rs. 5-14-0 in Mangalore, Rs. 4-15-0 in Adoni, Rs. 4-6-0 in Cuddalore, Vellore and Trichinopoly, Rs. 4-5-0 in Vizagapatam, Rs. 4-2-0 in Cocanada, Rajahmundry and Chittoor, Rs. 3-11-0 in Vizianagram, Rs. 3-7-0 in Coimbatore, Rs. 3-5-0 in Salem and Rs. 3-4-0 in Bellary. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i.e., those which prevailed on 8th September 1941, these prices reveal a rise of approximately 6 per cent in Trichinopoly and 5 per cent in Vizagapatam and a fall of approximately 3 per cent in Mangalore and 1 per cent in Vellore, the prices remaining stationary in Vizianagram, Cocanada, Rajahmundry, Adoni, Bellary, Cuddalore, Chittoor, Salem and Coimbatore.

Agriculture

6. Figures by districts are given below:—

(Area in tens of acres, i.e., 0 being omitted; yield in tens of tons of jaggery, i.e., 0 being omitted.)

District and group.	Estimate of the area planted with sugarcane up to the end of			Increase (+) or decrease (—) of the area in column (3) as compared with the area in column (4).	Seasonal factor of the percentage of the estimated yield per acre in the current year to the yield per acre in a year of average season.	Corresponding yield of the area in column (3).
	July 1941.	September 1941.	September 1940.			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.		TONS.
Vizagapatam ...	29.00	29.00	34.00	— 5.00	94	715.5
East Godavari ...	7.00	7.00	9.00	— 2.00	94	24.87
West Godavari ...	2.00	2.30	2.50	— 20	100	8.76
Kistna ...	20	20	4.00	— 3.80	90	83
Guntur ...	20	33	30	+ 3	100	1.24
Circars ...	38,40	38,83	49,80	— 10,97	94	107,25
Kurnool ...	40	42	40	+ 2	98	93
Bellary ...	6.00	8.50	12.50	— 4.00	94	23.57
Anantapur ...	2.30	2.70	3.50	— 80	100	6.39
Cuddapah ...	20	30	65	— 35	96	82
Deccan ...	8,90	11,92	17,05	— 5,13	96	31,71
Nellore ...	Nil	Nil	3	— 3	Nil	Nil
Chingleput ...	23	30	40	— 10	100	92
South Arcot ...	11.00	12.00	21.00	— 9.00	98	38.64
Carnatic ...	11,20	12,30	21,43	— 9,13	98	39,56
Chittoor ...	6.50	8.00	9.50	— 1.50	95	30.01
North Arcot ...	7.00	8.20	13.00	— 4.80	100	22.18
Salem ...	4.50	6.00	10.00	— 4.00	100	16.05
Coimbatore ...	4.70	8.00	9.30	— 1.30	90	28.09
Trichinopoly ...	3.00	4.70	10.50	— 5.80	94	12.15
Central ...	25,70	34,90	52,30	— 17,40	96	108,48
Tanjore ...	50	56	1.40	— 84	100	1.60
Madura ...	1.40	1.70	2.60	— 90	100	4.99
Ramnad ...	20	30	40	— 10	100	64
Tinnevely ...	15	20	15	+ 5	100	57
South ...	2,25	2,76	4,55	— 1,79	100	7,80
Malabar ...	7	8	9	— 1	95	18
South Kanara ...	4.20	4.20	4.20	Nil	94	10.47
West Coast ...	4,27	4,28	4,29	— 1	94	10,65
Province ...	90,72	104,99	149,42	— 44,43	96	305,45

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	Import (In tons)	Export
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
January	3,215	883	593	295	99	7	30	34
February	4,072	409	710	569	123	96	32	209
March	2,888	703	682	14	326	87	30	39
April	3,039	422	585	389	138	77	24	25
May	384	387	703	465	80	51	19	22
June	3,043	225	630	649	80	67	21	23
July	2,392	301	497	1,005	74	48	28	36
August	644	256	827	705	62	50	19	27
September	3,336		513		73		33	
October	1,699		389		51		37	
November	1,108		417		55		34	
December	229		457		64		40	
	26,054		7,009		1,429		351	

* 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	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	1,629
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	1,315	542	537	3,663	1,289	558	102	1,874	3,163	13,871	9,514
July	1,533	1,481	564	594	3,910	1,670	361	70	8,535	5,166	11,888	9,346
August	1,333	1,996	732	908	4,38	1,416	731	229	5,044	4,366	15,096	11,221
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	...	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	1,026	45	69	671	517	47	80	521	521	90	148
July	2,176	984	84	67	802	578	96	36	56	415	80	212
August	2,158	1,370	142	69	616	539	50	32	625	334	88	176
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
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	9,441	2,967	3,079	3,428	3,470	68	127		651	438	1,228	1,127	
August	8,924	7,474	2,007	2,688	2,716	4,250	38	120		405	333	1,201	1,266	
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		60,22		

* 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, Orissa, Bengal, Bombay, Behar.

	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	2,494
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	99,390
April	1,144	4,036	16	131	2,206	2,822	274	34	2,794	3,132	4,017	35,707
May	1,176	2,202	18	88	1,433	312	115	Nil	108	1,960	5,716	6,818
June	765	4,303	18	12	1,834	894	48	4	3,513	712	2,145	3,559
July	399	123	8	—	1,990	1,548	158	1	2,114	303	2,809	2,660
August	416	173		123	1,921	1,441	123	2	678	365	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		15,184	
	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	41	39	Nil		528	517	Nil	2		275	42	3,691	4,835
July	17	68	47	30		609	538	9	1		Nil	3	2,627	3,679
August	32	37	57	91		748	656	1	4		4	1	3,121	4,216
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	

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

SUGAR—REFINED					JAGGERY AND MOLASSES				TEA					
Import		(In tons)		Exports	Import		(In tons)		Export	Import		(In tons)		Exports
	1939	1940	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	3,881	3,848	95	115	383	315	
May	...	1,266	2,620	1,405	60	174	741	2,132	2,263	104	76	419	361	
June	...	78	3,379	701	257	47	343	1,247	977	89	101	367	342	
July	...	73	10,034	834	601	51	321	1,798	1,294	111	114	334	320	
August	...	827	2,381	118	2034	76	351	1,315	1,474	118	114	411	1701	
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	...	4,042		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, Punjab.
† Bombay, Nizam's Dominions, Mysore, Central Provinces.

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	140		
February	378	397	676	592	4,532	5,080	981	228	30	83	74	205		
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	152	1,241	965	3,141	2,996	505	1,655	58	16	68	162		
August	122	147	96	1,701	2,007	2,899	1,385	779	85	23	112	193		
September	127		1,191		1,575		852		76		167			
October	272		1,699		1,285		669		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.

Changes in the list of companies in the month of September 1941. Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies, Madras.

I. COMPANIES REGISTERED:

Kerala Corporation, Limited,
Vanguard Fire and General Insurance Company, Limited.
North Arcot Transport Limited.
Indian Textiles and Exports, Limited.
Karur Trades, Limited.
Ramachandra Vilas and Company Boiler and Rice Mill, Mannachanallur.
Associated Mica Supplies, Limited.
Kanara Land Company, Limited.
Huzur, Films, Limited.
Madras Select Pictures, Limited.
Sree Meenakshi Films, Limited.

II. COMPANIES DISSOLVED:

All India Provident Insurance and Benefit Corporation, Ltd.

Jaganmohini Bank, Limited.
Veerakulam Kunjekar Lakshmi Vilasa Nidhi, Ltd.
Tiruchendur Light Railways, Limited.
Andhra Chemical Corporation, Ltd.
Gunjay Savaye Paint and Minerals Co., Ltd.
Rukmini Vilas Boiler Company, Mannachanallur.
Sri Sarada Jewellers, Ltd.
Vizagapatnam Industries Corporation, Ltd.
Shah Moolchand & Co., Ltd.
National Theatres, Limited.
Prabhakara Films, Limited.
Tanjore Films, Limited.
Tech. Films, Limited.
Vellala Christian Bank, Limited.
Indian Aluminium Co., Ltd.
Saraswati Stores, Mangalore Ltd.

III. COMPANIES THAT CHANGED THEIR NAMES:

—N I L—

Transport

M. & S. M. RAILWAY RATES.

The following station-to-station rates have been introduced :

Description of Goods	STATIONS		Rates
	From	To	
Fruits Fresh Bairs only	Hingoli (Deccan)	Bangalore city (via Dronachellam and Hindupur)	Per maund. 2 1 10
		Mysore (via Dronachellam and Hindupur)	2 8 6
	Nander	Bangalore city (via Dronachellam and Hindupur)	1 15 8
		Mysore (via Dronachellam and Hindupur)	2 6 5
Plantains	Karur (via Jalarpet, Arkonam and Raichur)	Bombay V. T.	Per 4 wheeled vehicle. 745 6 0
		Poona	677 0 0
	Mayanoor (via Jalarpet, Arkonam and Raichur)	Bombay V. T.	754 6 0
		Poona	696 0 0
	Pugalur (via Jalarpet, Arkonam and Raichur)	Bombay V. T.	739 6 0
		Poona	671 0 0
	Sankaridrug (via Jalarpet, Arkonam and Raichur)	Bombay V. T.	706 6 0
		Poona	638 0 0
Chrome ore	Kondapalli	Shalimar and via	Per maund. 0 8 7
Cotton raw, full pressed	Dindigul	Bombay (via Arkonam and Raichur)	1 8 0
		Dindigul (via Raichur and Arkonam)	1 8 0
Earths	Hospet	Bombay (via Hotgi)	0 6 6
		Via Mormugao Hr. (for traffic to Bombay)	0 3 4
Furniture	Kallayi	Avadi (via Jalarpet)	1 0 0
		Madras (via Waltair)	1 0 9
Graphite	Harishankar Road	Cochin Hr. (via Jalarpet)	0 11 4
		Ernakulam Goods Sd. (via Jalarpet)	0 11 0
Grease	Madras	Sialkot Jn. (via Jalarpet, Madras, Bezwada, Balharshah and Delhi)	4 4 0
		Madras (via Balharshah and Bezwada)	1 1 10
Rubber	Cochin Hr. Terminus	Cochin Hr. Terminus (via Balharshah, Bezwada, Madras and Jalarpet)	1 6 4
Saltpetre, refined	Muttra		
Sugar	Cawnpore Central Goods Shed and	Via Cawnpore Central goods shed (for traffic from Mill Sidings A and B Chingighur)	
		Alwaye (via Jalarpet, Arkonam and Raichur)	
Tea	Coimbatore	Via Dadar (for traffic to Bulsar, Billimora, Navsari, Surat, Ankleswar Jn., Broach, Ahmedabad, Palej and Madhi)	1 6 10
		Via Dadar (via Jalarpet Arkonam and Raichur) for traffic to Ahmedabad, Asarva or Kankaria	1 15 2
Tiles Common	Feroke	Kadur (via Jalarpet and Bangalore city)	0 8 6
		do	0 8 6
Tobacco, country	Via Dadar (for traffic from Nadioc)	Tinnevely Jn. (via Raichur and Arkonam)	1 12 0

Transport

MADRAS TRANSPORT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

The question of co-ordination of road and rail transport with a view to securing the best use of the present facilities has long been engaging the attention of the Government of Madras. They have decided to establish an Advisory Board of Transport for reviewing the existing facilities for transport, whether by road, rail or water and to consider the demands made by the Government and public and tender advice on the co-ordination of the supply and demand for transport. The following is the constitution:—

Second Adviser to the Governor,
(Chairman),
Chairman, Central Road Traffic Board,
The Chief Engineer to Government
(Irrigation),
Representative of the S. I. R.
Representative of the M. & S. M. Ry.
Army representative,
Home Department Secretary, and
P. W. D. Secretary (Secretary).

QUICK TRANSPORT:

Chambers of Commerce have been appealing to quicken the traffic of the railways with a view to reduce the transit time of goods. Up till recently it was an endurance feat. To cover

even a distance of 300 miles the railways used to take 6 days and unfortunately when there is transshipment required en route then there was down-right collapse of transit, with the added danger of pilferage and leakage, but now the stress of war has come to the help of the public as the railways are exerting their utmost to quicken transport. Readers would have seen many a placard on the walls and posts of the towns and cities of India, depicting railway wagons with the motto "Keep wagons moving." Goods in transit represent so much capital locked up. The longer period in transit involves loss of interest and likelihood of deterioration and damages and loss by other means. Railways are therefore appealing to the public to promptly release the wagons and quickly clear goods from Goods sheds. Detention of wagons will result in serious dislocation of the whole transport machinery of the railway, of course to the ultimate detriment of trade and industry. The war has brought great stress upon railways. A great deal of the rolling stock and the locomotives have found their way to areas nearer to the war zone, and moreover owing to the drastic curtailment of the shipping much traffic has been diverted to the railways and there is an increased volume of military and other war traffic.

KEEP WAGONS

Moving

You will be helping in the transport economy
of the country if you load and unload wagons
- without delay. -

THE SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY CO., LTD.
(Incorporated in England)

M. & S. M. RAILWAY

CHEAP RETURN TICKETS

BETWEEN

MADRAS and DELHI

AVAILABLE FOR 2 MONTHS

		Return fares inclusive of supplementary charge.	
		Rs.	A.
I Class	:	239	3
II Class	:	119	10
Inter Class	:	71	9
III Class	:	42	3

Banking, Insurance, and Finance

Current and Time Deposits of Scheduled Banks in India and Burma (In Lakhs of Rupees)

Month.	Current Deposits.			Time Deposits.			Total.		
	1939	1940	1941	1939	1940	1941	1939	1940	1941
January	12,893	14,563	178,01	108,50	10,842	10,188	23,743	25,405	27,989
February	12,737	15,138	144,42	108,29	10,888	11,033	23,566	25,926	25,475
March	13,066	15,037	180,99	107,29	10,888	10,463	23,795	25,925	28,562
April	12,861	14,982	184,24	108,50	11,323	105,60	23,711	26,305	289,84
May	12,949	14,542	187,89	108,96	11,213	106,30	23,845	25,755	294,19
June	13,190	14,393	194,89	109,12	10,775	107,39	33,102	25,168	302,28
July	14,074	15,348	198,31	107,39	10,660	108,99	24,813	26,008	307,30
August	14,139	16,060	210,03	106,46	10,188	106,05	24,785	26,248	316,08
September	13,919	16,549	217,81	102,10	10,136	108,33	24,129	26,685	326,14
October	14,081	17,011		99,75	10,067		24,056	27,078	
November	14,504	17,547		101,82	10,063		24,686	27,610	
December	14,657	17,887		104,76	10,044		25,133	27,931	

Madras Clearing House Returns (In Lakhs of Rupees)

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.	1940	1941
1918—19	2,548	1928—29	6,573	January ...	857 1026
1919—20	3,395	1929—30	8,219	February ...	851 856
1920—21	7,579	1930—31	5,036	March ...	1,444 1,003
1921—22	3,954	1931—32	4,397	April ...	875 1,226
1922—23	4,513	1932—33	4,885	May ...	1,127 964
1923—24	5,541	1933—34	5,319	June ...	839 968
1924—25	5,596	1934—35	5,622	July ...	721 1310
1925—26	5,680	1935—36	6,923	August ...	479 981
1926—27	5,453	1936—37	9,139	September ...	781 1329
1927—28	5,979	1937—38	10,405	October ...	791
		1938—39	12,748	November ...	1,006
				December ...	957

CURRENCY NOTES ISSUED IN
INDIA AND BURMA
(In Crores of Rupees)

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
January	204	213	293	254	261
February	208	213	205	252	267
March	208	214	207	253	269
April	208	214	207	252	286
May	207	214	207	257	281
June	208	214	211	256	291
July	212	213	214	264	293
August	213	215	223	260	293
September	213	212	228	258	297
October	214	209	248	256	
November	214	208	221	256	
December	214	206	253	225	

GOLD EXPORT FROM INDIA

In Rupees From 1931 up to March 1940
1,329,272,382

Market Reports

MADRAS (27-10-1941)

Cotton Yarn—	Rs.	A.	P.
60's (5 lb. bundle)			
Coimbatore	...	10	7 0
Kothari	...	10	6 0
40's (10 lb. bundle)			
Coimbatore Mills	...	14	4 0
Metals—			
Yellow Metal Sheets 'I.C.C.' 500 lbs.	430	0 0 to 435	0 0
Copper Sheets	...	430	0 0
Tanned Hides—	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Bangalore—8 to 8½ per lb.	0 13 9	to 0 14 0	
Up Countries	0 13 3	to 0 13 9	
Coasts—7 to 7½ lbs.	0 13 9	to 0 14 0	
Tanned Goat—			
Good, per lb.	2 0 0	to 2 2 0	
Fair, ..	1 12 0	to 1 14 0	
Common, ..	1 2 0	to 1 5 0	
Tanned Sheep—			
Good, per lb.	1 8 0	to 1 12 0	
Fair, ..	1 6 0	to 1 8 0	
Common ..	1 4 0	to 1 6 0	
Oil Seeds—			
Groundnuts, Machined (531 lbs.)	...	30	0 0
Produce—			
Rice, Calcutta (Nagara) boiled (164 lbs.)	11	10 0	
Jaggery, 500 lbs. 1st quality	...	27	0 0
" " 2nd quality	...	24	0 0
Horsegram, bag of 216 lbs.	...	6	2 0
Turmeric, baram of 500 lbs.	...	43	0 0
Pepper, Tellicherry (pure) 25 lbs.	...	3 14	0
" Bydgi	...	6	0 0
Ginger, Dry (Calicut) 500 lbs.	...	170	0 0
Tobacco leaf, Cigar & Chewing quality (500 lbs.)	...	120	0 0
" Snuff quality (500 lbs.)	...	120 to 150	
Salt, bag of 2 maunds	...	3	15 0
Pure Ghee, tin of 37½ lbs.	...	24	0 0

BANGALORE (27-10-1941)

(By The Mysore Chamber of Commerce)

Silk—The demand during this week also has continued to be good. The prices have gone up further by about as. 4 per seer on account of limited stocks locally and the prevailing high prices at Bombay for foreign silks.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Sidlaghatta Silk per seer of 26½ tolas	7 8 0 to 7 12 0	
Closet Silk	6 4 0 to 6 12 0	
Chickballapur Silk	7 4 0 to 7 8 0	
Kyalanur Silk	7 0 0 to 7 4 0	
Mudavadi Silk	6 0 0 to 6 4 0	
Channapatna Silk	6 0 0 to 6 4 0	
Kollegal Silk per maund 1000 tolas	300 0 0 to 350 0 0	
Silk-waste	6 12 0 to 7 4 0	
13/15 denier per lb. ex-Factory	17 8 0	
16/18 " " "	17 4 0	
20/22 " " "	17 0 0	
28/30 " " "	17 0 0	

BOMBAY

(21-10-1941)

(By The Millowners' Association, Bombay)

PIECE-GOODS.

Grey, Unbleached—

	inch.	yds.	lbs.	per lb.	Rs. A. P.
Longcloth (Standard Quality)	37	37½	9	..	1 2 10
" (Fine Quality)	44	38	7½	..	1 14 0
Shirtings	35	38	9	..	1 2 0
" (Vegetable Quality)	37	37½	9	..	1 2 0
Leopard Cloth	43	38	11½	..	1 2 1
Dhoties (upto ½" nakhi Border)	32	9	1½	..	1 3 0
" (Calcutta, 8" P. B.)	44	10	1½	..	1 9 0
Drills	29½	40	13½	..	1 1 10
Domestics	35	40	13½	..	1 1 2
"	35	40	12	..	1 1 6
Salitra	40	66	25	..	1 3 0
Chadars	50	6	2½	..	1 4 6

White, Bleached—

Longcloth	34	40	per piece	21	0 0
Drill	27	42	"	15	5 9

Yarn—

4s (All Waste)	...	per lb.	0 6 4
6½s (")	...	"	0 6 9
8½s	...	"	0 8 11
10½s	...	"	0 9 10
12½s	...	"	0 10 0
16s	...	"	0 14 3
20s	...	"	0 15 2
24s	...	"	0 15 10
32s	...	"	1 5 0
40s	...	"	(Not quoted)
60s	...	"	(Not quoted)
80s	...	"	(Not quoted)

War and Indian Economy-Some Aspects

By P. CHIENTSAL RAO, M.A.

War is one of the most potent causes of economic dislocation as well as of industrial development. The magnitude of dislocation or industrial development in a country depends upon the geographical location of the country and the degree of its economic and political dependence on the outside world. Countries like India which are not actually 'under fire' feel the impact of the war through the channels of foreign trade. With the declaration of War Indian trade with Germany and later with the countries which have gone under the aegis of Germany has been stopped. There has been a change in the direction even in our restricted foreign trade. There is also a change in the composition of our foreign trade. This re-alignment is the outcome of the following set of causes.

(1) The prepossession of Great Britain which is in the vortex of war.

(2) The U-Boat menace.

(3) The varying abilities of the different countries to grasp the war opportunity to capture new markets.

(4) The limited shipping facilities and the increase in insurance rates.

(5) Exchange restrictions and import control.

(6) The new items in the demand schedule for war purposes and the falling off in demand for some articles as they are superfluous to war effort.

As one would expect the import and export trade of India with the Empire countries is increasing. In 1939-40 our import and export trade with all countries except with European countries has increased. Our export in 1940-41 except to Japan has increased and import except from Japan and U. S. A. has diminished when compared to the import and export trade of the previous year.

There has been a slight increase in the tempo of our industrial activity.

Productions	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41
Coal (tons 1000)	24,815	25,056 + 241	21,623 (10 months.)
Pig iron (")	1575.6	1837.6 + 262	789.8 (5 months.)
Steel ingots (")	977.4	1070.4 + 93	506.8 (")
Finished steel (")	935.0	1065.6 + 130	491.0 (")
Jute mfgs. (including twist and yarn (")	1221.5	1276.9	1099.2
Cotton mfgs (million yds.)	4269.3	4012.4	4260.0

There has been an increase in the production of iron and steel. The production now takes the form of shells and guns. It is at the expense of peace-time normal production of rails and fish-plates. It is the discontinuous demand from the government that is the cause of the fall in the production of jute manufactures in 1940-41. The production of cotton manufactures in 1940-41 though higher than in the previous year, is slightly less than that in 1938-39. The war has given an impetus to many cotton mills which were languishing. The civil consumption has fallen because the price of cotton textile goods has risen and demand for cloth is elastic. The cotton manufactures are now therefore mostly khaki. There is an increase in the export of cotton manufactures to the Eastern Group Countries.

The following figures give the total export of cotton piecegoods.

Cotton piecegoods (Million yds.)	1938-39	39-40	40-41
	177.0	221.3	390.1

CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES:

Sodium compounds are very important because they are used in the manufacture of paper, textiles, wood, leather, glass, soap, metallurgy, etc. We have been increasingly importing sodium compounds with the growth of Indian industries. The chemical industries have been pushed by this war on their way to development that they could otherwise not have gone. Toulvin which is the basis for heavy chemicals is being produced in India now. Caustic soda, soda ash, bichromate, super tropical and tropical bleaching powder, glycerine—these are all being produced or about to be pro-

War and Indian Economy — Some Aspects

duced. Chlorine and bleaching powder are now got as a result of the electrolytic preparation of caustic soda. From the coke oven plants benzene and tulol are recovered for the first time.

The war has compelled the Government to help private enterprise which was finding it uneconomical to recover distillation products. The deciding factor in the economic production of heavy chemicals is the utilisation of by-products as much as cheap power. It is essential therefore that chemical industries are localised in particular areas. In India they are scattered and the size of production units is not conducive for economic and cheap production. If our chemical Industries are to develop after the war—it is essential that they should—they must be planned and subsidised by the Government.

PAPER:

There has been an increase in the production of paper. The problem now is to capture and retain export markets.

During the first year of the war there was a difference in the mill rate and market rate of paper because the wholesale merchants were expecting a further rise in the price of paper and were reluctant to sell. The rise in paper price affects the printing trade. There is a diminution in publications, in advertisement pamphlets, and Commercial Houses are extra careful in the use of their stationery. But some of the big printing presses have orders from British Railway Companies to print their timetables, log sheets etc; the demand for cardboard boxes to pack shells and other materials has increased work in the binding section of the printing presses.

SMALL SCALE AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES:

The modern wars in the ultimate analysis are decided by the output of factories. It is the 'economic wind' that counts in the modern bouts. Cottage industries cannot greatly help the war effort because the industries are scattered; production is not uniform and standardised and fast enough. However, it is possible that industrially-minded townships can be asked to manufacture buttons, knives etc. Some breakfast table items—vitamins, syrups—for the army are now produced in India. Shark liver oil as a substitute for cod liver oil is getting popular. Tea-chests and deal wood boxes are made in India with the cessation of imports from Norway. With the rise in the price of mill manufactures, the

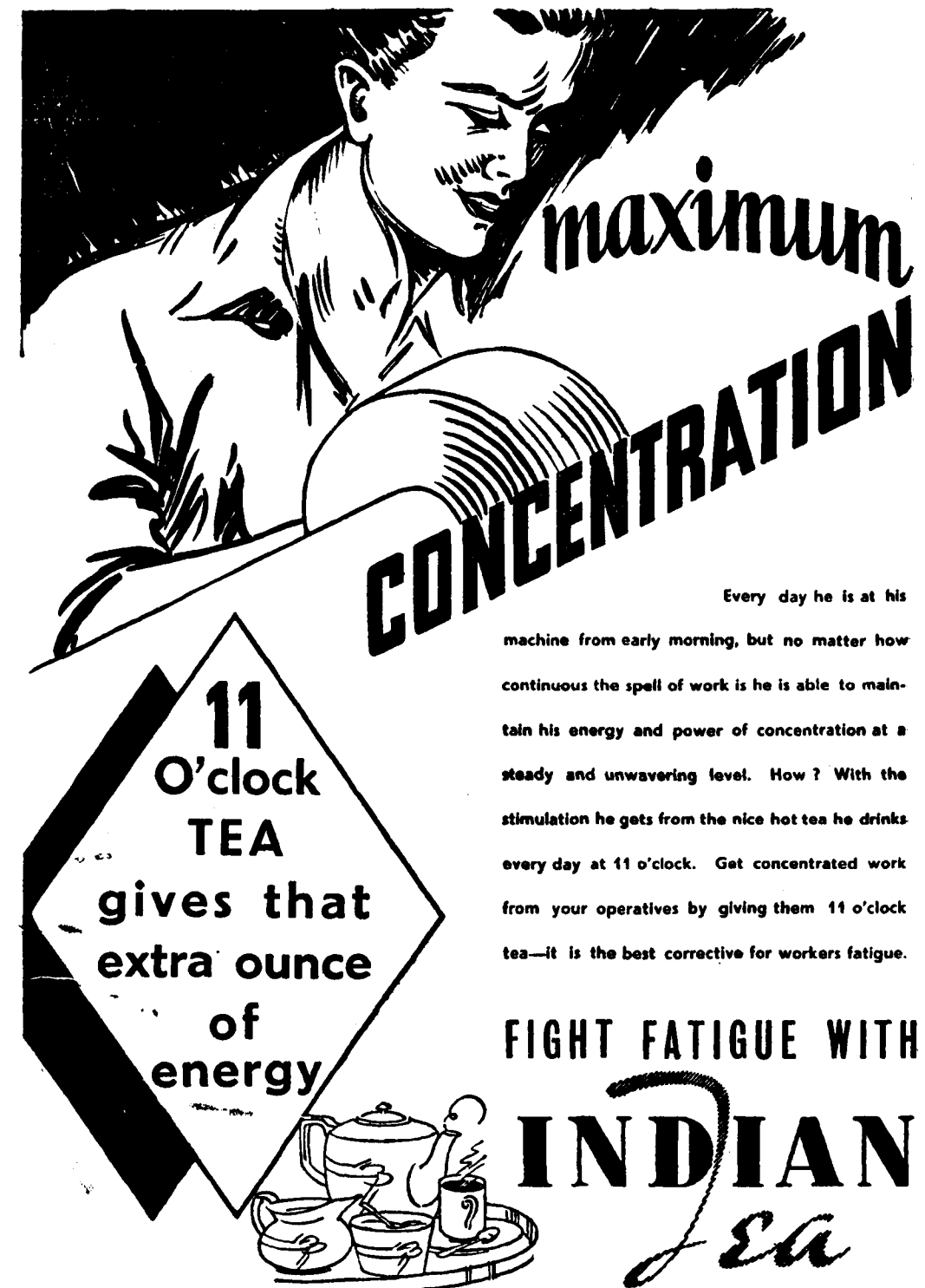
demand for khadi has increased. There is also increased activity in the tailoring trade.

III

The present war, as did the last war, demonstrates the unwisdom of excessive dependence on foreign supplies to form the basis of our national production. It is with concern that we see the present war bringing to light the same weak spots which the last war also illustrated in our national economy. With the exceptions of the iron and steel industry and textile industries we have no industries which with adjustments can be used to meet war demands. "To be able to switch rapidly from swords to plough shares and back again is a happy state." We still depend upon foreign supplies for our capital equipment. We still depend upon foreign bottoms to carry our goods. We have no motor industry or aeroplane industry which could produce tanks or bombers during war time.

The expansion in activities in Canada and Australia when compared to that of India is striking. Canada and Australia claim to be the Granary and Arsenal of the Empire. This claim is the result of the stature obtained by Canadian and Australian Industries in days of peace. Since the outbreak of the war the Australian and Canadian Governments have not missed any opportunity to expand their existing industries and start new industries. On June 8, 1940 the Canadian Government advised its High Commissioner in London "that Canadian plants might be utilised to a far greater extent as a source of supply for the Allied Governments," and transmitted a memorandum from the Canadian manufacturers' association urging that the Allies, "should advise immediately what they want in large quantities, and give Canadian manufacturers an opportunity to learn what is expected of them." Following the fall of France, Canada's economic mobilisation was greatly accelerated, by the determination of the Canadian Government to proceed on its own initiative. When the war began the Royal Canadian Navy had only 15 vessels. Mr. Massey the Canadian High Commissioner confidently broadcasted, "shortly it would have 4,000." Australia has endeavoured especially since the fall of France, to equip not only its own military establishment but also to supply New Zealand, India and other Empire countries. Two types of complete training planes are already being produced at the rate of three a day.

(Continued on page 273)



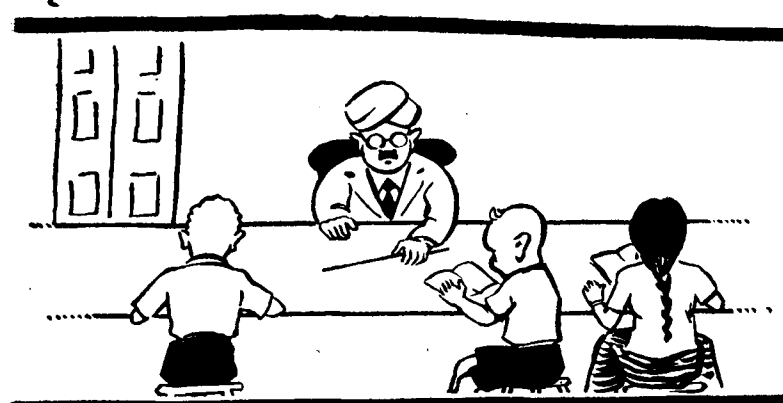
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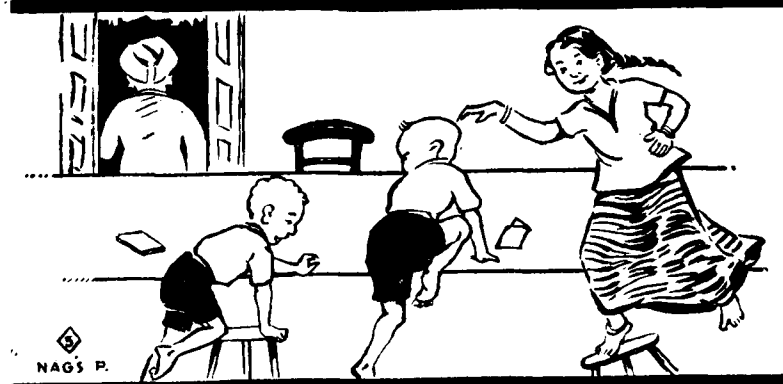
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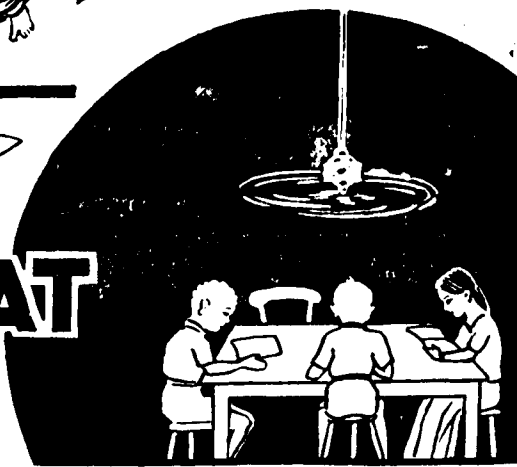


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Proceedings of Public Bodies

THE SOUTHERN INDIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Income-tax Amendment Bill:—The suggestions of the Chamber being invited on the provisions of the Income-tax Amendment Bill, the Chamber has among other suggestions made the following:—

"The Income-tax Act as amended by the amendment Act of 1939 contains many provisions which are intended to deem the income of a person to be the income of another person under various circumstances. The amendment now proposed may give rise to a doubt as to whether the exemption from taxation of income accruing in a state is to ensure to the benefit of an assessee when an income of another person is deemed to be his under any of the provisions of the Income-tax Act. The Chamber has therefore suggested that the position should be clarified by adding the words "or deemed to accrue or arise" to clause 8 of the Bill.

With regard to exemption of income arising or accruing in an Indian State the Chamber has suggested that the income exempted from taxation on an accrual basis in a particular year is likely to be remitted to British India afterwards; thereby the same income is taken into account twice so as to enhance the rate of income-tax and super-tax. The Chamber has therefore suggested that some provision should be made to identify such remitted amounts in the years after the proposed amendment is brought into force.

The Chamber has further asked it to be made clear in the amendment that the loss of an unregistered firm will be allowed to be carried forward to the next year notwithstanding the death or retirement of any of the partners.

The Chamber has protested against the imposition of a fee of Rs. 25 for reference to the Commissioner as new and excessive.

Excess Profits Tax Act, 1940—Rule 5 of Schedule I:—The Chamber has been corresponding with Government of India with regard to the interpretation of Rule 5 of the Excess Profits Tax Act, but not having received a satisfactory reply the Chamber has addressed a communication to the Federation urging them to take up the question. Having regard to the importance of the subject the text of the communication is reproduced below.

"Under Rule 5 of Schedule I as it stands in the Act, relief is sought to be given to an increase in capital effected by means of a borrowing made from a bank carrying on *bona-fide* banking business. The rule itself begins by stating that there should be an increase after the close of any standard period. This presupposes that to claim the benefit of this Rule in respect of any business that particular business must have a standard period and there should be an increase in the capital after the close of the standard period and such increase should have been effected by borrowings made from a bank carrying on *bona-fide* banking business.

"Under Section 6 of the Excess Profits Tax Act 3 kinds of businesses are contemplated in regard to the standard profits. The first is those for which all the standard periods provided under this Section are available. The second is those businesses started after the 1st of April 1936 but before the 1st of April 1939 for which a few but not all the standard periods provided for under this Section are available. The third is new businesses started after the 1st of April 1939 for which there is no standard period at all available under Section 6. In regard to the first of these, namely, businesses started before the 1st of April 1914 Section 6 provides that the standard profits shall be the profits of some one year or the average of any two years specified in Section 6. In regard to the second of these, namely, businesses started after the 1st of April 1936 but before the 1st of

(Continued from page 270)

For India the post-war reconstruction problem will not be how to use a huge apparatus of mechanical equipment which the resumption of peace has rendered it in large part superfluous but how to increase our mechanical equipment to produce both producers' and consumers' goods. There are two other problems. How to increase the purchasing capacity of the people so that they may demand and consume more goods and services and how to utilise the commercial crops within the land. Our future economic programme must be sustained by the enthusiasm and at the expense of the classes.

April 1939 standard profits are defined to be at the option of the assessee either the standard profits of any of the years specified under this Section or a certain percentage on the capital employed in business, the percentage itself being termed as the "statutory percentage." Regarding the third, namely new businesses started after the 1st of April 1939, there is no standard period available and therefore, the standard profits are defined as the statutory percentage on the capital employed in business.

"These provisions for the determination of the standard profits clearly show that the legislature intended and made provision to treat the new businesses started on and after the 1st of April 1939 on exactly the same footing as businesses started on and after the 1st of April 1936 by providing a statutory percentage basis in both the cases. The provision in regard to the businesses started on and after the 1st of April 1936 to choose the profits of any available standard period was intended as a further beneficial alternative to the businesses which are practically new, although not exactly new for Excess Profits Tax purposes. It is clear that businesses started on and after the 1st of April 1936 cannot be said to have progressed sufficiently in order to yield ordinary profits that might be expected by any business while the business was in its infancy. This point has been correctly appreciated when providing the alternative statutory percentage basis for standard profits in regard to these businesses.

"Coming to Rule 5 of Schedule I, the businesses which under Section 6 will have no standard period seems to have been ignored while providing a relief in regard to the increase in capital under Rule 5 of Schedule I. A condition precedent according to the Rule is the availability of a standard period. Thus strictly under Rule 5 the benefit of the rule will not be available to any business for which there are no standard periods.

"This distinction against new business was not intended by the Legislature. The United Provinces Chamber of Commerce brought this point to the notice of the Central Board of Revenue by their letter No. F/EPT/671/41 dated the 16th May 1941. The letter itself clearly brings to the notice of the Board both kinds of businesses which are not having the benefit of Rule 5 as the Rule stands in the Act at present. In the one case there will be no standard period available at all and in the case of business started on and after the 1st of April 1936 no standard period might be chosen

if the assessee adopts the statutory percentage basis. The Central Board of Revenue has also appreciated the unintended hardship that has been caused by applying Rule 5 of Schedule I and they have said in their reply that the benefit of Rule 5 should be given in the case of all new concerns which have no standard period. This is evident from their reply to the letter of the United Provinces Chamber of Commerce.

"In the letter from the Board the case of a business started on and after the 1st of April 1936 which is given the option of the statutory percentage basis for the standard profits, seemed to remain unclarified and then this Chamber addressed letter No. G. 1105 dated the 13th September 1941 a copy of which is herein enclosed. The Board in their reply to this Chamber Ref. No. 8 (1) (3-E. P/41) dated the 24th September 1941 copy enclosed have not fully appreciated the point raised by the Chamber and have observed that the case of a new business which has no standard period is not on all fours with that of the business that has the option of choosing the standard period or the statutory percentage basis. This Chamber wishes to point out that the Legislature

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having recognised the hardship that would be caused to businesses set up on and after the 1st of April 1936 in adopting the standard period and having provided for the alternative of a statutory percentage basis, it will not be proper to make an invidious distinction between the business started after the 1st of April 1936 and a business started on and after the 1st of April 1939 (both of which businesses choose the statutory percentage basis for standard profits) in applying the provisions of Rule 5 of Schedule I. The benefit of an increased standard profit consequent on the increase in capital must not be denied to the business set up on and after the 1st of April 1936 which has perforce to exercise the option of choosing the statutory percentage basis for the standard profits on account of the smallness of the profits during its available standard periods. It would place the business started on and after the 1st of April 1936 at a great handicap in regard to the Excess Profits Tax. When once the benefit of Rule 5 has been decided by the Board to be given in all cases where the statutory percentage basis adopted for the standard profits there is absolutely no justification for denying such a right to a business which under the Act has got the option of choosing the statutory percentage basis for the standard profit.

"This Chamber requests the Federation to move this matter with the Central Board on the lines stated above and get justice done to the businesses which were started on and after the 1st of April 1936 but which have chosen the statutory percentage basis for the purpose of standard profit.

"It is easily conceivable that in many businesses started on and after the 1st of April 1936, with a large capital there was very little income in the few available standard periods under the Act. Such businesses have only a few of the standard periods available to them. Within three years of its commencement no one can expect a reasonable profit on the large capital employed in the business. Such businesses would naturally choose under Section 6 the statutory percentage basis for standard profits. If in this case there is an increase of capital, however large, it will not be proper for the Board to say that unless the standard period is adopted the benefit of the Rule will not be given. The case of a business of the type such as the above does not in any way differ from a business started on and after the 1st of April 1939, and the observation of the Board in their letter that the new business is not on all fours

with that of a business of the type stated above is incorrect. The position is exactly the same so long as the assessee chooses the statutory percentage basis on account of the profits in the few available standard periods being very small.

This Chamber would request the Federation to take up this matter with the Board and also in the Assembly. The new clauses in the Excess Profits Tax Act amending Bill providing for borrowings for the purpose of ascertaining the increase in capital to arrive at the benefit to be given under Rule 5 of Schedule I must also be made clear. This Chamber requests the Federation to clarify the existing Rule 5 as also the intended sub-sections in the amending bill making it clear that the benefit of the provisions of Rule 5 and the intended sub-sections would ensure for the benefit of businesses started on and after the 1st of April 1939, having no standard period as also for businesses started on and after the 1st of April 1936 which adopt the statutory percentage basis under Section 6."

Indian Companies Act and definition of banking :—Government of India wanted an amendment of the present definition of banking companies set out in section 277 of the Indian Companies Act so as to bring in all Companies in whose name the word 'bank', 'banker' or 'banking' appears. The idea is to prevent the escape of such banking companies from the provisions of the Indian Companies Act regarding reserves etc., as contend that the acceptance of deposits is not their principal business. The Chamber in the course of a communication to Government while welcoming such an amendment pointed out that the use of the word 'bank', 'banker' or 'banking' as part of the name of a company carrying on any of the businesses referred to under the section or any kindred business is not inappropriate and therefore to restrict the use of the word 'bank', 'banker' or 'banking' to a banking company strictly so called cannot be justified. There may be companies which do not accept deposits withdrawable by cheques, drafts or order but have been for many years known by some name in which the word 'bank', 'banker' or 'banking' appears. To change such a name, after many years of business under the same name of business would tantamount to the closing down of the business. The Chamber has therefore pointed out that it may be enacted that all companies bearing a name or style in which the word 'bank'

'banker' or 'banking' appears shall be required to conform to the conditions laid down in Chapter X (A) of the Indian Companies Act, but at the same time a proviso or exception may be added to the effect that compliance with these conditions will be waived, in the case of companies styled in the way above-mentioned but which do not in fact accept deposits withdrawable by cheques, drafts or order as their principal business. If Government are unable to accept the suggestion the Chamber has recommended that fairly long time limit should be allowed to companies to effect a change in the name under the amendment.

Control of trade in Hides and Skins:—The Director of Industries and Commerce, forwarded to the Chamber for opinion the proceedings of a meeting of the District Periodical Conference, Salem, wherein it was recommended that the skin trade should be controlled and action taken to bury the carcasses

of animals dying from disease to prevent the skin of such animals being brought into the market. The Chamber pointed out in its reply that the percentage of such diseased cattle hides coming into the market is very small, that even if the disease can spread from such hides to animals from where they are stacked there is so little chance of such spreading, that there is practically no export trade in raw hides from Madras, and that the treatment of hides in the tanneries is such that the various processes would effectively destroy germs carrying contagion. The problem of controlling the trade so scattered and considerable in volume and value, for the sake of keeping out a few diseased hides was an unprofitable task. The Chamber however pointed out that they were prepared to consider a scheme for the control of the trade if the details of the scheme, the extent and manner of control and other details were made available.

(Continued from page 253)

It is a matter of public knowledge that all along the route of these lines the roads have been left in bad disrepair so that no heavy traffic as of lorry or bus can regularly use them. They are treated as second class roads, and after the transfer of the toll revenue from Public Bodies to the Provincial Government they have suffered as much as trunk roads. Motor traffic is also more expensive as increasing difficulty is felt in obtaining licence for motor vehicles and as cost of petrol is leaping up. Moreover the new Transport Authorities (Regional and Provincial) formed by recent legislation have introduced a drastic curtailment in the number of licences, and drastically renovated transport policy according to their lights but to the ultimate detriment of the country by way of too rigid segregation without referring to economic needs.

Another great drawback about those lines making them most unremunerative is the complete negligence of the railways in introducing improvements in traffic conditions. They have not reconstructed the track nor speeded up the trains nor increased the number of trains nor improved amenities to passengers. If the funds required for dismantling the lines were utilised for improving the lines there is no need for closing down at all or if the amount that is going to be recovered from the British Exchequer, as the Communications

Member boasted, were utilised to write down the capital of the railway there is no doubt that the lines would have been found more remunerative by mere accounting. Apart from everything else, there is a certain angle of vision to take in this matter. It may be that a certain line is not paying for a certain time. What is required is that the revenue of the entire railway system should be taken into account and the Railway Board would be well advised in following an expansionist policy to make the lines more paying and more useful to the public. It may be that the Tirupatur-Krishnagiri line would be more paying if it were to run from Jalarpet to Kaveripatnam. Similarly the Morappur-Hosur line may be extended by about four miles to connect with the Mysore State Railway. But the Railway Board has struck a short sighted policy in all matters of transport whether of freight or of transport facilities and convenience to passengers or goods traffic, and consequently the Railway system of this country is working as an irresponsible Government Department and not as a responsive public utility concern. It is most disappointing to find that the Local Government is merely playing second fiddle to the Central Government, throwing into bold relief the attitude which a responsible popular Government would have taken under the circumstances.

MADRAS PORT TRUST:

The Madras Port Trust Board has recommended to Government for approval that "eggs in cases" be classified as item XIII. T of the Boards' scale of rates with harbour dues of Rs. 4/- per ton of 50 cubic ft. The present rate is Rs. 1/- per pot.

KIRANA MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION MADRAS:

At the Second Annual General Meeting of the members of the Kirana Merchants' Association held on the 15th October 1941. Sri. Chhanganlal Barai of Messrs. Gopaljee & Co., was elected President for the year 1941-42 in place of Sri. Jayagovindji of Messrs. Dhalooram Jainarain, retired. At the same meeting Messrs. Param Shanker and Kesaramallji were elected Vice-Presidents, while Messrs. Jetmallji & Sha Khanthilal Sagarmall were elected Honorary Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

INDIAN MERCHANTS' CHAMBER, BOMBAY:

Trade Missions Abroad:—The Chamber has in the course of a communication to the Commerce Department, Government of India, suggested the feasibility of sending out Trade Missions to foreign countries and stated that such a step on the part of the Government would result in great advantage to the country. The Committee were of opinion that suitable Indian personnel would be available. Government should approach important Chambers of Commerce in the country for the purpose of nominating suitable Indians to constitute such missions. Government would thus have a panel of names of persons willing to take part in such trade mission from which Government could select a suitable personnel.

Trade treaty with Australia:—On a suggestion received from the Hon'ble Commerce Member to the Government of India during the course of an interview with the Committee the Chamber has suggested to Government requesting them to take steps to negotiate a trade treaty with Australia as it would prove of great benefit to the country. The Committee have pointed out that in any negotiations taking place the legitimate rights of Indians with regard to travel, residence, business, etc., in that country should be taken into account.

Payment of war risk claims in India:—Owing to difficulties experienced through absence of arrangements for paying war risk claims in India, as the War Risk policies are issued by the War Risk Insurance Office in London

and not in India as a result of which the payment in regard to such policies became very difficult in view of war time conditions, the Committee addressed the Government of India drawing attention to the above difficulties and suggesting that arrangements should be made in this country for payment of claims that might arise with respect to war risk. They have also suggested that until suitable machinery was set up by Government to make such claims payable in India, the settlement of such claims might be left in the hands of the Indian Trade Commissioner in London.

Letters of Credit:—The Committee coming to know that the Exchange Banks when communicating to shippers the opening of any credits generally qualify the advice that the liability of the shipper as the drawer of a bill of exchange was not released by the credit and that the documents in question would only be taken as collateral securities the Committee felt it was unfair to the shippers as their liability was to continue till the date of the final liquidation of the draft by the drawer. The Committee in the course of a communication to the Exchange Banks' Association pointed out that the limitation of the credit in the above manner was not justified and that the drawer should be absolved from any responsibility in respect of the credit as soon as the documents were parted with. The Exchange Banks' Association has however pointed out that under an irrevocable or confirmed credit the negotiating Bank had full recourse on the drawer if the bills were dishonoured by the drawer and that the endorsement complained of was quite in order.

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry:—The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, has elected Lala Padampat Singhania, Cawnpore, as its representative to attend the thirteenth Industries Conference.

S. I. Rly. Local Advisory Committee:—At a meeting of the S. I. Rly. Local Advisory Committee, it was decided that the terms 'Indian men' and 'Indian women' now appearing on Railway latrines and lavatories should be changed to 'men' and 'women' throughout the Railway and that the qualifying expressions such as 'Indian' or 'European' should only be used where it was absolutely necessary to make it clear that special accommodation or facilities had been provided for any particular community.

IMPORT AND EXPORT RESTRICTIONS:

The import and export restrictions in India under pretence of war conditions are really going beyond limits. Although the scheme of restriction began in a thin stream it is now swelling into amazonic proportions. It was first held out that the intention was to discourage import of luxuries and non-essential goods and that other classes of commodities would remain unaffected. Far from it nearly every commodity mentioned in the tariff schedule has now been brought into restriction not excluding most essential raw materials for Indian industries like dyestuffs and sulphur nor excluding most essential plant and machinery. We have major industries and minor industries extended on account of the war emergency. There are some degree of assurance to manufacturers in the first few months of the war that the plant and machinery would not be brought into the restriction and it was supposed that importers could get necessary supplies without let or hindrance though in practice it was a matter of great difficulty to obtain execution of orders placed months ahead either on account of congestion in the factories or on account of want of shipping space or on account of exchange difficulties and so on. Within the last few weeks the original pretence has been cast away and plant and machinery have been brought into the scheme so that no industry can think of extension or of being newly established or of drawing up a scheme or plant of manufacture until machinery licence has been obtained, orders accepted and delivery made on the shores of India. The entire scheme though not intended to be so is in effect vitally crippling the industrial life of this country shutting the door effectively against any advantage being taken by industrialists in India of the war situation.

An experience of many of the importers who had the misfortune to apply for licence is really very amusing. A case came to our notice today. We do not think it is an extraordinary one. On the other hand it is typical of the experience of many applicants for licence. The importer obtained a firm order for playing cards from Japan at a certain price and applied for licence. The sanction of the licence took nearly three weeks and meanwhile price rose and the shipper refused to accept the order. Then an enhanced price was offered and accepted. Upon application for renewal of the

licence some more time was lost and meanwhile the shippers cabled that they were fully booked for six months ahead and only shipment for a later time could be accepted. In the meanwhile more restrictions came and as letter of credit had not been opened by that time the order had to be finally cancelled. This is only one of the many cases of hardship and inconvenience and unnecessary loss incurred by merchants. The reaction on the importers of the struggle with the Export Trade Controller, the Shipping companies and the Shipping Controller, the Port Trust authorities and the Shipper abroad is really paralysing.

Protection of wheat: A duty of Re. 1-8-0 per cwt. on foreign wheat was imposed in India with a view to protect indigenous production. It was introduced after much agitation against Australian wheat being imported into the country to an unlimited extent. Contrary to the usual measures of tariff protection Government have been giving only one year's life to the measures of protection of rice and wheat for reasons best known to themselves. The uncertainty of protection in itself is a great handicap and the worst happened when suddenly without any reference to the legislature the Government by executive first reduced the prevailing protective duty to Rs. 0-2-0 per cwt. a few weeks ago. This is evidently a sop to the Australian wheat growers who have been deprived of some of the continental markets.

SHORTAGE OF CLOTH:

Owing to the increase in prices of cotton yarn and cloth and shortage of supplies for war purposes and export to neighbouring countries Government have increased the working hours of the textile mills from 54 to 60 hours per week. This increase of working hours would help such mills as have not been working 3 shifts occupying all the 24 hours of the day. Almost all the cotton mills in South India are known to be working for 24 hours and are not likely to have been affected by the extension of time announced by Government.

WAR SUPPLY BOARD:

A recent meeting of the War Supply Board, Madras appears to have considered the distribution of textile orders in South India and to have expressed satisfaction at the equitable manner in which orders were spread. It is true that the Buckingham & Carnatic Mills have been

visited with orders sometimes amounting to Rs. 3 crores worth in a month and have been to from month to month supplied with orders but there is no appearance of the remaining textile mills in South India having been favoured with even a fraction of the attention with which Buckingham and Carnatic Mills have been patronised. There is of course the standing plea that the other mills are not equipped with the necessary plant and machinery for the production of requisite qualities. There can be no denying the fact that provided six months' time could be given to the mills on an assured order for equipping the necessary plant and machinery there can be no pretence of inability to supply. For all other purposes Governments of India and Britain have taken a long view of the duration of the war and it is hard to understand why in the matter of textile supplies this facility could not be given to the textile mills. The Southern India Chamber urged this point of view from the very commencement of the war and if anything had been done at that time, by this time scores of mills would have been fully equipped for production of drills, long cloth, tent cloth and sheetings of A-1 quality. The War Supply Board seems to have discussed also the question of making the Buckingham Canal more navigable. The Government have at last opened their eyes to this sad necessity. Private enterprises were very keen 15 years ago about getting a licence for keeping the canal in a navigable condition without any expense to Government but the Government of Madras probably to placate the interest of the M. & S. M. Ry. and the British India Steam Navigation Company turned down all such schemes. After two years of war they are just considering whether the canal cannot be deepened to relieve the pressure on the transport system of the country. Speaking of the transport system one cannot speak moderately of the action of the Government in digging up the branch Railway lines of this Presidency between Morappur and Hosur and between Krishnagiri and Tirupathur under pretence of recurring losses. There is no mincing the fact that all the railway equipments were required for war emergency purposes in Iran and Iraq. The same plea is probably held to justify the proposal to close down and dismantle the Salem Mettur Railway which was recently opened with a view to industrialise the Mettur area after much canvassing among entrepreneurs and capitalists.

TOBACCO TAXATION:

Reviewing the Administration Report of the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Licensing) Act for the year 1940-41 we find the following important changes in the rules:

- Manufacturers were exempted from the obligation to take out licences for their purchases of unmanufactured tobacco and for the sales of tobacco manufactured by them;
- Section 5 of the Act was amended in order to smoothen the gradation of licence fees for wholesale dealers in unmanufactured tobacco;
- Brokers were distinguished from commission agents and a lower licence fee was fixed for the former; and
- It was made obligatory for retail dealers whose turnover does not exceed Rs. 400 to pay the tax in advance every half year and take out licences for the half year instead of monthly.

The collections were 15,93,395 rupees.

Permits for travelling salesmen issued 8,218.

Permits for shipping and landing agents 25.

Permits for rollers, binders and labellers of cigars, beedies etc. 5,780.

There was a staggering number of prosecutions of 10,061 of which 3,464 were withdrawn, showing how lightly prosecutions were initiated. The Madras High Court has made severe strictures on prosecutions being conducted by the Commercial Tax Department even though the assessee concerned had taken their case in appeal which was pending at the time of the prosecution. The 3 leading districts for licence holders on 31st March 1941 were Malabar with 12,346 licences, Vizagapatam with 11,312 licences and Tinnevely with 10,633 licences. The 3 leading districts in respect of permits were Vizagapatam with 1,175 permits. Guntur with 993 permits and Ramnad with 566 permits. It is interesting to note that out of 5,780 permits in force on 31st March 1941 for rollers, binders, labellers of cigars & beedies etc., not less than 4,488 were in the district of Tinnevely, leaving Chittoor with 580 to come as a distant second.

News and Notes

DRIED EGG PULP:

Australia is fast putting up egg drying plants with a view to encourage egg trade to Britain. In these days of shipping difficulties it is expected that 40 lbs. egg pulp will be reduced to 10 lbs. by drying. There are at present 11 plants working in Australia capable of dealing with the whole of the export surplus in two States in the coming season.

AUSTRALIAN COTTON CUSTOMER:

Australia is fast growing as a cotton consuming country owing to the affection of the Lancashire mill owners who transferred their plant recently to Australia. The present production of raw cotton in Australia is 13,000 bales while the present requirements of cotton mills in Australia run to 70,000 bales. It is expected that within the next 20 years Australia will be in a position to consume 2,50,000 of bales of raw cotton.

ALUMINIUM IN AUSTRALIA:

Australia is fast developing an aluminium industry for which the principal raw material is bauxite and the principal alloys are magnesium and copper. The initial expenditure for the plant and equipment alone will be £1,500,000.

STAMP DUTY REDUCTION:

Government of India have announced in their notification dated the 30th September 1941 that the duty chargeable under the Indian Stamp Act 1899 on a proxy empowering the policyholder of an Insurance company to vote at a meeting of the policyholders of the said company to be held for the election of directors has been reduced to two annas.

GOODS IN ENEMY VESSELS:

There was a House of Lords' judgment relating to goods in three vessels which took shelter in neutral ports on the 28th August 1939 on the eve of the outbreak of the war. Two of those vessels scuttled themselves and one succeeded in reaching Germany. The cases were launched by Czarnikow Ltd., and Leslie & Anderson Ltd., against the Java Sea and Life Insurance Co. Lord Caldecote decided that on the facts as they existed at that date it was unlikely that the plaintiffs would recover the goods. He decided in favour of the assured companies that there was a constructive total loss proximately caused by a peril insured against. The only problem still remaining to be tackled seems to be that of title.

PUBLICATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH BOARD:

Government of India have published certain non-technical notes as a result of industrial research recently done by the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research in India. The notes relate to the following products:

- (1) Substitute for corks and allied products,
- (2) Manufacture of Stearic and Oleic acids
- (3) Manufacture of Oil Plastics and moulded articles prepared therefrom.

Any member of the Chamber prepared to undertake the utilisation of the results of researches mentioned in these notes may put himself in communication with the Chamber.

We brought to the notice of readers the notes published previously, particularly the following:

1. Laminated Paper Fibre Board,
2. Dry Cell Manufacture,
3. Resin Impregnation of Wood,
4. Manufacture of Glass Substitutes.
5. Bhilawan Stoving Enamel and Allied Products.
6. Manufacture of Luminous Pigments and Paints.

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Government have appointed an Insurance Advisory Committee for two years from 1st November 1941. The personnel of the Committee is as follows:—

The Hon'ble the Commerce Member, Chairman,
The Superintendent of Insurance, Vice-Chairman,

Mr. Byramjee Hormusjee of the Zenith Assurance Co., Bombay,

Mr. J. C. Setalvad of the Vulcan Insurance Co., Ltd., Bombay,

Mr. M. N. Seth, New Delhi.

Mr. J. F. Ormiston of the North British & Mercantile Insurance Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

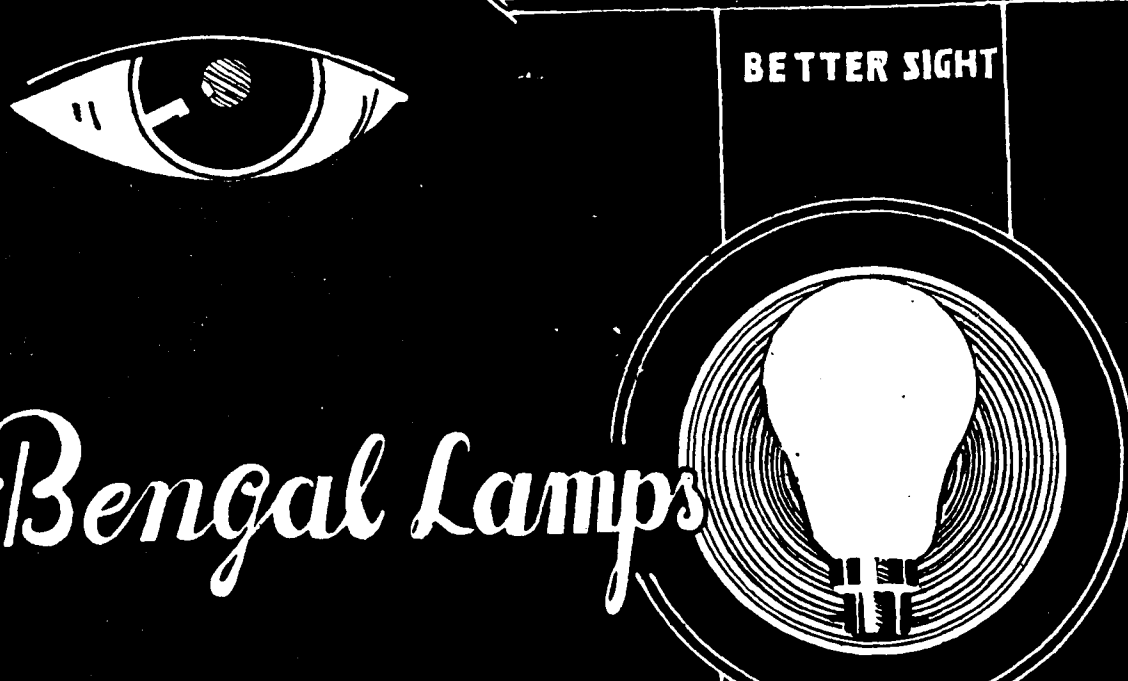
Mr. J. J. Gor, B.A., L.L.B., Bombay.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. Ct. M. Chidambaram Chettiar of the United India Life Assurance Co., Ltd. Madras.

Mr. N. K. Bhartiya, B.A., F.C.I., of the Free India General Insurance Company Ltd. Cawnpore.

Mr. S. C. Roy, M.A., B.L., of the Aryasthan Insurance Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

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Authorised Capital	Rs. 60,00,000	Reserve & Other Funds	Rs. 19,18,000
Issued & Subscribed Capital	Rs. 48,00,000	Reserve Liability of Sharehol.	Rs. 35,20,000
Paid-up Capital	Rs. 12,80,000	Deposits as on 31st Oct. '41	Rs. 7,83,86,700

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NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK

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A Special Feature of the Bank is its Safe Deposit Vault at its Head Office on the latest lines, which offers "Security with Economy."

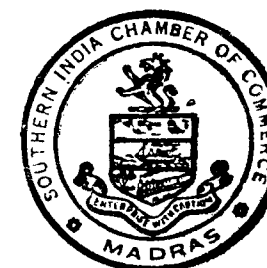
All General Banking Business including Foreign Exchange transacted.

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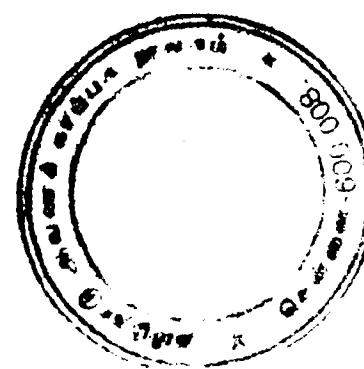
N. GOPALA IYER, Secretary.

REGISTERED No. M. 3977.

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NOVEMBER 1941



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MADRAS

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The Toll of War

SOUTHERN INDIA COMMERCE

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There is an opinion widely held, chiefly in official circles, that India's sacrifice in this war is nothing comparable to that in the last Great War. That is probably due to the absence of a spectacular gesture like the £100 millions sanctioned at one sitting in a mood of generosity by the Central Legislative Assembly. Such an appeal to the Legislature is perhaps not yet ruled out but even without it India's sacrifice in this world conflagration is none less stupendous. The various War Funds which represent free donations to the Funds of the Provinces and of the Viceroy have amounted to Rs. 12 crores, Madras keeping the place of pride with 174 lakhs. The Defence Bonds, interest free and otherwise, and the Postal Defence Savings Certificates have fetched Rs. 52,37 crores upto 18th October 1941. The monetary sacrifice in the shape of free gifts and loans is nothing when compared to the numerous invisible sacrifices. As in normal times the item of invisible imports from the United Kingdom is of heavy weightage in our standing financial obligations to U. K., the invisible detriment to India resulting from the war is tremendous. Much of it is shouldered by way of a definite relief to U. K.

India's import and export trade with all her chief customers except U. K. and U.S.A. has come to a standstill, involving in the abruptness of that process the disappearance of a vast amount of money and goods and valuable business connections. After the outbreak of war with Japan our trade with Australia, Dutch East Indies, China and Malaya has all been seriously threatened and is at the vanishing point. The Pacific route to U.S.A. Canada and South American countries is out of the question. Let us hope that the ramifications of Japanese air and sea tentacles will not seriously impede our trade with Burma or Ceylon,

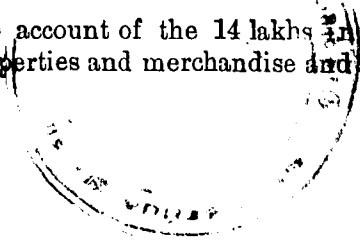
though one could not be too sure about it for long. Taking the pre-war year 1938-39 in our import trade U. K. represented 30.5%, Burma 16%, U.S.A. 6.4% and Ceylon 2%, so that if our import trade with those countries were to remain intact we would have retained about 54% of our pre-war import trade. But numerous restrictions at either end such as hard currency exchange regulations, import or export quota, scarcity of shipping space, increased prices and transport and insurance charges have all conspired to curtail the percentage in volume by at least half. Similarly in our exports the share of those countries in the pre-war year was 60% which again by virtue of the same impediments has dwindled down by about one-third.

Indian nationals who have been caught in the war zone are none too few as will be clear from the following statement:

Country.	Indian population.	Dates of estimate.
Hongkong	4,745	1931
British Malaya	754,849	1937
Fiji Islands	89,333	1937
Australia	2,404	1933
New Zealand	1,166	1932
British North Borneo	1,298	1931
Aden	8,168	1937
British Somaliland	520	1931
United Kingdom	7,128	1932
Malta	41	1933
Dutch East Indies	27,638	1930
Thailand	5,000	1931
Indo-China	6,000	1931
Japan	300	1931
Iraq	2,596	1932

That takes no account of the 14 lakhs in Burma. Their properties and merchandise and

10/11/41



The Toll of War

lives have had a severe shakeout whose damage can be fully visualised only at the end of the war.

At the outbreak of war, whether with Germany or Italy or Japan, there was much of our cargo afloat or landed in the enemy countries either partly or wholly unpaid for by the enemy. All those claims remain unpaid for although the claims have been long ago filed and although our Government have seized sufficient assets of the enemies to meet those claims. Conversely our importers have paid for in many cases for goods which still remain on board enemy vessels sheltered in neutral ports or remain to be shipped from enemy countries. The greater is the tragedy of it as even after it was found that there was no chance for the delivery of the goods the English exchange banks, in the abundance of their charity, threatened the worried importer with legal action for non-payment and collected monies. The *coup de-etat* came from Messrs. Cox and Kings who busied themselves with collecting landing, clearing and miscellaneous charges from owners of such goods for imaginary operations which have not yet taken place. The dexterity of the firm was fully proved in the clearance of the bulk of the cargoes belonging to British nationals on board various vessels in various parts of the world, but it dismally failed with the astute Captain of the "Braunfels" in Marmagao. There was some hope when British forces landed in Timor that in any case the Marmagao affair will be cleared up. Worse than all is the non-chalant attitude of the self-complacent Insurance companies who have been consistently swallowing premiums but have turned their backs on their clients when claims were emerging. It is expected that the recent decision of the House of Lords would clinch the point squarely and lead to the claims being met universally.

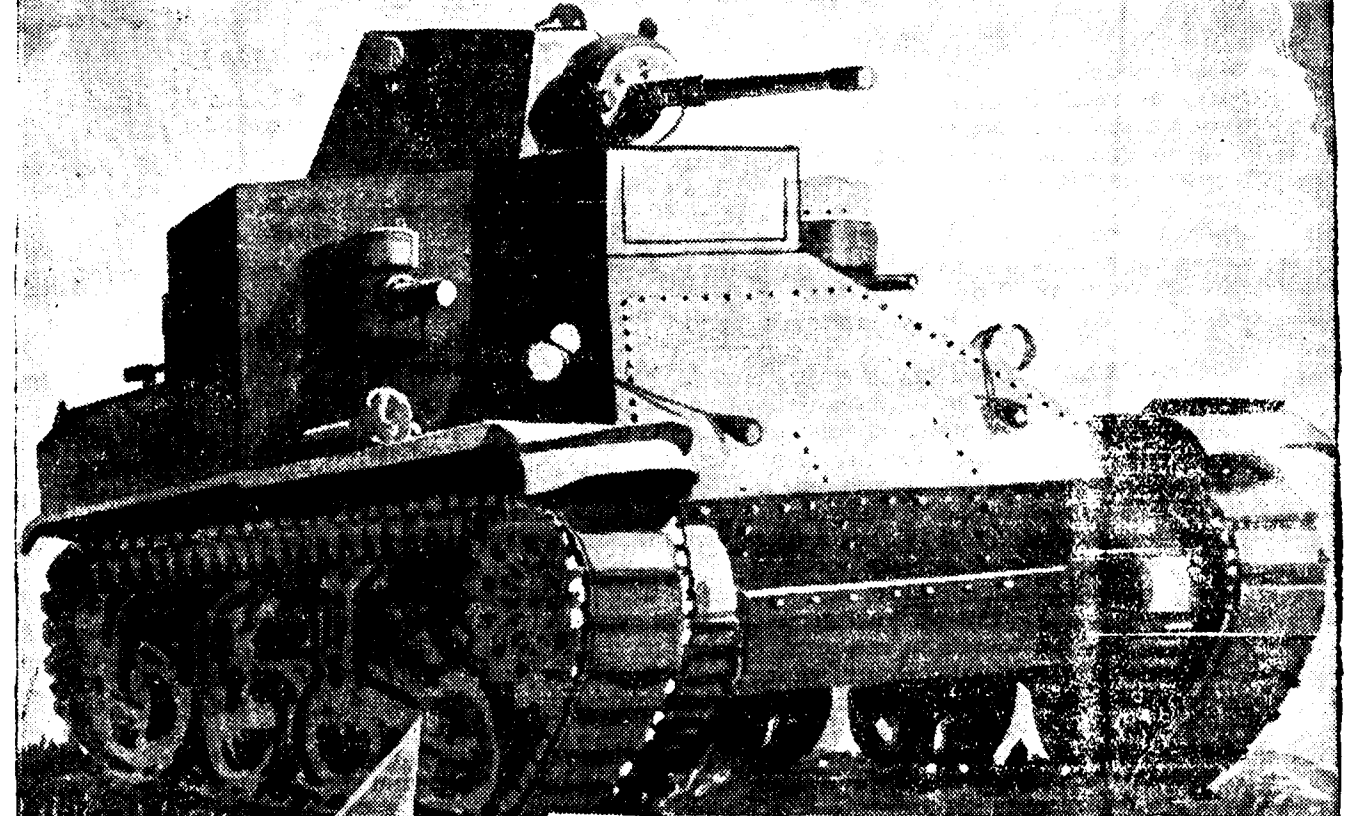
Another form of sacrifice to which we have

submitted is the rigid price control, not from India but from London. The bulk of our primary produce exported consists of hides and skins and oilseeds. The fixation of a buying limit in price by the monopoly buyers in London is the "most unkindest cut of all." Crores of rupees have been surrendered in this manner by those who looked forward to overflowing profits as in the last war.

The tightening of the tax belt has added to the choking effect of other burdens. The 12½% increase in Railway freights and fares, the withdrawal of Railway concessions, the ominous surcharge on coal sitting like the old man in Sinbad upon the growing industries, the surcharge in incometax, the Excess Profits Tax and various consumers' taxes of the portfolio of the Central as well as Provincial Governments have had a crushing effect on all economic enterprise in the country. The addition of over 100 crores in currency even at the risk of being dubbed inflatory was a master stroke of Sir Jeremy Raisman. Otherwise falling wages increasing unemployment and increasing prices would have had a most deadening effect on society generally.

To crown all sacrifices is the scare of war at our own gateway. The leisurely manner in which the Allies have set about to deal with the aggression in Philippines and Malaya has taken the breath away, even from the stoutest believers in British supremacy. Even the goods which have been fully covered by Government against war risk are slumping furiously. The immovable property owner stands aghast as Government would not touch it in insurance even with a pair of tons although the Government in U. K. have set a magnificent example to us to follow. What is sauce for the goose is not sauce for the gander. U. K. is our ideal to the Government of India in all cases of taxation but is anathema where response to public opinion is concerned.

HARVEST TIME



In place of harvester and threshing machine tanks trample across field and meadow.

When swords are beaten again to ploughshares, than those destructive engines will tread the fields anew - drawing the plough on its journey of labour. Steel will again help to build the lives of men, to labour in his cause.

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Trade and Commerce

MADRAS COMMERCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1941

In the Madras commodity markets, there was a further advance in the general level of prices during August, the index number of prices for the Madras Province rising by six points to 123, the index for the food grains group advancing by five points to 134 and the index for the commercial products group advancing by seven points to 113. There was less activity in the cotton market and quotations declined as a result of decreased demand from some of the mills owing to labour trouble, and of the Far Eastern developments. The groundnut market was firm and prices strengthened. The market for tanned hides was quiet with a slightly weaker tendency in evidence during the first part of the month. Prices of goat skins were steady, but sheep skins weakened. Demand was normal in the paddy and rice markets and prices improved slightly. The Beypore and Calicut unsoaked coir yarn markets were steady. The pepper market closed weak owing to lack of demand. The Calicut ginger market was strong throughout the month as a result of fair demand. The copra and coconut oil markets were more or less steady and quotations showed little change on balance. The Madras sugar market opened steady, but prices dropped gradually to below the Syndicate basic equivalents. The demand for locally manufactured acids and chemicals was normal.

GROUNDNUT:

In the groundnut market, prices strengthened. The buying limits of the British Ministry of Food are reported to have been increased to £12 F.O.B. though they have since been lowered. The average wholesale prices per candy of 531 lbs. of standard varieties at the main producing centres were as follows:

31st July 1941 Rs. 21 0 0 to Rs. 30 0 0
29th Aug. 1941 Rs. 27 0 0 to Rs. 30 6 0

PADDY AND RICE:

The demand for paddy and rice was normal throughout the month and the tone of the market was steady. Prices improved slightly. The average wholesale prices of standard varieties at the main producing centres were as follows:

Indian Paddy per bag of 170 lbs.
31st July 1941 Rs. 6 13 0 to Rs. 7 4 0
29th Aug. 1941 Rs. 7 0 0 to Rs. 7 9 0

Indian Rice per bag of 170 lbs.

31st July 1941 Rs. 9 12 0 to Rs. 11 0 0
29th Aug. 1941 Rs. 10 0 0 to Rs. 11 3 0

Rangoon Rice raw, broken A1 per bag of 220 lbs.

31st July 1941 No stock. } Madras.
31st Aug. 1941 No stock. }

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

31st July 1941 Rs. 11 8 0 } Madras.
31st Aug. 1941 Rs. 11 8 0 }

COCONUT PRODUCTS:

Owing to lack of demand, the market for Quilandy soaked coir yarn weakened towards the end of the month. The market for Beypore yarns remained steady and closed strong as a result of fair Indian and moderate European demands. Fair European demand kept the market for Fine and Kallai unsoaked yarns steady throughout the month, the market for Perpengady unsoaked yarn remained unchanged with little business passing. The Cochin coir market was firmer owing to curtailed production.

Prices of copra and coconut oil fluctuated within fairly narrow limits in consonance with arrivals and stocks and showed little alteration on balance.

COTTON:

Tinnevellies: Fresh arrivals from the interior were on a very restricted scale owing to the season having come practically to an end. There was only a little buying and this was confined to the South Indian mills. The stoppage of trade with Japan caused prices to decline and fair average quality dropped gradually at the beginning from Rs. 285 to Rs. 275 per 784 lbs. at the end of the month.

Cambodia: The season was almost over and fresh arrivals from the interior were on a very small scale. The cessation of trade with Japan and the strikes at Coimbatore resulted in buyers withdrawing and fair average quality dropped gradually from Rs. 410 to Rs. 360.

SUGAR:

The Madras sugar market opened steady although Cawnpore prices were weak owing to the low stock position. Wholesale dealers continued to sell goods to arrive at lower than spot prices as they were anxious to clear at a

Trade and Commerce

profitable rate before prices dropped after the arrival of heavy stocks. Prices declined daily owing to continuous heavy arrivals of North Indian sugar, pressure of sales by wholesale dealers, resales by second hand dealers who took delivery of sugar purchased at very high rates in July and dull demand from up-country markets. Prices were below the Syndicate basis equivalents. At the close of the month, the market was steady and there was some speculative demand due to rumours of an increase in the Excise duty. The price of Nellikuppam sugar in the Madras market was Rs. 28-15-0 per bag of two cwts. in August as compared with Rs. 31-8-0 in July. The Calicut market was weak in sympathy with Cawnpore and demand was unsatisfactory. Although arrivals of North Indian sugar were not very heavy dealers reduced prices to a par with Cawnpore quotations. The Cochin market was dull and inactive, and as the arrivals of North Indian sugar were regular and demand was slack, the market closed weak. Dealers in all other markets purchased after the prices touched the equivalent of the Syndicate selling prices. Demand was fair.

TANNED HIDES:

During the first part of August, the market was quiet with a slightly weaker tendency prevailing and it was reported that offers for some lines were being received from London at below the control. This may possibly have been due to the Import Quota which was introduced in London early in August. Towards the end of July, there was an improvement in the enquiry and, with supplies on the small side, the market gradually recovered with the result that by the end of the month prices were back to within ½d of the control. Shipping facilities on the whole were satisfactory and few holders were carrying stocks of any quantity. Buffs Cow and Buff Calf were all in good demand and prices by the end of the month showed a firmer tendency. At the beginning of August, maximum prices were fixed in London as follows: Prime Buffs average 12/13 lbs. run at

13d; Prime Cow Calf Run at 32d; Cow Calf Rejects at 15d, and Prime Buff Calf Run at 20d.

ANNEXURE

Wholesale prices of commodities ruling in the markets mentioned on 29th August, 1941.

Commodity	Market	Quality or Variety	Unit	Price.
Cotton	Tirupur	Cam-bodia	Per candy of 520 lbs.	Rs. 253 to 264
Do.	do.	Karun-ganni	do.	Rs. 222 to 225
Ground-nuts	Nandyal	Machine-shelled	do. 531 lbs.	Rs. 27-0-0
Do.	Pollachi	do.	do.	Rs. 30 to 32-4-0
Pepper	Telli-cherry	Garbled	Per cwt. F.O.B.	Rs. 17-0-0
Paddy	Tenali	Kusuma	Per bag of 164 lbs.	Rs. 6-13-6
Rice	do.	do.	do. do.	Rs. 10-1-4
Coir Yarn	Aleppey	Allapat	Per candy of 672 lbs.	Rs. 33 to 39
Copra	Cochin	...	do. 655 lbs.	Rs. 58-8-0
Coconut Oil	do.	...	do. do.	Rs. 90-8-0
Jute	Vizia-nagaram	Bimli	do. 506 lbs.	Rs. 38-0-0
Tobacco	Erode	1st quality	Per maund of 28 lbs.	Rs. 4-8-0

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Indian Glass Industry

Issued by the

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Recent archaeological discoveries and excavations have now established that glass vessels and ornaments were in use in India in the early Christian era. Enamelled glass is known to have been manufactured in India in the 17th century. Belgaum, Mysore and United Provinces were also reputed to possess glass factories in the 17th and 18th centuries though such factories were not of the modern type.

Manufacture of glass in India on modern lines dates from the nineties of the last century when some pioneer efforts were made in this direction, and to a certain extent, credit is due to a factory at Talegaon in Poona District which had done a great deal of pioneer work in training men for glass factories and popularising the industry. Between the year 1892 and 1908 many factories on modern lines were started but most of them were not successful. The Indian Industrial Commission attributed the failures to the inadequate technical skill, ignorance about the qualities of the raw materials, and the peculiarities of Indian labour and local conditions.

In spite of these failures 16 new factories were established during the period of 1908 to 1913 but in 1914, when the war broke out, not more than half of them were in working condition. During the war period of 1914 to 1918 the Indian Munitions Board encouraged the manufacture of glassware in India, and as a result new factories were established, and it was estimated that about Rs. 15,00,000 were invested in the industry. During the period of 1918 to 1932 the duty on imported glass was increased from 15 per cent to 30 per cent, and this gave a further stimulus to the industry with the result that 22 new factories were established during the period.

In the year 1932 there was an enquiry by the Tariff Board into the prospects of the glass industry, and the requirements thereof in respect of protection. The Tariff Board took a survey of the then known factories and the table on the next page gives a list of the factories existing according to the information available.

Indian Glass Industry

Province or State.	Glass Manufacturers Association.	Glass Bangles Industrial Association Ferozabad Bangle factories.	Directors of Industries			Dr. Drane	All sources
			Bangle factories.	Others.	Bangles.	Bangles and false pearls.	
Punjab ...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1
United Provinces ...	8	20	8	7	25	4	11
Bengal ...	6	...	...	7	...	4	10
Bombay ...	4	...	2	4	...	5	6
Central Province ...	2	...	...	2	...	2	2
Bikaner ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nizam Dmn. ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Total ...	22	20	10	22	25	16	23

After the Tariff Board enquiry the stimulus to the establishment of glass factories was on the increase and today we have a still larger number of factories:

Bengal ...	28
Bombay ...	19
Delhi ...	1
Indian States ...	11
Madras ...	1
Punjab ...	3
United Provinces ...	38

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The Tariff Board made further recommendations to the Government of India for an increase in duty on various kinds of glass manufactured.

These recommendations by the Tariff Board were not, however, accepted by the Government for various reasons, and there was no increase in the duty imposed upon foreign imports. The Indian Industry, however, has made further progress in the number of factories and the total value of local manufactures. The Government of India has, however, given special concessions to the glass industry in the

Indian Glass Industry

matter of the duty on soda ash which forms a substantial percentage of the cost of raw materials in glass, as will be seen from the table given below:—

Table showing the percentage cost of raw materials in glass:—

	Indian.	English.	Belgian.	German.
Sand ...	23	27	9	19
Soda Ash ...	67	61	87	79
Lime or Limestone ...	10	12	4	2
	100	100	100	100

The Government reduced the duty for all imported Soda Ash consumed in the glass factories and the glass manufacturers have thus obtained substantial help from Government.

The Tariff Board also recommended the establishment of a technical research institute for glass, and the United Provinces established a glass technology section in Benares with a view to developing this industry. Steps have been taken for the installation of modern equipment in some of the factories, and modern furnaces and new machines have been introduced with the result that the cost of the production in the local factories has been considerably reduced. With the introduction of modern methods and with the help of the Technical Institute, new lines of glass products are now manufactured by the local factories such as glass, beads, false pearls, ornamental glass plates, tubes, pipes and a number of other articles which were hitherto not manufactured by the local industry.

Recently, as a result of the encouragement, advice and technical direction provided for by the Government, the local industry has now developed a new product known as the windolite, which is a substitute for glass to be used for building purposes. Similarly the local industry has now extended its scope in the matter of glass tubes and surgical and laboratory requirements of glass products. In addition to the lines indicated above, the local industry is now manufacturing and supplying the Defence Departments of the Government of India with many of their requirements in various types of glass.

In its present stage the industry is divided into two well defined categories.

1. *The Indigenous Cottage Industry:—* The artisans in villages purchased the glass blocks or cakes manufactured by the modern types of glass factories and made out of them bangles in small furnaces in their homes. Such cottage industry is to be found particularly located in the Districts of Ferozabad in United Provinces and in the District of Belgaum in the South of Bombay Presidency. Similar types of cottage industry is also to be found to a certain extent in the Indian State of Mysore. This cottage industry, however, had to face severe competition from the factory industry which started manufacturing the rough type of bangles in competition. For some time there was keen competition also from Japanese manufacturers who introduced the silken type of bangles as also certain ornamental types. The cottage industry was unable to face the competition by the factory industry in Japan and in India, but the Indian factory has now established itself in spite of the competition from Japan and more than one-third of the total requirements of India in respect of bangles are now supplied by the local factories. As a result of the competition from Japan the cottage industry has given place to the factory industry in this respect also, and the cottage industry is now more or less restricted to the rough products only and on a smaller scale.

2. *Modern Factory Industry and Classification of Factories:—* As stated above the modern factory industry is still restricted to the production of the following classes of glass goods:—

1. Glass cakes for bangles.
2. Beads, bottles, lampware, phials, table ware etc.
3. Factories, which are run on extensive scale, produce the sheet and plate glass.
4. The factories which have recently started manufacture of surgical and laboratory requirements in glass.

Only two factories are equipped with the machinery for the production of sheet and plate glass plain as well as ornamental.

GLASS IMPORTS:

The value of the imports in India of all kinds of glassware came to about Rs. 2,53,00,000 in 1926-27 and it decreased to Rs. 1,65,00,000 in 1931. The latest figures of imports, however, show a further fall and in 1938-39 the value of the total imports was only Rs. 1,25,00,000.

Indian Glass Industry

INDIAN PRODUCTION OF GLASS:

The total value of glass manufactures in India was estimated to be about Rs. 80,00,000 prior to the Great War in 1914 and the Tariff Board estimated the value of the total annual production in 1931 at Rs. 1,40,00,000. According to a very conservative estimate the yearly production of glass and glassware is to-day estimated to be in the vicinity of Rs. 2,00,00,000. Thus the Indian Industry which was supplying about one-fourth of the total requirements of India prior to the War of 1914 is now able to meet the local requirements to the extent of over 50 per cent of the annual consumption. 15 years before, the value of imports stood at Rs. 2,50,00,000. It has now been reduced to one-half of that figure while the value of local manufacture has increased to about 250 per cent of what it was in 1914.

A very important feature of the Indian Glass Industry is the capacity of the modern factories to export glass and glassware from India to foreign countries. In the year 1935-36 the total value of exports of Indian glassware amounted to Rs. 29,600. It steadily rose to Rs. 49,000 in 1936-37, and leaped up to Rs. 1,29,590 in the year 1937-38. The figure for 1938-39 stood in the vicinity of Rs. 1,16,000 but in the ten months period from April 1, 1939, to 31st January 1940, India has exported glass and glassware of the value of Rs. 1,15,672 as against Rs. 88,000 in the ten months of the previous year.

The table on the next page shows the countries and the value of the export trade in Glass products from India.

Glass and Glasswares exported from India to various countries in 1933-34 to 1937-38.

Glass and Glassware.	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
Aden and Dependencies ...	2,702	1,800	2,306	5,136	4,999
Bahrein Islands ...	6,761	1,541	1,010	7,999	16,625
Ceylon (excluding Maldives) ...	6,330	9,045	7,302	8,274	16,185
Burma ...	...	...	...	...	54,115
Federated Malay States ...	1,575	3,649	1,950	513	7,465
Other British Possessions ...	8,084	11,102	6,688	7,050	11,022
Total British Empire ...	25,452	27,137	19,256	28,972	1,10,411
Native States in Arabia other than Maskat Territory and Trucial Oman ...	3,390	3,146	2,336	14,880	4,550
Iran ...	380	4,625	3,468	2,102	6,922
Japan ...	8,903	50	5	...	32
Other foreign countries ...	7,767	7,862	4,475	3,262	7,675
Total foreign countries ...	20,440	15,683	10,284	20,244	19,179

Table showing the shares of the provinces in the Export Trade.

	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
Share of Bengal ...	11,274	4,012	3,448	5,432	61,760
Orissa ...	...	...	...	...	50
Bombay ...	25,636	25,123	18,030	37,363	51,567
Sind ...	1,257	936	565	1,161	1,133
Madras ...	7,640	12,729	7,549	5,115	14,080
Burma ...	85	20	8	145	...
Total ...	45,892	42,820	29,600	49,216	1,28,590

It may be mentioned here that the Indian Munitions Board were able to secure a good deal of their requirements from the Indian factories during the period of the last War, and in this War also the Supply Department is reported to have placed substantial orders with the local glass factories and the industry is reported to be rendering highly useful service to the defence of India and the British Empire.

The Indian Industry is passing through a period of transition and hopes to attain its full growth in every direction. The requirements of the Defence Department and the sister territories of the Empire will, it is hoped, provide the inspiration to the industry to manufacture such articles as may be in demand in the territories concerned.

Trade Enquiries

C 1. A local firm is interested in the purchase of Manganese and chrome ore, graphite kapok and medicinal herbs.

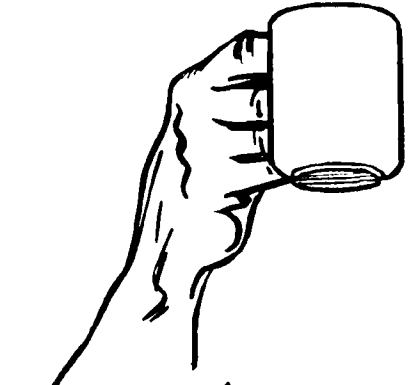
C 2. A local firm wants names and addresses of purchasers of aloe fibre.

C 3. A firm in London wants addresses of exporters of Manganese ore.

C 4. A firm in Nigeria wants to get into touch with manufacturers and exporters of hardware materials, provisions, cotton and woollen piecegoods and drugs and chemicals.



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THAT CHEERS
4 o'clock
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Agriculture

COTTON:

The average of the areas under cotton in the Madras Province during the five years ending 1939-40 has represented 9 per cent of the total area under cotton in India.

2. The area under cotton upto 25th September 1941 is estimated at 823,500 acres. When compared with the area of 913,700 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 9.9 per cent.

3. *Central districts and south*—Mainly *Cambodia tract*.—The area in the central districts and the south relates partly to the last year's crop and partly to the current year's sowings which have commenced in parts.

White and Red Northern tracts.—The area under White and Red Northern fell from 142,000 acres to 63,000 acres, i.e., by 55.6 per cent. The decrease in area in the current year is due to the poor rains received in July and August.

Western tract.—The area under Westerns fell from 495,500 acres to 451,000 acres, i.e., by 9.0 per cent. The decrease in area occurs mainly in Bellary where the sowing rains in June and July were in defect.

Warangal and Cocanadas tract.—The area under Warangal and Cocanadas cotton fell from 89,300 acres to 85,700 acres, i.e., by 4.0 per cent. The decrease in area occurs mainly in Guntur where the rainfall in July and August was in defect.

4. The condition of the crop is generally satisfactory except in Kistna and Guntur where it suffered from drought to some extent.

5. The average wholesale price of cotton lint per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lb. equivalent to 3,260 tolas as reported from important markets on 6th October 1941 was Rs. 17-5-0 for Cocanadas, Rs. 20-9-0 for White Northerns, Rs. 18-2-0 for Red Northerns, Rs. 16-8-0 for Westerns (Nungari), Rs. 22 for Westerns (Jovari), Rs. 41-1-0 for Coimbatore Cambodia, Rs. 36-10-0 for Coimbatore Karungunni, Rs. 26-11-0 for Tinnevelles and Rs. 29-2-0 for Nadam cotton. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i.e., those which prevailed on 8th September 1941, the prices reveal a rise of two per cent in the case of Nadam cotton and one per cent in the case of Coimbatore Cambodia and a fall of four per cent in the case of Tinnevelles, the prices remaining stationary in the case of the other varieties.

6. Figures by districts are given below:—
(Area in hundreds of acres, i.e., 00 being omitted.)

District and tract.	Estimate of the area sown up to the end of			Increase (+) or decrease (—) of the area in column (3) as compared with the area in column (4)
	July 1941.	September 1941.	September 1940.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Chingleput ...	1	1	1	Nil
South Arcot ...	4.0	12.0	5.0	+ 7.0
Chittoor ...	Nil	1	1	Nil
North Arcot ...	4	9	5	+ 4
Salem ...	32.0	50.0	39.0	+ 11.0
Coimbatore ...	45.0	65.0	62.0	+ 3.0
Trichinopoly (including Pudukkottai)	7.0	11.0	8.0	+ 3.0
Tanjore ...	1	1	1	Nil
Madura ...	33.0	46.0	35.0	+ 11.0
Ramnad ...	6.0	14.0	14.0	Nil
Tinnevelly ...	15.0	17.0	15.0	+ 2.0
Malabar ...	5	1.1	7	+ 4
South Canara	2	2	2	Nil
Total mainly Cambodia (including Nadam and Bourbon) ...	143.3	217.5	179.7	+ 37.8
Kurnool (Pattikonda taluk)	1.3	25.0	28.0	— 3.0
Bellary ...	7.0	292.0	340.0	— 48.0
Anantapur ...	5	88.0	82.0	+ 6.0
Cuddapah ...	4	46.0	45.5	+ 5
Total, Westerns ...	9.2	451.0	495.5	— 44.5
Kurnool (excluding Pattikonda taluk, but including Banganapalle)	1.7	63.0	142.0	— 79.0
Total, White and Red Northern	1.7	63.0	142.0	— 79.0
Vizagapatam (Golconda taluk) ...	1.5	1.7	1.8	— 1
East Godavari ...	4	2.5	2.5	Nil
West Godavari ...	4	5	5	Nil
Kistna ...	7	2.5	3.0	— 5
Guntur ...	4.0	63.5	66.5	— 3.0
Nellore ...	Nil	15.0	15.0	Nil
Total, Warangal and Cocanadas	7.0	85.7	89.3	— 3.6
Vizagapatam (except Golconda taluk). Chinnapati (short staple)	6.0	6.3	7.2	— 9.0
Grand Total	167.2	823.5	913.7	— 90.2

Agriculture

GINGELLY:

The average of the areas under gingelly in the Madras Province during the five years ending 1939-40 has represented 15.8 per cent of the total area under gingelly in India.

2. The area sown with gingelly up to 25th September 1941 is estimated at 435,400 acres. When compared with area of 437,100 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year it reveals a decrease of 0.4 per cent.

3. The estimated area is the same as that of last year in Guntur, Kurnool and Cuddapah; an increase in area is revealed in the Circars (Guntur excepted), Bellary, Trichinopoly, Madura and the West Coast and a decrease in area in the rest of the Province, especially in South Arcot, North Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore.

4. The early crop of gingelly has been harvested in parts. The yield was generally below normal except in Coimbatore and Ramnad.

The main crop of gingelly has been affected to some extent by drought in Kistna, Guntur, the Deccan and Salem. The condition of the crop is fairly satisfactory in the other districts of the Province.

5. The wholesale price of gingelly per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lb. (equivalent to 3,200 tolas) as reported from important markets on 6th October 1941 was Rs. 7-4-0 in Cocanada, Rs. 7-3-0 in Cuddalore, Rs. 7-1-0 in the Trichinopoly, Rs. 6-12-0 in Tinnevelly, Rs. 6-7-0 in Ellore and Tuticorin Rs. 6-3-0 in Rajahmundry, Rs. 6-1-0 in Salem, Rs. 6 in Vizagapatam and Rs. 5-11-0 in Vizianagram. When compared with the prices published in the last report, i.e., those which prevailed on 4th August 1941, these prices reveal a rise of approximately 12 per cent in Cuddalore, 9 per cent in Rajahmundry, 4 per cent in Cocanada and Ellore; 2 per cent in Vizagapatam and 1 per cent in Tuticorin and a fall of approximately 2 per cent in Vizianagram, the prices remaining stationary in Salem, Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly.

6. Figures by districts are given below:—
(Area in hundreds of acres, i.e., 00 being omitted.)

District and group.	Estimate of area sown up to the end of			Increase (+) or decrease (—) of the area in column (3) as compared with the area in column (4)
	July 1941.	Sep. 1941.	Sep. 1940.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Vizagapatam ...	85.0	120.0	93.0	+ 27.0
East Godavari ...	28.0	41.0	39.0	+ 2.0
West Godavari ...	31.0	40.0	27.0	+ 13.0
Kistna ...	2.5	4.0	3.0	+ 1.0
Guntur ...	1	1.2	1.2	Nil
Circars ...	146.6	206.2	163.2	+ 43.0
Kurnool ...	1	1.5	1.5	Nil
Bellary ...	3.5	12.0	8.5	+ 3.5
Anantapur ...	1.5	17.0	20.0	— 3.0
Cuddapah ...	Nil	1	1	Nil
Deccan ...	5.1	30.6	30.1	+ 5
Nellore ...	5	1.5	2.0	— 9
Chingleput ...	4.0	11.0	15.0	— 4.0
South Arcot ...	5.0	10.0	21.0	— 11.0
Carnatic ...	9.5	22.5	38.0	— 15.5
Chittoor ...	3.0	3.0	5.0	— 2.0
North Arcot ...	6.0	6.5	26.0	— 19.5
Salem ...	49.0	56.0	73.0	— 17.0
Coimbatore ...	37.0	42.0	54.0	— 12.0
Trichinopoly ...	3.5	32.0	10.5	+ 21.5
Central ...	98.5	139.5	168.5	— 29.0
Tanjore ...	4	3.0	4.0	— 1.0
Madura ...	11.5	16.0	14.0	+ 2.0
Ramnad ...	2.5	3.0	4.0	— 1.0
Tinnevelly ...	6.0	6.5	8.0	— 1.5
South ...	20.4	28.5	30.0	1.5
Malabar ...	4	6.7	6.0	+ 7
South Kanara ...	1.3	1.4	1.3	+ 1
West Coast ...	1.7	8.1	7.3	+ 8
Province ...	28.8	435.4	437.1	— 1.7

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	225	630	649	80	67	21	23	838	664	1,106	631
July	2,392	301	497	1,005	74	48	28	36	83	874	1,033	1,311
August	644	256	827	705	62	50	19	27	806	784	1,504	1,099
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	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	1,629
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	1,315	542	537	3,663	1,289	558	102	1,874	3,163	13,871	9,514
July	1,533	1,481	564	594	3,910	1,670	361	70	8,535	5,166	11,888	9,346
August	1,333	1,996	732	908	438	1,416	731	229	5,044	4,366	15,096	11,221
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		141,060	

* 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	...	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	1,026	45	69	671	517	47	80	521	521	90	148
July	2,176	984	84	67	802	578	96	36	56	415	80	212
August	2,158	1,370	142	69	616	539	50	32	625	334	88	176
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
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	2,111	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	9,441	2,967	3,079	3,428	3,470	68	127	651	438	1,228	1,123
August	8,924	7,474	2,007	2,688	2,716	4,250	38	120	405	333	1,201	1,269
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		60,22	

* 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		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	2,494
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	99,390
April	1,144	4,036	16	131	2,206	2,822	274	34	2,794	3,132	4,017	35,707
May	1,176	2,202	18	88	1,433	312	115	Nil	108	1,960	5,716	6,818
June	765	4,303	18	12	1,834	894	48	4	3,513	712	2,145	3,559
July	399	123	8	—	1,990	1,548	158	1	2,114	303	2,809	2,660
August	416	173		123	1,921	1,441	123	2	678	365	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	

* 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	41	39	Nil	528	517	Nil	2	275	42	3,691	4,835
July	17	68	47	30	609	538	9	1	Nil	3	2,627	3,679
August	32	37	57	91	748	656	1	4	4	1	3,121	4,216
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	

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

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	2,620	1,405 60	174	741	2,132	2,263	104 76	419	361			
June	...	78	3,379	701 257	47	343	1,247	977	89 101	367	342			
July	...	73	10,034	834 601	51	321	1,798	1,294	111 114	334	320			
August	...	827	2,381	118 2034	76	351	1,315	1,474	118 114	411	1701			
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		4,800		

* 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	149			
February	...	378	397	676 592	4,532	5,080	981 628	30	83	74	205			
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	152	1,241 965	3,141	2,996	505 1,655	58	16	68	162			
August	...	122	147	96 1,701	2,007	2,899	1,385 779	85	23	112	193			
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.

Pending Tenders

Article.	Address.	Last date of application.
Enamels and Varnishes	Chief Controller of Purchase (Supply), New Delhi.	5th Jan. 1942
Tyres and tubes for bicycles from 1-4-1942 to 31-3-1943	"	13th Jan. 1942
Inks	Superintendent of Stationery, Madras.	10th Jan. 1942
Other miscellaneous articles of stationery from 1-4-42 to 31-12-43	"	20th Jan. 1942

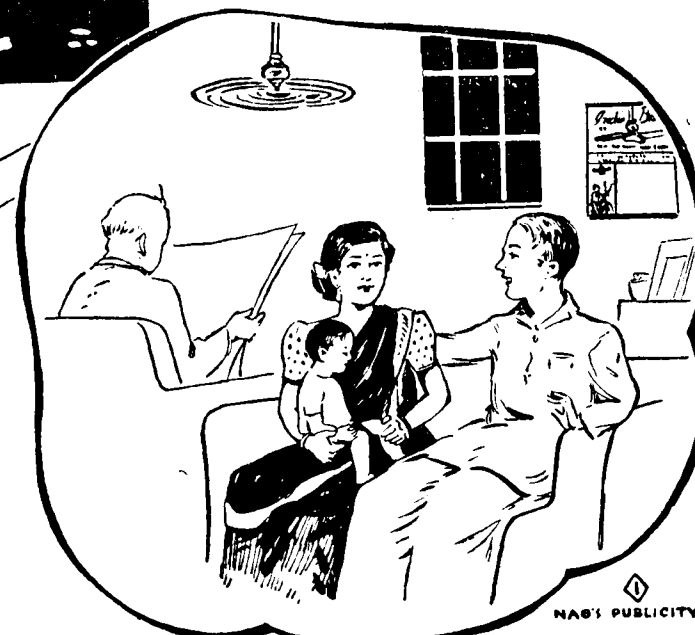


Nature Comfort's THE TIRED TRAVELLER

The Banyan provides the shade and protects the exhausted traveller against the summer heat

Let
INDIA-BHARAT

Comfort you, in interiors affording the much-needed protection in a sultry atmosphere.



Every comfortable premises has India-Bharat—the fans supreme.

THE INDIA ELECTRIC WORKS, LTD., 12-A, Lingha Chetty St., Madras.



Transport

M. & S. M. RAILWAY RATES.

The following station-to-station rates have been introduced:

Description of Goods	STATIONS		Rates Rs. A. P.
	From	To	
Cocoanuts, coconut kernels	...	Cochin Hr. Terminus	Poona (via Jalarpet Arkonam and Raichur)
		Badagara	do.
		Calicut	do.
		Cannanore	do.
		Ernakulam Goods	do.
		Tanur	do.
		Tellicherry	do.
		Tirur	do.
Sulphate of copper	...	Chik Banavar	Mangalore (via Bangalore city and Jalarpet)
Confectionery	...	Madras (via Jalarpet)	Calicut
		do	Cannanore
		do	Cochin Hr. Ter.
		do	Ernakulam Goods
		do	Mangalore
		do	Tellicherry
Flour	...	Cawnpore Central Goods shed	Tirur
			Madras (via Balharshah and Bezwada)
Glassware	...	Chhota Ambona	Madras (via Asansol and Waltair)
Groundnuts	...	Athni O/A	Bombay (via Shedbal and Poona)
		Bezwada (via Waltair)	Via Asansol (for traffic to Sultanganj and Bhagalpur)
		Bhimadol (via Waltair)	do.
		Guntur (via Tenali and Waltair)	do.
		Nadikude (via Waltair)	do.
		Nuzvid (via Waltair)	Via Gomoh (for traffic to Patna Ghat)
		Peddakurapadu (Via Waltair)	Via Asansol (for traffic to Sultanganj and Bhagalpur)
	...	Kharmavaram	Bombay (via Hotgi)
		Kadiri	do.
		Kadiri	Via Mormugao Hr.
Groundnuts with shell		Kalluru	Bombay (via Hotgi)
		Pamidi	Via Mormugao Hr.
			Bombay (via Hotgi)
			Marmugao Hr.
	...	Ambarbath	Coimbatore (via Raichur, Arkonam, and Jalarpet)
			Madras (via Raichur)
			Madura (via Raichur and Arkonam)
			Salem Market (via Raichur, Arkonam and Jalarpet)
	...	Via Sasaram (for traffic from Bikramganj)	Calicut (via Gomoh, Waltair, Madras and Jalarpet)
			Cannanore (via Gomoh, Waltair, Madras and Jalarpet)
Sugar			to
			1 1 7
			0 14 8
			to
			1 1 7

Transport—(Continued)

Description of Goods.	STATIONS		Rates Rs. A. P.
	From	To	
Sugar	...	Via Sasaram (for traffic from Bikramganj)	Cochin Hr. Ter. (via Gomoh, Waltair, Madras and Jalarpet)
			Ernakulam Goods (via Gomoh, Waltair, Madras and Jalarpet)
			Mangalore (via Gomoh, Waltair, Madras and Jalarpet)
			Tellicherry (via Gomoh, Waltair, Madras and Jalarpet)
Timber	...	Azhikkal	Titucorin (via Gomoh, Waltair, Madras and Arkonam)
		Chalakudi	Madras (via Jalarpet)
		Cochin Hr. Ter.	do.
		Ernakulam Goods	do.
		Ferok	do.
		Irinjalakuda	do.
		Kallayi	do.
		Kuttiyuram	do.
		Ollur	do.
		Ottapalam	do.
		Palghat	do.
		Pallipuram	do.
		Pattambi	do.
		Shoranur	do.
		Tellicherry	do.
		Chalakudi	Katpadi (via Jalarpet)
		Ferok	Ranipet (via Jalarpet)
		Kallayi	Ambur (via Jalarpet)
			Ambur (via Jalarpet)
			Gudiyattam (via Jalarpet)
			Katpadi (via Jalarpet)
			Ranipet (via Jalarpet)
			Vaniambadi (via Jalarpet)
			Katpadi (via Jalarpet)
			Ranipet (via Jalarpet)
			Katpadi (via Jalarpet)
			Via Madras (via Jalarpet) for traffic to stations from Tiruvottiyur to Nellore (both inclusive on the N. E. Line)
			do.
			do.
			do.
Tobacco	...	Sangli (via Harihar, Bangalore city and Jalarpet)	Calicut
			Cochin Hr. Ter.
			Ernakulam Goods
			Mangalore
			Tellicherry
			1 15 5
			1 15 0
			1 14 10

Banking, Insurance, and Finance

Current and Time Deposits of Scheduled Banks in India and Burma (In Lakhs of Rupees)

Month.	Current Deposits.			Time Deposits.			Total.		
	1939	1940	1941	1939	1940	1941	1939	1940	1941
January	12,893	14,563	178,01	108,50	10,842	10,188	23,743	25,405	27,989
February	12,737	15,138	144,42	108,29	10,888	11,033	23,566	25,926	25,475
March	13,066	15,037	180,99	107,29	10,888	10,463	23,795	25,925	28,562
April	12,861	14,982	184,24	108,50	11,323	105,60	23,711	26,305	289,84
May	12,949	14,542	187,89	108,96	11,213	106,30	23,845	25,755	294,19
June	13,190	14,393	194,89	109,12	10,775	107,39	33,102	25,168	302,28
July	14,074	15,348	198,31	107,39	10,660	108,99	24,813	26,008	307,30
August	14,139	16,060	210,03	106,46	10,188	106,15	24,785	26,248	316,08
September	13,919	16,549	217,81	102,10	10,136	108,33	24,129	26,685	326,14
October	14,081	17,011	227,80	99,75	10,067	110,80	24,056	27,078	338,60
November	14,504	17,547		101,82	10,063		24,686	27,610	
December	14,657	17,887		104,76	10,044		25,133	27,931	

Madras Clearing House Returns (In Lakhs of Rupees)

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.	1940	1941
1918-19	2,548	1928-29	6,573	January ...	857
1919-20	3,395	1929-30	8,219	February ...	851
1920-21	7,579	1930-31	5,036	March ...	1,444
1921-22	3,954	1931-32	4,397	April ...	875
1922-23	4,513	1932-33	4,885	May ...	1,127
1923-24	5,541	1933-34	5,319	June ...	839
1924-25	5,596	1934-35	5,622	July ...	721
1925-26	5,680	1935-36	6,923	August ...	479
1926-27	5,453	1936-37	9,139	September ...	781
1927-28	5,979	1937-38	10,405	October ...	791
		1938-39	12,748	November ...	1,006
				December ...	957

CURRENCY NOTES ISSUED IN INDIA AND BURMA

(In Crores of Rupees)

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
January	...	204	213	293	254
February	...	208	213	205	252
March	...	208	214	207	253
April	...	208	214	207	252
May	...	207	214	207	257
June	...	208	214	211	256
July	...	212	213	214	264
August	...	213	215	223	260
September	...	213	212	228	258
October	...	214	209	248	256
November	...	214	208	221	256
December	...	214	206	253	225

GOLD EXPORT FROM INDIA

In Rupees From 1931 up to March 1940
1,329,272,382

Market Reports

MADRAS

(1-12-1941)

Cotton Yarn—	Rs.	A.	P.
60's (5 lb. bundle)			
Coimbatore	...	...	13 8 0
Kothari	...	...	13 6 0
40's (10 lb. bundle)			
Coimbatore Mills	...	...	17 9 0
Metals—			
Yellow Metal Sheets 'I.C.C.' 500 lbs.	...	490	0 0
Copper Sheets	...	430	0 0
Tanned Hides—	Rs.	A.	P.
Bangalore—8 to 8½ per lb.	0 14	3	to 0 15 0
Up Countries	0 14	0	to 0 14 6
Coasts—7 to 7½ lbs.	0 14	3	to 0 15 0

Tanned Goat—

Good, per lb.	...	1 14	0	to	2 0 0
Fair, ..	...	1 10	0	to	1 12 0
Common ..	...	1 6	0	to	1 8 0

Tanned Sheep—

Good, per lb.	...	1 6	0	to	1 8 0
Fair, ..	...	1 3	0	to	1 4 0
Common ..	...	1 2	0	to	1 3 0

Oil Seeds—

Groundnuts, Machined (531 lbs.)	...	33	0	0
---------------------------------	-----	----	---	---

Produce—

Rice, Calcutta (Nagara) boiled (164 lbs.)	12	4	0
Jaggery, 500 lbs. 1st quality	...	27	0 0
" " 2nd quality	...	24	0 0
Horsegram, bag of 216 lbs.	...	6	8 0
Turmeric, baram of 500 lbs.	...	41	0 0
Pepper, Tellicherry (pure) 25 lbs.	...	3 14	0
" Bydgi	...	6 2	0
Ginger, Dry (Calicut) 500 lbs.	...	170	0 0
Tobacco leaf, Cigar & Chewing quality (500 lbs.)	...	120	0 0
" Snuff quality (500 lbs.)	...	120 to 150	
Salt, bag of 2 maunds	...	3 15	0
Pure Ghee, tin of 37½ lbs.	...	23	0 0

BANGALORE

(1-12-1941)

(By The Mysore Chamber of Commerce)

Silk—The demand during this week also has continued to be good. The prices have gone up further by about as. 4 per seer on account of limited stocks locally and the prevailing high prices at Bombay for foreign silks.

	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Sidlaghatta Silk per seer of 26½ tolas	8	8	0	to	8	12 0
Closepet Silk	7	8	0	to	9	4 0
Chickballapur Silk	7	8	0	to	8	0 0
Kyalanur Silk	7	12	0	to	8	4 0
Mudavadi Silk	7	4	0	to	7	8 0
Channapatna Silk	7	0	0	to	2	4 0
Kollegal Silk per maund 1000 tolas	325	0	0	to	400	0 0
Silk-waste	6	12	0	to	7	4 0
13/15 denier per lb. ex-Factory	20	0	0			
16/18 " " "	20	4	0			
20/22 " " "	20	0	0			
28/30 " " "	20	0	0			

BOMBAY

(21-11-1941)

(By The Millowners' Association, Bombay)

PIECE-GOODS.

Grey, Unbleached—

	inch.	yds.	lbs.	per lb.	Rs.	A.	P.
Longcloth (Standard Quality)	37	37½	9	..	1	3	10
" (Fine Quality)	44	38	7½	..	1	15	6
Shirtings	35	38	9	..	1	2	9
" (Vegetable Quality)	37	37½	9	..	1	4	0
Leopard Cloth	43	38	11½	..	1	3	0
Dhoties (upto ½" nakhi Border)	32	9	1½	..	1	3	0
" (Calcutta, ¾" P. B.)	44	10	11½	..	1	9	6
Drills	29½	40	13½	..	1	2	10
Domestics	35	40	13½	..	1	2	6
Salitra	35	40	12	..	1	2	10
Chadars	40	66	25	..	1	3	0
White, Bleached—							
Longcloth	34	40	per piece	..	21	8	0
Drill	27	42	..	..	16	6	6

Yarn—

4s (All Waste)	...	...	per lb.	0	6	6
6½s (" ")	...	...	..	0	6	9
8½s	...	...	..	0	10	0
10½s	...	...	..	0	10	6
12½s	...	...	..	0	10	10
16s	...	...	..	0	14	11
20s	...	...	..	1	0	3
24s	...	...	..	1	0	10
32s	...	...	..	1	6	6
40s	...	...	..	(Not quoted)		
60s	...	...	..	2	6	0
80s	...	...	..	3	3	0

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THE SOUTHERN INDIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

EXPORT OF METAL CONTAINERS:

Under the Iron & Steel Control Order the export of metal containers is prohibited without a license. Exporters of oil, curry powder, toilet powder, etc. in drums or tins are put to considerable difficulty. The merchandise is not prohibited from being exported, nor requires license. On complaints being received the Chamber made representation to Government to allow the export of metal containers. In the course of the Memorandum the Chamber has pointed out that these metal containers are exported not for the value of the metal but because they are the safest means of export of these commodities and that in many cases these metal containers are returned either filled with coconut oil in the case of Ceylon or as empties for further use. Lacking license the merchandise is held up at the ports, the exporters thereby incurring unnecessary wharfage and losses due to pilferage. In the case of curry powder there are no other containers for their export preserving at the same time their flavour and quality. These metal containers form only a small percentage of the value of the commodity. Under the circumstances the Chamber has requested Government to permit the export of these containers without license. Government have since allowed free of license canned provisions in metal containers of 1 lb. and not more, the idea being that containers remaining in retail sale may be allowed. That does not meet the situation fully.

WAGON SHORTAGE FOR TRANSPORT OF COAL:

Owing to the difficulty of getting wagons for the transport of coal many industries are suffering. Even firms engaged in the manufacture of War Supply requirements are not being supplied with wagons for coal transport. The Chamber has addressed the Railway Board, in the course of which it has been pointed out that firms manufacturing for War Supply orders should be given facilities for transport of coal as otherwise they will not be able to carry on and execute the work in time. Owing to the non-availability of coal in sufficient quantities the price of coal has gone up which was not anticipated when contracts were entered into and the contractors are put to loss owing to the increase in price of coal. The Chamber has

therefore urged for the supply of sufficient number of wagons for coal transport.

DISMANTLING OF BRANCH RAILWAY LINES:

The Chamber has consistently been opposing the dismantling of branch Railway lines constructed at enormous cost. With regard to the closure of the Salem-Mettur Railway line also, the Chamber has protested against the proposal to close down the branch line. It was brought to the notice of the Government that because of the facilities offered by the Railway for the transport of raw materials to the factory and for the manufactured article from the factory and other facilities many new and pioneer industries have grown in and around these areas and if the Railway line is dismantled the industries built up after considerable initial losses are likely to be faced with severe losses and eventual closure. In these days when imports of essential requirements are restricted, all facilities should be given to factories engaged in the manufacture of these commodities. The transport charge forms an integral part of the value of the commodity and if it is raised these commodities may not be able to stand competition from imported products. The Chamber has therefore urged the retention of the branch line.

RAILWAY FREIGHT ON PROHIBITED GOODS:

It has been brought to the notice of the Chamber that the South Indian Railway Co., Ltd., after accepting the goods on through consignment basis to Ceylon, claimed freight for the return of goods also when the goods were returned owing to the refusal of the Customs authorities at Dhanushkodi to pass the goods for want of a license. It was represented to the Chamber that the Railway Company accepted the goods on through consignment basis for transport to Ceylon but owing to the objection raised by the Customs Department the goods were returned to the Consignor and the Railways claimed the return freight. The Chamber has made a representation to the Railways in the course of which it has been pointed out that ignorant of the daily increasing list of restricted articles the party must have tendered the goods for despatch and the Railways who are expected to keep an up-to-date

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list of prohibited goods have accepted them on through consignment. Wherever licenses are required the Railways have been insisting on the production of licenses and Country of Origin Certificates before acceptance of goods, and so when the goods were accepted the party thought no license was necessary. Having accepted the goods on through consignment it was not fair on the part of the Railway to insist on the payment of freight for the return journey also. The acceptance is as much a fault of the Railway Company as of the Consignor. The Consignor has already been penalised by packing, cartage and wharfage charges and to penalise the Consignor with the return freight will be too heavy. It was therefore pointed out that in such isolated cases where goods have been accepted the Railways should not insist upon the return freight as well. The question is still under the consideration of the Railways.

CONTROL OF EXPORTS OF RICE FROM BURMA:

The scheme proposed to be introduced by the Government of Burma from 1942 onwards to control the exports of rice from Burma has naturally engaged the serious consideration of the public and the mercantile community and there have been country-wide protests against the proposed scheme. In the course of a communication addressed to the Government of India the Chamber made the following observation:

"My Committee do not wish to dwell upon in detail upon the harm that the proposed scheme might do to the Indian business houses established in Burma for many decades now, which has been prominently brought to the notice of the Government by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce in their letter No. F. 2450 dated the 14th October 1941 and by the Deputation appointed by the Conference of Rice Merchants' Association, India, Burma and Ceylon which waited upon the Hon'ble the Commerce member on the 25th October 1941, with whose representations my Committee are in full agreement, but my Committee wish to point out one or two outstanding features which are likely to strain the cordial relationship between India and Burma.

"My Committee wish to point out that since the separation of Burma from India in 1937, during the course of about four years now, the Government of Burma have been enacting legislation directed either against the acquisition of property by Indians in Burma or the aliena-

tion of lands held by Indians or against the free entry of Indians in Burma. Till the separation in 1937 the interests of Indians and Burmans were closely knit together politically and economically and notwithstanding the earlier decision to maintain *status quo* Burma has been pursuing a policy of her own, which has resulted in a trade agreement introducing for the first time customs duties on Indian goods imported. The recent Indo-Burma Immigration Agreement is another striking instance of the growing distrust of Indians by the Burma Government.

"It is against this background of distrust and discrimination that my Committee want the Government of India to view the scheme of the Burma Government to control exports of rice from Burma. In trying to serve its nationals the interests of Indians and others who have settled in the country on definite assurances of fair treatment and equal opportunities, and who have been mainly responsible for such a great volume of trade between Burma and India and Burma and Ceylon, should not be undone. It is an admitted fact that Indian labour and Indian capital and enterprise have played a very prominent part in developing the cultivation of paddy in Burma, and have developed the trade with India from an insignificant volume after undergoing considerable risk and loss. Indian enterprises have slowly and steadily cultivated the trade with India so that it now represents about 50% of the total export trade. Not only that, exports to other countries also are mainly in the hands of Indian merchants who have advanced large sums of money on credit and have employed very large clerical and other staff for management. Such slowly built Indian interests are sought to be demolished by the proposed scheme.

"According to the proposed scheme the Government of Burma and their Agents in India will be free to sell their rice to whomsoever they like in India while the Indian merchants who have built the export business cannot buy and export rice to Indian importing houses. It is downright expropriation which is probably not the intention of the authors of the scheme. If the Government of Burma have no such intention it is expected that the proposed scheme should leave intact the existing machinery of Indian exporters in Burma and importers in India who have been long established in the trade. This Chamber is aware that Government of India are doing

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their best in the matter and it is requested that all steps may be taken to ensure that Government of Burma would employ the agency of present importers and exporters and not disturb violently the present framework of the Burma rice trade."

Some change has been made by the Government of Burma but it is still far from being satisfactory.

GODOWN FACILITIES:

Government of India have on hand a survey of the Godown facilities in the country and with that end in view they have issued a questionnaire to elicit information regarding the existing facilities for storage accommodation, period for which goods are generally stored, credit facilities on the security of the stored goods, any malpractices in the working of godowns, the utility of government warehouses, control of warehouses by government, licensing of warehouses, issue of receipts by warehouses etc. The Chamber in forwarding its suggestions gave the following answers to the various questions.

"Certain banks give storage facilities in their own premises or in rented godowns, mostly in ports and rarely in inland towns. No private money lenders nor co-operative societies have any warehousing facilities worth mentioning. The Railways do not provide storage facilities to wait for better market.

"Ninety per cent of the cultivators sell away their produce immediately after harvesting. Others keep stocks from 3 to 6 months. Merchants as a rule do not stock agricultural produce for more than 6 months. Not more than 25% of them stock for speculative purposes. Even in the case of merchant-speculators it is practically a waiting for better market which usually occurs in certain seasons.

"A small percentage of cultivators make use of co-operative godowns. Others do not take advantage of any storage facilities offered by other agencies as they are not easily accessible.

"Banks and co-operative societies advance money on the stored goods usually up to 40 to 50 per cent of value. They do not help in the disposal of the stored products or render

SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY

The Administration much regrets that under prevailing war conditions the Christmas and New Year Holiday concessions will not be available this year.

Trichinopoly, }
15th Dec. 1941.

H. J. CRANE,
Chief Commercial Superintendent.

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any other services such as supply of daily prices etc.

"Present storage facilities are extremely inadequate. Further storage facilities are required for paddy, groundnut, raw cotton and tobacco among the larger crops.

"No malpractices have been so far known. "Government-owned warehouses would be a great advantage and they should be set up in different parts of the country. Such warehouses may have business connections with those of co-operative societies in the villages so that there will be no lack of storage godowns in any part of the country.

"Existing warehouses owned by Joint Stock banks and such warehouses as Government do not help in financing, need not be controlled by Government. It is best that warehousing . . . charges are more or less made uniform throughout the Province. The inspection of such warehouses might be entrusted to the Reserve Bank of India through the help of the scheduled banks.

"Private warehouses should also be licenced. Conditions for licence may relate to the following:—

- Sanitary fittings, lighting, flooring, fire fighting appliances,
- Safety from burglary,
- Easy access from roads and from cultivated lands, and
- Insurance against theft and fire.

"Warehousemen should be required under law to issue receipts for the produce stored. The receipt should contain particulars regarding quantity, quality, approximate value, packing, ownership, period of storage and possibilities of damage or deterioration during storage and expectations of marketing. Only broad divisions or grading will be feasible. The receipt should be a negotiable instrument under law.

"The disputes between depositors and warehousemen should be referred to the inspecting section of the Reserve Bank or scheduled bank nearest to the warehouse.

"Certain circumstances may be recognised for the sale of storage products by warehousemen. They may be as follows:—

- (a) In case of damage,
- (b) if the warehousing charges exceed a certain limit and are not paid,
- (c) if the period has been exceeded and when there is doubt about marketability.

In all such cases due notice should be given to the owner.

"Co-operative Societies should construct warehouses. Government should give 50% grant for such building. Both credit societies and sale societies should give loans on produce.

"Warehouses in villages may be left to be constructed by co-operative societies. In the Municipal towns they may be constructed by Government or by private owners under Government supervision. The Reserve Bank should be authorised to build warehouses under its Agricultural Credit Scheme in as many places as possible.

"Each such warehouse should accept all local products.

"Each owner's goods should be kept separate in the warehouse. Separate enclosures with cheap partitions are possible. Marking for identification might also be done.

All Municipal towns and villages of 10,000 people and over might be selected for opening of godowns.

MADRAS PORT TRUST

The Madras Port Trust Board has resolved to continue to extend the reduced harbour dues on large shipments of produce to shipment of raw tobacco for the Calendar Year 1942 also subject to the minimum shipment tonnage per shipper as was in force for the Calendar Year 1940 and 1941 viz., 10,000 tons.

INDIAN MERCHANTS' CHAMBER

SURCHARGE ON RAILWAY FREIGHT ON COAL:

The Indian Merchants' Chamber has addressed the Railways for non-enforcement of the additional surcharge during the months of December to April. It has been pointed out by them that owing to the shortage of wagons for the transport of coal, merchants cannot store coal during the slack season. The Railways on the one hand while asking to build up stocks during the slack season are unable to supply wagons to supply normal requirements so much so the appeal to build up stocks during the slack season has had no meaning and therefore the whole question required to be re-examined.

RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS FROM U.S.A.:

The Chamber requested the Government of India to permit the import of articles of provisions from U.S.A., to the extent of imports for the previous years. Government however

informed them that it was not possible to relax the Import Control Regulation so far as food-stuffs were concerned.

COMMON WEEKLY DAY OF REST UNDER THE BOMBAY SHIP AND COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENT ACT:

The Chamber recently considered the question that either by convention or through necessary legislation all trades should be required to observe a common weekly day of rest under the provisions of the above Act. But the opinion received from the different trade Associations was divided and in view of the difference of opinion the subject was dropped.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DELAYS IN CUSTOM HOUSE:

The Bombay Chamber of Commerce has been corresponding with the Collector of Customs, Bombay in regard to the delay in the delivery of cargo at the Docks. The Collector with a view to ensuring that there is no unavoidable delay on the part of the Customs staff, the various sheds, where work is being carried on are visited daily and on Sundays and holidays by the Assistant Collector of Customs in charge of outdoor duties and arrangement to meet exigencies are secured. In the case of any difficulty it has been arranged that a reference to the Assistant Collector by phone might be made even after office hours.

Changes in the list of Companies in the month of October 1941, made by the Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies, Madras.

I. COMPANIES REGISTERED:

Karur Commercial Syndicate, Limited.
Vidyaranya Commercial and Provident Society, Limited.
Hindustan Commercial and Transport Company, Limited.
Madura Sundaram Transport, Limited.
Reliance Motor Company, Limited.
Trichinopoly Speedways, Limited.
Mannachanallur Sri Krishna Rice Mills, Limited.
Kumble Anantha Narayana Prabhu, Limited.
Kuriamalai Tea Estates, Limited.
Wallwood Plantations and Agency, Limited.
Swarna Productions, Limited.
Sri Ramakrishna Theatre, Limited.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INQUIRY ON DAMAGE CAUSED BY ARMY DRIVERS:

The position as at present is that a member of the public suffering damage to property or injured by the negligent driving of a service vehicle has no right of action against the Army Department, and if the Military Authorities grant any compensation it is purely as an 'act of grace' and 'without prejudice'. The injured person has the right to sue, as an individual, the Army driver at fault and to obtain judgment against him. But there is bound to be considerable delay and difficulty in prosecuting a Civil case against an Army driver in war time. In view of the increase in Military traffic at the present time and in the interests of the public, the Chamber has addressed the Government requesting that some measures be taken to remedy this unsatisfactory position and to enable the public to obtain some reparation for injury caused by Army vehicles.

COMPULSORY WAR RISK INSURANCE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:

The Chamber has addressed a communication to Government recommending that immovable property such as buildings, plants and machinery should be brought under the purview of the compulsory war risk insurance of property. A resolution to that effect has been passed at the recent Annual Meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce.

II. COMPANIES DISSOLVED:

Patriotic Provident Insurance Company, Limited.
Provident Chit Bank, Limited.
Then India Vaniga Vysia Bank, Limited.
Cape Comorin Railway Transport Company, Limited.
Electrical Service Society, Limited.
Ramani, Limited.
V. B. Bellary and Company, Limited.
Sree Seetharama Rice Mills Company, Limited.
Silver Screens, Limited.
Hindustan Tourists, Limited.
Mutual Assurance Company, Limited.
Coimbatore Ice Manufacturing and Trading Company, Limited.

III. COMPANIES THAT CHANGED THEIR NAMES:

The Premier Insurance and Building Society Limited into "The Premier Life and General Insurance Company, Limited."

News and Notes

JOG FALLS, MYSORE:

Government of India have given their assent to the proposal of the Mysore Durbar to undertake the Jog Hydro-electric project near Madenur village. Government of India's conditions are that an agreed quantity of water would be let down the river from 1st October of each year to the 15th February of the following year and that electric power to the maximum of 5,000 E. H. P. would be supplied, if required, to the Government of Bombay on reasonable terms mutually agreed upon. Government of Madras have also expressed their willingness to acquire and lease for 999 years to the Mysore Government an extent of 400 acres of private land in Coondapur taluq. besides another area of 720 acres likely to be submerged. The project is likely to cost Rs. 280 lakhs.

INCOME TAX DEDUCTION:

The Central Board of Revenue have issued instructions that in the case of textile mills the cost of alterations to plant or machinery required with a view to fulfilling orders placed by the Supply Department will be allowed as a deduction for the purposes of income-tax and excess profits tax in the year in which it is incurred.

The cost of reallocation of plant or machinery to its original form, when these mills have ceased to fulfil Supply Department orders, will also be allowed as a revenue expense. Mills which have already altered their plant or machinery will also be eligible for the concession.

DIVIDEND INCOMETAX REFUND:

Government have agreed to meet the difficulty created by dividend certificates for refund of incometax to be signed by an absentee shareholder stating that he is the owner of the shares. Particularly under present conditions of war unduly long time is taken for the two journeys and there is likelihood of loss in transit also. Owing to this inconvenient requirement even the authorisation of the bank to collect the dividend does not relieve the shareholder of the trouble of attending to the dividend warrant. The Central Board of Revenue has now agreed that the absentee shareholder can send the following certificate to the incometax officer in advance:

"I hereby certify that the dividends in respect of which I am claiming refund in the attached application relate to shares which were my own property at the time of the dividends were declared during the period from..... toon (date).....and were in the possession of..... The relevant dividend certificates will be furnished to you by my Bankers in India, whose address is....."

Signature.....

Date.....

COTTON TRADE:

The Cotton Review for the season 1940-41 of Messrs. Chunilal Mehta & Co., Bombay is to hand. The imports of foreign cotton during the year increased from 5,01,000 bales in the previous year to 6,75,000 bales, that is, an increase of 34%. It shows that India has been converted into a war time storehouse for Empire's raw cotton surpluses. That particularly refers to U. K's purchase of the entire Egyptian crop of 1940-41. Indian mill consumption of Indian cotton also showed a record rise from 3,019,000 bales in the previous year, to 3,580,000 bales in 1940-41. At the end of the season defence requirements took 16% of the total mill production. Exports of Indian cotton piece-goods during the 10 months September 1940 to June 1941, amounted to 355 million yards, that is, 61% increase. Government's estimate of 1940-41 crop is 5,785,000 bales which appears to be an under estimate, ignoring as it does, the production of certain small Indian States and the use of nearly 3½ lakhs bales which do not go to the presses but are annually consumed in the homes of India for padding and other purposes. In the circumstances it is safe to assume a crop estimate of 6,069,000 bales for 1940-41. The market fluctuated for Broach Cotton from Rs. 175-8-0 per candy on 22nd January 1941 to Rs. 323 on 15th May 1941. The present price is round about Rs. 225 per candy.

Regarding 1941-42 crop it is estimated that the carry over of 1940-41 will be 1,750,000 bales which added to the crop of 1940-41 will leave 7,450,000 bales in the market. The home consumption may amount to 4,850,000 bales leaving a carry over at the end of 1941-42 of 2,600,000 bales. The income of the Indian

News & Notes

cotton farmer during 1940-41 has declined from Rs. 54 crores in the previous year to Rs. 49 crores in 1940-41.

MADRAS PORT TRUST AMENDMENT ACT:

The Madras Port Trust Amendment Act as passed by the Central legislature aims at the reconstitution of Port Trust Board into one consisting of 18 members. The S. I. Chamber is allotted 3 seats instead of 2 before, the Madras Chamber is allotted 4 seats, the Madras Trades Association 1 seat, the Andhra Chamber of Commerce 1 seat, the Southern India Skin and Hide Merchants' Association 2 seats, the Madras Government 1 seat, the Corporation 1 seat and Labour 1 seat. The Chairman and three other trustees will be nominated by the Central Government.

WAR SUPPLY:

The Standing Committee of the Central Legislature appointed to advise the Department of Supply is constituted as follows:

Sir H. P. Mody, K.B.E.,
Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi,
Mr. P. N. Sapru,
Syed Haider Imam,
Pandit Nilkanta Das,
Mr. R. R. Haddin, and
Babu Baijnath Bijari.

SHERIFFS:

In Madras the Sheriff for the year 1941-42 is Mr. Ameen Khallele son of the late Mr. Khallele Shirazi. He is a partner of the managing agents of several electric supply corporations in South India and is the managing Director of the Chittoor Transport Co., Ltd. Rao Saheb T. S. Kachapikessa Mudaliar has been appointed under Sheriff. Our hearty congratulations to them.

In Bombay Mr. M. R. Baig a prominent businessman and Honorary Secretary of the Rotary Club of Bombay has been appointed Sheriff for the ensuing year.

In Calcutta Mr. G. B. Morton O.B.E., M.C., senior partner of Messrs. Bird & Co., has been appointed Sheriff for the ensuing year. Mr. Morton is the President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and of the Associated Chambers of Commerce.

THE CENTRAL COTTON COMMITTEE:

The Report of the Central Cotton Committee for 1940-41 shows witness to the many

experiments that were undertaken in the technological laboratory. The total number of samples tested in the laboratory was 1800 as against 768 in the previous year. Tests were carried out of samples received from cotton mills and firms including fabrics of all goods, single and double yarn, sewing thread, parachute cloth, airman's webbing, dressings and absorbent cotton. The cotton fabrics in road construction, cloth cover for cotton bales and wo India's linters are other matters which engaging the attention of the Committee.

The laboratory also investigated the difficulties in mills such as tendering or occurrence of stains and holes in cloths.

RELAXATION OF CUSTOMS PROCEDURE

The Collector of Customs, Madras issued the following notification:—

"With a view to prevent congestion the docks due to delay in the Customs Clearance of import cargo, the following relaxations of Customs procedure will be made on request:—

"At present manifests have to be and vessels entered inward before bills of entry can be accepted for noting. Where manifests of vessels have not been filed for any reason the Custom House will nevertheless accept bills of entry from importers who can produce bills of lading or delivery orders. Such bills of entry will be provisionally 'noted' and clearance may be proceeded with, without importers waiting for the manifests to be filed.

"To avoid delay in the clearance of goods due to the absence of invoices, importers are invited to make use of the provisional duty procedure more extensively than at present. Importers are aware that under this procedure clearance is allowed on a deposit roughly 20% more than the estimated amount of duty. To minimise the locking up of money and to encourage resort to this procedure, the Custom House will in suitable cases reduce the extra amount required to be deposited, provided a bond is filed in the prescribed form."

