

U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—1945



Standing: Top Row—L. to R.—W. Cmdr. J. H. Sprott; Col. R. C. Morris; R. Walker; G. Stevens; S. H. Dennis; E. Sydenham Clarke; R. G. Foster; H. C. Schofield; K. N. Lingiah; V. M. Asirvatham Nadar; P. K. Nair; D. C. Kothari; H. S. Town; E. Lefevre; R. Unwin; A. M. Webb; Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain; E. E. Fennel; D. B. W. Swan; N. A. Subramanian.

Standing: Middle Row—L. to R.—W. W. Mayne; M. S. P. Rajes; H. Greenfield; J. C. Burton; V. O. Abraham; T. Ryan; B. D. Darkin; W. P. Laird; E. J. C. Hill; C. L. J. Humphreys; H. Sinclair; W. A. J. Milner; M. R. Coghlan; W. I. Hatherell; G. E. Garnham; H. D. Huggins; P. V. Cherian; M. S. Periyasamy Nadar; I. W. Finlaysott; E. G. Cameron.

Sitting: L. to R.—H. C. Boyd; C. M. Kothari; Ivor Bull, O.B.E.; H. B. Macpherson; Sir Thomas Austin, K.C.I.E., I.C.S. (Adviser to H. E. the Governor); J. L. H. Williams; A. McLaren (Chairman, Indian Tea Association); H. E. Sir Arthur Hope (Governor of Madras); F. H. Farmer (President); The Hon'ble Lady Hope; J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E.; Sir Norman Strathie, K.C.I.E., I.C.S. (Adviser to H. E. the Governor); Sir Frederick James, O.B.E., M.L.A. (Central); A. V. Thomas; and M. V. Vellodi.

YEAR BOOK
OF THE
UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTHERN INDIA



FOR THE YEAR 1944-1945

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CONTENTS

U.P.A.S.I.	PAGE
BUDGET GENERAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	1
U.P.A.S.I. BUDGET 1945-46 ...	10
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT ...	11
U.P.A.S.I. BALANCE SHEETS AS ON 31ST MARCH 1945 ...	17
U.P.A.S.I. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 1944-45 ...	20
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	21

TEA SECTION

TEA BUDGET MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	34
TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION BUDGET 1945-46 ...	35
TEA COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT ...	36
TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION ACCOUNTS 1944-45 ...	39
TEA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	40

COFFEE SECTION

COFFEE BUDGET MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	52
COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION BUDGET 1945-46 ...	55
COFFEE COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT ...	56
COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION ACCOUNTS 1944-45 ...	58
COFFEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	58

RUBBER SECTION

RUBBER COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT ...	64
RUBBER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	65

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

BUDGET GENERAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	70
LABOUR DEPARTMENT BUDGET 1945-46 ...	75
CONTROL COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT ...	76
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 1944-45 ...	78
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 1945 ...	80
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	82
LABOUR DEPARTMENT LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS ...	89

S.I.P. BENEVOLENT FUND

LIST OF PATRONS AND LIFE MEMBERS ...	91
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROCEEDINGS ...	92
S.I.P. BENEVOLENT FUND ACCOUNTS 1944-45 ...	94
MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION AND RULES ...	95

APPENDICES

U.P.A.S.I. BUYING AGENCY BYE-LAWS ...	96
U.P.A.S.I. LABOUR BYE-LAWS ...	97
U.P.A.S.I. LIST OF MEMBERS AND ACREAGES ...	98

OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE
UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

(as on 1st December 1945)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1945-46

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<i>Coffee Section Member</i> ...	W/COMDR. J. H. SPROTT, O.B.E., D.F.C.
<i>Rubber Section Member</i> ...	MR. H. B. MACPHERSON
<i>Legislative Members</i> ...	MR. R. C. MORRIS, M.L.A., MR. IVOR BULL, O.B.E., AND SIR FREDERICK JAMES, O.B.E., M.L.A. (CO-OPTED)

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MR. F. J. B. DIAPER	MR. R. WALKER
MR. M. R. COGHLAN	
MR. D. C. KOTHARI	
SIR FREDERICK JAMES, O.B.E., M.L.A.	

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Director, Labour Department—MR. R. UNWIN
Chief Scientific Officer—MR. W. WILSON MAYNE, B.SC.
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Auditors—MESSRS. FRASER & ROSS, MADRAS
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	{ Mr. G. K. Martin	1932-34	Mr. R. Fowke
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1906-07	{ Mr. J. A. Harris	1935-36	Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls
	{ Mr. Aylmer Ff. Martin	1936-37	Mr. A. W. F. Mills
1907-08	Mr. C. E. Abbott	1937-38	{ Mr. A. W. F. Mills
1908-09	Mr. J. G. Hamilton		{ Mr. C. R. T. Congreve
1909-10	Mr. J. A. Richardson	1938-39	Mr. R. C. Morris
1910-11	{ Mr. R. D. Tipping	1939-40	{ Mr. R. C. Morris
	{ Mr. C. H. Brock		{ Mr. E. H. Francis
	{ Hon. Mr. J. G. Hamilton	1940-43	Mr. J. R. N. Pryde
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1913-14	Mr. E. L. Mahon		{ Mr. J. R. N. Pryde
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1915-16	Mr. C. H. Browne		

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1900-04	...	Hon. Mr. G. L. Acworth.
1904-08	...	Hon. Mr. H. P. Hodgson.
1908-09	...	Hon. Mr. C. E. Abbott.
1909-12	...	Hon. Mr. J. G. Hamilton.
1912-19	...	Hon. Sir Fairless Barber.
1919-22	...	Mr. J. A. Richardson, M.L.C.
1922-25	...	Mr. C. R. T. Congreve, M.L.C.
1925-26	...	Capt. E. G. Windle, M.L.C.
1926-29	...	Mr. C. R. T. Congreve, M.L.C.
1929-30	...	Mr. F. E. James, O.B.E., M.L.C.
1931	...	Mr. H. Waddington, M.L.C.
1931-32	...	Mr. F. E. James, O.B.E., M.L.C.
1932-34	...	Mr. W. K. M. Langley, M.L.C.
1934	...	Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock, O.B.E., V.D., M.L.C.
1935-37	...	Mr. W. K. M. Langley, M.L.C.
1937-38	...	Mr. W. K. M. Langley, O.B.E., M.L.A.
1938	...	Lt.-Col. C. H. Brock, O.B.E., V.D., M.L.A.
1939-41	...	Mr. W. K. M. Langley, O.B.E., M.L.A.

U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, held at Coonoor, on Wednesday, 28th March 1945, commencing at 3-00 p.m.

*Present:—*MESSRS F. H. Farmer, (President), J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E., J. L. H. Williams, Ivor Bull, O.B.E., F. G. Wallace, W. W. Mayne, B.Sc. (Secretary and Scientific Officer), N. A. Subramanian (Assistant Secretary) and R. Unwin (Director, Labour Department).

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CAMERON, Mrs. E. G., and OTHERS, *per* Mr. E. G. Cameron.
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VISITORS

MESSRS. A. R. H. ANGUS and M. BUTCHER.

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Mr. F. H. Farmer, President of the Association, presided.
At request of the President, the Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETINGS

The President.—The proceedings of the last Annual General Meetings held on 9th and 10th August, 1944, are published at pages 15-29 in the Association's Year Book for 1944. Have I your permission to take these as read and confirmed?

The proceedings were taken as read and confirmed.

REVISION OF U.P.A.S.I. RULES

The President.—The next item on the agenda, Gentlemen, is 'Revision of U.P.A.S.I. Rules'. There are three resolutions under this item. I propose to take them one by one. The first is:—

"That in Rules 11, 12 and 13 of the U.P.A.S.I. Rules, the figures '100' shall be substituted for the figures '150' wherever they occur".

The implications of this amendment are that the U.P.A.S.I. subscription at the full rate of 3 annas per acre and the product cesses fixed will be payable by all members owning more than 100 acres instead of the present limit of 150 acres. The benefit of the small owners' subscription rate and of exemption from liability to pay product cess will be given only to those members owning 100 acres or less. Has any member any questions or comments to make on this resolution? If not, I will move this resolution from the Chair.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

The President.—The second resolution is:—

"That at the end of Clause (b) of Rule 11 of the U.P.A.S.I. Rules, insert the words 'If his Annual Subscription to the Association is not less than the Annual Subscription fixed for the Planters' Chronicle'".

In view of the high cost of printing and paper, your Committee decided that a free copy of the Chronicle should be supplied only to those members who pay at least Rs. 15 a year as U.P.A.S.I. subscription. This amount is the annual subscription for the Chronicle payable by non-member subscribers. Has anyone got any questions or comments to make on this resolution? If not, I will move this resolution from the Chair.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

The President.—The third resolution reads:—

"That the following rule shall be inserted immediately after Rule 57 of the U.P.A.S.I. Rules, namely '57-A. Persons nominated to represent the Association on any Statutory or public body, Government or Quasi-Governmental Organisation or the like, may be appointed ex-officio members of such Product Committees as the Executive Committee may notify in this behalf; but no such member shall have any right of voting on such product committee'".

The resolution has been in your hands. It merely enables the Executive Committee to appoint U.P.A.S.I. representatives serving on statutory bodies, etc., to be members of the Product Committee concerned. This is to secure liaison between such representatives on public bodies and the Product Committees. This was actually at the suggestion of the Tea Section Committee who experienced some difficulties due to the absence of such liaison. If there are no questions, I will move this resolution from the Chair.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

The President.—The next item on the agenda is subscription for the year 1st April 1945 to 31st March 1946. The resolution already circulated under this item has been slightly amended by your Committee at its meeting last Monday and the resolution as so amended reads as follows:—

"That in accordance with the provisions of Rule 12 (a), the following be the rates of subscription payable by the ordinary members of the Association for the financial year 1st April, 1945-31st March, 1946:—

(1) For each ordinary member, owning a total planted area of more than 100 acres, at the rate of 3 annas per acre planted;

(2) For each ordinary member, owning a planted area of 100 acres or under, at the rate of Re. 1 for every completed 10 acres, provided that the minimum Annual Subscription payable shall be Rs. 2".

You will see that the rate for the larger owners is the same as the current year's. The small owner's scale has been slightly raised. Has any member any questions on this resolution. If not, I will move the resolution from the Chair.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

STAFF

The President.—Before we go to the next item "Budget for 1945-46", I shall take up certain matters which have a bearing on the Budget.

(a) Your Committee have given careful consideration to the future organization of the U.P.A.S.I. Secretariat and as a result have reluctantly decided to terminate Mr. Acaster's employment with the Association. Your Committee have given very careful consideration to the compensation payable to Mr. Acaster on the termination of his employment as Secretary with particular reference to their obligations under his service agreement and the National Service European British Subjects Act. They have decided that a sum of Rs. 19,140, and two passages to the U. K. would constitute a fair and reasonable settlement of their obligations and these terms have been accepted by Mr. Acaster. Provision has to be made for meeting this liability: a sum of Rs. 1,170 is being met from the current budget and there is already provision in the passage reserve fund for the balance of Rs. 17,970, to be provided, which the Committee considers should be met from the general reserves. To implement this proposal, I move the following official resolution:—

"That this meeting sanctions the withdrawal of a sum of Rs. 17,970 from the U.P.A.S.I. Accumulated Fund General Reserve Account for credit to a separate Suspense Account for payment in instalments to Mr. A. G. Acaster in connection with the termination of his employment as Secretary of the Association."

Gentlemen, I would like to hear if any member has any comments to make.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—I would like to know what does the General Reserve Fund amount to at present.

The President.—There are several Reserve Funds. The Head Office Reserve is Rs. 45,000; the General Reserve, Rs. 1,68,000; Tea Section Reserve, Rs. 42,000; Coffee Section Reserve, Rs. 17,000; and Rubber Section Reserve, Rs. 646. In this connection, it is as well to turn to the investments of the Association, which amount to

Rs. 2,11,000 and actually there is ample provision for the expenditure we are now entering into. Any more questions, Gentlemen?

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Could you tell me once again, Mr. President, what the amount to be drawn from the General Fund is?

The President.—On this item, the amount is Rs. 17,970. Well, if there are no questions, I will now move the resolution from the Chair. Would you like the resolution to be read over again?

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

The President.—I am afraid we are coming to a second liability, which will materialise during the year consequent on the retirement of Mr. K. V. Dharmaraj, Office Manager. The Committee agreed 18 months ago to offer a monthly pension of Rs. 100 to him, and your Committee consider that this liability can best be met by the purchase of an annuity with a responsible Insurance Company. This purchase will involve an expenditure of Rs. 17,400 approximately, which your Committee consider should be drawn from the General Reserve. I therefore move the following official resolution:—

"That this meeting sanctions the withdrawal of a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,400 from the U.P.A.S.I. Accumulated Fund General Reserve Account for the purpose of purchasing an annuity of Rs. 100 per mensem payable to the Retiring Office Manager as Pension."

I would invite your comments on this proposal.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Sir, the U.P.A.S.I. have large assets—about 2 lakhs. In view of this I do not see any necessity for an annuity to be purchased for giving Rs. 100 per mensem as a pension to the ex-manager; in which case, I feel that Rs. 100 p.m. should be charged every year in the budget and that the proposal of the Executive Committee may be dropped, since we have got the necessary funds and there is no point in giving money to an Insurance Company. This amount of Rs. 100 per mensem can easily be put as a recurring charge on our budget and by so doing the income-tax would be less. Otherwise for the purchase of the annuity, you will have to pay income-tax and thus deplete our general funds. I oppose this proposition on the ground that it is unnecessary at present to buy an annuity.

Mr. E. H. Francis.—On this question, I think the Executive Committee were very decided in their view that an annuity purchased now would be preferable to having a recurring expenditure. It would obviate any question arising in future on this issue as to why this Rs. 100 was paid and raking up things time and again. The Executive Committee, I think, are of the opinion that the purchase of an annuity would finish with the matter and would be preferable for the Association.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—On a matter of explanation, Sir, with reference to some member asking in future why this Rs. 100 has been provided in the budget, may I say, Sir, that we will get accustomed to this item for the lifetime of the ex-Manager. I do not think there will be any question as to why provision has been made or on the expenditure of the same. That argument does not appeal to me. I do not know if it appeals to others.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—In the unfortunate event of Mr. Dharmaraj dying within five years it will be a loss to the Association.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—We might also consider Mr. Dharmaraj living up to 80 or more.

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—I should think it would be preferable that the pension is charged to the annual budget rather than giving the insurance company money.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Mr. Kothari said that income-tax would have to be paid on the annuity.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—I feel that we will have to pay income-tax on this annuity. If the pension is provided for in the annual budget, the income-tax would be less to that extent.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—What is the age of the Gentleman in question.

The Secretary.—53.

The President.—Would Mr. Kothari like to bring any amendment to the resolution?

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Yes, Sir. I propose that this meeting recommends that a pension of Rs. 100 per mensem be made by annual budgetary provision.

The President.—Has anybody anything to say on this amendment?

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Does this fit in with the original resolution?

The President.—The amendment refers only to the method of payment of pension. It does not say anything about the payment of pension.

Mr. E. H. Francis.—I would like to raise one point. It would only be fair to consult the point of view of the old servant of this Association who has put in years of good work. It may be that a new Executive Committee may question this payment or we may run into another slump period. Mr. Dharmaraj may feel that his pension may be in danger, whereas if you take an annuity now his mind is contented. Sir, in other words, I think the Executive Committee are right in making their decision to purchase an annuity even if it is a little too expensive.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Sir, if it is necessary you could give him a security bond that he will have a charge on the capital of the U.P.A.S.I. if he thinks that the U.P.A.S.I. will not keep its promise. A further amendment may be added by saying that a security bond may be given to him that he will have a charge on the capital of the Association during his life-time. If he joined the Association with the idea of getting a pension, he should have known whether this Association will continue his pension or not. I do not feel, Sir, that servants may dictate terms to employers. If so, a time would come when every servant of this Association would demand his own terms. I do not believe that this Association or its capital funds cannot be deemed as sufficient security for paying him a pension. We might give him a security bond on the Imperial Bank of India. I feel that Mr. Francis' remark does not hold good.

The President.—I should like to point out that this sum is to be drawn from investments and is not dependent on the profit and loss account.

The Secretary.—This pension is a special case, for this servant of the U.P.A.S.I. joined the Association before the Association had a provident fund. Normally such a case is not likely to occur.

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—I know it has happened three times before. This may happen again for another 50 times. (Laughter) As regards the remarks made by Mr. Francis, if Mr. Dharmaraj is not willing to trust the U.P.A.S.I. I can easily tell him that the U.P.A.S.I. is not going to become bankrupt. If this is the case then I feel the future of the planting community in S. India is poor indeed.

The President.—I will put the amendment to the meeting.

"That this meeting recommends a pension to Mr. K. V. Dharmaraj, of Rs. 100 per month from September, 1945, to be met by annual budgetary provision".

The amendment was proposed by Mr. C. M. Kothari and seconded by Mr. C. R. T. Congreve and was carried, 11 voting for and 7 against.

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

The President.—We will now take up the Budget for 1945-46. As a result of the arrangements just now sanctioned the budget for 1945-46, in which usual provision is included for the Secretary on War Service, will show a reduction in total expenditure of Rs. 7,020 giving rise to an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 5,655 instead of a deficit of Rs. 1,365. Has any member any questions to put on the Budget? If there is no further question, I will move from the Chair:—

"That the Budget for the financial year 1st April 1945—31st March 1946, as circulated, with the amendments suggested and approved at this meeting be passed".

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The President.—Gentlemen, the next item on the Agenda is 'Any Other Business'. The first item under this heading is the Political Fund of this Association. It will be remembered that last year a balance in the Political Fund was transferred to the Reserve as a result of the discontinuance of direct U.P.A.S.I. participation in subscription to the S. I. P. & C. R. Fund. Subscriptions by the U.P.A.S.I. on behalf of political subscribers were made up to 31st December, 1943, and new arrangements were made for the continuation of political subscriptions to the S. I. P. & C. R. Fund by estates wishing to do so, independently from the U.P.A.S.I. The question has since been raised by certain subscribers that they had paid subscription for the year ending 31st March 1944 through the U.P.A.S.I. and that their subscription for the quarter ending 31st March 1944 should, therefore, be transferred to the new Fund.

Your Executive Committee consider that this claim is justified and in order to meet these subscriptions it will be necessary to withdraw a sum of Rs. 2,484 from the Reserve Fund. This represents the amount of subscriptions for the quarter 1st January—31st March 1944 due to the S.I.P. and C.R. Fund by members now subscribing direct to the S. I. P. and C. R. Fund. I will now move from the Chair:—

"That this meeting sanctions the withdrawal of Rs. 2,484 from the U.P.A.S.I. Accumulated Fund General Reserve Account for payment to the S.I.P. & C. R. Fund".

Are there any questions on this resolution, Gentlemen?

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Sir, when funds are transferred from the capital, usually notice should be given to members in advance of 14 days that such a transfer will be made. This transfer is neither urgent nor requires immediate attention of this house. I feel that the question of transfer of such funds from the capital is not justified. I would say that the transfer from the capital can be considered by this house if the notice can be waived.

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—I beg to differ from Mr. Kothari's remarks. There have been many occasions in the past when the Chairman, with the permission of the house, has brought forward some resolutions without notice. These have been allowed and carried. Sir, if the house gives you permission to move this resolution, it will be more in order. If you ask us permission to propose the resolution, we will give you that permission, which will be quite in order and, if Mr. Kothari insists upon notice—

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—I don't want to press further if the house gives you permission.

The President.—On this suggestion, I do feel there is an obligation of the Association in this matter. The question of transfer arose at the last Annual General Meeting in August 1944, when a sum of Rs. 9,000 was transferred to the U.P.A.S.I. Accumulated General Reserve Fund from the S.I.P. & C. R. Fund. This sum of Rs. 2,484 represents subscriptions to the S. I. P. & C. R. Fund. With your permission, Gentlemen, I will now move the resolution from the Chair.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

LABOUR

The President.—Before asking you if there is any other business I would like to make a brief reference to the regret that must be felt that Colonel Holland was unable to come here to-day and discuss with our representatives the serious position in which the members of this Association are placed as regards labour. We have endeavoured to meet the situation and got in touch with the military and civil authorities and have collaborated with them for the protection of the plantation industry, which is so essential to the war effort. I think, to some extent, due to the activities of many of our members and in particular the Labour Advisory Committee, we have met with some success. There is reason for us to be on guard and to keep our eyes open to prevent further interference and reduction of our labour forces, which are now seriously depleted. My own opinion is that in South India there is sufficient labour for military and civil purposes and the planting industry, and that, if only labour is handled in the right way, we shall get the maximum benefit from the labour available in South India, without affecting the interests of the recruiting authorities. I do hope that this Association, and the Labour Advisory Committee, in particular, will continue to do everything possible to help us. (Hear, hear). Has any member any suggestion to make on this subject?

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—We have got an excellent committee to look after our interests and this Committee has done wonderful work for the planting community. I should like to convey my thanks as well as those of all planters to this Committee and in particular to Mr. Kothari.

to talk to the military authorities. But, Sir, we should continue our efforts. The Military has a short memory. The recommendations made by one departmental committee of the Military authorities is forgotten by the next. I should like to stress the need for continued and constant work by these public spirited men who are on the Labour Advisory Committee. If necessary, I would suggest their attacking Delhi. I have been told by three different Governments to have nothing to do with the lesser fry but go to the top. In my short experience of 48 years I have learnt this. If you go to the top, they do their best for you and you will get your things done. Labour is the most important subject for the planting community at the present time. I should like to suggest for your consideration and for the consideration of your Committee that, if it is necessary no expenditure should be allowed to stand in the way. If necessary, they should see the Viceroy, the Commander-in-Chief, or the Officer Commanding, SEAC, on this subject. There may be sufficient labour, you are probably right. But in the meantime, Plantation labour, which is the best disciplined labour in South India, is naturally being taken away. I hope, Sir, that you and your Committee will not sleep for one minute, one hour or one day, without being constantly on the watch. This is the most important point before you and I hope you will not wait for money or for anybody else, if it is considered, and your Committee think it necessary, to go to Delhi at any cost whatsoever. No consideration of cost should be allowed to stand in the way. (Hear, hear).

The President.—Thank you, Mr. Congreve, for your remarks on this question and I am pleased to inform this meeting that on the recommendations of the Labour Advisory Committee, the Executive Committee have agreed that delegations from the Association should meet responsible authorities and in particular those at the head without delay. The Executive have approved that the cost should be met by the U.P.A.S.I. (Applause).

The President.—Another item, to which I should like to call your attention, was brought forward at the Tea Section Committee meeting by Mr. Congreve and passed on to the Executive Committee. Your Committee decided that this was a matter that was of considerable concern to the planting industry and they thought that it would be in the interests of all members and interests to bring this forward at the general meeting today. It is with reference to some irresponsible references which have been made in the press to the high dividends that are paid by planting concerns. These high dividends bear no relation actually to the original capital valuation of the property, or company. These give a misleading view of the profits which are being made by planting concerns and Mr. Congreve suggested that some action might be taken to call the attention of the public to put them aright. Mr. Congreve will explain this matter better himself.

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—Thank you Mr. President. Not long ago, a certain influential gentleman, belonging to the Government of Madras, was with me in my house and during tea we were talking on the subject of dividends and the cost of labour after the war. He was certainly of the opinion that the planting industry can easily bear the cost. He asked me to look into the papers and see the high dividends declared by planting companies. He cited Karamalai for instance. He went on to look at it from the point of view of a shareholder, not from the point of view of the capital. These were entirely two different things. He then told me that Imperial Bank of India have declared a dividend of 12½ per cent. At the present time the Imperial Bank of India shares are three times their original value. So the capital has been increased. I cited the instance of the Cochin Malabar Estates Ltd., whose capital was reduced from Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 2 lakhs. This Company has declared a dividend of 50 per cent. That is after all only 10 per cent on the original capital. This company never paid any dividends during the last 20 years. So this dividend of 50 per cent, working on an average, really means nothing. None of these Government servants realises or understands what it really means. It does appear to me that we should make the Government servants understand that these so-called high dividends are in truth not high dividends because in fact in any company at the present time, the number of original shareholders must be extremely small. Every year the value of the shares fluctuates and the prices paid for these shares are not the original price, rather the real price. In many cases, companies have never declared dividends for 15-20 years. For example, Karamalai did not pay dividends for a period of about 10 years. These are not taken into account when people say that the dividends are high. In most companies the original shareholders are non-existent. I think, Sir, that the excise duty, agricultural income-tax, etc. are based on the idea that the planting community is making fabulous wealth. In fact they are not. And that can be proved and easily too, if you get somebody who will sit down and work out and show the cost of the shares and dividends, after taking into consideration the reduction in the capital, the periods when no dividends were paid, etc. Some companies have not paid dividends for as many as 20 years. Actually the dividends the shareholders are getting are really nothing. (Laughter). If you will work it out you will find that it is so. I think you agree that there is something in it and I hope this Association will take such steps that are necessary to further my suggestion.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Sir, it is a false calculation to say that the Imperial Bank of India paid 12½ per cent dividend. The Imperial Bank of India came into existence with the amalgamation of the Banks of Madras, Bombay and Bengal and the shares were fully paid up. A shareholder owning a share of Rs. 500 was given 3 shares of Rs. 500 each. Calculated on this basis, the original shareholder got 37½ per cent return and not 12½ per cent.

Mr. E. H. Francis.—Many properties have been extended on revenue from the original capital. Of course there is no record of this.

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—That is another great point.

Mr. E. H. Francis.—I suggest that Mr. Congreve, Mr. Kothari and the Editor of the Planters' Chronicle should write short informative articles to the press on this subject.

The Secretary.—Mr. President, this matter was referred back to the Executive Committee by the Tea Section Committee and it was decided to bring this up for further discussion at this general meeting. Mr. Kothari very kindly agreed to prepare a statement on the financial history of companies which have experienced the particular circumstances to which Mr. Congreve referred. Then we will consider how far this is the type of article required. Mr. Kothari has promised to assist us in preparing an article on some such lines for publicity so that this question may be well ventilated.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Publicity should not be confined to Planters' Chronicle alone. Publicity should be given in the daily press.

Mr. Ivor Bull.—Also in the financial papers which would welcome such articles, and in the Government press.

The President.—Gentlemen, any further business?

AGRICULTURAL INCOME-TAX

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Sir, with your permission and with the permission of the house, I propose to move a resolution, which is as follows:

“This Association views with alarm and strongly protests against the introduction of the Bill for the Taxation of Agricultural Income and requests His Excellency the Governor not to give assent to the passing of the Bill or at least exempt Tea and Coffee from the incidence of the taxation as there is already a heavy Excise Duty imposed on these products.”

This I will supplement with a small paragraph later:—

“That additional taxation is not an urgent necessity to meet the Expenses and hence the provision of funds for post-war reconstruction must be made by the Government of the day who alone can gauge the necessity for such a taxation.”

There are a number of reasons against the agricultural income-tax bill, as you are aware, this Bill is being introduced and it may be that before we meet here again this Bill will receive the assent of His Excellency the Governor. The matter is so important that I hope you will agree with me we should register our protest and request His Excellency not to give assent to the Bill. I think, Sir, that I may be allowed to speak in this connection. I may say that some of you might have the view that it was the Congress Government that mooted the idea of the Bill to tax agricultural income. I have seen a telegram from the Associated Press that Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi, ex-President of the Madras Legislative Council, met His Excellency and urged that the Bill was most inopportune and unjust and that it should be withdrawn. He also suggested that His Excellency might receive a deputation of representatives of agriculturists who will put before him the case for the opposition. With your permission, I will move this resolution and put before you my case why this Bill is unjust and unfair and inopportune at present.

The President.—Well, Gentlemen, I should like to have your permission to accept this resolution for discussion.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Should this not be in Committee?

The President.—No.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—The resolution proposed by me has been read, and I do not think it is necessary for me to read it again. The President has given me permission to move this resolution. I am fully aware of the position of this Association and the house. I have worded the resolution as mildly as possible so that we do not offend any vested interests on the opposite side. Before I come to the terms of the resolution, I would take you to the history of the finances and taxes of the Government of Madras. Sir, you must be aware that in 1920, we had a surplus of nearly 2½ crores and that was taken to the Reserve Fund. What happened in 1923, when federation was talked about and the Central Government came into existence. Our 2½ crores was taken away by the Government of India. Whatever you put by as a surplus or reserve has been pounced upon by the Government of India for its deficit. Along with this, we might compare the history of Bengal and Bombay. These provinces never believed in creating reserves or surpluses. They taxed little, spent more. What was the result. When a Commission went into the question of the charges paid by Provincial Governments to the Central Government, Bombay said ‘We are a deficit Province’. Bengal also said the same thing. We lost our 2½ crores. We did not get very much from the Central Government; Bombay got a fairly large amount from the Central Government; Bengal also received something. They had no reserves and so lost nothing. This, Sir, is the history of the creation of reserves. I feel that we should have followed the example of Bengal and Bombay. If we put by some reserves, we do not know where they may go.

Sir, we all know that there is a Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance. The Government of Madras, Sir, is trying to hoard. For what purpose? Post-war reconstruction. I must say, Sir, there has been no construction. So there is no need for re-construction. They are hoarding in order that the Government of India may take away the surplus. I say that this is a disservice to Society if the Government does it. Well, they might say that they are creating a trust for the post-war reconstruction. I am saying that this is not the opportune time for doing it. This should be left to any future Government, whether it be a national government or the present Adviser regimes, to decide whether any additional taxation is necessary for financing post-war reconstruction schemes. Let them tax. I do not mind it. We do not know what this post-war reconstruction is going to be. We do not know what schemes are likely to come into force. We do not know how the money is going to be utilised for post-war reconstruction for which we are asked to pay a tax and create funds. These funds may be taken over by the Central Government for its own reserves.

There is another argument which I feel is the most cogent argument against this bill. We now have a surplus budget. In view of this surplus, where is the necessity for creating a further 8 crores for financing post-war reconstruction schemes by imposing an agricultural income-tax. Sir, this is the only industry which has suffered very heavily in war time. The prices of tea and coffee are controlled at 125 per cent of the 1938 prices, whilst other products are being sold at 300 and 400 per cent. of pre-war rates. Last year coffee and tea were taxed with an excise duty of 2 annas per lb. Is it fair that a poor man's kitchen should be taxed? Tea and coffee are a poor man's beverages and I hope you will agree with me in this respect. If this industry is to be taxed further, I feel, Sir, that there is no parallel in the history of any Government. No Government would do this.

We have partially obeyed the wishes of the Central Government and the British Government to supply tea at as reasonable and as cheap a price as possible. Is this the price—an additional agricultural tax which we are going to get for being good boys and conforming to the requirements of the different empires? (Hear, Hear). I may be told, Sir, that there is an agricultural income-tax in Assam and Travancore. I hope this house will not have to split amongst ourselves and that we have a united front to the outside world. Travancore has not such a heavy incidence of taxation as we have in British India. People in Travancore should co-operate with us in British India to get our grievances redressed. If they do not, the time will come when they will seek our assistance.

I am told, Sir, that Assam and Bengal also have an agricultural tax. May I, Sir, tell you that two wrongs cannot make one right. There is no necessity that we in South India, in view of the Madras Government showing a surplus budget, should have an agricultural income-tax. There is one more argument, Sir, which I feel should be advanced for requesting His Excellency not to give assent to the Bill. The Planting Industry has been very scientifically developed for about a 100 years in this country. Many concerns have had no yields for years as Mr. Congreve was pleased to remark this afternoon. On top of this the planting industry has created a source of income for Government by converting jungles into plantations. In spite of all this, we are given a kick by way of the excise duty and now we have the agricultural income-tax. Such sacrifices as have been made by this industry, Sir, should be a monument to the memory of any Government. It is this Government alone which pretends to forget whatever has been done in the past.

I am not prepared to bring in the argument that inflation may be stopped by the agricultural income-tax. If it is so, I may say that the Government is heading on the wrong side. Inflation is not in the agricultural industry. It is in the mill-owners, merchants and among other industries. I think planters have suffered most. We do not have as much money as is assumed by the Government. This is not the way in which inflation can be stopped. Sir, taxes are being added one after another. We are asked to pay more by way of labour charges, large amounts for our stores, etc., Added to this, we are taxed by this Central Government by an excise duty. This is followed by an agricultural income-tax imposed by the Provincial Government. What will happen to the industry? I would venture to say that the Central and Provincial Governments are giving a hand to other Governments setting up tea or coffee industries as is being done in British East Africa. We have handicaps and we will have to compete with other tea producing countries. They have not understood the consequences of this taxation. They are killing the goose that lays golden egg, with the view that British East Africa may have tea at a cheaper rate.

Sir, I have drawn your attention to a small para which appeared in the Hindu to-day as regards the protest made by the ex-President of the Madras Legislative Council, Mr. Ramachandra Reddi. Even if the Congress were in power for a few months more, you would not have got this agricultural tax. This was not approved by all Congressmen. I feel, Sir, that if the Congress had passed such a Bill, they would have walked out of office on that ground.

Sir, I would not inflict myself for a longer period. I feel, Sir, that mistakes are committed in respect of taxation. Industries which are able just to get along are going to be put down by way of heavy taxation. I need your support to the resolution which I have put forward. (Applause).

The President.—Will anybody second Mr. Kothari's resolution?

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—I second and confirm Mr. Kothari's remarks about the surplus being taken away by the Government of India in 1923. I was then a planting member in the Legislative Council, Madras. It was said that Bengal and Bombay were the richest provinces of the Empire and that Madras was a backward state. We should not save so that other provinces may make a profit. Why should we make a profit for the benefit of Bengal and Bombay and to please the Central Government? I think we should oppose this agricultural income-tax bill. The excise duty was a war tax, to help the war effort of the Central Government. This is not to help the war, but to be spent away in the future. The present Government do not know how this money is going to be spent by some Government in the future. The example of the past should not be allowed to happen again. Members of the present Government were too young to remember what happened in 1923. Probably they were children then. Mr. President, there are not sufficient reasons to put by huge sums of money for some future Government to squander.

The President.—Is there any other member who would like to speak on this resolution?

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—Is not this agricultural tax directed against those agricultural products which do not now pay a tax? Tea and coffee are already taxed. Don't you think that we should confine our protest only as far as plantation products are concerned and not plead for others?

Mr. E. H. Francis.—I should like to support Mr. Hill's views. Probably the tax on the land holder is less in this country. It would be unjust on our part to take cudgels on his behalf. He may be under-taxed. I believe we are on firm grounds if we confine our objections to what we know about (Hear, Hear).

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—If it is the wish of the house to amend the resolution accordingly, I will be glad to accept the amendment. The resolution will read as follows:—

“This Association views with alarm and strongly protests against the introduction of the Agricultural Income Tax Bill on Plantation Products.”

Mr. F. G. Wallace.—May I ask what plantation products are?

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—I think, Sir, you have it laid down.

The Secretary.—There are two definitions, one in the Payment of Wages Act, which includes tea, coffee, rubber, cardamoms, cinchona and, I think, pepper. There is another definition which occurs in the old Registration of Births and Deaths, which leaves out cardamoms. The generally accepted definition includes cardamoms. Plantation means any estate of 25 acres cultivating tea, coffee, rubber, cardamom, cinchona or pepper.

Mr. Ivor Bull.—I would like to join battle with Mr. C. M. Kothari. I think that many of the statements which he made are difficult to understand. The Agricultural Income-tax, in my opinion, is a fair measure of obtaining income-tax from a very large number of people who are not at present paying it, so that we should judge it on the basis of whether it is fair or unfair. That should be the essence and one should vote as to whether it is a fair tax or an unfair tax. I come from Coorg and we anticipate a similar measure in Coorg within the next few years. Frankly we see no way to stretch the budget to meet post-war reconstruction proposals, unless some such taxation is introduced. We shall certainly not oppose it when it comes in. We shall certainly be very interested in the incidence of the tax and the way in which it works. I was unable to follow the logic of several of Mr. Kothari's arguments in support of his statements. He said that Government was hoarding. I would rather say that Government is against hoarding. It is in favour of saving. Mr. Kothari will probably deal with that argument when he replies. Government are urgently pressing everyone

to save as much as possible. They will be failing in following their own lead, if in this matter, they did not observe it.

Mr. Kothari spoke about post-war reconstruction. We have just heard the discussion during the past 3 or 4 days in which words were bandied about in the Coorg Legislature, where there were two points of view. One set of people used it as meaning something and others who take it as an excuse for Government promising everything and taking no action at the moment. Well, as regards Madras, we had pages and pages in the Madras Mail filled with what Madras proposed to do in the post-war years. It is impossible suddenly to find money for all these purposes. I would urge that the Madras method to obtain money in this manner is a reasonable one. It will relieve the difficulty of settling the army back into civilian life. One has got to start from now on, putting aside money for post-war reconstruction.

Tea and coffee excise duties have been mentioned. After all, with prices fixed by Government one cannot say they are producers' tax. They are consumer's tax. As long as the price which is fixed by Government is a fair one to us, it is quite a false reasoning that we are being unduly taxed. At the moment we cannot say that. We know that the price fixed is not too low compared with the old price. I think it amiss to say that there does not exist a class of individuals who have benefited from an increased prosperity just now. We have got this reflected in many ways. Share values are on the increase. It is reflected everywhere. And where it does exist—that class of individuals—I see no reason at all why they should not be taxed to find money toward meeting expenditure in the post-war years. I think, Sir, that the amendment to the resolution has weakened it considerably. We should not be accused of having amongst ourselves a select band of tax dodgers. We should not forget about other agricultural taxes elsewhere. I would urge that this measure be judged on whether it is fair or whether it is unfair, and if it is fair the activities of this Association should be directed to analysing it and making sure that the principle is correct and its incidence as far as it concerns us equitable.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—It is true that coffee prices are fixed by the Government of India. I think this is not the case with tea. As far as I know, there is no official price for tea in India.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Sir, some arguments were advanced against my proposition. But one of the members did forget that it is only on the amendment that we have got to vote. The original resolution has been amended so that we examine the Agricultural Bill as far as it concerns plantation products. If I may be allowed to say so, Sir, this Association has nothing to do with any product outside the products in which we are interested. If the Government want to levy a tax on rice, wheat or pulses, I think this Association has no right to protest. I thank the member who drew my attention to that. In view of the above, Sir, my amended resolution does not weaken the case. On the contrary it strengthens the case that this Association, which is here to put forward its own interests, want to have an exemption from the agricultural income-tax.

My friend gave his experience of Coorg, where, because the finances were bad and practically all the tax payers are planters, they are inclined to supplement the budget by any kind of taxation on which tea and coffee in Coorg may be able to pay. It is a fallacy and mistake in saying that the plantation products are not paying income-tax. We pay income-tax on 40 per cent of our tea and we are indirectly taxed for coffee also by the Indian Coffee Board. The reasons for my argument are that we are asked to deliver 100 per cent to the coffee pool at a price which is fixed by the Government and not by us. If coffee is to be popularised it ought to be done well. That is an argument we raised to reduce the price, but this is an indirect tax on our products.

A suggestion was made that post-war reconstruction is to be viewed from two points. We do not know the ways and means by which these schemes are to come into force. We must not forget that there is still a war on. There has been no construction. So there is no need for reconstruction. It is more or less a mistake to use the word reconstruction. I would even go to the length of saying that the Government have no policy with regard to post-war reconstruction schemes. Mr. Congreve said rightly that money is being reserved now for somebody else to squander.

One other argument has been put forward that all industries have been benefited by war and it is only fair that we should be asked to pay a tax. I must say that we have not benefited by war. While other industries are making as much as 300-400 per cent profits, the planting industry has made hardly 25 per cent profits. When this is so, I would say that the argument advanced by my friend is one which should not appeal to you. The Excise duty was imposed only recently, and as Mr. Congreve told you it may be only a war tax, but the agricultural income-tax will be for ever. I think this is only just the beginning of further taxation. I think, Sir, as strongly as ever that this bill should be opposed and I appeal to you to vote for my amendment.

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—It will be necessary for all plantations to provide better facilities for labour, etc., after the war. We will be asked to pay for these post-war reconstruction proposals. Further we have no knowledge of the next government and what it is going to do. We have vast sums of money already in Madras—Coorg is probably unlucky in this respect. There is no point in asking us to pay a tax when already there is a surplus. Surely we are not going bankrupt in another two years.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—May I suggest a slight alteration in the resolution, something like this? This meeting requests His Excellency the Governor of Madras to prevent the proposed agricultural income tax being applied to plantation products.

The President.—I have received a second amendment from Mr. Hill, which reads—

"That this Association requests His Excellency to exempt plantation products from the operation of the Agricultural Income-tax."

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—I second it.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—I do not think it needs any further remarks.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—In view of the above resolution, I would like to withdraw my amended resolution.

The President.—Gentlemen, if there is no other member wanting to speak on this resolution, I propose, after saying a few words, to put it to the meeting. Various views have been put forward on this resolution. But I do feel that there are one or two points which have to be given every consideration. Mr. Bull, in his remarks, raised the pertinent question whether it was a fair tax. I think this is really a point to be considered. Is it a fair tax, and if it is not a fair tax, are we right in proposing that this bill should not be applied to our agricultural products. We have continually pressed Government for recognition of our estates and our labour as agricultural. Are we to be distinct in this matter from other agriculturists? I personally tend to the view that we are not. This taxation has been hanging fire for a year or more and there is no question that many of

us had anticipated it. We knew that it was bound to come. Many of the members of this Association—I think about half—are subject to agricultural income-tax and although it is not as great in Travancore, the proposals are, I believe about the same as those proposed in Assam.

On the question of post-war reconstruction, we have heard quite a lot. Do you think that we should refuse to agree to measures for post-war reconstruction because the funds may be misused. We should take a wider view than that. Not only should we support post-war reconstruction but we should aim at financial measures to secure the money required for it. It is certain that many of us will be here to help keep matters right and see that it is used to the best advantage.

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—What ceiling is put on this post-war reconstruction? They have already a vast sum of Rs. 8 millions as surplus in a budget of Rs. 10 crores.

The President.—Gentlemen, is it the feeling of this meeting that we should oppose this tax on any terms or that we should not oppose the tax in principle? It may be that such a tax is inopportune to-day, but the intention is to supply funds for reconstruction. If we oppose this in toto there is the possibility that the Government will find other ways of bringing forward this tax. There is also the possibility that they will not give the same consideration to the views which we feel necessary to put forward on other matters. They probably will not actually take much notice of our resolution—I regret to say so—though we are a very strong body of agriculturists affected by the Bill. If by any chance, you would like to reconsider the matter or if Government do not accept this resolution, you think that we should approach Government that the time is inopportune, might we also ask Government to appoint a committee from the general public to examine the Bill in its entirety and make recommendations?

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—On a point of explanation, the Bill has been drafted by the Advisers to His Excellency and published in the press for eliciting public opinion. To ask Government to appoint a committee or commission to examine the Bill is not possible under existing conditions. The Chairman suggested that a request should be made for a committee or commission to look into the draft of the Bill and recommend whether a Bill is opportune or not. Under the Government of India Act, 1935, when a Bill is advertised in the paper, it is said to be a Bill from the Assembly and no commission or committee is possible. No select committee at present exists. It is only the sanction or assent of His Excellency that is to be obtained.

Mr. Ivor Bull.—I am not certain if what Mr. Kothari says is correct. We have to rely on his knowledge for the present. But is it absolutely correct? Is it not possible, Mr. Kothari, that we can still ask His Excellency to refer the Bill to a Select Committee? This Committee would put forward its recommendations to the Advisers, who are ministers to the present Government. I think there appears to be a strong ground for referring the bill to a select committee.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I think the Advisers would give advice rather than take advice.

The President.—I will put the resolution to the meeting.

"That this association requests His Excellency to exempt plantation products from the operation of the Agricultural Income-Tax".

The resolution was carried, 8 voting for and 5 against.

Has any member any other business to bring up?

The President.—Before we close this meeting, it is very much a matter of regret that I have to make some reference to members who are shortly leaving for Home. Mr. Francis has been an active member of this Association for so many years. His services to this Association are well known. It is not necessary for me to point out or emphasise them. I myself first met him 25 years ago, I think, in this very building. I have the greatest admiration for him and all his work. He comes from a company who have always upheld this Association, and have always had representatives on all our committees. They have done excellent work for the Association. I know Mr. Francis will be sadly missed by all of us. I wish him very great happiness in his retirement. (Loud applause).

Mr. E. H. Francis.—Mr. President and Gentlemen, I wish to thank you very much indeed for the kind words you have said and the way you have received me. In such jobs as the UPASI and other Institutions, it is often said that it is a thankless task. I would like to take this opportunity to say that working for the UPASI has never been a thankless task. I have done nothing but help and act on committees. I will remember your kind words when I am away from this country.

The President.—Gentlemen, before I close, I would like to make some reference to a remark made by Mr. Congreve. He suggested that he would not be here for the next meeting. I hope very much that this is only a suggestion and that we shall see him on many more meetings for some years to come. (Hear Hear).

Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.—Thank you. I have been a thorn in the side of a great many people since 1912, when I first went to the UPASI meeting with a proposal that the Anamallais should be removed from the UPASI. That was the first time I ever attended UPASI meetings. I entirely agree with the remarks that work for the UPASI is 'work of love'. Every planter should be in this Association which has now been running for a great many years and will run for many more. Sir, I hope this is the last meeting I shall ever attend. I have lived in India for 48 years and am now about 70. I want to die in England. I wish you all the greatest luck in the future and this Association renewed vigour and greatness. I thank you for the kind words you have spoken on many occasions.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting terminated.

THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

Head Office Budget for the Year 1945-46

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	RS	A	P	ESTIMATED INCOME	RS	A	P
Establishment—				Subscriptions from Members—			
Secretary's Salary ...	5,100	0	0	Ordinary—254,030 acres at 3 as. per acre ...	47,630	0	0
Acting Secretary's Salary ...	10,200	0	0	6,030 acres at small owners' revised rates ...	728	0	0
Acting Secretary's Rent (See 'Rents') ...	750	0	0	Estimated new Joinings for the year ...			
Acting Secretary's Dearness Allowance ...	600	0	0	Association Members—15 at Rs. 50 ...			
Entertainment Allowance ...	4,030	0	0	Firm Members—21 at Rs. 150 ...			
Late Secretary's Pension ...	3,600	0	0	Interest ...			
Asst. Secretary's Salary ...	530	0	0	Sundry Receipts ...			
Asst. Secretary's Rent (See 'Rents') ...	7,170	0	0	Establishment Refunds:—			
Asst. Secretary's Dearness Allowance ...	700	0	0	From—Planters' Chronicle, Buying Agency, etc. ...			
Office Establishment—Salaries ...	2,130	0	0	Excess of Expenditure over Income ...			
Office Establishment Dearness Allowance ...	830	0	0				
Cononor Subordinate Staff—Special Allowance ...							
Rents—							
To Glenview Property, Office, Meeting Hall, Bungalow and Block 'C' ...	3,420	0	0				
Asst. Secretary's Quarters ...	840	0	0				
Office Staff—Rent Allowance ...	660	0	0				
Office—							
Postage and Telegrams ...	2,500	0	0				
Printing and Stationery ...	1,500	0	0				
Periodicals and Library ...	200	0	0				
Telephone and Lighting ...	390	0	0				
Bank Charges ...	150	0	0				
Incidentals ...	560	0	0				
General—							
Meetings ...	9,000	0	0				
Audit Fee ...	750	0	0				
Medical Expenses ...	400	0	0				
Income-tax and Profession tax ...	970	0	0				
Glenview Upkeep Expenditure ...	1,100	0	0				
Provident Funds—							
European Staff ...	2,040	0	0				
Indian Staff ...	1,000	0	0				
Furlough and Passage Fund ...	720	0	0				
Planting Members' Expenditure ...	1,500	0	0				
Employers' Federation of Southern India ...	1,000	0	0				
Total ...				Total ...			
	64,430	0	0		64,430	0	0

THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT

Budget for the year 1945-46

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	RS	A	P	ESTIMATED INCOME	RS	A	P
SCIENTIFIC OFFICERS—				SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM MEMBERS ...	43,344	0	0
European ...	16,200	0	0	GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS ...	16,500	0	0
Indian ...	13,000	0	0	GOVERNMENT OF COORG ...	3,000	0	0
Subordinate Staff ...	2,334	0	0	SALE OF PRODUCE, ETC. ...	4,310	0	0
Staff Allowances ...	2,942	0	0				
Dearness Allowances ...	3,877	0	0				
Travelling Expenses, etc. ...	2,000	0	0				
Medical Expenses ...	250	0	0				
Committee Meetings ...	200	0	0				
Furlough and Passage Fund ...	1,240	0	0				
Provident Funds ...	3,642	0	0				
Office Expenses and Incidentals ...	1,210	0	0				
Upkeep of Buildings, etc. ...	1,016	0	0				
General Research Expenditure ...	8,150	0	0				
Land Taxes, etc. ...	253	0	0				
Insurance ...	225	0	0				
Depreciation ...	6,900	0	0				
Grain Provision Allowance ...	1,350	0	0				
Excess of Income over Expenditure ...				Total ...	67,154	0	0
Total ...	67,154	0	0				

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1944-45

I. THE U.P.A.S.I.

1. **Membership.**—The number of Ordinary Members as at 31st March 1945 was 339, made up of 27 Sterling Companies, 88 Rupee Companies and 224 private proprietors, the latter consisting of 97 Europeans and 127 Indians. The number of Association and Firm Members were fifteen and twenty-two respectively. The following table shows the area on which Ordinary Members were subscribing on that date:—

Planting Districts	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Card.	Cin.	Pep.	Total
Anamallais ...	25,658	2,037	644	5,196	415	13	33,963
Central Travancore ...	23,855	...	...	201	...	270	24,326
Coorg ...	362	14,985	2,465	313	...	105	18,230
Kanan Devans ...	33,918	719	...	...	...	...	34,637
Mundakayam ...	4,038	49	14,435	1,481	...	40	20,043
Malabar ...	681	532	22,618	744	2	...	24,577
Mysore ...	3,219	14,467	179	809	...	15	18,689
Nelliampathies ...	1,771	2,663	1,090	1,645	...	...	7,169
Nilgiris ...	18,548	6,050	197	2	29	...	24,826
Nilgiri-Wynaad ...	11,244	706	2	3	...	...	11,955
Shevaroy ...	...	4,513	30	8	...	...	4,551
South Travancore ...	9,584	85	13,441	165	...	65	23,340
Wynaad ...	12,130	493	360	1,277	...	...	14,260
Other Districts ...	907	580	400	130	...	...	2,017
Total Acres ...	145,915	47,879	55,861	11,974	446	508	262,583

The drop in the number of Sterling Companies and European Private Proprietors was due to sales of properties to Rupee interests. The rise in the number of Rupee Companies and Indian Proprietors was partly due to properties changing hands and partly to new joinings. The total subscribing acreage increased by 6,414 acres during the year and the number of Firm Members increased by 4.

2. **Executive Committee.**—The following assumed office after the close of the Annual General Meeting in August 1944:—

Mr. F. H. Farmer	President.
„ J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E.	Immediate past President.
„ J. L. H. Williams	Elected by the Tea Section Committee.
„ Ivor Bull, O.B.E.	Elected by the Coffee Section Committee.
„ F. G. Wallace	Elected by the Rubber Section Committee.

In accordance with Rule 28 (a) (iv), the Committee co-opted Sir Frederick James, O.B.E., M.L.A., as a member of the Executive Committee from the representatives in the Legislatures.

On Mr. F. G. Wallace's departure from India in May 1945, Mr. H. B. Macpherson was appointed by the Rubber Section Committee to fill the vacancy created.

There have been no other changes in the personnel of the Committee during the year.

3. **Representation on the Legislatures.**—No changes in the planting members on the various legislatures have occurred. The Committee wish to record its great appreciation of the work done by Mr. H. J.

Walmesley as planting member and later as nominated European member of the Cochin State Legislature since 1924. Mr. Walmesley resigned his seat in the Legislature on his departure from India during the year.

4. **Meetings.**—The Executive held three meetings during the year and a General Meeting was held in March to pass the Budget.

5. **Staff.**—Mr. Mayne continued to act as Secretary in addition to his other duties. During the year, the Executive Committee decided not to renew Mr. Acaster's engagement on his demobilisation and took the necessary steps to meet all the obligations of this decision. Arrangements for the future organisation were under consideration during the year. Mr. K. V. Dharmaraj, Office Manager, went on leave preparatory to retirement in June 1944 and the Committee take this opportunity of acknowledging his long and faithful service to the Association.

It was decided to amalgamate the U.P.A.S.I. European Employees' and Indian Employees' Provident Funds into a common Staff Provident Fund as from the 1st April 1945, and the approval of the Income-tax authorities is awaited.

6. **Work at Head Office.**—11,038 letters were received during the year and 18,693 letters were despatched. In spite of the economy achieved by making use of the *Planters' Chronicle* for publishing U.P.A.S.I. circulars, the number of letters despatched shows an increase over last year.

7. **U.P.A.S.I. Rules.**—The Rules of the Association were amended at the Budget Meeting making it obligatory on members owning more than 100 acres to pay subscription at the full rates and also providing for the payment of Product cesses by members owning more than 100 acres of any product. The Executive Committee was empowered to make ex-officio appointments to Product Committees of persons nominated to represent the Association on statutory or public bodies.

8. **Accounts, 1944-45.**—The following table gives a summary of the Income and Expenditure of the Association and its Departments:—

1st April 1944—31st March 1945	INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	Budget Rs.	Actuals Rs.	Budget Rs.	Actuals Rs.
Head Office (revised) ...	62,555	63,107	65,265	67,721
Scientific Department ...	62,591	68,001	61,749	60,203
Labour Department ...	1,02,817	1,13,832	1,02,612	1,09,538
	2,27,973	2,44,940	2,29,626	2,37,462
Balances ...	1,653			7,478
Total ...	2,29,626	2,44,940	2,29,626	2,44,940

The actual expenditure at Head Office shows an increase of Rs. 2,459 over the estimate owing, chiefly, to an increase in Committee Members' travelling expenses. Receipts showed a considerable increase in both Head Office and the Scientific Department mainly as a result of a substantial increase in membership.

9. **Budget, 1945-46.**—The following statement gives a summary of the Head Office and Departmental budgets for the year 1945-46 passed at the General Meeting held at the end of March 1945:—

Budget, 1945-46	Income		EXPENDITURE		BALANCE	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Excess Rs.	Deficit Rs.
Head Office ...	63,065	64,430				1,365
Scientific Department ...	67,154	64,789			2,365	
Labour Department ...	1,27,188	1,28,425				1,237
Total ...	2,57,407	2,57,644			2,365	2,602
Net deficit ...					237	

The substantial increase in the Labour Department Budget is due to provision for the Department's expansion scheme, full details of which will be found in the Department's Report.

10. **U.P.A.S.I. Buying Agency.**—The year has been a difficult one for the Buying Agency owing to the fact that many Firms are no longer able to give the discounts they formerly allowed owing to the operation of various price controls. Considerable efforts have been made by the Assistant Secretary to keep as many Firms as possible on the list even if the discounts allowable are purely nominal in the hope that when trading conditions become freer, the former discount concessions may be renewed. The smaller benefits from membership has led to a further reduction in subscribers. The accounts show however a surplus of Rs. 144-4-0 which was transferred to the Benevolent Fund in accordance with the Rules.

11. **'Planters' Chronicle'.**—The number of pages of advertisement during the year ending 31st March 1945 was 314, a decrease of 221 below the previous year. The reading matter amounted to 312 pages compared with 532 in 1943-44. These large reductions were due to the drastic cuts on paper consumption imposed by the Paper Control (Economy) Order 1944. These cuts involved a reduction of the pages per issue to 8 of reading matter and 8 of advertisements, and the number of issues to two per month. A representation to Government for some relief led to a grant of newsprint which permitted the doubling of the size of each issue, from 1st January 1945.

In spite of the difficulties imposed by these conditions the year's working showed a profit of Rs. 713-13-9 on the basis of Rs. 4,200 being paid to the Head Office for clerical assistance. It was decided to increase the share of Head Office expenditure debited to the *Chronicle* to Rs. 4,800, leaving a balance of Rs. 113-13-9 to be carried forward. This together with Rs. 1,320-10-3 already at credit, allows a total sum of Rs. 1,434-8-0 to be carried forward. Our grateful thanks are due to all advertisers who bore without complaint the reductions in space and frequency of insertion of advertisements that the paper shortage imposed.

12. **Glenview Committee of Management.**—Messrs. J. R. N. Pryde, J. F. Smail, and K. J. H. Mackenzie continued to serve on the Glenview Committee of Management. The Sub-Committee met twice.

13. **Allied Associations, etc.**—During the year as close a touch as possible was kept with the South Indian Association in London by cable and airgraph. The relations with it and all other Associations, especially with the Indian Tea Association, Calcutta, and the Association of Planters of Travancore, have continued to be friendly and helpful in every way.

14. **U.P.A.S.I. and Politics.**—Further discussions took place between the interests concerned in organising support for the S.I.P. and C. R. Fund and at a meeting held in November a Committee was formed

consisting of Messrs. Ivor Bull (Chairman), E. H. Francis, W. K. M. Langley, J. R. N. Pryde and G. B. Reade (Honorary Secretary), to take over all matters in connection with the S.I.P. and C. R. Fund. The acreage subscribing to this Fund is now about 130,000 acres of plantation products.

II. LEGISLATION, ETC.

(A) CENTRAL

15. During the year there were two sessions of the Central Assembly, the Autumn session from 1st to 21st November 1944 and the Budget session from 8th February to 12th April, 1945.

On the whole there were few matters of direct interest to the planting industry. Two Bills were introduced to provide for the formation of Commodity Committees, one for rice and the other for oil seeds. The first was circulated for opinion and the second referred to a Select Committee. These Bills are of some interest to the planting industry as indicating the type of organisation which is being built up for the development of agricultural crop production and marketing. The Assembly accepted membership of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation subject to the provision that important matters of policy resulting from membership should require the sanction of the legislature.

16. **Recognition of Trade Unions.**—The Bill to amend the Trade Unions Act 1926, referred to in last year's report, was not proceeded with as, for various reasons, opposition to the Bill was widespread.

17. **Factories Act.**—An amendment to the Factories Act 1934, providing for holidays with pay was finally passed at the Budget Session. This amendment comes into force on 1st January 1946 and is applicable to factories other than seasonal factories.

18. **Indian Tea Control Act.**—A minor amendment to the Indian Tea Control Act was passed providing for an alteration in the wording of the Schedule concerning the determination of crop basis.

19. **Indian Coffee Market Expansion Act.**—A minor amendment to this Act was passed at the November session. This makes provision for the transfer of money realised by sales of coffee from the pool fund to the general fund.

20. **Indian Companies Act.**—A minor amendment to this Act was passed at the Budget session to enable withdrawals to be made from Provident Funds when the Provident Fund Rules permit.

21. **Payment of Wages Act.**—An amendment to this Act to clarify certain sections dealing with the definition of wages was referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses.

22. **Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Control) Order, 1943.**—Under this Order, the movement of cotton cloth by post was prohibited during the year. This Order imposed considerable hardship on residents on estates, but the Association was advised that there was no hope of securing any modification of this Order or of securing any form of exemption for estates.

(B) PROVINCIAL

23. **Provincial Legislatures.**—The Madras Assembly and Council are still in abeyance and the Province is being administered by His Excellency the Governor and his Advisers. No reports have been received during the year from the representatives on the Legislatures of the Indian States and Coorg.

24. **Agricultural Income-tax Bill.**—At the time of the introduction of the Madras Budget the Government published a Bill to provide for the levying of income-tax on agricultural incomes in the Presidency. This matter was discussed at the Budget meetings in March when the Association passed a resolution requesting exemption from the operations of the Act for the Plantation crops. The Executive Committee felt that in spite of this resolution it was essential that the Association should examine the details of the Bill in the event of Government proceeding with it. A very full study of the Bill was made by the Assistant Secretary who drafted a memorandum which was submitted to the Government of Madras criticising some of the provisions of the Bill and asking for certain modifications. No information has yet been received as to what Government propose to do in view of the considerable public criticism of the Bill.

25. **Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill.**—The Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill was submitted to the Association for comment during the year. This Bill seeks to give Government powers to appoint plantation managers or proprietors as Registrars of Births and Deaths for their estates. It was agreed that the Bill was acceptable in principle and only a few minor points required clarification.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

26. **Board of Communications, Madras.**—No meeting of the Board of Communications was called during the year.

27. **Board of Transport, Madras.**—The Board of Transport, Madras, was abolished as from 1st May 1945.

28. **South Indian Railway Local Advisory Committee.**—Mr. R. Unwin, Director, Labour Department, continued to represent the Association on this Committee. Very little of importance to the Association was discussed during the year. Its discussions dealt mainly with questions of passenger traffic and rolling stock. Matters connected with movement of goods are now mainly the concern of the Regional Controller of Railway Priorities, Madras.

29. **Railway Priorities.**—During the year a system of Railway Priorities was instituted under which various classes of goods were arranged for the purposes of priority in transport. Conditions were also laid down for applications for assistance when goods of comparatively low priority have been held up. Some anomalies in the classification of goods were pointed out to the Regional Controller of Railway Priorities but no permanent alterations have been made in the original classifications. Assistance has been rendered to members from time to time when transport hold-ups have occurred either by direct approach to the Regional Controller of Railway Priorities or by advising members as to the method of application for priority assistance.

30. **Lease-Lend Lorries.**—The Association has continued to assist estates with reference to Lease-Lend lorries. During the year 13 lorries were supplied to applicants through the U.P.A.S.I. Office and some other applications are still pending with the Motor Transport Controller. A considerable amount of correspondence has been maintained with the Provincial Motor Transport Controller with reference to lorry supplies and other vehicle requirements such as petrol, tyres and batteries.

31. **Second-hand Cars.**—The purchase of second-hand cars came under the control of the Used Car Controller during the year and a Government Order specified the conditions under which such cars can be disposed of and acquired. Assistance has been rendered to members trying to purchase such vehicles.

IV. SCIENTIFIC AND AGRICULTURAL

32. **Scientific Department.**—Mr. W. W. Mayne continued to be in charge of the two sections of the U.P.A.S.I. Scientific Department. The staff remain the same as in previous years but two field assistants have been appointed to the Coffee Section in order to cope with the increasing amount of field experimental work undertaken under the direction of the Assistant Scientific Officer. Mr. Mayne has visited Devarshola, Sidapur and Balehonnur on several occasions during the year. Mr. H. R. Stewart, Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, visited the Association's Coffee Station at Sidapur during his visit to South India.

33. **Government Grant for Scientific Research.**—The Government of Madras has renewed the grant of Rs. 16,500 for tea and coffee research for a further period of 3 years on until such time as the organisation for tea and coffee research is placed on a new basis. The Association owes a debt of gratitude to the Madras Government for their continued assistance in maintaining its Research Department.

34. **Future Organisation of Plantation Research.**—The Sub-Committee appointed by the President in accordance with the suggestion of the previous President to consider the future development of Plantation Research met twice during the year. At the first meeting a preliminary note drawn up by the Secretary was discussed and accepted as a basis for further elaboration. When Mr. H. R. Stewart, Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, visited South India, the Committee took the opportunity of meeting and discussing the question with him. In the light of that discussion some modifications in the earlier memorandum seemed desirable and the Secretary is engaged in drawing up a revised note.

35. **Food Production on Estates.**—The general easing of the food situation and the fact that experience had shown that estates could make very little effective contribution to meet their own staple food requirements led to reduced activity in this direction. However substantial amounts of vegetable seeds were distributed through the Association with a view to improving the production of protective foods. In all 300 lbs. of seeds were distributed through the Association.

36. **Sulphate of Ammonia.**—The Association was called upon to assist in the distribution of Lease-Lend Sulphate of Ammonia to tea and coffee estates in South India. A total of 900 tons was allocated in the second half-year of 1944 and a further 1,300 tons in the first half of 1945. The task of allocation was not an easy one as the quantities were below estates' requirements. However, on the whole the scheme worked reasonably smoothly and equitable distribution was generally obtained. Representations were made that the allocations to South Indian plantation crops were low relative to the supplies made to North East Indian tea estates. As a result of this representation a further 100 tons was allotted to estates together with just under 300 tons of ammonium phosphate. The allocation of this amount was left to the distributors subject to confirmation by the Secretary as quantities were too small for rationing. It is hoped that supplies for the second half-year 1945 will be on a more liberal scale, but arrangements have been made to continue rationed allocation if the quantities allotted make it necessary.

37. **Indigenous Manures.**—The difficulties of estates in Indian States in securing supplies of groundnut cake and bone-meal have continued. The Association was able to assist estates to some extent by securing an allotment of 700 tons of indigenous manures for making mixtures with lease-lend sulphate of ammonia for estates in Mysore and Coorg. A substantial part of this allotment was distributed and the Association's thanks are due to the Government of Madras for its assistance in this matter.

38. **Copper Sulphate.**—The copper sulphate situation has been fairly easy during the year and there has been a marked fall in price. It is understood that stocks in the country are now adequate for all requirements.

39. **Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.**—Mr. P. H. Carpenter continued to represent the Association jointly with the Indian Tea Association on the Advisory Board of this body and Mr. J. R. N. Pryde continued to serve as an additional member for plantation crops. Extensive proposals for the future organisation of this body have been under consideration during the year and assistance has been given to representatives in criticising the proposals.

V. WAR MEASURES

40. **National Service Advisory Committee.**—The President is the official representative of the U.P.A.S.I. on the Madras District Advisory Committee, but in order to ensure continuity Mr. J. R. N. Pryde was co-opted to the Committee and has acted throughout the year on the President's behalf. The work of this Committee has increased very considerably in connection with the allocation of leave passages and releases of men. All these matters are now handled by the Committee under the able chairmanship of Mr. P. Reid. The Association has given a great deal of attention during the year to the problem of securing adequate releases of planters to meet the shortage of supervisory staff. Sir Frederick James took part in a deputation of the European Group to H. E. the Commander-in-Chief to discuss the general question of releases in an endeavour to secure a more liberal treatment of applications and the case of plantations was specifically put forward by him. Representations were made to the S.I.A. asking them to assist in bringing home the seriousness of the position to the authorities in London. The S.I.A. jointly with the I.T.A., London, have taken the matter up on our behalf. With the end of the war in Europe it is hoped that it will be possible to secure releases on a more extensive scale. Considerable attention has also been given to the question of priority leave passages about which there has been much confusion. In all these matters the Association has been greatly helped by Sir Frederick James and Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.

41. **U.P.A.S.I. War Fund.**—Monthly subscribers to the U.P.A.S.I. War Fund continued their support and during the year Rs. 7,244-8-0 was subscribed, of which 75 per cent amounting to Rs. 5,433-6-0 has been remitted to the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund and the remainder retained for the U.P.A.S.I. War Fund. The latter, including interest received during the year, amounted to Rs. 15,312-14-9 on 31st March 1945. Of the amount remitted to the Viceroy's Fund during the year, a sum of Rs. 750 was earmarked for the maintenance of one Polish refugee child for a year as in the previous year.

42. **H. E. the Governor of Madras' War Fund.**—Contributions received for this fund during the year amounted to Rs. 5,772-12-6. A considerable part of this sum was made up of contributions from estate labour, including plucking coolies and kangannies, employed in plantations in British India as well as Travancore. As in the past year, only a few subscriptions were received from individual subscribers, as they subscribe monthly to the U.P.A.S.I. War Fund.

43. **Merchant Navy Comforts Service.**—A total of Rs. 4,020-0-0 has been remitted to the Merchant Navy Comforts Service during the year. This has been gratefully acknowledged by the Appeals Director of the Fund.

44. **Auxiliary Forces Advisory Committee.**—A reduction in the size of the Auxiliary Forces (India) Advisory Committee for the year 1945 for the Nilgiris, Coimbatore and West Coast area, led to the inclusion of only one of the Association's nominees, Capt. S. H. Dean, on the Committee.

45. **Madras Post-War Reconstruction Committee.**—The President was invited to represent the Association on the Madras Post-War Reconstruction Committee and served on the Agricultural Sub-Committee of that body.

VI. LABOUR HEALTH AND WELFARE

46. **U.P.A.S.I. Labour Advisory Committee.**—The following gentlemen served on the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Advisory Committee during the past year :—

Messrs. E. H. Francis, R. N. W. Jodrell, J. L. H. Williams, F. J. B. Diaper, Ivor Bull, M. R. Coghlan, R. Walker and Sir F. E. James.

Mr. Francis resigned his membership in March 1945 in view of his impending departure from India. Mr. Jodrell continued as Chairman of the Committee during the year.

The Committee held two meetings during the year: one on the 16th November 1944 and one on the 26th March 1945.

47. **Labour Rates and Allowances.**—These have been under review by the Committee during the year but no alterations have been recommended.

48. **Labour Investigation Committee.**—The Rege Committee to investigate labour conditions issued a comprehensive questionnaire during the year. The Labour Advisory Committee considered this questionnaire in considerable detail and an extensive reply was submitted to the Committee on behalf of the Association. The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. D. V. Rege, I.C.S., made an extensive tour in South Indian estates during September and his tour programme was planned for him by the Secretary.

49. **Labour Statistics.**—The Government of India Labour Department is considering the improvement of the collection of statistics from plantations and Dr. N. S. R. Sastri visited South India to discuss the question with the Association and to see a few representative estates in order to secure necessary background for advising a suitable means of collecting data. A full discussion with Dr. Sastri took place at Coonoor and suggestions were made to simplify the returns as much as possible.

50. **Estate Staffs: Dearness Allowance.**—The Labour Advisory Committee recommended an increase in the ceiling for the staff dearness allowance from 195 to 210 as from 1st May 1945 pending a reconsideration on the basis of an analysis of actual increase in costs in the last twelve months.

51. **U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department.**—The Labour Department continued to be under the direction of Mr. R. Unwin. The Control Committee is, as usual, issuing its own report on the working of the Labour Department and its finance. It was agreed during the year that the Labour Department Control Committee should act as adviser to the Executive Committee on all questions connected with labour recruitment and labour shortages.

52. **Labour Shortages.**—The acute shortage of labour on estates has given the Association considerable cause for concern during the year. The competing demands for labour for the Defence Services, contractors and Grow More Food campaigns, together with the absence of any control over wage rates has placed the planting industry at a great disadvantage. Every possible avenue of ameliorating the position has been explored. The Association secured representation on the Provincial Labour Supply Committee whose function was understood to be to secure the co-ordination of labour supplies in the Presidency. The results from the point of view of private employers of labour have not been conspicuous. Representation was also secured on military Sub-Area Labour Committees covering planting areas and areas adjacent to them. This representation has proved useful in dealing with several local problems, and the Association's thanks are due to the authorities concerned.

The general position however remains difficult and towards the end of the year a deputation consisting of Messrs. Diaper and Walker waited on the Chairman of the Madras Provincial Labour Supply Committee for a thorough discussion of the labour position. As a result of this discussion the Association is engaged in taking a census of labour shortages with a view to preparing a detailed statement of the situation.

53. **Army Recruitment.**—Although the authorities agreed not to recruit labour from planting districts, there have been one or two occasions when such recruiting has taken place. On representations being made to the recruiting authorities, they have invariably taken prompt action to rectify the errors and in one case where recruits were actually taken it has been possible to secure their return to estate employment. Our thanks are due to the recruiting authorities for their assistance in this matter.

VII. GENERAL

54. **Export Advisory Council.**—A representation was made to the Central Government seeking representation of the Association on the Export Advisory Council. The Government agreed to joint representation of the U.P.A.S.I. and the I.T.A. and the President of the U.P.A.S.I. was nominated to the seat by both the Associations.

55. **Central Food Advisory Council.**—Mr. Bull continued to represent the U.P.A.S.I. and I.T.A., Calcutta, on this Council. One meeting was held during the year.

56. **Provincial Food Council.**—The Secretary was appointed a member of the Provincial Food Council during the year and attended a number of meetings. He was able to bring one or two points in connection with food supplies to planting districts to the attention of the Council.

57. **Rice and Food Supplies.**—The problem of food supplies to the planting districts has been somewhat easier during the year though certain areas have continued to give cause for concern.

Rural rationing was introduced in the Malabar District early in 1945 and subsequently informal rationing was introduced in other Madras planting districts. It has been generally possible to secure the treatment of estate labour forces as single units for rationing purposes and on the whole the schemes appear to have worked smoothly. Considerable assistance has been given from time to time to District Planters' Associations and to individuals who have been in difficulties over the rationing system.

The position in Mysore continued to give cause for concern owing to the abnormal low rice ration allowed to estate labourers. Every assistance possible has been given to members in Mysore State by providing them with information as to the working of rationing in British India and the rates of ration allowed. Towards

the end of the year there were signs of some improvement in the position of the rations for estate labourers but they are still below the level of other administrations. The Government of Madras, on representations from the Association, agreed to permit estates in the Nilgiri District to stock up to 3 months requirements of food grains as an insurance against transport breakdowns. This was of considerable assistance to estates in the district and the help of Government in this matter was greatly appreciated.

58. **Quinine Supplies.**—The Association continued to arrange for the equitable distribution of quinine for estates in South India in co-operation with the Superintendent, Central Jail, Coimbatore, the Indian Rubber Production Board and the Association of Planters of Travancore. Substantial quantities of quinine substitutes (mepacrine and quinacrine) were released during the year for estate use in order to reduce the demand for quinine which is in short supply. The Association undertook the task of distributing these quinine substitutes to estates and tablets were received from the Superintendent, Central Jail, and have been allocated and despatched to estates.

59. **Cement Supplies.**—The Association has continued to recommend applications for cement to the Regional Honorary Cement Adviser. During the year a Regional Adviser was appointed at Coimbatore and applications are now sent to him monthly. Some difficulties were experienced at first owing to very heavy cuts in applications but recently the position has improved.

60. **Income-tax Sub-Committee.**—The Committee owes a debt of gratitude to Messrs. W. Grant, L. J. T. Polgreen and R. Brown who constituted the Income-tax Sub-Committee. During the year Mr. Brown was on leave and his place on the Committee was taken by Mr. J. B. Soutar. Towards the end of the year Mr. Polgreen also left India on leave and Mr. J. N. Marsh kindly consented to take his place.

VIII. OBITUARY

ROLL OF HONOUR

61. The following member of the planting industry lost his life while serving with His Majesty's Forces since the list given in last year's report :—

Capt. C. F. M. Lee. Killed in action in Italy on 17th February, 1944. Mr. LEE was an Assistant with Kanan Devan Hills Produce Co. Ltd.

OBITUARY

62. The Executive Committee regret to record the following further deaths during the past year :—

NAYLOR, P. A. Died at Ootacamund on 6th August, aged 56. Mr. Naylor was Manager of Achoor Estate of Messrs. Malayalam Plantations, Ltd. and had taken a prominent part in the affairs of the Association for a number of years.

BARNARD, H. M. S. Died at Mysore on 3rd October, 1944, aged 41. Mr. Barnard planted for some time in North Mysore and was recently employed in Bedaguli and Attikhan Estates in the Billigiri Rangan Hills.

THOMAS, P. T. Died at Bombay on 26th October, 1944. Mr. Thomas was formerly Asst. Controller, Indian Rubber Licensing Committee, and served as Secretary to the Association of Planters of Travancore until recently.

recently. EASTON, G. M. Died at Ootacamund on 4th November, 1944. Mr. Easton formerly planted coffee in South Mysore in the Brooke Mockett group and had recently been employed in the Oucherlony Valley Estates.

BAYZAND, G. Died at Ootacamund on 22nd November, 1944. Mr. Bayzand who came to planting after the last war spent most of his services with Messrs. English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society in the Wynaad and Anamallais. At the time of his death, he was in charge of Oosimalai and Akkamalai Estates of the Periakaramalai Tea and Produce Co.

BRACKEN, W. A. F. Died at Cannanore on 29th November 1944, aged 80. Mr. Bracken spent the whole of his life on coffee estates in Coorg.

OAKES, G. Died at Ootacamund on 9th December 1944, aged 87. Mr. Oakes was well known to the planting community in South India although he had had no planting interests for many years.

LESCHER, R. Died at Ootacamund on 3rd January, 1945, aged 55. Mr. Lescher was a well known and popular West Coast rubber planter. At one time he took a prominent part in U.P.A.S.I. affairs and was Chairman of the U.P.A.S.I. in 1928-29.

CRAWFORD, J. G. H. Died at Upperharbledown, Canterbury, on 31st January 1945, aged 83. Mr. Crawford planted in South Mysore between 1881 and 1920 when he retired to live in Canterbury.

Budd, H. G. Died at Coimbatore on 23rd March, aged 45. Mr. Budd was Messrs. Tea Estates India Ltd.'s Accountant who had recently been released from military service. He was serving as convener of the Costing Sub-Committee of the Tea Section Committee at the time of his death.

OLIVER, L. C. Died at Bangalore on 30th March, aged 67. Mr. Oliver owned and managed Karti-
kerri Estate in the Billigiri Rangan Hills.

DALLEY, A. F. Died at Devala on 4th April, aged 87. Mr. Dalley spent the whole of his life in the Nilgiri-Wynaad and was last employed on Rousdon Mullai Estate.

EAGAN, C. L. Died at Kotagiri on 15th April 1945, aged 67. Mr. Eagan was owner of Kotada Estate in the Nilgiris until a few years ago. He will be gratefully remembered by the Association for the gift of a house to the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund.

PRIGGOR, J. E. G. Died at Nagercoil on 14th April 1945. Mr. Piggot had one time planted on Ranikoll Estate in Central Travancore.

PETRIE, G. A. M. Died at Bangalore on 29th April, 1945. Mr. Petrie was Joint Manager of Messrs Darragh, Smail & Co. Ltd., Alleppey.

GILLESPIE, W. Died at Nagercoil, on 27th May, aged 54. Mr. Gillespie was Manager of Isfield Estate of Messrs. Malayalam Plantations Ltd., South Travancore.

F. H. FARMER	... <i>President.</i>
J. R. N. PRYDE	
J. L. H. WILLIAMS	
H. B. MACPHERSON	} <i>Members.</i>
IVOR BULL	
SIR FREDERICK JAMES	

COONDOOR, *July, 1945.*

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 1945—Excluding Labour Department Assets and Liabilities

[illegible]

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 1945—Excluding Labour Department Assets and Liabilities—(concluded)

FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	RS	A	P	RS	A	P	RS	A	P	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Brought forward ...				2,829	15	6	2,53,346	13	0	Brought forward ...				72,759	6	0
TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION FUND—										Book Debts—						
As per last Balance Sheet ...	25,396	11	1							Subscription arrears considered good ...				46	0	0
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ...	3,733	12	0	29,130	7	1				Sundry Debtors considered good. Suspense account (U.P.A.S.I. Disincorporation expenditure awaiting adjustment) ...				4,105	12	4
COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION FUND—										'Planters' Chronicle'—Sundry Debtors considered good ...				1,569	3	0
As per last Balance Sheet ...	5,718	3	6											49	4	11
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ...	4,064	3	4	9,782	6	10				Advances—						
FURLOUGH AND PASSAGE FUND—										Sundry advances to Staff ...				170	0	0
As per last Balance Sheet ...	10,609	13	0							Electricity Deposits ...				126	7	0
Add Interest during the year ...	321	7	0							Scientific Department—Library Deposit ...				50	0	0
Add Contributions during the year ...	2,860	0	0	13,791	4	0				Scientific Department advances for supply of food grains to labour ...				304	8	0
REPRESENTATION FUND (INDIAN STATES AND COORG)—										Income-tax for 1945-46 assessment ...				494	6	0
As per last Balance Sheet ...	4,488	12	3							Advance for supply of mepacrine less recoveries ...				1,300	14	9
Less Expenditure during the year ...	33	12	0	4,455	0	3				Advance to 'Glenview' Building Contractor ...				200	0	0
EUROPEAN STAFF MEDICAL FUND—										Prepaid Expenses—						
As per last Balance Sheet ...	359	1	0							Telephone Rent ...				171	0	0
Add Amount allotted from Head Office ...	200	0	0							Periodicals ...				55	8	0
	559	1	0											226	8	0
Less Expenditure during the year ...	50	0	0	509	1	0				Stock of Foodgrains on hand—						
U.P.A.S.I. WAR FUND—										A: Tea Experimental Station, Devarshola ...						
As per last Balance Sheet ...	13,158	2	9													
Additions during the year ...	1,758	13	0													
Add amount due to Viceroy's War Purposes Fund ...	1,533	6	0													
Add Interest during the year ...	345	15	0	16,846	4	9	77,344	7	5							
Carried over ...							3,30,691	4	5	Carried over ...						

Brought forward ...				3,30,691	4	5	Brought forward ...				81,839	13	3
Advance Payments—							Investments—						
HEAD OFFICE—							Rs. 1,04,300—3% 1951-54 Loan.				1,02,931	1	0
1945-46 subscriptions received in advance ...				153	0	6	Rs. 50,000—5% 1945-55 Loan ...				50,000	0	0
'PLANTERS' CHRONICLE'—							Rs. 20,000—3% 1949-52 Defence Loan ...				20,000	0	0
1945-46 Payments received in advance ...				5,172	7	0	Rs. 20,000—3% 1946 Defence Loan ...				20,000	0	0
BUYING AGENCY—							Rs. 20,000—3% 1963-65 Loan ...				19,230	10	0
1945-46 Subscriptions received in advance ...				773	6	0	Interest Accrued ...						
											2,12,161	11	0
Liabilities—													
Sundry Creditors ...				5,778	13	6	Cash and other Balances—						
Audit Fee ...				750	0	0	Cash with National Bank of India, Ltd., Madras, on Current Account ...				33,132	2	9
'PLANTERS' CHRONICLE'—							Cash with Imperial Bank of India, Madras, on Current Account ...				17,870	15	5
Excess of income over Expenditure as per last Balance Sheet ...				1,320	10	3	Cash with Imperial Bank of India, Madras, on U.P.A.S.I. War Fund Account ...				16,846	4	9
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure during the year.				113	13	9	Cash and Stamps at Head Office.				1,629	14	2
							Cash at Tea Experimental Station, Devarshola ...				161	7	1
Suspense Account—							Cash with Asst. Coffee Scientific Officer ...				33	5	7
Amount held for payment to Capt. Acaster ...				17,970	0	0							
Amount held for payment to S. I. P. and C. R. Fund, Madras ...				2,484	0	0							
Total ...							Total ...						

We have audited the Balance Sheet of THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA excluding Labour Department Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 1945 and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Association's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shewn by the books of the Association and the Returns from Divisions.

FRASER & ROSS,
Chartered Accountants, Registered Accountants } Auditors.

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

HEAD OFFICE

20

21

BY SUBSCRIPTION FROM MEMBERS...	...	...	...	...	43,168 10 3
„ MADRAS GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION	...	...	...	...	16,500 0 0
„ COORG GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION	...	...	...	...	3,000 0 0
„ Sale of produce, etc.	...	...	...	...	5,332 10 0
			Total	...	68,001 4 3

U.P.A.S.I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of the Fifty-second Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, which commenced its session at 3-0 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15, 1945, at 'Glenview,' Coonoor.

The following were present:—

MESSRS. F. H. FARMER (*President*), J. R. N. PRYDE, C.B.E., J. L. H. WILLIAMS, IVOR BULL, O.B.E., H. B. MACPHERSON, SIR FREDERICK JAMES, O.B.E., M.I.A. (*Executive Committee Members*), MR. W. WILSON MAYNE, B.SC. (*Secretary and Scientific Officer*), MR. N. A. SUBRAMANIAN, M.A. (*Assistant Secretary*), AND MR. R. UNWIN (*Director, Labour Department*).

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. R. Walker, O.B.E.

ANAMALLAI TEA ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. G. Stevens.

APPAYYA, MR. B. M.; APPIAH, MR. M. P.; BALL, Major E. P.; CAMPBELL TRUST; ELK HILL COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; HOROOR SYNDICATE, LTD.; MACPHERSON, LT.-COL. D. I.; MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; YOUSUF ALI KHAN; *per* Wing Commander J. H. Sprott, O.B.E., D.F.C.

ATHREY, MR. N. B.; RAMANAN, C. S. V.; & OTHERS; *per* Mr. N. B. Athrey.

BADNEKHAN ESTATES LTD.; BHADRA VALLEY ESTATES LTD.; CHEMBRA PEAK ESTATES LTD.; COCHIN MALABAR ESTATES LTD.; KALASA TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; KERALA CALICUT ESTATES LTD.; NADUAR ESTATES LTD.; NEWCOME, L.; NILGIRI-NEERUGUNDI ESTATES LTD.; OLIVER, R. O.; OLIVER, G. C. S. AND MISS C. F. OLIVER; PERIAKARAMALAI TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; SAMPAJI RUBBER CO., LTD.; THIRUMBADI RUBBER CO., LTD.; VELLAMALAI TEA CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. W. Jefferies.

BALMADIES PLANTATIONS, LTD.; WATERFALL ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. D. C. Kothari.

BE BE RUBBER ESTATES LTD.; BHAVANI TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; COCHIN PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. T. K. Alexander.

BISSETT, MR. F.; KARIMTHARUVI TEA ESTATES, LTD.; MIAMALLAY TEA ESTATES, LTD.; PULLIKANAM TEA ESTATES, LTD.; ROISSIER, MR. R. P.; TRAVANCORE TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. M. R. Coglian.

BLUE MOUNTAIN ESTATES, LTD. *per* Mr. C. M. Kothari.

BRUNNER, MRS. C.; CAREY, COMDR. H. F.; CRAWFORD, MR. C. S., LT.-COL. W. L. CRAWFORD; CRAWFORD, MR. C. S., LT.-COL. W. L. CRAWFORD & G. V. R. FREND; ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD.; GILBY, MR. E. H.; GILBY, MR. R. A.; LESLIE, MR. A. W.; MALABAR INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.; MATHEW, MR. K. M.; MORRIS, MR. C. W. G.; MORRIS, MR. A. E. C.; OLIVER, MR. L. C.; O'SULLIVAN, MRS. B. D.; RYLE, MR. C. D.; SHORT BROS. LTD.; SHORT, MRS. M. S. R.; SMITH, MR. S. A.; THOMAS, MR. M. A., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.

CAMERON, MRS. E. G. & OTHERS, *per* Mr. E. G. Cameron.

CAMERON, MR. H. S.; COONOR TEA ESTATES CO. LTD.; ESTATES & AGENCY CO. LTD., *per* Mr. J. F. Smail.

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE RUBBER CO. LTD.; MURPHY ESTATES LTD.; PULLANGODE RUBBER AND PRODUCE CO. LTD.; TRAVANCORE RUBBER CO. LTD.; VELLANI TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. E. Lefevre.

CEYLON LAND AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. S. H. Dean.

CHANDRAMALAI ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. A. T. Rajan.

CHERIAN, MR. P. V.; GLENBURN ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. P. V. Cherian.

CLARKE, MR. E. SYDENHAM.

CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD.; COORG CINCHONA ESTATES; TIPPING, MRS. K.; *per* Mr. Ivor Bull, O.B.E.

COORG PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. T. K. Joseph.

DASTUR, MR. M. R.; SCOTT, MR. W. P., *per* Mr. C. Vernede.

DEVASHOLA (NILGIRI) TEA ESTATES CO. LTD., *per* Mr. P. G. Krishna Iyer.

DEVESHOLA TEA CO. LTD.; GERRARD, MR. E. F. H.; MADRAS TEA ESTATES LTD.; STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES, CO., LTD.; TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD.; THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.

EMERALD VALLEY ESTATES, LTD.; COORG TEA CO., LTD.; HAILEYBURY TEA ESTATES LTD.; TALLIAR ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. K. N. Anantavan.

FENNELL, E. A. & LT.-COL. H. F. MURLAND; WEBB, A. M. & MRS. D. K. WEBB, *per* Mr. A. M. Webb.

FENNELL, MR. E. E.

FRINGFORD ESTATES, LTD.; KALPETTA ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. P. K. Nair.

HAWKE, MR. L. A., *per* Mrs. L. A. Hawke.

HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO., LTD.; MIDLAND RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; NELLAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; RAJAGIRI RUBBER & PRODUCE CO. LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.

HUMPHREYS, MR. C. L. J.; MORGAN, MR. J. S. H.; NARAYANA SETTY, MR. D., *per* Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.

HUNNYBUN, MR. C. H.; UNITED NILGIRI TEA ESTATES CO. LTD.; WATSON, MR. J. D., *per* Mr. N. J. Stanes.

HUNT, MR. E. P.; LAKE, MR. R. C.; MORGAN COFFEE CO., LTD.; PORTER, HALL & CO.; TRAVERS-DRAPE, MR. V. L., *per* Mr. S. H. Dennis.

KALLA GOWDER, MR. J.

KYLASAM PILLAI, MR. T. A. *per* Sir Frederick James, O.B.E., M.L.A.

LINGIAH, MR. K. N.

LINGIAH, MR. P.

MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. I. W. Finlayson.

MORCHA GOWDER, MR. S. K.

MOORE, MR. R. J. A.; POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO. LTD., *per* Mr. J. R. N. Pryde, C. B. E.

MORGAN, MRS. S. F. & OTHERS, *per* Mr. R. G. Foster.

MORRIS, LT.-COL. R. C.

MURPHY, MR. J. F.

NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; SHEVAROV ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.

NORMAN, MR. E. F. M.

PATRAKOLA TEA CO. LTD.; PEERMADI TEA CO. LTD.; SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; TWYFORD & ASHLEY ESTATES, LTD.; VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.

PERIVASAMY NADAR, MR. M. S.

SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R.

STAGBROOK RUBBER & TEA ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. H. B. Macpherson.

STANES & CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. H. Stanes.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ANAMALAI, *per* Mr. G. Stevens.

ASSOCIATION OF PLANTERS OF TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. A. V. Thomas.

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. M. R. Coghlan.

COORG, *per* Wing Commander J. H. Sprott, O. B. E., D. F. C.

CANAN DEVANS, *per* Messrs. H. C. Boyd and W. P. Laird.

FYSOR, *per* Mr. S. H. Dennis.

NELLAMPATHIES, *per* Mr. H. C. Schofield.

NILGIRIS, *per* Mr. E. J. C. Hill.

NILGIRI-WYNAAD, *per* Mr. T. Ryan.

WYNAAD, *per* Mr. B. D. Darkin.

FIRM MEMBERS

NUPURA COFFEE WORKS CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. C. Burton, C. B. E.

SPINWALL & CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. Lefevre.

ROOKE BOND INDIA LTD., *per* Mr. G. E. Gardham.

ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.

ATERSON & CO., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.

RIRCE, LESLIE & CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. Jefferies.

LANTERS CO., LTD., *per* Mr. H. D. Huggins.

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTATIONS AGENCY, LTD., *per* Mr. J. F. Smail.

ANES & CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. H. STANES.

EA ESTATES INDIA, LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. WILLIAMS.

OMAS & CO., LTD., A. V., *per* Mr. A. V. THOMAS.

ALKER & GREIG LTD., *per* Mr. D. B. W. SWAN.

VISITORS

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HON'BLE SIR ARTHUR HOPE, G.C.I.E., M.C. GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

HER EXCELLENCY THE HON'BLE LADY HOPE.

MR. E. C. ALLARDICE, I.C.S., PRIVATE SECRETARY TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

MR. C. P. SCOTT, I.C.S., ASST. PRIVATE SECRETARY TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

COL. G. B. HOWELL, MILITARY SECRETARY TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

A.-D.-C. TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

SIR THOMAS AUSTIN, K.C.I.E., I.C.S., ADVISER TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

SIR NORMAN STRATHIE, K.C.I.E., I.C.S., ADVISER TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

MR. A. McLAREN, CHAIRMAN, INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

LT.-COL. H. C. DEANE, DY. DIRECTOR, UNSKILLED LABOUR SUPPLY.

MR. H. GREENFIELD, C.I.E., CENTRAL BOARD OF REVENUE.

DIWAN BAHADUR M. V. VELLODI, CONTROLLER OF COFFEE.

MR. C. H. MASTERMAN, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., PROVINCIAL MOTOR TRANSPORT CONTROLLER.

MR. K. G. JACOB, COLLECTOR OF CENTRAL EXCISE.

DR. W. R. AYKROYD, C.B.E., DIRECTOR, NUTRITION RESEARCH LABORATORIES.

MR. H. WHEATLEY, DIRECTOR OF CINCHONA DEPARTMENT.

MR. R. G. PEIRCE, INSPECTOR OF TEA.

MR. J. A. R. LLOYD, JT. CONTROLLER, INDIAN TEA LICENSING COMMITTEE.

MR. C. P. LISTON, RUBBER PURCHASE OFFICER.

MR. J. C. BURTON, COIMBATORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

MR. G. F. HARRISON, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, NILGIRIS.

MR. W. E. SCOTT AG. JT. CONTROLLER, INDIAN TEA LICENSING COMMITTEE.

MR. M. GOVINDA MENON, COONOR MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER.

MR. I. M. FRASER, I.C.S., COLLECTOR OF THE NILGIRIS.

MR. R. C. HOPE, I.C.S., SUB-COLLECTOR, COONOR.

MR. A. R. McEWEN, C.I.E., I.C.S., CIVIL/MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER.

MR. J. F. C. REYNOLDS, SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY.

MR. H. S. TOWN, MADRAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

MR. H. KEENE, DY. INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, OOTACAMUND.

MESSRS. G. B. READE, J. E. NICHOLSON, C. M. SEYMOUR, N. G. DYSART, V. I. CHACKO, S. DORAIRAJ, J. YESUTHASAN, K. V. DHARMARAJ, D. GORDON, S. A. HUGGINS, W. I. HATHERELL, Q. E. McCONNELL, C. P. PRIMROSE, M. K. NANJA GOWDER, J. R. CLARK, J. X. MILLER, G. S. GALL, G. M. WOODCOCK, H. SINCLAIR, R. P. N. SWAYNE, P. V. BRISCOE, F. J. B. DIAPER, M. S. P. RAJES, E. H. BRADNELL, R. F. C. HILL, N. A. J. HAWKE, M. G. MATHEW, B. K. NANDHI GOWDER, H. S. LAKE, T. BELLIE GOWDER, P. C. KURIEN, H. RANGASWAMI AND COL. E. O'BRIEN.

LADY JAMES, MRS. W. E. SCOTT, MRS. J. F. MURPHY, MRS. R. G. FOSTER, MRS. G. F. HARRISON, MRS. W. R. AYKROYD, MRS. C. H. MASTERMAN, MRS. E. G. CAMERON, MRS. R. G. PERICE, MRS. H. D. HUGGINS, MRS. S. A. HUGGINS, MRS. H. C. SCHOFIELD, MRS. A. McLAREN, MRS. W. W. MAYNE, MRS. I. M. FRASER, MRS. R. C. HOPE, MRS. J. A. R. LLOYD, MRS. B. D. DARKIN, MRS. R. B. WEBB, MRS. ACASER, MRS. G. E. WALKER, MRS. C. L. J. HUMPHREYS, MRS. K. R. K. IVENGAR, MRS. K. R. BULL, MRS. E. F. M. NORMAN, MR. L. H. BEWES, MRS. STEVENS, MRS. VERNEDE, MRS. J. R. N. PRYDE, MRS. COGMAN, MRS. HILL.

MISS FINLAYSON, FARMER AND SCHOFIELD.

On arrival, His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, and Lady Hope were received at the entrance of the Hall by the President, who introduced the members of the Executive Committee, the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary. The President then conducted His Excellency to his seat on the dais. Mr. Ivor Bull conducted Lady Hope to her seat on the dais.

The President then took the Chair and asked the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The President.—I will now ask His Excellency if he will be good enough to declare the Fifty-Second Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India open.

His Excellency.—Your Excellency, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have very great pleasure in declaring this meeting open, this afternoon. I think that to-day is a very auspicious day for the occasion. (Applause).

OBITUARY

The President.—Before I proceed with the meeting, I will ask you to stand while I read the list of our past and present members whose deaths have taken place during the year.

Obituary.—P. A. Naylor, H. M. S. Barnard, P. T. Thomas, G. M. Easton, G. Bayzand, W. A. F. Bracken, G. Oakes, R. Lescher, J. G. H. Crawford, H. G. Budd, L. C. Oliver, A. F. Dalley, C. L. Egan, J. E. G. Piggott, G. A. M. Petrie and W. Gillespie.

Roll of Honour.—C. F. M. Lee.

After a silent pause, the President said.—To their relatives and friends I express our sincere sympathy.

The President.—We have received some messages from old friends of the Association. I will ask the Secretary to read them.

The Secretary.—A telegram has been received from The Hon'ble Sir M. Azizul Huque, Commerce Member, Government of India, reading:—

'Thank you very much for your kind telegram. I was myself thinking of coming to Coonoor, but unfortunately I have got a meeting fixed long ago at Bombay. I regret very much my absence. I wish your meeting all success.' Another telegram has been received from Mr. Y. N. Sukthankar, Joint Secretary, Commerce Department, reading:—'Greatly regret inability attend Conference of fifteenth owing other engagements wish your Conference every success.' Mr. Sampson has cabled from London:—'Best wishes for a successful and interesting Annual Meeting.' I have also received letters regretting their inability to attend and expressing their best wishes for the meeting from Hon'ble Lt.-Col. C. G. N. Edwards, The Resident of Madras States; Hon'ble Lt.-Col. P. Gaisford, Resident of Mysore State; Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, Dewan of

Travancore; Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau, Dewan of Mysore; Mr. H. R. Stewart, Vice-Chairman, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi; Mr. K. R. Narayana Iyer, Director of Agriculture, Trivandrum; Mr. H. G. Carpenter, Regional Controller of Railway Priorities, Madras; Mr. L. B. Green, Tea Controller for India; Brig. Pollock, Chairman, 161 L of C Sub Area; Mr. D. V. Rege, I.C.S., Chairman, Labour Investigation Committee; Mr. Sydney Smith; Mr. J. B. Brown; Mr. G. W. Priestley, Adviser to H. E. the Governor of Madras; Mr. A. F. W. Dixon, Commissioner of Civil Supplies; Mr. J. W. Tolson, Chairman, Association of Planters of Travancore; Mr. McFarlane, Chairman, Indian Tea Market Expansion Board; Mr. W. H. Miles, Commissioner for India, Indian Tea Market Expansion Board; Mr. D. Prasad, Superintendent, Indian Tea Market Expansion Board, South India Division; The Chairman, Madras Trades Association; Mr. M. J. Narasimhan, Director of Agriculture, Bangalore, Mr. P. Reid, Chairman, National Service Advisory Committee; Dewan Bahadur K. Chengappa, Chief Commissioner of Coorg, Dr. P. H. Carpenter, Director, Tocklai Experimental Station; and Rao Sahib M. J. Simon, Secretary, Indian Coffee Board.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The President.—Mr. F. H. Farmer, then delivered the following address:—

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome your Excellencies to the Fifty-second Annual Meeting of this Association. We are particularly happy to have your Excellencies with us here today. We recall that on this occasion last year it was understood that you would be proceeding to England in the Spring of 1945. I do not know what your feelings in the matter are, Sir, but I can assure you that from our point of view, it might be called a happy reprieve. Your sympathetic interest in the problems which have confronted us during the past few years, is a matter of keen appreciation and it has materially aided the Industries which we represent to carry on when production efficiency was threatened by War time conditions.

There is also a warm welcome to our several distinguished visitors, who have found the time and battled with the discomfort of travel to attend, among whom I would mention Mr. McLaren, Chairman of the Indian Tea Association, who has made the arduous journey from Calcutta.

It may not be customary to start off this Annual Conference with a reference to world affairs, and it may seem hardly necessary with our Press and such happy commentators as Mr. Wickham Steed, but who can look back on the past year without a feeling of deep satisfaction and thanksgiving at the progress of events, the end of hostilities in Europe, the San Francisco Conference followed by the Potsdam decision and culminating with the offer of surrender of the Japanese only a few hours ago. (*Applause*). Turning nearer home, we can only view with regret the failure of the Simla talks, and we can only hope that no effort will be spared by all who have the good will of India at heart, to reach the goal of a government, solidly resting on the will of the people. World events of recent months have rightly given us cause for some optimism for future world stability, and as our Planting Industry has played no small part during the past six years of war, so, let us hope, will it continue to do so in the years ahead, meeting trials and problems in a progressive practical manner, and maintaining its reputation for sound industrial agriculture, which will be a credit to the Province and the neighbouring States of South India.

During the period under review, the planting industry has experienced a trying year. While a few of our difficulties have eased, in particular the question of food supplies, others have developed or increased, and we have had to face rising costs and shortages of many essentials required for the maintenance of production. Of these shortages that of labour has given us the greatest cause for concern. It has been felt by all branches of the industry but the burden appears to have fallen heaviest on the most vitally necessary war material produced by us—rubber.

Taking into consideration the main adverse factors which have had to be met and overcome, during the past year, it is a matter for congratulation that the output of tea, coffee, rubber and cardamoms has been satisfactorily maintained, and we want this state of affairs to continue.

If they are to do so, what is the first essential?—Labour. If sufficient labour is not on the Estates, the crops will be sitting on the bushes, hiding in the trees, or buried in the soil, and a long term view has to be taken as the crops of tomorrow are dependent on today's maintenance and cultivation. But here comes the rub; from all sides there is the complaint of decreasing numbers of labourers. Our normal sources of supply are the happy hunting grounds of all and sundry, and even the labourers actually on the estates are not immune from the grasping hands of contractors and others willing to offer high wages for work whose urgency appears to brook no considerations of economy. The complexity and difficulty of this problem, led the Executive Committee to ask the Labour Department Control Committee to lend the Association its services and specialised knowledge in tackling the vital problem of Labour shortages. The Association, especially those of its members who are not subscribers to the Labour Department, are deeply indebted to the Control Committee for their willing aid which has been unstintingly given. In spite of their efforts, the shortages continue and in some areas have become steadily worse during the year. Presuming that there is urgent need for all the rubber that can be produced in South India, and I think their urgency still continues, and assuming that the 65 million pounds of South Indian Tea available for export is of some importance to the Ministry of Food, and not overlooking the interest of the public in tea, coffee and cardamoms, it does not seem unreasonable to ask for some protection of our labour supplies to ensure that production is maintained, and this help should go further than the mere sheltering of estates themselves from the activities of recruiters of all kinds. With the change in the war situation which has come about within the past week more labour may become available. It is my duty however to state most emphatically that the planting industry cannot maintain its production if the drain on labour we have been experiencing continues.

It is most gratifying to know that the food supplies in most planting districts have been very much easier this past year, and our thanks are due to those who have handled the distribution, from the Central Government downwards. Rationing has been introduced in town and country, and on the whole has been highly successful in securing satisfactory distribution of supplies available. The early stages of the introduction of rural rationing and its impact on the special conditions of plantation populations were not without difficulty. In Madras we owe a very special debt of gratitude to the successive Commissioners of Civil Supplies, Mr. Scott Brown and Mr. Dixon, for the sympathetic consideration they have given to our representations and their willingness to meet our difficulties whenever it was possible. In Travancore and Cochin, the authorities have equally done their best, and the gradual improvement in supplies has been welcome to all estates who have passed through such difficult times in the past two years.

While improvement has been considerable, we cannot say we are completely out of the wood. Early in the year a distress signal came from our friends in Mysore and while I understand the position has improved, it is still difficult. I trust that their claim for a fair ration of the grain which is required by them, will be met. In Malabar too, especially in those areas where rubber estates are intermingled with paddy fields, the introduction of rural rationing has not been without difficulty. The payment of labour on paddy lands in kind has had an adverse effect on the supplies of labour for rubber, where similar concessions are not possible.

As you are aware, the plantations of Southern India are widely scattered in remote areas and the problems of transport are frequently formidable. On the whole this problem has shown signs of improvement during the year, and we hope that it will continue to do so. We have received much help and consideration from the Motor Vehicle Transport authorities and from the Regional Controller of Railway Priorities. We trust that they appreciate that our importunities are inspired by our anxiety to place our products where they are needed and to maintain our production at the maximum levels. They can rest assured that we appreciate the immensity of the task they have had to tackle. With the close of the war in the East let us hope there will be a rapid improvement on road and rail and by sea.

We require many commodities for the maintenance of production on our estates and most of them have been in short supply, and greatly increased in cost. Of course, not the least is manure. During the year, the Government of India came to our assistance with two allotments of Lease Lend Sulphate of Ammonia and a little Ammonium Phosphate. Although the supply does not fill the demand by a wide margin, it has been as well that there has been some. The reduction on pre-war and normal applications must assuredly sooner or later affect our production and we can only look with sober satisfaction to the extent to which we have maintained our production. As the position is today, the quantities of manure for Estates will be about the same as for last year, but it is hoped that a further allotment will be offered to the industry.

To turn for a moment to the financial side of planting. The Agricultural industries which the Association represents have been showing reasonable results during the war period with some fluctuations, here and there. A large part of them began the war period after a long period of adversity and there are signs that future fluctuations are not all likely to be favourable. There are undoubtedly tough times ahead. The produce from our Estates is at present of primary importance to the world. Rubber is an essential commodity, with tea and coffee finding an ever increasing demand in India, together with heavy export requirements. It is therefore very obviously necessary for production to continue with every degree of efficiency that can be secured. At the same time the future is obscure, and I believe that the industry must take every possible measure to place itself in a position to meet whatever the future may hold. There is much that is out of our hands. In spite of the effort made by the Government through multiplying systems of controls, the effects on prices of commodities and on cost of living do not appear to be conspicuous. Most of our products have been subject to fairly close price control and the increased returns to the producer have been generally at a level considerably below other commodities. We may well ask when we can expect a fall in the prices of many articles on which we depend for our production to levels at least commensurate with those we receive for our produce. We do not grudge anyone prosperity. We realise that the prices of primary commodities in many cases before the war were inadequate for stability—plantation products themselves were among those which suffered—but in the years of uncontrolled price inflation, the extent of our organization and the block purchasing arrangements for rubber, and for tea for export made it easier for official checks on price increases to operate. The price of coffee in 1945 gives some indication of what might have happened and the later history of coffee prices is one of a reduction seldom equalled. What we do look for is a return to a new stability in which price relations will permit an ordered prosperous development for all.

On the part of the planting industry, there is no question that the time has come when the various sections must give thought to the future development of their various control and marketing acts. We have a difficult time ahead. It will require our most careful thought to devise the best and most efficient methods of solving our problems of orderly production and marketing so that the world shall not go short of our products, nor we be overwhelmed by surplus production.

A most welcome announcement from the Central Government of recent months was the provision of free insurance for War risks of Factories and Goods for the period July/November. Overdue perhaps, but none the less welcome, and the latest development will surely mean that no further cover will be required. It was published that the accumulated fund from the Compulsory War Risk Insurance amounted to 40 crores, and a personal—a very personal—estimate of the premia paid by South India planting concerns is half a crore or more. If the funds are to be used for the benefit of the industrial sources from which they were derived, there is ample scope for the use of our contributions to good purpose. Maybe it will come into the picture with the schemes for Post War Reconstruction, which engage the attention of the Government of India, Provinces and States. On your behalf I had the honour to serve as a Member of the Madras Post War Reconstruction Committee, and it will interest you to know that a comprehensive five-year plan covering all branches of social and cultural development has been drawn up, estimated to cost 136 crores. To those responsible for drafting the scheme our congratulations are due, and let us hope that its execution will be equally efficient. It is realised that Post War Reconstruction on the scale it is contemplated, will require very large sums of money, and that the Provincial Finances were observed as being strong with substantial surplus reserves. It was consequently with some dismay that the Association received the information that an Agricultural Income Tax was to be examined, which, if introduced, would operate for the financial year commencing the 1st April 1945, on the previous year's profits. At a General Meeting of the Association it was decided to protest at this additional burden, and we continue to demand with others that it is unnecessary and should be dropped. But providing for the contingency that our request would go unheeded, the Draft Bill was examined by the Association, and a note prepared and submitted to Government pointing out where modifications should be made to meet the requirements of our products.

Another matter in connection with the Provincial Post War Reconstruction Committee to which I feel some reference should be made, is the recommendation put forward by the Sub-Committee for Labour that the Payment of Wages Act should be extended to agricultural labourers. The membership of this Sub-Committee is not known and we were not represented, but at a General Committee Meeting when pointing this out, I explained that the Act was unsuitable for Estate labourers. The recommendation which has been made is that the Payment of Wages Act should be applied with suitable modifications for agricultural labour, and I was formed that an opportunity would be made for expressing our views. The proposal savours more of legislation than Post War Reconstruction, and if the door is left open we should make sure of using it as it is of vital concern to the Estates.

A somewhat smaller financial matter connected with the Provincial revenues, to which I think some reference should be made is the 5 per cent surcharge on high tension electric current. This surcharge was originally levied to assist in meeting the cost of the Air Raid Precautions and came into force for two years from June 1943. Although the A.R.P. organization has been almost completely disbanded, the surcharge continues. Enquiries elicit the information that it will continue until the loss of income, presumably an estimate, is fully recovered. Our efforts to secure some information as to how much has to be recovered and how long it will take have so far been in vain. If Government took us into their confidence more fully in this matter, it might be viewed with less displeasure.

Among the visitors who have called on the Association and visited the Plantation Districts this year was Mr. Rege, Chairman of the Labour Investigation Committee, and some members of his staff have stayed on Estates to examine the working conditions. It cannot be hazarded what were the impressions gained, or the recommendations which will be made following this close examination of conditions of Estates, but the report of the Committee is awaited with interest.

Meanwhile, the steady and increasing volume of social progress and betterment of conditions for our labour and other employees on Estates continues. We have our critics, and there is doubtless room for criticism, but there is ample evidence that there is full appreciation of the necessity for raising the standard and improving the conditions of those who give their labour to the Industry which we represent. The necessity for cordial relations between the Employer and Employee is recognised on all sides, and the necessity should be fostered by all on every possible occasion. In the Rege Committee Questionnaire, a question was asked regarding the number of strikes which had taken place over a long period, and the replies from an overwhelming majority of estates was NIL. It is a good answer to the critics. While there is little doubt that labour on Estates appreciate what the managements have done for them, we must ruefully admit that their appreciation has not prevented considerable numbers from succumbing to the lure of high wages in various temporary employments and the generous rations frequently associated with them—wages which estates could not economically afford and rations, they could not legitimately give. It is doubtless a comfort to them that at any rate, the estates will still be there, when military contracts have passed into history. That is our belief also and in that belief our efforts continue to provide better living accommodation, water supplies, more schools and creches, paying greater attention to welfare and sanitation, the encouragement of gardens, giving improved medical facilities and all such progress is being carried on to an increasing extent by everyone.

The subordinate staff on Estates should also receive similar considerations and their terms and conditions of employment should be in keeping with present day requirements. It is understood that some Employers are still without a recognised Provident Fund for their Staff and I appeal to those who have none, to start one without delay. Not only is a Provident Fund, or Pension Scheme, essential for Employees but the Employer is equally benefited by the services rendered which are materially dependent on conditions and security of employment. The terms of employment under which the subordinate Staff work on the Estates show much variation between one management and another, and it would be in the interests of every one that such variations should be reduced to a minimum.

I will leave the individual problems of our various crops to be considered by the section Chairmen, but I should like to make one reference to the trying year experienced by our cardamom growers. The combination of a heavy crop and serious restrictions on exports have combined to depress prices to levels as low or lower than those of pre-war years. The Coffee Section which is charged with matters affecting minor products has recently set up a Sub-Committee to consider how this industry can best be helped. I trust their deliberations will find means of placing cardamom production and marketing on a sound and profitable basis.

At our last meeting several references were made to the necessity for expansion of Scientific Research, and to examine this a Sub-Committee was appointed over which Mr. Pryde presided. It is hoped that this Committee will be able to put forward a scheme which will put research on the basis which is required. It is, however, a very big problem with plantations situated in several different administrations, but if the difficulties can be overcome, our agriculture should have a Research Institute at its service which will enable it to meet with competitive agriculture in other parts of the world. One of the chief obstacles to opening such a Research Station will be provision of funds, and it is doubtful whether managements will ever be prepared to subscribe sufficient on a voluntary basis. The only alternative means for finding the money required appears to be some form of cess on production, and the matter is of such importance to our Agricultural Industries that I consider this method of securing the funds should be pressed. When Mr. H. R. Stewart, Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, was visiting South India, he discussed the question with the members of your Committee and showed considerable interest in this all-important question. His advice was of great help to the Committee in its work, which is still in progress.

The management of Estates has given cause for much concern during the past year. Many of the Staff have been in harness for periods up to ten years without the usual leave, and the strain has taken its toll, leaving gaps in a service which was voluntarily and willingly drained to the maximum in the interests of Military Service. Others have reached the stage when leave must be arranged and the position today is more serious than it has ever previously been. Many applications for release from Military Service have been submitted, but only a small number have as yet returned to the Estates. It is absolutely necessary that more men should return not only to supplement the present inadequate staff, but to permit those who are breaking down in health to be given the rest which they deserve.

We have watched with admiration the efforts of our planter friends in the North when they were in the Front Line and remember, as we do so from this base area that many of our younger men have been working side by side with the Assam planters in that forward area from which the Japanese tide was rolled back. At the same time many planters' bungalows have been filled with streams of men on leave, who have been welcomed with a 'Planter's Hospitality' than which, is common knowledge, there is little warmer to be found 'East of Suez'. We know how much it has been appreciated and it is our only regret that we can touch only a fringe of the armies who have fought so well and endured so much.

There are many members to whom we are indebted for their willingness to undertake duties on behalf of the Association. I would like to mention in particular, Mr. Pryde, who has put in invaluable work on our behalf with the National Service Advisory Committee. In view of our pre-occupation with labour matters, we welcomed back Mr. R. Walker from his work as liaison officer with the States Labour Forces, and are extremely grateful to him for placing his knowledge and experience at the disposal of the Association through the Labour Department Control Committee and the Labour Advisory Committee almost as soon as he arrived. Sir Frederick has been such a familiar and sought after friend of the Association that it is with deep regret that we

learn from him that it may not be possible for his contact with us in the future to be quite as close as in the past. Of those who have left us this year, I should like to mention Mr. Francis, Mr. Walmesley and Mr. Wallace, whose active interest and work for the Association extend over a very long period, and we wish them many years of happiness in retirement.

To those members of your Executive Committee, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks for the valuable assistance which they have given me throughout the year, and also to your Secretary, Mr. W. W. Mayne. It is difficult for me to express my admiration for the work of Mr. Mayne for the Association, but I can tell you that there has been no subject or reference made to him that has not been dealt with expeditiously and with outstanding ability. (*Applause*). He is no doubt more than anxious to get back to Scientific work, but when the day arrives for him to vacate the seat of Secretary, I am sure, he will be sadly missed.

In conclusion, I can report the continued growth and health of this Association. Our membership has grown by 25,000 acres in the past five years, being an increase of 10 per cent over 1939, and it now represents over a quarter of a million acres of plantation crops in South India. It has been able to assist its members in a multitude of ways and has not hesitated during these years to use its organization for the general assistance of the whole industry. It has co-operated with Government in allotting quinine and quinine substitutes, lease-lend lorries, lease-lend sulphate of ammonia, imported vegetable seeds, cement, iron and steel materials and import licences for agricultural tools and machinery. Its knowledge and experience have always been available to Government on matters touching plantations and in this way has rendered service not only to its members, but to the whole planting industry. I would remind you, however, that there are difficult times ahead for all producers, not least for agriculturists like ourselves and a strong united organization is essential to place our problems before the authorities and the public. Members of an organization such as ours have something to give as well as to get, if the industry is to be protected and helped to useful service and stable prosperity. I trust the Association will continue to grow and to serve its members with efficiency. I hope, and I know I shall not be disappointed, that its members will continue to give it that loyalty and support which has endured now for over half a century, and has given the Association an honoured place in South Indian Agriculture. (*Loud and prolonged applause*).

The President.—I will now ask His Excellency to address the Meeting:—

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope spoke as follows:—

Your Excellency, Mr. Farmer, Ladies and Gentlemen,

A year ago almost to-day, I was bidding good-bye to you. But I am still here. I must apologise for not showing a new face. But I must confess that today of all days I am particularly pleased to be still here. (*Hear, hear*). (*Applause*). We have carried on these 5½ years together, helping each other, making suggestions to each other, prodding each other and opposing each other. We have now beaten not only the Germans but the Japanese as well. I think that it is a very happy day and as I said a little while ago, an auspicious occasion that this meeting should take place today. Well, all of you, Ladies and Gentlemen, have done so much in these years of horror to help to win the war. Now we have won the war. We have got to win the peace as well, which may in many ways be very much more difficult.

I would like to say, Sir, how much I enjoyed hearing the address which your President has just given. I was much impressed by the address. I see very well the problems that are facing your industries in the immediate future and in the distant future. These problems, although they may be big here, are going to be multiplied in every country in the world. The suggestions that you, Mr. President, put forward, will be most carefully considered by this Government at the present time, and I am quite certain by any future Government as well. The suggestions are large in number and if I cannot remember them all myself, I have with me here two advisers, who have come to the Nilgiris from the hot parts of Madras (*Laughter*), who, I am sure, will like myself look into these matters very closely. I do see that the problems are going to be very great. One in particular, which you have mentioned, is the question of labour. I think, as regards numbers, the question will probably solve itself, because with the end of the war there is going to be a great slackening in the demand for labour for military and kindred reasons. But there will be no difficulties, without the slightest doubt, not only here in India but everywhere, as regards conditions of labour, wages, and so on. This is a matter which can be settled by goodwill on both sides—by the employers and by the employees, aided wherever possible by Government. I am quite certain that with goodwill and understanding throughout the world it will be possible through the co-operation of Government and private enterprise. I feel quite certain that here in India, as in Great Britain and elsewhere, we will be able to work through these particularly difficult times.

There is one thing which one can be a bit worried about and that is whether after six years of actual war and certainly after 31 years of wars, or half wars, or fears of wars, or threats of wars, we can really sit down at once to that condition which we all want, and that is complete peace, not only in our times, but for many generations to come.

Now one thing, I think, which has startled the world more than anything else for very many years past, is the invention of the Atomic Bomb. It may have stopped this war very much sooner than we expected. In this way it may have been a very good thing, but the possibilities and potentialities of this invention must be reckoned with. If any body has sole possession of it, they can destroy the rest of the world overnight. I think this has brought to everybody's mind, both to the Allies and the defeated Germans and Japanese, who were trying to find similar devices, that unless we keep ourselves together and make up our minds that we cannot have future wars, the world may be destroyed, by another war. Many of us remember the first world war, which was terrific in itself with casualties even greater than in the present war, but the duration was shorter. This war has shaken civilisation right to its very bottom and we only survived it by luck. We have possibly been saved a few more months of war. If there is going to be another war in future there will be no civilisation left in any sort of country. It will be going back as one used to say, to the Middle Ages; it will be going back to the Stone Age and the Barbaric Age, where there can be no possible hope of happiness for mankind. We have got to avoid it. It can be avoided not only by a New League of Nations, not only by an understanding between the big-powers, but also by an understanding between the so-called Balkan Powers which must learn that they cannot drive Europe and subsequently the world into war after war as they have done for generations. It has got to be done in every country as well.

If you look round the world at the present moment, in peace or in war, you will see that every country is divided by ideologies, left or right or centre, divided by religious distinctions and disputes, divided in every possible way. We in Great Britain just had our General Elections. I am glad of it. I am not going to discuss the results, but I am glad elections are over and the country has decided what it wants for the next few years. I

wish elections were over in a great many of the other countries as well. After all there has been uncertainty for years past in this country. One would like to know what each individual country really wants and not, what each individual leader or party says that he wants. (*Hear, hear*). (*Applause*). But it is going to be a very difficult time. Take Europe alone. Every country there is hopelessly divided. Every country there is short of everything that it wants, not only as regards amenities but in actual living conditions. They are terribly short of food-stuffs, they are terribly short of clothing. I think that in Great Britain the clothing ration is going to be cut. Food has already been cut since the war ended. These difficulties are going to be multiplied all over the world. There are people who say, because the war has come to an end, why cannot rice rationing be given up altogether and everyone allowed as much as he wants. It will be a long day—a very long day—for things to come to normal in this country or in any other country as regards supplies of food or material. But if only people would realise that there are two sides to every question and that there should be a lot of give as well as a lot of take, it will be better for the world generally. We have got to give as well as to take. We have got to understand that after six years of war and 30 years of economic depression, there have been vast changes in the opinions and views of all classes and communities in every country and especially among what are called the lower middle classes. We have got to realise that as I said a moment ago, not only big nations but the smaller nations also and all manner of people in every country have got to understand each other. If they do not we shall have economic misery for a very long time to come. But I think we have learnt our lesson. I think we have learnt the lesson of the past 30 years. I think we have learnt the lesson probably in the last week of this war when the invention of the Atomic Bomb was made known to the world. I think that we have learnt that war does not pay. No country can possibly afford to go into war again, but we will go into war unless we get together as between each country, as between different communities in each country.

I believe that to-day, the fifteenth day of August 1945, is a historic day. I hope it will be the last day of the waging of war between great countries of the world. I am happy to be here with you today, to speak to you and join you in this rejoicing. I am sure you will agree with me that it is up to us to see that no war is perpetrated in this world for generation after generation to come. (*Loud and prolonged applause*).

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I have the honour to propose a vote of thanks to Their Excellencies for coming to open this meeting. All of us here know that the Madras Government has carried on with confidence and energy and all of us are grateful to His Excellency's steadfastness when times were very bad. Our thanks are due to His Excellency, for his sympathy and understanding in all our dealings with the Madras Government during his tenure of office. I am sure you will all join me in wishing His Excellency and Lady Hope, happiness in England after they have left us. (*Applause*).

His Excellency.—It has been the custom to report on the progress of my family. (*Applause*). Since I was here last year I have another grand-daughter. (*Applause and laughter*).

U.P.A.S.I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

The Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India reassembled at 2.45 p.m. on Thursday the 16th August, 1945, at 'Glenview', with Mr. F. H. Farmer, President, in the Chair.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The President.—Gentlemen, the proceedings of the General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. held on 28th March, 1945, which were published on p. 132 in the *Planters' Chronicle* dated 1st May, 1945, may be taken as read and confirmed.

The proceedings were confirmed.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The President.—The next item on the agenda is the consideration of the report of the Executive Committee for the year 1944-45. The report has been in your hands for the past two weeks. With your permission I propose to take it as read. Has anyone any question to ask on the report? I now propose:

'That the Report of the Executive Committee for the year ending March 31, 1945, be and is hereby adopted.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS, 1944-45

The President.—I will ask the Secretary to read the Auditor's Report.

The Secretary.—The Report of the Auditors reads as follows:—

'We have audited the balance sheet of the United Planters' Association of Southern India excluding Labour Department Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 1945 and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such balance sheet is properly drawn up as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Association's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us as shown by the books of the Association and the returns from Divisions.'

(Signed) FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants,
Registered Accountants, } Auditors.

The President.—Has any member any questions to put in connection with the Accounts? There being no questions, I propose:

'That the Audited Accounts for the year 1944-45 as circulated be passed.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

LEGISLATION

The President.—I will now ask Sir Frederick James to address the Meeting.

Sir Frederick James.—Mr. President and Gentlemen: I seem to have very little to say this afternoon, but I shall try to answer any questions which any member may like to put to me. During the past year I have endeavoured to continue my services to my constituents in the Association to the best of my ability. It has been a heavy year. The various products have had a number of problems which required a good deal of attention at the Centre. Some of these problems have been dealt with in the respective product meetings. In addition, there has been a great deal of work in connection with the release of men from the Army and the securing of passages for members and their families from this country to the United Kingdom and from the United Kingdom back. Seldom does a mail arrive in my office without at least two or three letters requesting assistance in these directions. I have continued to serve as Honorary Advisor to the Industries and Civil Supplies Department of the Government of India in matters connected with rubber and coffee. That work is not in the giving of technical advice of which I am not capable, so much as in providing a useful liaison between the interests concerned in South India and at the Department of the Government of India dealing with these particular matters. There are not a few problems relating to the Tea Industry, which also come my way.

In connection with rubber, there is one point to which I should like to refer. I have been asked to do so by Mr. Liston, who is unable to be here, on behalf of the Government of India. He refers to a speech delivered in Cochin by the Chairman of the Rubber Section Committee, in which it has been suggested that the grading of rubber had been recently altered and that the new differentials were detrimental as far as India is concerned. He wishes to observe in the first place that grading has not been changed since January 1943. In the second place, when higher basic prices were given by the Government of India the inevitable result was a widening of the differentials between various grades. There is one further point which I should like to mention. The Chairman of the Rubber Section Committee expressed the view that the failure to fix a period for which the present price would remain in force was an unsatisfactory matter. I quite respect that view, but at the same time there is another side to that particular matter. I think it will be found that, when the Malayan Plantations begin to work again, it will be a considerable time, so I am advised, before they will be able to produce rubber at the present prevailing price in India. If that is the case, then there is obviously an advantage in not fixing a time to the period during which the present prices are to hold good.

It has been customary in the past to make some general observations on the political situation in so far as it affects the planting interests. I am speaking later in the evening to the European Association and there I think, I shall be able to devote some time to an examination of the present political situation. All I will say here is this. It is I think to the interests of all of us, to whatever community we may belong, or whatever particular interest may be ours, that India should as early as possible reach a settlement as to her constitutional future. We cannot but respect the wise and unwearied efforts of His Excellency the Viceroy to bring about at least a temporary agreement from the basis of which a more permanent settlement might be achieved. That they failed, I cannot believe, is due to any omission or commission on his part. They failed because he came up against the stubborn facts of the situation. Now that the war has come to an end, India will have to get down to these same stubborn facts and nothing short of the very careful examination of them and an unselfish attempt by all concerned to reach an agreement will relieve the gloom of the present unhappy political division and unsettlement in the country. All I would say is that, so far as planting interests and business interests are concerned, particularly in view of the immense tasks awaiting the country in connection with the post-war rehabilitation, the sooner this settlement arrives the better. I think that no one has anything to fear of any agreed constitution in which India will eventually find her full freedom within the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Now, Sir, last year I referred to the changes which would be inevitable in any organization connected with the needs of the war against Japan. That war has come to a happy end, perhaps sooner than many of us imagined. We shall in this Association be faced not only with internal changes but with a fast developing world. We must, therefore, adapt our organization to meet the new demands upon a body such as this, representing employers of labour covering the whole of the Southern Peninsula of this great country.

IN COMMITTEE

As far as I am concerned, it is becoming clear that probably within the near future my formal association with the U.P.A.S.I. will come to an end. Members will remember that in 1941 I agreed to continue to work as I had been previously doing for the Association until the end of the war. But I then said that with the end of the war, I should take on fresh responsibilities which would not permit me to carry on in the same way. And indeed it will only be proper that this work should be carried out by any one who is working and living among you and as you know, my present interests take me for the greater part of the year away from South India and will, I think, in the near future, take me even further away. It is more than likely that this time next year someone will be standing in my place and telling you of his work during the year at the Centre. I do not, Sir, wish to make this occasion one of a formal leave taking because as long as my position at the Centre continues, so long shall I carry out the work that I have promised to do for you. But should the elections to the Centre take place, then there will be a change in the occupancy of the seat of the European constituency and whoever takes my place in that capacity—I hope and believe that he will be a distinguished planter member of the U.P.A.S.I.—to him will fall the responsibility that I have endeavoured to discharge up to date. When the actual change over comes, I shall then wish you good-bye. In the meantime I take the opportunity of thanking you for your continued loyalty and appreciation of what I have been able to do. When I come to the cross-roads, and I go down another road, I shall carry with me the happiest recollections of an Association which has meant so much to me and brought many friends. I shall always be at your service or the service of those who represent you if in any way I can contribute to your welfare. (*Loud and prolonged applause*).

OPEN MEETING

The Chairman.—Has any member any questions to ask of Sir Frederick James?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—Reference was made to some remarks made by the Chairman of the Rubber Section Committee regarding the grading of rubber. I am not quite sure, but I remember that certain changes were made in the grading. That is certainly my recollection. Changes were made in the grading certainly from the 1st July. Two grades which had been useful were discontinued.

Sir Frederick James.—Well, I was merely passing on some remarks which Mr. Liston wished to make. I will look into the matter and take up the observations made by the Rubber Chairman with the Central Government.

Mr. E. Lefevre.—We think there has been a change in the grading and this has materially affected producers.

Mr. H. B. Macpherson.—Another point of great importance is the question of the price over a certain period. You stated that we cannot expect the Government of India to fix a period, but they appear to have ignored the fact that Ceylon has been given a definite time limit.

Sir Frederick James.—I know Ceylon has been guaranteed a period of 12 months. This decision was taken before the position regarding Malaya was known to the Government of India. The Government of India were well advised not to follow the Ceylon example. Indeed, I think, Ceylon before long will rather regret that the price has been fixed there.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I think I am speaking for the Rubber planters when I say that we will be very satisfied if the Government of India give us the same terms given to Ceylon. Even in the matter of price there is a slight difference—not very much, but I think it is about 6 pies per lb. In Ceylon the price is Re. 1.08 per lb. Regarding the question of fixation of price for a period we would be very happy if the same treatment given to Ceylon is meted out to us. If the Government are afraid that the planters would lose, well I can tell them that they need not worry very much about that. The industry would be grateful to you if you could influence Government in this direction.

Mr. E. Lefevre.—I may say that the Indian Rubber Production Board was in favour of fixing a price for a year and at the Section Meeting, I was putting forward the unanimous opinion of all members of the Section Committee.

The President.—Has any member any further questions to ask of Sir Frederick James?

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.—Could you tell us when the Rege Report will be ready? It was said that it would be ready by about July.

Sir Frederick James.—I understand the Rege Report will be completed this month. The procedure apparently is to place it before a Reconstruction Committee of the Government of India which is yet to be appointed to deal with all labour matters. This Committee will concern itself with the recommendations of the Rege Committee Report. The recommendations of this Policy Committee will, in part, form the basis for any legislation which may be required either in the Provinces or at the Centre in regard to matters affecting labour.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—Have you any information as to when the censorship is likely to cease. A lot of books and other papers belonging to people awaiting passages have been sealed up since January last, and this is the cause of considerable inconvenience.

Sir Frederick James.—I hope it will go very quickly. The war is really over. Censorship will be one of the first things to go.

The President.—Gentlemen, on your behalf I thank Sir Frederick James very much indeed for his most interesting address. (Applause). Two questions were put to him regarding rubber, which, I hope, will be settled in a manner satisfactory to our Rubber producers and our Rubber Section. We regret to hear that Sir Frederick James will not be in a position to talk to us in future, though it may not be for some time yet. We will sadly miss him.

LABOUR

The President.—The next item on the Agenda is labour. As you know, gentlemen, labour has been a very burning question during the past year. Our Labour Control Committee has done what it could to help us and protect us from shortages of supply. We have approached many parties and done everything possible to keep the situation in hand. The Labour Control Committee has, at its recent meeting, made some recommendations which have been passed on to the Executive Committee for its approval. I should like to give you some parts of the report and the recommendations which have been made.

There is an approximate shortage of labour amounting to 20 per cent for tea, 30 per cent for coffee and 13 per cent to 40 per cent for rubber. The reasons for shortage are: (1) high wages paid by army and Government contractors, (2) high wages in villages, (3) shortage of food grains and (4) indirect drain by recruitment for army and military purposes.

Proposed remedies.—A sample letter setting forth full details of pay, dearness allowance and all other concessions should be prepared and sent to all District Planters' Associations. At agents' offices larger and more conspicuous sign boards should be erected and a notice board not less than 6' x 6' should be put up giving details of pay and all concessions in districts which recruit labour in the area. Enquiry should be made as to the possibility of erecting similar boards outside villages, headmen's houses, a small fee being paid if necessary. It is also suggested some professional advertising agency be contacted.

The Committee feels there are serious difficulties in regard to the proposal that subscription to the Labour Department should be made compulsory on all U.P.A.S.I. members for a period of 5 years. They recommend instead that the Executive Committee should use to the utmost their influence to induce all owners of estates of 500 acres and upwards to join the Labour Department. Obviously if the work proposed to be done is successful, all members of U.P.A.S.I. will benefit.

Well, gentlemen, these are the recommendations of the Labour Department Control Committee. I might say that your Executive Committee expressed the opinion that some care should be taken in putting up notices in villages or in crowded stations, not to mislead labourers. As regards the final recommendations of compulsory membership of the Labour Department we thought some enquiry should be made from members as to a majority opinion as to whether compulsory membership should be introduced. It is quite impossible to ask for a compulsory period of 5 years, when the period of notice for the Association is only one year. That rules out the 5-year period. We do not know if members are in favour of some guaranteed period of subscription. I will ask Mr. Walker if he will talk to us on the matter of labour supply.

Mr. R. Walker.—Gentlemen, the President has touched on the position as it is up to today. The Control Committee appointed a sub-committee consisting of Mr. Diaper and myself. The Sub-Committee has made as many contacts as possible with the authorities and endeavoured to try and help the U.P.A.S.I. members to get more labour. One point which came out of all these contacts is the lack of knowledge, throughout the Army and in the Madras Government, of our problems. There is no doubt that it is high time that this Association impressed the Madras Government with its difficulties to the very utmost. When I say 'to the very utmost' I mean in a most energetic manner. In the early part of May, Mr. Diaper and myself went to Madras. We met Mr. Priestley, who was the Chairman of the Madras Provincial Labour Supply Committee. We were surprised to learn that he had no knowledge of our problems and thought we were all right. Our visit

removed this impression. As a result of the interview we are now putting up a note to him stating, in full, facts and figures as a result of the census we have just taken. We contacted the local Military authorities and we certainly got their sympathetic hearing. At the same time we were accorded an interview by Mr. McEwen who is Liaison Officer with the Southern Army and he very kindly offered to give us all the support he could. Mr. McEwen is here today—he has come from the Southern Army where he talked to the G.O.C., General Bruce Lockhart, on our problems. We may perhaps ask Mr. McEwen to give us the result of his interview. Yesterday we had an interview with Lt.-Col. Dean of the Directorate of Unskilled Labour Supply who has come down here at the special invitation of this Association, to hear our problems. The result of the interview was encouraging and I shall like briefly to give you an outline of the tentative approach Sir Norman Strathie intends to make to our problems. He is again meeting Col. Dean shortly and we are supplying Col. Dean, before he goes to Madras, with all the information we have available regarding labour shortages. We hope to be able to give him a copy of the letter which will go forward to Mr. Priestley, Chairman of the Provincial Labour Supply Committee. Now I can say that Sir Norman Strathie was taken aback when he heard that our shortage among subscribers and non-subscribers to this Association in South India amounted to some 80,000 Labourers. We are satisfied after an examination of the figures that the estimate of shortage is a conservative and fairly accurate figure. Now that the war has come to an end with Japan, he has in hand the question of demobilising his Civil Labour Units and it immediately struck him that the U.P.A.S.I. will be a very valuable sponge which will be able to absorb a lot of the Civil Labour Units which will be released shortly. His intention, after consultation with Col. Dean, is not to raise any further units in Madras for work at bases, but to employ instead the Indian Pioneer Corps. Lt.-Col. Dean has promised to send down Labour from the United Provinces. He has got 50,000 labourers which he hopes to send down to Madras Presidency. That, in itself, ought to be a help to us. When the Civil Labour Units are demobilised, Sir Norman Strathie intends to write to the Director, U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department, informing the areas in which this labour will be demobilised. The intention is that we should send kanganies down to those areas so that they will be able to try and recruit this labour. Further, these Units will be supplied with full information as to the Labour Department and full information as to terms and conditions on estates and the names and addresses of the Labour Department Agents. Let us hope that labour will report to the Agents. Mr. Unwin will then be able to make this labour contact estates managers and their kanganies. Also we pointed out to Sir Norman Strathie that the Units should be demobilised throughout South India and that the Labour would go back to the land. Labour for these units were recruited from a great many areas from which estate labour is drawn. Our kanganies can then contact the labourers. Our kanganies tell us that most of our labour is employed in the low countries. Col. Dean is of the opinion that the Madras Presidency is the only area in India where control as laid down by the G.H.Q. has not operated and he was able to give us and Sir Norman Strathie yesterday an indication of how this control operates. There is what is known as a Rates and Wages Board which operates in all Provinces and particularly successfully in Assam. The method controlled the contractors. The rates were controlled, and that control had been very effective from the civilian point of view and it is effective from the army point of view also because every one got his labour requirements. In fact I am very depressed that we in the South did not know how labour problems were handled particularly in N. India. It seems a pity to me that two years ago this Association did not realise to what extent the labour position had been governed there and endeavoured to follow their example. Well, gentlemen, Sir Norman Strathie will be interviewing our representatives after this meeting who will report to us as to what decisions they have arrived at. If necessary, a further visit of representatives of this Association may be necessary in Madras. But when that representation takes place, I suggest, as I said before, that we should put forward our case in the strongest possible terms. I feel sure that this will be effective combined with the propaganda which the Labour Department now proposes to undertake. I think, gentlemen, that this Association has what might be a very valuable opportunity of not only increasing its labour but also of improving the type. Mr. A. V. Thomas this morning referred to the potential employment capacity of our South Indian plantations for Indian and European officers as well as for many thousands of Indian demobilised men. I think we should try and see if we cannot give employment to some part of that magnificent army of 2 million Indians who fought so well against the enemy in support of the Allied cause. (Applause). Well, gentlemen, I have given a resume of the position as it stands and if there is any question I shall do my best to answer them.

A Member.—May I ask if the position has not eased in the last month or so?

Mr. R. Walker.—The figure of labour shortage given is the result of a recent census taken on 30th June. It may be that the position may show a slight improvement in one or two districts but some districts are 60 per cent short of labour requirements. We do hope that, with the end of the war and no further recruitment, matters will improve. Sir Norman Strathie said that the Madras Government had in hand many schemes of post-war reconstruction for the employment of labour. He was gratified to know that there was a sponge which can absorb about 80,000 labourers.

The President.—Any further questions, gentlemen? Mr. Walker has made a very clear statement of our case. I thank him very much. (Applause). I will ask Mr. McEwen if he would give us information on this matter.

Mr. A. R. McEwen.—I really came here to seek knowledge from members so that I can do my bit. I contacted both the Madras Government and the Military authorities. I was down with the Southern Army during the last few days and my object really was to inform Government on some general proposals for a co-ordinating committee between the army and the civil authorities. The Southern Army was pre-occupied with the victory and with the fact that they have to reverse the process of all that has been going on. The result was that I could not ascertain the army point of view and could not come to any decision on the matter at the moment. We are sympathetic about your position. I do agree with what Mr. Walker said that both on the civil side and the army side, there is a lamentable lack of knowledge of the bad situation in respect of labour in the planting areas. After this meeting and the talk I had with Mr. Walker, I am convinced that the importance of the co-ordinating committee has become all the greater. Really the position is that, apart from the general statement, I have practically nothing to say as a result of my interview. As Mr. Walker said, it is a pity that we did not know of the schemes in operation in North India. I hope it is still not too late to do something substantial. I can promise this Association, as Liaison Officer, my very best assistance for the scheme when it comes up.

The President.—Thank you very much, Mr. McEwen, for your promised assistance. Has any member anything further to say on this subject, if not, we will pass on to the next item.

COMMUNICATIONS

The President.—The next item is 'Communications'. Has any member anything for discussion under this heading? No member wishing to bring up subjects for discussion, I will pass on to the next item.

ELECTION OF AUDITORS

The President.—I will take up the election of auditors and move from the Chair:
'That the present auditors, Messrs. Fraser & Ross, be elected auditors, for the current financial year on a remuneration of Rs. 750.'
The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

The President.—The next item is the election of President.
Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Gentlemen, I have great pleasure on your behalf to ask Mr. Farmer to continue as our President for the coming season. Mr. Farmer has dealt very ably with our affairs in the last year; we will be grateful to him if he will agree to carry on our affairs for the coming year also. I propose that Mr. Farmer be re-elected as President of this Association for 1945-46. (Applause).
Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I have very great pleasure in seconding it.
Mr. F. H. Farmer.—I thank you very much, gentlemen, for very kindly putting my name forward as President for the next year. I feel that I have not done very much for the Association, but I have done what I can. With the end of hostilities, the work, I think, is going to change considerably. We cannot say what the future holds in store for us. But I hope we will be able to get through them as successfully as we have got through the difficulties of the war and secure the progress of the Association. Your new Executive Committee consists of—

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.....Tea
 W/Cdr. J. H. Sprott.....Coffee
 Mr. H. B. Macpherson.....Rubber

Gentlemen, the next item on the agenda is 'Any Other Business'.

E.S.A.S.I.

IN COMMITTEE

The President.—I am going into Committee for the first item under 'Any Other Business', as it concerns a matter which is considered should be discussed in committee in the first instance. It is the question of the relationship between the U.P.A.S.I. and E.S.A.S.I. This subject is put down on the Agenda because the Anamallai Planters' Association have written and asked for it to be discussed. I might say, before calling on the Anamallai member to speak on this subject, that an approach had been made by the E.S.A.S.I. to the Executive Committee on the same matter. We have had correspondence on this and we feel that it is definitely a U.P.A.S.I. matter, but the Association is not the employer and it is very difficult for it to enter into negotiations with the estate staff and lay down conditions which may not be acceptable to a very large number of our members. I need only indicate to you the friction and discontent that would result if we attempt to do any such thing. There is no question that our sympathy is very much with the E.S.A.S.I. and that we want to see them given conditions which no one can criticise. But it is for you to decide whether this Association can enter into negotiations to bring about this or whether some other methods have to be adopted. At the last meeting of your Executive Committee, we recorded the following note, which I will now read over, and which contains our views. I will then ask the Anamallai District members to speak on this subject:—

'The Executive Committee believes that it is necessary, in the interest of both the E.S.A.S.I. and the U.P.A.S.I., that it should be made clear that the U.P.A.S.I. have no power or authority to negotiate on behalf of all or any of its members in the matters referred to in the E.S.A.S.I. communication dated 9th August 1945. The recognition accorded to E.S.A.S.I. by U.P.A.S.I. in 1931 does not imply that U.P.A.S.I. had any such power. E.S.A.S.I. must deal direct with the employers concerned on matters relating to the conditions of employment of staff, etc., and to that end take such steps as it considers most appropriate, to achieve, by negotiation, the objects which it has in view'.

Well, gentlemen, I have given you an outline of this matter. I will now ask the Anamallai representative to speak.

Mr. G. Stevens.—My Association (Anamallai P.A.) would like to know, Mr. President, in what manner the U.P.A.S.I. has recognised or has proposed to recognise the E.S.A.S.I.

Sir Frederick James.—As far as I recollect the recognition which was given by the U.P.A.S.I. to the E.S.A.S.I. was that the E.S.A.S.I. was recognised as an Association of members of estates staff in various parts of South India on plantations. But that did not in any way mean that the E.S.A.S.I. was to look to U.P.A.S.I. as a negotiator on matters coming within the purview of the employer himself. In other words recognition did not mean recognition in the technical sense that is used in these matters: you know a Trade Union is recognised and therefore negotiations must take place. Well, the E.S.A.S.I. is not a Trade Union and therefore all I think we can say is our Association, when recognising the E.S.A.S.I., has merely acknowledged its status as an Association representative of the estates staff in Southern India.

Mr. G. Stevens.—I should like to know what matters that recognition covers?

Sir Frederick James.—Well, it does not cover disputes between E.S.A.S.I. or its members and individual employers, for the U.P.A.S.I. has no power delegated to it by all or any of the employers to negotiate with any other body on their behalf. I hope it is clear.

The President.—Thank you, Sir Frederick. Has the Anamallai representative any further statement or questions to make on this subject?

Mr. G. Stevens.—No. Thanks.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Mr. President, I would like to say a few words on this subject. I have seen the bulletin published by the E.S.A.S.I. I am of the opinion that the present tone of their articles is not getting them anywhere. They think a trade union would do much more for them. Let the E.S.A.S.I. people think how its conversion into a trade union would affect them.

think employers would have any objection to a trade union, but the formation of a union is one which is for the members, who wish to join, to decide. I do not think we at this meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. can say whether the formation of a trade union is better than the existing organisation. That is entirely a matter for the members of the E.S.A.S.I. to decide among themselves.

The President.—Thank you, Mr. Boyd.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—I feel that perhaps one might hesitate to force an organisation such as the E.S.A.S.I. to convert itself into a trade union. If that can be avoided in any way, that is, if this Association could advise and assist the E.S.A.S.I. as far as possible, it would be much better than taking a definite line which would drive them into forming a trade union. I have had some dealings with trade unions in Calcutta. Although Mr. Boyd said that it would cause no great trouble, I can assure everybody that it will cause an infinite degree of trouble in the end. If we have to argue, it should not be with a trade union.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—May I know if a trade union should be legally recognised. I don't think there is any need for anything of that kind. It is no use this Association thinking of that. If the Central Government wants to introduce a bill for compulsory recognition, it will be introduced whether it is suitable or not. Certainly one of the principles of a trade union is that there should not be any outsider excepting employees of the estates as members on such a trade union. May I know whether the E.S.A.S.I. have members advising of them, who are not employees of the estates? I am afraid that there are such organisations where there are people, who are not employees, but who are paid to run the show. If so, I should like to know if there is anything of this kind in the E.S.A.S.I.

The Secretary.—They have a paid Secretary. The Committee members are all, I think, employees of estates.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—If a trade Union is formed, it should not employ outsiders, I think. Sir Frederick will agree with me when I say the leading men in most disputes and strikes are not labourers at all but paid agitators from outside.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—As regards Lt.-Col. Spain's remarks, they are rather beside the point. As far as it concerns the U.P.A.S.I., the position is that it is quite impossible for the U.P.A.S.I. to deal with individual cases between the employers and employees. That is the real point and if we attempt to do it, it can only lead to trouble with all members of the U.P.A.S.I. and naturally it will be considered as butting into the private business of the employers. I think that is the real point, Sir. Whether it is desirable that a trade union should be formed or not is naturally for the E.S.A.S.I. themselves to decide.

The President.—Thank you, Mr. Williams.

Mr. G. B. Reade.—As regards the suggestion of Col. Spain that this Association could advise the E.S.A.S.I. if we have not got the means of securing the implementation of our advice, what is the use of our advice? The E.S.A.S.I., as representing the employees of the employer, may negotiate with the employer, and convert itself into a trade union, which this Association cannot forbid.

Col. R. C. Morris.—Would it not be useful to have information as to conditions of service of staff on estates and what estates have provident funds for their staff, etc. I think it will be useful if we have this information. I do not think that the E.S.A.S.I. will turn into a trade union. There would have to be 4 or 5 trade unions in Cochin, Travancore, Mysore and British India.

Mr. G. B. Reade.—Surely, Sir, the question of whether the E.S.A.S.I. should become a trade union or not should be decided by themselves, and is, as Mr. Williams said, a question for the ESASI to decide. With regard to Col. Morris' remarks that U.P.A.S.I. should write to employers and call for terms of service, I think the employers may consider this outside the province of U.P.A.S.I. Possibly they may refuse to give the information.

The President.—Thank you, Mr. Reade. We have heard several view points. I would ask Mr. Bull, one of our Executive members, to give his views.

Mr. Ivor Bull.—Sir, I am sorry but I find myself in disagreement with the proposal of Colonel Morris. The origin of much of the waste of paper that has taken place between the two offices, was the earlier endeavour of the Labour Advisory Committee to enumerate standards for the subordinate staff, and these were minimum standards, which it was hoped would materially assist their position.

After seeing the unfortunate results of this well-meant effort of ours, I formed a resolution that never again would I endeavour to lay down conditions of service for other than my own staff.

As a result of this failure of what was a goodwill gesture, I believe it is necessary for us to review our own position vis a vis the E.S.A.S.I. I believe that, although two years ago we might have tendered advice to the E.S.A.S.I., we should be making a major error if we attempted to do this now. Whatever advice we give them is certain to be misinterpreted. If we advise them not to form Trade Unions, the next issue of their Bulletin will immediately urge this course. If we advise them to form Trade Unions, and they find that their formation involves much greater difficulties and handicaps than they anticipated, we shall once again be the scapegoats. We must anticipate this from our recent past experiences.

The E.S.A.S.I. is no longer in the egg stage, but has hatched out and is of adult age. We must, therefore, ask them to consider their own problems and then take their own decisions.

We are in full sympathy with their efforts to remedy proved cases of abuse by an employer, but the E.S.A.S.I. have to find out their own solutions to these problems.

I do not share Colonel Spain's fears regarding Trade Unions, for under certain circumstances these are a natural development.

If the E.S.A.S.I. wish to form themselves into a Trade Union, we can neither stop nor hinder them. The advantages and disadvantages of this course have to be considered by themselves and they must then take whichever choice appears to them to be wisest.

If the objects which they pursue are beneficial, and they pursue their aims objectively, I am quite sure that our relations with them will be more friendly in the future than they appear to be at present, judging both by the tone of their correspondence and their Bulletin, be they either a Staffs Association or a Trade Union. (Hear, hear).

I would, therefore, urge Sir, that the brief note which the Executive Committee has prepared covering the relationship of the U.P.A.S.I. with the E.S.A.S.I. should be circulated to all District Associations for their guidance. We shall always bear their Association goodwill as long as they deserve it.

The President.—Thank you, Mr. Bull, for your remarks on this matter. I think we have had a very interesting and instructive discussion on this subject. As Mr. Bull says, your Executive Committee has put forward a note and if any one here has any alternative proposals, he is welcome to put them before the meeting. I would suggest that we should record this note and as suggested by Mr. Bull circulate it to our District

Is there any other proposal to be put forward? Will those in agreement with the note hold up
the note was approved.

OPEN MEETING

The President.—Has any member any other subject to bring forward? If not I declare the meeting closed.

TEA SECTION GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Tea Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India held at Coonoor on Wednesday, 28th March 1945, commencing at 12 noon.

The following were present:—

The following were present:—
MR. J. L. H. WILLIAMS (*Chairman*), MESSRS. W. A. J. MILNER, H. C. BOYD, C. R. T. CONGEE,
C. M. KOTHARI, I. W. FINLAYSON and V. O. ABRAHAM (*Members*), F. H. FARMER (*President*) and W. W.
MAYNE (*Secretary*).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. R. Walker.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., and KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. H. Francis.
BISSETT, MR. F., PULLIKANAN TEA ESTATES LTD, and ROISSIER, MR. R. P. *per* Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
EMERALD VALLEY ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. K. N. Anantasilan.
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., HAWKE, MR. L. A., KARIMTHARUVI TEA ESTATES LTD., LESLIE, MR. A. W., MALABAR INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD., MAMALLAY TEA ESTATES LTD., MOORE, MR. R. J. A., MORRIS, MR. R. C., SCOTT, MR. W. P., and THOMAS, MR. M. A., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.
FRINGFORD ESTATES LTD., HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO., LTD., KALPETTA ESTATES LTD., MIDLAND RUBBER AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., NEELAMALAI TEA AND COFFEE ESTATES LTD. and SHEVAROV ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
HAILEYBURY TEA ESTATES LTD., PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD., PEERMADE TEA CO., LTD., SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., STAGBROOK RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES LTD., TWYFORD AND ASHLEY ESTATES LTD., and VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. I. W. Finlayson.
NELLIAMPATHY TEA AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
PERIAKARAMALAI TEA AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., and VELLAMALAI TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.
SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R.
WATERFALL ESTATES LTD., and BLUE MOUNTAIN ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. C. M. Kothari.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ANAMALLAIS, *per* Mr. F. J. B. Diaper.
CENTRAL TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
KANAN DEVANS, *per* Mr. H. C. Boyd.
NILGIRIS, *per* Mr. E. J. C. Hill.

VISITOR

Mr. G. E. Garnham.
Mr. J. L. H. Williams, Chairman of the Tea Section Committee, presided.
At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The proceedings of the General Meeting of the Tea Section, held at Coonoor, on 10th August, 1944, as printed in the Association's Year Book, 1944, at pp. 36-43, were taken as read and confirmed.

BUDGET FOR 1945-46

The Chairman.—With your permission, I will now take up Item No. 4, consideration of the Budget of the Tea Scientific Section for 1945-46. I hope you have got copies of it. Would anyone like to comment on it? As there are no comments, I will move from the Chair:—

As there are no comments, I will move from the Chair:—
'That the Tea Scientific Section budget for the Financial year 1st April 1945—31st March 1946, as approved by this Meeting be Passed.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

PRODUCT CESS FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

The Chairman.—We will now take up Item No. 3, fixation of Product cess for the financial year 1st April 1945–31st March 1946. Before passing the resolution under this item, I would like to inform you that Rule 13 of the U.P.A.S.I. Rules regarding payment of Product Cess is being amended at the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting this afternoon. The Cess is now only levied on acreages over 150. The resolution which is coming up at the General Meeting this afternoon is to the effect that in future cess should be levied on acreages of over 100 and not 150. That will increase our income slightly. I will now move from the Chair:—

1945—31st March 1946, to be Collected from each ordinary Member of the Association liable to pay such Cess, shall be at the rate of four annas per Acre.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.
The Chairman.—The last item is 'Any Other Business'. There being no other business, I declare the meeting closed.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

U.P.A.S.I. TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION
Draft Budget for 1945-46

Draft Budget for 1945-46							Rs. A. P.			Rs. A. P.		
EXPENDITURE												
ESTABLISHMENT										6,000 0 0		
<i>European Staff :—</i>										5,100 0 0		
	Tea Scientific Officer	...	...	...	...	...						
	Coffee Scientific Officer	...	...	...	...	...						
<i>Indian Staff :—</i>							3,300 0 0					
	Entomologist	...	...	...	...	...	3,300 0 0					
	Mycologist	...	...	...	...	...	2,760 0 0					
	Soil Chemist	...	...	...	...	...	684 0 0			10,044 0 0		
	Clerk	...	...	...	...	...						
<i>Allowances :—</i>							1,800 0 0					
	Coffee Scientific Officer	...	...	...	...	...	300 0 0					
	Officer-in-Charge	...	...	...	...	...	1,782 0 0					
	Dearness Allowance	...	...	...	...	...	375 0 0			4,257 0 0		
	Scientific Officer's D.A.	...	...	...	...	...						
<i>General :—</i>							300 0 0					
	Stationery, Postages and Telegrams	...	...	...	...	...	150 0 0					
	Reports and Bulletins	...	...	...	...	...	250 0 0					
	Library and Periodicals	...	...	...	...	...	253 0 0					
	Assessments and Rents	...	...	...	...	...	250 0 0					
	Medical Expenses and Subscriptions	...	...	...	...	...	1,000 0 0					
	Travelling—Touring	...	...	...	...	...	50 0 0					
	Miscellaneous Transport	...	...	...	...	...	40 0 0					
	Incidentals	...	...	...	...	...	400 0 0					
	Upkeep—Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	100 0 0					
	Upkeep—Furniture	...	...	...	...	...	1,200 0 0					
	Laboratory Works and Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	3,950 0 0					
	Field Works and Experiments	...	...	...	...	...	216 0 0					
	Bungalow Watcher	...	...	...	...	...	1,350 0 0					
	Grain and Provision Allowance	...	...	...	...	...	100 0 0					
	Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	400 0 0					
	Lighting and Plant	...	...	...	...	...	200 0 0					
	Committee Meetings	...	...	...	...	...	750 0 0			10,959 0 0		
	Manuring	...	...	...	...	...						
SECRETARIAL OFFICE—												
<i>Provident Fund Contributions :—</i>							1,200 0 0					
	European—Mr. Manning	...	...	...	...	...	510 0 0					
	Mr. Mayne	...	...	...	...	...	330 0 0					
	Indian—Entomologist	...	...	...	...	...	330 0 0					
	Mycologist	...	...	...	...	...	276 0 0					
	Soil Chemist	...	...	...	...	...	68 0 0			2,714 0 0		
	Clerk	...	...	...	...	...				700 0 0		
	Furlough and Passage Fund	...	...	...	...	...				6,050 0 0		
	Depreciation	...	...	...	...	...				190 0 0		
	Insurance	...	...	...	...	...				500 0 0		
	Investigation into Chemistry of Tea	...	...	...	...	...						
Total ...										46,514 0 0		

INCOME					Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Cess on 141,625 acres @ 4 as. per acre	...	...	...	...				35,406	0	0
Madras Government Grant	...	...	...	...				6,875	0	0
Sale of Publications	...	...	...	...				60	0	0
Sale of Tea—32,000 lbs. leaf @ 2 as.	...	...	...	...				4,000	0	0
Sale of Quota	...	...	...	...				100	0	0
Lighting Refund	...	...	...	...				100	0	0
Plucking Refund	...	...	...	...				50	0	0
				Total	...			46,591	0	0
Excess of Income over Expenditure: Rs. 77.										

Excess of Income over Expenditure : Rs. 77.

U. P. A. S. I. TEA SECTION

REPORT OF THE TEA SECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1944-45

I. TEA SECTION

1. **Membership.**—There was again an increase in the membership of the Section during the year, the acreage having risen from 142,115 acres to 145,915. Out of 176 members, 114 owning 141,823 acres paid the cess for the maintenance of the Tea Scientific Section.

2. **Committees.**—*Tea Section Committee.*—The following assumed office on the Tea Section Committee at the close of the Annual Meeting last August:—Messrs. J. E. Sampson, W. A. J. Milner, C. R. T. Congreve, J. L. H. Williams, R. N. W. Jodrell, C. M. Kothari and V. O. Abraham. During the year Messrs. Sampson and Jodrell resigned their seats and were replaced by Messrs. H. C. Boyd and I. W. Finlayson respectively under Rule 57. Mr. J. L. H. Williams was elected Chairman for the year.

Tea Scientific Sub-Committee.—Messrs. Williams and Jodrell were appointed members of the Tea Scientific Sub-Committee. On the resignation of Mr. Jodrell, the vacancy was left unfilled.

Indian Tea Licensing Committee.—Messrs. J. S. Wilkie and G. H. Waters continued to represent the Association on the Indian Tea Licensing Committee. The vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. R. Brown was filled by the nomination of Mr. C. M. Kothari. Towards the end of the financial year, Mr. G. H. Waters resigned his seat and Mr. J. L. H. Williams was nominated in his place.

Indian Tea Market Expansion Board and Advisory Committee for South India.—Mr. G. H. Waters, one of the two representatives on the statutory body, resigned his seat towards the end of the year and Mr. J. L. H. Williams was nominated in his place.

3. **Meetings.**—The General Meeting of the Section was held on 28th March 1945, to consider the budget. The Committee held three meetings between the time of its election in August and the end of the financial year.

4. **Tea Section Reserve.**—The interest earned during the year was Rs. 2,038-4-0. Withdrawals amounting to Rs. 3,000 were made for the payment of the proportionate expenses of the Indian Tea Association Iron and Steel Control Department, the balance of the Reserve at the 31st March 1945 was Rs. 41,147-3-2.

II. TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION

5. **Administration and Staff.**—Mr. W. W. Mayne, the Coffee Scientific Officer, continued, as previously, to visit and supervise the work of the Tea Experimental Station, which remained in charge of the Entomologist, Mr. S. Ananda Rau. Owing to Mr. Mayne having taken over the duties of Secretary, visits to the Station have been restricted.

6. **Accounts, 1944-45.**—The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 43,601 which was only Rs. 109 more than the estimate. Income from subscriptions increased by Rs. 1,877, mainly through new subscribers. The excess of income over expenditure amounting to Rs. 3,733-12-0 was, as usual, transferred to the Tea Scientific Section Fund which, including the balance brought forward, closed at Rs. 29,130-7-1 on 31st March 1945.

7. **Budget, 1945-46.**—The estimated expenditure for 1945-46, as passed at the General Meeting held in March amounts to Rs. 46,514. The estimated income is Rs. 46,841 which would leave an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 327. The acreage cess to be collected from subscribers remains at the same rate as last year, namely four annas per acre.

8. **Investigation into the Chemistry of Tea.**—As in previous years, the sum of Rs. 500 was contributed as a token grant towards the scheme of investigation into the chemistry of tea carried out in London by Dr. A. E. Bradfield under the supervision of Dr. A. H. Lampitt. This scheme has been suspended for the present, but the Committee decided to continue the grant for utilisation when the work can be resumed. A technical account of part of Dr. Bradfield's work has been published in the *Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry*, and was reviewed in the *Planters' Chronicle* of 15th April, 1945.

III. TEA CONTRACTS WITH MINISTRY OF FOOD

9. **1944 Contract.**—Negotiations for the contract were completed very much earlier in 1944 than they have been previously. Continued concern over the increased costs of production, due to loss on food grains and high prices of tea chests led to a recalculation of increased cost of production, based on the same principles as were in use in previous years, which indicated a figure of 6d. per lb. These figures were submitted to Government but, at the same time, the Ministry of Food made a series of proposals defining the method of calculating increased costs. This involved the use of actual estate accounts and estimates for the current year compared with the costs for basic years. While the Committee protested that these figures would not give a fair indication of the actual increased cost of production owing to the fact that much upkeep work could not be carried out under present conditions and properties were depreciating in consequence, they agreed to provide the figures on the lines required by the Ministry and the Tea Controller.

A Costing Sub-Committee, consisting of Messrs. H. G. Budd, E. Lefevre, H. C. Boyd, a representative of Messrs. Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd., and Mr. A. V. Thomas was appointed to comply with the requirements laid down by the Tea Controller.

In September, however, the Ministry of Food accepted the representations of the industry that costs had increased, and they raised the allowance from 5d. to 5½d. per lb. This allowance was first made applicable only to teas delivered after a certain date. Both the U.P.A.S.I. and the Indian Tea Association protested that this method of payment would penalise the producer who kept his deliveries up to date and might encourage unscrupulous contractors to hold up deliveries in the event of any future negotiations for a price increase. After some discussion, the Ministry agreed to pay the increased allowance on 50 per cent of the teas, both main and supplementary. The Tea Controller called for a supplementary contract in November, of about 15 million lbs. for the whole of India, of which 3 million lbs. was allotted to South India.

10. **1945 Contract.**—The conditions of sale for the 1945 contract were circulated to estates in February. The terms of the contract are generally similar to those of previous years. There are one or two changes in detail, however, especially in connection with responsibility for faulty packing and defects in the tea. They are, however, of relatively small importance. Pending decision on the increased cost allowance, the figure of 5½d. per lb., paid in 1944, continues for the present contract.

The Costing Sub-Committee, referred to above, collected data from estates in British India and Travancore, which was submitted to the Tea Controller at the beginning of March. Representations were made on the basis of these figures that Travancore should receive special treatment as its costs were markedly higher than British Indian estates' costs, almost entirely owing to high increase in the price of food grains in that State. So far the matter still rests with the Tea Controller.

IV. CONTROL OF EXPORTS AND MARKETING

11. **Indian Tea Control (Amendment) Act, 1943—(a) Amendment.**—A small amendment to the Act was passed at the March session of the Legislative Assembly modifying the wording of the Schedule to the Act.

(b) **Export Quotas.**—While the Committee have continued to press their view that all export rights should be vested in the Tea Controller pending a redetermination of the crop basis, other tea interests in India do not share its views.

An opportunity was taken to emphasize the S. Indian view when the Government of India made proposals for the reduction in the heavy carry-over of export rights from year to year. The proposals made by the Government did not meet with the approval of the U.P.A.S.I. or the I.T.A., but the UPASI supported the Indian Tea Association's suggestion that this carry-over should be liquidated gradually during the next eighteen months. No reply has yet been received from Government assenting to this proposal.

While the International Tea Committee recommended an export quota release of 125 per cent as in the past two years, the Government of India only fixed the export release at 98 per cent in the first instance.

(c) **Planting of Tea in New Areas.**—The Committee have devoted a considerable amount of time to the discussion on planting of tea in new areas, with special reference to the larger allotments recommended by the International Tea Committee for extensions during the current agreement period, and to the very substantial extensions permitted to the East African Colonies. The Committee considered that the time has come for a reconsideration of the limits placed on extensions of tea areas in India, but have so far received no support from N. India or the S.I.A., London. Although the Association protested to the Government of India with regard to the preferential treatment accorded to East African Colonies and to Ceylon, the protests have had little effect.

The position in Ceylon was that permission was to be given to replant slaughter-tapped rubber areas with tea up to four-fifths of the total allotted acreage. Under the terms of the International Agreement, it was the view of the Committee that this permission was not in accord with the conditions laid down in the Agreement but the Government of India did not consider that this was the case, on the reasoning rubber would be uprooted before replanting. The position is, however, that under the present Indian Tea Control Act, it is impossible in any case to extend similar facilities to estates in India without an amendment of the Act.

12. **International and Indian Tea Market Expansion Boards.**—These bodies have continued to carry on their activities in popularising tea, subject to the limitations imposed upon them by the supply position in falling short of demand and by the effects of the war. In India special attention has been devoted to tea in industrial canteens and to the provision of model tea cars; at the same time urban campaigns have been closed down.

Towards the end of the year, Government announced a reduction of the tea cess to Re. 1-4-0 per 100 lbs. as from 1st June 1945.

The International Board has also concentrated its attention primarily on tea in factories, but has been hampered by the general shortage of supply in consuming countries. Additional dollar exchange has been provided during the year for introducing the work again in the United States of America, and it is hoped it will make up some of the ground lost during recent years.

13. **International Tea Committee.**—The Committee has published a handbook entitled 'Memorandum relating to the Tea Industry and Tea Trade of the World' by Mr. R. D. Morrison. A number of copies has been circulated to members, and further supplies are expected.

V. GENERAL

14. **Tea Excise Duty.**—The collection of tea excise duty appears to have been carried out without any serious dislocation. The Association has dealt with a number of cases of minor difficulty during the year and has received sympathetic treatment from the Collector of Central Excise, Mr. K. G. Jacob and his staff.

The excise duty introduced in Travancore only came into actual operation as from 13th March 1945, and the duty has been made retrospective on internal teas from 16th August 1944. This has led to considerable initial difficulties, but it is hoped that the Travancore Excise Authorities will come into line with the British Indian excise methods, and that difficulties will be overcome.

15. **Tea Chests, Fittings, Nails and Linings.**—The tea chest position improved during the year as a result of the revision of Government policy during 1944. There have been some difficulties in connection with the transport of estate requisites from time to time and difficulties in securing supplies of nails. Assistance has been given from time to time to individual estates in matters of this kind.

Government raised the question of utilisation of indigenous chests and proposed that some system of rationalised distribution of imported chests should be drawn up in order to ensure that such chests were used exclusively for export teas. The Association protested vigorously to Government and stated that the present supply and distribution of chests was working satisfactorily.

16. **Control of Internal Prices.**—The question of control of internal prices of tea, reported last year, was discussed at length between the I.T.A. and the Controller General of Civil Supplies, but the matter was dropped for some months. In April 1945 the Controller General of Civil Supplies called a conference to reopen discussion on this matter, at which the Association was ably represented by Messrs. Boyd and Kothari. It was agreed at the Conference that no action was necessary at present, but that two Committees should be set up, known as North Indian and South Indian Tea Supply Advisory Committees respectively, who would advise the Controller General on questions of supply and distribution and price structure of teas sold to the public in India. It is of interest to recall that at this Conference it was clearly recognised by Government and all the interests representing that conditions in S. India were entirely different from those in the North and required separate treatment. This recognition of the principle that S. India and N. India required separate consideration and treatment is highly important.

The S. Indian Committee was to consist of two representatives from the U.P.A.S.I. and a representative of the distributors. Messrs. Boyd and Kothari were nominated to represent U.P.A.S.I. and Mr. G. E. Garnham of Messrs. Brooke Bond India, Ltd. to represent the distributors.

The price of tea in the internal market has remained fairly satisfactory during the year.

17. **Movement of Tea by Rail.**—From time to time during the year considerable difficulties have arisen in connection with movement of tea both to Cochin and to permissible destinations in S. India. Full use has been made by the industry of the sea route for teas to Bombay, but there have been occasions when steamers have been few and far between, resulting in accumulation at Cochin. Assistance has been granted by advising estates on applications for priority assistance, and considerable correspondence has been carried on with the Regional Controller of Railway Priorities in an attempt to assist in securing a regular movement of tea to Cochin and to consuming areas. During the year Government announced certain concessions to tea moved from Calcutta to Bombay by sea. The Secretary immediately approached Government for the grant of similar facilities for tea moved from Cochin to Bombay. So far no reply has been received from Government regarding this proposal.

18. **Machinery Requirements.**—The Association has continued to recommend applications for imports of tea machinery as requested by the Controller of Imports. A similar procedure has been followed in respect of applications for iron and steel constructional materials and many applications have been passed to the Iron & Steel Control Department of the I.T.A., Calcutta, which now handles this matter.

19. **Supply of Tools.**—Restrictions on the importation of tea garden tools have been somewhat relaxed and a number of applications have been passed to the Import Trade Controller.

20. **Co-operation with the I.T.A.**—The Association has been fortunate in being able to welcome Mr. H. C. Bannerman, Chairman of the Indian Tea Association, to its Committee meeting in August, and Mr. A. McLaren, then Vice-Chairman of the I.T.A., to its meeting in January. These opportunities for discussion have been extremely helpful in clarifying the relation between the two Associations. Close contact has been maintained by letters and telegram, with the I.T.A. during the year.

21. **South India Tea Crop, 1944.**—The following statement shows the tea crop for each planting district during the calendar year 1944:—

District	Lbs.	District	Lbs.
Anamallais ...	19,268,802	Mysore ...	1,435,068
Nilgiris ...	12,125,367	C. Travancore ...	16,273,747
Nilgiri-Wynaad ...	9,000,500	Kanan Devans ...	19,844,712
Wynaad & Malabar ...	8,878,016	Mundakayam ...	3,025,294
Madura ...	567,840	S. Travancore ...	5,846,748
Coorg ...	271,940		
Nelliampathies ...	575,370	Total ...	97,113,404

This shows a fall of just over one million pounds from the crop of 1943. The whole of this drop occurred in the last quarter of the year, largely owing to the extremely heavy North-East Monsoon, experienced in most tea districts.

J. L. H. WILLIAMS ... *Chairman*

C. R. T. CONGREVE
W. A. J. MILNER
C. M. KOTHARI
H. C. BOYD
I. W. FINLAYSON
V. O. ABRAHAM

Members

COONOOR,
July, 1945.

TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 1945

EXPENDITURE	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Establishment:—		
Tea Scientific Officer's Salary ...	5,188 0 0	
Coffee Scientific Officer's Salary ...	5,100 0 0	
Entomologist ...	3,240 0 0	
Mycologist ...	3,240 0 0	
Soil Chemist ...	2,640 0 0	
Establishment Allowances ...	4,755 7 0	
Clerks ...	599 8 0	24,762 15 0
General—		
Stationery, Postages and Telegrams ...	367 11 9	
Reports and Bulletins ...	87 14 3	
Library and Periodicals ...	249 12 0	
Assessments and Rents ...	253 7 6	
Medical Expense and Subscriptions ...	137 2 6	
Travelling—Touring ...	411 13 6	
Miscellaneous Transports ...	13 15 0	
Incidentals ...	46 9 9	
Upkeep of Buildings ...	332 0 9	
Furniture ...	13 8 0	
Laboratory Works and Experiments ...	1,331 8 1	
Field Works and Experiments ...	4,131 8 2	
Water Supply ...	366 13 0	
Lighting and Plant ...	262 5 9	
Manuring ...	727 5 0	
Tea Manufacture ...	286 1 0	9,019 8 0
Provident Fund: European Staff ...	1,710 0 0	
Indian Staff ...	607 13 0	
Furlough and Passage Fund ...	700 0 0	
Depreciation on Buildings ...	6,050 0 0	
Insurance on Buildings ...	185 12 0	
Income-tax ...	64 12 0	
Investigation into Chemistry of Tea ...	500 0 0	9,818 5 0
Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Tea Scientific Section Fund ...		3,733 12 0
Total ...		47,334 8 0

INCOME	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
By Tea Product Cess ...		35,165 7 0
„ Share of Madras Government Grant ...		6,875 0 0
„ Sale of Publications ...		123 14 0
„ Sale of Tea ...		5,054 14 0
„ Sale of Quota ...		102 15 0
„ Sundry Receipts ...		12 6 0
Total ...		47,334 8 0

TEA SECTION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of the Ninth Annual General Meeting of the Tea Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, held at 'Glenview', Coonoor, on Thursday, 16th August, 1945.

The following Members were present:—

MR. J. L. H. WILLIAMS (*Chairman*), MESSRS. W. A. J. MILNER, H. C. BOYD, I. W. FINLAYSON, C. M. KOTHARI and V. O. ABRAHAM (*Members of the Committee*); MR. F. H. FARMER (*President*); SIR FREDERICK JAMES, O.B.E., M.L.A. (*Executive Committee Member*); MR. A. McLAREN (*Chairman, Indian Tea Association, Calcutta*); and MR. W. W. MAYNE, B.Sc. (*Secretary*).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES, CO. LTD., ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO. LTD., and KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO. LTD., *per* Mr. R. Walker.
ANAMALLAI TEA ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. G. Stevens.
BHADRA VALLEY ESTATES LTD., CHEMBRA PEAK ESTATES LTD., KALASA TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., NADUAR ESTATES LTD., NILGIRI NEERGUNDI ESTATES, LTD., PERIAKARAMALAI TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., and VELLAMALAI TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. Jefferies.
BE BE RUBBER ESTATES LTD., BHAVANI TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. T. K. Alexander.
BISSETT, MR. F., KARIMTHARUVI TEA ESTATES, LTD., MLAMALLY TEA ESTATES, LTD., PULIKANAM TEA ESTATES LTD., ROISSIER, MR. R. P., and TRAVANCORE TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
BLUE MOUNTAIN ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. C. M. Kothari.
CAMERON, MRS. E. G., & OTHERS, *per* Mr. E. G. Cameron.
CEYLON LAND & PRODUCE CO., LTD., COONOR TEA ESTATES, LTD., ESTATES and AGENCY CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. F. Smail.
CLARKE, MR. E. SYDENHAM, GERRARD, MR. E. F. H., STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES, LTD., DEVARSHOLA TEA CO., LTD., TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD., and THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
ENGLISH and SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., LESLIE, MR. A. W., MALABAR INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD., MOORE, MR. R. J. A., MORRIS, MR. R. C., SCOTT, MR. W. P., and THOMAS, MR. M. A., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.
HAILEBURA TEA ESTATES LTD., PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD., PEERMADE TEA CO., LTD., TRAVANCORE RUBBER CO. LTD., TWYFORD & ASHLEY ESTATES LTD., and VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO. LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO., LTD., MIDLAND RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD., and NELLIAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO. LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
FRINGFORD ESTATES LTD., and KALFETTA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. P. K. Nair.
DEVASHOLA (NILGIRIS) TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. P. G. Krishna Iyer.
LINGIAH, MR. N.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. I. W. Finlayson.
LAVAH, MR. N. S.
MURPHY ESTATES LTD., and TRAVANCORE RUBBER & TEA CO. LTD., *per* Mr. E. Lefevre.
SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R.
ST. GEORGE RUBBER & TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. G. MacPHERSON.
RAMANAN, MR. C. V. S., & OTHERS, *per* Mr. N. B. Athrey.
SHEVEROV ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
VERNEDE, MR. C.
WATERFALL ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. D. C. Kothari.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ANAMALLAIS, *per* Mr. G. Stevens.
ASSOCIATION OF PLANTERS OF TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. A. V. Thomas.
CENTRAL TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
KANAN DEVANS, *per* Mr. W. P. Laird.
NELLIAMPATHIES, *per* Mr. H. C. Schofield.
NILGIRIS, *per* Mr. E. J. C. Hill.
WYNAAD, *per* Mr. B. D. Darkin.

VISITORS

Mr. J. A. R. Lloyd, Joint Controller, Indian Tea Licensing Committee, Mr. R. G. Pierce, Tea Inspector, Messrs. R. T. C. Hill, G. E. Garnham, J. H. Sprott, A. T. Rajan and E. H. Stanes.
Mr. J. L. H. Williams, the Chairman, took the Chair.
The Chairman.—I will ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.
The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.
The Chairman.—The next item is the confirmation of the proceedings of the General Meeting held on 28th March 1945. These were published in the *Planters' Chronicle* dated 1st May 1945 at pp. 136 and 137. I move that these may be taken as read and carried.
The proceedings were confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Chairman, Mr. J. L. H. Williams, then delivered his address. He said:—
Gentlemen, since we last met, the War in Europe has come to an end with the complete defeat of Germany and her satellites. Every one of us, particularly those of us with relatives in Europe, will have experienced feelings of thankfulness and new hope, rather than feelings of triumph, at the defeat of Axis powers. We heard yesterday of the capitulation of Japan and the end of the Japanese War. This great news of the end of the War which was nearest to us, will also give us all profound feelings of thankfulness.
There is a colossal amount of hard work and clear thinking to do yet, if similar catastrophes are to be prevented in future.

Working conditions for our Industry in S. India have been more difficult than ever during the past twelve months, legally on account of the intensification of effort which has led to the defeat of Japan.

We may hope that the successful end of the Japanese war will have eased conditions for us considerably when we meet this time next year, but I do not think that we shall be able to get back to normal routine working for a long time. There are great changes coming in the Plantation Industry, in many directions, and we shall be grappling with reconstruction for some years to come. I am sure that we are all looking forward to welcoming our men back from service, and to some relief for the overtired and overworked men who have held the fort whilst they have been away.

The report of your Committee on the work and problems dealt with during the year is a full one. It is in your hands and I do not propose to survey the same ground in detail.

During the year the Ministry of Food stated that they were not satisfied with the accuracy of the method on which our 'Increased Cost of Production Allowance' had been calculated up to date, and they issued definite instructions through the Tea Controller for India of the method they wished to be adopted. Briefly, these instructions called for the submission of audited annual accounts of representative estates selected by ourselves—on which the new allowance for the present year was to be based. Conditions change so fast that it was obvious that the present year's accounts might have little relation to costs in the working year for which allowances were granted. The Ministry accepted this and agreed to consider the estimates for the working year also. Your Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to collect the necessary data. Mr. H. G. Budd was the Convener of this Committee, and I am sure you will join with me in expressing our sympathy to his widow and his relatives at his sad and sudden death in harness, so soon after he had been released from Army Service.

Some difficulty was experienced in finding representative Estates which conformed to the Tea Controller's requirements. Unlike N. India, a large number of typical S. Indian Estates—probably the majority of S. Indian Estates—produce more than one plantation crop. We were informed that only those estates which were entirely tea producers were acceptable to the Ministry. We put forward the figures from representative estates covering the whole of S. India, and in doing so we recommended that a higher allowance was justified for Travancore, than for the rest of S. India. The higher costs of production in Travancore were largely due to the higher cost of foodstuffs in that State. Our recommendations were accepted by the Ministry of Food, and we have been informed that they have suggested to the Government of India, an allowance of 6d. per lb. for Travancore, and 5½d. for the rest of S. India. We have not so far heard from the Government of India that they have agreed to this allowance.

There has been some misunderstanding and criticism of the work of the Costings Sub-Committee, and there has been a feeling that they had not carried out their investigations thoroughly. This criticism is unjustified, and is due to a misunderstanding of the work they were asked to do. They had to work on definite instructions from the Ministry of Food, to select representative Estates who were prepared to produce their accounts. There was no scope for them to bring in any other considerations, and they carried out what they, and we, were asked to do. A recent reference to District Associations does not disclose dissatisfaction with their selections.

In the present calculations no account has been taken of expenditure on upkeep of buildings and machinery, and on cultivation, which has had to be deferred for several years from lack of materials, shortage of labour, and other causes due to war conditions. The impossibility of carrying out these ordinary and routine works means deterioration, and abnormal expenditure, to put matters right, when conditions return to normal. This is a very real, though hidden, source of increased costs. It is extremely difficult to assess what this deferred expenditure is costing the industry now, but this cost item should not be lost sight of.

There was a drop in the S. Indian tea crop for 1944 of slightly over 1% compared with the record crop harvested in 1943—the 1943 crop was approximately 97 million pounds. We can be justly proud of our effort to maintain our crops at maximum production in spite of war-time difficulties. The whole of the small drop in crop occurred in the last quarter of the year as a result of the unfavourable weather of that period. N. Indian crops by comparison show a very big drop over the last three years. In round figures the peak year of 1942 produced a crop of 475 million pounds—1943 showed a drop of 22 million pounds, and 1944 a still bigger drop of 46 million pounds, to a figure for the year of 407 million pounds. The All India crop has therefore fallen by 64 million pounds in the past three years, and practically the whole of this fall has been in N. India.

Not unnaturally, this very serious drop in production caused a sharp rise in prices at the end of last season in the Calcutta Auctions. The extent of the shortage appears to have been underestimated, and to some extent unexpected. The Government of India immediately reopened the question of control of prices to the Consumer and summoned a conference of producers and distributors at Delhi in April last. Your thanks are due to Mr. Kothari and Mr. Boyd, who at considerable inconvenience, and at short notice, attended this Conference as your representatives. They achieved something which we have been insisting on for a very long time without very notable success—that is Government recognition that conditions in S. India are very different to conditions in N. India, and that on many tea problems the solution suitable to N. India are not necessarily suitable to S. India.

Government have appointed two Advisory Committees, one for North India and one for South India, composed of representatives of producers and distributors. Your Committee nominated Mr. Kothari and Mr. Boyd as their representatives on the South Indian Committee.

I hope that we shall continue to emphasise to Government whenever necessary, that our interests and needs in the South are not always identical with those of the North. We have many interests in common, but the conditions under which tea is grown, harvested, and marketed are very far from being identical. The South Indian tea industry has long passed the stage where it was a minor industry which could, without undue hardship, be tacked on to the older and bigger industry in the North.

That there is still a tendency to this undesirable line of thought is indicated by the recent visit of the Australian Tea Controller to this country. He visited Ceylon and Calcutta with a view to arrange future contracts for shipments of tea to Australia. His visit to Ceylon was reported in the papers, and we wrote and invited him to visit Coonoor. Our invitation reached him in Calcutta. In his reply he regretted that he would not be able to spare the time to visit South India, and he indicated that he would have been very glad to have visited South India to make contacts for the purchase of South Indian teas.

There is an enormous, and rapidly expanding market for tea in India. It is not easy to get accurate figures of the actual consumption in India. One good thing the unpleasant imposition of the Excise Tax can do for us, is to give us indisputable and accurate figures of annual consumption in India. Government help

should be enlisted to make the Excise figures available to us as soon as possible. On these figures of annual consumption in India will depend a lot of the future planning of the industry.

Competent judges in Europe estimate that the present world shortage of tea will continue for a number of years to come. It is extremely doubtful whether the Dutch East Indies tea can be brought back into full production for several years after the Japanese are cleared out of the islands. There will also, obviously, be a very big drop in the production of tea from Japan itself.

The industry has been spending large sums of money on advertisement to encourage the expansion of tea consumption. Presumably this money has not been spent merely for the purpose of holding the present tea consumption at a stationary level. We have been told that this money spent on Tea Propaganda has been well spent, and we must presume that it has therefore succeeded in its object of expanding consumption and that this expansion will continue.

Faced with a world shortage of supplies for an indefinite period to come, and an increasing number of would-be tea drinkers, it is high time that there was some relaxation of the rigid restrictions on the planting of New Areas of tea. To bring tea into bearing takes some seven years or more from the date of planting. There is no time to be lost, and a more generous policy of expansion should be brought into operation at once. The tea production industry must not run any risk of being suspected of deliberately restricting production in order to fleece consumers. If the demand for tea cannot be satisfied, then it is certain that would-be tea drinkers will turn to other beverages for comfort and sustenance.

The rigid conditions, covering extensions under the Indian Tea Control Act as it stands, make it almost impossible for the Licensing Committee to grant permission for any extensions, even if the acreage for extensions in India is available under the International Agreement.

No such stringent conditions are contained in the Ordinances to implement the International Agreement in Ceylon and the Dutch East Indies. For this reason, Ceylon can utilise to the full the acreage for extension to which they are entitled under the International Agreement—I think that the acreage for extension, which is at present allowed under the International Agreement, requires to be revised and liberalised now; but India cannot even utilise her present allotment to the full until the Indian Tea Control Act is amended.

We are told by those who wish to maintain matters as they are now, that it would be most unwise, and risky, to demand amendments to the Indian Tea Control Act, for fear that our amendments might lead to others which were not so desirable. This argument has always seemed to me to be a very weak one, and one which savours of that unpleasant and discredited policy—appeasement. The Tea Control Act was originally passed in 1933, and has remained largely unchanged ever since. In the meantime there have been big increases in consumption, and big drops in production. It is absurd to maintain that an Act which was passed to deal with conditions as they were thirteen years ago is still entirely suitable for conditions as they are today. If this were true then we have stood still all these years, and all the money spent on trying to expand markets has been wasted. We may well be accused of being vested interests, whose main concern is to keep others out of their field of prosperity.

Before leaving this subject, which you will have an opportunity of discussing later on resolutions which Mr. A. V. Thomas will be bringing up, I would like to add that South India is a bigger sufferer under this policy of rigid restriction than either North India or the Crown Colonies. In North India a lot of uprooting and replanting of old areas of tea has been done in recent years. The nursery figures for North India are one acre of nursery per 387 acres of planted tea, against 1 acre of nursery per 1109 acres of planted tea in the South. The cover of tea in North India is usually much more complete than in the South, and this big area of nurseries is an indication of the extent of replanting which is still being carried out. For various reasons it is not possible, or desirable, to carry out extensive replanting programmes in South India. The Tea Industry in the South was still an expanding industry, in its youth, when restriction was introduced. North India had along been an established and settled industry. Africa seems to have received more lenient treatment than we have. Tea in the African Colonies has been treated as a growing industry and has been allowed to expand by an acreage approaching 85 per cent of their original acreage in 1933. It is true that this expansion has been agreed to by the International Committee for consumption in internal African markets only, and that these extensions carry no export rights with them. But they must be of great assistance to a growing and flourishing industry in Africa, and are proof that the International Committee accepts the fact that world markets are expanding.

Our relations with the Indian Tea Association have continued to be cordial, but this is not to say that we had no sharp differences of opinion; differences which only serve to indicate the vitality of the industry. We were very glad to welcome Mr. McLaren, the present Chairman of the Indian Tea Association, Calcutta, to our meetings in January, and we are glad to see him here today. (Hear, Hear, Applause.) Personal contact of this sort is most valuable, and helps to allay the feeling that North India sometimes does not quite appreciate that there may be little or no similarity between their conditions and ours. Our relations with the South Indian Association in London have also been cordial throughout the year, and we are indebted to them for a great deal of advice and help.

Towards the end of the year our old and valued friend Mr. J. A. R. Lloyd, the Assistant Tea Controller, had a serious breakdown in health from overwork. I am sure you will join with me in wishing him a speedy return to good health, and in expressing our great appreciation of his work and helpfulness during the past 12 years.

The Tea Section and U.P.A.S.I. are about to lose one of their oldest members—Mr. C. R. T. Congreve—who is retiring in a very short time. His name has always stood for public spirited service, and forthrightness. His work for U.P.A.S.I. and the Tea Section will be remembered, and his counsel will be greatly missed. We wish him happiness in his well-earned retirement. (Hear, hear.)

I have to thank the members of the Committee for their help and support throughout the past year, and in particular to express my gratitude to our Secretary Mr. Mayne. (Hear, hear.) Those whose work brings them in close contact with Mr. Mayne, will realise how patient and helpful he is, and the incredible amount of work that he gets through. The Association was extremely lucky that Mr. Mayne agreed to take on the Secretary's job when Col. Brock retired.

INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION

The Chairman.—I will now ask Mr. McLaren, Chairman, Indian Tea Association, to address the meeting.

Mr. A. McLaren.—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, it is a great pleasure to me to have the opportunity of visiting South India for the second time this year and of renewing that contact with you which I had the pleasure of making for the first time when I was on holiday here last January. Apart from my own pleasure, I am convinced that these annual contacts between our two Associations are most valuable. I was therefore very glad indeed to receive your kind invitation and to be in a position to accept it. With me I bring from my colleagues on the Committee of the Indian Tea Association messages of goodwill and of their desire to work in close co-operation with you wherever possible.

It is essential that on broad general matters of common interest to North and South, which are for the most part questions of high policy, our two Associations should continue to work closely together. Our ideas and opinions regarding these matters may not always be identical but our interests are, and it is for this reason that the fullest possible co-operation is highly desirable. I am sure that this is fully realized by the Committees and also by the general body of members of both Associations.

I have listened with very great interest to the excellent address of your Chairman, whom I would like to congratulate on his clear and comprehensive survey of the work done by your Association during the past year. I do not feel that I can add much to what Mr. Williams has said but there are one or two subjects about which I could perhaps usefully say a few words.

The question of the control of the price of tea which appeared to have been dropped for many months was raised again early this year and a conference of all interests concerned was held in New Delhi. You are all aware that as a result of that conference Government propose to keep a close watch on the movement of tea prices and, in fact, generally to interest themselves more than they have done in the past in all matters concerning the availability of tea to the Indian public. Whether this is a good thing or not, the fact remains that Government have assumed the responsibility for seeing that the Indian public have sufficient tea to meet their needs. Government themselves realized, however, that their own information regarding the many different factors which influence both the quantity of tea available, and the price at which it can be offered to the public, was extremely scanty and that, if they were to watch the position intelligently, they would require to have expert advice on these matters. It was right that they should ask the tea industry to supply that expert advice. We held the first meeting of the North and South India Tea Supply Advisory Committee on the 31st May, when I had the honour of being elected Chairman. We had been asked by Government to show them how the price structure was built up. This proved to be a little more difficult than we had anticipated, but we eventually got it done to the general satisfaction of all the interests represented on the Committee. The proceedings of that meeting, and also of our subsequent meeting on the 20th June, have already been sent to your Association.

Since last your members met in annual meeting, victory over Germany and Japan has been achieved and we can now turn, with some feelings of reality, to the consideration of plans for the further development of our great industry during the difficult times that lie ahead. We are now free to begin the working out of the practical details of our various post-war plans. In these plans there is probably a very wide field for further co-operation between our two Associations, because quite a large part of these plans must of necessity deal with problems that are common both to South India and North India. I have in mind particularly our relations with our labour forces and our attitude towards labour legislation—problems which may become of increasing importance in the near future. In the immediate future the Committee of my Association hope to give their careful consideration to these questions of post-war planning on the basis of memoranda being put up by our political advisers. These memorandas will furnish us with the basis for our discussions but, of course, each separate aspect of our post-war plans will have to be most carefully examined, not only by my Committee but also by our Branch and District Associations and by the Indian Tea Association in London. I said that many of these matters will be of mutual interest to our two Associations and I am arranging that your Association will be consulted in the early stages. (Applause.) We will be very grateful for all the assistance and suggestions you may be able to give us and we hope that it may be possible to arrive at a consolidated policy for the whole industry on all matters of common interest. (Hear, hear.)

One of our most important problems—with which I am sure you are equally concerned—is that of securing the release of planters serving with the Forces, either to replace 'Wastage' due to sickness, death or retirements, or to enable over-worked planters to take much needed leave. So far our representations have produced much sympathy, but few men.

We maintain that the production of tea is so important that we are entitled to special consideration in this matter. (Hear, hear.)

As regards the Western Frontier Projects, we can now expect to disengage ourselves fully in the course of this year. The completion of our work in connection with these Projects will bring to an end a unique and unforgettable phase in the activities of the tea industry. Seldom, if ever before, has an industry such as ours had an opportunity of contributing in so direct a manner to the prosecution of a major war and I think it is very greatly to the credit of those tea planters, tea garden doctors and tea garden labourers who volunteered for this work, that they responded to the call for their services so unhesitatingly and with such enthusiasm. (Applause.) I am very glad indeed to be able to say that the work done by our men has been sincerely appreciated by the military authorities on whose behalf it was performed and, as evidence of this, we have received generous letters of appreciation from both Lord Linlithgow and Lord Wavell and, more recently, from the Commander-in-Chief in India and, through him, from Lord Louis Mountbatten, the Supreme Allied Commander in South East Asia. It is pleasing to remember too that quite a number of the planters who took part in this work have been awarded honours in recognition of it.

Before the work of the Projects had really got going our men, as you will probably remember, took part in the magnificent rescue operations at the time of the evacuation of Burma. That is a story of which I regret to say insufficient has been told to the world in general, for it was a story of magnificent heroism in the face of appalling difficulties and many dangers. I am happy to say that omission has now been rectified through the publication by the Indian Tea Association of the story of these rescue operations written by Mr. Geoffrey Tyson of 'Capital'. The book is entitled 'Forgotten Frontier' and is available from Messrs. W. H. Targett & Co. Ltd., Calcutta, at the price of Rs. 8 per copy. I hope you will not think that I am putting some quick salesmanship across you (Laughter), and I am sure you will not think so when I tell you that we intend to devote the profits on the sale of the book to the Tea Planters' Benevolent Institution.

I may say that Mr. Mayne has kindly consented to review the book in his *Planters' Chronicle*. I received two copies of the book when I was here. I am presenting a copy now to Mr. Mayne with my compliments (*Applause*.)

In the absence of both the Chairman and Commissioner of the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board, who, owing to heavy pressure of work in Calcutta were regretfully unable to attend this meeting, you will perhaps wish me to say a few words about the Board's operations in India.

The general policy of the Board has been to concentrate most of its energies on making tea available to the Forces and to industrial workers who are playing such an important part in this country's war effort. A few months ago before I relinquished the chairmanship of the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board, I had an opportunity of seeing some of the canteens organized by the Board's staff at a number of factories in Coimbatore, and was much impressed, not only with the quality of the work, but also with the influence which it was obviously exercising on the tea-drinking habits of industrial workers in that important centre. There was no doubt in my mind that this work was producing immediate and tangible results.

The work of serving tea to the Forces by means of Tea Care and Static Canteens over an area scattered throughout India and Burma continues, and apart from its immediate usefulness, it is bound to exercise a very considerable influence on tea consumption. Hundreds of thousands of young Indian Servicemen, drawn from every corner of India, from every caste and creed, have learned to drink tea, and when they return to civilian life will introduce it into their homes. I feel certain that we can look forward to handsome dividends from our work with the Forces.

The Japanese have now tasted the bitterness of unconditional surrender and learned, once for all, that aggression will not be tolerated in the modern world. Peace and the change of world outlook on many matters that has taken place in recent years—will present us with problems at least as difficult as those of war. Some of those problems can be foreseen. But we must not assume that what has been good enough in the past will necessarily do in the future; we must examine the general structure of our industry and if there are weak points we must strengthen them so that we may enter into the post-war world, confident that we can maintain the prestige of our great industry.

The Chairman.—On your behalf I would like to thank Mr. McLaren very much for his address. (*Applause*.)

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Chairman.—The next item is to consider the Report of the Committee for the year 1944-45. Has any member any question to ask on this report. The report has been in your hands for some time. No one wishing to ask questions, I will move from the Chair:

'That the Report of the Tea Section Committee for the year 1944-45 which has been circulated to all members, be adopted.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

The Chairman.—The next item on the Agenda is the consideration of the Administration Report and Accounts of the Tea Scientific Section for the year 1944-45. I propose to ask Mr. Mayne to make a few remarks on the Tea Scientific Section.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I must apologize for the fact that the report reached you only a few minutes ago, but I am sure you will appreciate that the scientific work coupled with the ordinary work of the U.P.A.S.I. proved rather heavy this year, causing some delay in getting it finished. The report is of course the normal progress report of the Section. It is the continuation of work begun in earlier years. Only occasionally does it contain any marked new development. At present our staff position and the general difficulties of tea production have interfered with the developments of the work. We have had in progress however during the past few years, a series of co-operative experiments on estates initiated by Mr. Manning. I am afraid that there have been rather heavy casualties from time to time in these experiments and these casualties have been due almost entirely to the difficulty of securing materials for the treatments and to the fact that labour is very short and supervision extremely difficult. I would like to say, however, at this point, that the future of tea research in South India must depend to a very considerable degree on a high degree of co-operation between estates on the one hand and the scientific Department on the other. Wherever you put a tea experiment station it cannot be typical of all conditions in South India and in order to test the results which accumulate at a central station, it is necessary to have experiments in other districts, laid out in co-operation with estates. At the present time it is realized that such developments are practically impossible and it will not be until our position with respect to supervision and labour has improved that these developments can take place. I think you will find in going through this report that there have been a number of observations or results which require testing on a wider scale.

Our main manuring experiment at the Tea Experimental Station has continued to show very marked responses to the application of nitrogen. How far those results can be applied to South Indian tea estates as a whole is a question to which we cannot yet give an answer. We have sufficient data however to enable us to lay out sample field experiments on estates in order to find the answer to the question: what proportion of the area of tea in South India will respond to applications of nitrogen?

The response to Nitrogen is not at the expense of the bush. I dealt with this subject last year and further analysis of our data does not alter the conclusions reached then. The bushes getting nitrogen applications give heavier crops but the frames are also enlarged as is shown by the weight of prunings. We can apply up to 80 lbs. of Nitrogen per acre at the Experiment Station, without any sign of a falling off in the return in terms of tea. We are hardly in a position, I think, at present to say whether this application has any effect on quality, but we can probably take the results that have accumulated over a long period of time at Pocklai and say that there is unlikely to be any serious falling off in quality as a result of such applications. One very interesting point about this experiment is that it was laid out on very similar lines to an experiment at St. Coombs in Ceylon. Our results follow closely the same lines as the results in Ceylon. This is a very curious fact, because the tea soil at Devarshola is very heavy clay—the Wynad clay very familiar to many people here. As far as I know the St. Coombs soil is of an entirely different type. We can say that the results of tea manuring from all the tea producing countries of the world seem to point to the fact that the bush is more important than the soil and that there is a very wide range of soil and climatic conditions over which the same type of manure gives marked increases of production.

I would like to bring to your attention the great need for further investigation of soil improvement, more particularly by the use of green manures. Our results on the behaviour of green materials in the soil

deviate somewhat from the usually accepted views. It has always been generally accepted that the proper use of green materials is to dig them in. It is a point of view largely taken over from other crops but is supported by rather limited evidence. I may say that our experiments suggest that the advantages of allowing green material to lie on the surface may often outweigh advantages to be obtained by digging it in. The use of green materials should help to improve areas in a number of districts where the soils are very light. It is probable that many cases of poor tea can only be improved in this way and a number of examples have been met with in the course of advisory work. I am afraid that so far these experiments have been only on a laboratory scale. We have been unable to secure the means of carrying out fully adequate experiments in the field, largely because such trials require an organization which can only be secured on an experimental station or under conditions where labour and supervision are much easier on estates than they are at present.

There are also some interesting results in respect of pruning experiments which I hope we shall be able to follow up and which seem to open up some very interesting prospects. The experiment was concerned with the height of pruning and height of tipping. Very curious results were obtained in two experiments. In the first two years, there was no noticeable effect on yield differences in the height of tipping. There were differences, however, in yield between the pruning heights. Higher pruning gave a larger crop. But curiously enough, the higher tipping, which had no effect in the first two years, appeared to affect the yield in the 3rd and 4th year. I am afraid I cannot explain it at present, but it is an indication that we have much to learn of the reaction of the tea bush to pruning. I would also suggest that this problem requires an intimate acquaintance with the tea bush which I do not possess. We have an excellent staff at Davershola, who do know to some extent how the tea bush grows. They are conducting experiments ably and I am sure you will reap full benefit from any further expenditure on tea scientific research. (*Applause*.)

The Chairman.—On your behalf I thank Mr. Mayne for his most interesting address. *Mr. H. C. Boyd.*—May I ask Mr. Mayne a question? Some experiments are going on in Ceylon on the manufacture of tea. This concerns the avoidance of withering and use of freezing instead of the application of hot air. Has he any further information?

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—I do not know anything more than that contained in the recent report from the Tea Research Institute of Ceylon. I saw in the papers that recently a new process of tea manufacture has been patented by the Institute in Ceylon, which involves a radical departure from the old methods. The green leaf is crushed and broken up by a roller, then subjected to fermenting and rough sorting and sent through presses to turn out tablets. In an earlier report it is also mentioned that unwithered leaf frozen before rolling gave an improved quality. I have no further details at present.

The Chairman.—Has any one else any questions to ask?

Mr. H. C. Schofield.—May I ask Mr. Mayne whether any further investigation has been carried out regarding *Helopeltis*.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—The investigation of *Helopeltis* dates back to the very beginning of tea research. A very considerable amount of work has been done in South India. I must say with regret that the results have not been very fruitful. However, we should have at our disposal—we hope soon to get supplies—two insecticides, which may prove valuable in the control of this pest. These are D.D.T. and Gammexane. I hope to arrange for experiments with these insecticides in the *Helopeltis* areas next year. The advantages of these two insecticides from the point of view of *Helopeltis* are that they have a substantial persistence. Most of the other insecticides tried have been direct action insecticides. They were meant to kill insects present at the time of application. After a day or two they disappeared or became ineffective. It seems probable—I am speaking only from accounts in papers—that stem washes of D.D.T. or Gammexane might have substantial effects in killing *Helopeltis*, which descend into the centre of the bush. If we could secure substantial mortality with these new persistent insecticides, it might lead to a more satisfactory means of control. We have had also some interesting results at Davershola where during the last two years *Helopeltis* has appeared in sufficient quantity to constitute a pest on limited areas. Although *Helopeltis* exists in Nilgiri-Wynad, it has never developed into a pest on the scale it does in Central Travancore. We have examined the climatic conditions. There do not seem sufficient differences to account for the great difference in the behaviour of the insect. What we did find this year in a comparatively small collection of *Helopeltis* from the neighbourhood of the Tea Experimental Station was a parasite which has only been once found in South India before. This encourages us to think that further research might be of considerable value and it is possible that the normal absence of serious *Helopeltis* attacks in the Wynad may be due to the presence of a parasite. It may point the way to the biological control of this insect. I cannot say whether that explanation is a true one, but it is well worth investigation.

Mr. H. C. Schofield.—May I please ask another question of Mr. Mayne? Whether *Helopeltis* is known to attack certain bushes and not others.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—The position is that it varies in the amount of damage it causes. We have not got a tea plant immune to *Helopeltis*, but we have certain types, particularly low jats, which seem to suffer a great deal more than others, when the pest is present. The problem is a difficult one. We have not really been able to settle the question of the relation of the size of population of *Helopeltis* to the amount of damage done. There are some pests where damage is directly related to the number of insects present. This does not appear to be the case in *Helopeltis* and equal numbers of bugs may do varying amounts of damage according to the variety, growth rate and general health of the bushes. The reasons for this are still obscure.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—The general feeling is that *Helopeltis* is more partial to dark leaf rather than light leaf jats.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—I think the difference is one of degree. In a year of heavy attack, all jats are likely to suffer severely, but differences are more obvious when attacks are light.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—We would all like to know something which would completely eradicate the weeds in the tea areas. We have certain weed killers which have been found to be of use in some areas. It will be useful if information on this is published in the *Planters' Chronicle*.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—There have been some very interesting developments in weed killers in recent years. It has been found that certain organic compounds, related to those which have been developed as growth promoting substances, cause young seedlings to outgrow their strength and die. These substances have been applied to weed control with some success. But, nevertheless, it requires a great deal of work before they can be applied on a field scale. The trouble is that some weeds are affected, while other weeds are not affected and among those unaffected, grasses appear prominently. Of course, there is another side to the weed problem. Weeds have a value in certain seasons for the protection of the soil and maintaining soil organic matter.

Nevertheless there are occasions when weed killers might be of considerable value. It is possible that these new compounds which will not leave any undesirable residues in the soil may find expanded use in the future.

The Chairman.—Any further questions? If not, I will move from the chair:—

'That the Administration Report and Accounts of the Tea Scientific Section for the year 1944-45 be adopted.'

The Resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The Chairman.—The next item on the Agenda is the election of the new Tea Section Committee, for the coming year. There are just sufficient nominations. So I propose from the chair that the following be elected as the Tea Section Committee for 1945-46:—

Anamallais and Nelliampathies	...	...	...	Mr. T. Davenport.
Kanan Devans	...	...	...	Mr. H. C. Boyd.
Mundakayam, Central and South Travancore	...	...	...	Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
Nilgiris	...	...	...	Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
Nilgiri-Wynaad, Wynaad and Malabar	...	...	...	Mr. I. W. Finlayson.
General	...	...	...	1. Mr. V. O. Abraham. 2. Mr. C. M. Kothari.

The meeting unanimously approved of the above Committee.

PLANTING OF TEA IN NEW AREAS

The Chairman.—The next item on the Agenda is 'Planting of tea in new areas'. Mr. A. V. Thomas has given notice of 4 resolutions, which were published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, which you have all seen. Since notice was given of these resolutions, Mr. A. V. Thomas has amended his resolutions slightly and I propose to take the amended resolutions and not the original ones as published in the *Planters' Chronicle*. May I have the approval of this meeting to take the resolutions as amended?

Mr. N. B. Athrey.—Will it not be better to take these resolutions one by one?

The Chairman.—I now ask Mr. Thomas to move the first resolution and speak in support of it.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—The first resolution reads as follows:—

'This Association places on record its emphatic protest against the International Tea Committee in giving preferential treatment to the British East African Colonies to plant up tea in new areas during the 1936-38 International agreement.'

I am glad that my task has been made easy because the Chairman has already referred to this in his presidential remarks that preferential treatment has been given to the British East African Colonies. What I want to add is, as the resolution itself reads, to place on record our protest against this preferential treatment to the B.E.A. Colonies. I need not go into the history of how the restriction was started and how the rules and regulations were framed, etc.—that is all known to you—except to say that in the 1933 Agreement the export of seed or roots or plants, cutting, etc., in any form was prohibited. But from time to time relaxations of this rule have been permitted and we now find that, as the Chairman pointed out, there is an increase of 85 per cent in the cultivation of tea in that area, taking the figures of acreages before 1933 and at present. The present area in the Colonies amounts to very nearly 60,000 acres, whereas before the restriction period it was only about 30,000 acres. Comparing this with the Indian figures, the area on 31st March 1933 in India was 840,145 acres. At the end of 1933, the planted tea area was 842,545 acres, or an increase of only 0.29 per cent. It is evident, therefore, that preferential treatment has been given to the B.E.A. Colonies. I commend this resolution to you.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—I second the resolution.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—The resolution protests against an action of the International Tea Committee. It seems, if the representatives of the Government of India agreed to grant the B.E.A. Colonies those concessions, any protest against the action should not be made to the International Tea Committee, but to the representatives of the Government of India. If they have not been consulted, then it is a matter to be taken up with the Government of India. I do not think this resolution, as a protest against the International Tea Committee, would be correctly directed.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—May I just answer Mr. Boyd in this way: The members of the International Tea Committee are nominees of the Government of India and the other participant Governments. Under the International Tea Agreement, if any action is taken and if any member dissents, that action cannot be taken at all. That is the interpretation of the International Tea Agreement. The question arises, whether these members who include representatives of the Government of India, were a party to an unanimous decision to allow B. E. Africa to have seeds from India, thus allowing an extension of cultivation. I do admit, Sir, that the Government of India might be at fault and deserves the condemnation of all of us for allowing the International Tea Committee to take this action and not giving a mandate to their nominated members on the International Tea Committee. But at the same time, Sir, the members on the International Tea Committee, who include the representatives of the Government of India, cannot be exonerated from the blame that they unanimously consented to it. Of course, if necessary, the Government of India could have given a mandate to their nominated members. If the mandate was given asking them to consent to these concessions, then they are liable to impeachment. But we do not know whether the mandate was given by the Government of India. If that was given, our condemnation of the attitude of the members of the International Tea Committee is correctly directed as is stated by Mr. Thomas.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—I think there is a slight confusion over this particular point. In the period 1936-38, our Indian representatives on the International Tea Committee were not Government nominees. It is only since the Act has been renewed that representation on the International Tea Committee was by Government nominees. There is no point in trying to get at the Government of India. What we should do is to blame the representatives on the Committee.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—The resolution definitely states that new areas were opened during the 1936-38 International Agreement. During this period, that is before alteration in the Act was made, our representation at the discussions depended on Government representation. Before that representation was through Associations.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I cannot agree that our representatives were not guilty of any breach of the agreement when Africa planted out tea.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—I am afraid, Sir, the personnel of Indian representation on the International Tea Committee does not arise at all, and what Mr. Thomas aims by the resolution is only to record our protest against the unanimous decision of the International Tea Committee.

The Chairman.—Does anybody else wish to speak on this?

Mr. E. H. Stanes.—Was East Africa a member of the Tea Agreement before that date? Or did it come in at that date?

The Secretary.—Actually East Africa has never been a full participant in the International Tea Agreement?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—That does not in any way affect the resolution.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Mr. Chairman, surely it is incorrect to say that East Africa is now in the Agreement.

The Secretary.—It is not a regular signatory to the International Tea Agreement. It has accepted the Agreement on its own terms.

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—Does it mean that it adheres to the Agreement when it likes?

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—That has no bearing on the resolution. What Mr. Thomas's resolution says is that we are protesting to the International Tea Committee for allowing East Africa certain conditions. Whether they are members or signatories to the Agreement or not is beside the point.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—I should like to get the point cleared.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—It would be better if you would read the rule in the International Tea Agreement which says that 'the export from any of the producing countries of seeds, roots, stumps, cuttings, buds or any living portion of a tea plant which may be used to propagate it, shall be prohibited but this prohibition shall not apply to any such seeds, etc., exported from any one to any other of the producing countries, which seeds, etc., are required for scientific purposes by a scientific institution in any one of such producing countries provided that licence to export the same be obtained from such other producing country and that such licence specifies the name and address of the scientific institution requiring the same'. This is the ruling in the Act. Our protest is only against the International Tea Committee going against that particular rule.

Mr. I. W. Finlayson.—The export of tea seed is an Act of the Government of India in contravention of the International Tea Agreement.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—There was a rule in the Excise Act, which was later amended, that no seeds can be exported. Later when the 1938-43 Agreement came into force, the Government itself amended this rule. That means that the Government of India was also a party to it.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—The resolution protests against an action taken seven years ago. What is the use of making a protest now?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—We were not aware of the actual acreage of new planting until figures were supplied in the printed report of the Agreement. This information was not available earlier. We now know that a wrong has been done. We have to protest against it.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—The resolution does in fact say that the concession was made during that period seven years ago. The resolution has nothing to do with the present agreement.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—I am afraid that none of these objections have any relevancy to the resolution. What is aimed by the resolution is only to open up our minds against the conduct of the International Tea Committee and not at the revocation of what has already been done.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—If we do not condemn the action of the International Tea Committee of the 1936-38 Agreement, there will be subsequent promulgation of such concessions in the future. We must condemn the action of the Committee for having consented to allow new planting in B.E.A. The Tea Agreement has continued from 1933-43 and may continue for a few years more, say 2-3 years. I would, here, suggest to you that we are right in recording our protest against the action of the International Tea Committee members. I would request the Secretary of this Association to find out who are the planters in East Africa who have planted tea in new areas and the acreages. I know that there are planters in India who are particularly interested in planting in East Africa and they are asking the minority here to suppress their extension.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I feel that, even if we placed on record our protest, it will carry us no farther. Probably the stage has come when the International Committee should have planters more closely concerned with its deliberations.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—What we aim at is only that such concessions should not be resorted to in future, by recording our protest.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—Protesting against an action of the Committee is not wrong. As Mr. Kothari explained there are some interests which want to derive benefit by keeping down facts regarding openings in East Africa. We need not go into the matter in detail. But one can say that it is not in the interests of the South Indian planters. It would be better discussed *in camera*.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—Yes.

The Chairman.—Has any one else anything to say on this resolution?

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—Mr. Chairman, I am in sympathy with this resolution, and I think that the figures disclosed by Mr. Thomas are very surprising. It is quite a serious matter that 30,000 acres of tea are coming into bearing. At the same time I do not think we are throwing mud at the International Tea Committee. I think that the suggestions made that their hands were tied in this matter were correct. They were unable to prevent British East Africa from extending the area under tea. But I hope this resolution may stop any further openings.

The Chairman.—Would anyone else like to speak on this resolution?

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—I would also ask the Secretary to find out who are the members, who are responsible for keeping this information from this Association.

The Chairman.—Do you wish that to be added to the resolution?

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—I hope the Secretary will get this information without any difficulty.

The Secretary.—I do not quite follow what information is required?

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—I do not think Mr. Alexander's suggestion that those who are responsible for permitting the planting up of new areas in B. E. Africa as also those who are responsible for concealing this information all these years should be found out is reasonable in view of Mr. Farmer's remarks.

The Secretary.—The actual percentage of new plantings in East Africa was published in the report of the International Tea Agreement. We did not receive the details of a renewed agreement in 1943. There was some delay in getting data about arrangements in 1943, but the permissible extensions in 1938-1943 were

published in the reports of the International Tea Committee. The extensions during the 1933-38 Agreement were also published.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—What I wanted the Secretary to do is to put in the *Planters' Chronicle* at the earliest possible moment the names of the planters who are responsible for planting in British East Africa, their acreage and particularly the extension given to them in proportion to their acreage. This is what I requested the Secretary to do.

The Chairman.—This will be done as early as possible.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I hope members won't forget all the good the International Tea Committee has done for the world.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—They will get our thanks for their good work.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—I cannot understand Mr. Boyd's feelings. There is nothing which should deter us from putting on paper our protest against an action done by the International Tea Committee. When the question of their good work arises, our thanks could be given then. The resolution protests against their action at a particular time. We cannot thank them at present.

Mr. A. McLaren.—I am in full sympathy with Mr. Thomas's feelings in the matter. I wonder if all of us fully appreciate the persuasion, and the patience, which had to be exercised before the inclusion of East African growers in the Tea regulation scheme could be achieved because the advantages of such co-operation accruing to the three original regulation countries were more apparent than any benefits likely to be enjoyed by the new adherents. It ought to be recognised, therefore, that in such circumstances their adherence was dependent upon the extent to which their own terms could be met and not on the acceptance of conditions imposed by the benefiting parties to the Agreement. It should be realised, of course, that the producers in the East African Territories have nothing to lose by staying out of a scheme of this kind and are therefore only prepared to come in on terms which they find suitable. I make these remarks to make clear to you the difficulties under which the International Tea Committee may have been functioning.

The Chairman.—Will anybody else speak on this resolution? I will now read the resolution as it now stands.

'This Association places on record its emphatic protest against the International Tea Committee in giving preferential treatment to the British East African Colonies to plant up Tea in new areas during the 1936-1938 International Agreement and its subsequent renewal.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and passed nem con.

The Chairman.—I will now ask Mr. Thomas to move the second resolution.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—The resolution reads as follows:—

'This Association records its protest against the International Tea Committee's action in allowing Ceylon to plant Tea in areas wherefrom slaughter tapped Rubber had been removed and consider this is definite breach of Rule 7 (1) (a) of the International Agreement.'

The Chairman.—I think there is some alteration from the original resolution. May I have your permission to discuss this amended resolution?

The Meeting agreed.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—In moving this resolution, I must say that Ceylon has extended her area under tea by new planting and that this is another breach of the rules made by the International Tea Committee's action. It is quite true to say that Ceylon was allowed 15,803 acres towards extension of her tea area and the new planting of course was within the amount of 15,000 acres allotted to them, but still there has been a breach in the rules because the Act lays down that no tea could be planted in areas which contained any other crop.

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—Could you read that rule, please?

The Secretary.—Rule 7 (1) (a) reads:—'During the new period of regulation, the prohibition of the sale or lease of further areas for tea cultivation and/or of the planting of tea on unplanted land or on land carrying other products shall continue.'

7 (1) (b) reads:—'Tea areas existing on the 31st March 1938 shall not be extended in any producing country, except for such experimental or other special purpose and on such conditions as its Government may consider necessary, and with the express permission of such Government.'

The next sub-section 7 (2) deals with the maximum permissible extensions during the agreement. This provision was relaxed somewhat in 1943 and on the basis of this alteration, India received an allotment of 12,000 acres, and Ceylon some 15,000 acres, to make up for areas thrown out of cultivation and for unutilized allowances in the preceding agreements.

The International Tea Committee, with whom I have been in correspondence through the S.I.A., have denied that the use of part of the allotment for replanting slaughter tapped rubber is a breach of rule 7 (1) (a). I still feel that the wording of this rule is not very clear but am definite that the only increase permitted by the agreement is that governed by 7 (1) (b) apart from the special cases of destruction of tea areas provided for under 7 (2).

The Chairman.—Any one else to speak on this resolution?

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—I second the resolution.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—Mr. Chairman, the Tea Section Committee have given this question their close attention in the past year or more and we have protested against this opening of slaughter tapped rubber areas by new planting of tea. Our Secretary has told us that, through the S.I.A., we have heard that the International Tea Committee denied that this is a breach of their rule. But to my knowledge I agree with our Secretary that this is a breach and I think that this resolution should go forward.

The Chairman.—Any one else to speak on this resolution? I will put the resolution as it stands to the meeting:

'This Association records its protest against the International Tea Committee's action in allowing Ceylon to plant tea in areas wherefrom slaughter tapped rubber had been removed and consider that this is a definite breach of Rule 7 (1) (a) of the International Tea Agreement.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried nem con.

The Chairman.—I will ask Mr. Thomas to read the third resolution as it now stands. With your permission, I will take the altered resolution.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—The resolution reads as follows:—

'This Association urges the International Tea Committee to amend clause 7 of the International Tea Agreement suitably so as to increase the permissible area of extensions for India from half per cent to five per cent of the total tea area existing as at 31st March 1943.'

The Chairman.—This is the resolution that Mr. Thomas wishes to bring. Anybody who wishes to oppose?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—In commending this very important resolution to your serious attention and consideration, I have a few remarks to make. The whole of the Tea industry in India has been working under the restriction scheme for a long period now. During this period restriction on expansion—at any rate so far as India is concerned—has been so strictly observed that practically we are holding the same acreage under tea now as we held in 1933. You are well aware that the tea industry suffered severe adversities after the International slump in 1929 and the interest evinced in this industry was naturally negligible. For all intents and purposes we can, therefore, reckon that there has been no new planting of importance for the last 16 years. Many of the then existing mature areas were already old and to-day they are 16 years older.

It is hardly necessary to discuss now what the future of the plantations will be, there having been no new planting for 16 years and my insistence for permission to start on some new planting and expansion is also based on other equally valid grounds.

The tea consumption of the whole world has been steadily increasing and the advent of Russia not only as a member of Allies during the War but also in collaboration thereafter, both political and commercial, promises a very much better world consumption of this beverage. The contribution of India to the development of this industry—probably as one of her primary industries—cannot be overemphasised. Therefore, in any future competition India must be allowed to acquit herself on a parity with other producing countries. If undue restriction on her expansion is made, it is not only unfair but decidedly perverse to facilitate advantages to the new comers in the field like African colonies.

India's contribution to the war effort in man power alone is easily more than 2 millions on the fighting line. When all these people are demobilised, their absorption in normal civil life is a factor which can be easily overlooked by any Government. All available sources for useful employment must be encouraged and expansion of tea is an undertaking where many young men returning from the Army can find a civil vocation.

The third point is that some of the estates which are under cultivation are now very old and little of the scientific knowledge which the industry now possesses had been brought to bear on them. The selection of jat, the propagation of heavier yielders, etc., were not within the realms of possibility in the years before 1929. With the improved knowledge now, India can expand her tea industry considerably not only to the economic advantages of the nation, but also as a field for relieving congestion of population in the urban areas.

The restriction on expansion, to my mind, has outlived its usefulness. Time was, undoubtedly, when the industry would have collapsed but for the tea restriction scheme. As it is an essential economic law that no artificial restrictions suggested by human ingenuity for trade purposes can be made permanent, the ordinary law of economics must be given a chance, by suspending at any rate this portion of the restriction act for at least a period of 10 years. If the provision for the restriction on further expansion is necessary at any time in the interest of the industry, such protective clauses as may be felt necessary can certainly be introduced then. Personally speaking, my own idea is to take away the restriction on expansion altogether but in due deference to the wishes of my friends, I think it would be more acceptable if I put it up in the above form instead of asking for the complete withdrawal of the restriction. I put the permissible area of extensions at 5 per cent of the total tea area as I have mentioned in my resolution. I again commend this resolution to your serious consideration.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—In seconding this resolution, I wish to point out that, having passed resolutions 1 and 2, which are, as it were a preamble to this resolution, there is no reason why this resolution should not be carried.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—May I ask a question, Sir? Does the increase of 5 per cent mean for each year or does that increase apply for the period of the Agreement as has been allowed in the case of British East Africa?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—The resolution is clear in that the increase asked for from $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 5 per cent is for the period.

The Chairman.—The 5 per cent is for the whole period as the $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in the Agreement is for the whole period.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Over the period of Agreement?

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in the Agreement is not per year but for the Agreement period.

The Secretary.—The percentage refers to the period of Agreement.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Would you tell us what the accumulated acreage permitted at present is in terms of percentage? Mr. Mayne could give us these figures.

The Secretary.—It is a little less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent—i.e. 11,000 acres on 840,000 acres.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—Mr. Chairman, while I had much pleasure to support the first two resolutions, I find I cannot agree with this resolution. We have now come to the end of the War and we know how long the restrictions will continue. It is another two years after the cessation of hostilities. This resolution is far-reaching in character, while it also affects other countries. We are handing this principle not only to Ceylon but also to East Africa, so that we become beneficiaries. At the same time, we are going to get a 2 years' start, which may mean a lot to the Dutch. It seems a matter really to hold over for two years, or if we can receive by other methods some benefit for what we have lost under rules of the Indian Tea Control Act, it would be preferable. The fact that we have not been able to extend our tea or take full advantage of the $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent is, I believe, due to the Government of India and in the final resolution, we do have a line of approach to Government of India for expansion of our tea areas, which will not handicap anybody else but benefit us. I do not think that resolution as it stands should be carried.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—Mr. Chairman, I feel that this resolution, rather than being a preamble to the earlier resolutions as suggested by one speaker, is completely contrary to the earlier resolutions. Isn't it curious to censure a Committee for permitting something and then requesting the same Committee to permit the same thing for us?

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—I should like to bring forward an amendment to the resolution. The amendment is this: 'That a sub-committee be appointed now to consider what amendments to the next Indian Tea Control Act are necessary.' The present Act will come to an end in 1948 and we should be considering the question of what amendments we want in the new Act as soon as that Committee is appointed.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—I second Mr. Milner's amendment.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I would endorse Mr. Farmer's remarks. I have instructions from my Association how to deal with the original resolutions of Mr. Thomas as published in the *Chronicle*. It urged for the

removal of all restriction on the opening of new areas. My Association were definitely against the original resolution asking for the opening of new areas and I must consult my Association before offering an opinion on the modified resolution. But I think I can say that my Association will be against the amended resolution. As Mr. Milner has brought an amendment, we are very happy to support it.

Mr. N. B. Athrey.—Mr. Thomas's resolution is only a censure on East Africa opening out new areas in spite of their restriction on the signatory areas. Now, Mr. Thomas's resolution is for an amendment in the agreement. I cannot understand how these two clash. If that is conceded, Mr. Chairman, I do not think there is any contradiction in that a censure has been passed on what has already been done. All that Mr. Thomas asks for is what should be done in future. I do not think there is any clash between the two resolutions.

Mr. E. H. Stanes.—If an amendment is sought in the agreement, I cannot see how it will refer only to India and not to other countries.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—My friend has just mentioned my reference to the earlier resolution being the preamble to the present one. He suggests that the resolutions are contradictory. In resolution No. 1 we censured the Committee in having given preferential treatment to East Africa. We stand in need of fair treatment and that is being asked for in the present resolution. My friend has misunderstood me.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—I know that extension has been allowed to suit certain countries. I should like to know if there is any clause in the International Tea Agreement whereby other countries will be given extension proportionately if one signatory asks for it?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—There is no clause like that.

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—If this proposed resolution is accepted, what will be the proportionate increase in the world acreage. If 5 per cent extension is permissible, it will not apply to India alone.

The Secretary.—Among the regulated countries under the International Tea Agreement, the area would be about 95,000 acres.

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—We can expect approximately an increased production of 60 million pounds of tea, assuming 600 lbs. per acre.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—This is about 10 years hence, I suppose.

Mr. N. B. Athrey.—This is nothing when compared with 2,000 million pounds of tea, which is the world production.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—There is one other point. It is possible that other countries do not want this extension at all.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—Mr. Boyd suggested a difficulty in the resolution as it stood. He had consulted his Association on the original resolution and he said that the present resolution as submitted is different. I submit that it is not so. It is one and the same. The original resolution urged the amendment of Section 27 of the Indian Tea Control Act, Section 27 of the Tea Control Act, is the same as clause 7 of the International Tea Agreement. Instead of amending the Indian Tea Control Act, Section 27, we now urge the amendment of Clause 7 of the International Tea Agreement. The idea is practically the same. The only difference is the original resolution asked for withdrawal of all restrictions imposed, whereas the amended one asks for an increase of the permissible area of extensions from $\frac{1}{4}$ percent to 5 per cent. Otherwise there is no deviation from the original resolution.

The Chairman.—Mr. Thomas's resolution as amended covers the whole of the discussion this morning. Mr. Thomas has stated that the restrictions had existed for many years now. He is quite right in saying that there are many sections in the agreement that need amendment and I should like to suggest that a sub-committee be formed to go into this matter so that when the new agreement comes up, this Association's views can be carefully considered during the period which should pass before the new International Committee comes into being. I feel the International Tea Agreement has done the Tea industry a considerable amount of good. I do think that Mr. Farmer's point should be borne in mind about our Dutch Allies. Due to Japanese aggression, they are not in a position to enter into competition with us just now. We should bear that in mind.

Mr. E. H. Stanes.—If the resolution is passed does it mean that India should be taken out of the restriction scheme?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—We are speaking for ourselves.

Mr. E. H. Stanes.—As somebody suggested earlier, are we not asking for something which is in contravention of the International Tea Agreement. We have already censured the International Tea Committee on that point.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—The point is that we are asking only for an amendment of the agreement to enable us to extend our tea area. We do not want them to do as they did in the case of East Africa.

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—To make it legal.

The Chairman.—There is a point which occurs to me, Mr. Thomas. Your resolution urges something to be done now, while Mr. Milner's amendment claims at least two years' time by the inclusion of the words 'Next Indian Tea Control Act'. We can fit the two by leaving out the words 'next', reading what amendments to the Indian Tea Control Act are necessary. I am only putting this forward as a suggestion.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Mr. Thomas's 4th resolution has a bearing on this matter, if the meeting accepts resolution No. 4. Would that not meet the interim period?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—No I am asking for the alteration for the interim period, i.e. the current period of restriction.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—I am sorry I do not want to alter my amendment.

Mr. A. McLaren.—In North India, we think that there should be no tinkering with the scheme of control. It may not be perfect but it has done much good. We must naturally wait before we embark on new schemes which may only open the flood gates of unrestricted competition. Let us think many times before doing that (Hear, hear).

The Chairman.—That is an argument that has always been put forward each time to sabotage an amendment. It appears to me like that. I strongly oppose any suggestion of that description.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—If a non-signatory Government or country can get a 20 per cent increase in their extension, is it too much for India, a signatory country, to ask for the present extension. Africa was given certainly 20 per cent increase. It is not a signatory country. India is asking only for 5 per cent.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—Perhaps, Mr. Thomas's resolution might help the present International Tea Committee in realising that we take a serious view of these other new openings that have been given to Africa

and Ceylon. There is a very strong feeling that there is no reason why we should not be given some preference too.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—I think that we must imagine that as a contingency. In the event of Mr. Thomas's third resolution not going through, we can suppose the International Tea Committee ignoring our reproaches and continuing to give Africa permission to plant more. Where do we come in at that time? We must hasten with this resolution.

The Chairman.—I will take the amendment first, proposed by Mr. Milner and seconded by Mr. Hill 'that a sub-committee be appointed now to consider what amendments to the next Indian Tea Control Act are necessary'.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—Can that be called an amendment to my resolution? Is that not a fresh resolution altogether? I leave it to your ruling.

The Chairman.—I beg your pardon, Mr. Thomas.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—As it stands the amendment cannot be accepted.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—I will move it as an original resolution later.

The Chairman.—That leaves the resolution as it is to be voted on. I will now read the resolution.

'This Association urges the International Tea Committee to amend clause 7 of the International Tea Agreement suitably so as to increase the permissible area of extensions for India from half per cent to five per cent of the total tea area existing as at 31st March 1943.'

The resolution has been proposed by Mr. A. V. Thomas and seconded by Mr. T. K. Alexander.

After counting the votes by a show of hands, the Chairman declared the resolution lost, by 15 votes to 14.

The Chairman.—There is one more resolution Mr. Thomas has to propose. I will ask him to read it out.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—The resolution is as follows:—

'This Association requests the Government of India to amend Section 28(2) proviso 1 of the Indian Tea Control Act 1943 to enable all tea estates irrespective of their planted area to apply for permission to extend their areas.'

The Chairman.—Have I your permission to take the above amended resolution and not the one as published in the *Chronicle*.

The Meeting agreed.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I would like to second that resolution.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—My reason in bringing forward this resolution was, according to the previous International Tea Agreement $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent extension was allowed, which worked out at 4,200 acres for the period ending March 1938 and another 4,200 acres for the second period totalling 8,400 acres. But a restriction was made that estates of above 150 acres and companies with a planted area of more than 300 acres were not eligible for any quota from this allotment. The result was that only about 2,000 acres were planted. About 6,000 acres were not planted during the two periods. This may be due to various causes. I think this is mainly due to the small growers, to whom permits were given, not being in a position to finance the extension and carry out the programme. So 6,000 acres were uncultivated out of an allotment of 8,000 acres. This is a very serious matter to the industry. If these 6,000 acres were planted during this period, part of it would be in a bearing stage now. The industry has lost an opportunity which we should not allow to happen again. At this point I may also say that the quota for the third period also includes the unutilised quota in the previous two periods. The quota for the third period has not yet been allotted although two years have now elapsed and we are in 1945. That may take a considerable length of time. This should be expedited in future as far as possible.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I would support the resolution. I think Mr. Thomas has covered the points fully.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—What acreage has been allotted so far up-to-date to South India?

The Secretary.—It is extremely difficult to state accurately. The report of the Indian Tea Licensing Committee does not give the necessary figures for a correct calculation.

Probably Mr. Lloyd could give the details.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—For the whole of India, the figure should be 12,665 acres for the three periods.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—The figure for North India is 5,120 acres and for Madras 903 acres. This matter was discussed at the Tea Section Committee and the Secretary was pleased to give us these figures.

The Secretary.—I can give you the allocation of the permission granted for extension of the area during 1938-43. Permits issued under the Indian Tea Control Act, 1938, were:—

Assam	...	...	...	...	2,177	acres
Bengal	...	...	...	...	317	"
Tripura State	...	...	...	...	252	"
Madras	...	...	...	...	304.56	"
Travancore State	...	...	...	...	289.75	"

making a total of 3,340.31 acres. The actual areas permitted for extension under Section 27 (1) for the whole of India is 3,717.19 acres. The allotment for South India is as under:—

Madras	...	...	...	...	395	acres
Coorg	...	...	...	...	2	"
Cochin	...	...	...	...	8	"
Mysore	...	...	...	...	21	"
Travancore	...	...	...	...	393	"

The actual amount of permits issued in South India was for just under 600 acres against a total quota to South India of nearly 800 acres, for the 1938 period.

Mr. J. A. R. Lloyd.—The difficulties which the Licensing Committee found were the ones which Mr. Thomas has pointed out. We had this allotment but we did not get sufficient applications to cover the allotment. It was no use proprietors of estates of more than 150 acres applying. We reached a position of absurdity in making allocations; in one case one man was permitted to open 0.04 cent. Then a considerable number did not interpret the letter which was sent to them rightly and thought that the permit was a saleable commodity. They discovered later that it was not saleable, and did not utilise it.

The Chairman.—Thank you, Mr. Lloyd. I will now put the resolution to the meeting.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried by 21 votes to 7.

The Chairman.—Now we come to Mr. Milner's resolution. May I ask Mr. Milner to move the resolution. If we leave it and say towards the end of 1947 that we should start considering what amendments we want to make in the Act, it is going to be rather late. That is my personal opinion.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—I would like to put it as an original resolution.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Would Mr. Milner leave the matter to the Tea Section Committee for their consideration.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Yes, I am willing.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—The Tea Section Committee can look into it and there is no reason why the General Body should not ask the executive of the Tea Section Committee to do so.

The Chairman.—May I take it as that.

Mr. T. K. Alexander.—I wish to bring to the notice of the Chairman that, having passed Mr. Thomas's fourth resolution and along with Mr. Lloyd's suggestions that most of the $\frac{1}{2}\%$ was not utilised because the permit was not a marketable commodity, the Tea Section Committee might consider the proposal to make the $\frac{1}{2}\%$ rights a marketable commodity. (Laughter).

The Chairman.—Thank you. We will certainly consider it and bring it as a subject for discussion.

The Chairman.—Is there any other question?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—One matter I would like to mention, Sir, is this. In the Chairman's speech, a reference was made to the marketing of tea and the visit of the Australian Tea Controller to India. It appears he visited Ceylon and never cared or proposed to come to South India.

The Chairman.—I think he certainly would have come to South India. We did invite him but he was unable to deviate from the arrangements which he had already made to go elsewhere.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I thank you for your correction, but my point is that perhaps he was not aware that South India was of sufficient importance from the point of view of buying tea. Otherwise it may be that we did not make ourselves felt, in which case he would not have gone away without visiting South India. I think this Association should take the matter up and do something to make other people feel that there is an Association in South India dealing with tea. In other words, they should make themselves an important body. One suggestion perhaps would be that this Association should have auctions in convenient places in South India similar to the weekly tea auctions in Colombo. We can have monthly auctions if there is not a sufficient quantity of tea. Attention could be given to this point. Perhaps if the Association's headquarters is transferred from the cool heights of the Nilgiris to, say, Madras, it might go a long way to make the importance of the Association felt. These are suggestions which I put forward and I request that sufficient attention should be given to these points.

The Chairman.—I think I can say that the incoming committee will consider your suggestions.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I would like to thank Mr. Williams for conducting this meeting so well and also for conducting our affairs during the year. (Applause)

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

COFFEE SECTION GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Coffee Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, held at Coonoor, on Wednesday, 28th March 1945, commencing at 11-30 a.m.

The following were present:—

MESSRS. IVOR BULL, O.B.E. (Chairman), N. B. ATHREY, V. M. ASIRVATHAM NADAR, C. L. J. HUMPHREYS (Members), F. H. FARMER (President), W. W. MAYNE (Secretary and Scientific Officer) and N. A. SUBRAMANIAN (Assistant Secretary).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., per Mr. R. Walker, O.B.E.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., per Mr. E. H. Francis.
APPAYYA, Mr. B. M.; APPIAH, Mr. M. P.; BALL, MAJOR E. P.; CAMPBELL TRUST; ELK HILL COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; FENNEL, Mr. E. A.; & LT.-COL. H. F. MURLAND; HOROOR SYNDICATE, LTD.; HUMPHREYS, MRS. C. L. J.; MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; MACPHERSON, LT.-COL. D. I.; MORGAN, MR. J. S. H.; NARAYANA SETTY, MR. D.; YOUSUF ALI KHAN, per Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
ARUNACHALAM CHETTIAR, MR. O. A. P. RM., per Mr. P. M. Belliappa.
ATHREY, MR. N. B.; RAMANAN, MR. C. S. V. & OTHERS, per Mr. N. B. Athrey.
BRUNNER, MRS. C.; CAREY, COMDR. H. F.; CRAWFORD, MR. C. S. & LT.-COL. W. L. CRAWFORD; CRAWFORD, MR. C. S., LT.-COL. W. L. CRAWFORD & G. V. R. FRENCH; ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD.; GILBY, MR. E. H.; GILBY, MR. R. A.; LESLIE, MR. A. W.; MALABAR INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.; MATHEW, MR. K. M.; MORRIS, MR. C. W. G.; MORRIS, MR. A. E. C.; OLIVER, MR. L. C.; HAWKE, MR. L. A.; MORGAN COFFEE CO., LTD.; O'SULLIVAN, MRS. B. D.; RYLE, MR. C. D.; SCOTT, MR. W. P.; PORTER, HALL & CO., SHORT BROS. LTD.; SULLIVAN, MRS. B. D.; RYLE, MR. C. D.; THOMAS, MR. M. A.; TRAVERS-DRAPE, MR. V. L.; per Mr. F. H. Farmer.
CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD.; COORG CINCHONA ESTATES; KYLASAM PILLAI, MR. T. A.; TIPPING, MRS. K., per Mr. Ivor Bull, O.B.E.
DEVERSHOLA TEA CO., LTD.; STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES CO., LTD.; TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD.; THIASHOLA TEA CO. LTD., per Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
MOORE, MR. R. J. A.; POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., per Mr. J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E.
MURPHY, MR. J. F.
NREELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES LTD., SHEVAROV ESTATES LTD., per Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
NELLIAMPATHY TEA & PRERDUCE CO. LTD., per Mr. V. O. Abraham.
SADASIVAN PILLAI, MR. A.
SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ANAMALLAIS, per Mr. F. J. B. Diaper.
COORG, per Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
NILGIRIS, per Mr. E. J. C. Hill.

FIRM MEMBERS

ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., per Mr. F. H. Farmer.
TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD., per Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
THOMAS & CO., LTD. A. V., per Mr. V. O. Abraham.

VISITORS

MESSRS. M. BUTCHER and F. G. WALLACE.

Mr. Ivor Bull, Chairman of the Coffee Section Committee, presided. At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING.

The proceedings of the General Meeting of the Coffee Section, held on 10th August, 1944, which had been published in the U. P. A. S. I. Year Book, 1944, at pp. 49-54, were taken as read and confirmed.

BUDGET FOR 1945-1946.

The Chairman.—With your permission, I will take item No. 4 on the agenda, the Coffee Scientific Section Budget for the year 1945-46. This has been circulated to everyone and I don't think it calls for any comments. There are few differences between the coming year's budget and that of the previous season. The Committee have recommended that the Assistant Coffee Scientific Officer be given a double salary rise. We are very pleased indeed to recommend him a rise in view of the very satisfactory work Mr. Pattabhiraman has been doing for us. There is an increase under the heading 'Field Assistants' from Rs. 270 to Rs. 1,110. The reason for this increase is due to a proposal, which the Committee have accepted, to appoint another field assistant. We have decided to carry out pruning experiments which really requires another field assistant in charge of it. Many of the other experiments which are at present under observation in Coorg require more detailed and careful recording so that the results are reliable. I trust the appointment of an additional field man will meet with the approval of the Coffee Section.

Under 'Clerks quarters', you will find the money was not spent last year. The reason why it was not spent was the very strong probability that the Indian Coffee Board will take over the whole of the Coffee Scientific finance and it would be a waste to spend another Rs. 3,000 at Balehonnur.

Under Income, the draft budget anticipated a slight falling off. But the estates which resigned owing to a change in the ownership rejoined the U.P.A.S.I., so that the income next year should be the same as in the past year. I think this will probably be the last Coffee Scientific Budget which is presented to the U.P.A.S.I., if the hopes, which most of us entertain, that the Indian Coffee Board takes over the responsibility for coffee scientific work, materialise (In Committee) I am one of the U.P.A.S.I. representatives on the Indian Coffee Board and in that capacity I can tell you the gist of the discussions which took place at the last meeting of the Board. It was decided then that it was desirable that Coffee Scientific work should be carried out by the Board from its funds which are really quite ample and, in that case, we would no longer ask for or receive any grant from the Madras or Coorg Governments. We can anticipate the passing of an Agricultural Income-tax Bill similar to the one published by the Madras Government, and in view of the Mysore Coffee Cess of 2 annas per acre of coffee and the excise duty, we can anticipate that there will be a big measure of relief to the coffee growers in the Mysore State if the Board takes over the whole of this scientific work. We had a very interesting discussion on the future of Coffee Scientific research and its application. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the Mysore Government and we expressed our appreciation of the pioneer work which the Mysore Government carried out in research work at Balehonnur. For a long time they have borne the heat of the day with some assistance from ourselves, which was based on Government help from Madras and Coorg. First of all we asked the Mysore Government whether they will be willing to pass over their station to the Board. The Mysore Government was entirely opposed to it. They pointed out that they are studying their problems as well as coffee. There was a very interesting argument about subsidizing the Mysore Government in which the feeling was unanimously that, if the Board was going to be responsible for money for coffee research, they must have full control and I think that was a correct decision. It was then pointed out that Balehonnur, which is situated up in the north-west corner of the Mysore State and under conditions of rainfall and elevation by no means typical of coffee was in any case inconvenient for the purpose. The impression was that it was not a very suitable zone for coffee research and the question of alternative sites was discussed and a sub-committee was appointed to enquire into the possibility of a suitable research station being made available in Coorg. Coorg which is close to Mysore and Madras and under the Central Government, appeared to present certain advantages. The Sub-Committee would be reporting back at the end of this month whether such a station could be placed in Coorg and we cannot anticipate things beyond that. As regards Balehonnur, the recommendation will be that we meet the Mysore Government there, by way of full subsidy for all the coffee work which they carried out there. The results of their work, of course, should be available to the Indian Coffee Board. These proposals of course are subject to the continuation of control and provided that the Rege Report is not too hard on us and coffee survives as a plantation crop in South India. There would seem to be available proper funds for a central plantation research station. I personally view this as very good and I hope the coffee industry will benefit from these developments. I hope you will keep this explanation in Committee.

Open Meeting.

To come back to the Budget which is now under discussion, if no one has got any comments to make, would like to move from the Chair:—

'That the Coffee Section budget for the financial year, 1st April 1945-31st March 1946, as approved by this Meeting be passed.'

The Resolution was put to the Meeting and carried.

PRODUCT CESS FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

The Chairman.—Now that the Budget has been passed, we come to item No. 3, fixation of product cess for the year 1945-46. Rule 13 of the U.P.A.S.I. Rules regarding payment of Product Cess is being amended at the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting this afternoon. This will make all owners having more than 100 acres of any product liable to pay cess on their product, instead of the present 150 acres. The rate is the same as before.

I will now move from the Chair:—

'That in accordance with Rule 13 (a), the Coffee product cess for the financial year 1st April 1945-31st March 1946, to be collected from each ordinary member of the Association liable to pay such cess shall be at the rate of one and a half annas per acre of the area planted with Coffee in the Mysore State and three and a half annas per acre of the area planted with Coffee outside Mysore State'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman.—The subject of cardamoms comes under 'Any Other Business'. I think those of you with a good memory will remember that five or six years ago, there was a great amount of energy expended by cardamom growers when I was the Chairman of the Coffee Section. We formed a Cardamom Sub-Committee and there was so much enthusiasm amongst cardamom growers that a sub-committee was thought insufficient. They wanted a separate section with their own representative on the Executive Committee. Well, that enthusiasm died away somewhat, and we had little to discuss on this subject until recently. During the last few months, the Central Government have made available 250 tons of cardamoms to growers for export. This was the result of a deputation which was sent by the South India Cardamom Planters' Association to Delhi. Having received that allotment many small growers are puzzled what to do. I will now ask the Secretary to explain to you the position.

The Secretary.—There was a proposal from the South India Cardamom Planters' Association that a part of this 250 tons should be handed to them and that 100 tons should be left to other growers who are not associated with the above Association. That was their suggestion. Government had not yet come forward with any proposal. The development of the situation was as follows: We had a letter saying that a deputation of the South India Cardamom Planters' Association had seen the Government of India, and that the Government of India had allotted 250 tons to growers, for export. We were asked to get in contact with the South India Cardamom Planters' Association to decide what would be the best way of allocating the 250 tons among growers. The Secretary of the South India Cardamom Planters' Association saw me on 3rd March and placed before me the accomplished fact that 250 tons of export rights was to be allocated to growers. All that we could do was to discuss how best to allocate this. We suggested that all applications should be collected by various districts and regional associations and passed on through this office, who would recommend them to the Government if they thought they were reasonable. The Government of India would act on these recommendations and make allotments in proportion to the amounts asked for. Well the Secretary of the South India Cardamom Planters' Association did not like that idea very much and he suggested an alternative arrangement. We passed on these comments to the Government of India through Sir Frederick James. We have heard nothing further. In the meantime we circulated cardamom growers of our Association pointing out the proposition and suggesting that they should make a preliminary statement of their crop position, stocks, exports, etc. These data were all sent to the Government of India. These export permits to growers are unlikely to be of very much assistance to the export of cardamoms, because the majority of growers have no experience in the export market at all. Moreover Government hold the view that export permits should not be a saleable commodity along with the crop. But I do think it is possible that a grower might arrange for export through an exporter on the basis of a commission and that the grower might sell the permit. The letter seems to suggest that there might be difficulties because the export licences were definitely to be granted to growers for use and export by them to an export market. In the circumstances, these 250 tons cannot be effectively utilised. At the same time, Government also suggested to the South India Cardamom Planters' Association that, though this 250 tons export quota was a preliminary or temporary arrangement, they might examine the formation of a marketing organisation. Sir Frederick James suggested that the U.P.A.S.I. should interest itself in drawing up proposals for such a marketing organization on the general lines of the Indian Coffee Board. That is roughly the position as it stands at present.

The Chairman.—That was the information before the Coffee Section Committee yesterday. We discussed this matter of further development in terms of a marketing organisation and we considered that it would be an excellent thing to form a small sub-committee to review this matter. We decided that this sub-committee might be formed this year by nomination. I will ask you to leave this matter of nomination to the sub-committee to the Chairman of the Coffee Section who will find out who is willing and has the time to work on the sub-committee. This sub-committee will function until the General Meeting, when an election will take place. I do not mind having a major discussion on this subject. If any member has got any views he might express them for the benefit of the sub-committee.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—Mr. Chairman, the position does not seem to be satisfactory and calls for urgent action on our part. The price of cardamoms in the past year was extremely bad and although during the current season it has improved, there would be set back brought on by inability to make exports. The granting of export licences to cardamom growers does not help the situation. The real thing that will improve the market—or it appears to me to be so—would be to allow free export of cardamoms. If the grower is to get the benefit, the export licences should be transferable to exporters who are in a position to export and who have contacts with the cardamom market overseas. I should like some action towards that end.

The Secretary.—With respect to the 250 tons of export licences to growers, there is one item which might be of interest. In December, the Government of India sanctioned 250 tons additional export quota which was to be distributed to shippers, who were quota holders, that is those exporters who exported cardamom prior to 1940 and were given a quota on the basis of their previous exports. Then at the end of January, Government announced a further allotment of 250 tons which was to be granted to shippers, not necessarily quota holders. In other words they did announce this additional 250 tons, which was going to be given to any shipper, but unfortunately this information never got round to the growers. Apparently this quota of 250 tons was not utilised. When a deputation from the South India Cardamom Planters' Association met the Government of India, the Government of India, finding that the 250 tons had not been taken up, handed it over to the growers.

The Chairman.—With what Mr. Farmer said, I am in full agreement. There will be no improvement at all if the export licences can be used only by growers. The offer of additional quotas for the export of cardamoms was, I think, very largely due to this Association, which carried on a fairly strong agitation in that connection. I think Government have allotted this 250 tons by misunderstanding the situation. Obviously the cardamom market was without adequate exports. The pressure on the internal market due to lack of shipping had to be relieved. Really what we have got to consider is whether in the long view it is going to be of advantage

tage to this Association to encourage old exporters who have built a business in foreign countries. These export licences cannot be given to small growers who have no connection at all with Sweden, Palestine, etc., who import Cardamoms. I think Mr. Farmer indicated that he would prefer to see a large allotment of export given to the exporters. If exporters get this quota, we should get a better price for cardamoms. At present the price is definitely low. But the only way to better the price is to reduce the pressure of stocks in India. Isn't it exactly the situation now?

Mr. E. H. Francis.—Government should allow endorsement of these permits in favour of exporters. It seems a matter of simple arrangement to which I think Government would not object.

The Secretary.—In fact I suggested this in a letter to Sir Frederick James. He writes back saying that Government will not allow these export licences to be transferable; exports rights therefore will not be sold with the crop. Nor will export licences be given merely to be passed on to the ordinary shippers. Growers will be expected to arrange shipments themselves and to enter into contracts direct with overseas purchasers. I did make the suggestion that Mr. Farmer made, pointing out that these licences should be made transferable to shippers who were prepared to handle them on a commission basis or purchase them for immediate shipment. But Government was adamant on this point.

The Chairman.—Would you like to move any resolution on this, Mr. Farmer?

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—Yes, I think perhaps we might draft a resolution and put it to the meeting. This might be helpful.

The Chairman.—The following is the resolution, Gentlemen, which Mr. Farmer proposes to move:—

'This Meeting is concerned at restrictions imposed on the use of cardamom export licences which Government propose to grant to growers and consider that if these licences are to be effective it is necessary that a condition be included permitting transfer to an established exporter.'

Will some member second this resolution?

Mr. E. H. Francis.—I second it.

The Chairman.—Has anyone any amendment to this resolution.

Mr. E. H. Francis.—We should add the words 'a single' before transfer.

The Chairman.—You accept that Mr. Farmer.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—I accept that.

The Chairman.—I will read the resolution again:—

'This Meeting is concerned at the restrictions imposed on the use of cardamom export licences which Government propose to grant to growers and considers that if these licences are to be effective it is necessary that a condition be included permitting a single transfer to an established exporter.'

The Resolution was put to the Meeting and carried nem con.

The Chairman.—There being no other business, I declare the Meeting closed.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting terminated.

U.P.A.S.I. COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION Budget 1945-46

EXPENDITURE ITEMS					Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Establishment:—										
Scientific Officer's Salary	...	...	...	...	5,100	0	0			
Assistant Scientific Officer's Salary	...	...	...	...	2,280	0	0			
Clerk's Salary	...	...	...	...	540	0	0			
Balehonnur Assistant	...	...	...	...	1,360	0	0			
Field Assistants	...	...	...	...	1,110	0	0			
								10,390	0	0
Allowances:—										
Scientific Officer	...	...	...	...	360	0	0			
Assistant Scientific Officers	...	...	...	...	360	0	0			
Clerk	...	...	...	...	122	0	0			
Field Assistant	...	...	...	...	...					
Dearness allowances	...	...	...	...	1,720	0	0			
								2,562	0	0
General Expenditure:—										
Stationery	...	...	...	...	200	0	0			
Library and Periodicals	...	...	...	...	150	0	0			
Travelling and Touring	...	...	...	...	1,000	0	0			
Upkeep of Bungalow	...	...	...	...	300	0	0			
Sidapur Station Expenses	...	...	...	...	120	0	0			
Research Expenditure—Sidapur	...	...	...	...	1,200	0	0			
Clerk's Quarters	...	...	...	...	...					
								2,970	0	0
Office:—										
Insurance	...	...	...	...	35	0	0			
Depreciation	...	...	...	...	850	0	0			
Provident Fund:—										
Coffee Scientific Officer	...	...	...	...	510	0	0			
Assistant Coffee Scientific Officer	...	...	...	...	228	0	0			
Clerk	...	...	...	...	54	0	0			
Balehonnur Assistant	...	...	...	...	136	0	0			
Passage Money Fund	...	...	...	...	540	0	0			
								2,353	0	0
Total								18,275	0	0

INCOME								RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Revised Estimate for 1944-45 :—													
Cess on 31,380 acres @ 3½ annas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,864	0	0			
" 13,690 " @ 1½ "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,283	0	0			
Madras Government Grant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				8,147	0	0
Coorg Government Grant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				9,625	0	0
											3,000	0	0
											20,772	0	0
ESTIMATED EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE IS								1,998	0	0			
Estimate for 1945-46 :—													
Cess on 30,424 acres @ 3½ annas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,655	0	0			
" 13,690 " @ 1½ "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,283	0	0			
Madras Government Grant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				7,938	0	0
Coorg Government Grant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				9,625	0	0
											3,000	0	0
											20,563	0	0
ESTIMATED EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE IS								2,288	0	0			

U.P.A.S.I. COFFEE SECTION

REPORT OF THE COFFEE SECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1944-45

I. COFFEE SECTION

1. **Membership.**—The subscribing coffee acreage rose from 47,510 acres on 1st April 1944 to 47,879 acres on 31st March 1945, i.e., by 369 acres. Out of a total of 225 coffee members, 153 members owning 44,270 acres paid the cess for the maintenance of the Scientific Section.

In addition to coffee subscribers, minor products owned by members amounted to 11,974 acres of cardamoms, 446 acres of cinchona and 508 acres of pepper. The total area represented on the Section at the end of the year was 60,807 acres.

2. **Committees.**—*Coffee Section Committee.*—The following assumed office on the Coffee Section Committee at the close of the last Annual Meeting:—Messrs. Ivor Bull, O.B.E., J. S. H. Morgan, Sylvester Pais, N. B. Athrey and V. M. Asirvatham Nadar. Mr. Ivor Bull was elected Chairman and also representative of the Section on the Executive Committee. Mr. Morgan's seat fell vacant during the year on his leaving the country and was filled temporarily by the co-option of Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys under Rule 57. In view of the importance of a full discussion on the future of the Coffee Board, the Committee agreed to co-opt Messrs. Eric Stanes and W. Jefferies for this purpose towards the end of the current year.

Indian Coffee Board.—The Association continued to be represented on the Board by Messrs. Ivor Bull, N. B. Athrey and Sir Frederick James. Mr. Ivor Bull was elected Vice-Chairman of the Board at the first meeting of the re-constituted Board and has been re-elected for the coming year.

Mysore Coffee Experiment Station Advisory Committee.—Mr. R. G. Foster continued to represent the Association on the Committee.

3. **Meetings.**—One General Meeting of the Coffee Section was held on 31st March 1945 to consider the budget. The Committee held two meetings in August and March respectively. The Annual General Meeting was held on 10th August, 1944.

4. **Coffee Section Reserve.**—The Reserve brought forward was Rs. 17,585-7-6 to which interest amounting to Rs. 705-9-0 was added during the year, making a total of Rs. 18,291-0-6 on 31st March, 1945.

II. SCIENTIFIC SECTION

5. **Staff.**—Mr. W. W. Mayne continued in charge of the Coffee Scientific Section, in addition to his other duties. Messrs. T. V. Patabhraman and K. S. Gopalakrishnan continued to carry on research work at Sidapur and Balehonnur respectively. During the year a field assistant was appointed at Sidapur in view of the greatly increased amount of routine field work resulting from expansion of work in Coorg, and towards the end of the year a second field assistant was appointed for the same purpose. The administration report of the Coffee Scientific Officer will be issued as usual by the Mysore Agricultural Department.

6. **Accounts, 1944-45.**—The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 16,602 and the income to Rs. 20,666. At the close of the year, the excess of income over expenditure amounting to Rs. 4,064 was transferred to the Coffee Scientific Section Fund, which now has Rs. 9,782 at its credit.

7. **Budget, 1945-46.**—The estimated expenditure for the current year amounts to Rs. 18,275, and the amount of income Rs. 20,563, allowing for an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 2,288.

III. MARKETING PROPAGANDA AND RESEARCH

8. **Coffee Market Expansion Act, 1942.**—The sale and marketing of coffee continued to be governed by the above Act. It was amended slightly during the year to allow for the transfer of funds from the Pool Fund to the General Fund.

9. **Indian Coffee Board.**—Diwan Bahadur M. V. Vellodi continued as Controller of Coffee and Rao Saheb M. J. Simon as Secretary.

The propaganda activities of the Board continued during the year and good progress has been reported from many centres.

The question of the future of the Indian Coffee Board has been the subject of discussion by the Committee and preparations are being made to elicit the opinion of all members as to the future development of this body when the present Act expires.

10. **Indian Coffee Market Expansion Board (London).**—The activities of this Board in popularising the use of Indian coffee continued. Owing to shortage of supplies attention has been mainly devoted to maintaining interest in Indian Coffee and in renewing contacts with retail distributors so that when supplies become easier Indian Coffee will be prominent in the minds of British consumers.

11. **British Empire Producers' Organization.**—The Indian Coffee Board assumed full responsibility for supporting the Coffee Section of the British Empire Producers' Organization.

12. **Coffee Prices.**—The Committee expressed some concern at the procedure adopted by the Government of India in fixing the ceiling prices of Coffee. It was decided that, if a further enquiry into cost of production was undertaken by the Government, the U.P.A.S.I. should be consulted in the matter and that the appropriate time for such an enquiry would be about the end of August, which would give ample time for fixing prices before the new crop came on the market. Subsequently it was learnt that such an enquiry would be carried out towards the end of September and that the Indian Coffee Board had set up a special committee to draw up the case for the industry.

13. **Future Organization of Coffee Scientific Research.**—The U.P.A.S.I. has given considerable attention to the problem of the unification of Coffee Research under the aegis of the Board. The matter is still under discussion by the Board, but the attitude of the U.P.A.S.I. has been throughout that a centralised research scheme under the Board is the most desirable from the point of view of the industry.

IV. GENERAL

14. **Fertilisers.**—A certain proportion of the Sulphate of Ammonia allotted to estates in South India was made available to coffee plantations and the Secretary acted as rationing officer for the purpose of equitable allocation of the limited supplies available. Some difficulties were experienced owing to delays in the issue of export permits for Lease/Lend Sulphate of Ammonia from Madras to Mysore and Coorg, but it is hoped that it will be possible to avoid these delays in future.

V. MINOR PRODUCTS

15. **Export of Cardamoms.**—The position of the cardamom market remained unsatisfactory throughout the year. As a result of representations made to Government beginning in May last year, a release of 250 tons of export rights was made in January 1945 limited to quota holders. In February a further allotment of 250 tons for quota holders and other shippers was made and this was announced by the Export Trade Controller, but the publicity given and the very short time allotted for application to be placed with the Export Trade Controller prevented exporters taking advantage of this additional quantity. In the meantime a deputation of the South Indian Cardamom Planters' Association approached the Government of India who agreed to allot this 250 tons direct to growers. The Association passed a resolution at the Budget Meeting expressing strong opposition to the conditions that export permits should be restricted to growers and non-transferable, as the vast majority of growers was not in a position to negotiate foreign exports. In spite of the U.P.A.S.I. attitude, Government reserved 150 tons of export rights to the S.I.C.P.A. and 100 tons to the U.P.A.S.I. to be allotted to growers on condition that the growers negotiated exports directly themselves. Only about half the quantity allotted to growers was taken up by applicants through U.P.A.S.I. as the majority felt they were not in a position to fulfil the conditions imposed by Government. No information has been received as to the operations of the S.I.C.P.A. in this matter. The U.P.A.S.I. has continued to press that this method of handling the question of cardamom exports was unsatisfactory and not calculated to give the relief to the industry which was the main purpose of pressing for increased exports.

16. **Future of the Cardamom Industry.**—Associated with the marketing difficulties of the past year, proposals have been made that some form of cardamom marketing board should be formed. This suggestion was put forward by the S.I.C.P.A. in their interview with Government and Government agreed to make an enquiry into the marketing system of cardamoms. The Marketing Officer, Mr. V. P. Anantanarayanan, called on the Secretary and a general discussion took place on the present position of the Cardamom industry. The Coffee Section Committee has appointed a cardamom sub-committee to investigate this matter further. There has been some delay in constituting this Committee but it is hoped that an early meeting will be possible to discuss proposals for a Cardamom Marketing Board.

17. **Pyrethrum.**—The small number of members who cultivate pyrethrum in the Nilgiris have met with certain difficulties in connection with payment for supplies of pyrethrum delivered to Government. The matter was taken up with Sir Frederick James and attempts were made to secure some simplification of procedure, but without any conspicuous success.

IVOR BULL, O.B.E. ... Chairman,
N. B. ATHREY
SYLVESTER PAIS
V. M. ASIRVATHAM NADAR } Members.
C. L. J. HUMPHREYS

COONOOR,
July, 1945.

COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION

Income and Expenditure account for the year ended 31st March 1945

EXPENDITURE				RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Establishment—									
Scientific Officer's Salary	...	...	...	5,100	0	0			
Assistant Scientific Officer's Salary	...	...	...	2,020	0	0			
Balehonnur Assistant	...	...	...	1,237	1	0			
Clerk's Salary	...	...	...	510	0	0			
Field Assistant	...	...	...	270	0	0			
							9,137	1	0
Allowances—									
Scientific Officer—Servant allowance	...	...	...	360	0	0			
Dearness	...	...	...	375	0	0			
Assistant Scientific Officer	...	...	...	300	0	0			
Clerk	...	...	...	114	12	0			
Dearness Allowances	...	...	...	901	2	0			
							2,110	14	0
General Expenditure—									
Postage and Stationery	...	...	...	150	12	3			
Library and Periodicals	...	...	...	3	14	0			
Travelling and Touring	...	...	...	1,043	15	0			
Upkeep of Bungalow	...	...	...	231	14	0			
Research Expenditure—Sidapur	...	...	...	1,302	9	2			
Ghattadhulla Bungalow repairs	...	...	...	458	9	0			
Medical Expenses	...	...	...	30	4	6			
							3,221	13	11
Office—									
Insurance	...	...	...	35	3	0			
Depreciation	...	...	...	850	0	0			
							885	3	0
Provident Funds—									
European	...	...	...	510	0	0			
Indian	...	...	...	197	9	0			
							707	9	0
Passage Money Fund—							540	0	0
Excess of income over expenditure transferred to Coffee Scientific Section Fund.							4,064	3	4
							20,666	12	3
INCOME				RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Coffee Product Cess	...	...	...	8,049	12	3			
Less written off	...	...	...	46	9	0			
							8,003	3	3
Share of Madras Government Contribution	...	...	...				9,625	0	0
Coorg Government Contribution	...	...	...				3,000	0	0
Sale of Publications	...	...	...				38	9	0
							20,666	12	3

COFFEE SECTION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of the Ninth Annual General Meeting of the Coffee Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India held at 'Glenview', on Thursday the 16th August, 1945, commencing at 9-30 a.m.

The following members were present:—

MESSRS. IVOR BULL, O.B.E. (Chairman), N. B. ATHREY, V. M. ASIRVATHAM NADAR, C.L.J. HUMPHREYS (Members), F. H. FARMER (President), W. W. MAYNE (Secretary and Scientific Officer) and N. A. SUBRAMANIAM (Assistant Secretary).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., per Mr. R. Walker, O.B.E.
APPAYYA, MR. B. M.; APPIAH, MR. M. P.; BALL, MAJOR E. P.; CAMPBELL TRUST; ELK HILL COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; FENNELL, MR. E. A., & LT. COL. H. F. MURLAND; HORODR SYNDICATE LTD.; MACPHERSON, LT. COL. D. I.; MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES LTD.; YOUSUF ALI KHAN, per W/Cdr. J. H. Sprott, O.B.E., D.F.C.

ATHREY, MR. N. B.; RAMANAN, C. S. V., AND OTHERS, per Mr. N. B. Athrey.
BALMADIES PLANTATIONS, LTD.; WATERFALL ESTATES LTD., per Mr. D. C. Kothari.
BLUE MOUNTAIN ESTATES, LTD.; per Mr. C. M. Kothari.
BRUNNER, MRS. C.; CAREY, COMDR. H. F.; CRAWFORD, MR. C. S., AND LT. COL. W. L. CRAWFORD;
CRAWFORD, MR. C. S.; LT. COL. W. L. CRAWFORD AND G. V. R. FREND; ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH JOINT
CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD.; GILBY, MR. E. H.; GILBY, MR. R. A.; LESLIE, MR. A. W.;
HAWKE, MR. L. A.; MALABAR INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.; MATHEW, MR. K. M.; MORRIS, MR. C. W. G.;
MORRIS, MR. A. E. C.; MORRIS, COL. R. C.; O'SULLIVAN, MRS. B. D.; RYLE, MAJOR C. D.; SHORT
BROS. LTD.; SHORT, MRS. M. S. R.; SMITH, MR. S. A.; THOMAS, MR. M. A.; per Mr. F. H. Farmer.
CAMERON, MR. H. S.; CEYLON LAND AND PRODUCE CO., LTD.; per Mr. J. F. Smail.
CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD.; COORG CINCHONA ESTATES; TIPPING, MRS. K., per Mr. Ivor
Bull, O.B.E.
FRINGFORD ESTATES, LTD.; KALPETTA ESTATES, LTD.; per Mr. P. K. Nair.
HUMPHREYS, MRS. C. L. J.; MORGAN, MR. J. S. H.; NARAYANA SETTY, MR. D., per Mr. C. L. J.
Humphreys.
HUNT, MR. E. P.; LAKE, MR. R. C.; MORGAN COFFEE CO., LTD.; PORTER, HALL & CO.; TRAVERS-DRAPE, MR. V. L., per Mr. S. H. Dennis.
KYLASAM PILLAY, MR. T. A., per Sir Frederick James, O.B.E., M.L.A.
MOORE, MR. R. J. A.; POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD.; per Mr. J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E.
NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES LTD.; NEELIAMPATHY TEA AND PRODUCE CO., LTD.; SHEVAROV ESTATES LTD., per Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
PERIASAMY NADAR, MR. M. S.
SOGATHORAI NILGIRI TEA ESTATES LTD., per Mr. J. Yesuthasan.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ANAMALLAIS, per Mr. G. Stevens.
ASSOCIATION OF PLANTERS OF TRAVANCORE, per Mr. A. V. Thomas
COORG, per Wing Commander J. H. Sprott, O.B.E., D.F.C.
KANAN DEVANS, per Mr. W. P. Laird.
MYSORE, per Mr. S. H. Dennis.
NEELIAMPATHIES, per Mr. H. C. Schofield.
NILGIRIS, per Mr. E. J. C. Hill.

FIRM MEMBERS

ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., per Mr. F. H. Farmer.
SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTATIONS AGENCY LTD., per Mr. J. F. Smail.
THOMAS & CO., LTD., A. V., per Mr. A. V. Thomas.

VISITORS

DIWAN BAHADUR M. V. VELLODI, Controller of Coffee, and Messrs. R. F. C. Hill and M. S. P. Rajes.
Mr. Ivor Bull, O.B.E., the Chairman, took the chair at 9.30 a. m.

The Chairman.—I will now ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman.—The next item on the agenda, Gentlemen, is confirmation of the proceedings of the General Meeting held on 28th March 1945. These were published at page 138 of the *Planters' Chronicle* is dated the 1st May, 1945. May I take it that the proceedings are confirmed?

The proceedings were confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Chairman.—The third item on the agenda is my address.
Gentleman, I have to begin with a request to the U.P.A.S.I. that in future the Coffee Section, instead of always having the early sitting in the day, should, in alternate years, hold their meeting after that of the

Section. Our Annual Meeting takes place today under conditions which seemed impossible a year ago. The world at peace is indeed a wonderful place to be living in, but if we are to achieve our proper place in the changing world and if we are to play our proper part in ensuring that these changes are of a beneficial nature, there is little doubt that the demands of the immediate future will be as great as our ingenuity and our perseverance can meet. To win through these difficult early peace years as the war years have been, all our efforts will be devoted to making sure that these changes help us and do not harm us.

The past season is one which will be looked back on in very different ways by coffee growers, according to the districts in which they live. For many it was one of the worst years on record and most of the grove in the Nilgiris and the Shevaroy must have suffered very heavy losses. In other parts of South India particularly in North Coorg, where one of the best crops for many years was harvested, the conditions were naturally somewhat different. The average of the failures in the Nilgiris and Shevaroy and the better crop elsewhere appear to have resulted in a crop of almost exactly the same size as last season's crop.

Throughout the year on the estates, labour has been very short. In Mysore State in particular labour conditions have been very difficult indeed, very largely due to the serious food position in the plant districts of that State. Even the foodgrains available were for the most part of a type that the labour was accustomed to and as a result a good deal of Mysore labour left the Mysore estates and went to adjoining districts. We believe that this year the food position in Mysore State is a happier one and we hope that our Mysore friends this year will be able to give their labourers what they require to eat if they are going to do proper work. The result of that shortage of labour must have been noticed by everyone and that is that many estates are now a very bad condition and it will take a number of years, given full labour, before they can be reconditioned.

The price of coffee was lowered by the Central Government for 1944-45 by approximately five six rupees a cwt. and the return to the grower now approximates to the return he received in the years

mediately preceding the depression. South India received a visit from an Accountant from Delhi, who was here for five days only. I cannot tell you to what extent his report was used in the fixing of coffee prices for the season which just passed, but this cursory treatment of a problem which affects the livelihood of so many people and so many districts throughout South India aroused the greatest resentment in planting circles. This year a very much more careful survey is going to be taken. The Indian Coffee Board have appointed a committee of their own to enquire into the cost of production of coffee and to prepare a case from the growers' point of view. They are receiving the assistance of many of the chief coffee planting companies in the South and they are using Messrs. Fraser & Ross to analyse the figures and draw up their report. This procedure, I believe, will receive the willing assent of the officer who is coming down. Everything has been arranged this year, so that the task will be carried out in a more leisurely way, which should not leave future cause for complaint. The officer from the Central Government can be assured of the fullest co-operation from all planters and planting companies, for we have no secrets to hide.

Costs of production have risen steadily throughout the year, due mainly to higher wages and a continued rise in the price of grains which was reflected in the very substantial losses suffered by some of the estates who issue grains to their labourers.

The costing of a fluctuating fruit crop presents considerable difficulties, and apart from this profits shown by estate accounts in the last few years have very often been profits earned at the expense of the future. As already indicated, there is an accumulation of work everywhere to be done as soon as labour is available. A procedure of grass knifing and gathering crops may result in book profits for a few years, but after that period, the estate itself has disappeared.

The marketing of our crop has again been carried out by the Indian Coffee Board. Owing to the increased demand of the Supply Department of the Government of India, the better grades of parchment coffee have been in short supply throughout the season, and black marketing of these grades has been rampant. This has put growers in a very invidious position. They are criticised because of the high price of coffee, which consumers have to pay, whereas as far as they are concerned it is being released on the market at a reasonable rate. Much conscientious and ingenious work has been put into this problem by the Coffee Controller, Dewan Bahadur M. V. Vellodi, whom we welcome here today (*Applause*); but there exists a very strong feeling that the Administrations concerned have more or less blinked at the position. It is impossible to break the black market unless proved cases of abuse receive the most drastic penalties. I think this meeting of growers approves of this statement. (*Hear, Hear.*)

We are fortunate indeed to have a Controller of the calibre of Dewan Bahadur M. V. Vellodi in charge of our affairs in these difficult days. He has made the successful working of Coffee Control a personal affair, and I would urge those who find themselves faced with problems, not to hesitate to communicate directly with him. They are certain to receive a thoughtful and considered reply. (*Hear, Hear.*)

Now that the war with Japan is over, our Coffee Market Expansion Act, which has controlled the marketing of our coffee, will lapse as on 30th June, 1947. We now know the date. Unless new legislation is introduced it would seem that an extension of the present Act will be necessary for four or five months to complete the marketing of the crop concerned, for there will obviously be a large quantity of coffee unsold on the 30th June. This problem and the more important one regarding the future marketing of our crop has received the attention of your Committee this year. Whatever the future may hold, it is difficult to believe that any considerable body of planting opinion will be found which is in favour of throwing overboard the co-operative methods of marketing which have been employed so successfully for handling our crops during the war years. Memories are proverbially short, but they would have to be short indeed to forget the years 1930 to 1940, when so many estates had to be abandoned and so many coffee planters were ruined. District Associations have been circulated to find out what alterations they consider are necessary to adjust the present marketing proposals to post-war conditions. Replies to this circular which was sent out have been received. They are unanimous in one thing and that is that all desire the continuation of regulated marketing of coffee after the war. A resolution covering this view will be moved later on at this meeting. Most replies relate to procedure rather than to innovations and assume that any new legislation will be closely related to the Indian Coffee Market Expansion Act.

One Association has suggested that this should be done on a voluntary basis. But personally I have no faith at all in any voluntary marketing scheme but believe that if any stipulated majority of producers are in favour of regulated marketing, the minority should be compelled to join the majority. This need has come within my own experience on more than one occasion, but I would like to quote you one of the best known historical cases of this need for compulsion which I extract direct from Mr. C. S. Orwin's 'Speed the Plough'. It concerns hop growing in England. He writes as follows:—

'An outstanding example is provided by the marketing of hops. Hop growing is a small industry, highly localised, and the sale of all hops was carried out by a body of growers' representatives numbering only a dozen or so. Here, surely was an industry which would lead itself to organised marketing, and this was proved to be so during the War of 1914-18, when hops were taken under State control. So successfully was this control organised, that it was continued, at the growers' request, for some five years after the war and when it was finally wound up, growers organised themselves to carry it on voluntarily. But a small minority, less than ten per cent, refused to join this voluntary association for sale, and through them the control organised by the rest of the industry was broken in three short years.

'This unorganised, inefficient, haphazard method of selling all farm produce continued unchanged after the war of 1914-18 and onwards right up to the slump in prices in 1929-30. The inherent weakness and wastefulness of the marketing system were so apparent that when farmers approached the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Addison, for help—and by this they meant the protection of their industry from foreign competition he told them that he could do nothing until they had put their own house in order. To help them in this he carried a bill—the Agricultural Marketing Bill—to make any repetition of the experiences of the hop growers impossible. It provided that a two-thirds majority of the producers of any commodity could set up a co-operative selling organisation, and could compel the dissenting minority to market all their produce through it.

'The hop growers, smarting from their wounds, took advantage of the measure at once. They formed a Hops Marketing Board and compelled the allegiance of every grower.'

It is my earnest hope that a similar Agricultural Marketing Bill will appear on the Statute Book in India within the near future. The question of the type of legislation to replace the Indian Coffee Market Expansion Act will be dealt with by the incoming Coffee Section Committee. Your old Committee sent out a questionnaire and received replies from various sources. These will be recirculated to all interests concerned, leaving ample time for considered replies to be sent in. One common feature of all replies was a desire to return to auctions

as soon as the supply position of coffee permitted such a course, but at present the supply of coffee is quite inadequate. I would prefer not to give you the various replies which have been sent in, but with your permission will pass them on to the new Coffee Section Committee who will have to summarise them and circulate them again to all interests concerned—planters,—planting associations—and once again we will receive comments which we shall then pass on to the concerned authorities. I must however, emphasise the desirability of returning to a system of auctioning coffee as soon as sufficient supplies were available. It should be possible to hold auctions within the framework of a minimum price to safeguard growers, and a maximum price to safeguard consumers.

The big difference, of course, between marketing after the war and marketing at present, is that we shall have to look for our export markets. We have to get coffee out of India and any new proposals which are put forward will have to bear that very strongly in mind. The proposals which your Committee considered bear directly on that point.

If we return to auctions, as I hope we shall, this policy may well provide the answer to the ever increasing production of Robusta Coffee. I personally expect this increase to be continued, for it is a simpler and cheaper coffee to produce than Arabica; its labour needs are less, and as far as the small cultivator is concerned the labour demand comes at a more convenient time, when his paddy harvest is over. This factor by itself makes a great appeal to a grower who has endeavoured unsuccessfully in these years of labour shortage to handle his Arabica crop at the same time. We have also found Robusta accommodating on land where eelworm attacks prevent us from growing Arabica coffee. This is an important reason why we must expect an increase in Robusta. It is the only crop which will grow in certain areas in India. That is, where the soil is suffering from an over-population of eelworm and we cannot grow Arabica, we are forced to plant Robusta. Well-monitored Robusta provides an excellent drink, and in a country like India it may well be an advantage even to the Arabica grower if a cheaper coffee is available to be used for introducing our beverage to the several million industrial workers, to whom coffee is still a stranger. A Robusta drive is part of the Coffee Board's propaganda aims and Rao Sahib M. J. Simon is carrying it out with that energy and careful planning which we have learned to expect from him on whatever he puts his hand to. (*Applause*). One of the main problems of the Indian Coffee Board was the disposal of the Travancore Robusta, which came to us in a very peculiar form and very badly prepared. We are directing propaganda most intensively on Travancore and we are hopeful that we can improve their marketing. To a certain extent their methods of preparation are responsible for this. Travancore may yet become an important country for coffee imports instead of coffee exports.

As regards coffee prices in the future, we must now wait and see the results of the enquiry which is going to take place. We feel that further reductions cannot be justified. In India we cannot adopt the example of those South American Countries, where coffee is a principal export, of depreciating our currency even to a quarter or a fifth of its value. Neither have we the vast areas of Brazil to permit us to abandon land after a quarter or a fifth of its value. Neither have we the vast areas of Brazil to permit us to abandon land after a quarter or a fifth of its value. We have to make the best of what we have got and if we thirty years and to open new areas on virgin jungle. We have to make the best of what we have got and if we are assured of steady prices over a period of years to enable us to plan our production, we should be able to reconstruct and restore much of the damage done during the decade commencing from 1930. I would underline the need for steady prices. After all the factors controlling cost of production have been carefully examined, we would request that prices be fixed for a three or four year period, subject to revision only if costs rise or fall by an agreed percentage. This annual examination of accounts and minor adjustments lead to nothing except trouble. We must be sure of a fair price for 3 or 4 years. I think that is a reasonable request indeed. (*Hear, hear*). We have much to do in the way of improving our estates and buildings, but to carry out this work, we must be placed so that we can plan ahead. The world price for coffee has risen, but in the view of South America, the rise is quite insufficient to meet their own increased production costs. We receive divergent views regarding the present position of world coffee production. Import merchants in London assure us that there is every indication that production has increased. The South American Governments advise exactly the reverse. Further they say that unless the price of coffee can be raised wholesale and onment of estates will, of necessity, take place in South America. Neither party is disinterested, but the countries principally concerned ought to know best, and the information from the Coffee importers I take, as another warning that planters should remain masters in their own houses. (*Hear, hear*).

Pepper.—The commodity has enjoyed a degree of prosperity this year. The prosperity might have been greater still, but for the comparatively obscure methods adopted by Government in making their export purchases. It seems strange to the non-official mind to find the headquarters of a Pepper Purchasing Officer in Delhi, instead of in Malabar. I understand that one result of this is that we now have Delhi pepper merchants—an extravagant and extraordinary sequel! We were advised in the papers at the beginning of this month, that the Government of India had agreed to supply 1,000 tons of pepper to the Allied and friendly Governments, the price being Rs. 75 per cwt. The price in Malabar for many months has been in the nature of Rs. 52 to Rs. 54 per cwt. Allowing for bagging and transport, I still find it difficult to relate these rates with the Government sale prices, and I feel that if the Pepper Purchase Officer were resident in Malabar instead of Delhi, he would make it his business to investigate this very wide difference in values. I do not know from which merchants this Officer eventually makes his purchases, but either Government are making a profit to which they are not entitled, or they are placing certain merchants in a very privileged position at the expense of the pepper producers.

Cardamoms.—Cardamoms have been the Cinderella of the plantation crops, and the depression in this industry is causing many of the smaller growers to abandon their holdings. It is difficult to understand why the position of cardamom growers has been neglected for so long by the Central Government. Our leech-ridden jungles in the Western Ghats lie a long way off from Delhi, and visitors do not often come that way. Nevertheless the precarious position of these growers has been made known time and again, and it represents possibly the only article now for sale in India at rates which would have been depression rates before the war. In these isolated districts cardamoms are often the only money crop, and with rising costs of everything and in particular labour, the smaller man has often had no alternative but to give up his holding.

The reason for this market collapse is undoubtedly the extraordinary arrangements made by the Central Government for exports. As far as neutral countries are concerned, these were based on the average exports to those countries in 1941-42, to merchants who exported in that year, and to the volume of their exports. I now understand that in that year of crisis only one merchant succeeded in exporting cardamoms and even his exports were inconsiderable, so that our volume of exports had to pass through this one limited bottleneck.

We addressed the Central Government again in July and asked them to rectify this position and grant export quotas to all merchants who shipped cardamoms in the three pre-war years based on their actual exports.

It is with great relief that we heard a few days ago that, assisted by the very active intervention of Sir Frederick James, this request has been granted, and to the extent of a thousand tons. (*Applause*). This should provide a real relief to the industry. It will be difficult to place that quantity with the neutral countries.

A cardamom Sub-Committee of our Section has now been appointed to watch the interests of cardamom growers. There would seem ample room for the formation of a Cardamom Marketing Board on the lines of the Indian Coffee Board and a resolution recommending this will be placed before this meeting later on. I believe that these proposals will receive the consent of the vast majority of cardamom growers who would look to Co-operative Marketing to provide a solution of the difficulties which have well-nigh overwhelmed them. There can be no question at all that the marketing of cardamoms has to be rationalised so that we may even out the violent price fluctuations which now take place. This will obviate the necessity of people having to go to Delhi, possibly coming back with small concessions of little value.

We sincerely trust that if any steps are taken in this direction, they will be taken in consultation with our Association. There are major differences between the position of Indian Cardamoms and Indian Coffee *vis a vis* the world's markets, which require recognition, and a scheme suitable for one commodity would require basic alteration for the other. Co-operative marketing requires controls, but if these are thoughtfully designed and applied, and used to even out the see-saws of trade, they must in the end benefit the consumer as well as the producer.

All the trends to-day are for planning of production and marketing. The recent election in the United Kingdom provides the clearest of pointers to this. If depressions are removed, we must also expect peak prices to disappear, but there would still be left ample field of reward for the ingenious and hardworking producer, who would be able to design and carry out his own Five Year Development plans.

As Chairman of the Section which covers several commodities I have found it very puzzling to know exactly which Department to deal with when problems arise. At present coffee is covered by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, pepper by the Food Department, Cardamoms by both Commerce and Food Departments, Cinchona by Education, Health and Lands. We hope that, when the reorganisation of the Government of India is carried out, which must take place in the near future, consideration will be given to grouping of all these agricultural products under a separate Department of Agriculture.

Cinchona.—In 1941-42 distress signals came from Delhi regarding the quinine position, but since then their interest appears to have died down and the intentions of Government whether to foster or ignore this industry are as obscure now as they were before the painful lessons of 1941-42. We hope that in the near future Government will make a clear declaration of their policy regarding cinchona. (*Loud Applause*).

ANNUAL REPORT, 1944-45

The Chairman.—The next item is to consider the Report of the Committee for the year 1944-45. Has any member any questions to ask or remarks to make on the report? If not, I move from the chair:—

“That the report of the coffee section Committee for the year 1944-45, which has been circulated to all members, be adopted”.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION

The Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is the consideration of the Administration Report and the Accounts of the Coffee Scientific Departments for the year 1944-45. We have not received printed copies of the report. I will ask Mr. Mayne to speak to you on this subject.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—Gentlemen, I must once again apologise for not presenting you with copies of the report. I may say that the Coffee Scientific Department Report was the first that I wrote. As in the past years this is printed and published by the Government of Mysore and there has been some delay in getting copies.

The report follows the same general lines as in previous years and covers very much the same subjects and the same ground. I do not propose at the moment to go into detail on the subjects dealt with in the report, but I would like to mention just one piece of work, which we have undertaken—the improvement of the Robusta crop by selection. We have now harvested the crop individually from about 2,000 trees in South Coorg in 5 years. Two years ago we selected 12 trees out of the 2,000 trees which were above normal productive capacity. Last year, 1944-45, in the area in question, was one of the worst years for Robusta. Hence the crop was very small indeed but it is of some interest to know that out of the 12 trees selected two years ago, 5 of them gave more than 4 times the field average under the highly unfavourable conditions of the year and only two fell below the field average. Over a period of five years the 12 selected trees have given a crop at the rate of about 14 cwt., per acre. Out of these 5 years yield, three years were marked by poor crops and one of them was definitely a disastrous year for Robusta. It is quite clear from the work so far done that there is ample scope for improvement in this crop with a consequent advantage to the small grower to which the Chairman referred. I think the work in due course will bear excellent fruit. We have now made the first plantings of seedlings from seed of the selected trees and I think Mr. Bull will bear me out that some of these plantings are very promising Robusta plants indeed. In this connection I must express my very great thanks to Mr. Bull and also to Mr. Humphreys and Mr. Sprott for the co-operative experiments we have been able to conduct in Coorg. I think the relations existing between the scientific staff and planters in Coorg are a lesson not only to coffee but to all plantations crops. We have been able to lay down a series of co-operative experiments which I am sure are going to be of the utmost value during the next five years. The Section owes a debt to these gentlemen for placing the labour required at the disposal of the Scientific Department during times when it has been very difficult to supervise large areas with very few superintendents and when labour conditions were far below normal. I trust that the Report will be in your hands in a very short time and I think you will find some points of interest in it.

The Chairman.—I thank you very much, Mr. Mayne, for your interesting address. Has any gentleman anything to ask of the Scientific Section Accounts? If not, I will move from the chair:—

“That the Account of the Coffee Scientific Section for the year 1944-45 be passed”.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is the election of the Coffee Section Committee for the year 1945-46. The following nominations have been received:—

Mysore State	...	...	...	...	Mr. S. H. Dennis
Coorg	...	...	...	...	W/Cdr. J. H. Sprott, O. B. E., D. F. C.
Madras Presidency, Travancore and Cochin	...	...	...	...	Mr. N. B. Athrey
General Seats	...	...	...	...	1. Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar
					2. Mr. D. C. Kothari

We have received as many nominations as the number of seats. I would, therefore, propose that the above be elected as the Committee for the year 1945-46.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

CARDAMOMS

The Chairman.—Under the heading ‘Any Other Business’ there are 3 resolutions which, with your permission I propose to move. The last of these relates to marketing of coffee. It is the result of the generally expressed opinion of all replies which have been received. The first two resolutions relate to the marketing of cardamoms. The resolutions regarding cardamoms had been put forward by the Cardamom Sub-Committee, through the Coffee Section Committee, for consideration at this General Meeting. Can I have your permission to move these resolutions gentlemen?

The first of these resolutions reads as follows:—

“That this Association places on record its appreciation of the action of the Central Government in relaxing the restrictions on the export of Cardamoms but in its opinion the only means of achieving a permanent improvement in the cardamom industry in South India which is at present in a disastrous condition is to establish a Board to regulate the marketing of Cardamoms on lines similar to those of the Indian Coffee Board”.

If any gentlemen wishes to discuss this resolution, he is welcome.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Chairman.—The second resolution is as follows:—

“That the Central Government be requested kindly to convene at the earliest date possible a Conference of the representatives of Cardamom growers, traders and shippers and of the Governments concerned (Namely the Governments of India, Mysore, Madras, Travancore, Cochin and Coorg) to evolve proposals for the longterm regulation of the marketing of South Indian Cardamoms”.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

FUTURE ORGANISATION OF THE COFFEE INDUSTRY

The Chairman.—The third resolution concerns coffee and reads as follows:—

“That this meeting is in favour of a regulated system of marketing of South Indian coffee in the post-war period, and suggests that, in view of the fact that the Indian Coffee Market Expansion Act of 1942 will expire in June 1947, steps be taken by the Government of India to convene, as early as possible, a conference of all interests concerned to discuss and decide on the nature of the organisation and legislation required to achieve this end”.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—May I, Sir, request your permission to put forward an amendment. I cannot understand the necessity for the words, ‘and legislation required to achieve this end’. It is not necessary at this stage, Sir, to request Government to have legislation for this. It is quite alright to ask Government to discuss and decide on the organisation. It is quite possible, Sir, that the Committee may be asked to decide about this matter. May I request that we could have a voluntary organisation run with the co-operation of the Government. In such a case, Sir, I think that legislation is not necessary. I move an amendment that the last words ‘and legislation required to achieve this end’ may be dropped from the resolution.

The Chairman.—Thank you Mr. Kothari. Actually a good deal of thought has been given to this resolution. It was put in this form quite deliberately and the example which I gave you of the HOP growers is sufficient to prove that a very small minority can make a voluntary organisation collapse. That was the reason why the HOP growers had recourse to legislation. Another experience in this connection is provided by the Dried Fruits Association in Australia. Before the last war they had a voluntary organisation, which eventually collapsed through lack of co-operation from a minority, and Government had to assist them to make good the tremendous amount of loss incurred.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—We do not know what the future Government will be like. It is quite possible that if we undertake legislation now a future Government may feel that this was carried through the interests of certain individuals. As far as the minority is concerned I would suggest that the minority can be told by the Legislature of the country that they cannot dictate to the majority. I feel, Sir, that Government's views can be reasonably made known in the interests of the industry and the industry can take decisions in spite of the minority. So, in view of that, don't you think it will be in our interest to have the above words deleted?

The Chairman.—I personally am against Mr. Kothari's views. We can find the opinion of the house.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—If you believe the meeting is against my moving an amendment, I am prepared to withdraw.

The Chairman.—If you move the amendment, will anybody second it?

Sir Frederick James.—May I suggest, Sir, it will meet the point if, after the words ‘Legislation required’, the words ‘if any’ are inserted. I know there are some people who would like to achieve this end without legislation if possible. I doubt whether it is possible, but there is no objection to putting in the words ‘if any’.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—I agree with Sir Frederick James.

Mr. E. H. Stanes.—As regards the words ‘as early as possible’, will it not be better to specify the time and urge the Government of India accordingly. Possibly Sir Frederick James can advise us. How long

will 'as early as possible' mean? I think it will not be less than six months after the return of peace time conditions before we have any meeting. I should interpret 'as early as possible' as not less than six months.

Sir Frederick James.—The interpretation of "as early as possible" can have a variety of meanings. I do not think it would suit the Government of India to have a conference of this nature until some time next year. The Act does not expire before June 1947.

The Chairman.—Will this meet with your approval Mr. Stanes, by substituting the words 'in adequate time' instead of 'as early as possible'.

Messrs. Stanes and Kothari agreeing, the Chairman read the amended resolution:

"That this meeting is in favour of a regulated system of marketing of South Indian Coffee in the post-war period, and suggests that, in view of the fact that the Indian Coffee Market Expansion Act of 1942 will expire in June 1947, steps be taken by the Government of India to convene in adequate time a conference of all interests concerned to discuss and decide on the nature of the organisation and legislation required, if any, to achieve this end".

Mr. N. B. Athrey.—I suggest that the word 'timely' be added after the words 'June 1947' to read 'timely steps be taken by the Government of India.....'.

The Chairman.—I have no objection to it Mr. Athrey. (Pointing to Sir Frederick James) Do you think that the resolution will be affected if we satisfy Mr. Athrey? One suggestion is that 'timely steps be taken' and the other is 'to convene in adequate time a conference.....' Have you any opinion in the matter?

Sir Frederick James.—I have no opinion.

The Chairman read the resolution with the above alterations.

Sir Frederick James.—May I suggest the substitution of 'suggests' by 'requests'. It is a definite request.

The Chairman.—Does the resolution now meet with the approval of this meeting?

The resolution as finally amended reads as follows:

"That this meeting is in favour of a regulated system of marketing of South Indian Coffee in the post-war period, and requests that, in view of the fact that the Indian Coffee Market Expansion Act of 1942 will expire in June 1947, timely steps be taken by the Government of India to convene a conference of all interests concerned to discuss and decide on the nature of the organisation and legislation required, if any, to achieve this end".

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Chairman.—Before this meeting disperses I want to advise members of the new Coffee Section Committee that they will meet immediately to elect a new Chairman.

Dewan Bahadur M. V. Vellodi.—I wish to thank you for asking me to come here. I have a very small announcement to make. The value per point that may be expected on the 1944-45 crop would be Rs. 1-2-0. The actual value can, as you know, be settled only after the entire crop has been sold.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.—Before we disperse, I have great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Bull. I have sat under him at the U.P.A.S.I. Coffee Section and Indian Coffee Board meetings and know the hard work he has done and the time he has spent on our behalf and coffee industry in general. I remember saying, when he was urging the introduction of coffee control a few years ago, that we should be grateful to him for introducing the control. That statement holds good to-day. (Hear, Hear, Applause).

The Chairman.—I now declare the meeting closed.

U.P.A.S.I. RUBBER SECTION

REPORT OF THE RUBBER SECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1944-45.

1. **Membership.**—The subscribing rubber acreage rose from 54,556 acres on 1st April 1944 to 55,861 acres on 31st March 1945, i.e., by 1,305 acres. The total subscribing members rose from 55 to 59 during the year.

2. **Meetings.**—The Annual General Meeting was held at Cochin on 29th July, 1944. Since the last report the Rubber Section Committee has held three meetings at Cochin.

3. **The Committee.**—The following were elected members of the Rubber Section Committee at the Annual General Meeting in July, 1944:—Messrs. F. G. Wallace, H. B. Macpherson, E. Lefevre, H. R. Carson Parker and L. J. T. Polgreen. Mr. K. Sreenivasan was co-opted as a member. Mr. F. G. Wallace was elected Chairman of the Committee and representative of the Section on the Executive Committee of the Association. Messrs. F. G. Wallace and L. J. T. Polgreen resigned from the Committee on their impending departure on Home leave. Mr. E. Lefevre was elected Chairman of the Committee on 20th April, 1945, and Mr. H. B. Macpherson as representative of the Section on the Executive Committee. Lt.-Col. J. A. Davidson and Mr. W. Jefferies were co-opted as members in the vacancies caused by the resignations of Messrs. Wallace and Polgreen.

4. **Product Cess.**—No cess was collected during the year and no expenditure incurred. The balance at credit in the Rubber Section Reserve is Rs. 666-7-0.

5. **Indian Rubber Production Board.**—Mr. L. J. T. Polgreen continued to be the U.P.A.S.I. representative on the Indian Rubber Production Board till his departure on Home leave, when his place was taken by Mr. E. Lefevre. On the death of Mr. R. Lescher, O.B.E., who represented the Madras Government, Mr. F. G. Wallace was nominated by Government to that vacancy. On Mr. Wallace's departure from India, Lt. Col. J. A. Davidson was appointed by Government as their nominee on the Indian Rubber Production Board.

6. **Compensation Scheme for Intensified Tapping.**—The response to this Scheme was so small that it was tacitly abandoned.

7. **Production Bonus Scheme.**—The Rubber Production Bonus Scheme continued throughout the year under review. The bonuses as paid upto the time of writing were:

10th April 1944 to 31st July 1944	...	Rs. 11-1-9 per 100 lbs.
1st August 1944 to 30th September, 1944	...	Nil.
1st October 1944 to 31st December 1944	...	Rs. 11-1-9 per 100 lbs.
1st January 1945 to 31st March 1945	...	Rs. 33-5-3 "
1st April 1945 to 30th June 1945	...	Rs. 33-5-3 "

Government announced towards the end of the year under report that they did not propose to continue the Production Bonus Scheme and were substituting a flat rate of Re. 1 per lb. for Group I rubber packed and delivered R.P.O.'s godown. The Committee were of the opinion that this was not adequate and proposed that the price be fixed equivalent to the f.o.b. price now granted to Ceylon.

8. **International Rubber Regulation Agreement.**—Very little news has been received of future developments with regard to the regulation of the rubber industry in future. It has been reported in the press that a Rubber Study Group has been set up and that it met in Washington in January 1945. An official statement resulting from these discussions dealt with the future world productive capacity of natural and synthetic rubbers. It was estimated that production of plantation rubber could reach about 1½ million tons in 3 or 4 years after liberation of the Far Eastern territories and that the world productive capacity of synthetic rubber was in the region of 1½ million tons. Consumption was considered under normal conditions not to exceed 1½ million tons. The Study Group is to act only in an advisory capacity and the results of its discussions will be made available to the Governments interested in production.

9. **Future of the Indian Rubber Production Board.**—The Committee considered a proposal that the industry should seek Government's agreement to the constitution of a Board with statutory powers to function as representative of producers when the Indian Rubber Production Board ceases to exist. The question was referred to all members of the Association and views were somewhat divided, but the majority felt that it was premature to make any commitment to the establishment of such a Board with undefined powers. A member of this Committee continues to hold membership of the Ad Hoc Committee on post-war legislation relative to rubber appointed by the Indian Rubber Production Board.

10. **Food Situation in Travancore and Cochin.**—The position has eased considerably during the year, although food grain prices to estates have been high. The deterioration in the food position in Malabar led to the introduction of district-wide rationing on a card system during the year. The system was modified somewhat for estate labour and has apparently worked satisfactorily.

11. **Staff and Labour.**—The labour position has continued to give cause for concern during the year, the shortage of tappers being particularly serious.

12. **Malaria.**—A serious outbreak of malaria occurred in parts of Travancore towards the end of the year, which necessitated a request to Government for further supplies of anti-malarial drugs. This request was met as supplies of synthetic and anti-malarial drugs have fortunately been abundant.

E. LEFEVRE	... Chairman.
H. B. MACPHERSON	} Members.
Lt.-COL. J. A. DAVIDSON	
W. JEFFERIES	
H. R. CARSON PARKER	
K. SREENIVASAN	

COONOR, }
July, 1945 }

RUBBER SECTION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Ninth Annual General Meeting of the Rubber Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, opened at 11-15 a.m., on Saturday, 28th July 1945, at the Cochin Chamber of Commerce, Cochin.

The following were present:—

MESSRS. E. LEFEVRE (*Chairman*), H. R. CARSON PARKER, W. JEFFERIES, H. B. MACPHERSON, K. SRINIVASAN and LT.-COL. J. A. DAVIDSON (*Members*) and Mr. W. W. MAYNE, B.Sc. (*Secretary*).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE RUBBER CO., LTD.; MURPHY ESTATES LTD.; PULLANGODE RUBBER and PRODUCE CO. LTD.; TRAVANCORE RUBBER and TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. Lefevre.
COCHIN MALABAR ESTATES LTD.; KERALA CALICUT ESTATES LTD.; SAMPAJI RUBBER CO., LTD.; THIRUMBADI RUBBER CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. W. Jefferies.
KALPETTA ESTATES LTD.; MIDLAND RUBBER and PRODUCE CO., LTD., NELLIAMPATHY TEA and PRODUCE CO., LTD.; RAJAGIRI RUBBER and PRODUCE CO. LTD., *per* Mr. K. Srinivasan.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD.; VAIKUNDAM CO., LTD., *per* Mr. H. R. Carson Parker.
STAGBROOK RUBBER and TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. H. B. Macpherson.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

MUNDAKAYAM, *per* Mr. H. B. Macpherson.

FIRM MEMBERS

ASPINWALL and Co., LTD., *per* Mr. W. Grant.
HARRISONS and CROSFIELD LTD., *per* Mr. H. R. Carson Parker.

VISITOR

Mr. P. Kurian John.

Mr. E. Lefevre, Chairman of the Rubber Section Committee, presided.

NOTICE CALLING THE MEETING.

The Chairman.—I will ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.
The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman.—The first item on the agenda is the confirmation of the proceedings of the last meeting held on 29th July, 1944. These have been published in the Association's Year Book, 1944. Everybody will have seen them. May I take them as read and confirmed?

The Proceedings were confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Chairman, Mr. E. Lefevre, then delivered the following address:—

Gentlemen, before proceeding to the official business of the meeting I would refer to the loss which the U.P.A.S.I. and this Section of it in particular, and the rubber-growing industry generally has suffered in the death of Mr. Robin Lescher, O.B.E., early this year. The late Mr. Lescher was known to all of us as a man of great personality and charm, and personal recollections of our acquaintance with him will remain so vivid that we may even be in danger of forgetting the services he rendered to the rubber industry in a long and distinguished career, during which he served as a Member of the Committee of this Section of the U.P.A.S.I., of the Rubber Licensing Committee, and as Government of Madras representative on the Indian Rubber Production Board and its Marketing and Production Committee. The leading position which he automatically attained was recognised by his election some years ago to the position of President of the U.P.A.S.I. It is fitting that on this occasion of a meeting of the profession in which he achieved such distinction, we should pay tribute to his memory in the usual manner. I would also refer to the death during the year of Mr. W. Gillespie, a long standing member of this Section.

I am privileged to preside at this meeting only on account of the departure of Mr. F. G. Wallace on Home leave, and similarly I represent the section on the Indian Rubber Production Board and its Production and Marketing Committee by reason of the Home leave of Mr. L. J. T. Polgreen. For the major portion of the year under review these gentlemen looked after your interests in their respective posts with their recognised ability and unremitting attention, for which we owe them our thanks. We hope that they are now enjoying to the full their holidays at home.

The Report of the Section Committee has been in your hands for the requisite period and reminds you of the principal events in the rubber history of the year.

The intensive tapping compensation scheme died a natural death some time ago, and was replaced by the Bonus Price Scheme. This Scheme has also now passed. It suffered from many defects and the fact that these were overcome and that in due time the industry did achieve the maximum bonus possible thereunder was in no small part due to the part played by the Rubber Production Commissioner, Mr. Kurian John, whose intervention with dealers at the end of the October-December 1944 quarter was directly responsible for the abandonment by dealers of a full policy of "bull" profits which the bonus scheme offered them.

Now we have a schedule of prices in force based upon Re. 1/- per lb. for Group I rubber, which we are told is considered a high enough price to ensure the maximum production effort by producers. The Indian Rubber Production Board requested Government to pay in India for packed R.P.O. go-down delivery the equivalent of Ceylon f.o.b. prices, to leave unaltered the grading to which we have become accustomed, and to give us 1 year of fixed prices as Ceylon has been granted. It is to be admitted that at this level of price there is a satisfactory return on rubber growing and a few cents one way or the other does not alter this position. It is therefore to be regretted that Government has not afforded the Indian producer the satisfaction of income equal to that which the U.K. Ministry of Supply offers the Ceylon grower. Government correctly denies any liability to follow Ceylon, but gives cause for a feeling of dissatisfaction in that Ceylon is followed in the only feature which disadvantageously affects us, the introduction of the present Ceylon grading and price differentials, which are less favourable than those current here till 30th June of this year.

An even more unsatisfactory matter is the failure to fix a satisfactory period, such as one year, for which present prices will remain in force. At present they are in force only till further notice. Accurate knowledge of income for a reasonable period would be a natural advantage to any industry which works on an expenditure budgetted annually, but in a time such as the present, when the future of industries is the subject of discussions seeking to meet post-war problems, it would be a great advantage to have a known period within which progress in these discussions could be sought without the possibility of price changes forcing upon the industry hurried policy decisions.

So far, all discussions on future rubber policy in India have had their origin in the suggestion that a statutory body should be constituted to take over limited but undefined functions from the Rubber Production Board. Last year's Annual Meeting of this Section found opinion on this subject divided and decided to refer to all members of the section for considered views. These were obtained during the latter part of the year, and the majority opinion, including that of the South Indian Association in London was against constitution of a statutory Board.

There the matter has rested, but there remains a body of opinion whose views were voiced at our last meeting, that the basis of post-war rubber policy should be co-ordination of the interests of growers and manufacturers.

During the year under review, the U.P.A.S.I. was furnished by the Tyre Manufacturers' Association with a copy of the representation dated 28th September last to the Commerce Department of the Government of India that they should be able to rely on Government for any support which may be necessitated by post-war competition. A cordial attitude towards the interests of rubber growers is shown in their reference to the rubber-growing industry and rubber prices which I quote "On the question of post-war raw rubber prices recent indications that have appeared in the press of Government's undertaking to the rubber planting industry give the impression that at least a semi official assurance has been given to the planters by Government that they can count on world market rates for their produce after the war. If this is correct, the Tyre Industry would welcome any step designed to keep the local planting industry in a flourishing condition and is all in favour of the planters getting the best possible price. Not only has the industry no desire to see raw rubber prices forced down to an uneconomic level, but it believes that if the planters are assured of a fair and reasonable price for their product, this, in conjunction with the high scale of wages generally paid by Indian manufacturers in their factories, will contribute in no small way to the efforts of the Indian Government to raise the standard of living."

It is stated that the Rubber Control and Production Order will expire six months after the cessation of hostilities. War in Europe is now over and the intensification of the campaign against Japan raises hopes that

that war will not be overlong. After I have moved the adoption of the Report of the Committee I would like the meeting to record its opinion as to whether the time has not come for this Association, possibly with the co-operation of the Rubber Growers' Association of Travancore, to get into contact with the Rubber Manufacturers' Association and discuss distribution and marketing problems which will arise when present control ceases and what Government assistance if any each may seek without prejudice to the interests of the other. Under the present control scheme producers have had one great advantage, namely the ability to market their crops as ready throughout the year.

At a recent meeting of the Rubber Production Board the Rubber Controller envisaged a post-war period in which Indian manufacturers will be capable of using the whole Indian crop, possibly followed by a period in which Indian demand declines to something in excess of prewar consumption, but less than the whole crop. It appears to me that postwar internal trading in rubber should be developed on the basis of Indian manufacturers remaining in the market for maximum possible consumption of Indian rubber and growers readily meeting such demand throughout the year, as it is only by such procedure that manufacturers and growers can take full advantage of the position of India being both grower and consumer.

There is one other point to which I would refer, and that is synthetic rubber manufactures in India. I have no information of any definite projects for its manufacture but references have been made to this possibility. If recently mentioned figures of rubber consumption are reasonable, there appears to be little room for any early development of synthetic manufacture in India which would not seriously affect our industry, or which would itself have an output of economic proportions. The trend of events is generally to seek industrial development which will provide employment for labour, but a synthetic rubber industry here might employ hundreds only, to the ultimate detriment of thousands of plantation labourers. I hope that such a development will not be encouraged without full consideration of its possible reactions on our nationally important South Indian Agricultural industry.

I have not referred to labour problems, a question which is at present engaging the attention of the U. P. A. S. I. Executive. I will later ask Mr. Mayne to say a few words on this subject.

Finally I know that Mr. Wallace would wish his thanks to Committee Members for their assistance to him during his term of office as Chairman to be recorded at this meeting. For their assistance during the brief period of my holding this Office, I tender my own thanks.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1944-45

The Chairman.—If no members have any query or comment to make on the Report of the Committee as presented, I now move

"That the report of the Rubber Section Committee for the year 1944-45 be adopted."

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

Secretary.—I have received three nominations for the three seats: Cochin and Malabar, Mundakayam and South Travancore. There are three nominations for two General Seats. The nominations are as follows

Cochin and Malabar	...	...	...	...	Lt.-Col. J. A. Davidson
Mundakayam	...	...	...	...	Mr. H. B. Macpherson
South Travancore	...	...	...	...	Mr. H. R. Carson Parker
General Seats	...	...	...	...	1. Mr. W. Jefferies
					2. Mr. E. Lefevre
					3. Mr. K. Srinivasan

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—I will withdraw.

The Chairman.—I think that Mr. Srinivasan, representing a large acreage of rubber, should be on the Committee. I hope you will agree with me that we should co-opt him as a member of the Committee. This can be done at the Committee Meeting immediately after this meeting.

Mr. H. B. Macpherson.—We did the same last year also.

The above-mentioned gentlemen were elected to the Rubber Section Committee for the year 1945-46.

CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN GROWERS AND MANUFACTURERS

The Chairman.—Under the heading 'Any Other Business', I would like to take the opinion of the meeting on my suggestion that an approach should be made to the Tyre Manufacturers' Association, purely as a preliminary alternative to the suggestion which has been turned down, viz., that of statutory control. At the Committee meeting which was held this morning, this question was raised and it was suggested that it should be referred to the General Meeting for opinion whether such an approach might be made, in order to ascertain something of the intentions of the manufacturers.

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—I think this is a useful matter and I am of the opinion that the approach may be made.

Mr. H. B. Macpherson.—I think it will be advisable to approve the draft of the letter to be sent to the Manufacturers' Association.

INDIAN RUBBER PRODUCTION BOARD

The Chairman.—It has been the usual practice at this meeting for the Section representatives on the Indian Rubber Production Board and the Production and Marketing Committee to make a brief reference to what he has done during the year. The major portion of the year is principally covered by Mr. Polgreen's reports which largely deal with the discussions, now past history, relating to the intensive tapping and bonus price schemes. From time to time rubber transport difficulties, chiefly in Travancore inland waters have been overcome with the assistance of the Rubber Board. Rubber thefts have mainly concerned Travancore and the latest position is that special police investigation has been arranged for, and a member of the Board's permanent staff has been specially deputed to co-operate in these investigations. Mr. Kurian John, and the Mundakayar

and South Travancore Committee members will perhaps tell us what their latest experiences in this matter are?

After an exhaustive *in camera* discussion in which all the members present took part, the meeting authorised Mr. Kurian John to take necessary action.

The Chairman.—Reverting to the progress of the business of the Production and Marketing Committee, on the subject of suggested rubber organisation to succeed the Control and Production Order the *Ad Hoc* Committee appointed by the Indian Rubber Production Board to consider this matter, which Committee included Mr. Polgreen, finally recorded the following resolutions.

1. At present this Committee considers the existing restrictions on the marketing of India's production of raw rubber should be removed as soon as may be practicable after the cessation of hostilities.

2. The Committee finds nothing to justify the advocacy now of any post-war statutory body whether on the lines of the Indian Coffee Board or otherwise.

3. Believing in the desirability of producers and manufacturers maintaining contact, the Committee recommends that it should continue in being while the present Indian Rubber Production Board remains in existence, in order to consider any fresh problems that may arise relative to the rubber industry as a whole.

The latest meetings of the Board which I attended dealt fruitlessly with the question of prices and grading as from 1st instant. A suggestion to form a planters' training centre for the production of Managers and Assistants, not for rubber alone, was referred to a Committee which has not yet met. The U.P.A.S.I. has also been addressed by the Board, and the matter will, therefore, be dealt with on behalf of this Section by our Executive Committee Member.

Of much interest to this Section were the Dewan President's statements that the Travancore Government included in its post-war reconstruction schemes a proposal to set up a large tyre making factory, and was of the opinion that rubber production in Travancore should be increased to the end that India might become a real factor in the rubber world.

The only other principal item which came before the Section Committee was that of Cochin State Income-Tax and Mr. W. Jefferies, who interviewed the Cochin Dewan on deputation, would explain the position to us, together with the latest developments.

Mr. W. Jefferies reported the results of the Deputation which waited on the Dewan of Cochin regarding Income-Tax on rubber delivered to the Rubber Purchase Officer, and that the Dewan promised to have the matter examined.

Mr. Kurian John.—If I remember rightly there is a further development with regard to this question. We made a representation at the same time to the Government of India about this matter and the Government made a decision that, in regard to rubber delivered directly in British India, i.e. by direct rail, Government would waive their claim for income-tax in British India. We pointed out this matter to the Dewan of Travancore who agreed to this procedure. If I remember correctly, the Dewan of Cochin agreed to follow suit. Before I make any assertion, I must look up the correspondence.

Mr. Jefferies.—The liability arises not in British India but in the State. There is no ruling on the latter liability.

Mr. Kurian John.—Rubber means rubber purchased directly by the Government of India or manufacturers in regard to such sales from producers outside British India on special permits, i.e. rubber sold to the R. P. O., or sold directly to manufacturers by producers under special permits, for example, latex goes out of Travancore; special grades of rubber are being sold to Batas for special purposes. The Government of India decided that they would waive their claim on such sales because all the rubber is sold in British India and they are getting their profits there. My recollection is that the Dewan of Cochin agreed to follow suit. That is, the Government of Cochin would waive income-tax on rubber produced in British India and delivered in Cochin. If you will drop me a line, I will send a copy of the correspondence.

Mr. W. Grant.—This is a development which I did not know.

The Chairman.—Would you, Mr. Kurian John, please send copies to Mr. W. Grant?

Mr. Kurian John.—Members of the Indian Rubber Production Board should have received copies of that.

The Chairman.—I think the copies might have been circulated long before. Mr. Wallace must have received it. If Mr. Kurian John would send copies to Mr. Grant as a member of this Section, it would be better.

Mr. W. Grant.—We have also received notices of assessment from the Cochin State Income-tax Commissioner.

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—Nothing is lost by asking for taxes.

Mr. P. Kurian John.—I don't think the Cochin Government is keen on getting the tax.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

The Chairman.—The next item is the question of scientific research. It was referred to last year at considerable length by Mr. Pryde. I will ask Mr. Mayne to tell us what the position is at present.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—Gentlemen, after the last annual General Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I., a sub-Committee was appointed to examine the future organization of plantation research and I had prepared a note for the Committee which was the basis of discussion. The main idea was that there were so many problems in the planting industry that the most efficient form of scientific research would be a central plantation research organization, comprising rubber, tea and coffee sections. There are certain portions of work which could be dealt with centrally. The difficulty, of course, was finance. How such a scheme could be financed? In April we had a meeting with Mr. Stewart, Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, and also with Mr. Bull, Vice-Chairman of the Indian Coffee Board. Mr. Stewart's advice was that, while the idea of a plantation crop research organization was a good one, it should be the end rather than the beginning, and that we should begin with individual crops and work up toward a co-ordinated scheme. Later that was made even more necessary by the fact that the Indian Coffee Board's proposals for research were in a fairly advanced stage—much more advanced than for any other crop. So he suggested that we should investigate the problem from the point of view of separate crops. I must admit that the main difficulty during the discussion at the committee meeting was the

question of providing finance for scientific research. We might investigate the possibility of Government being prepared to assist the tea industry from the Excise Duty. I am afraid I have not made much progress with the fresh memorandum on the subject, but that is how the position stands at present. It will have to be referred now to the Tea Section Committee in the case of tea. It is for the Rubber Section to consider proposals for rubber research after the war and whether any arrangement can be made for finance. In the case of tea, I think the Committee will probably go forward with the suggestion of a separate scientific organization as the Indian Coffee Board proposals are a long way ahead. There is a possibility that Mysore is going to permit the Coffee Board to run the Mysore Government Coffee Experimental Station at Balehonnur and the Board has proposals for a Station in Coorg. That is the position at present.

The Chairman.—Has anybody anything to ask of Mr. Mayne?

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—Would Mr. Mayne give an idea of the financial commitments per year?

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—In the case of a central organization for all the plantation products, I think we will require 2 or 3 lakhs per year. For rubber alone, if you want effective returns from research one has to be prepared for an expenditure of about Rs. 1,00,000. At a lower expenditure you just won't get returns for your money. That is my own feeling. We would need to go into the question of research in considerable detail. The main basic organization will have to be the same for any crop.

Mr. P. Kurian John.—The majority of rubber acreage being in Travancore I feel that the question should be referred to the Travancore Government as well. If an organization is agreed upon, I think the research station should be in Travancore State. In that case the Travancore Government should be able to give some assistance from a cess collected from rubber or something like that or from agricultural income-tax.

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—There is a research section in the Travancore University. This could be allowed to expand to include research on rubber.

The Chairman.—Is it your suggestion that, if there is to be any proposal by the U. P. A. S. I. for rubber research, it should be referred to the Travancore Government before any decision is arrived at?

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—Actually I omitted to deal with this aspect of the question but my original memorandum was sent to Mr. Park, who was asked to discuss it with the Dewan of Travancore. I gather that Mr. Park had a preliminary discussion with the Dewan, who was reasonably reassuring provided that an adequate station were set up in Travancore. Of course it would only be natural that the rubber research station should be situated in Travancore.

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—In our proposals, if some connection with the Travancore University research department could be arranged, I think the Dewan will be willing to assist.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—I may say that in my opinion if any research is to be of any real use to any industry, it must be producer controlled.

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—I only meant that facilities might be afforded for Travancore research students for conducting experiments.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—Again, you must have a permanent staff. Moving students cannot be expected to contribute much to research. What will happen if no student is forthcoming? There is one further point: If funds are provided by Government, Government will have a right of representation on committees. I think research should primarily be through a producers' organization.

Mr. H. B. Macpherson.—We had one rubber research station before. This was closed down. I think, generally, rubber research should be done for a very long period. I don't think we should discuss this new scheme until something is known of the future of natural rubber. Nowadays one hears very much about synthetic rubber.

Mr. H. R. Carson Parker.—With the manufacture of synthetic rubber, I think that any rubber research should be able to help us in getting higher yields at lower costs.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—My feeling is—speaking without any very detailed knowledge of the rubber industry—that in South India we have very special and peculiar climatic condition which are distinct from those of any other rubber-growing area in the Far East. Any selected clones of rubber so far used in South India have been obtained from other rubber-producing countries and it is not certain that this will necessarily suit South Indian conditions. The industry in South India requires clones which are adapted to the special climatic conditions and to the diseases which are prevalent. Last year, Wallace pointed out to me a tree in his compound which stood out from all the rest, which had suffered severely from secondary leaf fall. It is possible that such a tree might form the starting point for a leaf fall resistant clone which would be of immense value to South India. It appears that we might adopt measures such as those developed for South American leaf disease in which the high yielding clone is budded on to a seedling near the base and a resistant leaf head is budded above the tapping section. I think it is fairly clear that South India has very special problems of its own as far as rubber is concerned and these will require special investigation.

The Chairman.—Then the position is that the next development will be that the scheme proposed by you will come here for discussion.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—What I have tried now to do is to refer the matter to the sections for their consideration. We are proceeding on the basis of individual crop research schemes. My reference to the question was only a suggestion to the Rubber Section.

LABOUR

Lt.-Col. J. A. Davidson.—May I ask the Secretary to let us know something about the labour position on estates?

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—The Labour Department took a census of labour on estates within U.P.A.S.I. Membership. The figures collected suggest that there was an overall shortage of about 20% for all industries. In certain rubber areas, we got figures for labour shortages which were much worse than the above figure, which I think it is only proper to mention at this meeting. In Malabar the shortage was between 30 and 40 percent. We attempted at the same time to gather data on the causes of shortage. The majority of replies—we received about 300—stated that competition in the villages for labour was the principal cause. In addition

competition from contractors on military contracts and from Labour Corps recruitment were important. Some people suggested army recruiting as the chief cause. The young men were recruited to the army and when they leave, their dependents leave the estates and live on the remittances from the absent service men and what could be earned locally. Mention was also made of the planting of new rubber in parts of Malabar and Travancour on the estates actually in production. Nobody came forward with any very definite suggestions for amelioration. The only question which was raised was whether there should be a consolidation of wages. One or two people seemed to think that consolidation of allowances into a single wage might assist and also that the rice-eating areas, for example in Malabar, with the introduction of office rationing, labourers naturally preferred matter with the Labour Control Committee at the next meeting and Major Deane, who is Assistant to Brig. Fisher, is attending the meeting. I understand he has some proposals on the subject of wage fixation. The general opinion, I think, is that there is very little that we can do at the moment to improve the situation. I think that we may have to wait for another 8 or 12 months before any improvement can be expected. This matter has been put on the agenda for the next meeting of the Executive Committee and will come up for general discussion at the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting on the 16th August.

Mr. H. R. Carson Parker.—I think this Section should pass a resolution on this subject at this meeting.

The Chairman.—We have recorded our decision at the Committee Meeting held this morning on the question of wage consolidation and our representative on the Executive Committee will represent our views at the Committee meeting.

Is there any other subject which members wish to refer to?

There being no other business with a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. Srinivasan, and another to the Cochin Chamber of Commerce for the loan of their committee room, the meeting terminated.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of the Eighth General Meeting of the Subscribers to the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department held at 'Glenview' Coonoor, on Wednesday, 28th March 1945, commencing at 10 a.m.

Present.—Messrs. C. L. J. Humphreys (Chairman), M. R. Coghlan, F. J. B. Diaper, R. Walker (Control Committee Members), and R. Unwin (Director).
ALITOPOO ESTATE; CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD.; COORG CINCHONA ESTATES; FAITH & WATTACADOO ESTATES, per Mr. Ivor Bull, O.B.E.
AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; per Mr. R. Walker.
ANAMALAI TEA ESTATES LTD.; NONSUCH TEA ESTATES LTD.; per Mr. W. D. Harrison.
ANGLO AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD.; Mr. H. C. Boyd.
BEN GORM ESTATE, per Mr. E. G. Cameron.
EMERALD VALLEY ESTATE; GLEN LORNA ESTATE, per Mr. K. N. Ananthasivam.
HAILEYBURIA TEA ESTATES, LTD.; PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD.; PEERMADE TEA CO., LTD.; SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; STAGBROOK RUBBER & TEA ESTATES, LTD.; TRAVANCORE TEA CO., LTD.; TWYFORD & ASHLEY ESTATES LTD.; VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD.; per Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
KAIRBETTA & KELSIA ESTATES; per Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.
KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD.; per Mr. E. H. Francis.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD.; per Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
MANGLES BROS., COORG COFFEE ESTATES LTD.; per Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD.; per Mr. J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E.

VISITORS

Visitors.—Messrs. Arthur Hall, J. H. Butcher, E. J. C. Hill.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys, Chairman of the Control Committee, presided.

NOTICE CALLING THE MEETING

At the request of the Chairman the Director read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

Chairman.—The next item is to confirm the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting held here on 10th August 1944. These were circulated to all subscribers soon after the meeting. May I please have your permission to confirm and sign the proceedings of this meeting?

Permission being granted the proceedings were confirmed and signed.

BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1945-46

Chairman.—We have now to consider the draft Budget of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1945-46. Before dealing with the Budget for 1945-46, I should like to make a few remarks on the accounts for the current year. I am glad to inform you that as a result of the decision to increase subscriptions at the last Annual General Meeting, we hope to close the year with a surplus of about Rs. 4,000.

You will remember that you were informed in a circular letter dated 22nd July 1944, that we had on the 31st March 1944 a sum of Rs. 49,641-8-6 available for General Reserve. We also had Rs. 7,428-5-6 and Rs. 59,319-14-0 in the form of investments and cash.

Against this amount we held investments totalling only Rs. 51,148-8-0 and it was considered that we ought to have the whole of the Reserve, together with the Buildings Replacement and Passage Funds invested. The un-invested portion at the end of 1943-44 was Rs. 8,171-6-0 but this included bookdebts, stationery in stock, advances, etc., as well as cash. Some such balance has to be kept as Working Capital; for instance in April before subscriptions are received, and at the end of a year in case the income does not cover the year's expenditure. The Control Committee, therefore, does not see its way to keeping all these liquid assets invested, but during the current year we have placed a further sum of Rs. 5,000 on fixed deposit with the Imperial Bank. This addition is made up of Rs. 600 out of our 1944-45 income set aside for passage, Rs. 2,045 for depreciation on Buildings, Rs. 53 for depreciation on Government of India 4% 1960-70 bonds, and Rs. 2,302 out of the uninvested sum of Rs. 8,171-6-0 brought forward from last year. In accordance with views of subscribers, we propose in future balance sheets to show separately a Reserve for Depreciation on Buildings, and a newly named Furlough and Passage Fund, and to invest every year the sums set aside out of income for these purposes. In our next financial year, we intend to invest a further sum including these items, plus the excess of income over expenditure this year, and possibly a little more out of what I have called 'Working Capital' above.

It is better to invest round sums and I cannot say exactly until our balance sheet for 1944-45 is prepared what the total invested Reserve Fund will then amount to but our intention is to retain a sum of Rs. 5,000, or so, as working capital, and to invest the rest. By the time we meet in August and present the Balance Sheet in its new form, I hope we shall have invested Rs. 2,850/- for Furlough and Passage Fund, Rs. 9,463/- for Building and Replacement Fund and about Rs. 49,000 for the Reserve Fund. In addition to this figure of Rs. 49,000/- it may be a little less, we shall have our Working Capital, which will more than make up the figure of half a lakh at which we have been instructed to aim. The above remarks really pertain to our Annual General Meeting in August, but it is felt that subscribers will be interested to have this advance account.

I now turn to the Budget Estimates for 1945-46. These show an increase of about Rs. 9,250/- over the probable expenditure for the current year. Under "Establishment", you will notice an increase of Rs. 1,800/- under the Director's salary. Your Control Committee propose to increase Mr. Unwin's salary from Rs. 600 to Rs. 750/- per mensem. We are, indeed, fortunate in having found such an experienced and efficient man, and I am sure, you will be pleased to know that Mr. Unwin's services are likely to be available even after the war is over. (Applause).

Increase under "Office Staff" and "Agencies" is due partly to the usual annual increments to the staff and also to the reopening of the Nagercoil Chief Agency as a separate Division. This has helped to relieve the pressure on Palamcottah, and it has, I understand, been a very popular move among subscribers in South and Central Travancore.

There are also other small increases due to higher cost of stationery and to the increased rates of Dearness Allowances.

In order to provide for this additional expenditure, we find it necessary to ask for subscriptions at the rate of 14 annas for tea, 9 annas 4 pies for coffee, and 2 annas for rubber and minor products. But for the very welcome withdrawal of certain provisional resignations, and the addition of new subscribers at the end of this year, the rate for tea would have had to be half an anna more.

Gentlemen, if you have any questions to ask on the Budget for 1945-46, I will do my best to answer them.

There being no questions, I will move from the Chair:—

"That the Estimates for 1945/46 as circulated be, and are hereby approved."

The resolution was carried.

EXPANSION BUDGET

Chairman.—I now turn to item No. 4 on the agenda, Expansion Budget. At the last Annual General Meeting, you will remember that the Committee were instructed to prepare an expansion scheme. This has been done, but owing to war conditions it has not been possible to go very far with the improved facilities for coolies' travelling. The Railway Companies are unable to do anything about reserving accommodation, post-payment for tickets or meals en route. As regards the last item, examination of the average times taken on railway journeys shows that these are so comparatively short that very few coolies suffer much inconvenience. Whenever requested to do so our agents buy tickets and, latterly, since the Director became a member of the Railway Advisory Committee, there has been a big reduction in complaints about abuses which were being reported frequently at one time. The Railway Authorities have issued strict orders to their staff and, if not always able to get tickets easily, the coolies are at least not being victimised so much. Bus Companies have all refused to accept post-payment, except in the case of the A. B. T. Co., Ltd., which continues to take 'chits'. One or two other lines offered to do so provided the Association produced new buses for them! (Laughter). This matter will not be allowed to drop, and it is hoped to improve travelling facilities for coolies when the war is over. At present buses and trains are overcrowded and it is impossible to obtain any special concessions.

Some progress has been made as regards Chatrams for the use of coolies held up for the night, or awaiting transport, and one at Bodi is already open. The owner of this building refused to wait till the beginning of the financial year, and in order to avoid losing it the K. D. P. A. very kindly agreed to pay the rent until 31st March. In addition to the Chatram at Bodi, the Committee aim at making a start with Chatrams at Kottarakara, Rajapalayam, Cumbum, Pollachi, and probably Puttur in South Kanara. Enquiries are being made for suitable buildings, but until the expenditure is sanctioned it is not possible to close with offers or to make them. The cost of renting and staffing these Chatrams will be approximately Rs. 3,500/- in a full year. We hoped that once they are provided hotel-keepers will find it worth while to supply meals on the spot, and meantime the caretaker will tell coolies where they can get meals if required. We have investigated the possibility of providing meals or issuing meal tickets but have been obliged to suspend both plans on account of rationing difficulties, and the high cost of supplies. The Director has asked me to thank publicly those Hon. Secretaries of Planters' Associations and others who have helped him in the course of the numerous enquiries he has been making in the past few months.

At the last Annual General Meeting an enquiry was made as to the size and cost of our establishment nowadays compared with that employed some few years back, and my predecessor on the spur of the moment

was able to give only a general answer. The figures have since been looked up and I find that in the heyday of the Department, in 1929-30, we had two Chief Agents, 94 Agents and 41 clerks as well as 7 European Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents, and a Director. The subscribing acreage was: Tea, 90,000; Coffee, 34,800; and Rubber and Minor Products, 5,500. Total, 1,30,300 acres.

Including tentative applications already received we expect to have about 1,17,400 acres of tea, 23,500 acres of coffee and 39,000 acres of rubber subscribing from 1-4-1945. Total in round figures, 1,80,000 acres, which is about 38% more than ever before in the history of the Department. (Hear, hear).

The expenditure in 1929-30 was only 400/- under 3 lakhs.

To-day with a greatly increased acreage we have one Chief Agent and 45 Agents, 14 clerks, 2 Superintendents and one Director while the expenditure for the current year will be about Rs. 1,09,850. These are the facts which he had in mind when my predecessor referred at the last meeting to shortage of staff. We have already been forced to reopen the Nagercoil Chief Agency as a separate division, and while this has reduced pressure on the Palamcottah Superintendent, it has increased the work of the Director, as there is an extra office, now to supervise. To relieve the Coonoor Office, and to increase the supervisory staff which can, incidentally, then be used as relief in case of leave or sickness, we propose the appointment of an Assistant Superintendent, if we can obtain a suitable man. We have estimated that such a man would cost altogether Rs. 2,000/- a year. Further we propose two new agencies in Palamcottah (at Puliangudi and Tenkasi South) and two in Coimbatore places, but as circumstances are constantly changing, I would ask you to leave exact locations to us. The total cost of the proposed Expansion Scheme works out at an estimated sum of Rs. 9,650/- in a full year, but effect cannot of course be given immediately to all the above items. An increase of 1 anna on tea, and 8 pies on coffee will provide just over Rs. 8,000/- on our present acreages, and the Control Committee therefore suggest that if their scheme is approved, these additions should be made to the rates proposed in the Budget estimates as circulated. This would bring the totals for next year to 15 annas per acre for Tea, 10 annas for Coffee, and 2 annas for Rubber and Minor Products. I must, however, remind you that a further increase of 6 pies per acre for Tea and 4 pies per acre for Coffee will be necessary in 1946-47, when the scheme is in full operation.

I shall now welcome any comments you may have to offer on the scheme for extending the activities of the Department.

In this connection, I have received a letter from Mr. A. M. Webb, Wooligooly Estate, which I will ask the Director to read.

The Director read the following letter dated 21st March, 1945, from Mr. A. M. Webb, Manager, Wooligooly Estate, Suntikoppa, to Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys, Santagherry Estate, Suntikoppa.

"Dear Sir,

Labour Department Meeting on 28th March, 1945.

"I regret that it will not be possible for me to attend the General Meeting in Coonoor.

I would be grateful, however, if you would put forward my views on the Expansion Scheme.

I have found it necessary to send in provisional resignation for this Estate, with the proviso that my Proprietor is willing to re-consider notice of resignation if the Labour Department can improve labour supply and contacts during the coming year.

I realise that the proviso is a difficult one, but without such improvement, there seems little use in continuing to pay out subscriptions.

Since sending in my resignation, I have received the Labour Department circular letter re: Office work which shows that the Department is stirring and with the Expansion Budget it seems as if considerable improvement in the working of the Department is likely in the near future.

Regarding the proposed Chatram at Puttur I am of the opinion that this will be of great value to all subscribers but I consider the amount allotted for the purpose is quite inadequate.

I would suggest that, if such a scheme is to be started at Puttur, it should be run by a Labour Control Committee of the Coorg Planters Association in conjunction with the Labour Department.

That in its initial stages it should be financed by a few estates willing to launch out the experiment at their own cost, and be for the benefit of those estates only until experience has been gained, and they can later offer a concrete practical scheme to all subscribers.

In my opinion the Chatram must be of striking benefit to the cooly; and that at the outset they will have to be baited by free meals whilst waiting for seats on the bus to come up to the Estate.

Further that the Control Committee should liaise with all bus services and the D. S. P. so that seating accommodation can be arranged without any unnecessary delay.

In short, the man in charge of the Chatram should work on the lines of Military R. T. O. and arrange for seating accommodation not only from Puttur to Mercara but from Mercara on to the various Estate Districts in Coorg. Chatram arrangements are just as important in Mercara.

I should be very grateful if such points could be considered at your meeting.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) A. M. WEBB.
Manager."

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—As a matter of interest, how long has Wooligooly Estate been a subscriber to the Labour Department?

Chairman.—The estate has been a subscriber for many years but Mr. Webb has only been in charge about 12 months.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—Gentlemen, I would like to say that as far as I am concerned, the scheme does not go far enough. Every one would agree to spend more. Estates that require more labour might consider a suggestion for paying something extra for additional services. I do not know whether this meeting would consider this suggestion or whether it is feasible, but I think that the staff is inadequate in any case. With the present staff we could not do more at the present time. Even the additional budget is insufficient and the subscription of 15 annas per acre as compared with Rs. 3/- in the past is ridiculously small.

Mr. Ivor Bull.—Sir, the Department was never intended to recruit labour for subscribers. Mr. Webb in his letter, has asked the Department to do so for him. As regards Mr. Cameron's suggestion, I think it is not workable, because the Labour Department can never pretend to recruit labour for anybody. We could spend more money on the Department but I do not think we want to waste money on it and I think that for the money we are spending now we are getting more value than we used to get. Of course, we want to improve our recruiting prospects but it ought to be done very carefully. There would be no use in creating new agencies unless there are benefits from the increased expenditure.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—I am not suggesting the creation of new agencies. It is possible for the Department to go into this question further and help estates who want new labour and who are prepared to pay the amount of advance, etc. I think they have a right to expect this help, it is a small item and I believe a number of people who want labour would be prepared to pay extra in some way. The Department might keep in mind this suggestion and the Control Committee might consider further expenditure in addition to what they have already proposed. Labour is our big problem! There is no use getting away from that. It will entail competing with Government and Military authorities who are paying heavily for their labour. The wages they pay are rising further and further, whereas it is essential that we should have cheaper labour.

Chairman.—Thank you. The Control Committee will bear in mind your remarks.
Director.—Mr. Chairman, with your permission, may I remark on Mr. Cameron's request? We have never done any direct recruiting and to do it for certain subscribers, even though they pay extra for it, would cause difficulties for me as we should have complaints of undue attention to one class of subscribers. Agencies are started wherever registration of suppliers shows that it is necessary, i.e., agents follow the labour and not the other way round. From April 1st we shall have a large influx of maistries to register for new subscribers and if these are found to come from an area not already covered by us, or they prove too numerous for existing agencies, I shall have to ask the Control Committee to sanction new agencies or allow me to split existing charges.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—I want to know about maistries where we have no agents.
Director.—When permitted by a Superintendent, an agent may go outside his jurisdiction, but the estate pays expenses in such cases and this seems to cover Mr. Cameron's requirements. If he wants a maistry looked up, say in Pudukottah, I can have it done, at his expense, but unless the present system of maistries recruiting is given up in favour of direct recruiting (which U. P. A. S. I. has condemned) I do not think it is any good increasing the number of agents except where there are enough suppliers registered to make it a paying proposition.

Chairman.—Thank you. Any more questions, Gentlemen?
Mr. Ivor Bull.—Mr. Webb's letter suggests that there should be a chatram run by the Labour Department for certain interested subscribers who would be prepared to support it. This really does not concern the Labour Department at all but is a matter for those particular estates to put up a chatram for accommodating their coolies. If this were done I do not doubt that the Labour Department would be pleased to send coolies to such a chatram. I suggest that you should reply to this letter on these lines and welcome the idea of anybody providing accommodation for labour. It would be a helpful thing to do and the Labour Department would certainly be interested.

I do not think there should be two subscriptions as Mr. Cameron suggests, one for superior and the other for lesser services, if I have understood him correctly. We would welcome your views, Mr. Chairman, on Mr. Webb's proposals.

Chairman.—My own views are that this is really a matter for the local Planters' Association.
Mr. E. H. Francis.—I think Mr. Webb's letter is on the right lines. He wants better facilities for travelling, feeding, etc. You have been able to do little yet but after the war you will have to go further with such schemes. I heartily support his ideas. We should make the coolies travelling the line of least resistance whereas at present it is the line of most resistance. I hope the policy of the Department will be gradually to get these facilities started so that the cooly gives himself up to the agent at his place and thereafter does not need to think about his ticket, food, etc., until he reaches the estate.

Chairman.—Yes.
Mr. Ivor Bull.—If such a chatram was started in Puttur, the cost of it, and the management of it, would have to be borne by the subscribers, if it were used for a limited few. I do not consider the Labour Department should run such a chatram for some subscribers only.

Chairman.—We have heard your views on the Control Committee's Expansion Scheme and we shall certainly try to carry these into effect.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—Would it be possible to levy a per capita charge on coolies going to estates, so that estates who do not want coolies do not have to pay?

Mr. E. H. Francis.—That is ancient history!

Chairman.—Yes, and the system nearly broke up the Department. If there are no more questions, I will now move.

"That the expansion budget, as circulated, be and is hereby approved."

The Resolution was put to the Meeting and Carried.

Chairman.—Arising out of the last two items I now propose from the Chair:

"That the subscription rates for 1945-46 be as follows:—

Tea	...	...	15 annas per acre.
Coffee	...	...	10 annas per acre.
Rubber and Minor Products	...	...	2 annas per acre.

May I have your approval?

The Resolution was put to the Meeting and Carried.

RECRUITMENT BY GOVERNMENT

Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is 'to discuss measures to be taken to meet the situation arising out of the recruitment by Government'. This matter will be coming up for discussion at the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting this afternoon, so I do not think we need spend much time over it now. I should, however, like to take this opportunity of informing subscribers of the action so far taken by the Control Committee.

We have endeavoured through our Agents to keep track of the developments in the recruiting areas and recently we have carried out an investigation on behalf of the U.P.A.S.I., and at their expense, to find out

whether it would be possible to offer assistance to the Military authorities for recruiting unskilled labour outside our present recruiting areas.

We have recommended to the Executive Committee that the Military authorities should be asked to keep out of the rural areas in our recruiting districts and to confine their activities to the larger towns. Most of our labour comes from the former and it is considered unlikely that the Military authorities would agree to entirely stop recruitment from our recruiting areas.

Mr. Diaper continues to represent the U.P.A.S.I. on the Madras Provincial Labour Supply Committee and our Director represents us on the Coimbatore L. of C. Sub-Area Committee. Your Control Committee in conjunction with the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Advisory Committee had arranged to meet Col. Holland, A. D. P. & L. Southern Army, directly after this meeting but unfortunately a telegram has been received informing us that he is unable to come to Coonoor at present. I can assure you that we shall do all we can to protect your interests.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—May I ask if the Army authorities have taken any notice of what the Committees recommend? or have they gone ahead without our knowing anything about it.

Chairman.—The Committee have been successful in one case. Recently at Gudalur, the Military authorities decided to pay Rs. 2 for men, and as a result of a meeting which our Director attended in Coimbatore, the rate was reduced from Rs. 2 to Rs. 1-6-0 a day.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—The Committee should have consulted its members before anything was done.

IN COMMITTEE

The meeting here went into Committee to discuss results of Military committee meetings attended by our representatives and of other action taken by them. At Gudalur substantial wage reductions were secured and a clause added in military contracts to forbid use, in planting districts, of any but imported labour. Estate labourers, if identified, would also be returned on demand. No recruitment for the Army is allowed in planting districts and on two occasions when a mistake was made the parties were immediately withdrawn on receipt of a protest by U. P. A. S. I. In reply to Mr. W. A. J. Milner who wanted an assurance in writing on these points, the Chairman said there had been correspondence between U. P. A. S. I. and the Army, and certain Minutes of meetings at Coimbatore (which were read out) were also available. While there appeared to be some satisfaction with the results achieved there was a feeling, voiced by Mr. E. G. Cameron, that committees should always be consulted before any work, likely to affect labour in the vicinity, is started. Mr. R. Walker pointed out that these works are of high priority and confidential, and if a junior Engineer Officer gets an order to start a job he can do nothing except start as soon as he can! Consultation is not possible every time! Mr. Walker went on to say the best course will be to get representation on all Local Sub-area Labour Committees and leave it to our representatives to do the best they can. In answer to the Chairman, Mr. Cameron said this answered his contention but did not satisfy him completely!

OPEN MEETING

Chairman.—I will now pass on the next item on the agenda: 'Any other competent business'. Has any member got anything to bring forward at this meeting?

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—I am a small owner and have only recently become a member of the Labour Department. Mr. Webb's letter which has just been read, makes me think that it might be of value to bring to notice the general feeling which I have found to prevail amongst small owners in the Kotagiri Area and seemingly elsewhere.

I have little personal experience of the Department's activities at present. I am not speaking at the request of the Kotagiri Planters nor do I intend anything derogatory towards the Department and its work. There is undoubtedly a very general feeling amongst small owners, if one can judge from their conversation, that this Department does not give due consideration and assistance to them *vis a vis* the big Companies. Many of them are not members seemingly because of this very prevalent opinion. I feel it is well that these views, however unreasonable they may perhaps be, should be made known in order that members and non-members also may be disabused of them by propaganda or other means, and in the case of non members be induced to join the organisation which everyone should be made to realise is essential to the well being of the Industry.

Chairman.—I can assure you that there is no differentiation between large and small estates. These small owners seldom attend our general meetings to make their views known or put their complaints forward.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—I do not suggest that there is. I am merely repeating what I have gathered in the hope that it will be of value in enabling the Department to dissipate the views expressed.

Chairman.—It would be better if such complaints were on paper.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—Yes. I have tried very hard for the last week to persuade two or three people from Kotagiri to come over here but nobody was very anxious to come and there obviously was the feeling that it wasn't worth-while. I merely state the position as being of possible value to the Department. That is all!

Director.—With the Chairman's permission, I wish on behalf of my staff and myself to repudiate with all the emphasis at my command, any suggestion that there is a distinction made between large and small interests. (Hear, Hear). I should deal severely with an agent caught doing it and sincerely ask all small subscribers who harbour such impressions to come into the open and see, or write to me about it. I can assure them we base our day-to-day administration on the Regulations and the Bye-laws and so long as I remain in control these will be the sole basis.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—As a small owner, who does attend meetings of the Labour Department, I would like to say that I have no knowledge of differential treatment. These small owners won't come to these meetings. It is particularly bad to complain without attending the meeting. (Hear, Hear).

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—Before you close, I would like to make it clear to you that it was not my intention to charge the Department with differential treatment. I was not officially informed by Kotagiri small owners about this, but told you what I have heard informally in the hope that it might be of use to you. I would like to make this point quite clear to the house.

Chairman.—The small owners have as much control over the Department as the larger estates. I trust that small owners will continue to take an interest in it.

Mr. R. Walker.—As a member of the Control Committee, I want to say small owners are welcomed, as also their views on the running of the Department. With you, Sir, I trust they will continue to support the Department, and not only in good times but in bad ones during which in the past, the large firms were left to carry it on alone. (Applause).

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—This subject seems to have raised a storm which I neither contemplated nor desired.

Chairman.—Well, Gentlemen, we have heard your views on this matter. Is there anyone who wishes to raise any other question?

Mr. W. D. Harrison.—May I suggest that the Labour Department Budget be submitted earlier in future years. The reason why I suggest this is because, in fact, the companies which I represent have been unable to decide their attitude towards Item No. 4. Expansion Budget. There has been insufficient time to forward these proposals to my principals in England and obtain their reply.

Chairman.—Arising out of what you have just said, Sir, we sent a copy of the Draft Budget and Expansion Budget to the South Indian Association in London late in November last, or early December. I don't think you could expect us to get these ready earlier than that.

Mr. W. D. Harrison.—Thank you!

Chairman.—If there are no other matters to bring up, Gentlemen, I will now declare the meeting closed.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair proposed by Mr. E. H. Francis, the Meeting terminated.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT Estimates 1945-46

EXPENDITURE	Rs.	A.	P.	INCOME	Rs.	A.	P.
Establishment :—				1,13,580 Acres Tea			
Director	9,000	0	0	@ 14 As. per acre ...	99,382	8	0
Superintendents	4,560	0	0				
Bungalow Coolies	998	0	0	23,537 Acres Coffee			
Superintendents' Rent Allowances ...	480	0	0	@ 9 As. 4 Ps. per acre ...	13,729	14	8
Motor Mileage and Travelling Expenses	4,800	0	0	38,903 Acres Rubber & M. P.			
Control Committee	2,500	0	0	@ 2 As. per acre ...	4,862	14	0
Passage Money	600	0	0				
Office Staff :—					1,17,975	4	8
Clerks	10,170	0	0	Interest	1,133	0	0
Clerks' Rent Allowances	789	0	0				
Peons	702	0	0				
Sweepers	96	0	0				
General :—							
Postages and Telegrams	3,240	0	0				
Stationery and Printing	4,300	0	0				
Audit	1,300	0	0				
Legal Expenses	100	0	0				
Medical	350	0	0				
Purchase of Stock and Repairs	410	0	0				
Bank Charges and Sundries	590	0	0				
Buildings :—							
Rents and Taxes	1,490	0	0				
Repairs, etc.	575	0	0				
Depreciation	2,045	0	0				
Agencies :—							
Agents' Pay	24,606	0	0				
Consolidated T.A.	10,952	0	0				
Rents	2,028	0	0				
Peons	9,540	0	0				
Office Sundries and Extra T.A.	3,528	0	0				
Provident Fund :—							
European	900	0	0				
Indian	4,008	0	0				
Dearness Allowance	14,118	0	0				
Total	1,18,775	0	0	Total	1,19,108	4	8
				Expenditure	1,18,775	0	0
				Excess of Income over Expenditure	333	4	8

EXPANSION BUDGET

Please note that as stated in the Agenda for the Meeting the Chairman will present a scheme of expansion of which the detailed cost for one year is estimated as below:

	Rs.	A.	P.
Assistant Superintendent	2,000	0	0
2 New Agents: Puliangudi and Tenkasi South (Palamcottah Division) ...	2,114	10	0
2 New Agents: Chinna Salem and Perintalmanna (Coimbatore Division) ...	2,034	15	0
Chatrams at Kottayam, Rajapalayam, Cumbum, Bodi, Pollachi and in S. Kanara (probably at Puttur)	3,500	0	0
Total	9,649	9	0

Since the above cannot be brought into effect immediately a lesser sum will suffice for 1945/46 and if the scheme is approved the Chairman will move that the rates above be increased by one anna an acre for tea and 8 pies per acre for coffee bringing in an increased income of Rs. 8,079-7-4 for one year.

COONOOR,
7th March 1945

R. UNWIN,
Director.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT, U.P.A.S.I.

Report of the Control Committee

For the Year ending 31st March, 1945

I. STAFF

Senior.—The posts of Director and Superintendents, Coimbatore and Palamcottah Divisions, were held by Messrs. R. Unwin, E. M. Lobo and M. V. Samuel respectively throughout the year. With effect from 1st December 1944 the Nagercoil Chief Agency was reopened as an independent unit in charge of Mr. Isaac Moses.

Subordinate.—The Tellicherry Agency was closed down owing to lack of labour available in the district which made the agency uneconomical to maintain, and the former Chingleput Agency was reopened. In South Kanara the area covered by Kasargod, Puttur and Sullia Agencies was re-constituted into four agencies, by the posting of a new Agent at Bellare with a view to reducing the overwork in the original three agencies, but very little relief was obtained by Kasargod and Puttur due to joining up of new subscribers.

In the Palamcottah Division one new agency was opened at Vallanad while the former Kottar agency was reopened to look after the area which in the last few years has been managed by the Nagercoil Chief Agent. There were several casualties among agents and except in Palamcottah Division great difficulty was experienced in filling the vacancies with suitable men.

At the end of the year there were 14 clerks, one chief agent, 44 agents, 1 sub agent and 62 peons, or a total subordinate staff of 122 compared with 111 last year. One peon included in the above total is a chatram keeper.

II. THE DEPARTMENT

Administration.—This continued in the hands of the Director subject to the orders of the Control Committee.

Subscribing Area.—The area subscribing to the Department increased as follows:—

Tea	...	...	...	...	3,632	acres.
Coffee	...	...	...	...	2,298	"
Rubber and Minor Products	...	...	...	...	2,655	"
The total areas subscribing at the end of the year are shown in the following statement:—						
Tea	1,09,884	acres @ 13½ As. per acre	Rs. 92,714	10	0	
	4,714	" part year subscription	Rs. 1,776	15	0	
	1,14,598					Rs. A. P.
						94,491 9 0
Coffee	22,137	" @ 9 As. per acre	Rs. 12,452	1	0	
	2,119	" part year subscription	Rs. 8/7	3	9	
	24,256					13,329 4 9
R. & M. P.	36,567	" @ 2 As. per acre	Rs. 4,570	14	0	
	2,696	" part year subscription	Rs. 202	12	6	
	39,263					4,773 10 6
Total			...	1,12,594	8	3
Arrears subscriptions collected					65	14 0
Grand Total				1,12,660	6	3

III. FINANCE

Income.—The subscriptions for the year (including arrears) amounted to ... Rs. 1,12,660 6 3 and with the sundry income the total was ... Rs. 1,13,832 15 3.

Expenditure.—The estimated expenditure was ... Rs. 1,02,612 0 0 and the actual ... Rs. 1,09,538 7 9 leaving an excess of income over expenditure of ... Rs. 4,294 7 6.

This excess was the direct result of an increase in subscription rates sanctioned at the General Meeting of Subscribers in August 1944 with the object of increasing the Reserve Fund.

The increased expenditure was due to rising costs of dearness allowance, postage and stationery as well as additional agencies opened to cope with the increase of work on account of new subscribers. Details of expenditure are shown in Appendix 'A'.

During the year an additional sum of Rs. 5000/- was placed on fixed deposit in the Imperial Bank of India and the Balance Sheet has been remodelled under the advice of our Auditors in order to show, more clearly exactly what sums are available as a Reserve Fund.

IV. LABOUR POSITION

Labour.—The shortage experienced in 1943/44 continued and was accentuated during the year. Increased recruitment by Government particularly of labour units from our more important recruiting grounds, larger demands for labour by Government Contractors, plans for increased food production and the increased prosperity of agricultural workers throughout our area together caused an over-all average shortage, of 22.7%. Some more favoured areas suffered less but in general the shortage may be said to have reached a point at which many essential works could not be carried out while on some estates it was impossible to harvest crops in full. The matter is one affecting all members of U.P.A.S.I. and indeed all planters. All possible steps to deal with it were taken by the Association and the Labour Advisory Committee, but this Department being the

only one with the necessary staff undertook certain investigations in areas both inside and outside its present jurisdiction, the out-of-pocket expenses being borne by U.P.A.S.I. In future, to save delay and correspondence the Control Committee at the request of the Executive Committee has agreed to undertake the duty of concerting measures, in consultation with the Executive Committee direct, to deal with the situation so far as it is caused by Military recruitment, thus cutting out references through the Labour Advisory Committee on which three members of the Control Committee already sit. Efforts were made to contact the Military Authorities and these were proceeding at the end of the year. Mr. Diaper represented the Association on the Madras Provincial Labour Supply Committee and the Director served on the Local Sub-Area Labour Committee at Coimbatore. In view of the number and importance of the interest concerned with both Committees no start-ling results could be expected but it can be said the efforts of our representatives have met with some success and our difficulties are now well known to the Authorities. Efforts to achieve some co-ordination of recruitment by the various parties, so as to prevent further disastrous competition, continue in consultation with the Executive Committee U.P.A.S.I. In consequence of the general shortage of labour, very numerous applications by both old and new subscribers for new connections were in most instances fruitless. There are, in fact, practically no reliable suppliers with good gangs of coolies available and it is certain the end of our labour difficulties is not yet in sight.

V. THE YEAR'S WORK

Cases under Investigation.—Two thousand and eighty-four pending cases were brought forward and 5,139 new cases were received making a total of 7,223 under investigation, i.e., an increase of 513 or 8% over last year's figures. Cases disposed of increased by 342 or 8% leaving balance pending of 2,255 as against 2,084 last year and 1,600 the year before. The increased number of pending cases which, at first sight, appears of some importance is not really so since the percentage of such cases to total under investigation has remained almost constant at 30% to 31% during the last three years. It simply means we still have the same proportion of cases which take more than a year to settle.

Recruiting.—Assistance was given to 1,248 labour suppliers, or almost exactly 50% more than last year's figure of 833, while 19,203 labourers were despatched to estates against 14,823, i.e., an increase of nearly 30%.

Advances to suppliers and labourers and the payment of way expenses rose to Rs. 1,92,201/- i.e., an increase of Rs. 60,321/- or over 45% compared with last year and Rs. 94,271/- more than was paid in this way in 1942-43. Though advances have been somewhat increased the larger total is mainly due to the increased number of suppliers who received assistance.

Defaulters.—New claims amounting to Rs. 1,15,052/- were received, an increase of 9% which with the claims pending from last year made a total of Rs. 1,79,072/-.

Enquiries.—There was a decrease of 8.5% in cases of this nature, namely, a total of 1,063 as against 1,154. Last year was however, rather abnormal in that enquiry cases rose by 95% in a single year.

Statistics.—For detailed statistics and further comparison of results please see Appendices C. and D. The average per acre of defaulters' debts written off as untraceable or otherwise irrecoverable rose to one anna eight pies per acre or one pie more than the average of the previous 2 years. A fairly large proportion of such irrecoverable debts is due to defaulters who have joined one or other branch of the Army.

VI. CONTROL COMMITTEE

Members.—The four retiring members, viz. Messrs. F. J. B. Diaper, C. L. J. Humphreys, H. C. Boyd and M. R. Coghlan was again re-elected. Mr. Humphreys was appointed Chairman and Mr. Boyd Vice-Chairman, but in November 1944 owing to assumption of duties precluding his continuance on the Committee Mr. Boyd was obliged to resign. In his place Mr. Coghlan was appointed as Vice-Chairman and under Regulation 25 (b) the Committee filled the vacancy by appointment of Mr. R. Walker.

Mr. Boyd had been a member of the Control Committee since the reorganization of the Labour Department in 1937-38 and the other members of the Committee place on record their great regret at his resignation, coupled with grateful thanks for the hard work done and the interest shown in the Department throughout his period of office.

Meetings.—Four meetings were held during the year, namely, on August 7th, 8th 1944, August 10th 1944, November 17th, 18th 1944 and March 24th, 26th, 28th 1945.

VII. GENERAL MEETINGS

The Seventh Annual General Meeting was held on 10th August 1944 and a General Meeting on March 28th, 1945. The proceedings of both meetings were printed and circulated to all concerned.

VIII. OTHER MATTERS

Expansion of the Department.—As a result of the views expressed at the Annual General Meeting in August 1944 a scheme for expanding the activities of the Department was drawn up and submitted to the Budget Meeting of subscribers in March 1945. The scheme which included steps to improve travelling facilities for labourers en route to estates, at an extra cost of one anna per acre on Tea and eight pies per acre on Coffee was approved by subscribers. While it is possible to open 'Chatrams' at some places where particularly needed, war-time conditions prevent any great improvement in regard to travelling by train and bus for the present. The appointment of an Assistant Superintendent was also approved by the General Meeting of subscribers.

Office Work.—On account of the great increase in office work, some of which is due to failure by subscribers to use forms and to comply with rules tending to reduce correspondence, a circular letter was issued by the Committee in March 1945 requesting the cooperation of all subscribers in measures to improve matters. While in some quarters there has been a gratifying response there are still some sections of the subscribers in which there is room for improvement and the Committee would again invite their attention to the abbreviated rules contained in the circular letter.

C. L. J. HUMPHREYS,
F. J. B. DIAPER
M. R. COGHLAN
R. WALKER

Chairman,

Members of the Control Committee.

COONOR,
1st August 1945.

APPENDIX 'A'

Analysis of Expenditure from 1st April 1944 to 31st March 1945 and Budget Estimates for 1944-45

Headings	Expenditure 1944-45			Estimate		
Establishment—	RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Director ...	7,200	0	0	7,200	0	0
Superintendents ...	4,320	0	0	4,320	0	0
Bungalow Coolies ...	847	8	0	576	0	0
Superintendent's Rent Allowances ...	480	0	0	480	0	0
Motor Mileage and Travelling Expenses ...	3,911	5	8	4,020	0	0
Passage Money ...	600	0	0	600	0	0
Control Committee ...	2,449	3	3	2,500	0	0
Office Staff—						
Clerks ...	8,634	1	0	8,706	0	0
Clerks' Rent Allowances ...	707	4	0	803	0	0
Peons ...	609	0	0	564	0	0
Sweepers ...	88	0	0	84	0	0
General—						
Postage and Telegrams ...	3,254	0	6	3,040	0	0
Stationery and Printing ...	4,378	13	2	2,800	0	0
Audit ...	1,300	0	0	1,300	0	0
Legal Expenses ...	27	0	0	100	0	0
Medical ...	159	15	3	350	0	0
Purchase of Stock and Repairs ...	474	3	3	403	0	0
Bank Charges and Sundries ...	1,015	8	10	580	0	0
Buildings—						
Rents and Taxes ...	1,183	12	7	1,425	0	0
Repairs, etc. ...	1,896	8	0	1,000	0	0
Depreciation ...	2,045	0	0	2,045	0	0
Agencies—						
Agents' Pay ...	23,605	0	9	23,562	0	0
Consolidated T.A. ...	9,777	0	11	9,612	0	0
Rents ...	1,933	13	4	1,908	0	0
Peons ...	9,185	15	1	9,228	0	0
Office sundries and Extra T.A. ...	3,149	15	7	3,054	0	0
Provident Funds—						
European ...	720	0	0	720	0	0
Indian ...	2,187	9	0	2,282	0	0
Dearness Allowance ...	13,397	13	7	9,350	0	0
Total ...	1,09,538	7	9	1,02,612	0	0

APPENDIX 'B'

Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1945

EXPENDITURE	Amount	INCOME	Amount
	RS A P		RS A P
To Coimbatore and Palamcottah Divisions ...	1,09,538 7 9	By Subscriptions ...	1,12,660 6 3
„ Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Reserve Account ...	4,294 7 6	„ Interest ...	1,172 9 0
Total ...	1,13,832 15 3	Total ...	1,13,832 15 3

APPENDIX 'C'

New cases investigated by the Labour Department from each District from April 1st, 1944, to March 31st, 1945

District :-	Anamallais.	Central Travancore.	Coorg.	Kanan Devans.	Malabar.	Mundakayam.	Mysore.	Nelliampathies.	Nilgiris.	Nilgiri-Wynaad.	South Travancore.	Wynaad.	Madura.	Total No. of New Cases.	Balance pending from last year.	Disposal this year.	Balance pending on 31-3-1945.
Coimbatore-Mysore	593	36	894	128	34	5	341	39	140	243	17	90	8	2,568	876	2,369	1,075
Palamcottah-Srivilliputtur	444	809	18	1,052	13	10	...	5	43	...	177	...	...	2,571	1,208	2,599	1,180
1945 Total	1,037	845	912	1,180	47	15	341	44	183	243	194	90	8	5,139	2,084	4,968	2,255
1944 „	862	824	941	1,232	51	6	376	67	175	203	171	202	...	5,110	1,600	4,626	2,084

CLASSIFICATION OF NEW CASES

Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	1,063
Recruiting	...	...	...	...	...	1,828
Defaulters	...	...	...	...	...	2,248
Total	...	...	...	...	...	5,139

APPENDIX 'D'

Summary of Statistics 1944-45

Divisions	Defaulters' Debts.					Kanganies advanced on behalf of Estates		No. of coolies forwarded to estates by the Dept. paying way expenses	No. of letters despatched
	Outstanding on 31-3-1944	New debts of the year	Total under disposal during year	Recovered or written off during year	Outstanding on 31-3-1945	Amount paid			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	NO.	RS A P	NO.	NO.
Coimbatore-Mysore	28,595 12 4	55,402 1 2	83,997 13 6	37,106 0 1	46,891 13 5	444	83,845 12 2	13,430	27,671
Palamcottah-Srivilliputtur	35,424 6 7	59,649 13 2	95,074 3 9	57,772 2 1	37,302 1 8	804	1,08,356 0 9	5,773	31,418
To 1944-45	64,020 2 11	1,15,051 14 4	1,79,072 1 3	94,878 2 2	84,193 15 1	1248	1,92,201 12 11	19,203	59,089
„ 1943-44	42,799 14 9	1,05,579 0 11	1,48,378 15 8	84,358 12 9	64,020 2 11	833	1,31,880 3 0	14,823	56,306

CLASSIFICATION OF DEBT DISPOSALS (Col. 5)

Cash Recovery	...	...	...	...	31,574 11 3
Returned to Estates or Settled under Labour Rules	...	...	...	...	17,909 14 4
Claimants' claims reduced or Traced elsewhere	...	...	...	...	26,995 1 10
Written off as untraceable or irrecoverable	...	...	...	...	18,398 6 9

Total as per Col. 5 ... 94,878 2 2

THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

LABOUR

Balance Sheet as at

FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Capital Account—						
As per last Balance Sheet	96,120	14	9			
Less Amount transferred to Reserve Account as at 1st April 1944	31,114	13	3			
Amount transferred to Replacement of Buildings Fund—						
Depreciation deducted up to 31st March 1944	7,428	5	6			
Depreciation for the year	2,045	0	0			
	40,588	2	9	55,532	12	0
Reserve Account—						
As per last Balance Sheet	18,526	11	3			
Add Amount transferred from Capital Account as at 1st April 1944	31,114	13	3			
	49,641	8	6			
Less Amount transferred to Funds representing excess of current Assets over Liabilities, as at 1st April 1944	8,171	6	0			
	41,470	2	6			
Add Amount transferred from Funds representing excess of current Assets over Liabilities during the year	2,302	0	0			
	43,772	2	6			
Replacement of Buildings Fund—						
Transferred from Capital Account as at 1st April 1944	7,428	5	6			
Add Depreciation for the year	2,045	0	0			
	9,473	5	6			
Furlough and Passage Fund—						
As per last Balance Sheet	2,250	0	0			
Add Allotment for the year	600	0	0			
	2,850	0	0			
Employees Security Deposit Fund				56,095	8	0
Estates' Advance Deposits at Divisions				27,390	2	10
				55,703	0	0
Sundry Liabilities—						
Audit Fee	650	0	0			
Sundry Creditors	681	13	0			
				1,331	13	0
Funds Representing Excess of Current Assets over Liabilities—						
Amount transferred from Invested Surplus as at 1st April 1944	8,171	6	0			
Less Transferred to Invested Surplus during the year	2,302	0	0			
	5,869	6	0			
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	4,294	7	6			
				10,163	13	6
Total				2,06,217	1	4

C. L. J. HUMPHREYS ... Chairman.

F. J. B. DIAPER

M. R. COGHLAN

R. WALKER

} Members of the Control Committee.

Report of the Auditors to the Subscribers to the United Planters'

We have audited the Balance Sheet of THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA, LABOUR DEPARTMENT, as at 31st March 1945 and have obtained all the information and explanations given to us and as shewn by the books of the Department.

MADRAS, 9th July 1945.

OF SOUTHERN INDIA

DEPARTMENT

31st March 1945

PROPERTY AND ASSETS	RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Land and Buildings—						
LAND—						
As per last Balance Sheet—						
Nagercoil	5,846	7	9			
Palamcottah	729	8	0			
	6,575	15	9			
Buildings—						
Coonoor—						
As per last Balance Sheet	33,255	2	9			
Less Depreciation for the year	850	0	0			
	32,405	2	9			
Nagercoil—						
As per last Balance Sheet	6,009	13	0			
Less Depreciation for the year	350	0	0			
	5,659	13	0			
Palamcottah—						
As per last Balance Sheet	11,736	12	6			
Less Depreciation for the year	845	0	0			
	10,891	12	6			
				55,532	12	0
Investments held against Reserve Account—						
Replacement of Buildings Fund and Furlough and Passage Fund—						
Imperial Bank of India, Fixed Deposit	15,000	0	0			
Rs. 7,800/- 4% 1960-70 Bonds at Book Value	8,595	8	0			
„ 32,500/- 3% 1949-52 Loan at Cost	32,500	0	0			
	56,095	8	0			
Assets held against Employees' Security Deposit Fund—						
Imperial Bank of India, Fixed Deposit	26,506	14	1			
Imperial Bank of India, Current Account	883	4	9			
	27,390	2	10			
	942	12	0			
Stationery in Stock						
Book Debts—						
Electricity Deposits	70	0	0			
Chutram Rent Deposit	30	0	0			
Due by Estates	993	4	7			
	1,093	4	7			
Advance—						
Towards Printing Order for 1945-46	1,000	0	0			
Interest Accrued				350	14	8
Cash and other Balances—						
Cash and Stamps with Superintendents	1,476	8	11			
Cash at Agencies	19,608	3	10			
With Imperial Bank of India on Current Account	42,726	14	6			
	63,811	11	3			
Total				2,06,217	1	4

R. UNWIN,
Director.

Association of Southern India, Labour Department

INDIA, LABOUR DEPARTMENT, as at 31st March 1945 and have obtained all the information and explanations given to us and as shewn by the books of the Department.

FRASER & ROSS,
Chartered Accountants, Registered Accountants. } Auditors.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Subscribers to the Labour Department of the U.P.A.S.I., held at 'Glenview', Coonoor, on Friday the 17th August, 1945, commencing at 9-45 a.m.

Present.—MESSRS. C. L. J. HUMPHREYS (Chairman); M. R. COGHLAN, F. J. B. DIAPER, R. WALKER (Control Committee Members), and R. UNWIN, (Director).
ALITOPOO ESTATE; CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD.; COORG CINCHONA ESTATES LTD.; FAITH and WATTAKADOO ESTATES, per Mr. IVOR BULL.
AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., per Mr. H. C. BOYD.
ANAMALLAI TEA ESTATES LTD., per Mr. G. STEVENS.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD.; KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., per Mr. R. WALKER.
BENGORM ESTATE, per Mr. E. G. CAMERON.
DEVARSHOLA TEA CO., LTD.; STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES LTD.; TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD.; THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., per Mr. J. L. H. WILLIAMS.
HONNAMETTI ESTATE, per Mr. R. C. MORRIS.
KAIKRETTIA ESTATE, per Mr. LT. COL. SPAIN.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., per Mr. M. R. COGHLAN.
MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES LTD., per Mr. WING COMMANDER J. H. SPROTT.
PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD.; PEERMADAI TEA CO., LTD.; SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; TWYFORD ASHLEY ESTATES LTD.; VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD., per Mr. W. A. J. MILNER.
POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., per Mr. J. R. N. PRYDE.
STAGBROOK RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES LTD., per Mr. H. B. MCPHERSON.
WOOLIGOOEY ESTATE, per Mr. A. M. WEBB.

VISITORS

MESSRS. E. J. C. HILL, I. W. FINLAYSON and S. H. DENNIS

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys, Chairman of the Control Committee, presided.

NOTICE CALLING THE MEETING

Chairman.—To open the proceedings I will ask the Director to read the notice calling the meeting.
The Notice was read by the Director.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

Chairman.—The next item is to confirm the Minutes of the General Meeting held on 28th March 1945. The proceedings at that meeting have been printed and circulated. May I have your permission to sign them?

The proceedings were confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Chairman, Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys, then delivered the following address:—
GENTLEMEN,

The Control Committee's Report, which is before you, explains fairly fully the activities of the Department during the year ending 31st March 1945. I should, however like to expand slightly on some of the more important items.

The subscribing area increased during the year under review by 8,585 acres and with the addition of new subscribers since March 31st the Department now represents over 1,80,000 acres, which is the highest total in its history. While this is a most satisfactory state of affairs it does, however, entail a great deal of extra work and responsibility for all our employees and particularly for our Director and our Superintendents. I think very great credit is due to them for the able and uncomplaining way in which they have shouldered these new burdens.

Under the expansion scheme which was sanctioned at the General Meeting in March last, Mr. Moses, son of the Nagercoil Chief Agent, has been appointed Assistant Superintendent. An extra clerk has also been added to the Coonoor Staff and four new agencies have been opened at Puliangudi, Tenkasi South, Chinna Salem and Perintalmanna. Some Agents in Mysore and South Kanara still have more cases than they can deal with satisfactorily and it may therefore be necessary to appoint a new Agent in each of these districts. In this connection I must mention that in spite of the increased rates of pay and allowances, the Director has had great difficulty in filling the new posts.

Since our last meeting chatrams for the convenience of labourers travelling from their villages to estates have been opened at Bodi, Cumbum, Puttur and Kottarakara and are being extensively used. The Puttur building is only a temporary one, as the owner, who is building a chatram to hire to us, cannot do so until the monsoon is over. So far all efforts to find chatrams at Pollachi and Rajapalayam have proved unsuccessful, but enquiries continue and at Pollachi there is some possibility that a suitable building may shortly become available. A caretaker has been appointed for each chatram and he is provided with a sweeper and phenyle for disinfecting purposes. Caretakers are also being encouraged to provide suitable meals for passing labourers.

I regret to say that very little success can be recorded as regards special facilities for train and bus travel. Combined efforts by the C.T.P. A. and the Nagercoil Chief Agent have resulted in an extra bus service

from Thiruvella to Vandiperiyar during the month of July only. I can assure you, however, that your Control Committee realise the importance of making travelling conditions as easy as possible and this matter will not be allowed to drop.

In connection with the increased work of the Department I should like to draw your attention to the final item of the Report. The circular letter which was sent out in March requesting co-operation from subscribers in lessening the amount of office work has met with a fair response for which we are duly grateful. We feel, however, that matters could be further improved if all subscribers would use the prescribed forms and comply strictly with the suggestions contained in that letter.

Since March last the Control Committee has been acting as adviser to the Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I., on all matters connected with the present labour shortage. I only wish I could say that the results obtained were commensurate with the amount of labour and paper expended. Messrs. Diaper, Walker and our Director have contacted both Military and Civil authorities and in all cases were given a sympathetic hearing. Unfortunately this is where the matter has usually ended and I am afraid they regard Southern India as a happy hunting ground where an abundant supply of unskilled labour exists. It is time they realised its limitations and we can only hope that they will modify their attitude in the near future before irreparable harm is done to our estates. This subject will come up for discussion later this morning, so I will only add now how grateful we are to our representatives for the time and trouble they have taken on our behalf.

In conclusion I should like to express my deep debt of gratitude to my colleagues on the Control Committee and to the Director for their helpful co-operation and advice during the past year.

Gentlemen, I now place my resignation and the resignation of my colleagues in your hands.

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

Chairman.—We have now to consider the Report of the Control Committee, the Balance Sheet and the Revenue and Expenditure Account for the year ending March 31st, 1945. I will ask the Director to read the Auditors' Report.

Director.—The Auditors' Report reads thus:—

'We have audited the Balance Sheet of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, Labour Department, as at 31st March 1945, and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up and exhibits a true and correct view of the state of the Department's affairs according to the best of our information and explanations given to us and as shewn by the books of the Department.'

(Signed) FRASER & ROSS
Auditors.'

Chairman.—You will notice the Balance Sheet, as I mentioned at the Budget Meeting in March, has been presented in a new form which I think you will agree sets out more clearly the assets and liabilities of the Department.

Our Capital Account stands at Rs. 55,532-12-0 which represents the book value of the Department's property as at the end of March last.

Against a total of Rs. 56,095-8-0 standing to the credit of the Reserve Fund, the Replacement of Buildings Fund and the Furlough and Passage Fund, we have a similar amount invested in Government loans and on fixed deposit with the Imperial Bank of India.

This excess of income over expenditure for last year was transferred to our working capital which now stands at Rs. 10,163-13-8. The Control Committee consider it will be sufficient if a sum of approximately Rs. 5,000 is retained in this account and they have, therefore, decided to transfer Rs. 5,302 to the Reserve Account which will bring the amount invested in this account up to Rs. 49,074-2-6 or almost make up the total of half a lakh at which we were asked to aim.

During the current year we have to set aside and invest Rs. 2,045 for depreciation, Rs. 600 for passage and furlough and Rs. 53 for depreciation on 4% 1,960-70 Bonds. These amounts together with the Rs. 5,302 which is being transferred to Reserve will make a round figure of Rs. 8,000 and this will be invested shortly.

If there are any questions I will do my best to answer them.

There being no questions, I move from the Chair:—

'That the Report of the Control Committee, the Balance Sheet and the Revenue and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 1945, be adopted.'

The Resolution was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF AUDITORS

Chairman.—The next item is the election of Auditors. I propose from the Chair:—

'That Messrs. Fraser & Ross be re-elected Auditors for the current year on a remuneration of Rs. 1,300'

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Is that the same figure as last year?

Chairman.—This has been the figure for several years past.

The resolution was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT BYELAWS

Chairman.—It has been found that Byelaw 6 as at present worded does not cover the case of a labourer who is referred by a subscriber to the Department for registration as a Labour Supplier. The addition of the words 'or applicant for Labour Supplier's work' after the words 'Labour Supplier' in the 1st and 4th lines will, however, clarify the position.

Are there any questions regarding this resolution?

I now propose from the Chair that the Labour Department Byelaws be amended as follows:—

'In Byelaw 6 insert the words "or applicant for supplier's work" after the words "Labour Supplier" in the first and fourth lines.

The Resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS

Chairman.—We now pass on to Item 7. The desirability of amending the Regulations became apparent when it was found that there was no rule prescribing the liabilities of subscribers resigning from the Department due to sale of their estates. The proposed amendment follows U.P.A.S.I. Rule 20 exactly. Before putting the Resolution are there any questions?

I now move from the Chair:—

That the Regulations for the Control and Maintenance of the Labour Department be amended as follows:—

'After Regulation 22, insert as a new Regulation 22-A. Any subscriber who shall by any means cease to be a subscriber shall nevertheless remain liable for, and shall pay to the Department all moneys which at the time he ceases to be a subscriber may be due from such subscriber, to the Department.'

The Resolution was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously.

LABOUR SHORTAGE

Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is 'to discuss the situation caused by competition for labour by Government recruitment'. Your Control Committee has given a considerable amount of thought, at their meeting held during this week, to this problem. Their recommendations, which were made to the Executive Committee, were read yesterday by the President of the U.P.A.S.I. I will refer to those items which affect our subscribers directly, that is, with regard to the Department and not to those concerning members of the U.P.A.S.I. It was brought to our notice that suppliers of labour on estates were not aware of the value of the allowances which the labourers were receiving. It is so on the estates, it must be even more so in the villages. A sample letter setting forth full details of pay, dearness allowance and all other concessions will be prepared and sent to all District Planters' Associations. If the Associations approve of it, they will be asked to enter correct information for insertion in a letter to be sent to all suppliers and sub-suppliers in their own districts. Copies would also be sent to Labour Department Agents and peons. Districts who approve of this idea will be asked if they will print and distribute the letter themselves or would like the Department to do it for them. In this case they will be asked if Planters' Associations will bear the cost or whether it should be recovered from individual estates. We feel that some districts may not wish to use this letter but those who do will be asked to pay for the cost. It is also proposed that at Agents' offices larger and more conspicuous sign boards should be erected, and a notice board, not less than 6' x 6' should be put up giving details of pay and all concessions in districts which recruit labour in that particular area. We realise that there will be some difficulty in collecting figures and we shall have to rely mostly on District Associations for the information. We cannot possibly meet the requirements of all estates, so the boards will publish only the general rates and allowances recognised in particular districts. We also intend to enquire whether it will be possible to erect similar boards outside village headmen's houses. If necessary, a small fee may have to be paid for this.

If this propaganda work is successful it will benefit non-subscribers as well as subscribers. It is for that reason we have asked the U.P.A.S.I., to bring pressure on the larger estates, who do not yet subscribe, to join the Labour Department. Although we should like small estates to come in also, we felt that there might be strong opposition from some of them and therefore we only asked U.P.A.S.I., to try and influence larger estates at present.

The end of the war will probably, almost certainly we hope, ease the situation but we have to remember that there will still be keen competition for labour. One of our recommendations to the Executive Committee—we consider it an important recommendation—is that there should be a co-ordinating committee at Madras dealing with recruitment, and other matters connected with labour, and that the U.P.A.S.I. should be represented on that committee.

There is one other item bearing on the subject of shortage of labour. The maximum rate of debt recovery from defaulters through the Department, has been fixed at Rs. 17 per head for some years now. As there has been a general increase recently in the recognised rates of advances and also in the travelling and other allowances paid to coolies, your Control Committee members after consulting subscribers in the districts are unanimously of opinion that this maximum rate of recovery should be increased to Rs. 25 per head. This will apply to current and future cases only. We were reluctant to increase the rate, and we hope it will only be a temporary measure. Are there any questions, Gentlemen?

Col. R. C. Morris.—Mr. Chairman, I should like to propose rationalisation of all bonuses, war bonus, outturn bonus, etc. I believe the bonuses vary from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25 in different districts. This alone gives rise to uncertainty among labour suppliers. I should like to hear the views of this Meeting on this subject.

Chairman.—One point I would like to mention here is that District Planters' Associations are not represented on the Labour Department. A matter of this kind affecting them will probably have to go through the U.P.A.S.I.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—With regard to the notices to be put up in the villages, giving terms of employment, I think, Sir, the notices will have to be worded in the most general terms. Whatever you do, there are bound to be big variations from district to district. By giving details of pay, etc., on the notices, we would be faced with a situation worse than it is now. The notices will have to be very broad in their outline.

Chairman.—Yes. While that is what we suggested, we consider that the District Associations should prepare correct details for inclusion in the letter and the notices which will appear on the boards in the different agencies.

A. Subscriber.—What will happen in the case of two or more districts coming under the same agency? Will there be a board for each district, or only one shared between all estates recruiting in the same district?

Chairman.—On a board 6' x 6' we visualise several notices and on top of each notice, the name of the district will be given and underneath the rates applicable to that district.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I think that the publication of details on the board as between districts, or between estates, would be very dangerous. The notice should be put up without any minor detail at all. Districts vary in rates. Giving details would be harmful, particularly when coolies are recruited from the same agency for work in different districts. Coolies may prefer estates where rates are better.

Mr. R. Walker.—I would like more views from more members and estates on the question of propaganda. The criticism levelled against the Labour Department Control Committee is that they have not done enough, to help to recruit labour. When I saw Sir Norman Strathie the other day, he had the impression, and this is the case of other Government officials, that U.P.A.S.I. had closed down recruiting. Our recommendations, regarding the issue of pamphlets, and propaganda, are to try and drive home the fact that labour is required on the estates. If members have any better suggestions on this question, we will be very glad to have them. We have made another suggestion that we should approach a recognised advertising agency for advice on technical features. I do think that this Meeting should be unanimous about this matter of propaganda. Otherwise the Labour Control Committee will have to wash it out completely. Will members please express their views?

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—Speaking as a small man, I think this proposed notice-board would tend to set up one district to compete against another. And the pamphlet would do more harm than good. A general pamphlet for the District Association and perhaps one board for the U.P.A.S.I. as a whole, would be better. Publication of any individual rates, such as those for pruning, plucking, etc., would start more competition. The board should state in general terms that labour is required on the estates but I think details for individual districts should not be shown on it. That is my own feeling! Estates, which are willing to pay for the pamphlets, are welcome to use them but generally the pamphlets should be paid for by the District Associations. If there are estates which want to give more particular information about what they are paying to coolies, etc., they should pay for a pamphlet themselves and distribute it in villages in which they recruit. These should not be printed with other pamphlets.

Chairman.—Your Control Committee will bear your remarks in mind. Any other questions?

Wing Commander Sprott.—Mr. Chairman, the idea of propaganda is very sound, but I do think it has to be very, very carefully considered. Any idea of competition between estates, or districts, is most undesirable, and therefore I would suggest that rather than ask the District Planters' Association to draft the letter for circulation, the Control Committee should do it. If it is left to District Planters' Associations, there will be 3 or 4 different opinions. I think letters or pamphlets, sent out from the Labour Control Committee to districts, are more likely to be agreed upon.

Chairman.—I said, at the beginning, that a sample letter would be drafted by the Control Committee and would be sent to District Associations for their views.

Mr. A. M. Webb.—Mr. Chairman, there is some danger arising from large concerns carrying on their own propaganda. How will this affect the propaganda of the Labour Department?

Chairman.—I will draw the attention of the Control Committee to this possibility.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—Is it possible to make use of the propaganda that is being done for the war effort by the Madras Government? Their organization is being retained. Can we not make use of it to advertise the advantages to labour of work on estates, in a general way?

Chairman.—I will bear that in mind.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I think the Director's views might be very interesting on this subject of propaganda as he is directly in touch with the problem. We should like to hear what he has to say.

Director.—As you know, Gentlemen, though the matter has been under consideration for the past two years, the Control Committee had to make recommendations rather hurriedly to the Executive Committee, after their last Control Committee meeting and before having the benefit of your opinions today. The points raised by Mr. Williams are important. In my opinion we should not advertise on the same board, rates for different districts which show differences and therefore indicate competition. Nor, even if basic rates are the same, would it be advisable to attempt to set a value in annas and pies on the numerous amenities provided, or concessions allowed, but we should try to set out what these latter attractions are. At the same time suppliers have actually asked to be given full details, in writing, of the whole terms which they can offer to would-be recruits in the villages, so somehow, it seems essential to issue a correct version of the wages and other additions to wages, which can be earned by working on any individual estate or on all estates belonging to one District Association. I am therefore now inclined towards a general notice board, or poster, inviting attention to the need for labour on your estates and giving publicity to the various additional attractions such as free housing, fuel, medical services, cheap grains, etc., etc., but without stating actual rates of pay. The latter information can be obtained from our agents but to satisfy the suppliers, they should be supplied with a letter or pamphlet (if we are allowed to print the latter) giving full details of pay, dearness allowance, cheap grains, bonus, etc., and the social amenities provided. It was intended this should be filled up by District Planters' Associations, but if estates wish to do so individually, there is no objection as far as I can see. The reason why the Committee proposed to draft a sample letter, for insertion of details, was that they felt the Department could and should, give a useful lead, and that this would help towards uniformity, but they had no intention of trying to force the issue of such a letter at all, or of trying to fill in details for each district.

As regards the general notice board or poster, we should avoid publishing highly coloured accounts of the comforts and high wages earned on estates. In the past posters issued would lead one to think that only on an estate in South India was life really worth living! This time we want merely to convince labourers that they and their families can earn good wages and that they will enjoy many other amenities and concessions by working on your plantations. The supply of actual details of all these wages, etc., may be left to District Planters' Associations and, if desired, to individual estates. (A Voice) I hope you will slip in somewhere that in return for all this coolies will be expected to do some regular work. (Laughter)

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Will it not be possible for districts using the same agent to consult each other as to what information should be given on the board and in pamphlets. They could perhaps agree on this matter. This might help things.

Chairman.—I will bear that in mind. Any further questions, Gentlemen?

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—This problem of propaganda is a matter of expense. Is that not so, Mr. Chairman? Without money you cannot do any propaganda work. I do not know whether subscribers are still of the opinion that the subscription to the Department should be kept within certain limits. If that is still the opinion, we will never get real value from propaganda. If it is to be really useful, we will have to spend a lot of money on it.

Mr. Ivor Bull.—Mr. Chairman, have you considered that when the Rege Report comes out, you will probably have to alter the whole basis of your propaganda? Is it not worthwhile to wait a little before you put up the boards?

Chairman.—As regards Mr. Boyd's point what we propose to do now, we hope to do with the present rates of subscription. The expenditure involved is not likely to be very heavy and the Districts will be meeting the costs of pamphlets. I do not think putting up notice boards should be very expensive. Of course, if we go for propaganda on a larger scale, we should have to increase our subscriptions.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—Mr. Chairman, last year Mr. Eric Francis put forward a suggestion that there should be a canteen on the principal railway stations for all coolies who are travelling up to estates. Has anything been done about that? There has been very great difficulty in getting cheap refreshments *en route*.

Chairman.—The Railway authorities have informed us that it would be quite impossible at the present time to provide canteens on platforms.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—Anything on the above lines would be helping coolies and would be of very real benefit. This might be one of the lines of propaganda in the future.

Chairman.—It will certainly be considered.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I think it is an excellent suggestion to consider if it is possible to do it.

Mr. I. W. Finlayson.—The I.T.M.E.B. may have their stalls on some railway stations in South India. If not, they may be asked to arrange to put up their stalls. Tickets could be issued to the coolies by our labour agents for exchange at the stalls, where they exist.

Director.—As regards Mr. Williams' suggestions our request to start food stalls on platforms has been at first refused. There is first the rationing difficulty and secondly, I know as a member of the Railway Advisory Committee, the Railway authorities cannot find room on the platforms. These are so congested that the Management is in some cases clearing existing stalls away to make room for passengers who now wait for long periods on the platform. Lastly, enquiries of the coolies have shown that in a great many cases they do not want meals provided and are reluctant to pay for them. This is especially the case where they make long journeys by bus; for instance, from Nagercoil to Central Travancore. Meals *en route* make them feel sick and they take only a morning meal before boarding the bus.

Mr. Finlayson's suggestion fails because, once in the train, 3rd class passengers cannot leave it to take tea, etc., at the stalls. The subject comes up regularly at Railway Advisory Committee Meetings, and each time, permission to serve hot drinks, etc., in the carriages is asked for. It is always refused because cups, etc., are not returned and attendants cannot get in to collect them. Conditions at large junctions such as Trichinopoly cause the crowd to storm the carriages through windows on the opposite side and any idea of getting out for food or having it served to passengers is quite impracticable at present.

In point of fact, the average journey is by local train and does not last many hours; the longest run is probably Chingleput to Madurai (about 12 hours between 8 P. M. and 8 A. M.) where the coolies get down and take buses to the High Range. A few go from Trichinopoly to Coorg but they all break journey at several places and can get food there. If given food free, they would gladly take it, but offers to provide meals at annas have not been welcomed. They prefer to buy by two-anna platefuls at a time till satisfied, and keep expenses to a minimum *en route*. The usual practice is to carry some home-cooked food with them for the first 4 hours at least, and this costs them much less than meals at a stall.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I do not mean that we should provide for those travelling by road. I meant for people travelling in trains. Canteens might be put up on principal stations where sometimes, now, they have to wait for a considerable time. Something in the way of an army ration might be provided if they wish to take it.

Director.—Employers might enquire of their coolies whether if meals can be provided, they will be willing to pay for them. I am practically certain there will be little demand for them unless the meals are given free.

Mr. I. W. Finlayson.—With regard to the propaganda question, will it not be possible for the I.T.M.E.B. to co-operate in some way? Their vans move about the countryside and they have propaganda agents all over South India. Could they not assist in some way?

Chairman.—We will find out about that.

Chairman.—We have heard the question discussed in great detail and will bear in mind all the points raised when we consider this subject after this meeting. Any more questions, Gentlemen, before we proceed to the next item?

Col. R. C. Morris.—With regard to the rationalisation of the outturn bonus, I think we should put forward our recommendation to the U.P.A.S.I.

Chairman.—Would you kindly move a resolution? While you are drafting it, may we pass on to the next item?

ELECTION OF CONTROL COMMITTEE

Chairman.—Will you kindly elect a new Control Committee?

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—I should like to propose that the present Control Committee be re-elected for the ensuing year. If you, Mr. Chairman, are going on Home Leave, someone could act for you. I hope it will be possible for you to remain a member of the Committee.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I will second Mr. Milner's proposal.

Chairman.—Gentlemen, those of you who are members of the Control Committee, will you please inform me if you are prepared to act again?

Members agreeing to the proposal, the Committee was unanimously re-elected *en bloc*.

Chairman.—Thank you, gentlemen. (Applause.)

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman.—Is there any other business?

Mr. A. M. Webb.—In the report of your last meeting, reference was made to a letter from me and comment was made that small owners should attend the meetings if they have got anything to say. I would like to refer to four things. The first is connected with the resignation of Wooligooly Estate. A question was asked as to how long the estate has been subscribing to the Department? In your reply you stated that it has been in charge of the management for the past 12 months. This might give some people the idea that it was an impulsive action on my part to resign. I would like to say that it was the result of my experience as a small owner myself, and in consultation with Proprietor of Wooligooly Estate, the resignation was sent in. We are of opinion that we do not get very much out of the Department. Therefore, there is no need to subscribe to it. On the other hand, if your Department would assist us in recruiting, it will be worth while staying on. I see from that last report that you do not claim to function as recruiters, although it is laid down in your constitution that you do so. Therefore, the resignation is due to the fact that you cannot recruit labour for us. There was another reference made by Col. Spain as regards small owners. Being a small owner myself, I should like to say something on that. In Kotagiri apparently, small owners do not get fair treatment. In Coorg, it is slightly different. There are many small owners who do not subscribe to the Department because they do not see what they get out of it. Whether I am right or wrong in holding this opinion, I think there are few small owners in Coorg who are members of the Department. I cannot refer to other districts. As far as Coorg is concerned, the small owners do not get much benefit from the Labour Department, whether they require a lot of labour or additional labour. I shall be grateful for an answer on that point.

Chairman.—Sir, with reference to your first point I am sorry that you are under a misapprehension, as far as you are concerned, regarding the resignation of Wooligooly Estate. I pointed out that the estate has been a subscriber for many years and that you had been there only for a short time. I did not intend to infer that because the estate was taken over by you it resigned.

Mr. A. M. Webb.—Well, sir, it did resign.

Chairman.—Regarding your point about recruiting, under the objects for which the Department is established it is laid down that the Department will "help in recruiting". You are asking the Department to start direct recruiting. There is a difference between assisting in recruiting and direct recruiting. It is usual for the estate to find the labour supplier when the Department will get his credentials enquired into and either recommend him to you or not, thus assisting you to recruit coolies. We could not possibly undertake direct recruiting at the present time. I think it is correct to say that every estate now needs labour, at any rate there are very few who do not. The Labour Department is helping estates to find suppliers of labour and also to settle their labour disputes as between one estate and another. Of course we shall be very pleased to increase the number of our subscribers. You also mentioned unfair treatment of small subscribers in Kotagiri. I think I am right in saying that there is only one small owner subscriber in the whole Kotagiri district!

Mr. A. M. Webb.—Isn't that a pity?

Lt.-Col. G. M. Spain.—Having originally started this controversy, I do not think I ever said that the Department meted out unfair treatment to the small owners in the Kotagiri District, or anywhere else. I did say, and still contend, that something should be done to convince the small owner of the worth whileness of this Labour Department, whether or not it brings you 10 coolies, or 50 coolies. It is nevertheless an essential part of the U.P.A.S.I. organization and it should be supported by everybody, large or small. (Hear, hear). What I feel, I believe, is that the Labour Department has not done, possibly has been unable to do anything to try and convince the small owner of the necessity of supporting the Department, whatever they may, or may not, get out of it immediately. That is what I have been trying to say all along!

Mr. A. M. Webb.—I agree with what Col. Spain says. Our Chairman himself belongs to the small owner group but does not subscribe to the Department and so he cannot know how we are affected. As managers, we have to consult the owner whether we should join or not.

Chairman.—For your information, I might say that I do not own any estate, big or small, in India.

Mr. A. M. Webb.—As Chairman of the Control Committee you could point out the advantages of subscribing to the Department.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—The Labour Department should do some propaganda advocating joining the Department by all estates.

Chairman.—Before the war, it was usual for the Director and the Superintendents to tour the districts to explain the benefits of the Department. Unfortunately, owing to difficulties of travelling at present, it is not possible for our Director to visit the districts, but I trust he will be able to visit several of them in the near future. It would be of assistance to the Control Committee if small owners would make useful suggestions to the General Meeting and assist the Control Committee in formulating its proposals. I wish small owners would assist us in this way.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—I think the Labour Department should circularise all estates pointing out the need for them to join and pointing out that they may not get immediate benefits from the Department. There are reasons, and very adequate reasons, which should induce them to join the Department. I mean something in the way of a general circular giving the general advantages of belonging to the Department.

Mr. M. R. Coghlan.—May I suggest the small owners who are not members are already definitely deriving benefit from the Department. As it is, in spite of their not being members, the small owner benefits from the moral effect on labour created by the Labour Department.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—That is my argument why they should join.

Mr. A. M. Webb.—Don't you think, sir, that there is a general feeling among small owners that big companies, having votes according to their size, carry the day, leaving the small owners helpless?

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Mr. Chairman, I wish to point out that it is an entirely wrong impression that big estates dominate the show. All votes have been by a show of hands. Whether he is a small owner or represents a big company, each subscriber present has had only one vote. The big companies have never attempted to use their voting powers. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—The fact is the possibility is there and this is the situation faced by small owners. In the U.P.A.S.I. general meetings, if there are any discussions, in the case of the big companies they come with unanimous decisions arrived at beforehand. We, small owners, are simply so many members and do not affect the decision. That is my feeling. I do not say that small owners should not join on that account.

Mr. F. J. B. Diaper.—Small owners, who join, cannot be expected to benefit if they do not tell us what exactly is their grievance and what they would like the Department to do for them. If they do not join and have a grievance against the Department, I do not know how we can force them to join it. They cannot complain against the Department without having tried it. (*Hear, hear.*)

Chairman.—I think we have all fully expressed our opinions on this question. The Control Committee will bear all these suggestions in mind and will consider the possibility of issuing circulars which would assist in adding to the number of subscribers. There is one point I would like to mention and that is the benefit of registration. In my district, Coorg, there has been keen competition for labour during the past few years and in consequence many dishonest suppliers of labour have been taking advances from more than one estate. Subscribers have been able to have their credentials checked but non-subscribing estates must have lost large sums of money. I venture to suggest that without the benefit of registration, the labour position would be much worse than it is.

Director.—As an example of what the Chairman said just now, a small estate in Coorg paid about Rs. 220 in subscription this year. Last week I received from it, by the same post, four separate requests asking us to register 4 maistries to whom the Manager wanted us to make advances. All these four maistries were already registered for other subscribers within a few miles of the estate which wanted to advance them and, had the latter not been a subscriber, it would have lost about Rs. 20 more than its annual subscription if each maistry had been advanced for only four coolies at the current District rate!

Col. R. C. Morris.—This example should be quoted in the circular. It would lend emphasis to the reason why small owners should join the Department.

Chairman.—Thank you. Will you now move your resolution, please?

Col. R. C. Morris.—I now move the following resolution on the rationalisation of bonuses.

'That this general meeting of the subscribers to the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department recommends to the Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I., that the out-turn bonus, known as war bonus, should be standardised, inasmuch as bonus paid to labourers for regular work appears to vary from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25 per man for 280 days' work'.

In a letter to me, the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., writes as follows:—

'The Labour Advisory Committee recommended to members the payment of a War out-turn bonus which would not exceed eight annas per week. The idea was that eight annas would be paid for 6 days' work. This has been accepted in principle by Central Travancore, Kanan Devan, South Travancore, Nilgiri-Wynaad and Wynaad Planters' Associations. The Coorg Planters' Association have recommended a payment of Rs. 8 for 200 days work and Rs. 4 for 100 days, work to be paid at settlement time. In Mysore last year they were giving a bonus of one anna per day for 5 or more days of work per week. In the Nilgiris they agreed at the beginning of this year to pay an annual bonus of 25 per cent of the wages earned to labourers who worked 280 days in one calendar year and three annas in the rupee to those working 250 days, the amount to be paid at settlement. On the whole I believe, it has generally been considered that the payment of out-turn bonus helps in maintaining labour out-turns'.

There is a terrific variation in the rates from district to district.

Chairman.—Gentlemen, have I your permission to allow this resolution?

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I don't think the same out-turn bonus is applicable to all districts. Each district has its own particular difficulties in getting labour and the cost of living is not identical in every district. Neither is the availability of labour. I do not think it is possible to fix a standard out-turn bonus, whatever one might call it. If you standardise this, you will have to standardise things like cumbly, way expenses, dearness allowance and other things as well. Logically you will have to go on fixing standard labour rates also. I am afraid I cannot support this resolution.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Mr. Williams referred to the cost of living varying in different districts. I do not think the varying costs of living have any relation to out-turn bonus. Of course, sundry allowances, cumbly, travelling and other expenses, and other conditions do vary. But I do not think they affect the out-turn bonus. If you want to standardise the out-turn bonus, you want your out-turn to be the same all over Southern India.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—As regards the points mentioned by me, there is possibly room for argument. When I made my remarks, I had in mind certain estates in the Nilgiris which face severe handicaps as regards labour, and certain others who have enough labour. Some estates employ Badagas, who work when it suits them to do so. That is not so in districts where families are employed on the estates. I think the out-turn bonus should be suited to local conditions. On that ground alone I am opposed to uniform standardisation.

Mr. M. R. Coghlan.—I am personally against standardisation. This is a matter which should be left entirely to District Associations.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—I agree that this is a matter for the District Planters' Associations.

Mr. Ivor Bull.—In the resolution proposed by Col. R. C. Morris, the word 'Out-turn Bonus' occurs. In Coorg we pay Rs. 4 to Rs. 6 at the end of the year as an 'attendance bonus'. There is also a weekly out-turn bonus, but with us this appears to have become somewhat confused with the 'Dearness allowance'. I do not believe we can standardise these bonuses, through all districts, for if the 'Out-turn Bonus' were

standardised, and a District was short of labour, the next thing we would find would be that 'Dearness Allowance' or some similar allowance had been increased in that district. I think we must leave it to each District to find out its own solution to its own problem.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—The Labour Advisory Committee have recommended a certain bonus and apparently District Associations have certain different standards. Is it Col. R. C. Morris' plan to send out a further recommendation?

Col. R. C. Morris.—Mr. Chairman, I am not going into the future of such things as dearness allowance and other concessions, which are being paid now, and which will be stopped a few years hence. But I think the out-turn bonus is going to stay. I should like a vote taken on the matter.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—If there is any need to standardise the out-turn bonus, as my friend insists, the question should be decided after getting the views of all estates. The U.P.A.S.I. should also bear in mind what is going to happen if too much standardisation is resorted to.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—Col. R. C. Morris mentioned the standardisation of bonus. If the various Planters' Associations are considering this question of bonus, I would strongly recommend for their consideration the system of an annual out-turn as against monthly out-turn. The tendency all over the Nilgiris is to pay the system of an annual out-turn as against monthly out-turn. The tendency all over the Nilgiris is to pay every month. In the old days the coolie went down with nothing in hand, probably borrowing Rs. 100 or so for his travelling and other expenses. If the out-turn bonus is made an annual affair, it will help the labourer to get to his village with the out-turn bonus money at the end of the year, and we may not have to recover the advance paid, as will be the case if the out-turn bonus is paid monthly.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I was talking with Sir Frederick James this week on this subject. He was almost certain that all allowances will be merged, by law, into pay which will have to be paid monthly.

Chairman.—Members have now expressed their views. May I take a vote on the resolution?

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—This is a subject more suitable for discussion at the Labour Advisory Committee meeting than at this meeting.

Chairman.—This is only a recommendation to the U.P.A.S.I. and has really nothing to do with the Labour Department.

The resolution was put to the meeting and lost by 13 votes to 3.

There being no other business, after a vote of thanks to the Chair had been proposed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

List of Subscribers and Subscribing Estates as at 1st December 1945

ANAMALLAIS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., Kadalapara, Malakipara, Pannimade.
ANAMALLAY TEA ESTATES, LTD., Kalliyar, Sholayar.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., Anally, Pachamallai, Selalipara, Valparai, Velonie Uralikal.
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, LTD., Candura, Iyerpadi, Lower Paralal.
Lower Sheikalmudi, Murugalli, Sheikalmudi, Upper Paralal.
ESTATES AND AGENCY CO., LTD., High Forest.
PERIA KARAMALAI TEA AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., Akkamalai, Karamalai, Oosimalai.
STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES, LTD., Injipara, Monica, Nullacathu, Sirikundra, Stanmore.
VELLAMALAI TEA CO., LTD., Vellamalai.

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE

BISSET, FRANK, Semni Valley.
HAILEYBURIA TEA ESTATES, LTD., Haileyburia.
HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO., LTD., Carady Goody, Karimkulam, Pasupara.
KARIMTHARUVI TEA ESTATES, LTD., Karimtharuv.
KOTTAGUDI PLANTATIONS LTD., Kollukumalai.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Arneikudy, Chenkara, Dymock, Moongalaar, Pattumallay, Wallardie.
MANALUR RUBBER CO., LTD., Manalur, Kongapatti, Moodapalli.
MIDLAND RUBBER AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., Arnakal, Balamore, Mahendragiri.
MIAMALLAY TEA ESTATES, LTD., Keerikara, Miamallay.
PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD., Kottamallai.
PEERMALAI TEA CO., LTD., Cheenthalaar, Central, Lone Tree, Pirmed.
PULLIKANAM TEA ESTATES, LTD., Pullikanam.
ROISSIER, R. P., Fairfield.
SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., Glenmary, Kuduakarnam, Ladrum, Woodlands, Ranikoil.
STAGBROOK RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES, LTD., Maimalai, Stagbrook.
TRAVANCORE TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., Bonami, Granby, Koliekanam, Mount, Munjamallay, Nellika.
Pambanaar, Pasumallay, Savarimallay, Thengakal, Thungamallay.
TROPICAL PLANTATIONS, LTD., Connemara, Periyar.
TWYFORD AND ASHLEY ESTATES, LTD., Twyford, Ashley.
VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD., Vaghamon.

COORG

AIRD, J., Raigode and Beetikadu.
ASPINWALL & CO., LTD., Balayatrie and Bikeri.
APPIAH, K. P., Oddarmotte.
BALL, MAJOR E.P., Whaddon.

BALL, MRS. M.D., Perambo Colly.
 BASAPPA, D., Pannia.
 CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD., Balmany, Bhunjigherry, Butahubudloo, Canon Cadoo, Chennan-kottay, Cottabetta, Doddabetta, Ghatted Hulla, Hanchibetta, Margolly, Mocha, Mutta Cadoo, Mutta Paramboo, Jumboor, Kibberi, Nullagottay, Nullore, Palakery, Pollibetta, Purchi Cadoo, Sunkoppa, Woshully.
 COORG CINCHONA ESTATES.
 COORG ESTATES, LTD., Cottacadoo and Jeynecadu.
 COORG TEA CO., LTD., Glen Lorna.
 CRAIG, LT.-COL. H. T., Faith, Wattakadoo.
 FENNELL, E. A., and Lt.-Col. H. F. MURLAND, Wooligooly.
 GOVINDAPPA, D., Madapur 'A'.
 HOROOR ESTATES, LTD., Horoor.
 KARRIE KOLLIE ESTATES CO., LTD., Karrie Kollie.
 KOORGHULLY COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., Koorghully.
 LEELE, MRS. V. C., Kedukal.
 KUSHALAPPA, K. M., School, Lekkerly.
 LUARD, MRS. M. C., Bisonfield.
 MACPHERSON, LT.-COL., O.B.E., AND OTHERS, Balla Cadoo.
 MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., Coovercolly Group, Santagherry.
 MERCARA RUBBERS LTD., Kedamakal.
 MITCHELL, MISS D. V., Attur.
 NANJAPPA, P. A., Nakoor, Bledfa.
 NARAYANA SETTY, D., Hilly Side, Masagode.
 NILAMBUR RUBBER CO., LTD., Glencoorg.
 SAKAMMA, SRI D. AND SRI. D. SIDDANNA BROTHERS' COFFEE ESTATES, Cumboor, Kusubur Madapur, Malambi, Masgod.
 SAMPAJE RUBBER CO., LTD., Sampaji.
 TIPPING, MRS. K., Alitopoo.
 THIRUMALACHARI, H., B.A., B.L., Kumbur, Madapur, Iggodlu, Gungibylu.
 WHITE, G. P., Netley and Yemmegoondi Estates.
 YUSUF ALIKHAN, Alicutty.

KANAN DEVANS

ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., Devikulam, Periakanal, Pullivasal.
 KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., Arivikad, Chittavurrai, Chockanad, Chundavurrai, Grahamsland, Guderale, Gundumallay, Kadalaar, Kalaar, Kanniamallay, Kundaly, Rajamallay, Sevenmally, Sholamallay Silent Valley, Letchmi, Lower Vaguvurrai, Madupatty, Munnar, Nadiar, Nettigudi, Nullatanni, Nyamakad, Parvithi, Periaurrai, Pettimudi, Sothuparai, Thenmally, Upper Vaguvurrai, Yellapatti.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Lockhart, Lower Surianalle, Panniar, Upper Surianalle.
 TALLIAR TEA CO., LTD., Chathamannar, Craig Lamont, Pambumallai, Talliar.

MUNDAKAYAM

MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Boyce, Cheruvalley, Mundakayam, Peruvanthanam.
 STAGBROOK RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES, LTD., Eldorado, Kokayar.
 TRAVANCORE RUBBER AND TEA CO., LTD., Chennapara, Kuppakayam, Valley End.
 VELLANI TEA ESTATES, LTD., Vellani.

MYSORE

ANOR ESTATES, LTD., Mylemoney, Busgode, Sampangikhan.
 BICCODE ESTATE, LTD., Biccode.
 BOWER, H. S., Handi.
 COWCOODY ESTATES, LTD., Cowcoody & Cullaly.
 DALTON, T. L., and C. S. IRON, Huntsey and Kitherhalli.
 GODFREY, C. H., Harlay, Woger, Yellikodige.
 HOLALU ESTATE, LTD., Holalu.
 HUNT, E. P., Hooli Hundloo.
 LINGAPUR ESTATE, LTD., Lingapur.
 MORGAN, MRS. S. F., AND OTHERS, Honey Vale.
 MORGAN COFFEE CO., LTD., Kurkenmatty Group, Merthikhan.
 MORRIS, A. E. C., Attikan.
 MORRIS, RANDOLPH C., Hannametti.
 MORRIS, C. W. G., Gorrayhutti.
 OLIVER, G. R., Hospet, Kesinvurthy.
 OLIVER, L. C. (Executors of), Kartikeri.
 PORTER, HALL & Co., Jignykan, Siddakhan.
 PORTER, HALL, DEANE & Co., Beetykhan.
 SMITH, S. A., Bedagulli.
 TEA ESTATES INDIA, LTD., Kadamane.
 TRAVERS DRAPES, V. L., Chinninalli.
 WALMESLEY, MRS., M.O., Goorghully, Hosshully, Salawara.

NELLIAMPATHIES

AMALGAMATED COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., Anaimaad, Palagapandy, Seetagundy.
 CHANDRAMALAI ESTATES, LTD., Chandramalai.
 NELLIAMPATHY TEA AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., ...

NILGIRIS

BITHIA GOWDER, B. K., Rocky Glen.
 CAMERON, MRS. E. G. & OTHERS, Ben Gorm.
 EMERALD VALLEY ESTATE, LTD.
 KADA GOWDER, M. S., Armagal and Moothorai.
 LINGA GOWDER, B. K., Manjoor.
 NANDIE GOWDER, B. K., Tiny Tea Estate.
 NEELAMALAI TEA AND COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., Bhawani, Katary, Moutere, Sutton.
 NONSUCH TEA ESTATES, LTD., Nonsuch.
 POONMUDI TEA AND RUBBER CO., LTD., Terramia.
 SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R., Kairbetta.
 STISTED, J. L. H., Burnside, Lucky Valley.
 THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., Korakundah, Thiashola.
 UNITED NILGIRI TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., Allada Valley, Chamraj, Devabetta, Koderi Valley, Rocklands.

NILIGIRI-WYNAAD

ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, LTD., Attikunna, Caroline, Richmond.
 DAVERASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., Daverashola, Rockwood.
 ESTATES AND AGENCY CO., LTD., Prospect and Seaforth Groups.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Choladi, Mayfield, Wentworth.
 TEA ESTATES INDIA, LTD., Rousdonmullay, Terrace.
 WAPSHARE, E. R., Burnside, Compton, Outcherlouy Tea Estate.

SOUTH TRAVANCORE

HAJAH MOIDEEN ROWTHER, M.K., Hereford Tea Estate.
 IPE OMMEN AND CO., LTD., Kurchemala.
 KRISHNA IYER, N., Neelgri & Murukady Tea Estates, Amaravathy.
 LESLIE, A. W., Shendurni.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Ambasad, Arundale, Florence, Isfield, Kallely, Kodamalay, Koney, Kora-vanthavalam, Kumbazha, Lahai, Nagamallay, Nedumpara, Perumun, Venture.
 NINAN & SONS., A.P., Elderslie.
 POONMUDI TEA AND RUBBER CO., LTD., Bon Accord, Braemore, Poonmudi.

WEST COAST

COCHIN MALABAR ESTATES, LTD., Eddivanna, Kinalur, Kuttiadi, Pudukad.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Kaliyar, Mooply.
 PULLANGODE RUBBER CO., LTD., Pullangode.
 THE ARTHALA TEA ESTATES, LTD., Arthala.
 THIRUMBADI RUBBER CO., LTD., Nileschwaram, Thirumbadi.

WYNAAD

CHEMBRA PEAK ESTATES, LTD., Chembra, Coleri, Elstone, Erramaculla, Perindotty, Poothacolie, Wariyat.
 ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, LTD., Anda Tode, Cherakara, Jessie, Nellimunda, Ripon, Talapoya, Tataamala, Thavenjal.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Achoor, Arrapetta, Chudale, Kardoora, Perrengodda, Pootumula, Sentinel Rock, Touramulla.

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

PATRONS

Bengorm Estate	Malayalam Plantations Ltd.	Simcock, E. W.
Brock, Lt.-Col. C. H., O.B.E., V.D.	Mangles Brothers	Stanmore (Anamallay) Estates Co., Ltd.
Cochin Malabar Estates, Ltd.	Mooply Estate	
Congreve, C. R. T., C.B.E.	Murphy, J. J.	
Consolidated Coffee Estates, (1943) Ltd.	Mysore Planters' Association	Travancore Rubber Co., Ltd.
Crawford, Lt.-Col. W. L., C.B.E.	Naduar Estates, Ltd.	Travancore Tea Estates Co., Ltd.
Crowther, R. F. H.	Nenmeny & Redlynch Estates	
	Nonsuch Tea Estates, Ltd.	Vincent, J. R.
Darragh, Smail & Co., Ltd.		Volkart Bros.
English & Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.	Pierce, Leslie & Co., Ltd.	
	Poonmudi Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd.	Walmesley, H. J.
	Puthuthotam Estates	Wynaad Planters' Association
Kanan Devan Planters' Association		
Karamalai Estate	Sheikalmudi Estate	
Kerala Calicut Estates, Ltd.	Sholayar Estate	Yendayar Estate

LIFE MEMBERS

Allan & Co., T. H.	Hall, C. J.	Patmore, F. C.
Anupura Coffee Works Co., Ltd.	Hall, Edward	Peermade Tea Co., Ltd.
Arabidacool Estate	Halliley, E. H.	Pinches, H. L.
Aspinwall & Co., Ltd.	Harley, R.	Pitcairn, J. E.
Arnakal Estate	Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd.	Pittock, C. K.
Alexander, J. H.	Hill, A. L.	Portland Estate
	Homewood, G. S.	Presidency Manure Works, Ltd.
Barber, Sir Fairless	Honnametti Estate	Pryde, J. R. N., C.B.E.
Bayly, S.	House, E. N.	
Brooke, G. A.	Humphreys, C. L. J.	
Bull, Ivor, O.B.E.		
Burmah Shell Oil Storage & Distributing Co. of India, Ltd.	Ireland Jones, J. H.	Rani Travancore Rubber Co., Ltd.
	Iyerpadi Estate	Robinson, J. H.
Cameron, E. G.		
Cameron, H. S.		
Central Travancore Planters' Association	James Finlay & Co., Ltd.	Sampson, J. E.
Central Travancore Rubber Co., Ltd.	James, Sir Frederick, O.B.E.	Saldhana & Sons, A. J.
Ceylon Land & Produce Co., Ltd.	Jeffrey, J. H.	Santaveri Estate
Chembra Peak Estates, Ltd.	Jodrell, R. N. W.	Siddakhan Estate
Clarke, E. Sydenham	Jumboor Estate	Smail, J. F.
Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd.		Southern India Tea Estates Co. Ltd.
Courpalais, C. R. H.		Sutton Group
Craig, W. G.	Kaliyar Estate	
Crawford, C. S.	Kirwan, N. G. B.	Tea Estates India, Ltd.
Cuthell, H.	Koechlin, E. L.	Thirumbadi Rubber Co., Ltd.
	Korangumudi Estate	Travers Drapes, V. L.
		Twyford & Ashley Estates, Ltd.
Dandison, A. S.	Langley, W. K. M., C.B.E.	
	Levett, R. W.	Vernede, C. R. B.
Eldorado Group		
Elkington, D.	Mackay, M. W.	Wallace, J. S. B.
	Mackenzie, C. A.	Wartyhully Estates
Farley, G. P.	McBride, J.	Watson, H.
Foster, R. G.	McLean, C. L.	Wilkie, J. M.
Francis, E. H.	Mundakayam Valley Rubber Co., Ltd.	Wilkie, J. S.
Freund, G. V. R.	Muskal Bora Estate	Williams, J. L. H.
Fulcher, G. W.		Windle, E. G.
		Woodlands & Olands Estates
Gerry, H.		Woodman, B.
Gibson, G. L. H.	Newcome, L.	Wolde, B.
Godfrey, C. H.	Nicoll, K. E.	
Gwynne, J. A.	Nilgiri Planters' Association	Young, E. H.

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

The Twenty-second Annual General Meeting of the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund held at 'Glenview,' Coonoor, on 16th August, 1945, commencing at 4-15 p.m.

The following were present:—

MESSRS F. H. FARMER (President); J. L. H. WILLIAMS, IVOR BULL, O.B.E., H. B. MACPHERSON, J. R. N. PRYDE, C.B.E., W/CDR. J. H. SPROTT, O.B.E., D.F.C., SIR FREDERICK JAMES, O.B.E., M.L.A. (Committee Members); W. WILSON MAYNE, B.Sc. (Secretary).

PATRONS

BENGORM ESTATE, per Mr. E. G. Cameron.
 CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD., per Mr. Ivor Bull, O.B.E.
 ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, LTD., SRIKALMUDI ESTATE, per Mr. F. H. Farmer.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., per Mr. I. W. Finlayson.
 MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., per W/Comdr. J. H. Sprott, O.B.E., D.F.C.
 POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., per Mr. J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E.
 STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES LTD., per Mr. J. L. H. Williams.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS ON BEHALF OF MEMBERS

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE P. A., per Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
 NILGIRI P. A., per Mr. J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E.
 NILGIRI-WYNAAD P. A., per Mr. T. Ryan.
 WYNAAD P. A., per Mr. B. D. Darkin.

LIFE MEMBERS

SIR FREDERICK JAMES, O.B.E., M.L.A.
 MR. R. C. MORRIS, M.L.A.
 MR. J. F. SMAIL.
 WOODLANDS AND OLANDS ESTATES, per Mr. N. G. Dysart.

MEMBERS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., KANAN
 DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., per Mr. R. Walker, O.B.E.
 DEAN, MR. S. H.
 DIAPER, MR. F. J. B.
 KAIRBETTA ESTATES, per BRIGADIER G. A. R. Spain.
 STAGBROOK RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES, LTD., per Mr. H. B. Macpherson.
 TWYFORD AND ASHLEY ESTATES, LTD., per Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
 Mr. F. H. Farmer, President of the U.P.A.S.I., took the Chair.
 The President.—I will ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.
 The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The President.—We have now to confirm the proceedings of the meeting held on 10th August 1944. These have been published in the U. P. A. S. I. Year Book 1944. Have I your permission to take these as a correct record?

The proceedings were taken as read and confirmed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The President.—I will now ask the Secretary to read the Secretary's Report for the year ending 31st March 1945.

The Report, as under, was then read:—

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 1945

Membership.—The number of planters who subscribed to the Fund during the year was 130 as compared with 134 in the previous year. The number of estate members who subscribed was 96 as against 98 last year. Donations received from District Associations, Companies, etc., totalled Rs. 1,670.

Income.—The total Income of the Fund from all sources amounted to Rs. 12,387-7-0. Of this, the income from subscriptions and donations was Rs. 6,440, and the interest realised from investments Rs. 5,758-8-0.

Expenditure.—Assistance was granted in 20 cases during the year as against 15 in the previous year. At the end of the year, there was an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 228-2-0 which was transferred to the Accumulated Fund.

In the accounts of the Fund as published on page 238 of the *Planters' Chronicle* dated 1st August, 1945, there was shown an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 193-10-0 for the year ending 31-3-45. In arriving at this figure credit was taken for the sum of Rs. 421-12-0 which was derived from the interest on "Mistley" endowments. The Auditors have since advised that the "Mistley" account should be shown separately from the rest of the Fund's accounts. Accordingly, the income and expenditure account will stand as follows:—

Excess of Income over Expenditure as in the published account	...	Rs. 193-10-0
Less amount transferred to "Mistley" account	...	421-12-0
Deficit in the S.I.P.B. Fund account as per Auditor's Report	...	228-2-0

Mistley Account.

Revenue	...	Rs. 421-12-0
Expenditure	...	Nil
Surplus		421-12-0

Investments.—The investments at the end of the year stand in the Balance Sheet at Rs. 1,79,660-3-0.

MISTLEY PROPERTY.—During the year the "Mistley" property at Kotagiri valued at Rs. 10,000, was donated by a member who also provided G. P. Notes of the value of Rs 10,000, the income from which is to be utilised for the upkeep of the building. Under the terms of conveyance, the income from this investment has to be kept separately and used only for the purpose set forth above. The Balance Sheet of the S.I.P.B. Fund as at 31st March 1945 therefore shows the items pertaining to "Mistley" separately from the rest.

THE PRESIDENT.—If no members have any questions to ask, I propose that the Secretary's Report for the year 1944-45 be adopted.

The Resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS (1944-45)

The President.—The Income and Expenditure Account for the year was published in the *Planters' Chronicle* dated 1st August 1945, and the Secretary has just read out the main items of the Balance Sheet. I propose:—

"That the Accounts for the year 1944-45 as audited be adopted"

The Resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

There being no other business, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 1945

LIABILITIES	RS	A	P	ASSETS	RS	A	P
Accumulated Funds—				Buildings—			
Balance as per last Balance Sheet ...	1,83,244	8	9	'Mistley' Buildings at Kotagiri ...	10,000	0	0
Add Value of Buildings donated by a Member ...	10,000	0	0	Investments—			
	1,93,244	8	9	General—			
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income during the year ...	228	2	0	Rs. 16,500 3½% Loan ...	14,643	12	0
	1,93,016	6	9	" 5,200 3% 1951-54 Loan ...	5,150	0	0
Mistley Building Repairs Endowment Fund—				" 3,000 4½% 1955-60 " ...	3,179	0	0
Value of Securities RS A P				" 5,000 5% 1945-55 " ...	5,000	0	0
donated by a member. 10,000 0 0				" 1,10,500 3% 1963-65 " ...	1,08,790	9	0
Add interest for the year. 421 12 0				" 5,000 4% 1960-70 " ...	5,396	14	0
	10,421	12	0	" 33,000 3% 1946 Defence Bonds ...	33,000	0	0
Due to United Planters' Association of Southern India ...	3,712	9	0	" 4,500 3% 949-52 Defence Bonds ...	4,500	0	0
Sundry Creditors ...	20	0	0		1,79,660	3	0
				Mistley Building Repairs Endowment Fund—			
				Rs. 10,000 3½% Loan ...	10,000	0	0
					1,89,660	3	0
				Sundry Debtors ...	48	12	0
				Interest Accrued on Investments—			
				General ...	1,599	0	11
				Mistley Building Repairs Endowment Fund ...	73	8	0
					1,672	8	11
				Cash and other Balances—			
				With Imperial Bank of India—			
				General ...	5,322	1	7
				Mistley Building Repairs Endowment Fund ...	348	4	0
					5,670	5	7
				Cash on hand ...	118	14	3
					5,789	3	10
Total ...	2,07,170	11	9	Total ...	2,07,170	11	9

MADRAS,
3rd August 1945.

Examined and found correct.

FRASER & ROSS,
Chartered Accountants, Registered Accountants, Auditor.

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 1945

EXPENDITURE	RS	A	P	INCOME	RS	A	P
To Assistance Granted—				By Subscriptions and Donations—			
Case No.				Anamallais ...	730	0	0
1. Allowance to widow ...	600	0	0	Central Travancore ...	900	0	0
2. Allowance to widow ...	930	0	0	Cochin ...	35	0	0
3. Allowance to widow ...	420	0	0	Coorg ...	520	0	0
4. Allowance to widow ...	750	0	0	Kanan Devans ...	585	0	0
5. Allowance to widow ...	480	0	0	Mundakayam ...	60	0	0
6. Allowance to widow and Funeral Expenses ...	494	0	0	Mysore ...	1,010	0	0
7. Destitute Planter ...	720	0	0	Nilgiris ...	185	0	0
8. Destitute Planter ...	900	0	0	Nilgiri-Wynaad ...	145	0	0
9. Destitute Planter ...	600	0	0	South Travancore ...	325	0	0
10. Destitute Planter ...	600	0	0	Wynaad ...	655	0	0
11. Destitute Planter ...	600	0	0	Firms and Companies ...	1,270	0	0
12. Destitute Planter ...	600	0	0	U. P. A. S. I. Staff ...	20	0	0
13. Destitute Planter ...	450	0	0		6,440	0	0
14. Destitute Planter ...	1,440	0	0	Interest ...	5,947	7	0
15. Destitute Planter ...	225	0	0	Excess of Expenditure over Income transferred to Accumulated Funds.	228	2	0
16. Destitute Planter ...	525	0	0				
17. Destitute Planter ...	480	0	0				
18. Home Education, 1 Girl ...	133	9	0				
19. Home Allowance to widow ...	834	13	0				
20. Home Allowance to Planter ...	721	4	0				
	12,503	10	0				
Current Expenses ...	111	15	0				
Total ...	12,615	9	0	Total ...	12,615	9	0

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

Registered under the Societies' Registration Act XXI of 1860

- The name of the Association is the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund hereinafter referred to as 'The Fund'.
- The objects for which the Association has been started are :—
 - To give temporary assistance to members or to dependents of members who are in distress as the result of any good and sufficient cause.
 - To give temporary assistance in special cases to European planters of Southern India who are not members and to their dependents.
 - Generally to make such use of the funds of the Association as will best effect the carrying out of the aforesaid objects or any of them, but in no case it is intended to provide an annual income.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

- Subject to Rule 4 the following shall be eligible for membership :—
 - Any European Proprietor, Manager, Superintendent, Assistant or Recruiter of an Estate subscribing to the U.P.A.S.I. or to a District Planters' Association which is a Member of the United Planters' Association of Southern India or who is himself a subscriber to such an Association or any European Employee of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, on payment of a minimum subscription of Rs. 10 per annum.
 - Any estate which is a member of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, or of a District Planters' Association which is a member of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, on payment of a minimum subscription of Rs. 25 per annum.
- A donor of Rs. 200 or any member subscribing Rs. 200 within a period not exceeding five years shall be considered a life member and entitled to the benefits of the Fund without payment of further subscriptions, and shall not be subject to the provisions of Rule 9.
- A donor of Rs. 1,000 either in one or more instalments shall be welcomed as a Patron and shall be considered a life member and be entitled to all benefits of the Fund, and shall not be subject to the provisions of Rule 9.
- All applications for membership shall be sent to the Secretary in a form to be prescribed by the Committee, and the Committee shall have the right of rejecting any application for membership. Each application for membership shall be accompanied by a tender of the first year's subscription which shall be returned to the applicant in the event of his not being elected a member.
- All subscriptions shall be due on 1st April each year and the Secretary of the Fund or Honorary Secretaries of District Planters' Associations shall collect the same.
- All subscriptions of less than the minimum laid down in Rule 1 or received from persons not eligible for membership shall be treated as donations to the Fund.

II. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- Any member shall have the right of resigning his membership by giving notice in writing to the Secretary on or before the 31st March of any year provided that this subscription shall have been paid up to the 31st of March of that year.
- Any member whose subscription is more than one year in arrears shall cease to be a member, provided that—
 - all arrears of subscription owing by him at the time of his so ceasing to be a member shall remain due and owing by him to the Fund ;
 - he shall be entitled at any time to resume his membership upon paying all arrears of subscription owing by him at the time of his so ceasing to be a member as aforesaid together with all sums which would have become due and payable by him as subscriptions had he continued to be a member of the Fund without interruption ; and
 - he may be re-elected a member by the Committee upon such terms as to payment of arrears of subscriptions and/or of any other sum which would have become due and payable by him as subscription had he continued to be a member of the Fund without interruption as the Committee may in its discretion determine.
- Any member except a Patron and/or Life Member who by reason of change in his profession or employment would not be eligible for membership under Rule 1 but wishes to retain his membership shall submit an application to remain a member to the Secretary for the decision of the Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.

III. MANAGEMENT

- The Fund shall be administered by a Committee composed of the Members of the Executive Committee of the United Planters' Association of Southern India whose Secretary shall also be the Secretary of the Fund.
- The Committee shall have power :—
 - to arrange for meetings of the members of the Fund and for its own meetings and to regulate the procedure at all such meetings including the system of voting and to alter such procedure ;
 - to make, alter and repeal all such bye-laws as they may deem necessary or convenient for the proper conduct and management of the Fund provided that no bye-laws shall be inconsistent with or shall affect or repeal anything contained in the Memorandum of Association or the Rules of the Fund.

12. At any meeting of the Committee three members shall form a quorum.
13. The President and the Secretary of the United Planters' Association of Southern India shall be the Trustees of the Fund for the time being.
14. All the property of the Fund movable and immovable shall vest in the Trustees and all documents relating to and affecting the property of the Fund shall be taken and stand in the name of the Fund; all documents relating to the properties of the Fund shall be executed by the Trustees for and on behalf of the Fund.
15. The Fund shall sue or be sued in the name of the Secretary.

IV. BANKING AND INVESTMENTS

16. All subscriptions and moneys received shall be paid into a separate account with the Imperial Bank of India, and it shall require the joint signatures of the Trustees to draw any money from that account.
17. The moneys of the Fund shall be invested in any investments allowed by the law for the time being in force for the investments of Trust Funds, or they may be placed in fixed deposit with the Imperial Bank of India.

V. PAYMENT OF BENEFITS

18. The Committee shall consider all applications for assistance or relief made in the matter hereinafter prescribed and shall make such payment or payments (either to the applicant or to any other person or persons, company, firm or association on behalf of the applicant) as in its discretion it thinks proper effectively to afford assistance to the applicant within the terms and objects of the Fund.
19. All applications for assistance or relief or for renewal thereof shall be made in a form to be prescribed by the Committee and forwarded by the Secretary of the Planters' Association of the District in which the applicant last worked as a planter, to the Committee through the Secretary. Applications for assistance for employees of the United Planters' Association of Southern India shall be made direct to the Committee by the President of the United Planters' Association of Southern India.
20. No grants involving periodical payments shall in the first instance or in case of subsequent renewal be made for a longer period than 6 months. It shall however be competent for anyone in distress to apply for further relief, and the Committee may render such assistance if the Funds are sufficient to meet the deserving cases of first applicants. In no case shall first class passages be granted if second class are available.
21. The Secretary of any District Planters' Association may, with the sanction of his Association or the Committee, give temporary relief in case of emergency to the extent of Rs. 100 in any one case provided that the applicant for relief is a member of the Fund or a dependent of a member.
22. European planters other than members of the Fund who are or have been members of the planting community of Southern India, and their dependents, may, in special cases, receive assistance from the Fund on making an application in the prescribed form provided that such application has the support of the Committee of the District Planters' Association forwarding the same. The Committee shall be the sole judge of the merits of each case and if the Committee is satisfied that any case is a proper one for assistance any payment made by it shall be made under the terms of Rule 18 of these Rules.

VI. ALTERATION OF RULES

23. These Rules may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any General Meeting of the Fund of which at least three months' notice shall have been given provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it be carried by a majority of at least three-fifths of the members voting thereon.

BYE-LAWS

1. That the Annual General Meeting shall be held at the same place and at about the same time as the Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India.
2. That at all General Meetings voting shall only be by Patrons and District Planters' Associations which are members of the U. P. A. S. I., or their representatives and the President of the U. P. A. S. I. Each Patron shall be entitled to five votes. The President of the U. P. A. S. I. shall exercise the votes of the employees of the U. P. A. S. I. and such other members of the Fund as would otherwise be the votes of the Representatives of District Planters' Associations and the President of the U. P. A. S. I. shall be entitled to two votes for every Life Member represented and one vote for each ten rupees of the current year's subscription received before the date of the meeting from members represented by them.

APPENDIX I

THE U.P.A.S.I. BUYING AGENCY BYE-LAWS

- I. The Agency is and shall be a Department of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, and as such its affairs shall be administered by the Executive Committee of that body and the Secretary shall be the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I.
- II. As an Agency to obtain concessions as regards prices charged for goods supplied or services rendered to its members in return for prompt payment and to encourage combination in placing buying orders.
- III. The following shall be entitled to membership on the payment of an annual subscription of Rs. 10 which may be collected by the Secretary forwarding the Membership Ticket by V. P. Post for Rs. 10-4-0 :-

All Members and employees of Members of the U.P.A.S.I., all Members of District Associations which are members of the U.P.A.S.I., all European employees of the U.P.A.S.I., and Clubs in Planting Districts.

Constitution

Objects

Membership

- IV. Membership shall be reckoned from the 1st of the month nearest to the date of receipt of application and all renewals shall date from the expiry of the previous ticket; in no case shall any allowance be made for absence on leave or any ticket be issued for a period of less than twelve months. Any member whose subscription is one year in arrears shall cease to be a member.

V. A Member's ticket is not transferable and can only be used by the person, Estate, Firm or Club named therein for their own individual purchases; but, in the case of a person, the ticket in his or her name may also cover purchases made by any actual family dependent and also purchases for any Estate of which that person is Manager, Superintendent, Assistant or Proprietor (otherwise than as a Director or Shareholder only) provided that Estate is owned by a member of the U.P.A.S.I. or of a District Association which is a member of the U.P.A.S.I.

VI. Members failing to settle their accounts with Firms in the list as provided for in Rule VII will be liable to have their names removed from the list of members and cease to be entitled to any of the benefits obtained by the Agency.

Liability

VII. The names of Firms, Companies and Persons who agree to grant special terms to Members of the Agency shall be entered in a list kept for that purpose which shall from time to time be circulated to all Members; and such Firms, Companies and Persons shall be furnished periodically with the Agency list of members.

VIII. The Agency will not be responsible in any way for the action of its members or of the Firms, Companies, and others granting special terms.

Profits

IX. Any balance being a profit at the end of a year shall be credited to the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund.

X. In no case shall the Secretary act as the agent of a member in any business connected with the Agency.

APPENDIX II

U.P.A.S.I. LABOUR BYE-LAWS

- I. The following Labour Bye-Laws shall be binding on all members of the U.P.A.S.I., and on their servants and Agents and no local rule of any District Association shall be repugnant to these Bye-Laws.
- II. All disputes between members who are both subscribers to the Labour Department shall be submitted to that Department for adjudication under its own Bye-Laws.
- III. All disputes between members who are both members of the same District Planters' Association shall be submitted to that District Association for adjudication under its own local Rules.
- IV. All disputes, complaints or other cases that arise between members who are not covered by Bye-Law II above shall be submitted to the Executive Committee through the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., for adjudication.

IV. All claims under written contract, Reports, Pronotes, and Bonds legally executed shall have priority over those made under verbal agreements.

V. No Labour Supplier, while still under agreement with or in debt to a member, shall be given an open letter or 'Tundu' giving him permission to accept employment or advance for himself or his coolies elsewhere.

VI. No member shall offer a commission, bribe or special inducement of any sort to an agent of the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department, for any purpose whatsoever.

VII. No member other than a Coffee Member shall raise the pay of coolies without giving two months' notice of his intention to the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I., for circulation to other members.

VIII. Any member, or a Labour Supplier of a member, who employs or advances or enters into contract with any other Labour Supplier, Sub-Supplier or Labourer who is proved to be indebted to or under contract with any other member or his Labour Supplier or Sub-Supplier, shall, on demand, either cease to employ him forthwith or pay up the debt as proved to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee, if the member with the prior claim is willing to accept it; provided, in the case of Labourers only, no claim shall be admitted if the claim is legally time barred.

IX. Bye-Law No. VIII shall not be enforceable if it is proved to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee that the former employer has done anything to invalidate the contract.

X. Any member wishing to engage a private Labour Agent shall not employ an ex-employee of the Labour Department without the written consent of the Director.

XI. In the event of a breach of the provisions of these Bye-Laws, the Executive Committee are empowered to take such action as they may consider advisable.

XII. No member or person recruiting on his behalf shall recruit any labour in a planting district other than that in which is situated the estate for which such labour is being recruited unless previous written permission has been granted through the Director of the Labour Department by the Association of the planting district in which it is proposed to recruit.

APPENDIX III

List of Members of the United Planters' Association of Southern India

Corrected up to 1st November, 1945

I. ORDINARY MEMBERS

Name of Members	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Aird, J. ...	...	217	...	...
Aiyadorai, T. M. ...	61	...	...	...
Amalgamated Coffee Estates Ltd. ...	...	1,382	...	525
Amalgamated Tea Estates Ltd. ...	2,671	...	...	452
Alageswar Estates Ltd. ...	471	381	...	8
Anamallai Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	1,688	...	...	...
Anderson, J. S. & R. L. ...	...	290	...	...
Andia Pillai, T. ...	...	...	...	29
Anglo-American Direct Tea Trading Co., Ltd. ...	6,454	572	184	1,302
Anoor Estates, Ltd. ...	...	350	...	...
Appachu, C. K. ...	...	50	...	...
Appayya, B. M. ...	...	20	...	...
Appiah, K. P. ...	...	100	...	...
Appiah, M. P. ...	...	30	...	...
Arthala Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	430	...	...	...
Asher, W. ...	...	56	...	...
Arunachalam Chettiar, O. A. Pr. M. ...	220	217	2	...
Athrey, N. B. ...	...	20	...	...
Alexander, T. P. M. & Sir James Doak ...	...	...	...	1,167
Badnekhan Estates, Ltd. ...	...	233	...	...
Balanoor Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	583	670	179	...
Ball, Major E. P. ...	...	182	...	...
Ball, Mrs. M. D. ...	...	261	...	1
Balmadies Plantations, Ltd. ...	...	290	...	...
Barton Wright, R. & G. Barton Wright ...	...	...	80	...
Basappa, D. ...	...	23	...	6
Basettappa, G. ...	...	78	...	...
Be Be Rubber Estates, Ltd. ...	75	5	694	...
Belliappa, K. M. ...	...	11	...	...
Bella Gowder, J. M. ...	4	9	...	...
Bella Gowder, J. N. ...	9	26	...	...
Bella Gowder, N. ...	20	10	...	...
Belli Gowder, B. K. ...	10	43	...	...
Bellie Gowder, M. ...	32	...	...	...
Bhadra Valley Estates, Ltd. ...	209	360	...	...
Biccode Estates Ltd. ...	...	295	...	...
Bithia Gowder, B. K. ...	...	50	...	...
Bhide, M. N. ...	...	...	...	160
Bissett, F. ...	465	...	...	...
Bokka Gowder, K. ...	163	60	...	...
Blue Mountain Estates, Ltd. ...	1,121	712	30	...
Bombay-Burmah Trading Corporation, Ltd. ...	4,850	...	...	249
Bombay-Burmah Plantations, Ltd. ...	573	...	...	1,253
...	502	...	...	...
...	506	...	...	...
Bower, E. M. ...	...	110	...	5
Bower, W. H. ...	...	25	...	...
Brice, S., F. C. Scott, & Mrs. Scott ...	...	30	...	270
Brunner, Mrs. C. ...	...	90	...	...
Brooke, Mrs. ...	...	312	...	...
Brooke, Mrs. & Others ...	...	134	...	...
Bhavani Tea & Produce Co., Ltd. ...	771	543	242	52
Cameron, Mrs. E. G. & Others ...	...	...	...	...
Cameron, H. S. ...	352	...	...	...
Coorg Estates Ltd. ...	5	2	...	...
Carey, Comdr. H. F. ...	...	290	...	...
Chandramalai Estates, Ltd. ...	...	110	...	...
...	212	253	...	...
Carried forward ...	22,457	9,109	1,411	5,479

Name of Members	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ...	22,457	9,109	1,411	5,479
Chacko, Mrs. M. A. ...	...	...	125	...
Chathukutty Nair, T. V. ...	10	25	...	3
Chembra Peak Estates, Ltd. ...	1,336	320	...	...
Chengappa, K. M. ...	...	76	...	50
Cherian, P. V. ...	7	55	...	...
Chevana Writer & Sons, B. ...	9	13	...	...
Clarke, E. Sydenham ...	384	...	...	...
Clay, A. P. ...	1	...	...	...
Cochin Malabar Estates, Ltd. ...	...	...	4,387	...
Cochin Plantations, Ltd. ...	48	110	68	300
Consolidated Coffee Estates (1943), Ltd. ...	...	4,969	...	2
...	...	...	...	30
...	...	...	...	105
Coonoor Tea Estate, Ltd. ...	265	...	...	...
Coorg Cinchona Estates ...	...	35	...	...
Coorg Tea Co., Ltd. ...	362	...	...	...
Coorg Plantations, Ltd. ...	...	240	...	10
Craig, Lt.-Col. H. T. ...	...	487	...	...
Crawford, C. S., Lt.-Col. W. L. Crawford, & G. V. R. Friend ...	...	470	...	...
Crawford, C. S. & Lt.-Col. W. L. Crawford ...	...	783	...	...
Crawford, W. L. & Mrs. Hardman ...	...	135	...	...
D'Roza, A. M. H. ...	...	72	...	...
D'Souza, M. ...	...	137	...	...
D. S. Wala Tea & Rubber Estates, Ltd. ...	11	...	19	...
Dalton, T. L. & C. S. Iron ...	...	400	...	...
Dasappa, D. ...	...	32	...	...
Dastur, M. R. ...	45	4	...	...
Deane Drummond, Lt.-Col. J. D. ...	329	181	...	...
Devarshola Tea Co., Ltd. ...	2,600	85	...	...
Devashola (Nilgiri) Tea Estates Co., Ltd. ...	345	...	...	...
Deenadayalan, W. P. A. S. ...	...	456	...	...
Devasahayam, D. M. ...	71	...	...	12
Dodluckonda Estates, Ltd. ...	...	194	...	...
Eariyah, L. ...	34	5	...	...
Elk Hill Coffee Estates, Ltd. ...	...	1,020	...	...
Emerald Valley Estates, Ltd. ...	193	...	...	...
English & Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd. ...	9,741	460	...	650
...	...	...	...	13
Estates & Agency Co., Ltd. ...	3,176	...	...	...
Fennell, E. A. & Lt.-Col. H. F. Murland ...	...	350	...	...
Fennell, E. E. ...	214	50	...	...
Fox, F. G. ...	...	249	...	...
Fringford Estates, Ltd. ...	490	...	...	150
Fulcher, E. A. & G. W. ...	317	...	...	...
Gangaday, B. N. ...	4	3	...	...
Gerrard, E. F. H. ...	131	...	...	...
Gilby, E. H. ...	...	50	...	...
Gilby, R. A. ...	...	100	...	...
Glenburn Estates ...	...	160	290	...
Gnanasiromani, P. T. ...	30	...	...	...
Godfrey, C. H. ...	...	330	...	40
Haileyburia Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	634	...	...	...
Haja Mohideen Rowther, Md. ...	322	...	35	60
Halliah, J. ...	13	3	...	...
Hawke, L. A. ...	251	176	49	...
Hight, S. M. (Executors of) ...	...	930	...	...
Hill, Mrs. E. (Executors of) ...	637	46	...	...
Holalu Estate, Ltd. ...	...	133	...	...
Hooroo Syndicate, Ltd. ...	...	160	...	...
Humphreys, Mrs. C. L. J. ...	...	80	...	...
Hunnybun, C. H. ...	103	...	...	...
Carried forward ...	44,579	22,693	6,384	6,904

Name of Members	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ...	44,579	22,693	6,384	6,904
Hunt, St. John ...	...	598	...	20
Hunt, E. P. ...	...	220	...	15
Highland Produce Co., Ltd. ...	1,238	...	...	5
Hill, A. L. ...	...	250	...	...
Iayah, N. S. ...	70	...	...	...
Jacob, N. M. ...	4	4	7	...
Jacob, T. J. ...	...	...	...	150
Jogiah, B. M. ...	9	7	...	2
Jogiah, N. ...	10	4	...	...
Joghee Maistry & Sons, G. ...	15	5	...	...
Joseph, C. S. ...	11	4	...	135
Joseph, K. T. ...	18	...	241	...
Kada Gowder, M. S. ...	30	25	...	...
Kalasa Tea & Produce Co., Ltd. ...	539	107	...	20
Kalla Gowder, J. ...	12	3	...	...
Kalliah, H. ...	18	...	...	...
Kaveriappa, B. A. ...	...	110	...	...
Kanan Devan Hills Produce Co., Ltd. ...	26,591	...	...	...
Karimtharuvu Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	469	...	...	...
Karriekollie Estates, Ltd. ...	...	211	...	9
Katary Veerasaiva Co. Ltd. ...	38	10	...	...
Kay, Miss A. M. ...	14	40	...	...
Kerala Calicut Estates, Ltd. ...	...	...	4,484	...
Koorghully Coffee Estates, Ltd. ...	...	297	...	...
Koderi Plantations, Ltd. ...	...	165	...	...
Korangumudi Estates Co., Ltd. ...	134	...	...	913
Kottagudi Plantations, Ltd. ...	215	...	...	50
Krishna Iyer, N. and V. Neelakanta Iyer ...	690	...	...	...
Krishna Iyengar, B. K. ...	...	100	...	...
Kurchimala Plantations Ltd. ...	118	20	...	270
Kuttanad Cardamoms Ltd. ...	...	250	200	300
Kylasam Pillay, T. A. ...	...	90	...	...
Kochuvareed, T. V. ...	233	4	1,218	...
Kuttanad Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	25	...	121	...
Kushalappa, K. M. ...	...	90	600	177
Lake, R. C. ...	...	160	...	...
Lechler, Mrs. V. A. ...	...	75	...	...
Leslie, A. W. ...	444	...	...	53
Leela, Mrs. V. C. ...	...	150	...	...
Linga Gowder, B. K. ...	35	84	...	...
Linga Gowder, M. S. ...	33	22	...	...
Lingapur Estate Ltd. ...	...	217	...	...
Lingiah, K. N. ...	25	2	...	...
Lingiah, M. ...	12	8	...	...
Lingiah, N. ...	100	75	...	...
Lingiah, P. ...	19	...	...	...
Luard, R. E. L. ...	...	90	...	...
Luiz, A. W. P. ...	52	...	220	25
Macpherson, Lt.-Col. D. I. ...	...	380	...	...
Macqueen, R. B. ...	...	248	...	...
Madapa, N. P. ...	...	30	...	...
Madras Tea Estates Ltd. ...	689	...	...	...
Mahomed Ali & Co., A. ...	320	...	...	...
Malayalam Plantations, Ltd. ...	21,174	...	19,862	286
Malliah, H. J. ...	5	5	...	...
Manaar Estates Ltd. ...	36	229	...	...
Manjanatha Shetty, M. L. ...	...	50	...	...
Manalur Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	...	124	400	...
Mandanna, M. S. ...	...	50	...	...
Carried forward ...	98,024	27,306	33,737	9,334

Name of Members	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ...	98,024	27,306	33,737	9,334
Ianjanathamoorthy, N. S. ...	...	87	...	...
Iangles Bros. Coorg Coffee Estates, Ltd. ...	...	1,019	...	...
Ialabar Industrial Co., Ltd. ...	...	300	...	...
Iannarghat Rubber Estates, Ltd. ...	5	50	655	...
Iatha Gowder, J. ...	...	12	368	225
Iatha Gowder, S. ...	...	15	...	...
Iatha Gowder, K. A. ...	11	...	...	...
Iatha Maistry & Co., B. ...	55	106	...	...
Iathai, V. J. ...	...	10	...	...
Iathew, M. G. ...	...	40	...	25
Iathew, K. M. ...	...	24	18	10
Iathyalingam, M. ...	10	6	...	...
Iidland Rubber & Produce Co., Ltd. ...	1,500	...	1,980	...
Iitchell, H. ...	36	...	351	...
Iitchell, Miss D. V. ...	...	253	...	...
Iercara Rubbers, Ltd. ...	...	...	872	...
Ilamallay Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	508	...	...	...
Iockett, Brooke (Executors of) ...	...	901	...	...
Iooore, R. J. A. ...	793	6	...	...
Iorcha Gowder, S. K. ...	2	18	...	...
Iorgan Coffee Co., Ltd. ...	...	500	...	8
Iorgan, J. S. H. ...	...	550	...	...
Iorgan, Mrs. S. F., and Others ...	...	340	...	...
Iorris, C. W. G. ...	...	360	...	...
Iorris, A. E. C. ...	...	120	...	...
Iorris, R. C. ...	2	246	...	...
Iula Singh, Dr. S. ...	61	266	...	32
Iurphy Estates, Ltd. ...	468	532	...	1,157
Iurphy, J. F. ...	...	250	...	...
Iaduar Estates, Ltd. ...	449	396	...	93
Iandhie Gowder, B. K. ...	70	40	...	...
Iandhie Gowder, M. ...	20	6	...	...
Ianja Maistry, B. ...	12	2	...	...
Ianjiah, B. ...	15	3	...	...
Iarasimhamurthi, K. ...	...	13	...	...
Ianjappa, P. A. ...	...	120	...	...
Ianjundiah, B. ...	16	11	...	...
Iarai Gowder, K. ...	10	10	...	...
Iarayana Setty, D. ...	...	203	...	...
Ieelamalai Tea and Coffee Estates, Ltd. ...	1,636	264	...	...
Ielliampathy Tea and Produce Co., Ltd. ...	577	269	173	324
Iewcome, L. ...	...	549	...	68
Ilgiri-Neerugundi Estates, Ltd. ...	329	622	...	...
Ilambur Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	...	...	937	...
Iew Glen Morgan Estates, Ltd. ...	361	...	...	40
Iinan & Sons, A. P. ...	167	...	...	30
Ionsuch Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	804	2	...	...
Iorman, E. F. M. ...	...	...	549	...
Iiver, R. O., G. C. S. Oliver and Miss C. F. Oliver ...	...	226	...	...
Iiver, G. R., and Others ...	...	133	...	...
Iiver, L. C. ...	...	195	...	...
Iullivan, B. D. ...	...	20	...	...
Iais, Sylvester ...	...	50	...	...
Ierumal, B. ...	160	60	...	...
Iadivayal Estates ...	...	73	...	...
Iareekanni Travancore Rubber Co. Ltd. ...	...	...	665	...
Carried forward ...	106,117	37,383	40,305	11,355

Name of Members	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ...	106,117	37,383	40,305	11,355
Parker, Miss C. K. ...	275	...	...	...
Parkside (Neilgherry Hills) Estates Co., Ltd. ...	649	102	...	...
Parukutty Nethyaramma ...	106	...	...	...
Passmore, Mrs. ...	...	107	...	...
Patel, N. K. ...	127	...	...	...
Patrakola Tea Co., Ltd. ...	648	...	...	...
Peermade Tea Co., Ltd. ...	1,575	...	...	...
Periakaramalai Tea & Produce Co., Ltd. ...	1,943	...	...	29
Periyar Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	...	892	...	...
Periasamy Nadar, M. S. ...	...	608	...	241
Pillai, K. N. ...	...	...	80	...
Poonmudi Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	2,434	58	687	...
Porter, Hall & Co. ...	...	500	...	...
Porter, Hall, Deane & Co. ...	...	440	...	...
Pothan Joseph & Sons ...	...	180	...	...
Pullengode Rubber and Produce Co., Ltd. ...	...	...	145	...
Pullikanam Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	...	...	1,607	...
Punja, P. R. T. ...	590	...	...	75
Puthuthottam Estate (1943) Ltd. ...	...	72	...	...
Puttappa Setty, V. N. ...	...	560	...	140
Raju Bet'an, B. ...	...	12	...	...
Rajagiri Rubber & Produce Co., Ltd. ...	33	6	...	...
Rangiah Gowder, K. ...	...	...	1,296	...
Rahm, Chas. ...	123	...	908	...
Rahm, W. (Executors of) ...	...	155	...	...
Rahm, W. (Executors of) ...	...	180	...	...
Rajan, C. P. ...	41	21	...	...
Rathnavale, S. ...	...	...	...	130
Rajagopalan, Capt. R. ...	15	13	...	...
Raju, N. K. ...	28	2	...	...
Raitt, C. ...	...	120	...	...
Ramanan, Major C. S. V., and Others ...	20	80	...	...
Rev. Mother Superior of Providence House ...	...	40	...	...
Robinson, Miss J. ...	...	50	...	...
Roissier, R. P. ...	435	...	...	...
Roman Catholic Mission of Pondicherry ...	...	464	...	...
Ryle, C. D. ...	...	165	...	...
Rama Gowder, K. K. ...	...	20	...	...
Sakamma, D., and D. Siddanna Bros. ...	...	1,093	...	2
Sadasivam Pillai, A. ...	4	96	...	...
Sampaji Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	...	...	433	...
Savarnalai Estates, Ltd. ...	...	165	...	3
Seth Sivlall Nathmall & Co. ...	...	179	...	...
Scott, W. P. ...	4	106	...	...
Sequeira, A. B. ...	...	67	...	...
Seshiah, K. T. ...	...	70	...	...
Shambayya, N. S. ...	...	50	...	...
Shambu Gowda, H. G. ...	...	...	...	...
Sherneilly Rubber & Cardamom Estates, Ltd. ...	...	...	208	...
Shevaroy Estates, Ltd. ...	158	812	30	...
Short Bros., Ltd. ...	...	375	...	...
Short, C. K. ...	...	106	...	...
Short, Mrs. M. S. R. ...	...	216	...	...
Siddah Gowder, K. ...	200	...	...	...
Simcock, E. W. ...	...	175	...	...
Simpson, C. H. ...	96	20	5	...
Smith, S. A. ...	...	118	...	...
Sogathorai Nilgiri Tea Estates Ltd. ...	27	30	...	...
South Travancore Plantations Ltd. ...	543	...	...	...
Southern India Tea Estates Co., Ltd. ...	2,465	...	...	...
Spain, Lt.-Col. G. A. R. ...	253	27	...	...
Carried forward ...	118,909	45,935	45,794	11,305

Name of Members	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ...	118,909	45,935	45,794	12,434
agbrook Rubber & Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	1,083	...	1,006	...
anes & Co., Ltd., T. ...	235	235	...	...
anmore (Anamallai) Estates Co., Ltd. ...	3,624	247	...	408
ewart, Mrs. M. C. ...	...	60	...	...
isted, J. L. H. ...	253	23	...	...
t. Gabriel's Brotherhood ...	...	144	...	...
trauss, M. ...	40	...	...	...
ubramanian, G. S. ...	...	...	405	...
upreme Industries Ltd. ...	...	...	...	...
waminatha Iyer, A. ...	24	...	...	...
Yalliar Tea Co., Ltd. ...	1,018	719	...	...
Tea Estates India, Ltd. ...	...	...	...	500
eekey Rubbers (India) Ltd. ...	...	...	1,395	...
hatha Gowder & Sons, N. ...	127	120	...	...
hatha Maistry, N. ...	25	45	...	...
hiashola Tea Co., Ltd. ...	1,536	100	...	...
Thirumbadi Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	...	...	888	...
Thirumalachar, H. ...	...	168	...	6
Thomas, K. J. ...	30	...	225	...
Thomas, M. A. ...	45	25	...	30
Thutta Gowder, T. M. ...	11	10	...	...
Tipping, Mrs. K. ...	...	143	...	...
Travancore Rubber & Tea Co., Ltd. ...	680	...	2,146	...
Travancore Tea Estates Ltd. ...	6,137	...	...	...
Travers Drapes, V. L. ...	...	240	...	16
Travers Drapes, Mrs. N. A. ...	...	150	...	8
Tropical Plantations, Ltd. ...	439	...	1,040	270
Twyford & Ashley Estates, Ltd. ...	1,291	...	...	...
Umayambika Plantations Ltd. ...	99	232	...	...
United Coffee Supply Co., Ltd. ...	14	224	...	...
United Nilgiri Tea Estates Co., Ltd. ...	1,059	...	...	...
Vaghamon (Travancore) Tea Co., Ltd. ...	679	...	...	...
Vayittri Plantations, Ltd. ...	62	150	...	400
Velimalai Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	...	...	839	...
Vellamalai Tea Co., Ltd. ...	1,063	...	...	...
Vellani Tea Estates, Ltd. ...	395	...	...	...
Vaikundam Company, Ltd. ...	...	...	728	...
ernede, J. B. ...	105	...	...	...
ernede, Mrs. O. M. ...	280	...	...	...
iswanath, B. K. ...	6	1	...	...
olkart Brothers ...	...	863	...	...
Walter Jackson & Co. ...	...	...	100	...
Wapshare, G. ...	...	13	...	...
Wapshare, R. H. ...	338	12	...	...
Waterfall Estates, Ltd. ...	891	176	...	233
Watson, J. D. ...	...	152	...	...
Westmoreland Wood, Comdr. A. ...	34	...	...	...
White, G. P. ...	...	326	...	...
Woodcote Estates Ltd. ...	87	...	...	...
Yousuf Ali Khan ...	...	235	...	...
Total ...	142,676	50,748	54,566	14,305

II. ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Anamallai Planters' Association
 Association of Planters of Travancore
 Central Travancore Planters' Association.
 Coorg Planters' Association.
 Indian Planters' Association, Mysore.
 Kannan Devan Planters' Association.
 Malabar Planters' Association.
 Mundakayam Planters' Association.

Mysore Planters' Association.
 Nelliampathy Planters' Association.
 Nilgiri Planters' Association.
 Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association.
 Shevaroy Planters' Association.
 South Travancore Planters' Association.
 Wynaad Planters' Association.

III. FIRM MEMBERS

Messrs. Anupura Coffee Works Co., Ltd.
 " Aspinwall & Co., Ltd.
 " Anaimallai Ropeway Co., Ltd.
 " Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation,
 " Ltd.
 " Brooke Bond India Ltd.
 " Burmah-Shell Oil Storage & Distri-
 " buting Co. of India, Ltd.
 " Coorg & Mysore Coffee Co. (1937) Ltd.
 " Darragh, Smail & Co., Ltd.
 " English & Scottish Joint Co-operative
 " Wholesale Society, Ltd.
 " Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd.
 " Hunsur Works, Ltd.
 " Imperial Chemical Industries (India), Ltd.

Messrs. Kilkundah Tea Manufacturing Co.
 " Mysore Fertiliser Co.
 " Parry & Co., Ltd.
 " Paterson & Co., Ltd.
 " Peirce, Leslie & Co., Ltd.
 " Planters' Co., Ltd.
 " Scientific Fertiliser Co., Ltd.
 " Shaw, Wallace & Co.
 " Southern India Plantations Agency, Ltd.
 " Spencer & Co., Ltd.
 " Stanes & Co., Ltd., T.
 " Tea Estates India, Ltd.
 " Thomas & Co., Ltd., A. V.
 " Volkart Bros.
 " Walker & Greig, Ltd.

12699