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REPORT
ON THE
MARITIME TRADE OF BENGAL

FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR

1914-15,

BY

G. LAIRD-MacGREGOR, I.C.S.,
Collector of Customs, Calcutta.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

	PAGE.
1. Statement of value of aggregate trade of the Presidency of Bengal	1

CHIEF PORT—CALCUTTA.

2. Statement of value of aggregate trade of chief port	2
3. Variations in the average prices of certain articles of imports and exports	3

Foreign Trade—

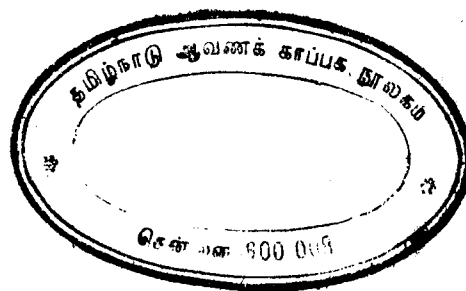
4. Value of trade of imports and exports according to prescribed classification	ib
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Imports—

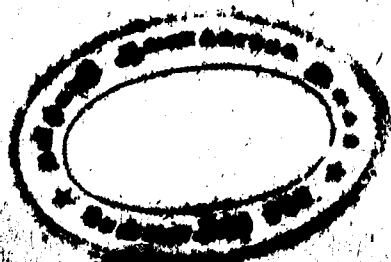
5. Comparative statement of Principal Articles of Import	4
6. Animals—Horses	5
7. Apparel	ib
8. Cotton manufactures	6
9. Drugs, Medicines and Chemicals	ib
10. Glassware and Earthenware	7
11. Liquors	ib
12. Metals and Metal manufactures	8
13. Mineral Oil	10
14. Provisions	ib
15. Salt	11
16. Silk fabrics	12
17. Spices	ib
18. Sugar	ib
19. Tobacco	13
20. Woollen goods	14

Exports—

21. Comparative statement of Principal Articles of Export	15
22. Coal	16
23. Cotton and Cotton manufactures	17
24. Food-grains and Flour	18
25. Hemp	19
26. Hides and Skins	ib
27. Indigo	20
28. Jute and Jute manufactures	ib
29. Lac	24
30. Minerals and Metals	25
31. Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils	ib
32. Opium	26
33. Saltpetre	27
34. Silk and Silk manufactures	ib
35. Tea	28



X 5425.275' N 14
N 15



Miscellaneous—

	PAGE.
36. Treasure	31
37. Distribution of Foreign Trade by Countries.	33
38. Government Transactions	35
39. Shipping	ib
40. Customs Revenue	36

Coasting Trade—

41. General remarks, Imports, Exports, Treasure, Government transactions, and Shipping	37
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TRADE OF SUBORDINATE PORTS.

42. Foreign and Coasting Trade	38.
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ADMINISTRATION.

43. Working of the Merchandise Marks Act	39
44. Cases adjudged under the Sea Customs Act	40
45. Receipts and Disbursements of the Port of Calcutta	41
46. Receipts and Disbursements of the Subordinate Ports in Bengal	42
47. Appeals against orders of the Collector of Customs	ib
48. Miscellaneous matters	43
49. Joint Customs and Excise Control Station	ib
50. Establishment	ib
51. Administrative changes	ib
52. Merits of Officers	ib

NOTE.

THE foreign trade with different countries is shown according to countries of consignment for imports and countries of final destination for exports, for all the years exhibited in the tables.

State transactions are shown separately in paragraphs 1 and 2, but are excluded from all others in the report. They are dealt with separately in paragraphs 38 and 41.

In accordance with the Resolution of the Government of India, in the Department of Commerce and Industry, No. 93-100-17, dated the 8th January 1912, the arrangement of articles under seven groups as exhibited in paragraph 4 of former reports has been abolished from the 1st April 1912, and articles have since that date been arranged alphabetically and grouped under the following four classes as shown in the new table in the paragraph referred to :—

- Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.
 Class II.—Raw materials and produce.
 Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.
 Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.

THE MARITIME TRADE OF BENGAL

IN THE OFFICIAL YEAR

1914-1915.**GENERAL SUMMARY.**

1. The following statement summarises the sea-borne trade of the Province of Bengal, both foreign and coasting, for the year under report, and the previous two years, and shows the average of the five years ending with 1911-12. It embraces the trade of the chief port, Calcutta, and of the subordinate ports Chittagong, Narayanganj, Chandpur, Cox's Bazar, Barisal and Nilla :—

	Average value for the 5 years 1907-1908 to 1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-1914 AND 1914-1915.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
FOREIGN TRADE.						
Imports.						
Private—	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Merchandise	49,38,62,522	62,19,65,181	72,08,09,323	57,16,38,550	.....	14,91,70,773
Gold	4,10,16,003	2,39,87,055	2,37,79,734	86,27,182	.....	1,51,52,552
Silver	1,99,76,957	1,27,56,073	1,44,83,844	1,95,89,205	51,05,361	.....
Total Private Imports	55,38,55,482	65,87,08,308	75,90,72,901	59,98,54,937	.....	15,92,17,964
Government—						
Stores	2,24,79,824	2,12,20,981	2,63,48,331	2,66,75,237	.....	26,73,094
Gold .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,99,58,845
Silver	73,12,817	3,80,80,379	3,01,20,683	1,61,838	.....	3,26,31,939
Total Government Imports	2,97,92,641	5,93,01,260	5,94,69,014	2,68,37,075	.....	19,18,49,903
Total Imports	68,36,48,123	71,80,09,568	81,85,41,915	62,66,92,012	.....	19,18,49,903
Exports.						
Private—						
Foreign merchandise re-exported	43,04,806	38,23,108	33,40,626	53,94,463	20,53,837	.....
Indian produce and manufactures	78,06,66,279	99,53,73,611	1,02,41,69,355	73,92,25,143	.....	28,49,44,312
Gold	7,30,432	1,41,361	48,17,464	26,99,562	.....	21,17,902
Silver	25,50,174	12,97,492	11,87,408	16,93,608	5,06,400	.....
Total Private Exports	78,82,51,691	1,00,80,35,572	1,03,35,14,853	74,90,12,976	.....	28,45,01,877
Government Stores—						
Foreign manufactures	1,75,002	1,84,791	1,16,718	1,51,678	34,960	.....
Indian produce and manufactures	1,82,550	3,35,425	2,45,490	14,11,392	11,65,902	.....
Gold .....	.....	5,08,312	.....	.....	31,00,000	.....
Silver .....	.....	.....	3,00,000	34,00,000	.....	.....
Total Government Exports	3,58,552	13,28,528	6,62,208	49,63,070	43,00,862	.....
Total Exports	78,86,10,243	1,00,43,64,100	1,03,41,77,061	75,39,76,046	.....	28,02,01,015
Total of Foreign Trade	1,37,22,58,366	1,72,23,73,668	1,85,27,18,976	1,38,06,68,058	.....	47,20,50,918
COASTING TRADE.						
Imports.						
Private—						
Indian produce and manufactures	10,54,06,451	9,07,40,745	12,59,01,631	13,66,15,591	1,07,13,960	.....
Foreign manufactures	41,05,893	54,47,061	56,41,550	42,17,044	.....	14,24,506
Gold .....	.....	23,048	.....	.....	.....	6,79,110
Silver	17,43,375	10,24,760	19,90,400	13,11,290	.....	.....
Total Private Imports	11,12,56,719	9,72,35,604	12,35,33,581	14,21,43,925	86,10,344	.....
Government Stores—						
Indian produce and manufactures	3,73,891	2,42,560	2,98,269	4,69,803	1,71,584	.....
Foreign manufactures	7,87,464	9,94,431	8,71,173	12,36,804	3,66,681	.....
Gold .....	.....	1,73,20,068	1,92,52,461	6,13,623	.....	1,86,88,888
Silver	26,08,400	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,81,01,673
Total Government Imports	87,67,755	1,85,57,049	2,04,21,903	23,20,230	.....	84,91,329
Total Imports	11,50,24,474	11,57,92,653	15,39,55,484	14,44,64,155	.....	.....
Exports.						
Private—						
Indian produce and manufactures	8,55,45,410	12,31,32,070	10,52,90,350	7,42,41,043	.....	3,10,49,307
Foreign manufactures	70,76,284	83,10,450	1,03,38,869	69,84,973	.....	33,50,966
Gold	1,72,952	1,87,500	5,96,450	53,500	.....	5,43,950
Silver	64,27,982	15,82,425	56,48,500	22,19,000	.....	34,39,500
Total Private Exports	9,92,22,548	13,32,13,475	12,18,71,169	8,34,97,456	.....	3,88,73,713
Government Stores—						
Indian produce and manufactures	23,93,845	27,98,812	21,82,777	22,66,973	84,196	.....
Foreign manufactures	39,88,858	20,93,833	22,07,902	19,19,248	.....	2,88,654
Gold	78,49,800	15,000	90,21,000	.....	.....	90,03,000
Silver	1,15,99,600	4,72,08,000	77,49,000	7,99,250	.....	69,49,750
Total Government Exports	2,47,12,103	5,20,45,645	2,11,60,679	50,08,471	.....	1,61,57,208
Total Exports	12,39,34,651	18,52,59,120	14,30,31,848	8,85,00,927	.....	5,46,80,921
Total of Coasting Trade	23,89,59,125	30,10,51,773	29,69,87,332	23,29,65,082	.....	6,40,22,359
GRAND TOTAL OF TRADE	1,61,12,17,491	2,02,34,25,441	2,14,97,06,308	1,61,36,33,140	.....	52,60,73,168

Although the great boom of the previous three years had commenced to pass away, the trade of Bengal in the first four months of the year was to say the least, mildly prosperous. In its aggregate it stood at a value of Rs. 49'70 crores or a small expansion of 1'53 per cent. There was some contraction in the import trade during that period, the total value of Rs. 23'34 crores being smaller by 2'26 per cent. : but exports were much more prosperous and by 5'15 per cent. rose in value to Rs. 26'35 crores. Imports of merchandise fell to Rs. 20'96 crores or by 4'6 per cent., but exports of Indian produce on the other hand increased in value by Rs. 1'46 crores to Rs. 25'88 crores or by 5'98 per cent. ; while treasure imports were also much greater and aggregated Rs. 1'34 crores. The commencement of hostilities and the depredations of the enemy's cruisers restricted trade during August, September and October. Since then commerce has much expanded, financial supplies have been ample and, though restrained somewhat by a scarcity of tonnage, trade has largely recovered its buoyancy : though naturally the value has not attained to the record figures of recent years. The net result of this has been a contraction in value of the past year's trade equivalent to 24'94 per cent., the lowest recorded since 1910-11. The foreign trade was smaller by 25'48 per cent., the lowest since the year 1909-10. While Calcutta absorbed 96'88 per cent. of the foreign trade, Chittagong is credited with the balance. Exports receded by Rs. 28'02 crores or 27'09 per cent., the lowest since 1909-10, and imports were reduced by 23'44 per cent. or the lowest since 1910-11. Imports of *merchandise* decreased by 20'69 per cent. and exports of *Indian produce and merchandise* by 27'82 per cent. : re-exports influenced by a large *sugar* demand from home rose in value by 61'48 per cent. : Imports with the exception of *rubber, matches and hemp* shewed decreased values. *Tea, indigo and saltpetre* have given a much better export trade in the past year : but *raw jute and jute manufactures, grain and pulse, hides and skins, lac and raw cotton* have suffered greatly and are mainly responsible for the marked fall in value. A good deal of the decrease in export values cannot be attributed to the war : much is due to the fall in prices. Thus *jute and its manufactures* have lost by lower prices no less than Rs. 10'21 crores : *opium* Rs. 62'55 lakhs : and *hides and skins* Rs. 34'32 lakhs. Imports of *treasure* on private account decreased in value by 26'26 per cent. : *gold* fell by 63'72 per cent., but *silver* rose by 35'25 per cent. : exports also declined by 26'84 per cent. : *gold* dropped by 43'96 per cent. but *silver* improved to the extent of 42'65 per cent. Imports by the State of the *precious metals* were fractional : exports (*silver*) were better by Rs. 31 lakhs. The coasting trade shrank in value to the extent of 21'56 per cent.

CHIEF PORT, CALCUTTA.

2. The aggregate trade of Calcutta with foreign countries, and with Indian ports, is shown in the following statement* :—

	FOREIGN TRADE.						COASTING TRADE.					
	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.			Difference between 1913-14 and 1914-15.			Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.			Difference between 1913-14 and 1914-15.		
	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	Increase.	Decrease.		1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	Increase.	Decrease.	
Imports.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Private—												
Merchandise ...	49,86'12	61,35'16	70,68'81	56,20'98	...	14,47'83	9,94'22	8,55'11	11,09'18	11,86'96	77'10	...
Gold ...	4,08'81	2,37'49	2,35'88	85'66	...	1,50'22	...	...	...	...	...	...
Silver ...	1,89'56	1,27'36	1,44'84	1,95'89	51'05	...	14'75	1'51	12'06	13'08	1'02	...
Total Private ...	54,78'49	65,00'21	74,49'53	59,02'55	...	15,47'00	10,08'97	8,56'62	11,21'24	11,99'36	78'12	...
Total Government ...	2,98'82	5,92'86	5,94'15	2,68'27	...	3,25'88	37'57	1,85'49	2,02'91	2,2'58	...	1,81'86
Total Imports ...	57,76'12	70,93'07	80,43'68	61,70'80	...	18,72'88	10,46'54	10,42'11	13,23'15	12,21'91	...	1,08'94
Exports.												
Private—												
Indian produce and manufac-	73,52'61	94,28'68	97,37'29	70,58'28	...	26,99'01	8,08'91	10,86'90	5,63'93	6,81'95	...	2,81'98
Re-exports ...	49'95	23'30	32'94	53'85	20'91	...	69'23	69'78	90'24	63'99	...	26'25
Gold ...	7'30	1'41	48'18	27'00	21'18	...	1'78	1'88	5'96	...	...	5'43
Silver ...	25'50	12'98	11'87	16'94	5'07	...	33'16	2'09	5'74	...	...	74
Total Private ...	74,28'36	94,75'22	98,60'28	71,56'07	43'01	26,94'21	9,08'12	11,80'65	10,80'87	7,46'47	...	3,14'40
Total Government ...	3'87	13'29	49'63	49'63	...	2,47'10	2,47'10	8,20'45	2,11'44	50'08	...	1,61'41
Total Exports ...	74,31'23	94,88'51	98,59'90	72,05'70	...	28,51'20	11,55'22	16,81'10	12,72'31	7,96'55	...	4,75'81
Total Trade ...	1,32,07'35	1,65,81'58	1,79,03'58	1,33,76'50	...	45,24'08	22,01'76	27,23'21	25,97'46	20,18'41	...	5,70'05
GRAND TOTAL OF TRADE, FOREIGN AND COASTING.	...	...	...	...	...	1,64,88'81	1,93,04'79	2,04,99'04	1,53,94'91	...	...	61,08'18

* In this and all subsequent statements in this review showing rupees, the value is stated in lakhs only, followed by two places of decimals, which is equivalent to omitting "000."

In the past year the sea-borne trade of Calcutta amounted to 95'41 per cent. of the total trade, both foreign and coasting, of Bengal as constituted from the 1st April 1912. The remarks made in paragraph 1 with reference to the trade of the Province as a whole, may be taken as applying also to its Chief Port's trade. Of the value for exports of Indian products and merchandise shown in the above table, as much as Rs. 59'25 lakhs (£395,000) represents the loss of cargo caused to Calcutta's export trade by the depredations of the enemy's cruisers. Although the table shows a loss in value of the foreign trade amounting to Rs. 45'24 crores, the trade of Calcutta has figured largely in the commercial activities of British India. As an example, the clearing house returns for 1914-15 show that Calcutta's clearings aggregated the enormous sum of Rs. 273'22 crores : Bombay coming next with Rs. 163'51 crores.

3. Variations in the average price of certain articles are shown below :—

IMPORTS.		1898-1901.	1909-1910.	1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	EXPORTS.		1898-1901.	1909-1910.	1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.
Cotton twist and yarn ...	Per lb.	100	129'6	149'6	139'1	136'5	144'3	141'7	Coal ...	Per ton.	100	83'9	81'2	82'9	94'2	89'8	83'5
Grey cotton piece goods ...	yd.	100	128'6	142'8	142'8	147'6	147'6	142'9	Cotton, raw ...	chest	100	132'6	156'5	157'5	164'7	150'0	122'1
White ...	"	100	125'0	133'3	141'7	137'6	14'7	137'5	Indigo ...	...	100	130'6	236'8	230'0	23'8	182'1	134'8
Coloured ...	"	100	133'3	140'7	151'8	148'1	151'3	153'3	Rice ...	...	100	90'1	94'1	87'3	80'1	82'9	290'8
Copper ...	ton.	100	93'8	92'7	91'2	102'4	105'2	103'5	Wheat ...	...	100	121'5	117'2	118'6	127'7	137'7	141'8
Iron and steel ...	"	100	93'8	94'6	94'6	102'9	105'2	102'9	Hides, raw ...	...	100	146'7	119'3	108'7	114'0	110'7	149'1
Mineral oil ...	gal.	100	94'8	113'5	104'0	104'0	108'1	105'8	Jute, raw ...	...	100	125'8	150'0	172'9	163'9	257'5	161'3
Salt ...	md.	100	91'2	92'1	97'0	95'1	93'1	103'3	...	...	100	115'4	115'4	128'2	153'8	166'7	106'4
Sugar, refined ...	cwt.	100	80'0	88'9	98'4	89'7	80'4	10'3	...	...	100	100'0	100'0	103'9	147'1	164'7	141'2
Woollen piece-goods ...	yd.	100	104'7	98'7	102'5	101'3	93'1	118'9	...	...	100	112'6	112'6	106'9	110'9	130'1	95'7
Average variation ...	...	100	108'8	114'7	116'3	117'2	117'2	131'9	Average variation ...	...	100	109'9	122'0	124'2	132'6	131'4	133'1

The figures of average price in the above table are arrived at by dividing by its total quantity, the total declared value of each commodity imported or exported. The base adopted is the mean of the three years, 1898-1899, 1899-1900 and 1900-1901. In 1898-99 the *gold standard* first became effective, and the index numbers now given are therefore capable of comparison with those of gold standard countries disregarding fluctuations in exchange. The past year has added to the continuous expansion in imports of the previous four years, rising by 4'01 per cent to 121'9 : most of these items have fallen, owing to the passing of the great buoyancy in trade but the war has induced much higher prices for *salt, refined sugar, and woollens* and these 3 items have turned the scale. In exports the average variation has increased slightly by '52 per cent. to 135'1 and has now risen continuously for five years. Ten items have fallen or remained stationary but the war has caused *indigo* and *wheat* to rise ; scarcity of supplies have influenced *rice* while *linseed, rapeseed* and *raw silk* have also improved.

FOREIGN TRADE.

4. The following statement shows the value of the import and export trade of Calcutta grouped according to the classes under which they are shown in the Government accounts :—

	IMPORTS.						EXPORTS.					
	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.			Difference between 1913-14 and 1914-15.			Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.			Difference between 1913-14 and 1914-15.		
	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	Increase.	Decrease.		1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	Increase.	Decrease.	
	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
I.—Food, drink and tobacco ...	7,56'38	8,45'53	9,31'87	7,59'96	...	1,71'71	14,21'22	20,06'93	17,84'56	15,42'77	...	9,41'79
II.—Raw materials and produce, and articles mainly un-manufactured.	8,07'13	2,43'39	2,75'57	2,64'54	...	11'03	33,38'31	45,09'99	46,87'59	25,47'90	...	25,39'63
III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	37,56'33	49,98'23	58,11'93	48,61'51	...	12,50'44	25,74'24	31,17'91	32,95'15	30,03'64	...	2,91'51
V.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	60'28	47'53	49'63	34'97	...	14'95	61'79	22'06	17'82	...	...	5'14
Total merchandise ...	48,80'12	61,36'15	70,68'81	56,20'98	...	14,47'83	78,05'56	94,80'88	87,80'22	71,12'13	...	26,78'10
Treasure ...	5,98'87	3,85'95	3,80'72	5,81'55	...	98'17	32'80	14'39	80'05	43'93	...	16'19
GRAND TOTAL ...	54,78'99	65,00'21	74,49'53	59,02'55	...	15,47'00	74,38'36	94,75'22	87,80'22	71,56'07	...	26,94'29

Imports.—In group I a decrease of 25 per cent. in *sugar* and 18 per cent. in *liquors* and *salt* has more than counterbalanced the increase under *rice* and other *foodgrains* and *betelnuts*, while smaller receipts of *stick lac*, *metallic ores* and *wood pulp* account for the decline in group II. Group III embraces the most important trade headings, and the diminution in value was due to *cotton yarns and fabrics*, manufactures of *iron and steel* and *other metals*, *machinery*, *hardware and cutlery*, *electrical instruments*, *motor-cars*, *cycles* and *glass*. The falling off in group IV consisted chiefly in *horses*.

Exports.—The contractions in groups I and II were due to the poor shipments of *grain and pulse*, *hides and skins* and *raw jute*, which the heavy exports of *tea* and *sugar* failed to cover. Smaller exports of *jute manufactures*, *opium* and *oilcakes* brought down the value of group III and the reduced shipments of *living animals*, and *fodder*, *bran* and *pollard* that of group IV.

IMPORTS.

5. **Foreign Trade.**—The following table shows the comparative importance of principal articles imported into Calcutta :—

	Average value for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	Percentage of proportion to total imports of merchandise.	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-1914 AND 1914-1915.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton goods	20,68,51,934	29,22,90,703	29,82,39,451	24,58,65,056	43.74	...	5,23,93,393
Metals and ores	5,65,36,423	6,90,96,259	9,66,17,844	5,60,75,466	9.97	...	4,05,44,388
Sugar	4,90,88,187	5,70,72,508	6,46,73,661	4,84,77,886	8.62	...	1,61,95,775
Railway plant and rolling stock	2,07,66,556	1,94,30,393	3,90,34,646	4,47,65,850	7.96	56,81,202	...
Machinery and millwork	2,08,01,842	2,09,64,708	3,20,64,256	2,32,79,396	4.14	...	87,84,260
Oils	1,60,96,595	1,76,73,797	2,05,66,094	2,11,15,377	3.76	5,49,293	...
Hardware, excluding cutlery and electroplatedware	1,02,08,727	1,18,23,096	1,42,31,369	86,63,944	1.72	...	45,47,425
Spices	63,78,568	67,50,961	64,52,281	71,37,010	1.27	2,84,729	...
Provisions and oilman's stores	52,80,326	62,37,590	65,47,443	62,23,428	1.11	...	3,24,016
Liquors, including methylated and perfumed spirits	59,48,204	66,27,378	68,64,949	56,13,775	1.00	...	12,66,174
Instruments, apparatus and appliances	57,91,813	58,08,477	72,56,137	54,49,682	.97	...	18,08,575
Salt	60,10,637	69,09,300	63,66,530	53,76,926	.96	...	12,10,004
Woolen goods	73,62,017	75,48,941	89,81,090	44,97,991	.80	...	44,83,099
Chemicals and chemical preparations	34,16,438	36,76,320	43,52,048	41,68,125	.74	...	1,64,923
Paper and pasteboard	26,47,119	42,70,355	48,77,584	39,47,589	.70	...	9,29,995
Drugs and medicines (excluding chemicals and narcotics)	32,75,866	37,53,262	43,51,335	39,38,907	.70	...	4,12,428
Glass and glassware	43,78,590	57,62,839	60,40,563	36,39,621	.65	...	24,01,942
Motor-car and motor-cycles and parts thereof	19,15,144	44,65,373	53,57,684	36,10,736	.64	...	17,46,948
Building and engineering materials	20,55,472	30,55,447	38,14,922	35,17,740	.63	...	2,97,182
Tea-chests, entire or in sections	28,90,887	34,35,156	40,59,292	34,79,584	.62	...	5,79,698
Paints and painter's materials	25,56,897	28,48,114	34,38,337	33,20,695	.58	...	1,17,712
Rubber	22,74,988	28,84,467	28,03,549	30,02,425	.53	...	1,98,876
Tobacco	8,25,910	3,45,697	20,81,154	27,80,180	.49	6,49,028	...
Haberdashery and millinery	30,99,632	28,17,946	25,15,149	26,09,166	.46	94,017	...
Articles imported by post	35,10,120	30,68,573	39,56,083	24,00,593	.43	...	15,55,490
Wood and timber	23,87,241	29,18,464	32,82,596	23,45,061	.42	...	9,37,535
Umbrellas and umbrella fittings	18,17,181	16,18,685	23,88,326	22,09,576	.39	...	1,78,751
Boots and shoes	20,99,736	26,69,963	28,98,261	21,34,440	.38	...	7,63,811
Flax	11,14,591	22,56,973	23,50,465	20,79,177	.37	...	2,71,288
Soap	12,39,796	18,12,235	22,52,804	18,51,061	.33	...	4,01,753
Books printed and printed matter	10,00,216	14,88,777	16,25,590	16,51,362	.29	25,772	...
Apparel (excluding hosiery and boots and shoes)	14,81,152	14,66,175	16,04,043	16,08,423	.29	...	2,56,690
Grain, pulse and flour	16,05,705	25,56,137	27,55,713	15,77,398	.28	...	11,81,325
Stationery (excluding paper)	8,53,042	37,940	2,85,355	14,86,671	.28	12,10,336	...
Earthenware and porcelain	13,29,454	16,57,612	18,76,729	14,26,599	.26	...	4,52,330
Paper-making materials	15,21,599	16,12,738	16,47,764	13,70,947	.24	...	2,76,817
Dyeing and tanning substances	5,75,012	15,55,794	14,64,709	12,65,265	.22	...	1,99,444
Animals, living	16,51,663	16,74,746	13,41,153	11,17,626	.20	...	5,23,237
Arms and ammunition	8,70,365	10,76,036	15,37,728	10,86,388	.19	...	4,51,348
Cycles (other than motor-cycles)	9,88,969	14,73,191	15,62,025	9,39,177	.17	...	91,841
Leather	11,52,487	13,36,636	13,91,775	8,78,029	.16	...	6,83,936
Belted for machinery	8,24,145	9,54,980	10,06,262	8,43,056	.15	...	5,43,805
Toys and requisites for games and sports	11,48,937	12,69,456	12,78,618	7,67,601	.14	...	1,63,187
Silk goods	14,43,135	13,68,027	13,69,042	7,59,455	.13	...	5,08,017
Hemp	4,70,858	5,36,761	5,03,564	6,26,756	.11	1,23,392	...
Carriages and carts (excluding railway carriages)	11,48,532	11,09,960	12,73,704	5,71,011	.10	...	7,02,693
Pitch, tar and dammer	5,76,180	5,46,412	6,20,155	4,56,284	.08	...	1,63,871
Clocks and watches	8,12,465	8,32,221	9,15,661	4,46,219	.08	...	4,69,432
Cutlery	6,13,832	6,78,789	8,88,387	4,36,958	.08	...	4,51,419
Furniture and cabinetware	5,73,965	5,94,729	5,38,221	4,30,133	.08	...	1,08,088
Jewellery	7,40,898	5,12,556	7,14,931	2,44,920	.04	...	4,70,011
Fruits and vegetables	3,37,664	3,48,611	3,46,571	2,19,875	.04	...	1,26,696
Gums and resins	5,05,846	6,75,779	3,82,417	2,13,423	.04	...	1,65,964
Ships, parts of	5,60,860	20,924	6,03,866	1,62,351	.03	...	4,40,515
Hides and skins, raw	24,039	31,841	12,803	2,693	.03	...	10,110
All other articles	57,39,969	73,13,111	80,26,420	61,48,677	.00	...	18,89,743
Total Merchandise	48,80,12,208	61,35,18,335	70,69,80,469	56,20,98,165	100.00	...	14,47,82,294
TREASURE—							
Gold	4,08,81,000	3,37,46,896	2,35,88,213	85,65,702	...	...	1,50,22,511
Silver	1,89,56,355	1,27,56,072	1,44,83,844	1,95,89,205	...	51,05,361	...
Total Treasure	5,98,37,355	3,65,04,968	3,80,72,057	2,81,54,907	...	...	89,17,160
GRAND TOTAL IMPORTS	54,78,49,563	65,00,21,303	74,49,52,516	59,02,53,072	...	...	15,46,99,444

The excessive prosperity of the previous two years has suffered a temporary set-back. Even at the commencement of the past year trade had begun to wane, but with the commencement of the war in early August, commerce received a shock which is strongly demonstrated in the above table. Excluding *treasure*, imports of *merchandise* have fallen from Rs. 70.69 to Rs. 56.21 crores, a decrease of 20.48 per cent. : yet the value is still greater by 8.14 per cent. than that attained in the year 1911-12 (Rs. 51.98 crores). The more important imports are separately dealt with : amongst the remainder the following fluctuations may be noticed :—

The only items developing any marked increase in trade were *rubber*, *matches* and *hemp*. The advance under *rubber* is as much as 31.19 per cent. : no less than Rs. 18.46 lakhs came from the United Kingdom a rise of 63.53 per cent. : Germany sent more, but France less. There was again an increase in imports of *matches*, the value increasing by 7.09 per cent. : Sweden, Norway and Austria-Hungary sent less, but from Japan the number of gross imported rose from 2.83 to 3.39 million, and the value by 48.80 per cent. improved to Rs. 22.59 lakhs. *Hemp* from the Philippines advanced in value by 24.51 per cent. and quantity rose to 31,015 cwts. or 59.76 per cent. Turning to decreases recorded in the import trade they are much heavier than our gains. Space will only permit the greater fluctuations to be dealt with :—*Motor-cars* and *cycles* declined in value by 32.61 per cent. : all countries sent less, but the United Kingdom still absorbs 76.19 per cent. of the trade. *Motor-cars* registered in Calcutta increased from 517 to 554 which shows the vogue of the light car : *motor-cycles* from 152 to 180 and *taxi-cabs* from 175 to 194 : *lorries* fell from 21 to 11 consequent on the prohibition of export from the United Kingdom. The decrease in value of *articles imported by post* was 28.56 per cent. : the usual Christmas parcel posts being much curtailed. Under *paper and paste-board* the falling off was 19.07 per cent. : all countries sent less ; the United Kingdom (absorbing 58.57 per cent.) showed a loss of 9.94 per cent. : and Austria-Hungary with 2.54 per cent. was Rs. 1.42 lakhs down. *Umbrellas and their fittings* dropped by 26.35 per cent. : the United Kingdom, Germany and Japan all sent less. *Dyeing and tanning materials* were less by 42.41 per cent. : *aniline dyes* valued at Rs. 4.78 lakhs fell by Rs. 6.34 lakhs for neither Germany nor Belgium were in a position to supply during 8 months of the year. *Carriages and carts* also were less by 55.17 per cent. *Wooden tea chests* fell from Rs. 40.45 to 34.29 lakhs chiefly from the United Kingdom : very few *metal chests* came to hand.

6. **Animals.**—The number of *horses* imported has fallen by 20.59 per cent. from 3,774 to 2,997 valued at Rs. 9.37 lakhs, or an average price of Rs. 313 against Rs. 328. Last year 3,548 *mules* valued at Rs. 7.10 lakhs were imported on behalf of Government. as compared with 3,572 valued at Rs. 11.29 lakhs in the previous year. These figures are exclusive of the *horses* imported on Government account which numbered 10,255 of the average value of Rs. 300 apiece.

7. **Apparel.**—It may again be remarked that *boots and shoes* and *haberdashery and millinery* have now been classed under separate main heads and no longer appear under *apparel*. This trade has suffered severely in the past year and the value has fallen from Rs. 27.59 lakhs to Rs. 15.77 lakhs, a decrease of 42.84 per cent. There has been a small increase from the United States, China and Ceylon, but the aggregate value of these three countries is hardly worth considering. Even from the United Kingdom the trade has fallen by 35.57 per cent. and the value now stands at Rs. 12.03 lakhs. The decrease under *hats*, *caps*, *bonnets*, etc., of 50.90 per cent. to Rs. 2.19 lakhs is attributed to over trading in the previous year, and *waterproofed clothing* has declined in value in the past year owing to over-stocking in 1913-14. With the enormous demand for *leather equipment* of all kinds in Europe, it is surprising that there was not a very much greater decline in imports of *boots and shoes*. The number of pairs has fallen from 892,347 to 831,344, carrying a value of Rs. 20.79 lakhs, a drop of 11.53 per cent. *Haberdashery and millinery* also have greatly declined in the past year from Rs. 39.56 to Rs. 24 lakhs or by 39.33 per cent. Japan alone has improved her position, the trade having increased by 16.25 per cent. though her total value is only Rs. 3.29 lakhs.

8. Cotton Manufactures.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	lbs.	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
I.—Twist and Yarn ...	10,452,692	89'22	15,111,708	1,23'68	11,032,060	95'44	13,146,351	1,11'58	2,116,291	...	16'14	...
II.—Piece-goods—	Yds.		Yds.		Yds.		Yds.		Yds.	Yds.		
Grey—												
British ...	869,657,066	13,05'31	1,146,878,039	18,64'11	1,149,440,733	18,71'08	1,026,364,402	16,03'15	...	123,076,330	...	2,67'91
Foreign ...	1,004,320	2'47	2,636,875	3'95	3,196,923	7'16	8,101,887	14'47	4,908,414	...	7'31	...
Total ...	870,661,386	13,07'78	1,149,414,914	18,70'08	1,152,637,656	18,78'22	1,034,466,339	16,17'62	...	118,170,916	...	2,60'60
White—												
British ...	192,797,654	3,11'04	246,087,322	4,25'78	235,696,744	4,19'48	204,130,553	3,47'36	...	31,566,191	...	72'12
Foreign ...	2,521,107	7'23	3,325,338	9'27	2,708,953	7'96	2,602,924	6'90	...	106,029	...	1'06
Total ...	195,318,761	3,18'27	249,412,660	4,35'05	238,405,697	4,27'44	206,733,477	3,54'26	...	31,672,220	...	73'18
Coloured printed, or dyed.	124,307,861	2,50'23	166,070,180	3,49'76	185,418,975	3,91'12	115,209,399	2,49'14	...	70,208,676	...	1,31'98
Total Piece-goods ...	1,190,288,038	18,76'28	1,564,897,754	26,54'87	1,576,461,927	26,96'78	1,356,409,116	22,31'02	...	220,062,612	...	4,65'76
III.—Other Cotton fabrics.	...	1,03'02	...	1,44'36	...	1,80'36	...	1,16'05	...	...	...	74'31
Total Cotton manufactures.	...	19,79'30	...	27,99'23	...	28,87'14	...	23,47'07	...	...	...	5,40'07
GRAND TOTAL, COTTON GOODS.	...	20,68'62	...	29,22'91	...	29,82'58	...	24,58'65	...	...	...	5,23'93

Cotton-goods.—The figures for 1914-15 show a sharp reaction on the previous year's, a striking decrease being tabulated.

Twist and yarn.—Imports show an important increase of over two million pounds in quantity and Rs. 16 lakhs in value, or 19'18 and 16'91 per cent. respectively. From the United Kingdom imports amounted to nearly Rs. 88 lakhs: from Holland the figures are nearly Rs. 13 lakhs and from Italy Rs. 6½ lakhs. Imports of 40's. are over 3 million pounds, a marked advance on the previous year's figures. Above 50's. also show an increase due to the demand of the local cotton mills who are weaving *dhooties* of fine yarns. *Dyed yarns* show an increase of over two million pounds.

Piece-goods.—The falling off in imports is approximately 220 million yards. The average rate per yard is the same as last year, viz.:—2 annas 8 pies. All descriptions have participated in the decrease, notably *greys*.

Other cotton fabrics.—Imports of *hosiery* fell off by over Rs. 11 lakhs in value. Japan again supplied by far the largest quantity, the value being Rs. 52½ lakhs. *Handkerchiefs and shawls* also show a marked falling off in both quantity and value. Imports from the United Kingdom amounted to Rs. 18½ lakhs in value out of a total of Rs. 21½ lakhs.

The depression in the cotton trade anticipated in last year's report has arrived. The phenomenal *American crop* of 16½ million bales weakened prices on the home side: added to this the excessive local stocks of goods carried over from 1913-14 had a decidedly depressing effect, and although the *War* caused a decline in exports from home the local market has not thrown off its lethargy, and, until the plethora of stocks is considerably reduced, a more hopeful outlook cannot be prophesied. The highest and lowest prices of *raw cotton* during the period under review were 7'87d. and 4'25d. per lb. respectively.

The statement of despatches by rail of cotton *piece-goods* from Calcutta and Bombay to the United Provinces and the Punjab during the past two years is appended:—

	FROM CALCUTTA.		FROM BOMBAY.	
	1913	1914.	1913.	1914.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
To the United Provinces ...	442,699	329,717	428,334	382,107
„ Punjab ...	67,312	60,711	396,147	398,048
Total ...	510,011	390,428	824,481	780,155

9. **Drugs, Medicines and Chemicals.** The year opened with promise of a very good import trade under this heading and in the first four months of the year imports had risen from Rs. 28'55 to Rs. 31'39 lakhs equivalent to 9'95 per cent.: but with the opening of the

war and consequent restrictions on trade a decline began and for the year the figures show a decrease of Rs. 5'67 lakhs or 6'54 per cent. from Rs. 86'74 to Rs. 81'07 lakhs. It is somewhat surprising that the falling off in trade was not greater during the year. The United Kingdom supplied imports to the value of Rs. 57'15 lakhs, a decrease of 4'81 per cent. representing 70'49 per cent. of the total imports under this heading: the Continent of Europe consisting mainly of Germany, Belgium and Italy sent Rs. 10'89 lakhs, a decrease of 28'92 per cent., the United States' share was Rs. 2'27 lakhs, an increase of 39'26 per cent., and Japan's trade represented Rs. 5'19 lakhs or an increase of 16'37 per cent. *Drugs and medicines* in the year were valued at Rs. 39'39 lakhs or a decrease on the previous year of 9'47 per cent.: *quinine* representing 23'91 per cent. (Rs. 9'42 lakhs), *proprietary and patent medicines* 15'82 per cent. (Rs. 6'23 lakhs), and *camphor* 11'20 per cent. (Rs. 4'41 lakhs). Imports of *quinine* (lbs. 61,004 valued at Rs. 9'42 lakhs) include its *alkaloids* as well as *cinchona*. No *Madras* or *Peruvian bark*, and only 2,479 oz. of *sulphate of quinine* was imported on behalf of Government, and soon after the war commenced in order to check speculation in this article in Calcutta, the Government issued a *communiqué* pointing out that they hold a reserve stock of over 70 tons of *quinine*.

Chemicals decreased in value from Rs. 43'23 to Rs. 41'68 lakhs. The principal chemical was *sodium carbonate* for fertilising, the value of which was Rs. 12'76 lakhs, a decrease of 2'82 per cent.

10. **Glass, Glassware and Earthenware.**—Up to the outbreak of the war there was a considerable improvement in imports of *earthenware*, the value rising from Rs. 5'20 to Rs. 7'09 lakhs or by 36'35 per cent. *Glassware* on the other hand fell off during this period from Rs. 19'33 to Rs. 17'18 lakhs or by 11'12 per cent. With the commencement of hostilities the glass-making centres of Europe, Belgium, Germany, Austria-Hungary ceased to export and though Japan has made great strides and the United Kingdom has marked time, there has been a decrease of 34'83 per cent., the total value under *glass* and *earthenware* falling in the year from Rs. 76'89 to Rs. 50'11 lakhs, the smallest import for 9 years. The decrease has been most marked under *glassware*, the value falling from Rs. 60'41 to Rs. 36'40 lakhs or by 39'75 per cent. *Earthenware* has only fallen by 16'81 per cent. from Rs. 16'48 to Rs. 13'71 lakhs. In *glassware* Japan has improved her position considerably, her total imports rising in value from Rs. 7'91 to Rs. 12'28 lakhs, her success being most noticeable in *bangles, bottles and phials* and in *funnels, globes and glass parts of lamps*. One result of the war is that the United Provinces are again seriously taking up the question of the resuscitation of their glass industry, and it is reported from the United Kingdom that satisfactory measures have been taken to produce in that country glass which had hitherto been neglected by our home makers who relied on German production.

11. **Liquors.**—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-1914 AND 1914-1915.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Gals.	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Ale, Beer and Porter ...	987,741	13'90	1,124,558	17'33	1,058,493	16'36	820,503	12'55	...	237,990	...	3'81
Older and other fermented liquors ...	4,053	'14	4,190	'15	5,944	'22	2,662	'10	...	3,382	...	'12
Spirits and Liqueurs—												
Brandy ...	71,003	6'97	68,681	6'48	75,022	6'88	74,639	6'86	...	333	...	'02
Whisky ...	313,698	13'68	199,665	13'85	225,429	15'37	193,761	13'38	...	32,668	...	1'79
Other sorts of Spirits and Liqueurs ...	308,970	15'53	348,426	18'60	331,604	20'12	341,035	15'99	...	20,569	...	4'13
Total Spirits and Liqueurs ...	593,671	36'18	611,773	38'93	665,055	42'37	611,486	36'48	...	53,620	...	5'94
Wines ...	100,496	9'26	102,600	9'83	95,734	9'75	77,590	7'08	...	14,144	...	3'69
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,635,961	59'48	1,848,130	66'27	1,825,226	68'70	1,512,190	56'14	...	313,036	...	12'56

There was a smart decline in the past year of 18'28 per cent., in value being the lowest recorded since the year 1906-07. The fall is most noticeable in *beer, German spirits and sparkling wines* due either directly or indirectly to the war.

Ale, beer and porter.—Imports declined in quantity by 22'48 per cent., consumption figures (820,503 gallons) were also smaller by 237,990 gallons. From the United Kingdom, although much has been done to popularise *English light beers*, landings were less by 15'67 per cent., Germany by 58'57 per cent., but Japan sent 33,388 gallons of a *beer* which appears to be appreciated: more also came from Denmark and Holland. The absence of a

large portion of the British Regular Army from India and the shortage of *light German beers* account for the decrease.

Spirits.—Imports of *brandy* remained unchanged, of *whisky* were considerably less, 13·33 per cent. The consumption of *brandy* (61,583 gallons), was smaller as was the case with *liqueurs* and *rum*. The consumption of *whisky* (190,493 gallons) and *gin* showed a larger demand. Stocks of *spirit* at the close of the year had fallen from 98,532 to 74,095 gallons, of which 33·64 per cent. was *whisky*. These figures do not represent the real consumption, which was actually less, but heavy clearances made in anticipation of an enhancement of duty. Imports of *white* and *rectified spirits* fell from 54,602 to 25,862 gallons: this trade was practically confined to Germany. 230,453 gallons from Java were *methylated* at the Custom House.

Wines.—All *wines* except *Vermouth* show a decreased consumption.

12. Metals and Metal Manufactures, Railway Materials, etc.—

(I)—Metals.

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-1914 AND 1914-1915.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
<i>Brass, wrought</i>	317	3·00	292	2·98	404	4·25	392	3·59	...	12	...	66
<i>Copper, unwrought</i>	2,285	23·90	944	10·98	3,285	38·72	2,568	28·90	...	717	...	9·82
<i>Copper, wrought (including old).</i>	4,831	51·77	4,725	51·66	6,452	71·82	5,467	60·78	...	985	...	11·04
<i>Iron—Unwrought</i>	10,804	6·19	8,096	3·17	7,458	5·15	2,913	1·79	...	4,545	...	3·38
<i>Iron or Steel— Wrought—</i>												
<i>Bars, rods and angles of all sorts.</i>	63,544	64·87	74,100	80·34	97,182	1,05·43	55,189	57·96	...	41,993	...	47·47
<i>Beams, pillars, etc.</i>	28,532	28·42	29,666	31·96	37,089	42·43	21,434	22·11	...	15,655	...	20·32
<i>Bolts and nuts</i>	1,755	5·21	2,512	8·01	3,511	10·81	2,115	6·60	...	1,396	...	4·21
<i>Hoops</i>	7,204	9·54	8,413	11·14	8,390	12·70	7,606	10·74	...	1,384	...	1·96
<i>Nails, screws and rivets</i>	6,350	14·34	8,257	19·59	8,869	18·32	5,694	14·95	...	3,175	...	3·87
<i>Pipes and tubes,</i>	11,973	20·90	10,962	21·71	16,698	38·67	9,343	21·22	...	7,355	...	17·45
<i>Rice bowls</i>	4,956	9·55	5,167	9·70	5,286	11·46	3,034	6·12	...	2,252	...	5·34
<i>Sheets and plates, galva- nized.</i>	71,547	1,38·79	111,319	2,10·38	166,134	3,23·63	72,738	1,38·60	...	93,396	...	1,84·83
<i>Sheets and plates, tinned</i>	9,925	22·03	22,511	53·27	24,052	57·35	22,962	49·49	...	1,990	...	7·86
<i>Do. do. other than galvanized or tinned</i>	42,137	59·77	44,864	57·59	52,950	65·93	22,332	26·58	...	30,618	...	38·45
<i>Other sorts</i>	26,150	45·55	24,233	49·96	34,183	75·42	32,902	59·38	...	1,281	...	16·04
Total Iron or Steel, wrought	274,083	4,19·57	342,001	5,53·65	455,844	7,61·75	255,349	4,13·95	...	200,495	...	3,47·80
Total Iron and Steel	284,687	4,25·76	347,100	5,58·82	463,302	7,66·90	258,262	4,15·74	...	205,040	...	3,51·16
Lead—												
<i>Sheets for tea-chests</i>	2,183	6·71	1,258	4·79	1,363	5·80	1,314	5·88	...	49	...	1·12
<i>Other kinds</i>	1,808	4·73	2,214	6·55	1,877	5·97	864	3·06	...	1,013	...	2·91
Total Lead	4,009	11·44	3,472	11·34	3,240	11·77	2,178	8·74	...	1,062	...	3·03
<i>Quicksilver</i>	108,023	1·54	170,474	3·01	90,242	1·45	28,386	·44	...	61,256	...	1·01
<i>Tin</i>	1,057	26·81	947	30·18	1,183	36·87	1,015	27·37	...	198	...	9·50
<i>Zinc or Spelter</i>	2,136	8·42	2,664	11·51	3,572	15·71	1,204	5·35	...	2,368	...	10·36
<i>German silver</i>	592	9·33	480	7·44	591	9·70	339	5·42	...	252	...	4·28
<i>Other sorts of metal</i>	436	3·59	788	5·04	2,798	8·99	645	4·40	...	2,153	...	4·59
TOTAL METALS	300,478	5,65·66	361,488	6,90·96	484,867	9,66·18	272,123	5,60·73	...	212,744	...	4,05·45

I.—Metals.—The great boom ended in 1913-14 and with the commencement of 1914-15 the reaction caused by the general depression and decline in business was fully effective. Even in the first four months the falling off in total value was 14·97 per cent. from Rs. 3·14 to Rs. 2·67 crores, but the breaking of all communications with Germany and Austria-Hungary and the devastation of Belgium put a stopper on all their exports of iron and steel. The result has been a decrease under every heading, resulting in a loss of 41·96 per cent.

Brass, wrought.—A decrease of 15·53 per cent., Germany sending 65·76 per cent. less, while the United Kingdom absorbed 40·95 per cent. of the trade.

Copper, unwrought.—Fell in quantity by 21·83 and in value by 25·36 per cent. Acute depression caused by indifferent demand and accumulation of supplies was the chief characteristic of this market; then the war intervened and ultimately brought about a reduction in output and a demand for special purposes. The year opened at £65 15s. for standard cash and steadily declined until £55 15s. was quoted at end of July; the market then practically closed till early November when it re-opened at £50 5s. rising to

£56 12s. 6d. by end of 1914; since then rates have risen steadily and the year closed at £69 per ton. Of the imports 92·21 per cent. came from Japan: from the United Kingdom there was an increase of 20·43 per cent. On behalf of the State imports were 1,937 tons valued at Rs. 20·94 lakhs or greater by 5·92 per cent.: 49·82 per cent. came from Australia and 50·18 per cent. from the United Kingdom.

Copper, wrought.—Was less in quantity by 15·27 per cent.: in value by 15·37 per cent. From Germany the value fell from Rs. 12·49 to Rs. 2·47 lakhs, and the United Kingdom sent less by 1·68 per cent. with a total share in the value of 94·20 per cent. The trade is chiefly in *braziers and sheets* and in *yellow metal sheathing*.

Iron, unwrought.—Dropped by 4,545 tons and by Rs. 3·36 lakhs. This trade must continue to decline, for Calcutta being the outlet for Kalimati, is now, not so much an importer, as an exporter of *pig-iron*. 98·85 per cent. came from the United Kingdom.

Iron or steel, wrought.—The contraction in imports was serious; in volume smaller by 43·98 per cent. and in value 45·66 per cent. The greatest decrease was in *galvanised sheets*, less by 57·11 per cent.: *sheets and plates*, 37·84: *bars and channels*, 45·03: *pipes and tubes*, 45·13: and *beams, joists, etc.*, by 47·89 per cent. Of imports the United Kingdom shipped Rs. 3·41 crores a drop of 43·26 per cent.: from Germany the value of exports fell by 64·34 per cent. to Rs. 33·92 lakhs: and from Belgium by 56·31 per cent. to Rs. 20·64 lakhs: the United States sent a slightly larger quantity. Prices of *pig-iron* excepting a slight rise in August did not show any great variation, but with the opening of 1915, they expanded from 54s. 8d. to 67s. 4d. per ton.

Tin.—Decreased by 10·82 per cent. in volume and by 25·77 per cent. in value but the trade is well up to the normal of previous years. The bulk of the imports, or 89·76 per cent., are produced in the Straits Settlements, far away from the seat of war: yet 975 tons of *tin* or nearly a year's supply so far as Calcutta is concerned, was lost in the "Troilus," sunk by the cruiser "Emden". The war has entirely stopped probably for good and all the attempt of Germany and Austria to control the tin market. The average price per ton in the past three years has been £169 10s., £140 15s. and £144 10s. last year.

II.—Machinery and Millwork (excluding railway materials).—There has been a great falling off under this heading in the past year from Rs. 3·21 crores to Rs. 2·33 crores or by 27·41 per cent. *Prime movers* were valued at Rs. 24·09 lakhs, *electrical machinery* at Rs. 20·19 lakhs and *other sorts of machinery* at Rs. 1·88 crores. As usual the United Kingdom absorbs the larger portion of this trade (95·28 per cent.): her supplies fell from Rs. 3 to Rs. 2·22 crores; Germany's shipments dropped from Rs. 11·55 to Rs. 3·39 lakhs, and Austria-Hungary could only raise Rs. 505. The United States did a smaller trade valued at Rs. 6·27 lakhs. The decrease of Rs. 79 lakhs in *other sorts of machinery* was principally caused by the contraction in value of *jute machinery* from Rs. 1·46 crores to Rs. 87·43 lakhs.

III.—Railway plant and Rolling Stock.—The revised budget for 1914-15 gave the capital expenditure on *railways* as £11·63 million and the actual importation into Calcutta on behalf of State and private railways was Rs. 5·84 crores (£3·89 million), an increase of Rs. 38·16 lakhs or 6·99 per cent. The expansion was solely on *private account* with an increase of 14·58 per cent. from Rs. 3·91 to Rs. 4·48 crores. *State importations* actually fell from Rs. 1·55 to Rs. 1·36 crores or by 12·26 per cent. Combining both heads the United Kingdom sent 94·52 per cent. of the aggregate imports valued at Rs. 5·52 crores an advance of 5·75 per cent. Germany's trade fell from Rs. 14·57 to Rs. 8·61 lakhs: and the United States trade was valued at Rs. 3·63 lakhs.

IV.—Hardware and Cutlery, including electro-plated ware.—The aggregate total has fallen from Rs. 1·54 to Rs. 1·03 crores, a decrease of 33·12 per cent. The United Kingdom despatched Rs. 77·23 lakhs or 74·68 per cent.: from Germany imports dropped from Rs. 24·18 to Rs. 9·04 lakhs; Austria-Hungary from Rs. 7·39 to Rs. 2·34 lakhs; and the United States sent Rs. 9·55 lakhs, a decrease of 53·41 per cent. There is no doubt that the class of goods embraced by this heading have suffered considerably from the war; prior to the war in the first four months of the year imports were Rs. 49·47 lakhs as against Rs. 49·99 lakhs in the same period of the previous year.

13. Mineral Oil.—

	Average for the 5 years, 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									QUANTITY.		VALUE.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Gals.	Gals.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
From Foreign Countries—												
I.—Kerosine Oil—												
From Russia ...	340,238	1'55	2,213,869	7'61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Rumania ...	553,436	2'08	949,436	3'37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" United States ...	15,620,314	66'08	12,007,970	47'22	18,099,899	74'65	17,475,628	72'32	...	...	...	...
" Straits Settlements ...	242,634	'91	...	...	...	...	12,000	'04	627,371	...	...	2'33
" Borneo ...	8,675,663	25'22	10,334,037	38'96	12,602,632	45'07	16,170,595	58'29	3,567,963	...	...	18'22
" Sumatra ...	1,533,466	4'63	612,474	2'20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Other countries ...	1,051	'01	642	...	3,535	'02	280	...	3,255	...	...	'02
Total ...	26,966,792	1,00'48	26,619,428	99'26	30,706,066	1,19'74	33,655,408	1,30'65	2,949,337	...	10'91	...
II.—Lubricating and Batching Oils—												
From United Kingdom ...	1,822,778	11'70	1,329,683	9'18	1,393,476	11'53	2,039,558	14'95	646,083	...	3'42	...
" United States ...	5,040,487	18'71	6,938,927	26'71	6,244,296	25'61	5,185,317	20'59	1,086,979	...	5'02	...
" Borneo ...	405,106	1'28	2,657,192	8'86	3,100,841	10'34	1,879,439	6'34	1,221,402	...	4'00	...
" Sumatra ...	1,081,407	3'44	...	...	408	...	1,075,432	3'58	1,075,024	...	3'58	...
" Other countries ...	619,665	3'34	211,319	1'55	167,369	1'29	132,673	'91	34,595	...	'38	...
Total ...	8,819,443	38'47	11,137,121	46'30	10,906,288	48'77	10,312,419	46'37	592,869	...	2'40	...
III.—All other kinds	1,408,727	5'52	3,345,654	19'11	3,809,786	21'06	3,140,154	17'89	669,632	...	3'17	...
Total (Foreign) ...	37,194,962	1,44'47	41,101,203	1,64'67	45,422,140	1,89'57	47,107,976	1,94'91	1,685,836	...	5'34	...
From Burma—												
Kerosene Oil ...	40,512,914	1,29'05	47,865,445	1,68'56	49,552,245	1,72'14	46,298,309	1,61'17	3,223,943	...	9'97	...
Lubricating Oil ...	2,892,247	11'20	2,968,821	13'05	3,659,007	16'14	3,644,717	15'86	14,390	...	2'72	...
All other kinds ...	362,151	2'23	840,089	7'19	4,781,162	26'33	1,689,552	13'94	3,141,510	...	12'39	...
Total (Burma) ...	43,767,312	1,42'28	51,689,355	1,88'80	57,992,414	2,14'61	51,512,371	1,94'97	6,480,043	...	19'64	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	80,962,274	2,87'05	92,790,558	3,53'47	103,414,554	4,04'18	98,590,347	3,89'88	4,794,307	...	14'30	...

The high prices of the previous year were not maintained, but this did not induce larger shipments, quantity falling by 4'64 per cent. and value by 3'54 per cent. *Burma oil* has been the cause of the total decline, falling by 11'17 in volume and 9'15 per cent. in value. *Foreign oil* :—The fall in prices was induced by the steady increase in the world's supplies and the improvement in ocean transport facilities. In the first four months of the year imports increased from 9'03 to 12'11 million gallons, but the improvement did not continue after the war commenced. The United States (which sent 55'35 per cent. of the kerosine oil) took full advantage of the lower prices, and in the first four months imports from that country rose from 4'22 to 10'94 million gallons; but since the outbreak of war they fell from 13'88 to 6'53 gallons. As the American consignments to Calcutta dwindled. Borneo oil took their place and showed a rise of 28'31 per cent. This trade is increasing. *Case oil* only absorbed 10'13 per cent. and *bulk oil* rose by 16'69 per cent. to 30'25 million gallons. Local prices for both foreign and Burma oils remained fairly steady throughout the year. *Lubricating and batching oils* showed a small decrease of 5'45 per cent. upon the previous year's imports: 50'28 per cent. came from the United States and 19'78 per cent. from the United Kingdom. "All other kinds" of oil declined by 17'58 per cent.: they consisted largely of *white oil* used for adulterating *ghi*, and valued in the past year at Rs. 12'81 lakhs. *Fuel oil* was valued at Rs. 2'09 lakhs, including two cargoes of Persian fuel oil.

Burma oil :—All descriptions were imported on a smaller scale: *kerosine* fell by 6'71, *lubricating* by '39 and *other kinds* by 65'71 per cent.: *mineral wax* fell from 2,122 to 246 cwt., and *candles* weighing 1'78 million pounds were less by '56 per cent.

Budge-Budge stocks at the end of the year consisted of *duty-paid oil* (including Burma) 10'79 million gallons—an increase of 10'67 per cent. and *non-duty-paid oil* 1'28 million gallons—a decline of 46'22 per cent. Deliveries from Budge-Budge of all descriptions of mineral oils rose from 76'56 to 79'33 million gallons in 1914.

14. **Provisions.**—The total value has fallen from Rs. 65'47 to Rs. 62'23 lakhs or by 4'95 per cent. From the United Kingdom the value fell by 5'06 per cent. to Rs. 41'48 lakhs representing 66'66 per cent. of the total trade: the Straits Settlements exported Rs. 9'81 lakhs—a decrease of 16'08 per cent.: and the Continent Rs. 6'28 lakhs, a fall of 8'72 per cent. *Farinaceous foods*, chiefly from the Straits Settlements, fell by 8'33 per cent. to Rs. 18'72 lakhs: *canned and bottled provisions* decreased by 6'63 per cent. to Rs. 14'65 lakhs: *condensed milk* rose in value by 13'19 per cent. to Rs. 9'44 lakhs: *biscuits* and *cakes* were valued at Rs. 7'01 lakhs: *bacon* and *hams* stood at Rs. 4'24 lakhs and *cheese* at Rs. 2'19 lakhs. During a small portion of the year owing to

military requirements, cheese was difficult to obtain in Calcutta and bacon was distinctly dearer. Generally the war has not created any marked increase in the price of imported provisions.

15. **Salt.**—The following tables show the total imports and total consumption of *salt* during the periods indicated :—

Table I.—Importations.

	Average for the 5 years, 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
From United Kingdom ...	169,057	22'29	149,245	19'61	124,485	17'30	78,948	10'95	...	45,537	...	6'35
" Spain ...	80,218	10'99	58,411	7'96	73,378	10'00	20,480	4'22	...	42,898	...	5'78
" Germany ...	33,321	4'62	27,334	3'72	28,876	3'93	17,137	2'33	...	11,739	...	1'60
" Red Sea Ports ...	96,061	9'00	31,894	4'34	70,197	9'56	20,077	2'73	...	50,120	...	6'83
" Aden ...	51,196	6'97	105,284	14'33	86,445	11'68	116,494	16'67	30,049	...	4'99	...
" Egypt—Port Said ...	33,249	4'28	58,445	8'41	59,104	7'45	53,372	11'42	...	5,732	...	'50
" Italian East Africa ...	12,002	1'61	27,373	3'73	43,671	5'93	39,996	5'45	...	3,675	...	...
" Other countries ...	2,454	'34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Total ...	441,158	60'10	450,990	62'09	496,158	65'87	356,504	53'77	...	129,654	...	12'10
From Bombay ...	31,170	12'38	34,434	13'66	34,546	13'70	32,087	12'07	...	2,458	...	1'63
" Madras ...	20	'01	1,197	'49	...	...	9,621	2'24	9,621	...	2'24	...
Total ...	31,190	12'39	35,631	14'15	34,546	13'70	41,708	14'31	7,163	...	'61	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	472,348	72'49	486,621	76'24	520,703	79'57	398,212	68'08	...	122,491	...	11'49

NOTE.—The figures given in this table, like all the other trade statistics in this report, represent the quantities for which Bills-of-entry were put in either for warehousing or direct delivery of salt during the year, and will not agree with the figures in the Salt Administration Report which gives the actual deliveries effected during the same period.

Table II.—Consumption.

Place of production.	1907-08.	1908-09.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
United Kingdom ...	171,443	126,870	164,604	154,059	178,164	133,206	126,038	88,790
Hamburg and Bremen ...	38,528	39,794	24,063	29,009	31,288	31,147	27,459	20,904
Spain ...	...	91,133	101,445	77,743	68,570	59,418	54,973	49,102
Port Said ...	...	21,269	30,764	45,216	43,867	53,313	57,011	51,508
Salif ...	...	74,157	60,416	57,015	57,533	33,521	52,474	47,658
Bombay ...	123,184	33,173	30,781	29,727	32,490	31,032	30,507	31,401
Madras ...	...	...	147	...	...	1,198	...	9,589
Aden ...	...	64,238	34,676	54,725	49,481	90,231	87,154	111,085
Phocce ...	...	2,060	861	...	...	...	...	...
Massowah ...	...	...	9,114	25,431	20,534	28,508	45,443	42,179
Tunis ...	...	...	...	...	1,374	4,913	...	...
Total ...	333,155	452,694	456,871	472,925	483,301	466,487	481,059	452,216

The total imports and the amount of *salt* that passed into consumption show a large decrease. Stocks at the close of the year were lower than they have been since 1907-08. The decrease in imports from the United Kingdom, Spain, Red Sea ports and Hamburg is abnormal, due to shortage of tonnage and high freights owing to the war. There has been no import of *Hamburg salt* since the beginning of the war except prize cargoes; at the same time there has been an increase in *Aden* and *Bombay* during the last quarter of the year under review, due to lower freights from that area. The upward tendency in the market price of *salt* during the first-half of the year became abnormal after the declaration of war, and in anticipation of an enhancement of the salt duty some transactions were 250 per cent. above normal during the last quarter.

There were on 31st March 1915, 37 depositors taking advantage of the Salt Credit System against 35 last year and 92'20 lakhs of maunds passed under it, against one crore of maunds in the previous year. The quantities unadjusted at the close of the two years were 38'72 lakhs and 45'84 lakhs, respectively.

The construction of brick footpaths round the new golas and the attachment of cradles to the old pontoons were completed during the year and the two new pontoons opened. Sanction was obtained for two 22-foot railway turntables to replace at a cost of Rs. 11,142 the four 14-foot ones. One has been provided and the other is expected

shortly. Thirteen new porticoes to gola entrances were completed during the year. These provide shelter and facilitate the work of opening out new golas.

The golas at the Kidderpore Docks closed on the 3rd September 1914.

16. **Silk Fabrics.**—The year opened fairly satisfactorily, but with the commencement of the war the trade dropped 71.11 per cent. This coincided with a time when heavy importations of silk goods in anticipation of the Durga and Lakshmi Pujas are due. It is not therefore a matter of surprise that the total imports of *pure* and *mixed goods* fell from Rs. 11.36 to Rs. 6.11 lakhs—a decrease of no less than 46.21 per cent. and the smallest receipts chronicled for very many years. *Pure silks* were not so much affected by the crisis as were *mixed silk piece-goods*; the former fell by 14.83 per cent. to Rs. 2.24 lakhs although the quantity showed an increase of .89 per cent.; on the other hand *mixed goods* declined from Rs. 8.73 to Rs. 3.87 lakhs. Another factor conducing to the smaller trade in *silks* is the keener competition of *artificial* silk piece-goods: here the value rose from Rs. 3.03 to Rs. 3.34 lakhs, of which 94.02 per cent. came from the United Kingdom.

17. **Spices.**—This, coming from the East, is one of the very few trades which has not been greatly interfered with by the war. In 1914-15 imports rose in quantity from 84.15 to 90.36 million lbs. or 7.38 per cent.; the value increased by 4.16 per cent. from Rs. 68.52 to Rs. 71.37 lakhs. Of this 91.54 per cent. is absorbed by the imports of *betelnuts*, 99.55 per cent. of which came from the Straits Settlements. The *native nut* has gone up very much in price during the past year, hence the inducement to import the cheaper but inferior nut from abroad. A good deal of the larger import has gone to Burma. *Cloves* have fallen greatly from 1.13 million to 421,042 lbs. or by 62.82 per cent.; but the output varies considerably, the trees only bearing heavy crops every three to five years. *Pepper* also was in great defect, showing a decrease by 60.39 per cent. to 452,765 lbs.: from Indian ports (Travancore and Madras) the falling off was even greater, from 6.06 to 2.15 million lbs. only. More pepper was sent from here to foreign, but less to Indian ports. *Cardamoms*, with two unusual re-importations from the United Kingdom, rose from 14,759 to 63,212 lbs.

18. **Sugar.**—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Cwts.	Rs.	Cwts.	Rs.	Cwts.	Rs.	Cwts.	Rs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Rs.	Rs.
Refined sugar.												
From United Kingdom ...	5,830	72	3,748	68	8,410	103	1,743	31	...	6,863	...	72
" Austria-Hungary ...	121,389	12.58	198,260	19.62	354,010	32.36	67,676	6.33	...	286,334	...	26.08
" Germany ...	3,481	36	8,889	77	6,902	60	...	...	...	6,902	...	80
" Mauritius ...	199,305	20.06	302,016	32.74	376,620	35.13	292,598	28.75	...	84,022	...	8.38
" Java ...	3,970,824	3.98	4,825,102	4.68	6,120,030	5.53	3,439,063	3.88	...	2,680,967	...	1,44.85
" China ...	6,205	61	...	...	925	07	4,295	68	3,372	...	61	...
" Other countries ...	6,281	64	6,124	67	27	...	10,092	1.61	9,995	...	1.61	...
Total ...	4,312,315	4.21.59	5,344,117	5.23.13	6,866,922	6.02.57	3,815,399	4.24.21	...	3,051,523	...	1.78.36
Unrefined sugar.												
From Java ...	346,305	30.51	101,020	8.90	89,476	7.29	65,169	7.42	...	24,307	13	...
" Other countries ...	4,855	39	1,332	11	5,635	38	53	01	...	5,602	...	37
Total ...	351,163	30.90	102,352	9.01	95,111	7.67	65,202	7.43	...	29,909	...	24
Molasses.												
From Mauritius ...	287,982	6.78	89,612	2.24	56,547	1.22	82,499	2.53	25,952	...	1.21	...
" Java ...	1,191,748	26.93	1,434,312	30.47	1,339,977	29.27	1,836,715	46.82	596,738	...	17.55	...
" Other countries ...	7	...	19	...	21	...	38	...	17	...	...	...
Total ...	1,459,737	33.71	1,523,943	32.71	1,396,545	30.59	2,019,252	49.35	623,707	...	18.76	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,123,215	4.86.20	6,970,712	5.64.65	8,358,578	6.40.68	5,899,853	4.80.39	...	2,458,725	...	1.59.84

The total imports of *refined* and *unrefined sugar* fell from 6,962,033 cwts. to 3,880,601 cwts. and in value from Rs. 610.24 lakhs to 431.64 lakhs. The decrease in quantity was 44.26 per cent., but in value only 29.27 per cent. owing to prices having been abnormally high since the outbreak of war. The bulk of the large deficit is accounted for by greatly diminished receipts of *Java sugar*, which contracted by 43.57 per cent. in quantity and 26.77 per cent. in value as compared with the previous year, when they were the heaviest on record. The world's crop of sugar, of which approximately 6.98 million tons represented *cane sugar* and 6.27 million tons *beet sugar*, was estimated for the past year as being very favourable. The phenomenal decrease in imports and the consequent high prices that

prevailed were due entirely to the cessation of the large trade in German and Austrian beet sugar with the United Kingdom, which resulted in the bulk of the August-December supplies of *Java sugar*, 11,432 tons, being resold by Calcutta dealers to *Java* speculators, who found more favourable markets for their shipments in the United Kingdom. Great Britain depended in 1913 on Germany and Austria for 1.29 million tons of *refined* and *unrefined sugar*, and the complete dislocation of the remittance market, threatened to paralyse dealings with other countries from which supplies might be bought. So serious was the position that *granulated sugar*, which on the eve of hostilities was listed at 15s. per cwt. had risen in a week to 42s. per cwt. and in exceptional instances even higher, being sold in Scotland at as high as 55s. per cwt. The British Government therefore on the 11th September appointed a Royal Commission to control the sugar trade on behalf of the Government, which purchased one million tons of *cane sugar* for the sum of £18,000,000 from *Java*, *Mauritius*, *Cuba*, *Brazil*, the *West Indies* and *Peru*. Having assured ample supplies for British consumption the Home Government decided to prohibit all importations of sugar in order to defeat the efforts of Germany and Austria, to convert their stocks into money and thus to minimise their buying power. The maximum wholesale price for British refined granulated sugar was fixed at 30s. per cwt. which, however, was reduced later to 27s. 6d. per cwt. owing to stocks having accumulated sufficiently. The sale to the public by retail grocers of sugar was fixed at the maximum price of 3½d. per pound for *good granulated* and 4½d. for *good cubes*. In *Mauritius* the crop was 270,000 tons, the highest in the history of the colony. It is reported that all factories in *Mauritius* are being modernised and real progress was made throughout the sugar industry in the past year. Owing to its irregular quality, *Mauritius sugar* is not yet as popular in this market as *Java refined sugars*, which command a higher price. There were heavy arrivals in the United Kingdom of *Mauritius sugar* in January last owing to the concession granted by the Home Government to manufacturing interests, by a considerable reduction (3s. per cwt.), in the price of *Mauritius crystals* which stimulated the demand. The shipments of *Austrian beet sugar* were made at the end of the previous year's beet season and were received here during April and May. There were no imports whatever from Germany. An interesting feature in the trade consisted of imports towards the end of the year of 10,000 cwts. of *Egyptian cane sugar* of the value of Rs. 1.60 lakhs. It has been placed as from 20th February 1915 on a Tariff basis of Rs. 9-8 per cwt.

The average market price for imports of all *refined Java sugar* was Rs. 11-5-3 per cwt. as against Rs. 8-11-5 per cwt. in the previous year. The price exceeded the previous record of 1911-12 by annas 9-5 per cwt. The average price for *refined brown Java sugar* of 16 to 22 D. S. in April last was Rs. 8-1 per cwt. and in July it stood at Rs. 7-13-6 per cwt. The price for *brown Javas* at the end of the year was Rs. 13-8 per cwt. Stocks at the Port Commissioners' warehouses, which amounted to 54,543 tons at the beginning of the year, were reduced to 14,590 tons on the 1st August, but improved to 21,875 tons at the end of 1914. The final estimates of the outturn of the *Indian sugar crop* for the past year was 2,367,200 tons, which is 3 per cent. in excess of the previous year and 5.7 per cent. more than the average of the previous five years.

There was a considerable increase in imports of *molasses* from *Java* by 596,738 cwts. and by Rs. 17.55 lakhs in value. Supplies from *Mauritius* were also greater by 25,952 cwts. and Rs. 1.21 lakhs.

19. **Tobacco.**—The most interesting factor in the *tobacco* trade during the past two or three years has been the *leaf* position. Prices of all varieties have advanced steadily in the home market until in the case of *American leaf*, which constitutes the great bulk of the supplies, prices are from 30 to 40 per cent. higher than in 1912. This is fully borne out by the past year's trade, for while quantity has fallen from 758,844 to 708,650 lbs., or 6.61 per cent., value has risen by 3.74 per cent. to Rs. 26.09 lakhs. This result is due to a lessened demand from the United States caused by the high prices above referred to, and *unmanufactured tobacco* (mainly *American*) dropped from 137,847 to 53,692 lbs. valued at Rs. 38,518. The demand for *cigars* was also smaller, quantity dropping from 43,609 to 31,817 lbs. or 27.04 per cent. valued at Rs. 1.30 lakhs. The abnormal war demand for all descriptions of tobacco at home accounts for the drop in import from 5,499 lbs. to 2,837 lbs.: Holland's contribution fell by 29.51 per cent. to 13,721 lbs.: from Germany supplies receded by 57.06 per cent. while *Manila cigars* were steady. After falling in the previous year, there has now followed a considerable expansion in imports of *cigarettes*, and the quantity has risen by 17.54 millions to 152.77 millions valued at Rs. 18.44 lakhs. The *cheaper* or *lighter cigarette* was in better demand, the quantity rising from 119.14 to 140.63 millions in number, valued at Rs. 15.60 lakhs. The *superior* or *heavier cigarette* was in defect and the number fell by 3.94 to 12.14 millions, valued at Rs. 2.84 lakhs. The bulk of the

cigarettes (146·06 millions) came from the United Kingdom, an increase of 17·33 per cent. and valued at Rs. 16·98 lakhs. From Egypt the quantity fell from 7·62 to 6·28 millions: the United States sent only 315,000, last year it was 2·92 millions, but the average price for this description has in the year risen from Rs. 10·3·2 to Rs. 17·5 per 1,000, while most other kinds have fallen in price. "Other sorts" of *tobacco*, *plug*, *cake*, *snuff*, etc., have risen from 218,989 to 224,600 lbs. valued at Rs. 5·95 lakhs, the increase being mainly from America. There was a further fall in consumption from 777,515 to 698,777 lbs. or by 10·13 per cent.: the *cheap cigarette* was in greater demand, but all other descriptions fell off. Stocks in bond were also reduced in the year under all descriptions and stood at 46,129 lbs. a fall of 29·69 per cent. With larger imports of the cheaper cigarette the demand for the Indian substitute appears to have waned somewhat. While the total production is not ascertainable, a fairly accurate computation can be made from the total of 5,159 tons of cigarettes railed from Monghyr, the railway station for the largest factory established in British India. With a very liberal allowance for tare this approximates to 4,339 million cigarettes; which at the present rate of import duty would mean a revenue of Rs. 1·36 crores. From the hill country the demand in 1914 improved and at Siliguri 369 tons were received representing 311 million cigarettes. In spite of the larger area under tobacco in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in 1913-14 less *tobacco leaf* was sent to foreign countries: while Burma only took 9·80 million lbs., against 18·01 million lbs. in the previous year. Imports of *cigars* from Indian ports were valued at Rs. 1·42 lakhs:—*cigarettes* at only Rs. 11,166 and *tobacco leaf* (chiefly Burma) at Rs. 78,618.

20. Woollen Goods.—

	Average for the 5 Years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-1914 AND 1914-1915.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Rs. Lakhs.		Rs. Lakhs.		Rs. Lakhs.		Rs. Lakhs.			Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Braids lbs.	118,209	2·21	92,108	1·61	45,969	·93	42,424	·88	...	3,545	·05	...
Carpets & Rugs "	170,855	2·05	217,416	2·47	365,724	3·69	363,142	2·93	...	2,582	·76	...
Hosiery "	82,975	2·80	91,049	3·06	101,018	3·23	91,426	3·25	...	9,592	·02	...
Piece-goods Yds.	4,286,923	36·81	4,573,412	38·33	5,773,254	44·47	2,507,315	24·63	...	3,265,939	...	19·84
Shawls No.	760,463	23·36	894,017	23·91	1,106,366	32·05	386,585	11·05	...	719,781	...	21·00
Yarn & Knitting Wool lbs.	162,768	3·73	189,732	4·30	152,067	3·66	85,492	1·97	...	66,575	...	1·89
Other sorts "	261,533	1·66	231,973	1·81	288,872	1·78	29,504	·26	...	259,368	...	1·52
Total	...	72·62	...	75·49	...	89·81	...	44·97	...	...	...	44·84

Overtrading will account for the falling off in the first four months of the year from Rs. 13·26 to 10·15 lakhs, or 23·45 per cent. But with the war commencing at the opening of the large import season combined with the flight of the Marwaris, the demand fell away alarmingly and during August-October dropped from Rs. 59·81 to Rs. 21·82 lakhs or by 63·52 per cent. From the United Kingdom the value fell by 29·44 per cent. to Rs. 35·60 lakhs: Germany only sent Rs. 6·30 against Rs. 33·15 lakhs: Holland alone showed a small increase to Rs. 1·04 lakhs. The average price was 15 annas 8 pies per yard or higher than last year by 27·03 per cent.: *shawls* were lower. While *pure woollen piece goods* fell by 34·50 per cent.; *mixed goods* fell by as much as 50·33 per cent.; the *shoddy goods* of Germany being conspicuously absent. At home the Government demand for *woollen khaki* for the Army denuded the market of woollens for civilians. One curious effect of this huge demand was the enhancement in the price of *crossbreds* until their prices, already high, became 33 per cent. better than pure *merinos*: but it is in accordance with precedent that *fine wool* should depreciate in war time and *coarse wool* rise in value. The State imported *woollen goods* on a much larger scale the value rising from Rs. 2·25 to Rs. 5·39 lakhs. Exports of *raw wool* due to restrictions declined in volume from 2,105,203 to 1,632,698 lbs.

EXPORTS.

21. Foreign Trade.—The following table gives the values of the more important products in the export trade of Calcutta and their comparative importance:—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	Percentage of proportion to total merchandise exported.	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
Jute manufactures	16,75,14,309	22,76,62,512	28,19,96,702	25,77,28,811	36·51	.....	2,41,66,891
Jute, raw	15,84,89,899	24,46,99,531	28,03,44,350	11,82,88,602	16·76	.....	16,20,55,848
Tea	8,10,62,812	8,86,45,755	10,55,65,852	11,42,64,764	16·19	86,98,912	.....
Hides and skins, raw	6,71,81,750	8,32,56,115	8,47,59,495	5,20,11,175	7·37	.....	3,27,48,320
Seeds	4,66,48,921	4,11,40,841	3,59,07,610	3,62,69,072	5·14	3,61,412	.....
Grain, pulse and flour	5,60,89,298	10,83,82,392	6,86,60,330	3,32,01,122	4·73	.....	3,53,59,208
Opium	7,37,45,537	5,69,56,940	2,01,37,962	1,76,34,885	2·49	.....	25,03,377
Lac	2,71,66,545	2,06,91,260	1,91,46,417	1,59,40,983	2·26	.....	32,05,434
Cotton, raw	92,13,201	1,16,11,597	2,02,01,472	1,06,41,486	1·57	.....	95,59,937
Indigo	31,36,444	17,84,506	17,74,879	69,44,399	·98	51,69,520	.....
Coal, coke and patent fuel	66,05,815	88,31,366	63,13,436	52,78,803	·74	.....	16,34,633
Hemp, raw	27,02,371	44,41,822	56,40,749	46,67,999	·66	.....	9,72,950
Metals and ores	15,84,909	64,11,545	59,96,331	41,74,786	·59	.....	18,71,545
Salt-petre	38,43,921	34,86,261	29,94,180	41,40,762	·58	11,46,582	.....
Oils	28,73,621	22,55,108	22,66,233	23,61,442	·33	95,209	.....
Mica	21,84,367	43,89,676	35,51,481	23,04,272	·32	.....	12,47,209
Oilcakes	20,95,861	35,18,837	42,27,771	22,77,865	·33	.....	19,49,906
Provisions and oilman's stores	21,73,367	23,77,784	27,42,318	22,39,003	·32	.....	5,03,316
Mauvres	24,90,119	30,46,041	33,41,913	21,09,119	·30	.....	12,32,798
Dyeing and tanning substances—other than indigo	16,84,405	25,55,943	28,61,707	20,96,614	·29	.....	7,65,093
Spices	4,80,235	5,89,787	3,71,968	9,30,405	·13	5,58,437	.....
Cotton twist and yarn	24,69,682	30,61,501	31,15,056	8,29,917	·12	.....	22,85,139
Bristles	6,55,945	9,50,690	9,17,150	8,29,848	·11	.....	87,802
Apparel (excluding hosiery, boots and shoes)	11,02,791	10,73,972	10,34,044	7,15,594	·10	.....	3,18,430
Woollen manufactures	13,50,483	12,66,648	13,35,835	7,02,222	·10	.....	6,33,113
Drugs and medicines	5,55,760	6,64,429	9,19,178	6,32,844	·09	.....	2,86,334
Cordage and rope	4,84,272	6,05,045	6,92,921	6,18,880	·09	.....	74,041
Articles (not specified) exported by post	7,26,097	8,12,793	10,16,991	6,08,940	·08	.....	4,08,051
Fodder and bran	9,24,708	11,06,079	6,40,516	5,30,994	·07	.....	1,09,522
Silk, raw	31,66,978	11,81,512	9,17,148	4,78,303	·07	.....	4,38,845
Wax of all kinds other than paraffin wax (excluding candles)	3,90,770	4,56,724	5,57,934	3,49,322	·05	.....	2,08,612
Horns	5,65,408	6,64,119	5,62,349	3,14,682	·04	.....	2,47,667
Leather	1,20,655	1,19,312	1,19,046	3,04,619	·04	1,85,373	.....
Tobacco	3,03,692	1,35,592	3,76,487	2,58,825	·03	.....	1,17,562
Animals, living	2,59,484	4,54,885	4,18,170	2,86,621	·03	.....	1,81,549
Cotton manufactures	3,03,879	1,66,647	2,02,434	1,11,677	·02	.....	90,757
Wood and timber	2,41,344	2,73,783	2,87,903	1,03,908	·01	.....	1,83,995
Silk manufactures	4,64,230	3,50,346	1,90,810	93,694	·01	.....	96,616
Borax	81,141	1,06,549	72,226	86,888	.....	14,662	.....
Coir	25,005	30,425	24,530	30,720	·00	6,151	.....
Rubber, raw	2,45,350	1,73,723	80,964	17,763	·00	.....	63,201
Wool, raw	8,59,228	20	520	6,130	·00	5,610	.....
All other articles	10,03,163	24,69,478	29,45,460	24,60,997	·35	.....	4,85,363
Total Indian Merchandise	73,52,60,953	91,23,63,869	97,57,28,836	70,58,28,406	100·00	.....	26,99,00,480
Total Foreign Merchandise re-exported	42,94,828	32,19,563	32,94,204	53,85,065	.....	80,90,861	.....
Total Merchandise	73,95,55,781	94,60,83,152	97,90,23,040	71,12,13,471	.....	.....	26,78,09,569
TREASURE—							
Gold	7,30,432	1,41,361	48,17,464	26,99,562	.....	.....	21,17,902
Silver	26,50,174	12,97,492	11,97,408	16,93,808	.....	5,06,400	.....
Total Treasure	32,80,606	14,38,853	60,04,872	43,93,370	.....	.....	18,11,502
GRAND TOTAL EXPORTS	74,28,26,387	94,75,22,005	98,50,27,912	71,56,06,841	.....	.....	26,94,21,071

The total value of merchandise and of Indian merchandise exported in the past year has fallen by 27·35 and 27·66 per cent. respectively. Re-exported merchandise, principally *Java sugar*, has risen by 63·47 per cent. Other re-exports of some importance were *raw wool* valued at Rs. 6·74 lakhs and *hardware* Rs. 2·79 lakhs. Of the less important articles not dealt with separately, *oilcakes* still retain the lead though the value, Rs. 22·78 lakhs, has fallen by 46·12 per cent.: Japan absorbed 45·59 per cent., United Kingdom 34·23 and Ceylon 17·38 per cent. The trade in *manures*, principally *bone meal*, has also suffered heavily and has lost in value by 36·89 per cent. *Provisions*, less by 18·35 per cent. in value, consisted largely of *ghi* (Rs. 20·30 lakhs): 56·09 per cent. went to the Straits Settlements and smaller supplies to Mauritius, Fiji and British Guiana. *Dyeing and tanning materials* decreased by 26·74 per cent.: *myrobalans* were valued at Rs. 19·67 lakhs, the largest supplies going to the United States.

Some exports of Indian produce, *tea*, *indigo* and *salt-petre* have greatly benefited from the war; but others, such as *hides and skins*: *raw cotton*: *metals* and *coal* have lost considerably. The decreases in *raw jute*, *jute manufactures*, *grain and pulse* and *opium* are due to causes on which the war has had little influence.

22. Coal.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-1914 AND 1914-1915.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Tons.	Tons.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
To Ceylon	430,859	37.59	543,115	54.01	393,889	37.90	399,600	35.22	...	1,289	...	2.68
„ Straits Settlements	180,078	15.26	154,491	15.02	183,501	17.83	100,838	8.46	...	82,865	...	9.87
„ Sumatra	95,072	8.35	130,139	13.01	97,652	8.87	72,810	6.38	...	24,842	...	2.49
„ Aden	9,647	.79	11,900	1.19	5,386	.53	16,537	1.61	11,301	...	1.08	...
„ Java	11,299	.93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ East African ports	2,960	.24	5,320	.53	3,137	.31	1,500	.14	...	1,637	...	.17
„ New Zealand	5,534	.49	...	...	27,672	2.47	...	...	...	27,672	...	2.47
„ Australia	20,771	1.64	8,615	.79	4,646	.46	...	...	...	4,646	...	.46
„ Other countries	6,242	.45	26,801	2.54	5,517	.52	5,391	.74	2,874	...	.22	...
Total	761,462	65.74	879,390	88.09	721,349	68.88	592,474	52.55	...	128,875	...	16.33
Coasting trade—												
To Bombay	952,891	87.02	886,772	90.24	943,465	88.52	717,090	61.57	...	226,376	...	26.95
„ Sind	418,378	35.64	373,198	36.94	396,157	38.56	325,988	28.81	...	70,169	...	9.75
„ Burma	389,512	32.24	450,503	43.79	482,025	46.74	439,954	40.98	...	42,071	...	5.76
„ Madras	331,206	27.53	420,016	43.78	386,591	36.79	373,134	31.48	...	13,457	...	4.31
„ Bengal	18,943	1.69	25,489	2.46	31,478	2.96	27,371	2.38	...	4,107	...	.58
„ Goa	54,497	4.29	74,006	7.34	73,910	5.80	16,962	1.28	...	56,948	...	4.82
„ Other ports, including Indian ports, not British.	30,043	2.88	27,092	3.42	10,538	1.07	5,045	.47	...	5,493	...	.60
Total	2,195,970	1,94.49	2,237,076	2,27.97	2,324,167	2,19.24	1,904,624	1,66.97	...	419,543	...	52.27
* Bunker coal	942,413	81.49	955,871	95.74	1,010,074	96.43	969,338	86.03	...	40,736	...	10.40
GRAND TOTAL	3,899,245	3,41.72	4,072,337	4,11.80	4,055,590	3,84.55	3,466,436	3,05.55	...	589,154	...	79.00

* In both the foreign and coasting trade.

The production of coal in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa during the year 1914 was 15,075,587 tons—an increase of one per cent. The outturn in British India increased from 15,486,318 tons to 15,727,631 tons or by 1.56 per cent. Until June there was some shortage of wagon-supply which handicapped trade very considerably. Then the position changed and with a steady wagon-supply, collieries were enabled to clear their stocks; prices, however, remained quite steady although they had risen with the contraction in carrying capacity. After war was proclaimed in August no appreciable difficulty was felt at first, as it was rightly considered there would be less foreign competition. But in September came the “Emden,” followed by the taking up of many steamers for transport work and the abnormal rise in freight and a general decrease in manufacturing activity and railway working. The result has been that first class coals have varied little but second and inferior qualities, have declined steadily with little or no enquiry and only a small business passing. Prices were unusually steady throughout the year and at no time reached Rs. 5 per ton into wagon at colliery: the range may be taken as Rs. 3-4 to Rs. 4-8, the latter figure being reached in September and October and the year closing at Rs. 4 per ton for first class Jheria. Freights early in the year rose to Rs. 5-4 for Bombay, Rs. 4 for Colombo and Rs. 3-8 for Rangoon; later in the year prices ruled at Rs. 6-8, Rs. 5 and Rs. 3-8 per ton; but March 1915 saw Rs. 9, Rs. 8 and Rs. 6-8. Tonnage was hardly obtainable at the close and coal has been sent by rail. Exports including bunker coal are smaller than they have been for 10 years; quantity has dropped by 14.53 per cent., and value by 20.54 per cent. Foreign exports have declined to a lower figure than in 1913-14 and, for the year, are lower by 17.87 and 23.71 per cent. respectively. Even the trade with Indian ports has not progressed, showing a drop in quantity of 18.05 per cent., and in value of 23.84 per cent. Owing to want of tonnage Ceylon has taken less from us in the past year; that Colony had in 1914, received much less coal from other countries (chiefly Japan) than in 1913. Aden also has taken more, replacing supplies not available from the United Kingdom: Siam too absorbed an increase of from 1,141 to 2,505 tons. But all other countries have taken less, the Straits Settlement falling off by 45.16 per cent., and even Japan has sent less to that Colony owing to Japanese coal having steadily risen in price. At the same time the Straits Settlements took more from Australia, China and the United Kingdom. Bengal coal exports to this Colony should improve, as steps are being taken to support shipments by official certificates of quality. All Indian ports have taken less and it is reported that at Colombo, Rangoon, and South Indian ports stocks are running very low owing to lack of tonnage. From the two coal-producing provinces, Bengal with Bihar and Orissa, the quantity of

coal sent away by rail and river increased from 3,565,402 to 4,004,826 tons: the United Provinces received 31, Punjab 24, Rajputana and Central India 10, Bombay 10 and Central Provinces and Berar 7 per cent.

The above figures and remarks do not include or refer to *bunker* or *cargo coals* placed on board *hired transports*, but it has been ascertained that the amount of bunker and cargo coal so sent away from this port was 101,000 tons valued at Rs. 8.46 lakhs.

23. Cotton and Cotton Manufactures.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
<i>I.—Raw Cotton.</i>												
To United Kingdom	13,858	4.11	11,061	3.87	5,815	1.83	9,870	2.83	4,065	...	1.00	...
„ Germany	84,725	27.24	87,603	31.23	80,768	27.77	82,380	10.52	...	48,508	...	17.25
„ Belgium	26,151	7.61	8,614	2.98	8,698	2.99	4,692	1.61	...	4,016	...	1.39
„ Italy	39,643	11.61	13,347	4.69	12,319	3.98	49,661	11.52	30,442	...	7.54	...
„ Austria-Hungary	11,566	3.08	1,104	.40	182	.07	1,690	.55	1,808	...	.48	...
„ France	3,268	2.40	6,468	1.89	3,115	1.14	9,192	3.09	6,077	...	1.95	...
„ Spain	8,009	1.42	714	.27	536	.20	...	...	...	536	...	.20
„ China, Hong-Kong	10,837	3.18	1,874	.77	35,391	11.00	21,470	7.07	...	13,921	...	3.98
„ Treaty ports	2,632	.73	43	.01	1,148	.39	20,364	4.78	19,216	...	4.39	...
„ Japan	80,836	25.85	152,152	64.85	402,859	147.01	195,003	55.19	...	207,856	...	91.82
„ Australasia	4,694	1.80	3,355	1.16	3,848	1.45	1,632	.44	...	2,316	...	.99
„ U. S. of America	8,384	2.86	3,377	3.22	3,379	3.40	23,927	7.82	14,548	...	4.42	...
„ Other countries	2,647	.74	2,204	.78	2,475	.80	3,553	.99	1,378	...	.19	...
Total	398,872	92.13	296,516	1,16.12	666,433	2,02.01	866,504	1,06.41	...	199,929	...	95.60
<i>II.—Twist and Yarn.</i>												
To China, Hong-Kong	3,379,630	13.47	4,282,372	21.77	4,644,528	22.62	1,566,182	6.84	...	3,078,646	...	15.78
„ Treaty Ports	1,018,508	4.41	1,382,040	6.91	1,385,245	6.82	87,780	.39	...	1,297,465	...	6.43
„ Straits Settlements	247,307	1.29	368,000	1.43	268,368	.86	209,600	.86	...	78,768	...	.86
„ Other countries	1,471,748	5.52	94,384	.50	147,088	.59	38,222	.20	...	108,865	...	.20
Total	6,217,091	24.69	6,126,746	30.61	6,465,629	31.15	1,901,765	8.29	...	4,562,764	...	22.86

Exports of raw cotton have receded considerably, in quantity by 35.30 per cent. and in value by 47.32 per cent., but they are still above 1912-13 and the average of previous years. Exports for any one year cover two seasons and we are interested in those of 1913-14 and 1914-15, both of which were considerably greater than the year 1912-13. Yet a smaller quantity reached Calcutta from the chief sources of supply, the volume falling from 679,335 to 477,717 cwts. in the 11 months ending with February 1915. For the first 4 months of the year exports were on a considerable scale and shipments rose from 101,298 to 162,631 cwts.: but in the next 4 months the quantity sent away was only 10,278 cwts. Unfortunately outside Japan, the bulk of India's cotton goes to the Continent of Europe and, with the outbreak of hostilities, the larger portion of this market was closed. The United States was in the same position, the large crop of 1913 being succeeded by a record one in 1914 while the demand was greatly curtailed. Prices came tumbling down and Mid-American standing at 7.35d. on 23rd July was unquotable for some time and stood at only 4d. on 29th October; since then there has been some recovery and at the end of March, the price stood at 5.52d. The customs average monthly prices show that Indian cotton standing at Rs. 37-12 per cwt. in February 1914, was only Rs. 21-13 in the same month of 1915. Fires at Bombay disposed of a considerable quantity of cotton valued, up to the 27th May 1914, (37 fires) at Rs. 83 lakhs. The above table shows that Japan has only absorbed 53.21 per cent. of the total exports, but her off-take in 1913-14 was exceptional. Direct shipments to China account for her larger off-take at the expense of Hong-Kong, the proportion absorbed being 5.56 per cent. Germany has taken 8.80 per cent.: Italy, the United States, and the United Kingdom have all taken much more.

Cotton twist and yarn.—Exports have fallen terribly, quantity declined by 70.59 per cent., and value by 73.36 per cent., and it is necessary to go back to 1886-87 for smaller transactions: to China the decrease was 93.66 per cent., but to the Straits Settlements only 27.32 per cent. Throughout the greater portion of the year the price of yarn was at a very low figure as a result of general trade depression from the war, but with the close of 1914-15 prospects were improving. Production in the Bengal mills fell from 33 million lbs. to 32 million. In the coasting trade the quantity exported rose from 6.81 to 8.20 million lbs.: by rail and river 22.34 million lbs. were sent away in 1914 as against 26.98 million lbs. in 1913.

24. Food-grains and Flour.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Rice, husked—												
To United Kingdom	416,813	29'02	537,201	39'44	438,164	35'86	265,899	21'13	...	172,265	...	14'73
„ Germany	276,765	21'68	583,335	45'36	366,531	30'00	58,824	4'81	...	307,707	...	26'09
„ Belgium	116,612	7'72	242,092	19'14	750	0'08	...	...	...	750	...	0'08
„ Mauritius	485,432	32'54	820,150	57'28	533,805	42'46	463,095	39'54	...	70,710	...	2'02
„ Natal	317,551	23'40	412,940	29'36	366,004	29'45	370,468	29'51	4,484	...	0'08	...
„ East Coast of Africa	89,493	3'17	149,636	10'46	95,176	7'47	75,093	6'03	...	20,083	...	1'44
„ West Indies	174,994	10'74	351,510	23'35	238,412	18'40	276,571	21'90	...	45,159	3'50	...
„ Ceylon	2,172,823	144'84	4,264,123	293'14	2,499,118	178'34	1,149,256	83'67	...	1,349,862	...	94'67
„ Straits Settlements	51,884	3'54	207,120	14'34	1,519	0'15	446	0'05	...	1,073	...	1'10
„ Arabia	294,337	20'01	175,443	12'10	563,540	43'32	178,355	14'56	...	386,185	...	28'76
„ Aden	191,223	13'94	306,933	21'13	169,774	12'54	114,993	9'51	...	54,781	...	2'83
„ Bahrain Islands	245,723	16'81	275,730	19'22	314,377	24'10	53,159	4'55	...	261,118	...	19'75
„ Turkey, Asiatic	308,192	19'18	591,606	39'56	518,197	38'54	234,198	17'44	...	283,999	...	20'90
„ Other countries	254,799	19'16	594,924	44'87	423,239	32'93	163,431	12'06	...	269,868	...	19'97
Total	5,395,641	3,67'75	9,514,733	6,69'05	6,518,566	4,94'12	3,403,806	2,65'46	...	3,114,758	...	2,38'66
Paddy (Rice unhusked)	42,067	1'49	251,699	9'23	1,186	0'04	220	0'01	...	966	...	0'03
Total Rice	5,437,708	3,69'24	9,766,432	6,78'28	6,519,752	4,94'16	3,404,026	2,65'47	...	3,115,724	...	2,38'69
Wheat	1,022,608	1'00'70	2,798,945	1,45'01	1,463,823	73'64	32,318	2'10	...	1,431,505	...	71'45
Wheat flour	56,429	4'26	103,758	7'57	97,026	7'11	85,270	7'15	...	11,756	0'04	...
Total Wheat	1,079,037	1'04'96	2,902,703	1,52'58	1,560,849	80'75	117,588	9'34	...	1,443,261	...	71'41
Barley	327,749	11'61	3,085,409	1,21'69	1,084,997	42'16	1,073	0'07	...	1,083,322	...	42'09
Maize	271,755	8'58	61,773	2'02	1,816	0'10	1,474	0'10	...	342	...	...
Other Cereals	111,093	3'61	13,977	0'70	37,921	1'65	50,815	2'55	12,894	...	9'0	...
Total Cereals	8,127,349	4,08'00	15,833,306	9,75'27	9,205,335	6,18'82	3,574,980	2,77'53	...	5,630,355	...	3,41'29
Pulses	1,676,196	62'59	3,334,016	1,28'55	1,513,539	66'78	887,489	54'46	...	676,050	...	12'30
GRAND TOTAL	9,803,538	6,60'59	19,167,316	10,93'82	10,718,874	6,85'60	4,412,460	3,32'01	...	6,306,405	...	3,53'59

Two consecutive bad monsoons have had their effect on the *rice* harvest and on exports ; in 1913 the rainfall was in defect in the United Provinces and Bihar and Orissa, and there were floods in Bengal. The monsoon of 1914 was generally good, but died away too soon and the crop was again poor. For *wheat* also the climatic conditions of 1912, 1913 and 1914 in the east of the United and Central Provinces whence Calcutta draws her supplies, were adverse. In other provinces also there were no large surpluses. The decrease in the exports of *barley* and *maize* is even greater, and Rs. 7'51 lakhs worth of the latter were imported from Java. This, with *paddy* from the Straits Settlements valued at Rs. 6'55 lakhs, brought Calcutta's imports of *food grains* from foreign countries to nearly Rs. 15 lakhs, compared with under Rs. 3 lakhs last year. The result has been a serious decline in exports of *grain and pulse* from Calcutta ; the quantity has fallen by 58'84 per cent. and the value by 51'57 per cent., and it is necessary to go back to the famine year of 1908-09 for a smaller year's operations. There was also a falling off of one-half in our exports of grain, etc., to Indian ports.

Rice.—In the season of 1913-14 Bengal's harvest was reduced by 11'8 per cent. : that of the United Provinces by 36'7 and Assam by 31'3 per cent. : Bihar and Orissa alone gave a more satisfactory output. The season of 1914-15 gave for Bengal a further sharp decline of 13'7 per cent. on the previous year : Bihar and Orissa fell by 26'6 per cent., but the United and Central Provinces with Madras, showed a larger yield. Imports into Calcutta by rail and river have consequently in the past year again given smaller results, following on a marked decline in the previous year. To the end of February in the past year these imports have fallen from 7'82 to 5'01 million cwts. or by 35'93 per cent., from Bengal the decrease was 2'34 million cwts. ; Bihar and Orissa a fall of 43'78 per cent., and the Central Provinces 33'78 per cent. Shipments of *rice* accordingly fell by 47'85 per cent. in quantity and by 46'36 per cent. in value. Excepting so far as Belgium and Germany were concerned, the war influenced the rice trade here but little. To our largest customer, Ceylon, exports fell by 54'00 per cent. From Chittagong to foreign countries exports were only valued at Rs. 17,348 a decrease of 88'89 per cent. ; to Indian ports exports also fell by 88'89 per cent. to Rs. 25,105 : Calcutta receiving 11,420 cwts. and from the Orissa ports 55,837 cwts. Imports of *rice* from Indian ports rose from 5'76 to 10'31 million cwts. an advance of 78'99 per cent. carrying a value Rs. 4'91 crores and showing an expansion of 74'73 per cent. : 10'26 million cwts. or 99'42 per cent. came from Burma, which province also sent 1'91 million cwts. of *paddy* valued at Rs. 61'62 lakhs. Burma's exports to Europe were largely curtailed ; as also to the Far East. As a consequence she was blessed with plenty of *cheap rice* which was very useful to Bengal and other provinces.

Wheat.—The outstanding feature of the year in the wheat market was the prohibition on the export of wheat which came into force on the 28th of December. Calcutta's

exports of *wheat* for any one year are based on supplies from the crops of the previous season ; in the present instance, from the crops of 1913-14 which were in great defect. The United Provinces' crop was less by 24'9 per cent., the Central Provinces by 35'7 and Rajputana by 51'6 per cent. As a consequence, imports by rail and river fell from the United Provinces by 1'8, from the Central Provinces by 0'9 million cwts. and from Rajputana the drop was from 143,181 to only 4,463 cwts. During the 11 months to which these figures relate the port received 2'83 as against 5'12 million cwts. but only 32,318 cwts. have been exported. The balance was ground by the mills, which could have taken more, if the export of *wheat flour* had not been forbidden. Of the small exports made in the year, 85'89 per cent. went to Hongkong.

Pulses.—Have fallen in quantity by 44'37 per cent. and in value by 18'42 per cent. *Gram* was valued at Rs. 1'18 lakhs—a fall of 64'88 per cent. ; there were no exports to the United Kingdom. *Other pulses* fell by 42'25 per cent. to 815,035 cwts. valued at Rs. 53'29 lakhs : 54 per cent. went to the United Kingdom and there is evidence that the demand from that country in the past three months has appreciated, shipments of *peas* rising from 33,843 to 130,957 cwts. In the coasting trade, exports of *pulses* fell by 56'56 per cent. from 746,721 to 334,279 cwts. valued at Rs. 23'69 lakhs : Burma was the principal recipient.

25. *Hemp*.—Exports were slightly less than in the previous year : quantity fell by 17'85 per cent. to 352,793 cwts. and the value to Rs. 46'68 lakhs by 17'25 per cent. Most went to the United Kingdom which country absorbed 213,696 cwts. or 60'57 per cent. of the whole. Belgium took 45,023 cwts. and Germany 18,270 cwts. but these were shipped before August. Up to that period the trade was greater by 48'58 per cent., then declined till the end of December and improved the last two months. Principal trade was with the United Kingdom and Italy, the latter country taking 33,711 cwts. or 9'56 per cent. of the trade. Russia and Italy were not in a position to export much and although the Philippines were shipping more, there rose later on a demand for *Indian hemp* in spite of freights and the small supplies of good quality offering. With large stocks at home for some considerable time prices remained lower than in the previous year, but with the advent of 1915, they rose until £28 was obtained in March for March shipment, and the year closed at £33 10s. per ton.

26. Hides and Skins.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-1914 AND 1914-1915.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
<i>Raw Hides.*</i>												
To United Kingdom	26,040	14'99	29,972	17'06	15,298	9'18	60,655	39'91	45,367	...	30'73	...
„ Germany	318,403	1,99'05	3,873,070	2,40'45	3,741,937	2,71'74	1,465,066	1,08'41	...	2,276,871	...	1,68'33
„ Austria-Hungary	147,112	95'00	1,866,652	1,14'35	2,478,635	1,79'78	566,453	47'48	...	1,822,182	...	1,32'30
„ Italy	78,318	61'72	1,736,503	76'00	1,390,862	61'13	1,218,335	44'32	...	172,627	...	16'81
„ Spain	1,582,293	40'45	46,919	39'15	34,401	35'90	32,209	26'40	...	278,705	...	9'50
„ France	955,313	40'45	991,681	1'95	961,534	2'85	892	0'65	...	2,322	...	2'20
„ Holland	3,718	3'02	45,953	23'41	46,068	26'60	6,117	4'09	...	39,971	...	22'51
„ United States	74,973	6'67	38,164	1,31'84	37,878	88'59	4,791	1,12'87	...	33,087	...	...
„ Other countries	113,926	33'78	335,936	15'22	327,029	5'45	54,836	19'68	...	272,193	...	...
Total	702,883	4,61'08	959,046	6,59'48	872,341	6,81'22	531,182	4,03'81	...	341,159	...	2,77'41
<i>Raw Skins.</i>												
To United Kingdom	16,490	11'36	5,330	3'82	5,230	3'70	2,492	2'16	...	2,738	...	1'54
„ France	796,496	14'30	18,424	13'69	296,556	1'66	161,326	0'24	...	134,719	...	1'42
„ Holland	17,989	8'16	874,864	15'24	1,941	10'99	175	7'81	...	98,674	...	9'18
„ Italy	881,005	8'16	18,377	0'04	15,483	0'14	21,045	...	...	7,206	...	...
„ Germany	9,551	0'08	928,363	110	1,063,167	300	472,904	...	...	590,263	...	...
„ United States	60	0'08	411	135	9,371	46	5	...	...	13,072	...	...
„ Other countries	4,643	1'16	86,400	50	2,776	0'05	3,214	...	...	6,593	...	...
Total	1,229	75'772	224,343	1,69'73	192,999	1,32'55	141,356	98'02	...	33,673	...	84'53
Cuttings of Hides and Skins (Raw)	11,174,986	4,306	7,875	3'61	8,208,071	9,015	9,981	916	...	827,268	...	1'97
Dressed Hides and Skins	306,437	3'79	243,546	...	493,937	8'11	432,677	6'14	...	61,260	...	...
GRAND TOTAL	273,490	2,08'46	241,599	1,70'83	206,943	1,62'24	162,282	1,14'42	...	44,661	...	48'82
	12,750,062	...	10,906,037	...	10,203,242	...	8,472,271	...	...	1,730,671	...	...
	19,990	2'27	28,043	5'26	26,242	3'14	15,169	1'88	...	11,073	...	1'26
	5,363	1'11	19,973	0'33	160	0'20	1,127	2'36	...	967	...	...
	...	...	...	...	591,113	...	153,720	...	...	148,607	...	...
	996,022	6,71'92	1,928,981	8,33'90	1,106,686	8,47'80	709,760	5,22'47	...	396,926	...	8,25'38

* Includes calf skins.

Owing to various restrictions and prohibitions the past year exhibits a decrease in value of 38.37 per cent.: in quantity of 35.81 per cent. The decline is not confined to either *hides* or *skins*: both have shrunk financially, the former by 40.72 and the latter by 29.91 per cent. During the first four months of the year the trade was in a most prosperous state the demand was prodigious and prices high: and in that period, shipments rose in value from Rs. 2.74 to 2.97 crores or by 8.39 per cent.: of this Germany's trade was Rs. 1.7 lakhs better and the United States Rs. 5 lakhs more. But in the three months August marked decrease to all principal countries with the exception of the United Kingdom. Combining both *hides* and *skins*, to the States the value fell from Rs. 2.24 to 2.11 crores: at the same time that country was receiving very much larger supplies from Argentina. But to the United Kingdom exports of both descriptions have mounted up very considerably from Rs. 12.94 to 42.07 lakhs, equivalent to 225.12 per cent. It has been stated that for the British and French forces alone 5 to 6 million pairs of *army boots* have been ordered. With the close of the year Sweden and Norway became importers of hides to the extent of Rs. 13.96 lakhs and Rs. 1.58 lakhs, respectively. These figures are not susceptible of comparison with previous years, when purchases were all made in Hamburg.

27. Indigo.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
To United Kingdom ...	5,380	11.17	1,446	2.17	2,978	5.85	8,723	64.93	5,745	...	59.28	...
" Austria-Hungary ...	1,813	4.31	1,841	4.01	1,018	2.47	...	...	...	1,018	...	...
" France ...	570	1.29	460	.95	127	.27	...	...	...	127	...	...
" Germany ...	194	.42	110	.23	14	.04	...	...	...	14	...	...
" Egypt ...	1,173	2.85	936	1.94	581	1.19	309	.71	...	309	...	...
" United States ...	1,336	2.77	1,136	1.96	604	1.18	210	.46	...	210	...	...
" Turkey-in-Asia ...	2,831	6.49	2,498	4.91	2,632	5.34	474	1.05	...	474	...	...
" Japan ...	374	.79	331	.62	222	.40	...	...	...	222	...	...
" Other countries ...	565	1.27	472	1.06	526	1.20	188	.43	...	188	...	...
Total ...	14,206	31.36	9,929	17.85	8,752	17.74	9,897	69.44	1,145	...	51.70	...
Quantity in Indian maunds, and average value per Indian maund.	19,336	At Rs. 162 per Indian maund.	12,563	At Rs. 142 per Indian maund.	11,912	At Rs. 149 per Indian maund.	13,461	At Rs. 516 per Indian maund.				

The area under *indigo* in India contracted by 24 per cent. though the yield, 24,900 cwts. was only 7 per cent. less. While shipments have risen by 13.09 per cent. in quantity, the value has expanded by 291.21 per cent.: the declared average price at the Custom House rising from Rs. 149 to Rs. 516 per Indian maund. The United States have reduced their takings by 65.23 per cent.: but exports to the United Kingdom were greater in value by 1,049.20, and in quantity by 192.91 per cent. The home country has for some time past depended largely on *synthetic indigo* (she imported 15,516 cwts. in 1914): but with the commencement of hostilities the import of that product from Germany stopped, stocks of *natural indigo* were not large, and the urgency of obtaining additional supplies became a great necessity. These were unearthed from all parts and the price rose to unheard of ranges: locally the finer qualities rose from Rs. 180 to Rs. 800 per maund and commons from Rs. 125-30 to Rs. 500. At home when war broke out the price for fair average Bengal was 2s. 9d. to 3s., by September it had risen to 7s. and later, partly due also to the smaller Indian outturn, 15s. was paid for fine Bengal: prices since then have remained steady at the higher level. The high prices now ruling have encouraged the reopening of abandoned indigo factories in the irrigated districts of the United Provinces, but the unprecedented prices for seed are an obstacle to much expansion. In the past year 98 cwts. of seed from Java were received, against 372 cwts. in 1913-14.

28. Jute and Jute Manufactures.—The war closed at once a large central market for the raw material, but the mills have not done badly sustained by a plentiful supply of cheap material, and excellent prospects for 1915-16: indeed, since December profits have been good, the only cloud prevailing being a scarcity of tonnage. Up to the declaration of war the volume of trade was large and the aggregate value rose to Rs. 12.97 crores, an increase of 11.21 per cent.: *raw jute* exports stood at 105,817 tons, an increase of 6.57 per cent., value being Rs. 4.04 crores or better by 26.62 per cent.; *manufactures* with a very slight expansion in volume advanced to Rs. 8.93 crores, which was 5.40 per cent. better. But on

turning to the complete figures for the year the total value has fallen by 33.14 per cent. and is the lowest since the year 1911-12. *Raw jute* in particular has fallen off by 32.68 per cent. in quantity and 57.81 per cent. in value, the lowest aggregate since 1904-05. As 1913-14 was distinguished by the high price per bale (Rs. 90) so in the past year has the distinguishing element been its great cheapness: at one time down to Rs. 30 per bale. *Manufactures* declined by only 8.61 per cent. and are still much greater than in 1912-13: *gunny bags* rose by 8.00 and .66 per cent. respectively, in number and value: *gunny cloth* declined in yardage by .35 per cent. and fell by 15.92 per cent. in value. The *jute trade* represented 52.87 per cent. of the total value of exports of merchandise from Calcutta: last year it was 57.44 per cent. The Factory Act continues to work satisfactorily. Under the Calcutta Improvement Trust net collections realised Rs. 7.90 lakhs in 1914, a decrease of 29.77 per cent., and for the first three months of 1915, Rs. 3.31 lakhs.

Summary.

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
I.—Raw jute { Bales (Tons)	3,815,619 881,360	Rs. Lakhs. 15,24.90	4,527,958 808,564	24,47.00	3,907,434 697,756	28,03.44	2,630,600 469,750	11,82.39	...	1,276,834 228,006	...	16,20.55
II.—Gunny-bags* No.	320,064,159	8,14.64	309,737,534	9.60.61	367,169,646	12,47.56	336,532,513	12,55.84	29,362,870	...	8.28	...
III.—Gunny-cloth Yds.	864,785,802	8.53.54	1,021,475,959	13.05.18	1,080,663,637	15.58.31	1,056,969,335	13,10.26	...	3,694,302	...	2.48.05
Total II and III Yds.	1,504,914,120	16.68.18	1,640,951,057	22.66.79	1,795,002,927	28,05.87	1,850,034,365	25,66.10	55,031,438	...	...	2.39.77
IV.—Jute manufactures, other sorts (including Twist and yarn).	.....	6.96	.....	11.48	.....	14.38	.....	11.31	...	...	...	3.07
Total II, III and IV Tons	†	16.75.14	†	22.77.27	603,454	28,20.25	617,121	25,77.41	13,667	...	...	2,42.84
Total value and tons ...	†	32.60.04	†	47,24.27	1,301,210	56,23.69	1,086,871	37,60.30	...	214,339	...	18,63.39

* To obtain the total yardage for gunny-bags, 2 yards have been taken as equivalent to one bag.
† Weight in tons only available from 1913-14.

I.—Raw Jute.

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-15.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Bales.	Tons.	Bales.	Tons.	Bales.	Tons.	Bales.	Tons.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
To United Kingdom	1,412,151	252,170	1,653,849	297,116	1,332,511	246,877	1,332,313	237,913	...	8,964	...	4,18.05
" Germany	850,568	151,837	976,355	174,349	940,683	169,122	820,186	147,922	...	120,186	...	5,10.23
" France	415,830	74,254	426,229	76,112	378,982	67,854	337,771	64,562	...	34,063	...	2,02.22
" Austria-Hungary	247,829	44,255	291,699	52,089	263,071	45,727	244,821	43,586	...	34,141	...	1,47.05
" Italy	185,226	33,612	236,617	42,253	210,762	37,656	170,729	32,433	...	1,11.95	...	38.34
" Spain	112,701	20,125	143,953	25,706	117,947	21,062	140,722	25,129	...	58.06	...	29.18
" Russia	28,567	5,101	49,146	8,776	50,832	9,086	24,399	4,357	...	4,729	...	26.80
" Belgium	30,858	5,475	24,333	4,346	24,231	4,327	14,638	2,436	...	3,543	...	12.25
" Japan	15,186	2,712	26,051	4,652	20,737	3,703	18,021	3,218	...	485	...	8.06
" United States	498,244	88,972	652,283	116,479	583,526	104,201	414,036	73,935	...	30,266	...	2,02.17
" Other countries	15,657	2,797	37,443	6,886	40,102	7,161	42,358	7,564	...	20.92	...	9.00
Total	3,815,619	681,360	4,527,958	808,564	3,907,434	697,756	2,630,600	469,750	...	228,006	...	18,63.39

To the above should be added the exports from Chittagong which aggregated 159,729 bales valued at Rs. 93.90 lakhs, a decrease of 41.41 per cent. in volume and a decrease of 53.39 per cent. in value. The total exports from Bengal have fallen by 33.25 per cent. to 2,790,329 bales and to Rs. 12.77 crores which also signifies a loss of 57.51 per cent.: shipments are the smallest since the year 1898-99. The outturn for the three Provinces with an arbitrary calculation for Nepal is estimated at 10,531,505 bales (90 per cent. Bengal), an increase of 1,550,032 bales or 17.26 per cent. The most noticeable expansion was in the *Deshi* area, the estimate for which has been the turning point in the past two forecasts. The feature of the crop for 1914-15 has been its excellent quality and condition for all marks, *Deshi* being particularly well grown. The absence of moisture in all *jute* this season, is also very marked; it is cleaner and drier the reason being that with so much jute available and so small a buying, cultivators are afraid to water jute for fear that the same may not find a purchaser. While the country has been favoured with the largest crop known, it is unfortunate that hostilities have disastrously affected shipments abroad. The local mills have, however, benefited from the immense supplies, absence of competition and the much cheaper prices rendered possible. Supplies from the districts to Calcutta and the mill stations

were, considering the outstanding size of the crop, very small, only 7.73 million bales as compared with 9.14 million bales last year. Cultivators for some considerable time held back their crops in the hopes of compelling higher prices, and were to some extent successful. At the opening of the year prices were falling somewhat, but by mid-May had recovered to the basis of Rs. 85 per bale, but the mills were not buying much. With favourable reports from the districts prices in early June for August were on the basis of Rs. 75 : by middle July for August the fall was down to Rs. 64. Then came the war which brought all dealings in jute to a close. The final forecast in September had a quieting effect on prices. They ruled at a low level during October and November, rising substantially to the end of 1914 : in the last quarter prices reached Rs. 43-8 in early January falling to Rs. 37 in February and rising to Rs. 42 at the year's close when, however, prices were again almost nominal owing to the absence of tonnage and the abnormal rates asked for freight, 72s. 6d. + 20s. per cent. At home prices for April-May ruled £35 per ton in middle April, falling by the end of June to £26 for August : at the end of July for September £25-12-6 was accepted. For the last quarter of the year prices ranged from £18 to £22, closing at the latter quotation. At Calcutta shipping prices averaged for the year Rs. 45 as compared with Rs. 71-12. From Bimlipatam exports of jute were much smaller, as a result of lower Bengal rates : only 26,210 bales being shipped, a decrease of 69.20 per cent. In the local mills the consumption of raw jute during the year ending 30th June 1914 was 4,374,825 bales : for the current year the estimate is 4,668,396 bales due to a greater number of looms and to full time. Turning to the actual exports month by month the first four months, as already reported, were on an advancing scale : from that time on with the exception of February, every month showed deterioration. In August only 28,050 bales went away and in the next month the "Emden" reigned supreme, accounting for 2,437 bales of raw jute and 3,408 bales of manufactures. With the "City of Mysore" which went on the rocks near Ceylon, 18,882 bales were lost. All countries, with the exception of Italy and Spain, exhibit a smaller trade and even to these two countries exports are still below the figures of 1912-13. "Other" countries chiefly consist of larger shipments to Greece, Sweden, Norway and the Argentine : although to Brazil smaller exports were made. To the United Kingdom the decrease was only 3.63 per cent. in quantity and 41.56 per cent. in value, and was confined to the ports of London and Liverpool : to Dundee the quantity rose from 966,297 to over one million bales for, as the year 1914 waned, that centre was in a strong position to take full advantage of a larger crop and lower prices. From time to time it has been necessary from war requirements to place some restrictions on exports of raw jute.

II.—Gunny-bags.

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.
To United Kingdom ...	34,403,798	88.92	27,434,422	88.92	27,434,381	91.66	47,303,728	1,36.02	19,811,347	...	44.07	...
" Russia ...	549,060	1.43	350,000	...	...	...	8,188,600	22.02	8,188,600	...	...	...
" Belgium ...	5,955,160	11.97	4,176,300	11.96	5,091,144	16.86	2,938,500	6.07	...	...	...	...
" Germany ...	9,167,938	18.48	6,334,150	17.70	5,363,772	17.14	2,260,370	7.16	...	3,052,644	...	10.79
" Turkey in Europe ...	1,894,604	6.03	1,038,800	3.99	893,700	3.76	433,300	1.88	...	3,102,902	...	9.98
" Egypt ...	11,607,456	44.55	13,392,700	54.58	11,630,925	57.63	9,389,100	46.88	...	460,400	...	1.88
" Cape Colony ...	4,452,897	15.46	4,885,900	21.09	3,997,925	19.46	4,461,180	20.47	...	2,261,855	...	10.75
" Natal ...	6,619,003	17.25	7,282,350	25.07	6,857,925	25.39	9,812,029	35.94	...	474,155	...	...
" Mauritius ...	3,314,080	8.19	2,610,400	8.10	2,022,900	7.64	3,663,000	13.36	...	2,974,103	...	10.55
" Portuguese East Africa ...	3,801,600	9.89	5,206,350	17.43	5,075,400	17.96	6,731,245	22.48	...	1,840,100	...	6.34
South America—									...	1,674,845	...	4.52
To Chile and Peru ...	35,768,152	73.00	39,902,400	95.24	39,387,450	1.08.65	28,708,500	81.37	...	9,678,950	...	27.06
" Other countries in South America ...	2,882,600	7.18	1,789,498	5.30	7,590,550	22.96	4,854,600	11.83	...	2,735,950	...	11.13
Total South America ...	38,650,752	80.18	41,691,898	100.54	46,978,000	1.31.61	34,563,100	83.40	...	12,414,900	...	38.21
To Onba ...	9,743,140	29.38	10,421,600	40.26	9,790,600	43.56	10,641,900	45.63	...	851,300	...	2.07
" West Indies ...	2,611,980	8.01	2,629,000	10.26	2,735,575	11.65	2,917,700	12.02	...	182,125	...	2.7
North America—									...	...	...	...
To United States ...	45,384,214	71.58	48,092,556	88.93	58,008,100	1.51.24	73,123,200	1.53.47	...	15,114,100	...	2.28
" Canada ...	2,108,940	8.15	2,429,000	4.94	2,598,500	4.70	1,355,500	2.59	...	1,043,300	...	2.11
" Other countries in North America ...	351,020	.93	86,000	.25	193,600	.75	1,800	.01	...	191,800	...	.74
Total North America ...	47,841,174	79.66	48,607,556	94.12	60,601,500	1.56.69	74,480,500	1.56.07	...	13,879,000	...	.62
To Straits Settlements ...	13,023,870	39.17	8,914,282	29.43	10,657,430	35.13	10,748,987	36.26	...	91,557	...	1.12
" Japan ...	2,700,060	7.18	2,129,500	6.42	4,107,100	13.79	9,335,900	26.66	...	5,228,800	...	14.87
" China— (Hong Kong Treaty Ports ...	12,011,021	31.83	19,465,248	67.71	12,118,829	42.41	15,860,800	55.07	...	3,742,138	...	1.70
" Java ...	5,919,404	29.13	17,025,301	68.99	17,851,038	69.71	19,519,688	71.81	...	1,665,549	...	1.90
" Cebu ...	12,297,795	31.29	8,813,322	28.24	17,668,670	54.44	20,391,086	60.64	...	2,722,466	...	6.90
" Siam ...	7,829,087	23.09	6,140,430	20.11	13,032,591	45.73	12,355,702	45.63	...	787,189	...	2.10
" Turkey in Asia ...	4,781,995	14.24	3,042,685	11.64	3,842,450	15.16	3,047,380	8.91	...	1,798,270	...	6.85
" Australasia ...	57,480,754	1.81.63	47,519,830	1.80.81	73,234,236	2.89.37	63,098,554	2.56.07	...	10,188,682	...	28.30
" Sandwich Islands ...	8,075,138	14.16	9,028,500	19.63	9,560,600	25.57	10,601,710	24.42	...	1,041,110	...	1.15
" Other countries ...	10,651,202	26.75	15,086,290	40.70	14,452,258	47.87	14,065,886	46.39	...	898,867	...	1.38
Total Gunny-bags ...	320,084,159	8.14.64	309,737,634	9.60.61	367,169,548	12.47.56	396,532,515	12.53.84	...	26,362,870	...	8.38

III.—Gunny-cloth.

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.
To United Kingdom ...	34,705,588	41.21	40,847,225	60.92	50,654,742	83.66	67,716,064	81.73	17,060,312	...	4,787,340	...
" Germany ...	6,901,280	6.34	2,775,400	3.98	7,233,340	13.07	2,448,000	3.82	...	...	...	...
North America—									...	...	...	...
To United States ...	588,077,357	5.42.41	663,293,316	7.87.12	733,230,187	10.22.41	705,999,139	8.56.56	...	29,331,048	...	1.65.85
" Canada ...	20,438,200	20.35	30,251,300	68.60	35,280,000	56.23	35,273,900	44.24	...	6,100	...	11.99
" Other countries in North America ...	11,500	.01	...	...	92,875	.14	...	...	...	92,875	...	.14
Total North America ...	609,527,037	5.62.77	713,544,616	8.55.72	770,603,032	10.78.78	741,273,039	9.00.80	...	29,330,023	...	1.77.98
South America—									...	...	...	...
To Argentine ...	168,782,940	1.84.78	215,358,127	3.08.36	173,724,500	2.77.19	187,075,500	2.28.56	...	13,351,000	...	48.68
" Other countries in South America ...	11,207,580	12.29	11,261,050	16.55	12,780,750	22.47	9,673,775	12.96	...	3,106,975	...	9.51
Total South America ...	179,990,520	1.97.07	227,319,177	3.24.91	186,505,250	2.99.66	196,749,275	2.41.52	...	10,244,025	...	58.14
To China—Hong-Kong ...	437,080	.43	111,000	.17	190,000	.35	150,000	.28	...	40,000	...	.07
" Treaty Ports ...	2,249,280	2.74	3,278,750	5.73	4,243,750	8.31	2,703,500	4.06	...	1,540,250	...	4.25
" Australasia ...	10,854,704	27.60	22,881,749	37.10	27,653,832	51.24	29,797,250	55.02	...	2,149,418	...	3.78
" Other countries ...	13,020,313	16.38	10,818,072	16.65	13,574,661	23.24	16,133,217	23.03	...	2,559,556	...	.21
Total Gunny-cloth ...	864,785,802	8.53.54	1,021,475,989	13.05.18	1,080,683,637	15.58.31	1,056,969,338	13.10.28	...	3,694,302	...	2.48.05

Originally the rapid development of the jute trade was materially aided by the circumstances of the Crimean War of 1854-56, which temporarily cut off the supplies of *Russian flax and hemp*; it was further assisted by the *cotton famine* which resulted from the Civil War in America in 1861-63, and it would appear that the present war has also operated favourably on *jute manufactures*. *Bags and cloth* have increased by 55 millions of yards, taking 2 yards to represent one bag. As shown above the value of jute manufactures has receded by 8.62 per cent. to Rs. 25.77 crores, but this is not the result of a smaller trade but due to the great decrease in the price of the raw material and the value of the finished article. *Gunny bags* have actually risen in value by .66 per cent. but in quantity the expansion has been 8.00 per cent. and even under *gunny cloth* although there has been a decrease in value of 15.92 per cent., in volume the fall was only .35 per cent. For the first four months of the year there was no change in quantity shipped only 191,184 tons as compared with 191,156 tons in 1913-14, but the high prices ruling in the first four months of 1914-15 caused the value to rise from Rs. 8.47 to Rs. 8.93 crores. During the early months the conditions were not conducive to satisfactory working from a profit-earning point of view. From the 1st April until the close of September work was carried on at the mills for only 5 days per week. But from the 1st October to the 31st March, 1915, full time was the order of the day and the results have been gratifying, good returns having been almost invariable. Labour was better throughout the year as is usually the case when food prices are high and in the hot weather (April to June) production in comparison was higher than usual. The earlier portion of the year was influenced by the high price of the raw material; in June the market was unsettled owing to a continuation of short time not being agreed upon, and although prices were discounted for forward delivery, buyers did not trade freely owing to good reports from the jute districts. The prospects being still more favourable in July the mills sold freely at lower rates, a large business both spot and forward being done for October-March. From the outbreak of hostilities to the beginning of November the market was practically closed; and in that period no broker's circulars or trade reports were issued; business was also difficult, shipments being much delayed owing to absence of tonnage and buyers not being always able to meet their contracts. With November conditions became more normal and during the rest of the year, although the political situation influenced trade, a gradual improvement set in: the mills output was readily taken off and although the prices were relatively low, the profit earning was good. In March the tonnage position again became serious.

A prominent feature of the year's trade was the large export to the United Kingdom: the total value rose to Rs. 2.18 crores or by 23.86 per cent., but *bags* rose in number by 19.8 million or 72.00 per cent. and *cloth* by 17 million yards or by 33.33 per cent. These heavy shipments commenced in November and continued on throughout the year. London absorbed nearly 16 million bags and 22 million yards, Liverpool 28 million bags and 14.7 million yards and Dundee 30.6 million yards. Dundee was not so prosperous as in 1913. Unprofitable conditions were set up and short time commenced; till June the demand was deficient and the war did not at first bring relief, but the year closed with large Government orders and most favourable future prospects. Another striking fact was the enormous shipments of bags and cloth to Russia chiefly *via* Vladivostok:

it commenced in November and continued: resulting in an increase from Rs. 11 to Rs. 23 lakhs: over 8 million bags went and a smaller quantity of cloth. Another unique trade is that for the Argentine; the value of bags and cloth has fallen from Rs. 2'94 to Rs. 2'36 crores, yet the quantity of cloth was greater by 13 million yards—bags were less—and the trade is still below that for 1912-13. To the United States shipments fell in value from Rs. 11'74 to Rs. 10'10 crores: cloth fell from 735 to 706 million yards; but bags rose in number from 58 to 73 millions. Exports to the Atlantic coast were greatest after war broke out, while Pacific requirements were mainly in the first half of the year. There was a large advance of 98'64 per cent. to Rs. 29'32 lakhs in exports to Japan which were greater than for some years, but that country took less jute in the past year and probably preferred buying cheaper bags. With Germany, Belgium, Egypt and Turkey in Europe trade was naturally lower. Chile and Peru also took less, as the result of a smaller business in *nitrites*. Shipments to other countries were influenced by trade requirements, some increases being due to smaller business in 1913-14.

Coasting Trade.—Very little *raw jute* leaves Calcutta in the coasting trade. *Jute manufactures* fell in value from Rs. 3'13 to Rs. 1'82 crores, and this is the lowest for ten years. *Gunny bags* and *cloth* both declined: the former by 21 million to 54 million bags, cloth by 14 million to 8 million yards. All provinces took less, more especially Bombay where the decrease in value was 74'21 per cent., Burma 17'37 per cent. and Sind 44'24 per cent. The decrease generally was due to the movement of smaller crops. Much more also may have been moved by rail owing to the excessive rates holding for sea freights: the figures for 1914 for rail and river exports were 1'58 million cwts. as compared with 1'52 million cwts., an increase of 3'95 per cent.: to the Punjab 399,982 cwts. were sent, to the Bombay ports 283,434 cwts., Orissa with Bihar 233,799 cwts. and to the United Provinces 212,229 cwts. From the Calcutta trade block from April to January 1915 inclusive, the number of bags by rail and river rose from 34'48 to 48'69 million bags.

The Local Mills.—Have not been so prosperous as they were in 1913 and, for 1914, have only earned net profits amounting to Rs. 1'02 crores, while last year net profits totalled Rs. 2'68 crores. The share lists mention 39 companies of which amongst others one declared 55 per cent., three over 20 per cent., four 10 per cent., and over nine 5 per cent. or more. 1915 promises well and the results should be much more remunerative. The number of looms rose from 38,120 to 38,354. Two mills, the first erected in India and dating back to 1855 and 1858, were in the year extended and remodelled, the new plant employing the most modern electric drive. Another mill was fitted up with a water filter plant stated to be the best in India. Imports of *machinery* were not so high in value as in 1913-14, and fell from Rs. 1'45 crores to Rs. 87'43 lakhs.

29. Lac.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Burton and Shellac—												
To United Kingdom ...	102,053	69'39	82,175	43'47	91,080	56'71	89,383	40'53	...	1,697	...	16'18
„ Germany ...	73,807	51'90	61,069	31'66	40,565	24'73	23,128	11'57	...	17,437	...	13'16
„ France ...	19,918	13'39	27,942	15'00	12,202	7'49	12,741	6'02	...	530	...	1'47
„ Holland ...	12,522	8'70	8,936	4'63	2,858	1'72	3,455	1'76	...	597	...	...
„ Austria-Hungary ...	11,138	7'17	9,804	5'11	6,687	3'99	4,074	2'11	...	2,613	...	...
„ United States ...	156,744	1,03'75	170,335	89'61	130,810	80'27	179,507	81'60	...	48,697	...	1'88
„ Other countries ...	15,804	9'58	15,859	8'47	11,806	7'16	20,782	9'56	...	9,176	...	2'70
Total ...	389,986	2,64'36	378,123	1,97'95	295,608	1,82'07	333,070	1,53'45	87,462	...	...	28'63
Lac, other kinds ...	33,260	7'30	40,036	7'96	33,284	9'39	30,743	5'06	...	2,541	...	3'48
GRAND TOTAL ...	423,246	2,71'66	418,159	2,05'91	328,892	1,91'46	363,813	1,58'41	84,921	...	...	32'10

Notwithstanding adverse circumstances there was a considerably larger trade in the past year and in volume, exports were greater by 10'61 per cent.: but lower prices caused the total value to decline by 16'74 per cent. As usual the United States have taken the largest supplies, 53'66 per cent. of the whole: the United Kingdom comes next with 26'64 per cent. Under "other" countries Italy's demand was 4,151 cwts., Australasia took 3,337 cwts., Russia and Belgium 1,818 and 2,080 cwts. respectively. At the close of the previous year prices were falling and they continued to do so: the position was favourable and with prospects of a large *Bysacki crop* a good business was put through on a declining market, there being a good demand from the United States and the Continent. Indeed during the first four months of 1914-15 the quantity sent away rose from 98,530 to 174,656 cwts. at prices ranging from Rs. 30 to 32 for T. N. quality. But with the

commencement of hostilities trade almost ceased and only 28,690 cwts. were shipped in the next three months. However, by the close of October the market had adapted itself to new conditions, factories re-opened and shipments more nearly approached normal: at the end of December prices had recovered to Rs. 30 for T. N. quality, but by the end of March prices had receded again and stood at Rs. 25-8. No *stick-lac* was imported and only 1,100 cwts. were exported. 1,824 chests were lost in the "City of Mysore," and the "Emden" accounted for another 3,451 chests valued at Rs. 2'71 lakhs.

30. Minerals and Metals.—Exports to foreign countries were again on a smaller scale, volume declining by 28'17 per cent. to 114,375 tons, and value to Rs. 62'09 lakhs by 32'98 per cent. *Manganese ore*, *mica*, and *pig-iron* all contributed to the decrease.

Manganese ore—Fell from 74,575 to 61,054 tons: the value by 21'06 per cent. to Rs. 11'66 lakhs. It is difficult to account for this unless it be that being very heavy, freight has been too serious an item. A restrictive ordinance permitting shipment only to the United Kingdom and France is also responsible. The United Kingdom took over 50 per cent. more, but Japan, France and Belgium only a fraction of last year's quantities. Germany took 7,250 tons and the United States 7,758.

Mica—Was in considerable defect: quantity receded from 41,313 to 25,344 cwts., and value by 35'12 per cent. to Rs. 23'04 lakhs. The war has influenced restricted exports, but at no period of the year have trade movements been up to those of 1913-14. United Kingdom absorbed 15,558 cwts., the United States 4,952 cwts., Germany 2,591 cwts., and Holland 1,555 cwts.

Pig-iron—Has again fallen off and shipments have decreased from 82,592 tons to 52,054 tons or by 36'97 per cent.; at the same time, the contraction in value was from Rs. 42'36 to Rs. 27'39 lakhs or by 35'34 per cent. The reasons for the decline are the same as for manganese, heavy freights and restrictions on shipment. Japan absorbed 29,859 tons, Australia 14,426 and the United States 4,035 tons. The Tata Iron and Steel Works have increased their output of *pig-iron* in 1914 from 146,293 to 162,462 tons, in addition to turning out 45,742 tons of *steel rails* or an increase of 30,739 tons! they have increased their output of larger miscellaneous *beams*, *bars*, *fishplates*, etc., to 17,863 tons. The Bengal Iron and Steel Company's production of *pig-iron* rose from 59,379 to 72,441 tons. By rail and river 5,391 tons were sent away in 1914: the quantity in 1913 was 6,218 tons.

Exports of *copper* were only 32 tons and of *copper ores* 559 tons: *other metals* aggregated Rs. 90,362 in value. *Other ores* were *chromium* 1,406 and *bauxite* 1,001 tons.

31. Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
I.—OILSEEDS.												
Linseed.												
To United Kingdom ...	2,181,923	2,12'43	2,002,746	2,20'69	3,046,403	2,38'22	3,513,048	2,84'51	468,642	...	46'29	34'66
„ Germany ...	389,334	36'47	421,722	48'06	581,439	46'72	138,055	12'06	...	443,384	...	...
„ France ...	568,107	51'81	411,240	44'73	219,348	18'74	263,487	21'66	...	44,130	...	4'92
„ Belgium ...	182,033	18'85	232,491	25'25	60,870	4'62	94,828	6'07	...	33,958	...	1'46
„ United States ...	874,408	43'27	77,365	8'56	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ Other countries ...	152,127	13'83	147,222	14'79	101,882	7'59	132,422	10'41	...	30,540	...	2'83
Total ...	3,828,132	3,76'66	3,392,886	3,62'08	4,009,945	3,13'99	4,141,840	3,34'71	181,895	...	30'82	...
Poppy seed.	234,176	23'35	97,240	12'45	32,478	3'92	34,601	3'76	2,123	...	...	1'16
Rapeseed.												
To United Kingdom ...	35,729	2'62	13,994	1'02	5,997	4'6	8,994	7'3	2,997	...	9,044	...
„ France ...	168,068	11'59	1,999	1'6	63,863	4'69	54,619	4'34	...	9,997	...	...
„ Belgium ...	235,806	18'89	1,999	1'6	21,993	1'62	13,998	1'11	...	9,997	...	...
„ Germany ...	146,265	11'49	...	...	31,217	2'24	40,807	3'01	...	9,590	...	...
„ Other countries ...	26,694	1'75	...	...	34,393	2'52	641	0'3	...	38,652	...	2'49
Total ...	610,567	44'14	16,065	1'19	157,163	11'58	119,057	9'25	...	38,106	...	2'28
Flaxseed.												
To Austria-Hungary ...	300	0'2	2,000	1'8	21,143	2'06	...	...	...	21,143	...	2'06
„ Other countries ...	42,971	3'46	23,331	2'06	21,885	1'98	10,252	0'88	...	11,433	...	1'10
Total ...	43,271	3'48	25,331	2'24	42,828	4'04	10,252	0'88	...	32,576	...	2'16
Other seeds ...	151,357	14'42	210,412	29'54	226,990	22'12	84,051	10'38	...	141,939	...	11'74
Total Oilseeds, non-essential ...	4,867,503	4,62'05	3,642,634	4,07'50	4,468,404	3,55'50	4,389,801	3,58'98	...	78,603	3'48	...
II.—VEGETABLE OILS.												
Castor ...	1,100,189	15'23	841,319	13'08	891,360	12'40	804,213	11'29	...	87,147	...	1'58
Linseed ...	177,580	3'92	88,287	2'62	97,788	2'52	128,305	4'10	...	30,417	...	...
Mustard or rape ...	285,540	4'93	370,444	6'96	393,377	7'01	402,374	7'21	...	8,997	...	...
Earthnut ...	13,516	2'4	7,592	1'5	4,119	0'6	30,011	0'20	...	...	...	...
Cocunut ...	20,922	4'4	23,219	5'4	15,865	0'9	38,842	0'68	...	12,457	...	...
Other sorts ...	2,417	0'4	633	0'1	911	0'2	1,587	0'8	...	676	...	...
Total Vegetable Oils ...	1,600,224	24'80	1,331,444	22'36	1,403,410	22'42	1,374,733	22'42	...	28,678	1'07	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	4,86'85	...	4,29'86	...	3,77'92	...	...	...	...	...	...

The *oilseed* export trade in any particular year covers the harvests of the previous year (1913-14) and embraces the commencement of crop movements from the past year, the harvest of 1914-15. The season of 1913-14 for *linseed* (which covers 94 per cent. of our export of oilseeds) was distinctly favourable in Bihar and Orissa. But in the United and Central Provinces drought seriously affected the crop and in other Provinces also the season was not on the whole favourable. In the season now approaching an end, crops are generally reported as from fair to good except in Bihar and Orissa and the United Provinces, where they suffered from deficient rainfall, and the area was estimated at 2'56 million acres, a fall of 162,000 acres. Exports of *seeds* and *vegetable oils* alike have declined by 2 per cent. in quantity. Combined the total value of the trade has risen by 1'20 per cent.

Linseed.—The quantity shipped in the past year is greater by 3'29 per cent. and the value by 6'63 per cent. Very little of the 1914-15 crop has yet come down. It is not surprising then that imports by railway and river of that crop were in some defect equivalent to 3'99 per cent., the quantity being 3'85 million cwts. in the past 11 months. The world's production of *linseed* was not so large in 1914 falling from 3'03 to 2'70 million tons, all countries with the exception of Argentina, showing smaller outturns. The world's shipments also fell from 1'85 to 1'33 million tons. Yet in spite of this contraction, the prices for Calcutta linseed (4 per cent.) did not show any great advance until quite lately. For the first four months of the year before the declaration of war, shipments of *linseed* from Calcutta were on a large scale, the quantity rising from 1'52 to 2'39 million cwts.: since then with the exception of November, each month has given a smaller trade. *Linseed oil*, owing to relatively lower prices, has been more generally hardened for soap-makers than other oils.

Rape seed.—Declined in quantity by 24'25 per cent. and value by 19'77 per cent. The trade is erratic and most of the seed brought down by rail and river is locally consumed: such supplies were much less than in 1913-14.

Other seeds.—Fell in quantity and by 53'07 per cent. in value: the chief item was *tea-seed* valued at Rs. 5'36 lakhs and dealt with under paragraph 35: *castor seed* valued at Rs. 4'00 lakhs, fell by 69'63 per cent.: other descriptions were on quite a small scale.

Earth or Groundnuts.—The movements of this article in the coasting trade have been so extraordinary that a short remark is merited. In 1913-14 the quantity imported here from Madras was 152,292 cwts. valued at Rs. 12'82 lakhs: in the past year this has risen to 983,378 cwts., valued at Rs. 90'52 lakhs. Ordinarily the bulk of these *nuts* are shipped from Madras to Marseilles where the oil is extracted and used for soap-making: it is also a good substitute for *olive oil*. This demand owing to the war and absence of tonnage and high freight, has decreased considerably. The oil is used here being cheaper to mix with *rape* and *mustard oil*.

Vegetable oils.—Have varied but little in the past year. There has been a slight decrease (2'04 per cent.) in quantity, and a smaller increase in value (4'77 per cent.). All the principal oils were sent away in larger quantities with the exception of *castor oil* which was in slight defect.

32. Opium.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Chests.	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.	Chests.	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.	Chests.	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.	Chests.	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.
To United Kingdom	55	81	1'01	1	1	0'02	115	189	2'77	498	730	8'72
„ Hong-Kong	19,313	28,347	3,59'15	5,154	7,560	2,34'88	1,156	1,695	26'16	1,000	1,468	18'61
„ China (Treaty Ports)	6,074	8,906	1,16'18	1,195	1,753	59'90	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ Straits Settlements	10,254	15,038	1,86'59	5,098	7,474	1,05'73	1,537	2,254	33'98	755	1,107	12'09
„ Java	1,587	2,320	32'56	3,010	4,415	57'51	3,265	4,789	70'83	2,650	3,887	42'34
„ Oochin-China	1,510	2,314	28'32	805	1,181	14'85	875	1,283	19'42	2,690	3,946	43'71
„ Siam	289	423	6'88	1,835	2,691	39'48	1,130	1,657	24'60	2,000	2,925	30'55
„ Macao	...	...	...	1,676	2,458	35'46	150	220	2'74	...	...	...
„ Japan	85	125	2'30	960	1,385	19'43	799	1,172	17'99	900	1,319	15'10
„ Ceylon	186	275	3'14	60	88	1'18	105	154	2'38	80	117	1'91
„ Other countries	78	115	1'32	40	58	1'15	19	28	0'51	283	416	5'22
Total	39,421	57,843	7,87'45	10,824	29,072	5,69'57	9,161	13,431	2,01'88	10,866	15,912	1,78'35
										1,705	2,491	...

Two years have now elapsed and no *opium* has left this port for China. But all the same there has been a marked expansion upon the previous year's figures, though still much

below those for 1912-13: chests have risen in number by 18'63 per cent., but the value has fallen by 12'43 per cent. At the local sales 10,648 chests of *certificated opium* were sold, as against 9,000 only in 1913-14. At no time did prices go over Rs. 1,644 per chest and that price was only reached in April 1914, while in August, when war was imminent, it had sunk so low (Rs. 1,212) that an upset price of Rs. 1,600 was fixed. In the year preceding Rs. 3,011 was obtained, and at no time was the price lower than Rs. 1,530. As a result the loss of opium revenue to the end of February aggregated Rs. 52'34 lakhs. In Hong-Kong, *Bihar opium* sold in 1913-14 at from 3,400 dollars to 9,200 dollars per chest: in the past year the range was from 9,200 dollars to 9,325 dollars per chest. At Shanghai on the 19th February 1915, stocks were 5,061 chests, of which 2,774 were *Malwa opium*. For Benares the price was *Tls.* 6,905 per chest. The first four months of the year saw a large increase in shipments, the number of chests increasing from 2,854 to 3,708: but with war declared, the trade ceased to be so brisk. To the United Kingdom exports rose by 331'95 per cent., to Cochin China by 207'56, Siam by 76'52, Japan 12'54 per cent. and there was an unusual trade with Mexico amounting to 245 chests. Java exhibits a decrease of 18'83 per cent.: Ceylon of 24'03 per cent., probably due to greater restrictions. To the Straits Settlements there has been a decline of 50'89 per cent. but this is due to the fact that with the commencement of 1915 the Supreme Government has arranged that the quantity required for consumption in the colony shall be sold direct to the Colonial Government. Under this arrangement 600 chests, valued at Rs. 12 lakhs, have already been forwarded: they are not included in the above table. It may be mentioned that Government have arranged to purchase 5,600 chests of *Malwa opium* under certain conditions to supplement the supply from Bengal.

33. Saltpetre.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Ra. Lakhs.	Ra. Lakhs.
To United Kingdom	66,521	7'40	46,213	5'90	49,280	5'83	178,469	24'62	129,189	...	18'79	...
„ United States	109,827	11'97	56,554	6'79	27,800	3'32	15,963	1'89	...	11,837	...	1'43
„ China (Treaty Ports)	73,566	9'46	86,159	11'11	80,679	9'60	39,857	4'97	...	40,822	...	4'62
„ Ceylon	6,788	0'8	90	0'01	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ Mauritius	18,722	1'84	43,320	4'55	43,312	4'22	47,467	4'93	4,165	...	7'1	...
„ Other countries	37,336	3'82	45,222	4'51	28,739	3'14	27,199	3'34	...	1,540	...	...
	27,025	3'09	14,701	1'99	82,732	3'83	10,865	1'66	...	22,167	...	2'17
Total	339,785	38'44	292,239	34'86	262,542	29'94	319,520	41'41	56,978	...	11'47	...

In quantity exports rose by 21'70 per cent., in value by 38'31 per cent.: the highest recorded since 1911-12. During the first 4 months of the year the demand was somewhat (8'23 per cent.) in excess of 1913-14. But, with the outbreak of hostilities, movements of this product were controlled by Government, and shipments of any quality under 20 per cent. refraction was only permitted to the United Kingdom. As a consequence, that country has absorbed 55'86 per cent. of the year's exports. Supplies of *high refraction saltpetre* to other portions of the Empire have been permitted for fertilising purposes, and of *Farrukhabad refined* to the canning factories of the Antipodes. The great demand from home has naturally caused a considerable appreciation in value and 10 per cent. refraction, spot, London, advanced per cwt. from 19s. 3d. in August to 26s. 6d. in March.

34. Silk and Silk Manufactures.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	lbs.	Ra. Lakhs.	lbs.	Ra. Lakhs.	lbs.	Ra. Lakhs.	lbs.	Ra. Lakhs.	lbs.	lbs.	Ra. Lakhs.	Ra. Lakhs.
To United Kingdom	240,755	8'39	132,436	1'92	151,411	2'48	164,217	2'55	12,806	...	0'07	...
„ France	760,608	21'37	467,159	9'53	393,455	6'27	118,321	2'19	...	280,134	...	4'08
„ Italy	10,077	0'77	3,564	0'04	24,967	0'39	2,696	0'04	...	21,971	...	0'35
„ United States	10,918	0'8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ Other countries	803	0'01	4,858	0'03	2,079	0'03	20	...	...	2,059	...	0'03
Total	1,022,655	31'67	608,307	11'82	571,912	9'17	280,554	4'78	...	291,858	...	4'39

Exports again declined and are the lowest on record. France, which usually takes anything from 66 to 80 per cent. of our *raw silk*, has under war conditions dropped her offtake to 113,321 lbs. and Great Britain alone shows a small increase of 8.46 per cent. *Raw silks* have dropped by 45.43 per cent. to 28,903 lbs.; *chussums* from 444,680 have fallen to 182,165 lbs.; *cocoons* have fallen by 6.44 per cent. to 69,486 lbs. The local demand for raw silk was also indirectly affected by the outbreak of hostilities, though the situation has now much improved in spite of a larger import of *artificial silk*, valued at Rs. 3.34 lakhs. Exports of *Indian piece goods* have declined from Rs. 1.86 to .93 lakhs, chiefly to the United Kingdom. But silk is a luxury which has not much scope in war time, while a partiality also exists for *Japanese silks*.

35. Tea.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Quantity.		Value.	
									Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	lbs.	lbs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
To United Kingdom ...	123,616,201	5,67.48	129,500,016	5,81.40	140,857,611	7,17.79	176,010,995	8,93.38	35,153,384	...	1,75.66	...
" Russia ...	23,986,469	1,14.59	33,123,691	1,45.71	33,397,993	1,66.63	19,632,849	99.17	...	13,765,144	...	67.36
" Ottoman Empire ...	2,772,797	12.34	3,529,515	15.85	1,681,591	8.38	349,511	1.46	...	1,532,050	...	6.92
" Germany ...	673,543	3.12	636,197	2.86	685,177	3.58	185,277	1.04	...	498,900	...	2.50
" Canada ...	4,251,867	18.39	5,857,461	26.30	6,278,846	31.48	5,604,874	25.87	...	671,972	...	5.61
" United States ...	2,389,844	10.78	2,070,878	9.30	1,939,232	10.30	2,714,061	12.83	774,829	...	2.53	...
" China ...	6,513,644	29.37	9,167,228	41.16	11,095,499	51.94	8,308,602	39.28	...	2,697,897	...	11.78
" Persia ...	397,860	1.71	307,731	1.38	97,592	.49	88,379	.29	...	39,213	...	.20
" Ceylon ...	423,210	1.91	11,410	.05	14,372	.08	9,302	.05	...	5,070	...	.03
" Africa ...	1,186,235	5.94	2,455,959	11.02	2,324,230	11.32	1,247,945	6.15	...	1,076,285	...	5.17
" Australasia ...	9,518,011	40.15	9,375,188	42.09	9,699,002	48.90	10,978,793	54.94	1,279,796	...	6.04	...
" Other countries ...	1,029,455	4.95	1,412,348	6.34	1,183,795	5.86	1,628,584	7.77	444,789	...	1.91	...
Total ...	176,759,136	8,10.63	197,447,622	8,86.46	209,163,850	10,55.66	226,729,207	11,42.65	17,565,357	...	86.29	...
Average price per pound according to shipping bills	7 annas 4 pies.		7 annas 2.2 pies.		8 annas 1 pie.		8 annas.					
Of the above total—												
Green Tea ...	186,584	.94	36,695	.16	35,899	.21	106,888	.56				

Unlike *indigo*, whose benefits were greatly stultified by very limited supplies, *Indian tea* has been blessed with a large production and remarkably good prices. The war has contributed greatly to the industry, for it is doubtful if prices could have been maintained at their profit-making altitude had not the war intervened.

The record shipments of last year have been greatly surpassed and foreign countries have taken 8.40 per cent. more, the aggregate value also rising by 8.24 per cent. Yet owing to the war towards the end of October we were 17.38 million lbs. behind the previous year's exports. The quantity despatched coastwise was again less, declining from 3.24 to 2.01 million lbs., due largely to a smaller trade with Bombay, only 481,659 lbs. going as compared with 1.53 million lbs. This is accounted for by the difficulties of the Persian trade, the war adding at one time to the troubles from internal disorder. Sea freights have also tended to transfer more trade to the railways and up to the end of December 5.39 million lbs. had gone to Bombay, 705,929 lbs. to the Punjab and 569,170 lbs. to the United Provinces: total distributed by rail, 7,865,115 lbs. Burma also took more tea, the quantity standing at 1.31 million lbs. Exports of tea from Chittagong to foreign countries (chiefly the United Kingdom) have again been less, falling from 56.24 to 47.92 million lbs., due to scarcity of tonnage at the height of the season. From Northern India therefore exports to foreign countries have aggregated 274.65 million lbs. as against 265.41 million bs.: from Southern India shipments have expanded by 1.43 per cent. to 21.19 million lbs.: while from British India no less a figure than 300.73 million lbs. has gone away, an increase of 3.89 per cent. or 11.26 million lbs. From foreign countries imports continue insignificant: only 45,776 lbs., chiefly from Ceylon. Indian ports only sent 625,866 lbs., a contraction of 44 per cent., mainly from Chittagong. A marked advance is reported in sorting and grading the Dehra Dun teas and several estates have shown improved cup quality. During the months of August, September, and October only 73.48 million lbs. of tea were sent away, compared with 102.18 million lbs. in 1913 owing to difficulties of tonnage and the depredations of the cruisers "Emden" and "Konigsberg." The former sank the "Diplomat" with 3,853,932 lbs. on board and the latter the "City of Winchester" with 2,887,186 lbs. of Indian, in addition to a quantity of Ceylon tea. Other losses of tea occurred by fire on the SS. "Janus" for Australia carrying 1,054,081 lbs.; the "City of Mysore" was recently wrecked with 537,841 lbs. on board and the

"Bengali" with 1.33 million lbs. was also reported with tea damaged by fire and water. Altogether by violence and misfortune 9.66 million lbs. of Calcutta tea have failed to reach their market.

Character of crop.—In spite of the excellent productions of Cachar and Sylhet and also in the later manufactured from Assam, the crop must be described as distinctly mediocre in quality, and confirms the fact that larger yields are only possible at the expense of cup. From Darjeeling the earlier crop was attractive and fully up to previous years, but subsequent manufacture was below standard, more especially the autumnal crop. On the other hand, from Assam the early despatches were plain and unattractive with very little fine tea: later on a great improvement set in with a particularly useful standard, culminating in the best autumn crop seen for years. A most useful standard of quality above the average of previous years has been continuously supplied by Cachar and Sylhet, with but little stalk, and a cup which has often been surprisingly good. The Duars have been consistently disappointing, much stalk and characteristics pointing to unfavourable climatic conditions. Generally climatic influences were favourable to full yields (Messrs. Carritt, Moran & Co's Indian Tea Market Review for 1914-15).

Other producing countries.—The quality of the Ceylon crop was on the whole superior to that of 1913, though a good deal of indifferently made tea was turned out. The quantity rose from 192.17 to 195.21 million lbs. or by 1.58 per cent.: of this 4.48 million lbs. consisted of *green tea*. More than the increase shown went to the United Kingdom, which absorbed 117.16 as against 112.12 million lbs. In the island the new productive areas are rapidly increasing in yield, and the effect of the transfer to rubber has been nearly exhausted. Java, although showing an increased production from 64.94 to 71.32 million lbs. in 1913, did not come up to expectations. Output was again much curtailed owing to drought of much greater intensity than even in the previous season: quality was generally of a very useful description. Holland took the larger supply 28.19 million lbs., an increase of 3.34 million lbs.: the United Kingdom 24 million, larger by 2.82 million lbs.: Russia with 3.57 million lbs. took much less and Australia with 7.46 million lbs. took more. Shipments from China during 1914 amounted to 199.41 million lbs., an increase of 7.16 million lbs.: 120.36 million lbs. went to Russia in the past year compared with 120.79 million: the United Kingdom absorbed 18.77 million and the United States 22.73 million lbs. From the last November 1914, the Chinese export duty on tea shipped to foreign countries was reduced from 1.25 to 1.00 Haikwan tael per picul. It is reported that China's chief defect in tea manufacturing, its lack of strength, is on the increase.

Exports from Japan increased: the year was a prosperous one and the quantity was 39.16 million lbs. or greater by 15.99 per cent. The United States took 32.75 million lbs. and British North America 4.32 million lbs. Formosa sent away 22.88 million lbs., but the quality was not so good as in previous years. The attempt to popularise this tea in the United Kingdom still continues, but is not very effective. Sumatra continues to be a land of promise, and in January and February 1915, two sales alone totalled 726 packages reaching an average price of 9½d. to 9¾d. per lb. It was reported recently that the acreage was over 6,000 acres, and large areas are in course of development and it was expected that 3,000 acres would be put under tea in 1914. The best high class *Assam jâts seed* is used, skilled managers are employed and the factories are fitted with up-to-date machinery. It is estimated that the land will give 1,000 lbs. per acre. From Nyassaland it was reported that quality has much improved, although prices on the London market have only ranged from 5d. to 9d. per lb. until a sale of 83 chests on 12th March, when 10½d. average per lb. was realised: expansion however has not been great. On a later date 750 half chests of Natal Broken and Souchong tea were sold at an average of 10d. per lb. The Russian Government continues to encourage tea growing in Trans-Caucasia, though the war has probably now interrupted progress. In 1914 the outturn was 270,000 lbs. but one authority calculates that in 10 years' time Russia will be independent of China. In South Carolina tea growing makes but little progress and in Texas has been abandoned. It continues to be grown in Uganda, Nigeria, Siam, the Straits Settlements, Brazil, Peru, Mauritius and the Azores, as well as Jamaica and Fiji, but the latest returns show little progress and less hope. Exports of *tea seed* were again on a smaller scale, 4,269 cwts. valued at Rs. 5.36 lakhs, against 7,599 cwts.: Java and Ceylon both took less, but to Sumatra the quantity rose from 887 to 1,204 cwts.: the Straits Settlements took 236 cwts., probably for transshipment.

Prices.—The average for the past season 1914-15 at the Calcutta tea auctions was slightly lower than that for the previous season: 7 annas 7 pies against 7 annas 9 pies, all districts participating in the decline. Packages sold locally decreased greatly, falling from

847,079 to 677,692. On the outbreak of war public sales on the local market were abandoned and were resumed from the 20th October on a small scale only. The results were most successful, more especially as the system of sales by private contract during the interregnum was not altogether satisfactory, although over 10 million lbs. changed hands. Every effort was made by the Port Trust to facilitate the storage of teas held up but storage for large quantities of tea does not exist in Calcutta, and large supplies were kept back on the different gardens and much tea that would ordinarily have been sold here, was shipped to London for sale there. The sales opened on the 26th May with an average price of 8 annas 2 pies per lb. : by the end of July this had fallen to 7 annas 10 pies when the sales ceased : on re-opening, the first two sales can hardly be described as representative, the third gave an average of 7 annas 2 pies on the 3rd November : from then things steadily improved and the last sale closed with an average of 8 annas 4 pies per lb. An interesting sale held late in March consisted of 250 chests of Pekoe tea from the Kalabang Tea Estate in the Andaman Islands, the average price realised being 9 annas 9 pies per lb. At the local sales the average prices realised in the past three seasons have been 7 annas 7 pies, 7 annas 9 pies and 7 annas 1 pie respectively. The following figures represent the average price for Indian and Ceylon teas on the London Market, with the rates of duty in the past 11 years :—

		1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Indian	...	...	7'2d.	7'2d.	7'5d.	8'3d.	7'9d.	8'3d.	8'3d.	8'9d.	8'5d.	9'11d.
Ceylon	...	...	7'2d.	7d.	7'2d.	8d.	7'8d.	8'1d.	8'2d.	8'8d.	8'7d.	8'98d.
Duty on 31st December	...	...	8d.	6d.	5d.	5d.	5d.	5d.	5d.	5d.	5d.	8d.

Consumption in the United Kingdom.—Calcutta exports to the United Kingdom beat all records : in quantity the expansion was as much as 24'96 per cent., value at the same time being 24'47 per cent. higher. From Chittagong the quantity fell from 56'24 to 47'92 million lbs. or by 14'79 per cent. : and finally from British India to the United Kingdom, the aggregate was 237'30 million lbs. or greater by 13'52 per cent. and the value Rs. 12'24 crores, an increase of 12'91 per cent. The most remarkable feature of the position during 1914 was the sustained demand in spite of the outbreak of war and its attending disturbing influences : consumption per head of population advanced from 6'46 to 6'61 lbs. On the 17th November, the rate of duty was raised from 5d. to 8d. per lb. and it is improbable that the past rate of consumption will show any expansion in 1915. In spite of larger imports (they expanded from 365 to 374'5 million lbs.) the increased consumption reduced stocks ; and at the close of the year they had fallen from 138 to 121'5 million lbs., the latter figure consisting of Indian 86'57, Ceylon 11'08, China 12'04, and Java, etc., 11'8 million lbs. It is stated that tea for our Navy and Expeditionary Forces averaged 500,000 lbs. per month : but in February this had risen to 820,000 lbs. and in March to 1'70 million lbs. Re-exports of tea assumed an important position with the outbreak of war. At first all tea exports were prohibited, but this embargo was quickly removed : on the 20th November 1914, a prohibition on shipment to Northern Europe was imposed and remained in force until early January 1915. In spite of these restrictions exports from the United Kingdom expanded enormously advancing from 57'55 to 68'74 million lbs., and for the first two months of 1915 the figures were 8'80 and 11'95, respectively : of this quantity in 1914, no less than 30'70 million lbs. went to Europe, exclusive of Russia, compared with 12'00 million lbs. last year : the share contributed by Indian tea increased from 21'82 to 30'49 million lbs. On the other hand to Russia the quantity fell from 10'16 to 3'12 lbs due to the closure of the Dardanelles and other means of access. To the United States there was an increase from 8'86 to 9'20 million lbs. and to Canada from 7'34 to 11'09 million lbs. Transshipment figures for 1914 were 15'35 million lbs. a decrease of 6'85 per cent. : 9'27 million lbs. of which was Indian tea.

Exports to other countries.—Have seriously fallen off, owing to the cessation of sales here during a portion of the season and to the much larger shipments made to the United Kingdom : the quantity fell from 68'31 to 50'72 million lbs. or by 25'76 per cent., by 41'22 per cent. in quantity and by 40'45 per cent. in value. Russian buyers were not in a position to arrange finance, and this fact removed from the Calcutta market its most valuable supporter, and was the determining factor in the necessity for closing the local market. With November, these difficulties were removed and the change was reflected in the range of prices, which continued to rise in spite of record offerings. Altogether 9 year 12 steamers sailed with 125,351 chests and 16,957 bags. At the close of the year it was reported that the Russian tea duty had been increased by 5½d. per lb. and rumours

point to tea becoming a State monopoly. *Dust teas* for Hankow, where it is manufactured into bricks for the Russian market fell in quantity by 57'96 per cent. to 4'59 million lbs. Russia in 1914 absorbed 44'66 million lbs. of tea by direct shipment, of which Calcutta sent 18'52 million, Ceylon 20'86 million, and Java 5'27 million lbs. : for the years 1913, 1912 and 1911 the aggregates were 74'59, 60'61 and 56'87 million lbs. Australasia, on the other hand, received 10'97 million lbs., an increase of 13'19 per cent. : some of this went to replace the loss on the "Janus" already referred to. To the United States a satisfactory increase of 40'41 per cent. is recorded : that country in 1914 imported much more tea rising from 89'01 to 97'8 million lbs., and receiving more from all countries, with the exception of the United Kingdom and Canada. The shortage to Africa is largely due to Egypt taking a smaller quantity, decreasing from 2'32 to 1'24 millions lbs. To the Continent of Europe other than Russia, shipments fell from 1'19 million to 873,016 lbs. more than counterbalanced, however, by re-exports from the United Kingdom : to European Turkey only 7,726 lbs. went as compared with 272,000 lbs. and Austria-Hungary took less. But to France where the army has seriously taken to tea drinking, the quantity rose from 30,842 to 560,660 lbs. besides large quantities which have gone to the Front from the United Kingdom. Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Roumania and Greece have all taken less. Amazing shipments were made to South America (Chile) and the quantity rose from 82,500 to 228,576 lbs.

Position of the Industry.—Messrs. J. Thomas & Co., reviewing the past season, remark :—

In spite of the disorganization of the local market during the three busiest months of the year, the past season has again shown satisfactory results to producers. Provided that the crop is judiciously sold to keep the several consuming markets well supplied, and that heavy unwieldy supplies are not thrown on any one distributing centre, a perusal of the following account of last season's trading and a consideration of its bearing on next season's prospects, must lead to the conclusion that there is every possibility that 1915 will provide a season of record prosperity for the industry. The usual steady increase in output may be expected from India and Java, but the consuming markets are short of stock, and if the crop is judiciously sold, they should be able to easily absorb this increase at full prices.

At the close of 1914 the share market at home reported a very firm tone with a continued scarcity of stock on offer, and there was an optimistic feeling both regarding the future of the commodity and of the share market.

Labour, etc.—Labour continues to be below requirements. Its position was further defined by the passing on the 24th March of the Assam Labour and Emigration (Amendment) Act. This Act amends Act VI of 1901, and provides for the creation of a Labour Board. Until the 9th August freights for tea remained steady at the rates in force in the two previous years, viz., £1 15s. per ton, subject to a rebate of 5s. From then on freights became affected by absence of tonnage and the general disorganisation of sea traffic : to the 14th September the rates were 30s. + a surcharge of 25 per cent. : a slight relief was then apparent and rates fell to 30s. + 5s. surcharge until 17th December, from then on to the close of the year the rate continued at 30s. + 3s. 9d. surcharge. **Tea-Cess.**—The net collections rose from Rs. 2'72 to Rs. 2'94 lakhs or by 8'09 per cent. Allotments for the season 1915-16 have been £12,000 to the United States, £6,000 for the United Kingdom, £5,000 for the Continent of Europe and £6,000 for British India.

MISCELLANEOUS.

36. Treasure.—

	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-1914 AND 1914-1915.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
Gold—	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Imports	4,08'81	2,37'49	2,35'88	85'86	...	1,50'23
Exports	7'30	1'41	48'18	26'99	...	21'19
Net Imports	4,01'51	2,36'08	1,87'70	58'37	...	1,29'08
Silver—	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Imports	1,39'55	1,27'56	1,44'84	1,96'89	51'05	...
Exports	25'50	12'28	11'87	16'94	5'07	...
Net Imports	1,64'06	1,14'68	1,32'97	1,78'95	45'98	...
Total gold and silver—	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Imports	5,98'37	3,65'05	3,80'72	2,81'55	...	99'17
Exports	32'80	14'29	60'05	43'93	...	16'12
Net Imports	5,65'57	3,50'36	3,20'67	2,37'62	...	83'06

NOTE.—The figures include imports and exports of gold and silver through the post.

The war affected Finance in all its features, currency, coinage, exchange and the movements of treasure with which latter this paragraph deals. The above table deals only with the net imports into Calcutta on private account, which in the past year have again considerably declined from Rs. 3'20 to Rs. 2'37 crores or by 25'94 per cent. : both imports and exports of *gold* fell off, the net result being a decrease of 68'74 per cent. : on the other hand both imports and exports of *silver* were on a larger scale representing an increase of 34'58 per cent. With the exception of a small importation of silver valued at Rs. 1'62 lakhs and an exportation of Rs. 34 lakhs of silver there were no movements of gold or silver on behalf of the State. Calcutta only absorbed 12'98 per cent. of the total imports into British India.

Gold.—The decrease in imports of gold in the past year was as much as 63'68 per cent. and the value is the smallest since the year 1896-97. There was but little decline in the first four months, but from then onwards the falling off each month was considerable. From China we received gold to the value of Rs. 52'56 lakhs, a small fall of 10'41 per cent. : but Australia only gave us Rs. 31'64 lakhs as compared with Rs. 107'19 lakhs. From the Straits Settlements no gold came, though our share therefrom last year was Rs. 52'50 lakhs : nothing practically came from the United Kingdom also, all countries conserving their gold supplies. Exports of sovereigns to the Straits were only valued at Rs. 26'25 as against Rs. 47'25 lakhs : shipments were made in May and June and for the reasons expressed in last year's review.

Silver.—Imports rose in value from Rs. 1'45 to Rs. 1'96 crores or by 35'17 per cent. In the first four months of the year imports increased by 104'78 per cent. but from early September there was much contraction in receipts though in the last quarter a decided improvement set in. The year opened with *bar silver* at 27*d.* per oz., but prices fell away and by the middle of July stood at only 25½*d.* When war was declared prices began to rise again and 27½*d.* was attained on 10th August, but from then on weakness was apparent and by the end of October 22½*d.* only was the price. In 1915 prices have been better and owing to small stocks and a better demand 24½*d.* was touched on the 11th March : but the year closed at 23½*d.* From the United Kingdom imports of silver rose from Rs. 50 to 110 lakhs from Australia we received only Rs. 69'16 lakhs, a decrease of 24'03 per cent., and China sent Rs. 15'16 lakhs. Exports of silver were Rs. 16'94 lakhs chiefly to Mauritius and the Straits on private account ; but the State sent Rs. 34 lakhs to Mauritius and Ceylon.

Exchange.—During the year the average demand rate in Calcutta was 1s. 3½*d.* per Rupee. Exchange, which had already been on the weak side in the early months of the year, owing to trade conditions, fell sharply in the last days of July, as a result of the general uneasiness, the lowest point touched being 1s. 3¼*d.* on the 3rd August. The Government of India, however, took immediate steps to deal with the situation by undertaking to support exchange by all means in their power and offering, as a practical measure to secure this object, the sale of sterling bills and telegraphic transfers on London to the extent of £1 million a week. This measure immediately steadied exchange, and as much as £4,413,000 were remitted by this method to London. Besides this £20,000 allotted to Bombay was deposited in Calcutta. Owing to the continuance of unfavourable trade conditions there was little demand for remittances in the opposite direction for some months, and the total amount of Council bills and Telegraphic transfers allotted to Calcutta during the year was only Rs. 4'34 crores against Rs. 19'78 crores in the preceding year, the average rate of the Secretary of State's drawings being 16'006*d.* per rupee. From November onwards there was a steady improvement, and the demand for sterling bills ceased. Exchange actually rose above par for a short period, but a slight weakening again occurred in March owing to the inadequate tonnage offering and to other causes. At home the discount rate was steady at 3 per cent. till July 29th, was raised to 4 per cent. the next day only to rise on the 30th to 8 per cent., and to 10 per cent. on 1st August : owing to the precautions taken a fall to 6 per cent. became operative on the 7th and to 5 per cent. on the 8th idem at which it has since remained. At Calcutta a 3 per cent. rate rose to 5 per cent. on the 5th August and to 6 per cent. on the 5th November with no further change to the end of the year.

37. **Distribution of Foreign Trade of Calcutta by countries.**—The following table, combining both merchandise and treasure, shows how the trade of Calcutta with foreign countries was distributed in the periods stated :—

	IMPORTS.					EXPORTS.					PERCENTAGE WHICH THE TOTAL OF EACH COUNTRY BEARS TO THE WHOLE.	
	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Percentage to total imports.		Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Percentage to total exports.		In 1913-1914.	In 1914-1915.
				1913-14.	1914-15.				1913-14.	1914-15.		
UNITED KINGDOM AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.			Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.				
UNITED KINGDOM	35,99'18	50,99'59	42,76'41	68'45	72'45	19,14'90	25,12'13	23,62'75	25'50	33'02	44'00	50'84
Australia	3,49'86	2'28'15	1,19'79	3'06	2'03	2,82'38	4,23'97	3,99'56	4'30	5'58	3'77	3'98
China—Hong-Kong	52'64	4'96	8'94	'07	'15	4,05'30	99'23	57'25	1'01	'80	'60	'51
Straits Settlements	1,21'62	1,86'65	1,28'73	2'51	2'16	3,00'74	2,10'85	1,42'25	2'14	1'99	2'39	2'07
Ceylon	24'40	4'13	6'21	'06	'11	2,12'17	2,54'60	1,57'86	2'39	2'21	1'50	1'26
Mauritius	32'46	37'69	29'36	'51	'50	78'64	71'39	88'07	'72	1'23	'63	'59
Natal	1'94	'04	'12	'01	'00	52'13	68'03	78'62	'69	1'10	'40	'60
Cape Colony	1'23	'01	'14	'00	'00	22'98	27'48	28'13	'28	'39	'16	'22
Other British Possessions and Dependencies	11'12	19'47	24'53	'26	'42	1,10'21	1,78'03	1,30'19	1'81	1'82	1'14	1'19
Total United Kingdom and British Possessions.	42,24'35	55,81'59	45,94'23	74'93	77'84	33,79'45	38,45'09	34,44'68	39'04	48'14	54'49	61'56
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.												
EUROPE—												
Germany	2,21'92	3,72'51	1,27'72	5'00	2'16	7,89'07	11,22'00	8,12'47	11'33	4'37	5'64	3'37
Belgium	65'44	1,15'02	50'91	1'55	'86	1,33'04	94'39	40'45	'96	'87	1'22	'70
France	39'22	41'69	24'25	'56	'41	3,42'32	3,59'82	1,45'16	3'65	2'03	2'32	1'30
Austria-Hungary	69'37	1,15'51	32'43	1'55	'55	2,26'85	3,98'01	1,05'50	4'04	1'47	2'97	1'05
Italy	28'30	51'16	37'02	'89	'64	1,69'58	2,45'82	1,75'67	2'51	2'45	1'72	1'63
Russia	2'13	'76	'83	'01	'01	1,30'82	2,08'27	1,37'40	2'12	1'92	1'21	1'06
Other countries	72'85	85'51	75'41	1'15	1'28	1,58'85	2,43'69	1,65'97	2'47	2'32	1'90	1'85
Total ...	4,95'62	7,83'06	3,48'57	10'51	5'91	19,50'58	26,73'00	10,82'63	27'14	15'13	19'08	10'96
ASIA—												
Java	4,48'45	5,74'68	4,55'65	7'72	7'72	67'93	1,50'55	1,30'23	1'53	1'69	4'19	4'42
China—Treaty Ports	17'84	70'82	74'73	'95	1'27	1,87'76	1,10'00	1,08'24	1'12	1'47	1'05	1'38
Japan	81'39	1,55'91	1,61'43	2'98	2'73	64'58	2,75'46	1,47'42	2'90	2'06	2'49	2'38
Turkey in Asia	9'47	10'54	2'95	'14	'05	58'21	70'57	32'25	'71	'45	'47	'26
Arabia (excluding Aden)	1'43	1'73	'31	'02	'00	20'48	44'14	15'16	'45	'21	'27	'12
Other countries	50'13	64'74	88'63	'87	1'50	1,16'16	1,83'26	2,05'18	1'86	2'87	1'43	2'25
Total ...	6,08'71	8,78'42	7,83'60	11'79	13'27	5,05'42	8,34'98	6,25'53	8'47	8'74	9'90	10'79
AFRICA—												
Egypt	6'86	10'13	14'88	'14	'25	64'12	70'94	55'25	'72	'77	'47	'53
Other countries	2'03	5'94	5'46	'08	'00	17'29	33'64	33'48	'34	'47	'23	'30
Total ...	8'89	16'07	20'34	'22	'25	81'41	1,04'58	88'71	1'06	1'24	'70	'83
AMERICA—												
United States	1,36'89	1,90'34	1,55'79	2'55	2'64	11,76'18	18,53'13	14,77'37	18'81	20'84	11'81	12'51
South America	'02	'05	'05	'00	'00	2,77'45	4,49'44	3,30'93	'57	'75	'20	'20
Other countries	'01	'00	'00	'00	'00	40'17	62'45	69'07	'63	'97	'36	'53
Total ...	1,36'92	1,90'39	1,55'79	2'55	2'64	14,93'80	23,65'22	18,86'37	24'01	26'36	14'77	15'64
OCEANIA—												
Sandwich Islands	'00	'00	'00	'00	'00	14'26	26'35	28'02	'27	'39	'15	'22
Other Islands in the Pacific	'00	'00	'00	'00	'00	3'44	1'06	'10	'01	'00	'01	'00
Total ...	'00	'00	'00	'00	'00	17'70	27'41	28'12	'28	'39	'16	'22
Total, Foreign Countries ...	12,54'14	18,67'04	13,08'30	25'07	22'16	40,48'91	60,05'19	37,11'39	60'36	51'86	45'61	38'44
GRAND TOTAL, BRITISH POSSESSIONS AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES	54,78'49	74,49'53	59,02'53	100'00	100'00	74,28'36	98,50'28	71,56'07	100'00	100'00	100'00	100'00

United Kingdom.—Though during 8 months of the past year the United Kingdom has been engaged in the greatest war the world has known, she has nevertheless maintained her premier position and absorbing 50'84 per cent. of Calcutta's trade with the world, as compared with 44'00 per cent. in 1913'14, is the highest recorded since the year 1899-1900. This is due to the fact that trade with Belgium, Austria-Hungary and Germany has ceased. Imports from the United Kingdom fell off by 16'14 per cent.: *cotton goods* totalled Rs. 23'13 crores, *railway material* Rs. 4'29 crores, *metals* Rs. 4'26 crores, and *machinery and millwork* Rs. 2'22 crores, being 94'06, 95'81, 76'01 and 95'30 per cent. of the total trade in these articles. She again secured most of the trade in *hardware and cutlery* Rs. 75 lakhs or 74'18 per cent., *instruments and apparatus* Rs. 48 lakhs or 88'94 per cent., *drugs and medicines* including *tobacco*, Rs. 47 lakhs or 72'28 per cent. and *provisions* Rs. 41 lakhs or 66'65 per cent. Among articles of lesser value, the United Kingdom supplied over 90 per cent. of *soap, flax manufactures, books and boots and shoes*. Exports from Calcutta to the United Kingdom declined from Rs. 25'12 to Rs. 23'63 crores or by 5'93 per cent. due to the contraction in shipments of *raw jute* which fell from 246,877 to 237,913 tons and in value from Rs. 9'99 to Rs. 5'84 crores and of *grain and pulse* (chiefly *wheat*) from Rs. 1'64 crores to Rs. 50 lakhs. Shipments of *tea* rose from Rs. 7'18 crores to Rs. 8'93 crores, *linseed* from Rs. 2'38 to Rs. 2'84 crores and *jute manufactures* from Rs. 1'78 to Rs. 2'19 crores. There were also noteworthy increases under *hides and skins* from Rs. 13 lakhs to Rs. 42 lakhs due to the closing of the Hamburg market : *saltpetre* from Rs. 6 to Rs. 25 lakhs, *indigo*, owing to excessively high prices prevailing, from Rs. 6 to Rs. 65 lakhs and

raw hemp from Rs. 24 to Rs. 29 lakhs. *Lac*, as a result of much lower prices, fell by Rs. 15 to Rs. 43 lakhs and *mica* by Rs. 5 to Rs. 13 lakhs.

British possessions.—Australia.—The falling off in receipts of *gold* from Rs. 107 to Rs. 32 lakhs and of *silver* from Rs. 91 to Rs. 69 lakhs reduced the value of the import trade; *railway sleepers* also decreased in value from Rs. 6 to Rs. 3 lakhs and *horses* from Rs. 12 to Rs. 9 lakhs. A smaller export trade was due to the contraction in shipments of *jute manufactures*, owing to smaller *wool* and *wheat crops* and shortage of tonnage; *gunny cloth* gave a small increase from Rs. 51 to Rs. 55 lakhs, but *bags* fell from Rs. 2'89 to Rs. 2'56 crores. **Hong-Kong.**—Shipments of *opium* under Treaty obligations were reduced from Rs. 26 to Rs. 16 lakhs, but the greatest decrease was in *cotton twist and yarn* from Rs. 23 to Rs. 7 lakhs. **Straits Settlements.**—No *gold* was imported as compared with Rs. 52 lakhs in 1913-14 and *block tin* fell from Rs. 33 to Rs. 25 lakhs. *Betelnuts* improved by Rs. 8 to Rs. 65 lakhs. The smaller export trade was due to the drop in *opium* shipments (a certain quantity is now shipped on Government account) from Rs. 34 to Rs. 12 lakhs and *coal* from Rs. 18 to Rs. 8 lakhs. **Ceylon.**—Imports are unimportant. The decline in the export trade was owing to the falling off in shipments of *rice* from Rs. 1'78 crores to Rs. 84 lakhs only. *Coal* exports also fell by nearly Rs. 3 to Rs. 35 lakhs. **Mauritius, Cape Colony and Natal.**—Imports of *sugar* from Mauritius amounted to Rs. 29 lakhs, a decrease of Rs. 8 lakhs; the improvement in exports was due to a rise in *jute manufactures* from Rs. 8 to Rs. 14 lakhs: larger shipments of *pulse* balanced smaller transactions in *rice*. **Natal and Cape Colony** increased their purchases of *gunny bags*, the former by Rs. 10 to Rs. 36 lakhs, and the latter by one to Rs. 20 lakhs. **Other British Possessions and Dependencies.**—*Salt* from Aden increased from Rs. 12 to Rs. 17 lakhs, but shipments of *rice* to the same place fell from Rs. 12 to Rs. 10 lakhs and to Bahrein Islands from Rs. 24 to Rs. 4 lakhs. Canada reduced her consumption of *tea* by Rs. 6 lakhs and of *gunny cloth* by Rs. 12 to Rs. 44 lakhs, but the West Indies took Rs. 9 lakhs of *rice*, an increase of Rs. 3 lakhs.

Foreign Countries.—Europe.—Transactions with Belgium, Germany and Austria-Hungary ceased with the outbreak of hostilities: and therefore the figures exhibited in the table represent for these three countries, the transactions of only four months of the year. The total import trade with Germany declined from Rs. 3'73 to Rs. 1'28 crores: *metals* fell from Rs. 1'14 crores to Rs. 38 lakhs only, *cotton goods* from Rs. 54 to Rs. 7 lakhs, *woollen goods* from Rs. 30 to Rs. 5 lakhs, and *railway materials* from Rs. 15 to Rs. 8 lakhs. Imports from Austria-Hungary dropped from Rs. 1'15 crores to Rs. 32 lakhs, her sales of *sugar* falling from Rs. 32 to Rs. 6 lakhs and *glassware* from Rs. 23 to Rs. 5 lakhs. Belgium could only send Rs. 21 lakhs of *metals* and Rs. 15 lakhs of *cotton goods* against, Rs. 49 and Rs. 32 lakhs, respectively in 1913-14. A fall in imports from France of *liquors* from Rs. 13 to Rs. 10 lakhs, *motor cars* from Rs. 5 to Rs. 2 lakhs and *rubber manufactures* (chiefly *motor tyres*) from Rs. 6 to Rs. 3 lakhs account for the reduced import trade with that country. The import trade of Italy was adversely affected by the decrease in imports of *cotton goods* from Rs. 26 to Rs. 17 lakhs. **Exports from Calcutta** to the Continent of Europe fell from Rs. 26'73 crores to Rs. 10'83 crores, *raw jute* to Germany contracting from 840,683 bales to 167,921 bales and from Rs. 6'42 to Rs. 1'32 crores in value: to Austria-Hungary from Rs. 1'98 crores to Rs. 51 lakhs; to France from Rs. 2'87 crores to Rs. 85 lakhs, and to Italy from Rs. 1'70 to Rs. 1'12 crores. Exports of *hides and skin* to Germany declined in value by Rs. 1'63 to Rs. 1'08 crores: to Austria-Hungary by Rs. 1'34 crores to Rs. 47 lakhs, and to Italy by Rs. 17 to Rs. 44 lakhs. Shipments of *grain and pulse* which in the previous year were very low, fell still further, Germany's takings dwindling from Rs. 37 to Rs. 5 lakhs; Belgium's from Rs. 11 lakhs to Rs. 10,000, and Holland's from Rs. 17 to Rs. 4 lakhs only. Other items showing noticeable decreases were *lac* to Germany from Rs. 27 to Rs. 12 lakhs and *linseed* to the same country, from Rs. 47 to Rs. 12 lakhs. France however increased her supplies of *linseed* from Rs. 17 to Rs. 22 lakhs and Italy raised her purchases of *raw cotton* from Rs. 4 to Rs. 12 lakhs. Exports of *tea* to Northern Russia declined from Rs. 89 to Rs. 50 lakhs and to Southern Russia from Rs. 77 to Rs. 50 lakhs.

America.—United States.—Reduced imports of *hardware* from Rs. 20 to Rs. 9 lakhs, and *mineral oils* from Rs. 1'02 crores to Rs. 95 lakhs explain the fall in the import trade: while the decline in exports is due to decreases under *raw jute* from Rs. 3'19 to Rs. 1'17 crores and *jute manufactures* from Rs. 11'74 to Rs. 10'10 crores. **South America.**—Exports of *jute manufactures* to the Argentine dropped by Rs. 58 lakhs to Rs. 2'37 crores (chiefly *cloth*) and to Chile by Rs. 30 to Rs. 71 lakhs (mostly *bags*).

Asia.—Imports of *sugar* from Java fell from Rs. 5'70 to Rs. 4'43 crores, *gold* from China dropped from Rs. 59 to Rs. 53 lakhs and *copper* from Japan from Rs. 37 to Rs. 27 lakhs: but the last named country increased her transactions in *glassware* from Rs. 8 to Rs. 12 lakhs, *matches* from Rs. 15 to Rs. 23 lakhs, and *cotton goods* from Rs. 64 to Rs. 66

lakhs. China sent more *silver* Rs. 15 lakhs. Receipts of *kerosine oil* from Dutch Borneo rose by Rs. 13 to Rs. 58 lakhs, while Sumatra supplied Rs. 4 lakhs worth of *lubricating oil* against nil in the previous year. Imports of *teak* from Siam advanced from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 10 lakhs due to a heavy demand and high prices, and *salt* from Egypt from Rs. 7 to Rs. 11 lakhs. Of exports, Japan increased her purchases of *jute manufactures* from Rs. 15 to Rs. 29 lakhs: China from Rs. 51 to Rs. 59 lakhs and Indo-China from Rs. 55 to Rs. 61 lakhs. But shipments of *raw cotton* to Japan declined by Rs. 92 to Rs. 55 lakhs, *pig iron* from Rs. 33 to Rs. 16 lakhs and *oilcakes* from Rs. 30 to Rs. 10 lakhs.

Other fluctuations of note were the decline in *opium* shipments to Java from Rs. 71 to Rs. 42 lakhs, *tea* to China from Rs. 51 to Rs. 39 lakhs, and in *rice* to the Red Sea ports of Asiatic Turkey, from Rs. 38 to Rs. 17 lakhs and to Muscat from Rs. 39 to Rs. 13 lakhs. Shipments of *opium* to Indo-China expanded from Rs. 19 to Rs. 44 lakhs and to Siam from Rs. 25 to Rs. 31 lakhs.

Oceania.—The increase in exports was again due to *jute manufactures*.

38. Government Transactions (Foreign Trade).—All Government transactions are dealt with in this paragraph and are not shown elsewhere, unless specially referred to. The total imports of *merchandise* and *treasure* fell by Rs. 3'26 to Rs. 2'68 crores, or by 54'85 per cent., due principally to the smaller imports of *treasure* which fell by Rs. 2'99 crores, or 99'46 per cent., to Rs. 1'62 lakhs. *Merchandise* declined from Rs. 2'93 to Rs. 2'67 crores or by 8'87 per cent. *Railway plant and rolling stock* decreased by Rs. 18'65 lakhs, *arms* and *ammunition* by Rs. 9'91 and *metals* by Rs. 4'02 lakhs. Exports increased from Rs. 6'62 to Rs. 48'63 lakhs. *Treasure* alone increased by Rs. 30 to Rs. 33 lakhs. *Merchandise* rose from Rs. 3'62 to Rs. 15'63 lakhs principally exports of *drugs* and *medicines* which increased from Rs. 25,375 to Rs. 12'22 lakhs. Remarks on movements of *treasure* on behalf of the State will be found in paragraph 36.

39. Shipping (Foreign Trade).—The particulars of the shipping during the year, as compared with previous years are shown in the following statement:—

VESSELS.	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-1913.		1913-1914.		1914-1915.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.			
									Increase.		Decrease.	
ENTERED—	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers ... { With cargo	359	1,089,811	374	1,176,373	414	1,328,666	302	957,344	...	...	112	371,322
... { In ballast	253	647,073	312	822,603	342	616,859	188	499,243	...	...	54	119,716
Sailing vessels ... { With cargo	7	1,571	8	4,611	3	435	4	550	1	115	...	...
... { In ballast	1	62	...	...	1	174	...	...	...	...	1	174
Total ...	620	1,733,517	694	2,003,587	660	1,948,234	494	1,457,137	...	...	166	491,097
CLEARED—	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers ... { With cargo	569	1,642,364	641	1,884,605	579	1,747,663	488	1,448,340	...	...	91	299,323
... { In ballast	25	67,279	41	112,768	56	173,465	64	204,736	8	31,261	...	...
Sailing vessels ... { With cargo	9	3,188	6	863	3	435	4	585	1	150	...	...
... { In ballast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	603	1,712,831	688	1,998,236	638	1,921,663	556	1,653,661	...	...	82	267,922
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,223	3,451,348	1,382	4,001,823	1,298	3,869,817	1,050	3,110,798	...	...	248	759,019

The total entries and clearances fell in tonnage by 19 per cent. The average tonnage for the year was 2,963 or 18 tons less than the previous year. Of the total number engaged 878 vessels were British. Those entering with cargoes declined from 417 to 306 or by 26'62 per cent., and clearances with cargoes from 582 to 492 or by 15'46 per cent. Owing to their calling at Rangoon on their inward and outward voyages, Japanese steamers are not included in the foreign sea-borne trade accounts, but it may be mentioned that in both the foreign and coasting trade 64 vessels entered and cleared with an aggregate of 221,970 tons. Only 114 vessels as against 140 cleared with full cargoes of *coal*, but 34, an increase of 8 over the previous year, cleared with *raw jute*.

With the declaration of war German and Austrian vessels ceased visiting this port, by which 95 less German vessels entered and cleared and 32 Austrian. On the 4th August there were six German steamers and one Austrian steamer in port which became prize boats: subsequently the "Steinturm" and "Moltkefels" also came from Ceylon to discharge their Calcutta cargoes, and the "Rappenfels" a steamer which originally sailed from here on the 1st August, returned as a prize with her export cargo in November. These vessels were then either used as transports or colliers, or sold. The movements of steamers were also very much curtailed by the large number taken up for Government purposes as transports, and trade here has been much interfered with on this account. Further the depredations of enemies' cruisers caused the loss of the following steamers connected with Calcutta: *City of Winchester*, *Diplomat*, *Indus* and *Lovatt* (both transports), *Killin* (coal), *Clan Matheson*, *Clan Grant*, *Chilkana* and two coal boats. Owing to the "Emden" at one time (September) not less than 50 vessels (some of them transports), were

* This cruiser was finally sunk off the Cocos Islands on the 10th November 1914 by the Australian man-of-war "Sydney".

held up in the Hooghly before they were permitted to put to sea. For one week no steamer was moored at the jetties, and on several days no clearances were made at the Custom House. Fifty-eight vessels totalling 210,224 tons were taken up at this port as hired transports. The British Indian Steam Navigation Company, Limited chartered to the Indian Government as transports in the past year no less than 71 vessels with a gross carrying capacity of 351,863 tons, of which 44 steamers of 220,965 tons are still retained in the Imperial service: further, the Australian and Home Government have taken up 8 steamers of 51,538 gross tonnage. It is not out of place to mention here that this company have in the past year added to their fleet 24 vessels carrying 126,648 gross tons and have written off 5 vessels of 20,167 gross tons. Further, the Asiatic Steam Navigation Company, Limited, commissioned four steamers aggregating 20,931 gross tons; while Government commandeered 8 of their vessels of 42,254 tons.

Freights.—The year opened quietly with little business doing and became less active as time wore on. But by the end of July, freights were considerably affected by the European crisis and subsequently on the actual outbreak of war with Germany, the freight market became absolutely paralysed and remained so for sometime. The requisitioning of steamers for Government work did not improve the position. **Linseed and Jute.**—At first the market was quiet and steady the rate standing at 20s. per ton. This fell early in the quarter to 17s. 6d. and then advanced till it stood at 22s. 6d. when war broke out. Rates then rose considerably all round and at the end of August they had been raised by 60 and even 70 per cent. with a surtax of 25 per cent. In October the surcharge was reduced to 20 per cent., at which figure it remained to the close of December. By January 1915, 52s. 6d. + 20 per cent. was ruling, and the year ultimately closed at 72s. 6d. + 20 per cent. As in the previous year the rate for *dead-weight* ruled 2s. 6d. lower than *linseed* and *jute*. **Tea freights.**—These remained unchanged till war broke out, when a surcharge of 25 per cent. was added. This was subsequently reduced to 5s. and then to 3s. 9d. **Coal freights.**—To Bombay and Colombo declined till June, when the low level of Rs. 3-12 for Bombay and Rs. 2-12 for Colombo was reached. They rose again in July, but, the war intervening, coal chartering became practically non-existent, tonnage being so scarce. Later it commenced to rise again and the year closed with Rs. 9 for Bombay and Rs. 8 for Colombo. **Outward freights.**—To Bombay for Cardiff coal were obtainable at 11s. with slight variations from April onward until war broke out. From then after a fall, they rose steadily to 30s. in mid January, since when quotations have not been available.

It may be mentioned that the port charges at Calcutta have been increased as from the 1st February 1915 by a special war surtax on goods and shipping.

40. Customs Revenue.—

ARTICLES.	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Difference between 1913-14 and 1914-15.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
IMPORT DUTY.						
	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
Cotton goods	66'68	94'37	97'39	78'88	.....	18'71
Liquors	32'63	35'86	39'85	36'29	.....	3'56
Hardware and cutlery	6'86	8'39	9'86	7'18	.....	2'68
Copper	1'95	2'01	2'69	2'18	.....	51
Silver	16'36	17'03	19'13	28'01	8'88	.....
Other metals	9'19	10'33	14'54	9'36	.....	5'18
Petroleum	21'94	29'85	32'71	37'38	4'67	.....
Salt	1,08'59	1,01'05	1,12'21	1,21'00	8'69	.....
Spices	3'40	3'26	3'46	3'55	99	.....
Sugar	23'19	29'48	39'45	30'32	.....	19'13
Tobacco	4'92	8'85	9'10	8'66	.....	44
Woolen goods	3'60	3'73	4'49	2'33	.....	2'36
All other articles	87'08	45'59	51'25	40'55	.....	10'70
Total Import Duty	3,36'37	3,88'75	4,36'23	3,95'39	.....	40'84
Refunds and Drawbacks	5'29	4'72	4'68	6'12	1'44	.....
Net Import Duty	3,31'08	3,84'03	4,31'55	3,89'27	.....	42'28
EXPORT DUTY.						
Refunds	14'46	25'88	17'92	9'39	.....	8'53
Net Export Duty	13'58	24'78	17'94	8'90	.....	19
GRAND TOTAL, GROSS REVENUE	3,50'53	4,14'63	4,54'15	4,04'78	.....	49'37
GRAND TOTAL, NET REVENUE	3,44'66	4,08'31	4,46'79	3,98'17	.....	50'62
Import duty paid into district treasuries on salt transferred to Inland Bonded Warehouses	4'79	3'29	3'73	1'60	.....	1'18
Excise Duty on cotton manufactures	4'49	3'60	7'77	5'32	.....	2'45
Tea cess	3'35	3'56	3'72	3'94	32	.....
Jute cess	3'36	3'45	10'37	8'43	.....	1'94

After deducting refunds and drawbacks, the net revenue amounted to Rs. 3'98 crores a decrease of 11'36 per cent. and the lowest recorded since the year 1911-12. Gross imports decreased by Rs. 40'84 lakhs or 9'36 per cent.: exports also fell and by Rs. 8'53 lakhs, the season having again been disastrous. During the first four months of the year the gross imports collection, inclusive of *salt*, rose from Rs. 1'30 to Rs. 1'45 crores: if *salt* be excluded, the gross import duty in that period advanced from Rs. 96'80 lakhs to Rs. 1'04 crores. But with the outbreak of hostilities revenue commenced to fall off. It is true that the decrease in *cotton goods* of Rs. 18'71 lakhs was due to over-trading, and that *salt* rose by 8'69 lakhs and would have gone higher, but for the exorbitant rates ruling towards the close of the year induced by scarcity of tonnage and fear of insufficient stocks: the increase also under *silver* was realised before the war broke out and that under *petroleum* was practically collected before the month of August. But the decrease of Rs. 19'13 lakhs under *sugar* was directly due to the war, owing to the diversion of *Java sugar* to the United Kingdom: "other" metals fell by Rs. 5'18 lakhs, largely owing to the cessation of supplies of *iron* and *steel* from Belgium and Germany. Refunds and drawbacks increased from Rs. 5'36 lakhs to Rs. 6'61 lakhs or 23'32 per cent. Export refunds were only Rs. 48,909, a decrease of 28'07 per cent. and were naturally influenced by the smallness of the export trade. Import refunds aggregated Rs. 4'86 lakhs, an expansion of 17'39 per cent.: *arms* accounted for Rs. 2'86 lakhs, *salt* for Rs. 58,616, and *kerosine oil* for Rs. 39,614. It may also be mentioned that the incoming steamer "Clan Matheson" was sunk by the "Emden" and in anticipation of her arrival at this port, a considerable amount of duty was paid in: this has consequently assisted in swelling refund figures. Drawbacks expanded from Rs. 54,183 to Rs. 1'26 lakhs, due entirely to *sugar* re-exported on which Rs. 74,650 was paid: otherwise the only item of importance was Rs. 19,800 under *jewellery*.

In spite of large war expenditure no change was made in the incidence of taxation.

COASTING TRADE.

41. **Coasting Trade.**—The total value of Calcutta's trade with ports in British India declined from Rs. 22 crores to Rs. 19 crores. Imports advanced slightly from Rs. 11'09 to Rs. 11'86 crores, but exports contracted from Rs. 10'54 to Rs. 7'47 crores. The share of the different provinces in the total trade was as follows: Burma Rs. 13'77 crores, an increase of Rs. 62 lakhs; Madras Rs. 2'40 crores, an advance of Rs. 14 lakhs; Bombay Rs. 1'90 crores, a decrease of Rs. 2'13 crores; Sind Rs. 46 lakhs, a loss of Rs. 36 lakhs; Bihar and Orissa, the Bengal outports, chiefly Chittagong, and the non-British Indian ports shared the balance, all with reduced trade. *Government transactions* are not included but are dealt with separately below, and imports and exports of *treasure* in the coasting trade have been referred to in paragraph 36.

Imports.—Transactions in most of those articles, that form the bulk of Calcutta's import trade with Indian ports, contracted and it was only owing to the phenomenal receipts of *rice* from Burma (which rose in value from Rs. 2'75 to Rs. 4'88 crores) and *groundnuts* from Madras an increase from Rs. 13 to Rs. 91 lakhs that the total trade showed any improvement. From Burma imports of *mineral oil* declined from 54 to 51 million gallons and the value from Rs. 1'98 to Rs. 1'95 crores, *paddy* from Rs. 73 to Rs. 62 lakhs, *teak* from Rs. 69 to Rs. 49 lakhs and *raw cotton* from Rs. 30 to Rs. 15 lakhs. Trade with Bombay fell away, principally under *cotton twist and yarn*, by Rs. 37 to Rs. 26 lakhs, *grey cotton piece goods* by Rs. 41 to Rs. 17 lakhs, *raw cotton* by Rs. 6 to Rs. 3 lakhs and *hardware* by Rs. 2 lakhs to 3 lakhs. From Madras receipts of *raw cotton* increased from Rs. 10 to 18 lakhs and *coir* from Rs. 6 to 8 lakhs, but *cocoanut oil* decreased by 16'67 per cent. to Rs. 20 lakhs, *spices* (chiefly *pepper*) from Rs. 14 to Rs. 8 lakhs, *turmeric* from Rs. 7 to Rs. 4 lakhs, and *sugar* by Rs. one to Rs. 8 lakhs. Chittagong shipped only Rs. 5 lakhs worth of *raw cotton* against Rs. 7 lakhs, and no *raw jute* as compared with Rs. 3 lakhs worth in 1913-14.

Exports.—There was a contraction in most of the principal articles. *Jute manufactures* dropped from Rs. 3'14 to Rs. 1'83 crores, *gunny bags* falling from Rs. 2'62 to Rs. 1'66 crores and *gunny cloth* from Rs. 34 to Rs. 11 lakhs. All provinces purchased less of both *bags* and *cloth*. Shipments of *coal*, hampered by difficulties in obtaining freight, declined from Rs. 2'19 to Rs. 1'68 crores and the quantity from 2'32 to 1'91 million tons, all provinces taking less. The partial failure of the Bengal crops, restricted exports of *grain and pulse* and the value declined from Rs. 107 to Rs. 64 lakhs. To Madras supplies

of *rice* decreased from Rs. 15 to Rs. 7 lakhs and *pulse* from Rs. 8 to Rs. 3 lakhs, and Bombay only obtained Rs. 5 lakhs *rice* against Rs. 9 lakhs in the previous year. Shipments of *wheat flour* to Burma dropped from Rs. 25 to Rs. 15 lakhs, *pulse* by Rs. 3 to Rs. 18 lakhs and *gram* by Rs. 7 to Rs. 2 lakhs. Among other articles exported to Burma *unmanufactured tobacco* decreased from Rs. 42 to Rs. 28 lakhs, *ghi* from Rs. 19 to Rs. one lakh and *umbrellas* from Rs. 10 to Rs. 4 lakhs, but *cotton twist and yarn* advanced from Rs. 29 to Rs. 34 lakhs, *betelnuts* from Rs. 36 to Rs. 46 lakhs, *cordage* from Rs. 3 to Rs. 7 lakhs and there were smaller increases under *til seeds* and *tea*. Exports of *Indian pig iron* declined from 7,463 to 3,572 tons, of which 2,414 tons went to Bombay and 1,037 tons to Burma, being 53.06 and 41.61 per cent., respectively, below the previous year's consumption.

Government Transactions (excluding Treasure).—The total value of imports and exports advanced from Rs. 55 to Rs. 58 lakhs. Imports rose from Rs. 11 to Rs. 16 lakhs: exports receded in value from Rs. 44 to Rs. 42 lakhs.

Shipping.—1,985 vessels representing 3,987,401 tons in tonnage were engaged in the coasting trade, as compared with 2,336 vessels with a tonnage of 4,711,964 tons in 1913-14. The number entered fell from 1,152 to 1,023 and their tonnage from 2,335,258 to 2,095,178 tons. Clearances numbered 962 against 1,184 and their tonnage 1,892,223 against 2,376,706 tons.

42. Trade of the Subordinate Ports of Bengal.—

	FOREIGN TRADE.						COASTING TRADE.					
	Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		Average for the 5 years 1907-08 to 1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.	
	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1913-14 AND 1914-15.											
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.	Rs. Lakhs.
IMPORTS.												
Grain and Pulse	87	101	102	100	102	102	41.26	6.04	98.06	1.30.20	34.14	...
Hardware	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Machinery	3.57	4.53	4.24	2.99	...	1.25	1.50	1.12	2.48	2.17	...	1.91
Metals	19.10	40.05	73.83	28.99	...	44.64	1.76	2.77	2.48	1.29	...	1.19
Oils, mineral	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Railway materials	13.32	4.02	14.40	31.47	17.07	...	24.79	2.77	34.82	32.81	...	2.01
Salt	5.71	7.78	7.09	5.39	...	1.70	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar	1.08	3.63	8.22	2.73	...	5.49	3.62	4.63	4.72	5.63	...	...
Tea-chests	5.59	5.64	8.37	6.07	...	2.30	...	...	...	...	...	...
Textiles—cotton goods	5.86	12.11	13.68	10.41	...	3.27	7.05	11.55	12.25	8.79	...	...
Other articles	3.53	5.36	7.87	6.08	...	1.79	21.10	49.74	51.36	40.50	...	...
Treasure	1.55	2.38	1.91	...	...	1.30	2.68	8.97	7.84	...	...	...
Total Imports	60.06	86.87	1,41.20	98.02	...	45.18	1,03.60	1,15.73	2,14.09	2,22.08	7.99	...
EXPORTS.												
Grain and pulse—rice	89	8.54	1.53	17	...	1.36	8.42	68.03	2.43	65	...	1.78
Tea	2,23.46	2,08.39	2,60.23	2,39.58	...	40.85	3.92	5.21	4.58	2.98	...	1.62
Jute (raw)	2,26.24	2,48.18	2,01.48	98.90	...	1,07.56	1.88	2.2	2.65	46	...	2.20
Other articles	3.56	2.53	1.63	...	...	...	39.06	84.29	92.44	69.26	...	30.18
Treasure	...	...	...	41	...	1.22	31.13	13.74	55.74	22.19	...	33.55
Total Exports	4,84.15	5,55.14	4,84.87	3,34.06	...	1,50.81	84.21	1,71.49	1,67.84	88.51	...	69.33
Total Trade	5,14.21	6,42.01	6,26.07	4,30.08	...	1,96.99	1,87.81	2,87.22	3,71.93	3,10.59	...	61.34
GRAND TOTAL OF TRADE—FOREIGN AND COASTING.	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,02.02	2,29.23	9,18.00	7,40.67	...	2,57.38

This paragraph deals with the trade of Chittagong and its subordinate ports. The sea-borne trade of the latter continues to be negligible. The total trade declined from Rs. 9.98 crores to 7.41 crores or by 25.75 per cent. The foreign trade fell by 31.31 per cent. from Rs. 6.26 to Rs. 4.30 crores: in the coasting trade the decrease to Rs. 3.10 crores was equivalent to 16.44 per cent. Smaller receipts of *metals, sugar, cotton-goods, and tea chests* lowered the value of imports from foreign countries, from Rs. 1.41 crores to Rs. 96 lakhs or by 31.91 per cent. *Railway materials and mineral oil* were the only items imported in excess of the 1913-14 figures. The share of the United Kingdom in the total import trade fell from 86 to 80 per cent. She increased her sales of *railway plant and rolling-stock* from Rs. 14 to Rs. 31 lakhs, largely owing to the construction of the Bhairab-Tangi branch of the Assam-Bengal Railway but her trade in *iron galvanised sheets* declined from Rs. 55 to Rs. 19 lakhs, and *cement, solder and tea chests* also fell away. Imports of *salt* decreased from 55,045 to tons 39,614 and the value by 23.98 per cent. to Rs. 5.39 lakhs. *Salt* from Aden increased from 17,327 to tons 29,976, but Egypt sent only 9,638 against 19,413 tons last year, and no salt came from Spain and Italian East Africa. The export trade of Chittagong was much affected by the absence of tonnage and the value receded from Rs. 4.85 to Rs. 3.34 crores or by 31.13 per cent. the

under *raw jute and tea*, and the reader is referred to paragraphs 28 and 35 where these subjects have been fully dealt with. The United Kingdom again took all the *tea* and more than half of the *raw jute*. *Rice and paddy* exports shrank from Rs. 1.53 lakhs to Rs. 17,348 only, being simply not available for export. In the coasting trade Chittagong's share was 88 per cent., and Barisal 11 per cent. The improvement in imports was due to Chittagong having to increase her purchases of *rice*, chiefly from Rangoon. In exports the heaviest decrease was in shipments of *raw cotton* to Bengal from Rs. 14 to Rs. 5 lakhs only. Imports of *salt* into Narayanganj by rail and river from Calcutta amounted to 79,996 maunds, against 165,390 maunds in 1913-14. **Shipping.—Foreign Trade.**—Vessels entered declined from 16 to 11 and the tonnage from 41,107 to 23,134 tons: as previously remarked tonnage was very scarce and but little was available for Chittagong. **Coasting Trade.**—Entries numbered 1,227 representing 401,698 tons, against 1,256 with 469,437 tons in 1913-14. The number of clearances fell from 1,246 by one only, and the tonnage from 449,405 to 383,160 tons.

ADMINISTRATION.

43. **Indian Merchandise Marks Act.**—There were only 300 cases in the year under review as compared with 1,170 cases in the previous year. The great fall in number is attributable to the decrease of imports in general and to the stoppage of imports from Germany in particular; which country has always been notorious for breaches of the Act.

CLASS OF CASES.	Passed without correction of marking or penalty.	Passed on correction of marking without penalty.	Passed with nominal penalty.	Passed with heavier penalty or reshipped or confiscated subject to fine in redemption.	TOTAL.
	I.	II.	III.	IV.	
A.—Application of counterfeit trade mark or false indication in respect of the person by whom goods were made or produced	4	...	...	...	4
B.—Application of false trade description or other indication in respect of the country in which goods were made or produced— (1) As between the United Kingdom and British India and a foreign country (2) As between two foreign countries	34 1	28 4	64 5	11 1	137 11
C.—Application of trade description that is false in other respects, namely— (1) As to the number, quantity, measure, gauge or weight of the goods (2) As to the time at which goods were made or produced (3) As to the mode of manufacture or production (4) As to the material of which the goods are composed (5) As to the goods being the subject of an existing patent, privilege or copyright	2	3 ... 6 ...	32 ... 25 ...	39 ... 4 ...	76 ... 35 ...
D.—Lengths not properly stamped on piece-goods	...	4	81	2	87
Total	41	45	157	57	300

Class "A" (*Application of counterfeit Trade Mark or false indication in respect of the person by whom the goods were made or produced*).—During the year watch was kept in 21 cases at the request of aggrieved parties with the result that 1 case of *cycles*, 1 case *empty medicine phials* and 2 cases of *Portland cement* were detained. In all cases the usual indemnity bonds were furnished by the respective parties but the goods were subsequently released at the claimants' request. Three more cases of *cycles* are under detention, the claimants having instituted legal proceedings against the offending parties: the cases are *sub-judice*, and have not been included in the total number of cases *supra*.

Class "B" (*Application of false trade description or other indication in respect of the country in which the goods were made or produced*).—148 cases were dealt with under this head, the principal offenders being Japan (50), Germany (39) and Holland (10). In 35 cases the goods were allowed to pass with a warning only; in 32 cases after obliteration of the offending words, in 80 cases on payment of penalties, 69 nominal and 11 severe. In one case only were the goods ordered to be re-shipped.

Class "C" (*Application of trade description false in other respects*).—111 cases were dealt with under this class; 59 cases consisted of *grey shirtings* of British manufacture and bearing numerals indicating width, but which were found to be short in width; and one case of *grey yarn* of 42's was found to be made up and stamped 40's, on which a penalty of Rs. 450 was imposed. Ten cases consisted of *trimmings, etc.*, bearing labels of length which were found to be in excess of the actual length; and four cases of *glass*

bangles of Austrian make containing short number. As for fraudulent materials, 17 cases consisted of "real ivory" buttons composed of woodpulp; 7 cases of glass beads masquerading as coral; and six cases comprised hose, socks, lace and shawls of mixed materials, but ticketed as "Pure Silk," "Fancy Silk," "Best Spun Silk," and "All Wool." Heavy penalties were imposed in 42 cases, and nominal ones in 57 cases; one case was ordered to be re-shipped, two were allowed to pass on a warning and the remaining nine were passed on correction of the offending words. Italy alone was responsible for 24 of these cases.

Class "D"—(Lengths not properly stamped on piece-goods).—There were 37 cases dealt with under this class: in 28 cases the goods were not stamped with their yard lengths, but 12 of these bore labels or tickets attached to the pieces showing the yardage; in 8 cases the pieces were stamped in numerals only and in the remaining cases the lengths were indicated inconspicuously; 29 of these cases consisted of cotton, 5 of wool and 3 of cotton and wool mixed. In 2 cases heavy and in 31 cases nominal fines were inflicted and stamping was insisted on in every instance; the remaining four cases were allowed to go through on merely stamping the lengths.

The penalties realized during the year amounted to Rs. 4,973 against Rs. 21,055 and Rs. 13,786 in the two preceding years.

Subordinate ports.—There was only one case under class "B" relating to 3 cases cotton loongies: the goods were passed with a warning.

44. Cases adjudged under the Sea Customs Act.—There were 416 cases dealt with under this Act against 672 in the previous year: 252 of these were of undervaluation against 443 last year, involving extra duty amounting to Rs. 8,694-4, and penalties to the extent of Rs. 2,422. These include 9 cases in which action was taken under section 32 of the Act, but the goods were not taken over on behalf of Government. In addition to the above there were 164 cases of minor errors of undervaluation, which were dealt with by the Appraisers. There were eight cases of penalties of Rs. 50 and over, amounting to Rs. 695, which were detected by the following departments, viz.:—Imports 5, Preventive 2, and Accounts one.

The Preventive Department also made the following seizures:—

Articles	Number of seizures.	QUANTITY SEIZED.				
		Mds.	Srs.	Chs.	Tolas.	
Opium	30	7	13	13	3½	
Chandu	1	...	...	...	1	
Ganja	1	...	1	11	2½	
Cocaine	115	49 lbs.	3 ozs.	...	...	

* Includes four seizures by the Excise of 1 md. 3 srs. and 15 chs. and one seizure by the Police of 2 srs. and 12 chs. and not including a seizure of 58½ lbs. made at Rangoon, in which the exporter was prosecuted and convicted here.
† Including three seizures of 1 lb. and 10½ ozs. and 3 packets forwarded by the postal authorities.

During the year there were several important seizures of cocaine and opium. There was an increase in opium and a decrease in cocaine seizures. Several important seizures of feathers were also made.

The most important cocaine seizure was that in which Charles Burge was sentenced to 3 months' rigorous imprisonment for importing cocaine in toy horses. This novel method of smuggling was fortunately found out at the first venture. Another big case was received, this ship was carefully watched day and night with the result that this amount was found concealed on the persons of two firemen on their coming ashore. In May the pantry boy of the S.S. "Maidan" was fined Rs. 100 by the Collector for illicitly importing cocaine. A seizure of 145 ozs. was made on two Chinamen from the S.S. "Kum Sang" in August. This also was the result of a very careful watch being kept on the ship and those landing from her. Both the accused were sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment each, which was then the maximum penalty. The same month some of the crew of the same vessel were searched on landing and 27 oz. of cocaine found on them: they also were sentenced to 3 months' each. Again in November 49 oz. were landed from the "Kum Sang": in this case five Chinamen were implicated. They had the cocaine tied round their bodies in various places: after arrest one Chinaman, the ship's cook, attempted to escape; he was however captured and given an additional 3 months' as being chief offender. A rummage of the ship the following morning brought to light one more oz. of cocaine. This was the first case tried under the amended Act VII of 1914. In this case the cocaine is reported to have been shipped from Japan.

Probably the most important case of opium smuggling this year is the one in which an individual was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment for exporting opium to Rangoon. This was a very interesting case as information was received from Rangoon and the case worked up here. The amount seized was 53½ lbs. The receiver at the other end was also convicted. Other important seizures were 58 seers on Christmas night, the result of careful watching, 19 seers in May, destined for the S.S. "Aronda" and found buried in the Botanical Gardens, 20 seers seized on the S.S. "Angora," and another 8 seers on the "Aronda," only secured after a hard fight with the firemen and 9 seers from the luggage of a known smuggler who drove up to board the Rangoon mail. A good deal of hard fighting has taken place with the firemen of the Rangoon mail boats, who are notoriously engaged in smuggling opium, in which the Preventive Officers have had some hard knocks, but steps are being taken to deal with this matter. Feather smuggling was rampant before the war, but the dislocation of traffic, high freights and the frequency with which cargo is shut out has led to a temporary decrease. 108 cases, mostly peacock feathers and bird-skins, shipped as horsehair, straw plaits, button lac and the like were seized, but 44 cases got away, information reaching us too late.

At the subordinate ports there were 48 cases of smuggling as against 29 last year. Penalties imposed were Rs. 509 as against Rs. 505.

45. Receipts and disbursements of the Chief Port, Calcutta.

Receipts.				Disbursements.			
HEADS.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Increase or decrease in 1914-15 as compared with 1913-14.	HEADS.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Increase or decrease in 1914-15 as compared with 1913-14.
Revenue.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Customs—Budgeted Disbursements.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Import duty on goods	3,23,91,949	2,74,95,830	- 49,66,119	Permanent establishment	9,46,728	9,71,142	+ 24,414
Ditto on salt	1,12,30,910	1,21,00,547	+ 8,69,637	Temporary ditto	17,661	13,202	- 4,459
Export duty	17,91,682	9,39,881	- 8,52,801	Allowance to Inspector of Cotton Mills	1,200	1,300	-
Excise duty on cotton manufactures	77,295	51,825	- 25,470	Contingencies	37,572	36,324	- 1,248
Wharf rent	8,026	7,488	- 538	Value of dockyard supplies and purchase and repair of Preventive	16,979	14,183	- 2,796
Salt warehouse rent (Sulkea)	1,30,647	1,39,188	+ 8,541	Service boats	17,883	11,891	- 5,992
Ditto (Kidderpore)	9,958	2,897	- 7,061	Municipal rates and taxes	29,297	25,774	- 3,523
Total	4,56,40,462	4,06,66,616	- 49,73,846	Rewards to seizing officers	54,183	1,26,337	+ 72,154
Miscellaneous Customs Receipts.				Drawbacks	3,87,252	4,27,352	+ 40,100
Fees for amendments, etc., and trans-shipment fees	16,409	14,018	- 2,391	Refunds of import duty	67,992	48,909	- 19,083
Overtime and holiday fees and allowances	1,86,466	1,44,111	- 42,355	Ditto export duty	23,292	58,616	+ 35,324
Sunday-working special fees	...	...	...	Ditto salt duty	9,907	3,198	- 6,709
Salt-weighment fees earned by Preventive Officers	24,955	22,174	- 2,781	Other refunds	...	...	...
Penalties	49,808	27,427	- 22,381	Travelling allowances	9,039	9,941	+ 909
Sale-proceeds of tendered goods	8,047	...	...	Shore Patrol Officers' allowances and allowances for joining postings	...	...	...
"Strait" light dues	1,44,999	1,20,789	- 24,210	Overtime and holiday fees to Customs Officers	2,14,176	1,87,853	- 26,323
Burma Coast ditto	29,737	23,061	- 6,676	Payments out of special fees for Sunday-working	...	...	...
Madras Coast ditto	27,681	24,501	- 3,180	Printing of Custom House publications	22,300	30,000	+ 7,700
Sale-proceeds of Custom House publications	11,414	11,454	+ 40	Postage of ditto	117	93	- 24
Other receipts	...	...	...	Other disbursements	280	...	...
Total	4,94,716	3,87,945	- 1,07,171	Total	18,58,781	19,66,275	+ 1,07,494
Miscellaneous Salt Receipts.				Non-budgeted Disbursements.			
Charges for loading wagons with salt at the Sulkea Salt Gola siding and Sulkea Gola platform rent	2,911	3,514	+ 603	Transferred by debit to Comptroller, Post Office, on account of Customs duty on Foreign post parcels	1,75,977	1,11,204	- 64,773
Charandars' fees	16,008	9,994	- 6,014	Other disbursements	26,627	22,180	- 4,447
Other salt receipts	8,206	8,806	+ 600	Total	2,02,604	1,33,384	- 69,220
Total	27,125	22,314	- 4,811	Salt—Budgeted Disbursements.			
GRAND TOTAL	4,81,62,303	4,10,76,475	- 70,85,828	Establishment for Sulkea Golas	4,216	3,810	- 406
				Establishment for Kidderpore Dock Golas	...	...	...
				Municipal rates and taxes and ground rent of Sulkea Salt Golas	38,007	12,114	- 25,893
				Rent of Salt Golas at Kidderpore	...	...	...
				Docks paid to Port Commissioners	15,778	10,177	- 5,601
				Charandars' fees	21,169	19,135	- 2,034
				Other disbursements	...	...	...
				Total	69,170	46,236	- 22,934
				GRAND TOTAL	21,30,756	21,46,895	+ 16,140

Receipts.—The total revenue receipts decreased by 10.75 per cent. to Rs. 4,06,66,616: variations in duty receipts have been referred to in paragraph 40—Customs—Revenue. The improvement in the receipts of salt duty is due partly to the heavy realisations of outstanding balances of duty on salt cleared in the previous year under the credit system, and partly to heavy adjustments of salt credit accounts before due dates by merchants who largely withdrew their securities. The abolition of the salt golas at Kidderpore Docks and the concentration of warehousing operations at Sulkea salt golas account for the variations in the receipts under Salt Warehouse Rent, Sulkea and Kidderpore. The decline in receipts under the various heads comprised within Miscellaneous Customs Receipts is in

the main generally attributable to the dislocation of trade caused by the war, resulting in fewer vessels laden with cargo entering and clearing from this port. Under *salt miscellaneous receipts, charandars' fees* for escorting bonded salt to the golas, decreased owing to the restricted trade in salt arising from scarcity of tonnage and higher freights caused by the war.

Disbursements.—The variations in the figures under *permanent and temporary establishments* are due in the main to:—(1) higher charges on account of gazetted officers' salaries; (2) entertainment of additional Appraising and Preventive establishments in 1914-15 and increased pay of launch officers sanctioned in Government of India orders No. 6800-30, dated 6th August 1914, and No. 2253-10, dated 31st March 1914; (3) charges on account of the revised pay of the establishment of Chemical Examiner of Customs and Excise being debited for the whole year 1914-15, as against 4 months in 1913-14; (4) decreased employment of extra Preventive Officers. The decrease in the expenditure on account of *Municipal rates and taxes* is due to the entire non-payment of owner's share of rates and taxes in 1914-15, which was paid by the Public Works Department. The charges under *overtime and holiday allowances* were less in consequence of the stagnation in trade during 1914-15 causing a contraction in the demand for the services of Customs Officers beyond regulation hours, and those for *printing Custom House publications* were higher owing to the payment throughout the year of the charges at an enhanced contract rate. Disbursements under *Customs duty on post parcels adjusted by transfer* declined, owing to a falling off in the importation of jewellery and other valuables through the parcel post. Under *Salt budgeted disbursements* the expenditure on account of Municipal rates and taxes was less, owing to the entire non-payment of owner's share of the rates and also to decreased payment to the Port Commissioners of a moiety of the rent of Kidderpore Docks salt golas, which have been abolished.

The net income of the Custom House in the year amounted to Rs. 3,89,30,580 against Rs. 4,40,31,548 in 1913-14, representing a decrease of nearly 11·59 per cent. If Rs. 1,60,106 paid into district treasuries for *salt* transferred in bond from Calcutta to inland bonded warehouses be added to this, the net income amounts to Rs. 3,90,90,686 as compared with Rs. 4,43,04,564 in 1913-14. This is exclusive of the amount of duty, Rs. 38,72,032-6-11 outstanding for realisation under the *salt credit system* on the 31st March 1915.

Customs Personal and Revenue Deposits.—These are suspense accounts, and have not been shown in the statement above. The total deposit transactions for the year were as follows:—

Head of Account.	Opening balance on 1st April.	Receipts during 1914-15.	Total.	Payments during 1914-15.	Closing balance.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Revenue Deposits ...	4,228 4 0	11,947 8 5	16,175 12 5	11,554 10 11	4,621 1 6
Personal ..	4,89,055 9 5	1,31,56,571 12 4	1,36,45,627 5 9	1,32,38,191 13 7	4,07,435 8 2
Total ...	4,93,283 13 5	1,31,68,519 4 9	1,36,61,803 2 2	1,32,49,746 8 6	4,12,056 9 8

* Excludes Rs. 127 deducted on account of lapsed deposits credited to Government on 1st April 1915.

46. Receipts and disbursements of the Subordinate Ports of Bengal.—Receipts advanced from Rs. 16,57,604 to Rs. 17,63,676, the improvement being in *salt import duty and gola rent*. Disbursements amounted Rs. 81,167 against Rs. 88,483, and the net receipts were Rs. 16,82,509 as compared with Rs. 15,69,121 in 1913-14, an improvement of 7·20 per cent.

47. Appeals.—There were 20 appeals to the Collector against the orders of Assistant Collectors. Of these 14 were under the Sea Customs Act, 5 under the Merchandise Marks Act and 1 under the Tariff Act. In one case the Assistant Collector's order was modified and in another reversed. In the remaining cases the Assistant Collectors' orders were upheld. In one instance there was a representation made to Government through the India Office by the shippers against the decision of the Collector upholding the Assistant Collector's order, and the fine imposed was remitted by Government. In one case there was a further appeal to Government against Collector's decision on appeal, which was rejected. There were 3 appeals to the Board against Collector's orders. Two were rejected and one is still pending. An application to the Board for revision of the Board's order passed on appeal was made, but was also rejected. There were three appeals to Government for grants of refund. One was time-barred under section 40 of

the Sea Customs Act, and the refund was recommended by the Collector. In one case there was no previous application made either to the Assistant Collector or Collector. Refund was refused by Government in this case while it was granted in the other two cases. There were two memorials made by officers to His Excellency the Viceroy against dismissal. One was withheld by the Collector and the other by the Government of Bengal.

Subordinate Ports.—There was only one appeal against the Collector's orders confiscating *feathers*. Orders were received after the close of the year upholding the Collector's decision.

48. Miscellaneous matters.—The total number of Bills of Entry and Shipping Bills dealt with during the year declined from 323,890 to 241,298, or 25·50 per cent. Bills-of-Entry for consumption fell by 26·11 per cent., from 217,976 to 161,059, but those for bonding rose from 1,177 to 1,795 or by 52·51 per cent. Shipping bills declined by 25·10 per cent. to 78,444.

49. Joint Customs and Excise Control Station.—The following table shows the number of samples received for examination by the Chemical Examiner for Customs and Excise and his staff, as compared with the previous official year:—

Customs Samples.—	1913-14.	1914-15.
(1) Spirit obscuration tests ...	354	271
(2) Samples for duty and identity and denaturing agents ...	1,257	477
(3) Test or check tests for Custom Houses other than that of Calcutta ...	195	112
(4) Hydrometers standardized ...	15	10
Excise Samples.—		
(5) Liquor, washes, waters, drugs and denaturing agents, etc. ...	1,817	2,621
(6) Excise hydrometers, etc., standardized ...	436 sets.	526 sets.
TOTAL ...	4,074	4,017

As regards Customs work the decrease under items (1), (2) and (3) was due to the war and the consequent disturbance of foreign trade. The numerical balance was restored by increase of samples under items (5) and (6) received from the Excise Departments of the principal administrations entailing, however, a really considerable increase in actual work. Many references unaccompanied by samples from Commissioners of Excise and Collectors of Customs were also received; the composition of *condensed and skimmed milk* as imported at Calcutta was specially investigated, whilst at the instance of the Government of India, uniform methods for the determination of alcohol in all imported essences, tinctures and other medicinal preparations were proposed and adopted.

50. Establishment.—Mr. G. Laird-MacGregor, I.C.S., was Collector of Customs throughout the year.

The Assistant Collectors in charge of various departments during the year were: Mr. F. J. G. Geary, I.C.S., Mr. A. H. P. Wolferstan, Mr. J. A. E. Burrup, Mr. A. E. Boyd and Mr. F. Buckney; Mr. G. S. Hardy, I.C.S., Mr. E. Sheepshanks, I.C.S., with Mr. W. W. Nind were also working for short periods during the year under review. Mr. R. L. Jenks held the appointment of Chemical Examiner for Customs and Excise throughout the year.

51. Administrative Changes, 1914-15.—Section 137 of the Sea Customs Act relating to the presentation of shipping bills has been amended by Act XII of 1914, but the new regulations have not yet been introduced owing to the present crisis.

The proviso to section 37 of the Sea Customs Act has been amended by the passing of Act IX of 1915, duty being calculated from the rate and valuation in force on the date on which application is made to clear warehoused goods, to the valuation in force on the date of the actual removal of the goods, from the warehouse.

52. Although the volume of trade has decreased, the Statistical and Executive Departments have had much extra work in watching for or tracing consignments of prohibited goods. Where all officers have worked well it is invidious to particularise. My thanks are also due to Mr. Burrup for his work in connection with this review in which he has borne the principal part.

CALCUTTA,

The 2nd June 1915.

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X5425-275¹⁹¹⁴ G. LAIRD-MACGREGOR,
Collector of Customs.

