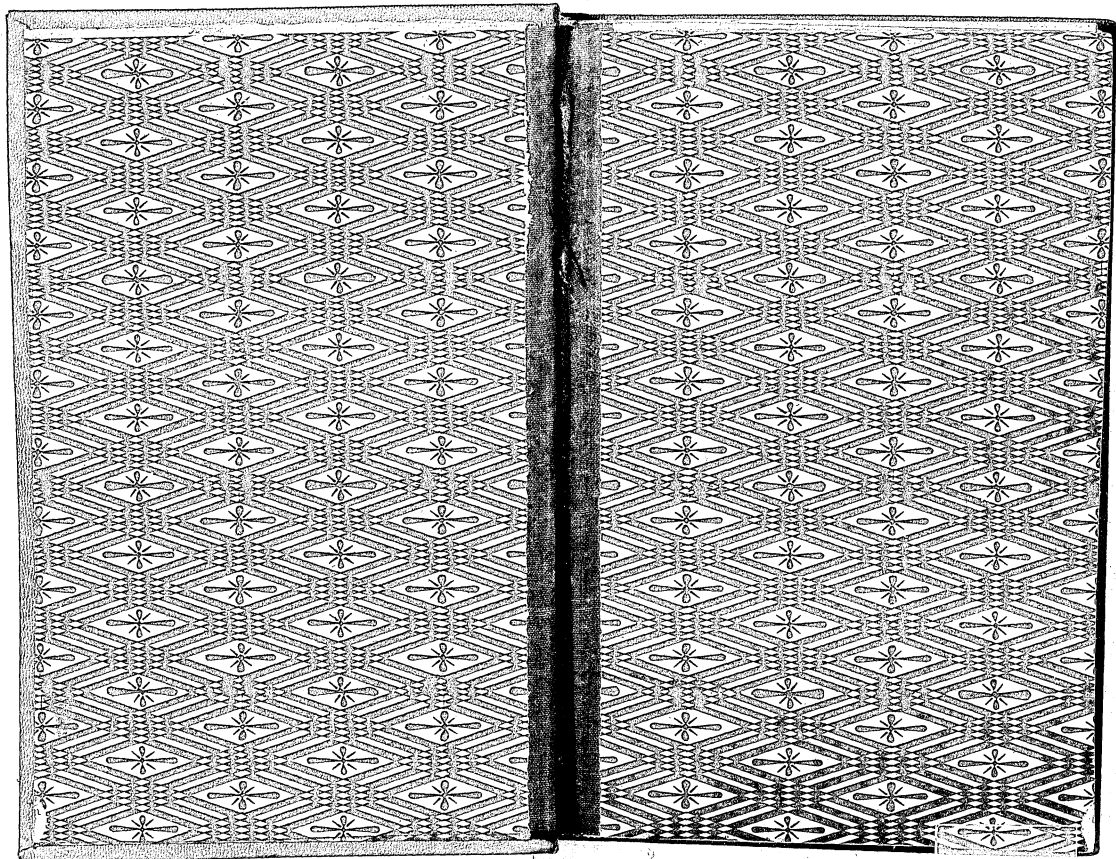
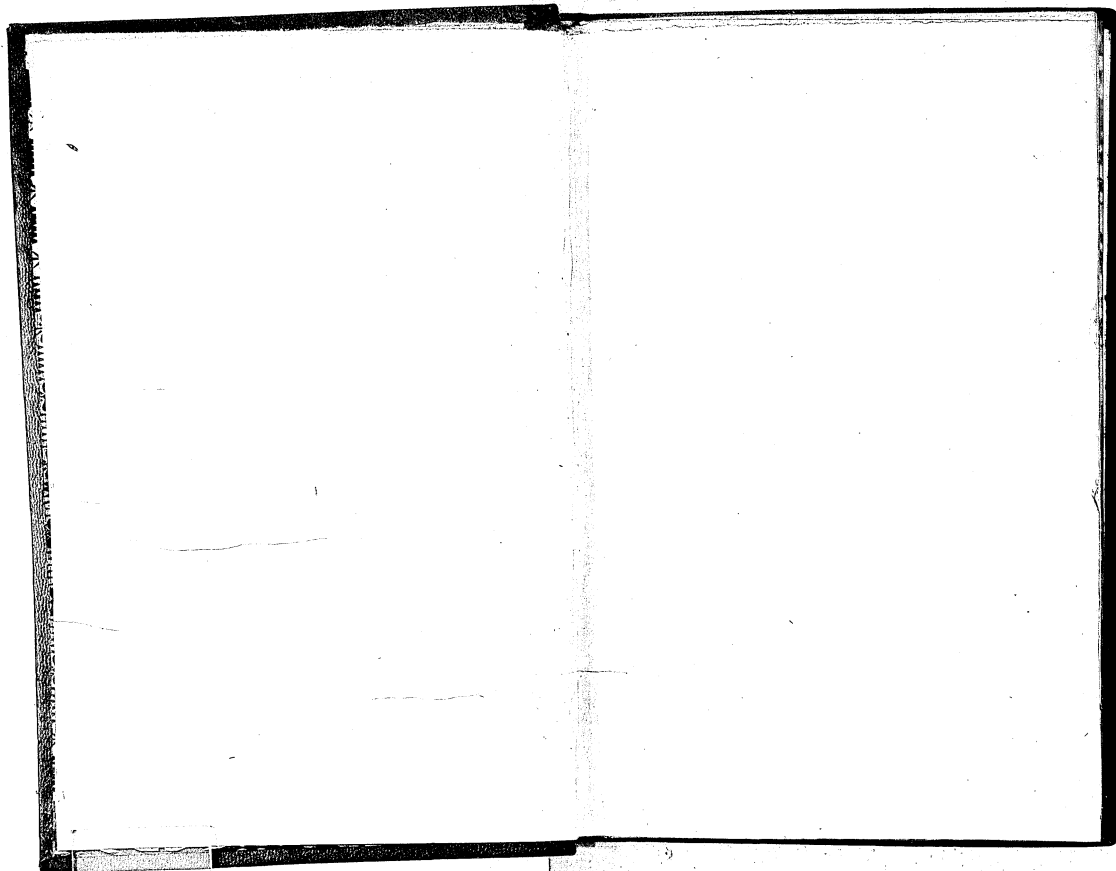


REPORT
OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PART—I. 1920





REPORT

OF

THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FOR THE YEAR 1920.

Vol. I

Calcutta:

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BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1921.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber was held at the Royal Exchange, 2 Clive Street, Calcutta, on Friday the 25th February 1921, at 3 P.M., the Hon. Sir Alexander Murray, C.B.E., President of the Chamber, in the chair.

The following members of the Chamber were present—

Mr. R. M. Watson	Smyth,	M.L.C.	Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., <i>Ld.</i>
" W. S. J. Willson	...	"	"
" H. Harris	...	"	Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China.
" J. Campbell,	M.L.C.	...	"
" W. C. Currie	...	"	Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
" J. W. A. Bell	...	"	"
" R. Langford	James,	"	"
"	M.L.C.	"	"
" R. Graham	...	"	"
" J. Reid Kay	...	"	James Finlay & Co., <i>Ld.</i>
" J. D. Gatheral	...	"	"
" J. A. Tassie	...	"	"
" J. S. T. Russell	...	"	"
" J. A. Inglis	...	"	"
" A. D. Pickford,	M.L.A.	...	"
" C. W. Tosh	...	"	Begg, Dunlop & Co.
" D. S. K. Greig	...	"	"
" T. Lamb	...	"	"
" S. G. L. Eustace	...	"	Kilburn & Co.
" E. J. Oakley	...	"	"
" R. N. Band	...	"	Thos. Duff & Co., <i>Ld.</i>
" R. D. Laird	...	"	"
" N. Birrell	...	"	Graham & Co.
" C. F. Beadel	...	"	Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta) <i>Ld.</i>
" Pat. Lovett	...	"	W. H. Targett & Co., (Capital).
" C. W. Rhodes,	C.B.E.,	"	"
"	M.L.C.	"	"
" F. C. Danger,	C.B.E.	...	Hoare, Miller & Co., <i>Ld.</i>
" C. C. Miller	...	"	"

Mr. D. P. McKenzie	...	Messrs. Duncan Brothers & Co.
" J. A. C. Munro	...	" "
" J. Goodman	...	" Anderson, Wright & Co.
" R. Dalglish	...	" Comptoir D'Orient Delacroix et Cie.
" S. C. Sen	...	" Messrs. John King & Co., Ltd.
" Millar M. King	...	" "
" H. W. Carr	...	" Balmer, Lawrie & Co.
" A. N. Stuart	...	" "
" W. B. Monair	...	" Lovelock & Leves.
" A. H. Lewes	...	" T. M. Thaddens & Co.
" A. M. Thaddens	...	" "
" A. C. Gladstone	...	" Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
" A. d'A. Willis	...	" "
" E. S. W. Roberts	...	" J. Thomas & Co.
" G. S. E. Colville	...	" "
" H. K. Banks	...	" Kerr, Tarruck & Co.
" B. N. Sinar	...	" Macneill & Co.
" James E. Roy, M.L.C.	...	" Rivers Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.
" J. Y. Philip	...	" The Angus Co., Ltd.
" E. L. Lacey	...	" Messrs. Landale & Morgan.
" J. W. Campbell	...	" South British Insurance Co., Ltd.
" J. L. Rutliven	...	" Messrs. Wilson, Hodgkinson & Co., Ltd.
" G. F. Ross	...	" Hazareemull, Hoeralall.
" E. Wilson	...	" "
" Nathmull	...	" Birkmyre Brothers.
" Sir Archy Birkmyre,	...	" "
" Bart, C.I.E.	...	" "
" R. B. Wilson, C.I.E.	...	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
" H. Birkmyre	...	" Place, Siddons & Gough.
" D. P. How	...	" Walker, Goward & Co.
" H. F. Yeoman	...	" "
" L. Walker	...	" Grandage, Moir & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir	...	" "
" Lieut.-Col. H. F. Hobbs, D.S.O.	...	" "
" M.C.	...	" "
Mr. Andrew Smith	...	" Smith, Forrester & Co.
" J. Campbell Forrester,	...	" "
" M.L.C.	...	" James Luke & Sons.
" Norman R. Luke	...	" Jardine, Skinner & Co.
" F. E. Phillips	...	" "
" J. Mein Austin	...	" W. Haworth & Co.
" M. Morrison	...	" "
" Herbert R. Luke	...	" Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.
" R. C. Fokett	...	" Messrs. Lyall, Marshall & Co.
" F. S. Little	...	" Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
" W. L. Alexander	...	" Messrs. Parry & Co.
" W. J. Sykes	...	" "
" A. Scott Smith	...	" "
" W. McMonies	...	" "
" M. Campbell	...	" "

Mr. J. Bell Robertson	...	Messrs. Bird & Co.
" H. F. Wheeler	...	" "
" W. L. Carey, M.L.C.	...	" F. W. Heilgers & Co., and
" A. S. Turlion	...	" Messrs. Bird & Co.
" D. A. Wills	...	" "
" W. Wilson	...	" Stearns & Lloyds, Ltd.
" J. E. Grafton	...	" Sun Insurance Office.
" W. R. Rae, M.L.C.	...	" "
" T. Sivewright Catto	...	" Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co.
" G. F. Rose	...	" "
" T. H. Wheeler	...	" "
" W. D. Pantton	...	" Royal Insurance Co.
" Darcy Lindsay, M.L.A.	...	" Messrs. William Jacks & Co.
" L. M. Melley	...	" D. L. Millar & Co.
" D. L. Millar	...	" Ralli Brothers.
" U. Demetriadi	...	" Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.
" F. W. Smyth	...	" "
" H. M. Sherman	...	" Moran & Co.
" M. G. Pantton	...	" Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway.
" J. Coates	...	" Messrs. P. E. Gusdar & Co.
" M. C. Guzlar	...	" S. C. Chunder & Co.
" J. N. Chunder	...	" Allen Brothers & Co. (India)
" E. Prophet	...	" Ltd.
" D. Mitchell	...	" A. Forbes & Co., Ltd.
" E. E. Savi	...	" Agent, Alliance Bank of Simla, Ltd.
" G. A. Achard	...	" Messrs. G. A. Achard & Co.
" A. H. Turnbull	...	" Turnbull Brothers, Ltd.
" E. H. Townend	...	" Carritt, Moran & Co.
Hon. Samuel J. Best	...	" Octavius Steel & Co.
Mr. F. G. Clarke	...	" "
" Cecil Simpson	...	" Harrisons & Crossfield, Ltd.
" Norris L. MacDowell	...	" D. Easton & Co.
" E. Houghton Brown	...	" "
" R. Bazley	...	" Gladstone, Wyllie & Co.
" William Dods	...	" "
" A. Bowie	...	" Ag. Agent, Allahabad Bank, Ltd.
" R. K. Stevens	...	" Messrs. McLeod & Co.
" W. S. Wallis	...	" Deputy Agent, Calcutta Electric Supply
" E. C. Simon	...	" Corporation, Ltd.
" C. G. Arthur	...	" Messrs. Ewing & Co., Ltd.
" T. Ashton	...	" "
" J. H. Pattinson, M.L.C.	...	" H. V. Low & Co., Ltd.
" C. G. Cooper	...	" Barry & Co.
Col. P. C. Sheridan, C.M.G.	...	" General Traffic Manager, East Indian
	...	" Railway.
Mr. James W. Roger	...	" Messrs. Killerman's Arracan Rice &
" L. V. N. Mears	...	" Trading Co., Ltd.
" A. Cochran, C.I.E., M.L.C.	...	" Geo. Henderson & Co.
	...	" Burn & Co., Ltd.

Mr. J. D. Ferguson	...	Messrs. J. C. Duffus & Co., Ltd.
Rajah Reshee Case Law, C.I.E.	...	" Praekulissen, Lov & Co.
Mr. A. J. Shellim	...	" A. J. Shellim & Co.
" H. Balkwill	...	" Heath & Co.
" Kenneth Campbell	...	" Shave, Wallace & Co.
" C. Warren-Boulton	...	" Alfred Herbert (India) Ltd.
" S. T. Chivers	...	" W. & T. Avery, Ltd.
" W. A. Allinson	...	" Agent, Eastern Bank, Ltd.
" T. C. Anderson	...	Messrs. Mytton, Wallace & Co.
" H. F. Mytton	...	" Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.
" H. C. Gray	...	Messrs. Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Ltd.
" Z. Shimidzu	...	" Thos. Seth Apyar & Co.
" M. A. S. Vaile	...	" King Brothers.
" T. Nicol	...	" W. J. Walker & Co.
" W. J. Walker	...	" Agent, International Banking Corporation.
" R. M. McLay	...	Messrs. Morgyn, Walker & Co.
" George Morgan, M.L.C.	...	" Steiner, Ltd.
" H. H. Hesslering	...	" W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd.
" C. H. R. Thorne, M.L.E.	...	" Thorngroft (India) Ltd.
" W. L. Morgan	...	

There were also present by invitation—

Hon. Sir Henry Wheeler,		
K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S.		
Hon. Sir Bijay Chand		
Mahab, Maharajahdharaj		
of Baridwan, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.,		
I.O.M.		Members of the Executive Council,
Hon. Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.S.I.,		Government of Bengal.
C.I.E., I.C.S.		
Hon. Nawab Syed Nawab		
Ali Chowdhury Khan		
Bahadur, C.I.E.		
Hon. Mr. Provash Chandra		Ministers of the Government of Bengal.
Mitter, C.I.E.		
Mr. H. A. F. Lindsay, C.B.E.		Director General of Commercial Intelligence.
I.C.S.		
" C. W. Cotton, I.C.S.		Collector of Customs.
" J. Donald, C.I.E., I.C.S.		Chairman, Calcutta Corporation.
" T. C. Fulton		Representing H. M. Trade Commissioner.

The notice convening the meeting having been taken as read,

The PRESIDENT said.—Gentlemen,—It is given to few Presidents of this Chamber to unveil the portrait of a predecessor in office but I can imagine no duty more acceptable than that of assisting in honouring the memory of a man who occupied this chair with distinction. At the first meeting of the Committee of the Chamber

held after the death of Sir William Ironside, the then President and Committee paid tribute to his memory by inscribing on the records of the Chamber the following resolution:—

That the members of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce hereby place on record their appreciation of the work done by their late President, Sir William A. Ironside, on behalf of the commerce and industry of Calcutta, and their sense of the great loss that the community has suffered by his death, and that they direct that an extract from the minutes of this meeting be forwarded to Lady Ironside, together with an expression of their deepest sympathy.

While this resolution gave expression to the feelings of the Committee it was realised that something more was necessary to keep alive the memory of a citizen of Calcutta who had done such good service to the community and to the State. Members of this Chamber, therefore, hastened to contribute to the cost of a permanent memorial of which the portrait now to be unveiled forms part. The commission for the portrait was placed in the hands of Mr. Lance Calkin, a member of the Institute of Painters in Oil-colours, and those who have examined the picture testify to the success with which the artist has performed his part. When we remember that the portrait is a posthumous one, painted solely from photographs, we must congratulate Mr. Calkin on the skill with which he has transferred to canvas a speaking likeness of Sir William Ironside as we remember him.

Sir William was so well-known to most of us that I need do little more than recall the outstanding features of a strenuous life. Although he served five years' apprenticeship as an engineer in Aberdeen there was little about our late President of the proverbial commonness attributed to the Aberdonian. He was impulsive and generous to a degree. Having made up his mind on any subject—and he made it up very quickly—he never hesitated to say what he thought, and to act too, if necessary. Sir William came to this country on a business visit first in 1895, and again in 1902, but it was a year or two earlier before he definitely decided to find his life's work in India. In 1905 he joined Messrs. Bird & Co. and after representing them for a couple of years in the United Provinces he joined the firm's Head Office in Calcutta in July 1907. At this time Sir William was about 38 years of age, which is a good deal older than most of us were, or are, on our first arrival in the city. He came among us, therefore, with business habits already well formed, and probably this was the reason we found him at times somewhat impatient of the traditions of Clive Street.

It was not long before Sir William Ironside made his presence felt in the branch of Messrs. Bird & Co.'s business of which he was then in charge, for we find him a member of the Mining Association Committee in 1909 and 1910, and Chairman of the Association in 1912, while he also represented the mining industry on the Belar and Orissa Legislative Council from May 1916 to June 1918. In 1917 Sir William became senior resident partner of his firm. In that year also he became a member of the Committee of this Chamber and from February 1918 to February 1919 he acted as President. From May 1918 to May 1919 Sir William represented

the Chamber on the Imperial Legislative Council, and in 1918 he also acted, along with Mr. P. C. Mitter, as an added member of the Reforms Committee on the Division of Functions between the Government of India and Local Governments. His occupancy of these posts, however, showed only one side of Sir William Irouside's public activities. Do we not remember the soul-stirring appeal made to Calcutta in 1915 by a "citizen of no mean city" which resulted in the collection within a month of about £35,000 for the purchase of a motor ambulance unit, followed the next year by a further £10,000 to keep the unit going? It was to Sir William's knowledge of his fellow citizens and his instinct for seizing an opportunity that we can remember with satisfaction a contribution to the war that did credit to the city. Was it not also to Sir William Irouside, Chairman of the Bengal War Loan Committee of 1918, that we owe much of the credit that attaches to this side of India for its share in bringing up the second War Loan to almost Rs. 20 crores?

Gentlemen, what I have already said is in itself sufficient justification for the very general desire that there should be in this building some visible sign of the appreciation of the commercial community for public work well done. But when we remember that during the last few months of his stay among us, while he was still the representative of this Chamber in the Viceroy's Legislative Council, Sir William Irouside was stricken with serious illness, when we remember that within a few days of his resigning his seat on the Council and within a few months of his retiring from being President of this Chamber he passed from among us, exhausted by strenuous work rendered ungrudgingly on our behalf—when we remember these things—I feel we should be guilty of base ingratitude did we not take steps to perpetuate the memory of Sir William Irouside. Let us, therefore, place this portrait of our late President on the walls of this hall round which are hung the portraits of merchants and statesmen who helped to make Calcutta what it is—the London of the East. Let Sir William Irouside take his place among those giants of the past. I now unveil the portrait.

The PRESIDENT in presenting the Report for 1920 said.—The President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has privileges conferred on him, but he also has imposed upon him many duties, one of which is that of presiding at the Annual General Meeting, and addressing the members on such subjects as he may deem proper to bring to their notice. From the yearly Report of the proceedings of the Committee, which has already been in your hands for some days, you will see that during the past year we have dealt with many important matters, more than one of which is entitled to a leading place in my remarks this afternoon. Unfortunately, time does not permit of a detailed review, and I must therefore content myself with a reference to the constitution of the new Councils and to the new organisations of Commerce and Industry, before passing on to deal at length with exchange, control, and railways, matters

which, in the eyes of the commercial community at least, are of paramount importance in India at the present time.

At the special general meeting of the Chamber held in this room on 12th October 1920 I explained in detail the representation of commerce and industry in the new Councils, and emphasised the importance of well qualified candidates coming forward. I am glad to say this appeal was not made in vain, for you will agree that the particular interests of this Chamber and of the jute, tea and mining industries connected with it, could not be in better hands than in those of the public-spirited individuals who now represent those special constituencies in the Legislative Councils of Bengal, and of Behar and Orissa. When I turn, however, to the Indian Legislature, I cannot help striking a discordant note concerning the representation of Commerce in the important legislative bodies that sit at Delhi and Simla. Ever since non-officials were first admitted as additional members to His Excellency's Legislative Council away back in 1861, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has had the privilege of direct representation on that body, and right down till this year the Bombay and Bengal Chambers have each had a representative present when the Budget and other important legislation affecting our particular interests were under discussion. Now what is the position? As you know the Indian Legislature is divided into two Chambers. One is the Council of State on which Commerce is directly represented only by the Presidents of the Bengal, Bombay and Burma Chambers of Commerce, that is to say, by three out of sixty members. The other House is the Legislative Assembly on which the leading Chambers of Commerce have no direct representation of any description. Out of a House of one hundred and forty-four members nine are non-official Europeans elected on a communal basis, and of these nine, three come from Bengal. Please take note now of what will happen when the Budget is presented to the Indian Legislature next month. In the Council of State there can be no discussion of the Budget as such, nor can it be put to the vote of the Council. That is to say, the representatives of the Chambers of Commerce of Bengal, Bombay and Burma on the Council of State have no opportunity of speaking on the Budget; they might as well be in Timbuctoo as in Delhi for all the part they can take in the proceedings, and that too after their predecessors have played leading parts in the Budget debates of the last sixty years. In the Legislative Assembly, on the other hand, members will be at liberty to discuss the Budget as a whole, or any question of principle involved therein, and will have the right to discuss and vote for or against every demand for grants contained in the Budget, yet the leading Chambers of Commerce, not being directly represented in the Assembly, will have no say in these proceedings, although the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, the Bombay Millowners Association, the Indian Merchants Chamber and Bureau, and Madras Indian Commerce are all directly represented in the Assembly by able, expert business men, whose contributions to the debates will no doubt influence the progress of the Budget through the House.

While I feel it my duty to protest against the constitution of the Assembly so far as commerce is concerned, I think I would be failing in my duty if I did not express our indebtedness to Sir Frank Carter, Mr. A. D. Pickford, and Mr. Darcy Lindsay for resisting the calls of the old country in order to remain here and represent the Bengal European community in the Indian Legislative Assembly, where I am sure their long experience and intimate knowledge of this country will be of much use.

Those of you who are members of the Local Legislative Council, and many of you who are not actively engaged in politics, have by this time realised the great changes in the Government of this country brought about by the introduction of the Constitutional Reforms. It is evidenced by the presence here to-day of Indian Ministers as well as of members, Indian and European, of the Executive Council of the Government of Bengal. And the introduction this week in the local Council of the Budget Estimates for 1921-22, with no mention in them of Income Tax which in 1920-21 was estimated to yield about Rs. 2 crores, and with an estimated deficit between income and expenditure of over Rs. 2 crores, is a further sign that things are no longer as they were. I do not know whether I read the signs aright or not, but I cannot help feeling that a process of decentralisation has begun which may ultimately result in a clashing of interests between the different Presidencies and Provinces, in regard to which even a strong Central Government may be unable to adjudicate fairly. An independent line of action adopted in one Province cannot but react in another where conditions may be very different, and unless some attempt is made to co-ordinate and direct public opinion we may find interests that have much in common split up in different watertight compartments, instead of running along a common channel on which all concerned may draw for inspiration and guidance. Holding as I do strong opinions on this point I have never hesitated to advocate bringing together the leaders of commerce and industry in this big country. I have been a strong supporter, therefore, of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India and Ceylon, and it was with much pleasure that, as President of the Association, I saw it duly incorporated, and presided over the second Annual Conference of delegates held in this room last month. A full report of the proceedings at that conference will be published one of these days and will I hope convince everybody that in bringing together leading commercial men from Delhi and Cawnpore on the North to Tuticorin and Ceylon on the south, from Karachi and Bombay on the west to Madras and Rangoon on the east, we are acting on right lines. Now that we have got the Associated Chambers fairly started I look forward to the time when our present membership of thirteen Chambers will be increased by the admission of other leading Indian Chambers of Commerce.

It will take up too much time to refer in detail to the proceedings and subsequent results of the International Labour Conference at Washington, at which I had the honour of representing Employers of Labour in India. Indeed, I do not require to do so here, for the reason that you have already been fully posted

Although I always recognised the advisability of all the interests concerned being fully represented at these International Conferences I had the feeling that no matter what the results of these discussions might be the Government of India would still be largely influenced in their final decisions by the view of the people on the spot in India, i.e., by the views of the Local Governments, the employers and the workers concerned. Unfortunately, I realise now, that where the conventions and recommendations of International Labour Conferences are concerned, it is not what the Government of India themselves thought a few months ago, or what the Local Governments think now, that matters, but the opinions of workers and employers in other countries, who now know that they have but to shout loud enough and the Government of India is almost certain to listen to them. That being so, gentlemen, I consider it more important than ever that to every International Conference of any description you should send the very best men available.

By means of these two Associations, the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India and Ceylon and the Federation of Indian Industries, we hope to cover the whole ground of commerce and industry throughout the length and breadth of India, and to bring together the merchants and manufacturers with but one desire—to act together in the best interests of all concerned in the development of the industries, trade and commerce of this great country. United we stand, divided we fall!

Turning now to the question of exchange, we witnessed many and varied changes during 1920. The year opened with exchange ruling round about 2s. 4d. and we saw rates rise above 2s. 10½d. in February and fall back to 1s. 4½d. in December. The first big jump from 2s. 4d. to 2s. 8d. was due to the publication in London of the Report of the Babington-Smith Committee on Indian Exchange and Currency. Among the conclusions arrived at by that Committee, it is stated that Indian trade is not likely to suffer any permanent injury from the fixing of exchange at a high level and that the development of Indian industry would not be seriously hampered by a high rate of exchange; that the balance of advantage is decidedly on the side of fixing the exchange value of the rupee in terms of gold rather than in terms of sterling and that the stable relation to be established between the rupee and gold should be at the rate of Rs. 10 to one sovereign, or in other words at the rate of one rupee for 1,130-016 grains of fine gold, both for foreign exchange and for internal circulation. Immediately on the publication of the Report the Secretary of State issued a note in which it was stated that "the arguments advanced in favour of a gold basis and a high rate of exchange appear to the Secretary of State in Council to be conclusive and he has decided to take the necessary steps to give effect to the recommendations on these points." I need not follow in detail the various steps by which the Government of India have attempted to act up to the policy laid down for them in this Report. One

of the culminating points was the passing through the Indian Legislative Council in September last of the Indian Coinage (Amendment) Act, prescribing the ratio of one sovereign equal to ten rupees at which rate the sovereign was again made legal tender. I believe exception has been taken in certain quarters to the support given by me, your representative, to this measure. Gentlemen, I did support the introduction of this Act and in the light of the facts then before us, I do not think that I would have been justified in doing otherwise. It is quite true that in the note submitted by the Chamber to the Indian Currency and Exchange Committee in June, 1919, we expressed the hope that it would not be found necessary to fix a rate higher than that then ruling, that is to say, higher than about 1s. 8d. per rupee. On the other hand, the whole exchange position and the factors then influencing it had been carefully considered by that Committee, on which we had our own nominee in the person of Mr. McMorran, whose interests as a large producer and exporter could not but have influenced him to have given every consideration to the possibility of recommending a low, in preference to a high, rate of exchange. In all the circumstances, I do not think that your Committee or your representative on the Council would have been justified in voting against giving effect to one of the most important recommendations contained in the Currency Report. It must be remembered that at that time the position generally had not developed on the lines that it has since done and few, if any, of us expected the abnormal state of affairs, which for the time being at least has upset all calculations.

Gentlemen, even though you were willing to listen, I have not the time to-day to refer to the many factors that have combined to prevent the fulfilment of all the hopes based on the recommendations of the Currency Committee. Who for instance ever anticipated that the balance of trade would have swung so violently against India as it has done since about the middle of last year? For years we have been accustomed to the middle of of merchandise on private account being in excess of its imports by crores of rupees annually. During the five pre-war years ending 31st March 1914 the balance of exports over imports averaged Rs. 78 crores per annum. During the five war years ended 31st March 1919, exports exceeded imports to the extent of Rs. 73 crores over imports was no less than Rs. 119 crores. That is to say, during the eleven years ending March, 1920, Indian exports exceeded imports by an average of Rs. 63 crores monthly. There was nothing in the figures of the early months of last year to indicate the possibility, far less the probability, of the violent swing of the pendulum that has converted India's credit balance of trade into a debit. For the five months, January—May, 1920, the excess of exports over imports averaged Rs. 6½ crores monthly. It was in the month of June that for the first time imports exceeded exports and then only by Rs. 3 crores. Unfortunately, the printers in the Government press

were on strike at this time, and for two or three months the usual Trade Statistics were not made available to the public. When the customary monthly returns did make their re-appearance, we learned that imports exceeded exports in July by Rs. 7 crores and in August by Rs. 10 crores. There was a slight recovery in September, when the excess of imports amounted to Rs. 8 crores, but since then we have seen imports continuing to exceed exports of private merchandise by Rs. 11 crores in October, Rs. 13 crores in November, and Rs. 12 crores in December. The corresponding figure for January I hear is also Rs. 12 crores. The latest accounts published are those for December, and a comparison of the nine months April to December in each of the last three years shows that whereas in 1918 exports exceeded imports by Rs. 61 crores, and in 1919 by Rs. 97 crores, imports exceeded exports in 1920 by no less than Rs. 52 crores. Gentlemen, I ask you could any "managed" system of exchange stand up to a violent change over of this description—from a credit of Rs. 97 crores in one period to a debit balance of Rs. 52 crores in the next period? In days gone by, the Secretary of State's Council Bills played an important, indeed a dominating, part in stabilizing exchange. Taking again the five pre-war years ended March 31, 1914, we find that the net sales of Council drafts averaged Rs. 41 crores per annum. During the five war years ended March 31, 1919, net sales averaged Rs. 20½ crores only, but during these years there were recoveries by the Secretary of State for expenditure on war account also to be taken into account. With the balance of trade in private merchandise in favour of India during the past eleven years (I take the pre-war and the war quinquennial periods together with the year under review) averaging about Rs. 80 crores per annum, we can understand the Secretary of State's drawings being an important factor in adjusting the balance of trade and in regulating the course of exchange, apart altogether from the imports of gold and silver. As you well know imports of treasure also play a material part, averaging as they do about Rs. 23 crores per annum over the past eleven years. Indeed, for the five pre-war years the net imports of treasure averaged Rs. 36 crores per annum. But I do not wish to detain you by going into details of net gold and silver imports, although of course, as I say, they are very important factors in the balance of trade. My point here is that while the Secretary of State's drawings exercise a more or less controlling influence on the course of exchange when the balance of trade is in India's favour, they but add to our difficulties—other things being equal—when the balance of trade turns against India as it has now done.

Gentlemen, as you well know, the Secretary of State has in the past more than once come to our assistance when the balance of trade was against India. You will remember how he sold Reverse Councils in 1908-09 to the extent of about Rs. 12 crores and in 1914-15, Rs. 13 crores, while he also met us in 1915-16 with about Rs. 7 crores, and in 1918-19, with Rs. 8 crores. The Balfour-Smith Committee Report recommended that the Government of India should be authorised to sell weekly a stated amount of Reverse Councils during periods of exchange weakness whenever they were

asked to do so, and to the full extent of their resources at a price based on the cost of shipping gold from India to the United Kingdom. It was in accordance with this recommendation that Government last year began to sell in India Reverse Councils at a price that had relation to the cost of gold, although subsequently they departed from this basis. Altogether last year Reverse Councils amounting to £55,882,000 sterling were sold at a cost of almost Rs. 47 crores. Round these sales, as you know, much controversy has waged, for although the first sales were at rates very little different from open market rates, we have at times seen a difference of 4d. to 6d. in the rupee between the Government's and the Exchange Banks' selling rates. To a question asked the other day in the Legislative Assembly at Delhi the Hon. Finance Member replied that had the Reverse Councils sold during 1920 been sold at market rates they would have realised about Rs. 34 crores more, but he would not admit that this was all lost, as he naturally maintained that these sales of Reverse Councils had an appreciable effect upon the actual market rates. Gentlemen, I will not weary you with further details of how the Government of India first sold Reverse Councils at rates based on the sterling equivalent of the price of gold and then at the rate of 1s. 11½d. for immediate Telegraphic Transfers, which is the rate that will ultimately hold when sterling once more returns to a par with gold. The latter basis was introduced in June at a time when the Government rate for T. T. was 2s. 4½d. and the market rate 1s. 10d. So it was not to be wondered that Government reduced their T. T. rate to 1s. 11½d. Indeed when we look back it seems a great pity that Government ever decided to sell Reverse Councils above that rate. From June until the end of September, as you will remember, the Government continued weekly sales of a million pounds sterling of Reverse Councils and during these months the market rate showed little change, within about a penny of the Government rate. It looked as if the market had settled down in the vicinity of the Government rate, when without any warning the Government of India in the end of September announced that the sale of Reverse Councils would be suspended. Within ten days the T. T. market rate dropped from 1s. 10d. to 1s. 6d. and it was not surprising that your Committee then asked the Government point blank whether it was their definite intention to jettison the recommendations of the Currency Committee. Eventually we expressed the opinion that confidence could only be restored by a clear and definite statement of the policy that the Government intended to pursue. To this the Government *inter alia* replied that they were not then able to see any position, and they concluded by saying they saw no reason why the operation of certain natural conditions referred to should not allow of the eventual fixation of exchange at the level advocated in the Report of the Currency Committee. Since October we have watched the exchange slip down to the vicinity of 1s. 4d. and on the 8th of this month (February) the Karachi Chamber urged the Government to make a definite statement as to whether action would be taken to support the rupee at 1s. 4d. The Government's curt reply three days later refusing

to give any guarantee that exchange should be maintained at any definite rate immediately brought the market for T. T. down below 1s. 4d. This drew from Government on the 10th a supplementary message to the effect that their reply to the Karachi Chamber had given rise to misapprehension regarding their future policy in exchange; their reply referred solely to the immediate present and was meant to indicate that in the existing highly abnormal conditions of trade any Government intervention would for the present be ineffective.

We cannot be over-critical regarding the Government's policy and lack of policy, concerning exchange from the time that the Report of the Babington Smith Committee was published on February 2, 1920. To be quite frank the Chamber Committee, though with some misgiving, supported the policy of maintaining the rate of exchange first in the vicinity of what may be called gold point and then at what we hope some day will be both sterling and gold point. What we were not prepared for was the Government of India so suddenly throwing up the sponge at the end of September! We felt and still feel that the Government did not and do not take us into their confidence. We had assumed that Government would continue to give effect to the policy of selling Reverse Council drafts "during periods of exchange weakness," to use the words of the Report, so long as the Gold Standard Reserve, which had been accumulated from the profits on the coinage of rupees, was available for the purpose of meeting these Reverse Drafts. Instead of following this policy, the Government withdrew entirely from the field of exchange and left us all more or less in the dark. Had they come forward then and said frankly to us what I believe they think now, and will probably say next week, we certainly would have less cause for complaint. I assume now that it is the intention of the Government not to sell any more Councils, Reverse or otherwise, for the present, but instead to make use of the Gold Standard Reserve to enable the Secretary of State to meet his sterling obligations in London. That is to say, instead of dissipating his sterling resources, selling Reverse Councils in a vain attempt to bolster up exchange during these abnormal times, the Secretary of State purposes sitting out of the market, it may be for a year or even two years and living on the funds at his disposal in England. On the 31st January 1920 there was located in London in the Gold Standard Reserve almost £37 millions, in the Paper Currency Reserve over £57 millions, and in Home Treasury Balances £8½ millions, altogether £102½ millions sterling. On January 31, 1921, the corresponding figures were, £38 millions, £53 millions and £3½ millions, altogether £50 millions only, a falling off of £52½ millions sterling. Having wasted already so much money meeting Reverse Councils—he sold £50 millions sterling between February 5, and September 28, 1920—the Secretary of State is now to sit tight and await the psychological moment when his return to the field will have some material influence on the fortunes of exchange. In other words, his attitude for the moment is one of passive resistance—I almost said non-co-operation! With the balance of the sterling resources still at his disposal, together with what he can recover from the War Office in

England against disbursements on Home Government Account in India or elsewhere, he proposes to "wait and see." As I have already said, we would have had less cause for complaint if the Government of India had taken us into their confidence and told us this months ago. It would have prevented us from guessing,—guessing, not what the effect of following the policy laid down in the Currency Report would likely be, or what effect the laws of supply and demand and the lakshies of trade might have on the future of exchange, but what the Government of India would do next. Now we know what they are to do or rather not to do! They are meantime to leave exchange alone and let it find its own level. But what we must remember is that, it may be a year hence or two years hence, when the balance of trade does turn again in favour of India and when the imports into India are not sufficient to pay for our exports, we must not go to the Secretary of State and ask him to sell Council Bills. Or at any rate we may go but he will not consider himself bound to sell Bills for our convenience, yet all the time you must keep in mind that "the Government of India see no reason why the operation of the natural conditions to which reference has been made above, should not allow of the eventual fixation of exchange at the level advocated in the report of the Currency Committee."

Now, what is likely to be the future of this natural course of events that is to strengthen exchange, when are we to have a "return of favourable export conditions, combined with the reduction of imports which is the natural corollary of the recent overstocking of the Indian market?" We find that imports of private merchandise for the nine months ending December 1920 amounted to Rs. 254 crores, as against Rs. 139 crores and Rs. 123 crores for the corresponding periods of 1919 and 1918 respectively. Practically the whole of this increase is found under the head of manufactured goods, which during the nine months ending December, were imported to the value of Rs. 208 crores, as against Rs. 95 crores and Rs. 91 crores in the preceding periods. It is pretty safe to assume that these abnormally large imports must soon fall off, for we cannot long continue absorbing motor-cars, hardware, machinery and metals at the rate we have been doing during the past few months. On the other hand, our exports continue to show many disappointing features. During the nine months ended December they totalled Rs. 187 crores only, against Rs. 223 crores in 1919, and Rs. 175 crores in 1918. The only satisfactory feature is that exports of manufactures have been fairly well maintained, but raw materials and produce show a drop of over Rs. 30 crores on the 1919 figures and foodstuffs still continue very disappointing, when compared with the exports of a couple of years ago. I think therefore we can safely count on imports in the near future falling off in value as well as in quantity, for there has been a material drop in prices both here and abroad.

During the past month or two there has been a distinct contraction of trade in India, as is evident from the clearing house returns which totalled less than Rs. 200 crores in each of the months of November and December after having averaged over Rs. 300 crores for each of

the preceding six months. Turning, however, to the export side of the account what do we find? The Bengal jute mills, for instance, whose manufactures represent about 20 per cent. of the export trade of India, are working short time, raw jute is also in poor demand, tea is in a bad way, and hides and skins continue a drug in the market. Exports of foodstuffs and of coal are restricted. At the moment therefore prospects of an early recovery in exports are not encouraging. Remarkable to relate, the only commodity that appears to be in strong demand just now for export from India is gold, the exports of which on private account during December were valued at Rs. 33 crores and during January at Rs. 5½ crores. It will be indeed an extraordinary development if India's balance of trade is to be corrected by exports of gold, instead of by imports of the precious metal, as formerly. Taking all the circumstances into account, therefore, gentlemen, I am very much afraid that the future of exchange is still on the knees of the gods. A redeeming feature is, of course, the fact that prices of our staples, Bengal's staple exports, have already fallen so low that any moment even an impoverished buyer may be tempted to begin buying—he certainly cannot expect to get in much, if any, lower.

I have already referred to the prohibition on exports of foodstuffs and of coal except under license. As you are aware it never was the policy of the Government of India to restrict exports of food grains even in times of famine or scarcity, for the reason that the margin between prices in India and those ruling in foreign countries was never very great, and when scarcity occurred in India, prices naturally rose here to an extent sufficiently high to prevent exports. Owing, however, to the extraordinarily high prices of food in foreign countries after the war and to the poor crops in India during 1918, it was found necessary to introduce in this country a system of control in order to conserve food supplies and to prevent prices rising. As a result of this control, exports of Indian grain, pulse and flour which in 1917-18 had amounted to over 4½ million tons, and in 1918-19 to 3½ million tons, declined during 1919-20 to 380,000 tons only. During the year under review a certain amount of foodstuffs has been exported under license, but even so the exports for the nine months ended December were less than a million tons as compared with nearly three million tons for the corresponding period of 1918, and over 3 million tons in 1917. In answer to questions asked in the Legislative Assembly at Delhi this month Government have stated that they consider it necessary to retain for the present restrictions on export of all food-grains, in order to conserve stocks required for internal consumption. I may say that I find amongst many of my Indian friends at Delhi, as well as in Calcutta, a strong current of feeling in favour of the earliest possible removal of all restrictions on exports and you can well understand that as soon as Government can see their way to entirely decontrol rice, wheat and other foodstuffs, this will be an important factor in bringing up the volume of Indian exports towards the old level.

Coming now to coal, I need not take up time explaining to you the circumstances under which the Government of India have found it necessary to place exports of coal under control. We cannot but

sympathise with the feelings of mine owners, managing agents and shareholders, who see before them a land, or rather a sea, overflowing with a good demand at high prices and yet are prevented from taking advantage of their opportunities through no fault of their own. At the same time we must recognise that Indian industries and Indian consumers generally are justified in saying that coal is an essential commodity and ought not to be allowed to leave the country at any price so long as the railway facilities are not sufficient to carry all the coal necessary for India's own internal requirements. Conference after conference has been held on this subject, and during the past week an informal Committee on which producers, consumers, Government and railways were represented, met in Delhi and discussed the coal transportation position from all points of view. This Committee's report will reach you in a day or two, and I am afraid will not give all-round satisfaction. The recommendations contained in it are of the nature of a compromise between the conflicting interests; and if the machinery proposed to be set up for the equitable distribution of wagon supplies does not serve the purpose I feel there will be no option left to Government but to exercise a still greater measure of control in the interests of the industries of this country. We hear from Home that the Government there have decided to decontrol coal as from March 1, but it must be noted there is still one remaining restriction on exports from the United Kingdom, *viz.*, the district coal committees must be satisfied before exporting, that there is no shortage for inland use. I think it not unreasonable that a similar restriction should remain in force here.

I now come to what you will no doubt agree is the most pressing problem that confronts not only us but the whole of India. This Chamber has always taken an active interest in railway facilities and railway development. For years past we have endeavoured to impress upon the Government of India that the demands of the railways were not being met as they should have been. In my opinion matters are now approaching a crisis. So far as railway transportation is concerned, there is little doubt that the railways have been allowed to run down during the past five years. Not only have the extra facilities demanded by the expanding traffic not been provided, but necessary repairs to the road, to engines and to rolling stock have not been carried out; and to-day the railways stand confronted with what appears to be an absolutely herculean task. We know to our cost that existing facilities are insufficient to allow of the transportation of all the coal that should be carried to meet the country's internal requirements, far less any external demands. We have had committee after committee and conference after conference, on this never-ending question. But still the problem remains unsolved, and the industries and trade of the country continue hampered in every direction. Our exchange troubles are increased by the inability of the railways to carry the country's produce to the seaboard.

As you are aware, a Committee has been appointed to consider, and to advise the Government of India on, certain matters connected with the administration of the railways in India. This Committee

visited Calcutta in January, and we are indebted to Mr. Watson Smyth and to those who were immediately associated with him, for a memorandum formulating the views of the Chamber. It will be next month, however, before this Committee finish touring India, and after that they propose visiting Barland in order to hear further evidence. It will, therefore, be months yet before we can expect to receive the committee's report, far less see any action taken on it. I am no pessimist but I feel justified in warning the Government of India that this problem of railway transportation requires immediate attention and I would respectfully suggest that they should call upon Sir William Awerth's Committee for an *interim* report on which action should be taken at once. Everybody knows that the main question is one of funds. Money must be found and spent on the railways, no matter whether we are to have direct State management, or management by Boards sitting in London or in India. We can wait for the Committee's views on this latter part of the reference to them, but with new industries springing up and new coal areas waiting to be developed, it is absolutely necessary that the earliest possible steps should be taken to put the railways in a better position to deal with the traffic of the country.

I now invite members to comment on the report, and to express any views they may have on subjects of interest to the mercantile community.

There being no response, the President proposed the first resolution:—

That the Report be accepted and the accounts passed.

The VICE-PRESIDENT.—Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth, M.L.C., seconded the resolution which, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT then proposed the second resolution:—

That the election by the Committee, under article 14 of the Articles of Association, of the following firms and companies be, and is hereby, confirmed:—

CHAMBER MEMBERS:

Messrs. G. A. Achar & Co.
The Asiatic Petroleum Co. (India)
Ld.
Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co.,
(Calcutta) Ld.
The Bengal Iron Co., Ld.
Messrs. M. David & Co.
" Ellerman's Armanac Rice
& Trading Co., Ld.
" Hollingshurst & Co.,
(India) Ld.

The Imperial Bank of India.
Messrs. Linton, Molesworth &
Co., Ld.
The Scottish Union & National
Insurance Co.
Messrs. A. J. Shellin & Co.
" Sinclair, Murray & Co.
Ld.
" J. Stone & Co., Ld.
" Villiers, Ld.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

Comptoir D'Orient Delacroix et Cie.	Messrs. G. & M. Forg.
Comptoir de L'Industrie du Jute (C.L.J.)	" Osaka Shosen Kaisha, Senda, Barnet & Co., Ltd.

Mr. H. HARRIS seconded, and on being put to the meeting, the resolution was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT next reported the result of the election for the Committee of the Chamber for the year 1921-22, held under Articles 40, 41 and 42 of the Articles of Association, as follows:—

President :

Mr. R. M. WATSON SMITH, M.L.C.

Vice-President :

Mr. C. W. RHODES, C.B.E., M.L.C.

Members :

Mr. C. F. BEADEL.	Mr. W. C. CURRIE.
Lt.-Col. H. A. CAMERON, C.B.E., R.E.	Mr. W. J. K. HEGARTY.
Mr. W. L. CAREY, M.L.C.	Mr. R. LANGFORD JAMES, M.L.C.
THE HON'BLE SIR ALEXANDER MURRAY, C.B.E.	

SIR ARCHY BIRKMYRE, BART, C.B.E.—Gentlemen, the next resolution stands in my name. No words of mine are required to testify to the volume of business which has been done by your President and Committee during the past year. Those who have read the report will fully appreciate the excellent manner in which the business has been conducted. Every year indeed the work of the Chamber is increasing, and with the extra time demanded in attending to the affairs of the State, the duties devolving on the members of the Committee are likely to increase still more. And it is because this is the case that I hope that all the firms who are members of the Chamber, will do their fair share. There have been cases where partners of firms in Calcutta have said:—"We are willing to do so, but our home partners will not allow us." Now, gentlemen, this attitude must no longer be adopted, and I hope that the home senior partners will realise that every one must take his share of the work. We are greatly indebted to the President and Committee for the valuable time they have devoted to the affairs of the Chamber during the past year, and I beg to move:—

That a cordial vote of thanks be accorded to the gentlemen forming the outgoing Committee for their successful management of the affairs of the Chamber during the past year.

Mr. C. W. RHODES, C.B.E., M.L.C., in seconding the resolution, said:—I would just like to emphasise the resolution in one direction. Mr. Harris, after serving on the Committee of the Chamber more years than any other member in this room, is now retiring. During all these years he has given us ungrudging, efficient and fearless

service. We all desire cordially to wish him renewed health, strength and many happy years of retirement in some country where the rupee ceases from troubling, and the weary are at rest.

The PRESIDENT—Gentlemen, on behalf of the Committee I desire to thank Sir Archy and Mr. Rhodes very sincerely for the kind words in which they have expressed their, and your, appreciation of our services during the past year. I was not here when the last annual meeting was held and I had, therefore, no opportunity of thanking you all for the honour you did me in electing me as President of the Chamber. For it is an honour, and one which I appreciate very highly; the more so as my appointment marks a new departure. I mean that hitherto, so far as I am aware, only commerce has been recognised when choosing a president. The election of an industrialist or manufacturer like myself shows that industry is now obtaining an importance in India that it has never before done. In the East as in the West the purely mercantile or commercial age is passing away.

Any success that has attended our work here during the past year has been due to the hearty co-operation of all members of the Committee, every one of whom did his fair share. I am sure the Committee would also like me to recognise the willing assistance rendered to us at all times by those members of the Chamber whom we have not hesitated to ask to serve on Sub-Committees appointed to deal with special subjects.

Further, in accepting with much pleasure this vote of thanks I am sure the Committee are as anxious as I am to allude to our Secretary Mr. Haywood, to our Assistant Secretaries and to the other members of our staff, a full share of the credit that attaches to the successful administration of the Chamber during the past year. With all due respect to the other Chambers—I am sure they would be the first to admit it—we have a staff and establishment second to none in India and it is only those of us who are closely associated with them that can appreciate how much the success of this Chamber is due to them.

Mr. H. HARRIS.—I beg to thank you very heartily, Mr. Rhodes, for your very kind wish, and you, gentlemen, for the cordial manner in which you have received it.

Mr. SIVEWRIGHT CATTO in moving a vote of thanks to the chair, said: Gentlemen,—I feel it a particular privilege to be allowed to propose the vote of thanks to our retiring President. His services have been so distinguished and are so well-known to you all that it needs no words of mine to remind you of his work. But it is fitting that we should express to him to-day our thanks and our appreciation of his services so ably and so unselfishly rendered on behalf of the Bengal business community. He has shown courage and conviction and he has proved himself an able and a great successor to the long line of distinguished men who have held this office before him, many of whose portraits adorn these walls. Only a few days ago I had the pleasure of seeing him sitting in the "Seats of

the Mighty" in the Council of State at Delhi. I know I am conveying the sentiment of you all when I express to him our sincere good wishes for his success in the larger sphere to which he has been called. We know he will transfer to that new field those gifts of head and heart which we, frankly, are sorry to lose. He will be our champion in the Councils at Delhi as he has been here in Calcutta, for we know the interests of the Calcutta business community will always be near his heart! And not only of the business community, but also of the workmen of Bengal for whose betterment and well-being he has always shown so much sympathy and concern. In his efforts in that direction, I know he will always have the united support of this Chamber. There are difficult days ahead, and it is indeed fortunate for this country that, at this critical time, men of such public spirit as Sir Alexander Murray, are taking a leading part in public life. He has the respect and confidence alike of Europeans and Indians, and his example of unselfish devotion to the interests of the country should do much to bring together divergent views. With men like him showing the way with firmness but with sympathetic understanding, and with the will to help, and not just to criticize, perhaps the silver lining to the clouds is not so far off as some of us may think. I have great pleasure in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Alexander Murray for his services to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

MR. A. COCHRAN, C.B.E., M.L.C., seconded, and the motion was carried by acclamation.

THE PRESIDENT.—I must thank Mr. Sivewright Catto and Mr. Cochran for proposing and seconding this vote of thanks, and particularly the mover for speaking in such all too flattering terms of myself. At the same time I must say that I have always tried to do my best for the Chamber, and will continue to do so in the future. It is indeed with great reluctance, and solely owing to the many other public calls on my time, that I retire from the Presidency, but with Mr. Watson Smyth at the head of affairs I think you can safely count upon the work of the Chamber being administered as well as, if not better than, ever.

The proceedings then terminated.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

A. R. MURRAY,
President.

REPORT: BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1920

The Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have now the honour to submit, to the members of the Chamber, their report for the year 1920.

The following gentlemen were elected to the Committee at the annual general meeting, which was held on Friday the 27th February 1920:—President: Mr. (now Sir) Alexander R. Murray, C.B.E., Messrs. Thomas Duff & Co., Ltd.; Vice-President: Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth (Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.); Mr. A. M. Clark (Acting Agent, Bengal-Nagpur Railway); Mr. S. G. L. Eustace (Messrs. Kilburn & Co.); Mr. H. Harris (Agent, Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China); Mr. W. McA. Houstoun (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.); Mr. R. Langford James (Messrs. Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.); Mr. A. D. Pickford (Messrs. Begg, Dunlop & Co.), and Mr. B. A. White (Messrs. Bird & Co.)

Mr. Houstoun resigned in May, on leaving for England, and, at the request of the Committee, Mr. James Campbell, of Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., succeeded him. At about the same time Mr. Clark resigned, and his place was taken by Mr. A. C. Carr, who acted as Agent of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, and who in turn gave place to Sir George Goltrey, Agent of the Railway, in November. There have been no other changes in the Committee during the year.

On the 24th April 1920 the members of the Chamber elected the President, Mr. A. R. Murray, C.B.E., The Legislative Councils. (Messrs. Thomas Duff & Co., Ltd.), an additional member of the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Governor-General, in succession to Mr. (now Sir) W. E. Crum, O.B.E., (Messrs. Graham & Co.), who had resigned on leaving for Europe.

Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth, who was elected in November 1919, continued to serve as a member of the Bengal Legislative Council; and on the 24th March 1920 Mr. A. D. Pickford (Messrs. Begg, Dunlop & Co.) was elected, in succession to Mr. W. O. Grazebrook (Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.), who had resigned on leaving India.

The elections to the new legislatures are referred to in a later paragraph of this report.

The representatives of the Chamber on the Calcutta Port Commission are:—Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth, M.L.C., Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd., Mr. F. C. Danger, C.B.E., (Messrs.

Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.), Mr. J. H. Pattinson, M.L.C., (Messrs. H. V. Low & Co., Ltd.), Mr. R. O. Law (Messrs. Birkmyre Brothers), Mr. Jas. Campbell, M.L.C., (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.), Mr. Jas. E. Roy, M.L.C., (Messrs. Macneil & Co.).

Mr. Danger succeeded Sir Erskine Crum, C.B.E., (Messrs. Graham & Co.) in February; Mr. R. O. Law succeeded Mr. C. F. Beadel (Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ltd.) in March; Mr. Campbell succeeded Mr. W. McA. Houston (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.) in May; and Mr. Jas. E. Roy, M.L.C., succeeded Mr. W. F. Reynolds (Messrs. Macneil & Co.) in January 1921.

The representatives of the Chamber on the Corporation of Calcutta are: Mr. P. R. Prata, Mr. W. R. Rao, M.L.C., (The Corporation of Calcutta. (Sun Insurance Office). Mr. Norman R. Luke (Messrs. James Luke & Sons), and Mr. W. S. J. Willson (Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.). The three first-named gentlemen have served throughout the year, and Mr. Willson was elected, by the members of the Chamber, in succession to Mr. Geo. Morgan, M.L.C., (Messrs. Morgan, Walker & Co.), on the 27th September 1920.

Mr. S. G. L. Eastace (Messrs. Killam & Co.) has represented The Calcutta Improvement Trust. The Chamber, throughout the year, on the Calcutta Improvement Trust.

Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth, M.L.C. (Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.) has continued to represent the Chamber on the Board of Trustees of the Indian Museum, and on the Council of the Imperial Library.

Mr. A. W. Dods (Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd.) and Mr. J. R. Murray, (the Clive Mills Co., Ltd.) have represented the Chamber, throughout the year, on the Bengal Smoke Nuisances Commission. The Bengal Smoke Nuisances Commission.

The representatives of the Chamber on the Boiler Commission are Mr. H. H. Reynolds (Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co.), Mr. C. L. Thomson (Standard Jute Co., Ltd.), and Mr. H. E. Skinner (Messrs. Jessop & Co., Ltd.).

Mr. A. d'A. Willis (Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.) and Mr. W. A. Lee represent the Chamber on the Government Commercial Institute Board.

The representatives of the Chamber on the Indian Tea Cess Committee are:—Mr. W. J. K. Hegarty (National Bank of India, Ltd.); the Hon. Samuel J. Best (Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co.), and Mr. W. J. Lloyd (Messrs. Barry & Co.). Mr. Hegarty succeeded Mr. W. Clark (Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China) in March.

The Hon. Sir Alexander Murray, C.B.E., the President, has represented the Chamber on the European Association throughout the year.

Mr. R. Langford James, M.L.C., (Messrs. Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.) is the representative of the Chamber on the Visiting Committee of the Campbell Hospital.

In February Mr. R. Langford James, M.L.C., (Messrs. Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.) succeeded Sir Frank Carter, C.I.E., C.B.E., as the representative of the Chamber on the Committee of the Calcutta Hospital Nurses Institution.

In March the Committee nominated Mr. H. F. Elliott (Messrs. Ivan Jones, Ltd.) to succeed Mr. C. F. Beadel (Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ltd.) as the representative of the Chamber on the managing Committee of the Government Workhouse.

The Hon. Sir Alexander Murray, C.B.E., was appointed, in succession to Sir Erskine Crum, to represent the Chamber on the Executive Committee of the District Charitable Society.

The report of the Royal Exchange, for the year, is attached. The Committee of the Exchange have managed its affairs successfully during the year, and there is nothing in the report calling for special comment.

The thirty-seventh annual report of the Licensed Measurers Department of the Chamber is also appended. It deals with the year ended 30th June 1920, and it shows the following results:—

- (a) That the total number of packages measured during the year by the officers of the Department was 8,711,268 against 7,599,529 in the preceding year;
- (b) That the total number of packages weighed during the year was 8,233,346 against 7,595,106 in the preceding year;
- (c) That the net income of the Department was Rs. 8,95,797-9-4 against Rs. 8,15,792-10-3 in the preceding year;
- (d) That the expenditure was Rs. 8,24,513-14-10 against Rs. 6,93,039-12-3 in the preceding year; and
- (e) That the revenue account showed a surplus of Rs. 71,283-10-6 compared with Rs. 1,22,752-14-0 for 1918-19. By interest on investments this sum was increased to Rs. 91,367-8-7 against which there were debits on profit and loss account aggregating Rs. 22,939-6-10. The result was a net surplus of Rs. 68,428-1-9 against a net surplus of Rs. 1,34,296-10-7 for the preceding year.

The number of piece-goods references disposed of by the Tribunal of Arbitration.

Chamber during the year was 329, as compared with 219 during the preceding twelve months. Of the number disposed of, 315 were arbitrations under the rules of the Chamber's Tribunal of Arbitration, and 14 were applications for survey reports. The revenue derived by the Chamber from institution fees, and from references from non-members, was Rs. 11,380-12, as compared with Rs. 10,975 in 1919.

The number of general arbitrations and surveys dealt with during the year was 758, as compared with 889, in 1919. Of these, 733 were arbitrations under the Tribunal rules, and 25 were applications for survey reports. The revenue derived by the Chamber from institution fees, and from references from non-members, amounted to Rs. 93,554-2, as compared with Rs. 1,14,683-14-0 in the preceding year. In addition to the cases mentioned, 137 others were amicably settled and withdrawn before awards were made. There were 267 such withdrawals in 1919.

It was stated in the last report that the Committee had before them the proposals made by a specially appointed Sub-Committee for the revision of the Tonnage Schedule. The lines upon which the revision had proceeded were: (a) the elimination of such articles as might be omitted; (b) the addition of articles not hitherto provided for but the inclusion of which was considered desirable; and (c) such further alterations as had been suggested by experience. The proposals were examined by the Committee early in the year, but their submission to the Chamber was deferred, pending the revision of the Chamber's rulings. After this had been completed the Committee placed the proposals before a special general meeting of the Chamber on the 21st December 1920. The revised schedule was adopted by the meeting and, in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association, it will be submitted for confirmation at a second special general meeting in due course.

The question of revising the rulings of the Chamber was also referred to in the last annual report. In March the Committee put before members certain proposals which were the result of an examination of the rulings by two specially appointed Sub-committees. For years past many of the rulings had been obsolete, referring as they did to conditions which have long since passed away. Indeed some of them could not be accurately described as rulings at all, being merely expressions of opinion by the Committee on particular cases submitted to them. Others again dealt with points that are now covered by the terms of charter parties, or bills of lading, or such like documents. It followed that the list could with advantage be considerably reduced. And, in order to show how this reduction might be effected, the rulings that the Committee proposed to retain, and those that they proposed to cancel, were set forth in a circular to members.

The proposals were accepted by the members and, on the 19th June 1920, the Committee published a formal declaration of the rulings in force on and from that date. These numbered fourteen, and they are the only Chamber rulings that now exist.

The proposed memorial to the late Sir William Irouside, President of the Chamber in 1918-19, was mentioned in the last report. It took the form primarily of a painting in oils by Mr. Launce Calkin.

This portrait, which was received recently, will be unveiled by the President at the annual general meeting of the Chamber to be held on the 25th February 1921. In addition it has been arranged for the balance of the amount available to be devoted to the provision of a marble altar in St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, of which church Sir William Irouside was an office-bearer.

The first general meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce Trust was held on the 21st December 1920, when the report of the Committee of Management for the year was adopted. The President in submitting the report to the meeting said:—

This is the first annual meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce Trust, and it has been called in order to receive the Report of the Committee of Management for the past year. As you are aware, the founder of this Trust is that well known Calcutta citizen, Mr. Shirley Temeswar, who has made over, to the Chamber, securities to the value of a lakh of rupees. These securities are held by trustees, who are empowered to apply the income in payment of such pensions or allowances as may be sanctioned by the Committee of Management for the purpose of affording relief to any person, being a European British subject, who shall be, or shall have been, a member of the Bengal Chamber, or in the service of it, or of any of its members, or to the widow, children or dependents of any person deceased, who shall have been a member of the Chamber, or in the service of it, or of any of its members, and, unfortunately, the Committee of Management have not yet had any call made upon them for relief. In terms of the trust deed they have invested the income, and we are not here this afternoon to condemn their acts.

As European British subjects, and as members of the Bengal Chamber, you are members of the trust, and as such have to meet at least once in every year.

The Committee of Management, whose duty it is to look after the income and to deal with all applications for relief, are the Finance Sub-Committee of the Chamber, and they have elected Mr. Haywood, the Secretary of the Chamber, to be the Secretary of the Trust. As Chairman of the Committee of Management, I now beg to report that the Trust Fund has consisted of Debentures in "Capital" L.L., Nos. 101 to 200, for Rs. 1,000 each, making a total value of a lakh of rupees, bearing interest at seven and one-half per cent. per annum. On 25th August 1920, the Trust Fund was credited with Rs. 3,572-15-0, being the half yearly interest to 30th June 1920, less charges. This amount has been placed on fixed deposit with the Alliance Bank of India, Ltd. for twelve months at five per cent.

At the beginning of 1921, when a further half-year's income became available, a twelve months' Treasury Bill for Rs. 5,000 was purchased and lodged with the Alliance Bank of India, Ltd. for safe custody.

In 1919, at the suggestion of the Chamber, a Joint Committee of representatives of the various local Associations was formed to consider the question of promoting a permanent memorial to those Calcutta men who fell in the war. The Chamber, the Trades

Association, the European Association, and the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association nominated members to serve on this Joint Committee who reported in October 1919. They recommended that the memorial should be limited to :—

- (i) A simple monument, or cenotaph, on which would be inscribed the names of all those Calcutta men who lost their lives on service during the war to be erected on a site at the north end of the Red Road ; and possibly also,
- (ii) Bronze tablets to be placed in appropriate Calcutta churches.

The Associations concerned accepted these recommendations and the President of the Chamber, the Master of the Trades Association, the President of the European Association, and the President of the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association issued in July last an appeal for funds. A sum of Rs. 1,09,380 was raised, and the Joint Committee are now engaged in obtaining and considering suitable designs for the monument.

It is greatly to be regretted that there should have been so much delay in the prosecution of the scheme, but the delay has been altogether unavoidable in the circumstances.

The occurrence, in the Midnapur district, of heavy floods due to the exceptional rainfall necessitated the organisation of a Relief Fund to supplement the efforts of the Government of Bengal. His Excellency the Governor took the lead in the matter and, on the 27th August 1920, issued the following appeal :—

It is now possible to estimate approximately the extent of the damage done by the recent floods in the district of Midnapur. The whole area has been visited by the Hon'ble Sir Charles Stevenson-Moore and an account of the situation is published below. As Trustee of the Central Cyclone Relief Fund I am prepared to devote the amount standing to the credit of that fund to the relief of distress which is beyond the scope of Government action. The sum of Rs. 10,000 has already been made available for the purpose, having a balance of Rs. 40,000. It is estimated that the cost of reconstructing the houses of those who have been rendered homeless—the main object for which charitable relief is required—will be a sum of at least Rs. 1,50,000 to be added to the sum already at my disposal. To assist me in the collection and administration of this fund I propose to invite certain members of the public, whose names will shortly be made known, to form an executive committee under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Sir Charles Stevenson-Moore. Subscriptions may be sent to the Midnapur Relief Fund, Bank of Bengal, Calcutta.

The Committee of the Chamber invited members to help, and it is satisfactory to note that a sum of Rs. 52,501 was thus subscribed. The total amount raised was Rs. 1,78,456.

The Committee have also endeavoured to help as much as possible the working of an Employment Bureau which has been organised by the Calcutta Ex-officers' Association. The Bureau undertakes a careful investigation as to the past experience, qualifications, character, etc., of any ex-officer who applies to it for employment. And the particulars so obtained are tabulated and classified for the convenience of prospective employers. With the object of bringing the Bureau into touch with employers, the Committee agreed to open

a register containing the particulars. This register is maintained at the Chamber, and is open to the inspection of members. It gives sufficient information to enable an employer to form a preliminary opinion as to the suitability of a candidate for any particular vacancy ; and thereafter, if the employer decides to go further with the matter, he applies to the Bureau. The address of the Association is 6, Mangoe Lane, Calcutta.

At the Ninth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire which was held at Toronto in September the Bengal Chamber was represented, jointly with the Upper India Chamber, by Sir Alexander McRobert.

At a congress which was held at Atlantic City in the United States last year it was decided to establish an International Chamber of Commerce.

Representatives of the commerce of Great Britain, France, Belgium, Italy, and the United States, were present at the congress, and they arranged to form an Organising Committee. As a result a further meeting was held at Paris, in June of the current year, when about a hundred and fifty representatives attended from America, an equal number from France, between fifty and sixty from Great Britain, about forty from Belgium, and the same number from Italy. A constitution was agreed to for the formation of the International Chamber, and it was decided to meet in London in 1921. The constitution provides for a vice-president and three directors from each of the original allied countries mentioned ; and it also provides for the admission of new countries to be approved by the Board of Directors, each new country, with the exception of very small ones, to be entitled to two directors on the Board. India, and the other British dominions, Canada, Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand, are each considered to be separate countries entitled to two directors.

For each country there is an entrance fee which, in the case of India and the British Dominions, has been fixed at £1,000 each. The five allied nations who are founding the International Chamber have agreed to find substantial entrance fees, the United Kingdom finding £2,500. There is also an annual subscription, and it has been further suggested that India and the Dominions should each subscribe not less than £500 yearly to the British National Committee for the purpose of securing joint representation in Paris, and of keeping them informed of all matters that arise.

The purpose of the International Chamber is defined in its constitution as being to facilitate the commercial intercourse of nations, to secure harmony of action on all international questions affecting commerce and industry, to encourage progress, and to promote peace and cordial relations among countries and their citizens. It was suggested that India should participate in the

scheme, and the suggestion was discussed at the recent annual meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India and Ceylon when it was remitted to a Committee for consideration.

THE INDIAN CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS.

In concluding their reference, in the last annual report, to the Indian constitutional reforms the Committee mentioned that the Government of India Bill had been passed into law at the end of that year, 1919. In the January following the Secretary of State constituted a Committee to advise on the financial relations between the Government of India and the local Governments under the Reforms Scheme. The Rt. Hon Lord Meston, K.C.S.I., was appointed Chairman of this Committee, whose duty it was to advise on:—(a) the contribution to be paid by the various provinces to the central Government for the financial year 1921-22; (b) the modifications to be made in the provincial contributions thereafter with a view to their equitable distribution until there ceases to be an all-India deficit; and (c) the future financing of the provincial loan accounts.

These are not of course matters with which the Chamber is closely in touch, but in response to an enquiry from the Government of Bengal the Committee expressed an opinion on one important point. Under the financial scheme which has existed hitherto the principal sources of revenue were classified into imperial, provincial, and divided. The new scheme provided for the abolition of the divided heads which, so far as regards Bengal, were land revenue, income-tax, excise and stamps. The land revenue was to be exclusively provincial, and the income-tax exclusively imperial; but the revenue from general stamps was to be imperial, and that from judicial stamps provincial. Excise and irrigation were also to be provincial. The Committee of the Chamber doubted if, when the provincial revenue was re-adjusted on this basis, the gross provincial surplus which was anticipated would be realised; and they feared deficits in the annual budgets. With the object of increasing the revenue they recommended that the whole of the stamp revenue, from both general and judicial stamps, should be made provincial.

The Financial Relations Committee reported on the 31st March 1920, and among their recommendations was one to the effect that the whole of the stamp revenue, both judicial and general, should be made provincial. As regards the other recommendations of the Committee, it will suffice to note here that one of them was that the initial contribution from Bengal to the Government of India deficit—i.e., the estimated deficit of Rs. 983 lakhs for the year 1921-22—should be Rs. 63 lakhs. Another was that the standard contribution of the province to future deficits should be 19% of each of such deficits.

It is not the intention of the Committee to make any general remarks here on the subject of the Reforms Scheme, or to discuss it under any of its various aspects. They confine themselves to a record of such steps as they have taken in regard to it. These have naturally had reference chiefly to the representation of

European commercial and industrial interests in the new legislatures. It is needless to detail the correspondence and discussions which preceded the final adjustment of the representation of these interests. But, as it now stands, this representation is as follows:—

The Council of State—

To be elected by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce constituency ... 1 member.

The Bengal Legislative Council—

To be elected by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce constituency ... 6 members.

To be elected by the Indian Jute Mills Association constituency ... 2 "

To be elected by the Indian Tea Association constituency ... 1 member.

To be elected by the Indian Mining Association constituency ... 1 "

The Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council—

To be elected by the Indian Mining Association constituency ... 1 member.

A special general meeting of the Chamber was held on the 12th October 1920, when the President explained in detail the representation of commerce and industry in the Councils, and emphasised the importance of well-qualified candidates offering themselves. There was a full discussion of the subject by the members present and, as a result the following were returned unopposed at the initial election, which was held on the 16th November:—

(a) The Council of State—Bengal Chamber of Commerce constituency—

The Hon. Sir Alexander Murray, C.B.E. (Messrs. Thomas Duff & Co., Ltd.), President of the Chamber.

(b) The Bengal Legislative Council—Bengal Chamber of Commerce constituency—

Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth (Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.), Vice-President of the Chamber.

Mr. A. Cochran, C.B.E., (Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd.), Chairman of the Indian Engineering Association.

Mr. C. W. Rhodes, C.B.E., (Messrs. Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.)

Mr. J. Campbell (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.)

Mr. James E. Roy (Rivers Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.)

Mr. George Morgan (Messrs. Morgan, Walker & Co.)

Indian Jute Mills Association constituency—

Mr. B. A. White (Messrs. Bird & Co.)

Mr. R. Langford James (Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd.)

Indian Tea Association constituency—

Mr. A. D. Gordon (Messrs. Williamson, Magor & Co.) Chairman of the Indian Tea Association.

Indian Mining Association constituency—

Mr. W. L. Carey (Messrs. F. W. Heilgers & Co.). In addition to the foregoing, Mr. J. H. Pattinson (Messrs. H. V. Low & Co., Ltd.), was elected a member of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council by the Indian Mining Association constituency.

By reason of illness Mr. R. A. White was unable to take his seat on the Bengal Council, and the members of the Indian Jute Mills Association elected Mr. D. P. McKenzie (Messrs. Duncan Brothers & Co.), their Chairman, to succeed him.

When submitting their views to the Reforms Committee, on the question of the franchise and electorates at the end of 1918, the then Committee of the Chamber expressed the opinion that in the Indian Legislative Assembly there ought to be eight European non-officials. For this arrangement would, they said, enable the leading Chambers of Commerce to be represented, and it would also ensure that the general European community would not be so completely overlooked as it had been up to that time. The number of European members—apart of course from officials—in the Indian Legislative Assembly, as it is actually constituted, is nine. Of these, three represent Bengal, and they are elected by what is termed the Bengal European constituency—the qualification of a voter being payment of income tax on Rs. 12,000 yearly. The Chamber has no member in the Assembly, and this absence of representation is regarded by the Committee as unfortunate, seeing that much important commercial and industrial legislation will be almost certainly undertaken by the Assembly. There is not of course any immediate prospect of a revision of the constitution of the Assembly, and no action is therefore open to the Chamber. But, at the special general meeting which was held on the 12th October 1920, members suggested that the Committee should approach any leading merchants who might be disposed to stand as representatives of the general European constituency. As a result of this suggestion Sir Frank Carter, C.I.E., C.B.E., Mr. A. D. Pickford, and Mr. R. J. Ballantyne were returned unopposed to the Assembly. It is with deep regret that the Committee have to record the death of Mr. Ballantyne before taking his seat. He was succeeded by Mr. Darcy Lindsay, C.B.E.

Some discussion took place between the Government of Bengal and the Chamber, during the year, regarding a scheme for the representation, in the Bengal Legislative Council, of the urban wage-earning class. As the scheme was ultimately abandoned it need not be detailed here. But it had for its main object the creation of two mixed constituencies, the electors of which were to be male industrial workers earning not less than Rs. 25, and not more than Rs. 35, monthly; of not less than twenty-one years of age; resident in the constituency, and employed by companies on the list of members of associations recognised by the Chamber. The Committee doubted if the scheme could be worked successfully, and they pointed out to the Government what appeared to them to

be serious defects in it. Eventually it was decided by the local Government that the European wage earning class should be represented by nominated members of Council, and two nominations were made in due course by H. E. the Governor.

THE AUXILIARY FORCE, INDIA.

The attitude of this Chamber in the matter of the Indian Defence Force was defined at length in the last annual report, in which the Committee also included a series of resolutions that had been adopted at the Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers held in January 1920. Subsequently it was decided by Government that the principle of compulsion should be abandoned, and that enlistment in the force should be voluntary. The necessary legislation was undertaken, and an Act entitled the Auxiliary Force Act was passed at the September session of the Imperial Legislative Council. This measure provides for the organisation of an auxiliary force on the basis of voluntary enrolment. But, on enrolment, training is compulsory, and offences, branches of discipline, etc., are punishable by the criminal courts. The Act also provides for the appointment of Advisory Committees whose recommendations must be given effect to by the military authorities unless the local Government otherwise directs. The Government of Bengal have created an Advisory Committee for the Calcutta area including the Presidency and Burdwan divisions, but excluding the Asansol sub-division, for which a separate tribunal has been constituted by the Government of Bihar and Orissa. To secure due representation of the various interests affected, the Calcutta Committee consists of seven members, namely, a Government servant, a military representative, two representatives of the Chamber, one representative of the Calcutta Trades Association, one representative of the Calcutta branch of the European Association, and one of the Calcutta branch of the Anglo-Indian and Domesticated European Association.

Mr. C. F. Read of Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta) Ltd. and Mr. J. A. Passie of Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd. were elected by the members of the Chamber to be the representatives of the Chamber on the Committee.

LAW AND LEGISLATION.

The Indian Carriers Act, 1885.—The attempt which has been made by this Chamber to have the Carriers Act modified in certain respects has been mentioned in several recent annual reports. It was originally submitted through the Government of Bengal early in 1916, and it may be summarised as follows: In the schedule to the Act certain "excepted" articles—gold, silver, precious stones, etc.—are enumerated. And section 3 is to the effect that no common carrier shall be liable for the loss of, or for damage to, any of the articles so enumerated, and not exceeding Rs. 100 in value, unless

the description and value of the property shall have been expressly declared by the person delivering it to the carrier, or his agent. Section 4 goes on to provide that every carrier shall receive payment, for the risk undertaken in carrying excepted articles exceeding in value Rs. 100, at such rate as he may fix. Read by itself section 3 no doubt affords complete protection to the carrier for the loss of, or damage to, excepted articles when not declared. But the provisions of section 8, as construed by the Indian courts, have rendered section 3 wholly nugatory for all practical purposes. Section 8 provides that every carrier shall be liable for loss, or damage, arising from the negligence of his servants. And the Calcutta High Court has held that, in respect of scheduled articles, the liability of the carrier is in no way restricted by the fact that the description and value are not declared. The wording of the Act leaves the question in doubt; and the Committee accordingly suggested, in 1916, that section 8 should be modified.

The proposal was allowed by the Government of India to remain in abeyance during the war. But in June last the Commerce Department of the Government of Bengal informed the Chamber that it had been referred to the other local Governments for their views.

The Indian Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.—Certain proposed amendments of the Indian Negotiable Instruments Act are under the consideration of the Government of India. Chapter V of the Act contains rules for the presentment of promissory notes, bills of exchange, and cheques. There is not, however, any provision in the Act on the lines of section 46 (1) of the English Bills of Exchange Act 1882, which section excuses delay, in making presentment for payment, when such delay is caused by circumstances beyond the control of the holder. The Government of India suggested, in the early part of the year, that a section to this effect should be inserted in the Indian Act.

This proposal was supported by the Committee, who think that the amendment is urgently needed. Their opinion is based on practical experience, which has shown that the omission of such a provision is an anomaly. A review of the numerous instances in which the section of the English Act has been held to be applicable establishes conclusively the need for the provision, which is really a greater necessity in India than in the United Kingdom.

The Committee also suggested an additional amendment. The limit of time imposed by the Act, for obtaining acceptance, undoubtedly causes considerable inconvenience. The Banks frequently have to complain that, in dealing with small Indian traders, they find it difficult to obtain acceptance of bills within forty-eight hours. Under the English Bills of Exchange Act—section 42—the time allowed is customary time, and the effect of such a provision in regard to trade bills seems to be this: If a bill, left for acceptance within business hours one day, is not accepted before the close of business hours on the next day it must be noted for non-acceptance, or otherwise treated as dishonoured. The Indian law

makes no distinction between trade bills and other bills, but fixes a definite period of twenty-four hours in all cases. Presumably the legislature, in framing the Act, was guided largely by the custom and practice of English trading communities, among whom of course the twenty-four hours' rule has been long established. But the conditions in India are so obviously dissimilar that it would appear to be impracticable to enforce a rule, which is not based on any prevalent custom, and which has proved in working to be unsuitable to the country. The Committee recommended that the limit of twenty-four hours should be extended to forty-eight hours; and the Government of India have recently circulated the recommendation to the local Governments and Administrations for their views.

At the same time the Government asked for an opinion on a proposal which had been put forward by the United Provinces Chamber of Commerce. It seems that difficulties are often experienced by the holders of bills the drawers of which are non-businessmen residing in small villages. The United Provinces Chamber said that in such cases the bill sometimes gets lost, when presentment is made through the post, or the drawee denies having received it. To overcome this difficulty it was suggested that a demand, accompanied or followed by a copy of the bill on or before the due date, should be considered equivalent to the presentment of the actual bill.

This suggestion did not seem to the Committee to be sound. The acceptor of a bill has a recognised right to receive his bill duly receipted in exchange for payment. And to enforce payment against the presentment of a copy of the bill might easily lead to oppression by an unscrupulous holder, and to fraud against an ignorant acceptor.

The Indian Stamp Act, 1899: Insurance policies.—At the instance of the Calcutta Fire Insurance Agents Association, and the Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents Association, the Chamber approached the Government of India on the subject of the stamping of insurance policies. Certain classes of instruments, *e.g.* brokers' notes, debenture transfers, etc., may be stamped with adhesive stamps. But policies of insurance are required to be stamped with labels "affixed and impressed by the proper officer." The insurance associations pointed out that, for years past, this provision of the law has been a source of trouble and inconvenience to insurance companies. It necessitates the submission, to the stamp office, of blank policy forms, and renewal receipts, for the labels to be affixed and impressed upon them. And it is a hindrance to the daily course of business, as between assured and insurer, inasmuch as it frequently delays the issue of policies to the latter. For it takes time to have the papers stamped at the stamp office, where the hours of business are limited. The obvious remedy is to extend the privilege of using adhesive stamps to policies of insurance and renewal receipts. The adhesive stamps would be of course affixed

by the issuer of the document, and their use would obviate the difficulties complained of.

This proposal was unanimously supported by all the Fire and Marine Insurance Agents Associations in India and Burma. And that fact alone seemed to the Chamber to show conclusively that the inconvenience of the present method of stamping is widely felt. There are, admittedly difficulties and dangers connected with the use of adhesive stamps, but these need not be apprehended in respect of policies of insurance. The Associated Chambers of Commerce of India and Ceylon also supported the proposal, which was taken into consideration by the Government of India, and by them referred to the local Governments and administrations for report. To the time of writing the result of the reference has not been communicated to the Chambers.

The Indian Petroleum Act, 1899: The Carbide of Calcium rules.—The Committee mentioned, in the last report, certain additions which the Chief Inspector of Explosives had suggested should be made to the rules regulating the importation, possession, and transport, of carbide of calcium. These conditions were incorporated in the Bengal rules during the year; and they were as follows:—

(a) *The insertion of the following after rule 3 in part I of the rules:—*

3A. The carbide of vessels containing carbide of calcium, which are not packed as required by rule 3, or which are broken or defective, will be liable to be drowned in deep water in the harbour at the expense of the consignee under instructions from the Collector of Customs.

(b) *The insertion of the following after rule 7 in Part II:—*

7A. If any carbide of calcium becomes wetted while being stored it shall be destroyed by immersion in deep water under instructions from the licensing authority. If however deep water is not available the position, all precautions being taken to prevent lights being brought near until the material has given off all its gas.

Note.—The fact of carbide of calcium having become wet will be indicated by the outward appearance of the drum, and probably by a disagreeable odour showing a leakage of gas.

(c) *The substitution of the following for rule 5 of Part III:—*

5. If any carbide of calcium becomes wetted while in the possession of a railway for transport it shall be disposed of as laid down in rule 7A of Part II of these rules.

The Indian Tea Cess Act, 1903.—On the 29th September the Board of Industries and Munitions (Government of India) published a resolution with reference to the Indian tea cess. This impost, which was levied by Act IX of 1903, is a customs duty of 1 pie per pound on all tea exported from India. The object of levying this duty was to create a fund for promoting the sale, and increasing the consumption, of tea in India, and in other countries. In accordance with the provisions of the Act the administration of the fund so created was entrusted to a Committee, appointed by the Government of India, and representative of all the tea-producing interests in the country. This Committee has been working uninterruptedly since 1903, and it has now suggested to the Government that the maximum rate at which the cess is levied should be increased from 1 pie to one pie per pound. The extension and

enlargement of the propaganda work carried on by the Committee are urgently necessary; and such extension and enlargement cannot be undertaken unless additional funds are provided. The tea industry has assented to the proposal, but the Government of India, before recommending it to the Rt. Hon'ble the Secretary of State, published it for criticism.

This Chamber supported the proposal, and it is understood that the Bombay Chamber took similar action.

The Indian Limitation Act, 1908.—Sections 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 to 18 of the Indian Limitation Act provide that the period of limitation ordinarily prescribed shall be extended in the following cases:—(a) where the limitation expires on a holiday; (b) where the person entitled to institute a suit is a minor; (c) where the defendant is absent from British India; (d) where an action has been *bona fide* carried on in a court having no jurisdiction to entertain it; and (e) where there has been fraud. The Calcutta and Madras High Courts held, in certain reported cases, that the benefit of this extension was not available in respect of suits for the institution of which a special period of limitation is prescribed by another enactment. But the Allahabad High Court took the contrary view in respect of the Provincial Insolvency Act 1907. The Government of India then suggested that the law should be so amended as to leave no room for these conflicting rulings. And they accordingly proposed so to amend section 29 (1) (b) of the Act as to make the provisions of the sections quoted above applicable to all suits, irrespective of whether the period of limitation for the institution of any particular class of case is prescribed by a special enactment or not.

The Government of Bengal invited the Chamber to express an opinion on this suggestion; and the Committee, after consultation with their legal advisers, approved of it.

The Indian Electricity Rules, 1911.—In May the Government of India, (Board of Industries and Munitions,) circulated among the local Governments and administrations a reprint of the Indian Electricity Rules of 1911. Certain additions and modifications were proposed, and upon the rules, as thus revised, local opinion was invited. The Electricity Sub-Committee of the Chamber examined the draft, and put forward a number of recommendations and criticisms. These recommendations and criticisms—which are too numerous to be reproduced here—were submitted to the Government of India by the Chamber in August last.

The Indian Companies Act, 1913—Section 91B.—By Act XI of 1914 the following section was inserted in the Indian Companies Act, 1913, namely:—

91B. (1) That no director shall as a director vote on any contract or arrangement in which he is either directly or indirectly concerned or interested; and if he does so vote his vote shall not be counted; provided that the directors or any of them may vote on any contract of indemnity against any loss which they or any one or more of them may suffer by reason of becoming or being sureties or surety for the company.

(2) Every director who contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand rupees.

In 1919 it was suggested to the Government of India that this section should either be repealed altogether, or that it should be so amended as to provide for its relaxation either in accordance with the company's articles, or by resolution of a general meeting of the company. Or, if the Government of India were not prepared to accede to either of these proposals, that they should so amend the section as to make it inapplicable to private companies. These suggestions were circulated by the Government of India to the local Governments, and the Government of Bengal consulted the Chamber in regard to them. The Government of India took the view that an amendment of the section was desirable. It was, they said, originally introduced with the object of protecting the interests of shareholders; and they did not think that a case had been made out for abandoning the principle that the section was intended to affirm. They recognised, however, that the difficulty was arising out of its application in practice to private companies was genuine; and they proposed to surmount this difficulty by inserting in the Act a provision to the effect that it did not apply to private companies.

The Committee were advised that the application of the section had proved, in actual working, to be impracticable. They suggested therefore that enquiries should be undertaken, by the Government of India, as to its operation with a view to its subsequent amendment, should such be found to be advisable as a result of the enquiries. In the meantime private companies ought, they considered, to be certainly excluded from the scope of the section. For in such companies all the members are probably cognisant of most of the essential facts that require to be known; and they can at any rate make themselves acquainted with all important matters affecting their interests.

During the September session of the Imperial Legislative Council an Act—XLII of 1920—was passed, so amending section 91B as to make it inapplicable to private companies.

The Indian Companies Act 1913: Proposed duty on the nominal capital of companies.—The Committee expressed approval of a proposal, which was put forward by the Government of India, to impose an *ad valorem* duty of 1 per cent. on the capital of all companies registered under the Companies Act. This duty would be in addition to the stamp fees payable under the Indian Stamp Act of 1899, and the registration fee payable under the Companies Act. The views of the Government of India on the proposal were stated in the following terms:—

There have been signs, during the last two or three years, that the number of bogus companies, and companies with excessive nominal capital, is tending to increase. In some instances the imposing figure of the nominal capital serves no other purpose than that of inducing the less informed portion of the public to believe that the strength and importance of the company are much greater than they actually are. While anxious to take no step that will discourage legitimate

enterprises, and to do all in their power to foster the habit of investment, the Government of India feel that they are bound to protect the interests both of the ignorant investor and of the sound commercial institutions whose credit may be affected by the collapse of a few weaker and more unscrupulous concerns. They are, therefore, inclined to the opinion that the time is opportune for amending the Companies Act in such a manner as to restrict the liberty, which companies at present enjoy, of registering vast authorised capitals which they have no prospect of ever getting subscribed.

In the United Kingdom an *ad valorem* stamp duty of 5 s. per cent. is levied under section 7 of the Finance Act, 1890, on the nominal capital of all companies registered in addition to the fees prescribed in table B of the first schedule to the Companies (Consolidation) Act 1908. The Government of India consider that the imposition of a similar duty in India, while bringing in a small revenue, would to a certain extent serve to check the flotation of bogus and unscrupulous companies, and especially those which advertise inflated nominal capital. They propose therefore that an *ad valorem* duty of 1½ should be levied on the nominal capital of all companies with share capital, registered in India, in addition to the registration fees payable under table B of the first schedule to the Indian Companies Act, 1913, and the stamp fees required for the registration of the memorandum and articles of association. I am to request that, after consulting the Chambers of Commerce and such other persons or local bodies as may be considered advisable, you will favour the Government of India, at an early date, with the views of His Excellency the Governor in Council, on this proposal.

The Committee were of the opinion that such a tax would be beneficial to the public. They further suggested that, where the capital was not fully subscribed and paid up, the tax should be borne by the promoters. In other words that it should not be permitted to form a part of the preliminary expenditure. They believed that the adoption of this suggestion would tend to make the tax more effective as a restraining influence on the promoters of bogus companies.

Within the last few weeks the Government have announced that the proposal will not be proceeded with.

The Indian Companies Act, 1913: Management of estates by the Administrator General.—At the beginning of September the Administrator General of Bengal approached the Committee on the subject of the rectification of the register of a company. It appears that some managing agents took the view that the registration of the name of the Administrator General either *pro* executor, or administrator, to an estate is tantamount to registering notice of a trust. The Administrator General contended that he was entitled to be registered as a member of a company, as the legal representative of a deceased member, and that a company was not entitled to refuse to transfer shares to him on the ground that such registration constitutes notice of a trust, within the meaning of section 33 of the Indian Companies Act. Section 29 (3) of the Administrator General's Act provides that the entry of the Administrator General, by that name, in the books of a company does not constitute notice of a trust; and that the company is not entitled to object to enter the name of the Administrator General on its register by reason only that he is a corporation. The Administrator General of Bengal submitted a copy of an order obtained by him from the Calcutta High Court in a certain case. This order endorsed the view explained above, and provided specifically for the transfer of the shares in question to the Administrator General, as the administrator of the estate of the deceased person.

The Indian Explosives Rules, 1914.—In reply to an enquiry, the Committee informed the Government of Bengal that they took no exception to certain proposed amendments of the Indian Explosives rules. These amendments were published for criticism by the Board of Industries and Munitions (Government of India), under notification No. 3011-M., dated 13th March 1920. Their object was to enable magistrates,—other than district magistrates,—who might be specially empowered, by the local Government, to grant and to amend licenses for the possession of explosives.

The Indigo Cess Act, 1918.—Section 2(1) of this Act prescribes the levy of a cess on all indigo exported from India, at the rate of one rupee per maund of 82½ lbs. avoidupois. It was represented to the Government of India, by the Indian Indigo Co-operative Association, that this standard weight is not ordinarily adopted by the trade, transactions in northern India being conducted on the basis of the factory maund equivalent to 74·66 lbs., while the unit of sale in other parts exhibits further variations. In Calcutta, where the factory maund unit is adopted, the producers deduct the amount of the cess from the sale price of their indigo, at the rate of one rupee per maund of 74·66 lbs., while the buyer pays the cess at the rate of one rupee per maund of 82½ lbs. It was accordingly proposed that section 2 of the Act should be so amended as to prescribe the levy of the cess on a standard unit of weight commonly adopted by the trade; and that the rate might be fixed either at one rupee eight annas per cwt. of 112 lbs., or at one rupee per factory maund of 74·66 lbs.

The Committee of the Chamber thought that the change would be advantageous, and they accordingly informed the Government of Bengal, in reply to a request for their opinion, that they favoured it. A rate of one rupee per factory maund of 74·66 lbs. is practically the same as a rate of one rupee eight annas per cwt., seeing that 1½ factory maunds are equivalent to 111·92 lbs.

The Cinematograph (Amendment) Act, 1919.—By section 7(1) of this Act the Governor-General in Council is empowered to permit local Governments to constitute authorities for the purpose of examining and certifying cinematograph films as suitable for public exhibition. In exercise of this power the Government of India proposed, in the early part of the year, to constitute examining and certifying authorities at the chief sea-ports, namely, Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and Rangoon. The idea was that these authorities should be Boards manageable in size and representative in character. Nominations to membership would be for a period of one year, and would be by name, except in the case of the President, who might be nominated by office. It was proposed that the Board in Calcutta should be composed as follows:—The Commissioner of Police *ex officio*; one member nominated by the Calcutta Trades Association; one member nominated by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce; a military representative nominated by the General Officer Commanding the Presidency Brigade; an educational representative (Indian) nominated by the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal; a

representative nominated by the Corporation of Calcutta, together with two nominees selected by the Government of Bengal, one of whom would be a lady.

The Committee nominated the Hon. Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth, the Vice-President, to be the representative of the Chamber on the Calcutta Board. And, on his resignation recently, Mr. Kenneth Campbell (Messrs. Slaw, Wallace & Co.) consented to serve.

The Indian Securities Act, 1920.—The Committee referred in the last annual report to a Bill, which the Government of India had introduced, with the object of consolidating and amending the law relating to Government securities. The need for re-casting the Act of 1880 had been admitted for some time, as it was evident that the law, and the procedure and regulations founded upon it, needed to be brought up to modern requirements and conditions. With this end in view it was proposed by the Bill:—

(a) To legalise certain matters in the existing practice and procedure which it was desirable to maintain, but of which the legal basis was doubtful;

(b) To obviate difficulties and delays which were liable to occur, in cases of disputed or doubtful claims on promissory notes, in discovering who is the Government's legal creditor in respect of such notes;

(c) To relax the procedure in certain matters, such as receiving notice of a trust and securities held by office-holders; and

(d) To provide special facilities in cases of small holdings of which the holder had died, or was a minor.

The Chamber, together of course with other representative bodies throughout the country, was invited by the Government of India to express an opinion on these proposals. The Committee accordingly examined the Bill, and made enquiries as to the extent to which the commercial community would be likely to be affected by the contemplated changes in the law. They came to the conclusion, as a result of these enquiries, that the commercial public would be benefited. They accordingly supported the Bill, but they urged that, as Government promissory notes appear to be a more popular security than either bearer bonds, or inscribed stock certificates, an endeavour should be made to put the *bond fide* holder for value, and the prospective buyer, on a better footing.

The Bill was passed into law during the cold weather session of the Imperial Legislative Council, the Act—XI of 1920—receiving the assent of the Governor-General on the 11th March.

The Indian Paper Currency Act, 1920: Section 14.—This section of the Indian Paper Currency Act is as follows:—

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in section 19, the Governor General in Council may authorise the Controller to issue currency notes to an amount in all not exceeding fifty millions of rupees against bills of exchange which will mature within ninety days from the date of such issue and satisfy such other conditions as the Governor-General in Council may, by general or special order, prescribe. Currency notes so issued shall be in addition to those against which the reserve is held and shall be deemed to have been issued on the credit of such bills and of the revenue of India and shall, when presented, be paid from such revenue.

The Act was passed during the September session of the Legislative Council, and shortly afterwards the Finance Department of the Government of India invited suggestions as to the regulations to be prescribed in order to put section 14 into operation. Attention was directed to the following points :—

(a) the class of commercial bills of exchange which should be accepted for the purpose of the issue of notes ;

(b) the recommendation of the Currency Committee that in the first instance the bills of exchange to be accepted for this purpose should be limited to *bona fide* commercial bills against goods under export.

(c) the question of whether internal bills should be included ; and, if so, whether it would be feasible to distinguish between internal bills created for the purposes of finance and bills representing definite commercial transactions ;

(d) a suggestion that import bills should be accepted as cover for the special expansion of the currency in the manner proposed ;

(e) the proposal of the Currency Committee that the rate of interest to be charged on the advances to the Imperial Bank in connection with these seasonal issues of currency should be $8\frac{1}{2}\%$; and

(f) the procedure which the Government of India should follow in respect of the operation of section 14 of the Act.

The Committee examined the subject in consultation with their Finance Sub-Committee. It did not however seem to them that export bills could be utilised for the purpose in view. In fact they feel that to provide additional finance facilities against export bills would really be attacking the problem at the wrong end. For by the time the commodity—jute, cotton, cereals, etc.—is shipped it has been already paid for. Moreover, the practical difficulties in the way are serious. For example, export bills are delivered to the Exchange Banks so late on the homeward mail day that they catch the mail at the latest possible moment. If they had to be endorsed to the Imperial Bank, and by it forwarded to London, they would invariably miss the mail, and there would be a loss of one week's interest. Import bills also would appear to be equally difficult to utilise for the purpose. They are mostly drawn "D. P." in sterling, for small to moderate sums, and may be retired at any time during their currency. It is questionable if the Imperial Bank could be expected to undertake the burden of work which dealing with documents of this description would entail. But it is believed that there would be no difficulty in advancing against *hundis*, which documents automatically come into force when finance is required for the crops. These documents do not, it is true, bear in themselves evidence that they are drawn for trade purposes. The obligants are however well-known to the discounting banker ; and if the *hundis* were endorsed by the Imperial Bank, and if that Bank were required to certify that the accommodation provided was for the furtherance of trade, the needs of the case would most probably

be met. As regards the rate of interest—item (e)—the Committee think that this should not be less than $8\frac{1}{2}\%$.

The Indian Elections Offences and Inquiries Act, 1920.—The Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on the Government of India Act of 1919 recommended that a complete and stringent corrupt practices Act should be brought into operation in India before the first elections for the new Legislatures. The rules framed for the conduct of the elections empowered the Governor-General, or the Governor as the case might be, to appoint commissioners to try disputes affecting the validity of any election, and to report to the Governor General, or the Governor, the result of their enquiry. If a corrupt practice of a serious nature is found by the commissioners to have been committed by a candidate, or any agent of his, the election is, under these rules, to be declared void. Such corrupt practices are bribery, undue influence, personation, or abetment of personation, and deliberate false statements about a candidate at an election. Less serious malpractices render an election invalid if they materially affect the result. Persons found guilty of malpractices are disqualified for varying periods from being candidates for election to the Councils, or voting, or acting as agents, at elections.

The Elections Offences and Inquiries Bill was introduced to supplement these rules. It made bribery, undue influence, personation, and certain other malpractices at elections, punishable under the ordinary penal law. And its provisions covered not only election to the legislative bodies but membership of public authorities, where the law prescribes a method of election. It also debarred persons guilty of such malpractices from holding for a specific period positions of public responsibility. Further, it proposed to empower the commissioner, appointed under the rules mentioned above, to exercise judicial powers of investigation in respect of election to the legislative bodies.

The Government of Bengal invited the Chamber to express an opinion on the Bill, and the Committee examined it. They agreed generally with its provisions, but they suggested a few modifications. It was passed into law by the Imperial Legislative Council on the 14th September 1920.

Proposed legislation to control the sale of fertilisers.—The question of introducing into India legislation to control the sale of fertilisers was referred to in the annual report (p. 53) for the year 1917. At their tenth meeting, which was held in 1917, the Board of Agriculture in India passed a resolution in favour of legislation. For the Board considered that such was required in order to protect both the planting industries and the cultivator. The Government of India, in a recent circular to the local Governments, outlined the main provisions of a Bill, following largely the British Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act of 1906. But it was made clear that these were merely tentative proposals, and that the Government of India wished also to ascertain provincial opinion on the general question of whether such legislation is necessary.

The Government of Bengal referred the proposal to the Chamber, and to the other local public bodies, and the Committee consulted members concerning it. They received in reply a number of expressions of opinion, which they forwarded to the local Government. And, in submitting these, they invited attention to a suggestion which had been made by one of the members of the Chamber. This was that a small Committee should be appointed by the Government to investigate the subject, and to make recommendations as to the provisions of the Act. Such a Committee might comprise representatives of the Government and the Indian Tea Association, and of firms manufacturing and dealing in fertilisers. The manufacture and distribution of fertilisers in India appears to be a complicated and difficult business, and the exercise of great care will be consequently necessary in legislating for its control. The members of such a Committee as that suggested would possess the requisite knowledge and experience of the trade, and their views would be doubtless of considerable assistance to the Government in framing the Bill.

Registration of Partnerships and Registration of Business names.—The Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers of Commerce held in Calcutta, in January 1920, unanimously adopted the following resolution:—

That this Conference is of the opinion that it is desirable to provide by law:—

(a) for the registration of partnerships;

(b) for the registration of business names; and that the Government of India be requested to introduce the necessary legislation at the earliest possible date.

The resolution was communicated to Government, by the Associated Chambers of Commerce, shortly after the sittings of the Conference had terminated. But, so far as is known at present, the Government of India have not yet decided to attempt legislation.

Calcutta High Court: Delays in the disposal of suits.—Towards the end of the year the Committee made a representation to the Registrar of the Calcutta High Court, on the Original Side, with reference to the delays which are occurring in the disposal of suits in the Court. In the ten years prior to 1904 this difficulty formed the subject of considerable correspondence between the Chamber and the Government of India. But since 1904 the Chamber has taken no active steps in regard to it, although in 1911 complaints of arrears were again heard. During the past year these complaints were renewed, and the Marwari Chamber of Commerce approached the Registrar on the subject. The Committee of this Chamber then made enquiries with the result that they also addressed the Court. They ventured to suggest, for the consideration of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges, that additional Original Side Courts might be appointed. And they further hoped that it would be feasible to appoint an additional judge to deal with all Chamber and motion matters, leaving the judges dealing with the lists free to dispose of the cases assigned to them without the present weekly

interruption due to the arrival of their respective motion days. In addition to these proposals the Committee also put forward another recommendation which they defined in the following terms:—

In addition to the foregoing suggestion, to which the Committee attach much importance, there is another proposal to which they wish to invite attention. Cases of simple debt, where there is no defence, but where the defendants file a purely fictitious written statement, have at present no preference over genuinely contested suits. As matters stand, a debtor may feel himself to be secure for something like two years. A suit is indeed a very convenient protection for him against importunate creditors; for once it is filed everything remains in abeyance until it is disposed of. The proposal to which the Chamber would solicit consideration is that there should be introduced a summary procedure in suits for the recovery of debt. Order XIV of the rules of the Supreme Court in England has been quoted in this connection. The provisions of the order have not been incorporated in the Indian Code, possibly because objection might be taken to them on the ground of the probability of abuse by the unscrupulous. As is doubtless within your knowledge, they provide that when a defendant appears to a writ of summons specially endorsed, the plaintiff may, on affidavit stating that in his belief there is no defence to the action, apply to the judge for leave to enter final judgment for the amount so endorsed. And unless the defendant by affidavit, by his own *ex parte* evidence, or otherwise, satisfies the Court that he has a good defence to the action on the merits, or discloses such facts as may be deemed sufficient to entitle him to defend, the judge may make an order empowering the plaintiff to enter judgment accordingly. The specially endorsed writs, on which the plaintiff may proceed under order XIV, are for the following debts:—A debt or liquidated demand in money arising upon a contract express or implied, or simple contract debt; a bond for payment of a liquidated sum of money; a guarantee; a trust; or in actions for the recovery of land by a landlord against a tenant whose term has expired, or has been duly terminated by notice to quit, or has become liable to forfeiture for non-payment of rent.

The Committee believe they are correct in saying that this procedure works smoothly and satisfactorily in England. Its adoption here would enable a large number of cases to be disposed of summarily in a few hours, leaving the courts with more leisure to deal with contested suits. Except in suits on negotiable instruments there is not, as you are of course aware, any summary procedure in India. A defendant can always file a written statement, and the Committee are generally advised that in actual practice, in quite the majority of cases, he generally succeeds in getting two or three extensions before a peremptory order to file a written statement by a specified date is made against him. And when the statement is filed the suit remains on the pending list for the next year or so, and the plaintiff is unable to do anything.

Kooliganism in Burrā Bazar.—The existence of large numbers of *goondas* or hooligans, ready on every possible occasion to take advantage of opportunities for violent crime, has been for long time a menace to the security of Calcutta. Early in 1914 the increase of crime in the Burrā-Bazar area led to representations, from the Marwari community to the Government, regarding the inadequacy of the police protection. The outbreak of war, later in that year, intensified this feeling, and special protective measures were adopted. The *goondas* are mainly up-country men, who have either been brought to Calcutta in the service of Marwari merchants, as darwans or lathials, or have been attracted by reports of the ease with which money can be made here by violence, or the threat of violence.

The Government of Bengal, early in June last, requested an expression of opinion from the Chamber as to the best way of dealing with this form of crime. The real remedy was, the Government said, the exclusion of the criminal elements in question from the city. Power might, it was suggested, be taken by legislation to enable the Governor in Council to remove from Calcutta any person—other

than a person born in Bengal—who might be considered, by the Commissioner of Police, to be so dangerous as to render his presence within the city hazardous to peace and order. Such a provision of law would be workable, but it would be open to the criticism that the action would be purely executive in character.

The Chamber supported the proposal strongly. For the Committee held it to be intolerable that gangs of imported criminals should be permitted to continue indefinitely to terrorise a neighbourhood. And that this was the position as regards Burra Bazar appeared to them to be beyond question. In fact, in replying to a Government, they quoted from representations which had been previously made to them by the Marwari Trades Association, and the Burra Bazar Tenants Association. Both these bodies had urged the adoption, by Government, of special preventive and punitive measures. And the Marwari Trades Association had also submitted to the Chamber a list of no fewer than twenty-nine cases of assault, all of which took place between the 11th November 1919 and the 11th February 1920. With these facts before them the Committee had not the least hesitation in agreeing to the suggestion put forward by the Government, namely, that the real remedy for the trouble would be the exclusion from Calcutta of the class of men who are known to be responsible for the crimes. They quite understood that objections might be raised to legislation of this character. But the situation in Burra-Bazar seemed to them to be altogether exceptional, and as such fully to justify exceptional treatment.

The Committee have so far no information before them as to the decision of the Government in the matter.

CUSTOMS.

The export duty on jute manufactured goods.—This duty is leviable at the rate of Rs. 20 per ton of "sacking goods" and at the rate of Rs. 32 per ton on "hessian and other goods". In reply to an enquiry from the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, the Committee expressed the opinion, after consultation with the trade, that tarpaulin cloths are not sacking goods. A member of the Chamber then made the further enquiry as to whether a definition of sacking goods could be given. Upon this point the Committee consulted the Indian Jute Mills Association, and the Calcutta Jute Fabrics Shippers Association. And, after considering the views of these associations, they expressed the opinion that cloth, or bags, of a count higher than 8×9 would be liable to assessment to duty at the higher rate, unless such goods were specifically stated to be twill sacking. Although they gave this as their opinion, the Committee made it plain, clear that they were not prepared to formulate any ruling on the point, or to frame a formal definition.

Calcutta Custom House: Fees for Sunday working.—On the representation of the Calcutta Liners Conference the special fees, payable by merchants and ship-owners to the Customs authorities

for Sunday-working on vessels, were discontinued for the period of the war. The Government of Bengal suggested, in February last, that these fees should be re-imposed. At Bombay and Karachi, where they had been similarly remitted during the war, they were again being enforced; and it was thought that similar action might be taken in Bengal.

After consultation with the Calcutta Liners Conference, the Committee informed the Government that they agreed with this proposal. The fees were accordingly re-imposed, with effect from Sunday the 28th March 1920.

The Indian Tariff Act, 1894: Sugar valuations.—Reference was made to this question in the last annual report, where it was stated that the Director General of Commercial Intelligence had been able to arrange a unanimous agreement that the basis for sugar valuations in future should be Java 23 Dutch standard and above, the values of the other grades being determined by fixed relations to this basis. The proposal was subsequently accepted by the Government of India, who notified the valuations for 1920 on this system. The Director General of Commercial Intelligence thereupon drew the attention of Collectors of Customs to the new procedure. He also explained that, although his department still required average values of all grades as a means of checking the fixed margins, the *Indian Trade Journal* would, in the future, publish the monthly values of Java 23 Dutch standard only, with particulars of the margins fixed, namely:—

Beet crystals to be valued at same rate as Java 23 D. S. & above.	
Sugar crystallised and soft from Mauritius	Rs. 1/8 lower
Java D. S. 16/22	Rs. 2/-
Java D. S. 15 & under	Rs. 2/8
Japanese & Formosan crystals	Rs. 2/- higher
China crystals	Rs. 2/-
Egyptian crystals	Rs. 1/-

The Indian Tariff Act 1894: Revision of the Tariff Schedules.—In November the Director General of Commercial Intelligence approached the Chamber with reference to the annual revision of the tariff valuations in schedules II and III of the Indian Tariff Act of 1894, as amended by subsequent legislation. He forwarded a copy of the provisional rates for 1921, and the Chamber appointed a Committee of importers to consider these. The Committee consisted of the following gentlemen:

The Hon'ble Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth, *Vice President* of the Chamber, *Chairman*; Mr. G. Thomides, Messrs. Ralli Brothers; Mr. G. D. Lys, Messrs. Graham & Co.; Mr. F. Doozy, Messrs. Barlow & Co.; Mr. R. M. Hughes, Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co.; The Hon'ble Mr. A. D. Pickford, Messrs. Begg, Dunlop & Co.; Mr. T. C. J. Davis, Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.; Mr. A. Cochran,

C.B.F., *Chairman*, Indian Engineering Association; Mr. H. C. Bishop, *Vice Chairman*, Calcutta Import Trade Association.

The schedule of provisional rates was examined by this Committee; and on the 7th December they met the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, and the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, for its discussion. They approved generally of the valuations, subject to certain suggested changes.

The Indian Merchandise Marks Manual.—When circulating, in February, certain addenda and corrigenda to the third edition of this Manual, the Government of India explained that they had decided not to treat the terms "whisky" and "brandy" as privileged local terms. There would be, therefore, no objection to the use of these descriptive names on liquors produced locally, or imported from other countries. The Burma Chamber of Commerce took exception to this decision, expressing the opinion that its immediate effect would be to encourage the trade in spurious liquors. The Wine, Spirit and Beer Association of India was of the same opinion; and the Committee of this Chamber likewise supported Burma.

The Government of India replied that the decision was arrived at solely for the purpose of the Merchandise Marks Rules, on the ground that the terms "whisky" and "brandy" have lost whatever geographical significance they might originally have possessed, and cannot therefore be treated as privileged local terms. This fact had been, the Department of Commerce went on to say, practically admitted by the Burma Chamber, inasmuch as they had acknowledged that there would be no objection to the sale of genuine whisky and brandy manufactured in countries other than Scotland or Ireland or France, provided that it was not fraudulently sold as Scotch, or Irish, whisky and French brandy. The principle accepted in rule 27 of the Merchandise Marks Manual was, moreover, in accordance with the practice obtaining in the United Kingdom. In view of these facts the Government did not consider that it was possible for them to formulate the rules under the Merchandise Marks Act otherwise than in the way that they had followed. But while they held the opinion that the names "whisky" and "brandy" could not be treated as privileged local terms for the purpose of the Merchandise Marks Rules, the Government agreed as to the desirability of preventing, if possible, the manufacture and importation, under those terms, of spurious liquors. This was however an entirely separate question, and enquiries were being instituted in regard to it. The result of these enquiries would be communicated in due course.

In view of this explanation the Committee did not take further action, beyond expressing to the Department of Commerce a hope that the result of the enquiries would be communicated as early as possible.

The trade in hides and skins: The export duty.—The attitude taken up by the Chamber, in 1919, in regard to the levy of an export duty on raw hides and skins, was explained in the last

report. The trade has been during the past year, and still is, very seriously depressed; exports have been enormously reduced in volume; and bazar prices are now exceptionally low. In view of this state of affairs the Calcutta Hides and Skins Shippers Association, a body recognised by the Chamber, has protested strongly against the continuance of the duty; and the Burma and Karachi Chambers have taken the same line. The Leather Trade Section of the London Chamber of Commerce has also entered a protest against the duty. The case for its withdrawal, as stated by the Calcutta Hides and Skins Shippers Association, is somewhat as follows: The supply of Indian hides is greatly in excess of the demand, and the highest grades constitute only a small proportion of the production. The bulk consists of the lower and lowest grades which are, and have always been, difficult to market, except at very low prices. The English tanner considers that only the best qualities are worth the present high cost of labour; the Indian tanner is in such a position that he cannot take up the surplus production; and the continental nations, who formerly bought the low qualities, are not now in a position to buy freely. As regards skins, the position was not difficult for some time after the imposition of the duty. But of late the market has been seriously depressed; prices have fallen heavily; and it has to be remembered that India has no monopoly of goatskins. It is not contended by the Association that the very serious depression from which the trade in hides and skins is suffering would be remedied by the withdrawal of the duty. For it is recognised that the position of the exchanges all over the world, and the heavily enhanced cost of labour in consuming countries are causes adverse to the trade. But these are causes that cannot be removed, while the export duty which, the Association maintains, operates in the same direction is remediable. Its withdrawal might not bring about a great revival of the export trade; but in the opinion of the Association there would be a marked improvement if it were withdrawn.

As was stated in the report for 1919, the Chamber strongly advocated the imposition of the duty. For the Committee believed it to be necessary, in the interests of the Indian tanning industry. During the past year the Shippers Association suggested that this attitude should be re-considered on the ground that the duty cannot now be said to be necessary to the Indian tanning industry. The Committee discussed this proposal carefully, but they did not see their way to modify the position adopted by their predecessors. At the same time they recognised that the export trade in raw hides and skins was, in pre-war days, of great importance to Bengal; and they quite understand the difficult position in which it is now placed.

MARINE.

Working of the Port: Revision of the charges on goods and shipping.—The question of the revision of the charges on goods and shipping in the port was raised by the Calcutta Port

Commissioners early in the year. It was proposed to abolish the war surtax, and so to revise the charges as to cover the resulting deficit. The Commissioners estimated their revenue from ordinary sources, for the year 1920-21, at Rs. 150 lakhs, and their expenditure at Rs. 182 lakhs, exclusive of interest and sinking fund charges on the capital expenditure to be incurred during the year. And they suggested such a revision of the charges as would produce Rs. 48,43,000 additional revenue. They expected Rs. 2,90,000. Taking this figure might have to be reduced by the heavy capital expenditure on the new dock scheme. And if the charges were not raised immediately to a level high enough to provide for this, they would have to be enhanced later. A second revision should be, the Commissioners thought, avoided. They judged it to be preferable to fix such charges as might be reasonably expected to meet their requirements for an extended period, if this were possible, without unduly burdening the trade of the present.

The Committee closely scrutinised the proposals, but did not take exception to them. The various mercantile associations recognised by the Chamber also agreed that they might be in the main accepted. But the Indian Tea Association objected to the shipping charge on tea being raised from nine pice to one anna per chest. And the Calcutta Import Trade Association, while agreeing that it was reasonable to increase the charges on goods landed at the jetties, urged that the increase should fall equally on goods to be despatched up-country direct by rail. The Calcutta Hides and Skins Shippers Association pointed out that the contemplated excess of revenue over expenditures had not made sufficient allowance for the probable development of the trade of the port. Even if a reduction of about Rs. 10 lakhs were made in the estimated yearly revenue, there would still be, the Association thought, a reasonable prospect of no further increase being required for a long period.

These views were communicated to the Calcutta Port Commissioners, who accepted the suggestion made by the Calcutta Import Trade Association. The charge of 12 annas per ton on imports is consequently now levied not only on those landed at the jetties and removed locally, but also on those that are removed in foreign railway wagons, whether landed at the docks or the jetties. Sugar, rice, wheat, and other grain traffic are however exempt.

Working of the Port: Armenian Ghat Station.—The Marwari Chamber of Commerce appealed to this Chamber, in July, with reference to Armenian Ghat station, on the Port Commissioners Railway. This station was formerly used for booking

goods outwards, but during the war it passed under the control of the Munitions Board. Consequently traders who would, in the ordinary course, book despatches at Armenian Ghat, were forced to go to Soudah for goods to be carried over the Eastern Bengal Railway. The Marwari Chamber said that considerable trouble, inconvenience and loss were occasioned by this restriction on despatching facilities; and they urged that the station should be re-opened for outward booking purposes. The Railway Board—to which body the Marwari Chamber had referred the case—replied that it was one for adjustment by the Calcutta Port Commissioners.

The Committee did not move in the matter, as they ascertained from the Port Commissioners that even when the Munitions Board vacate the accommodation leased to them at Armenian Ghat, outward booking will not be resumed. For the traffic which would be thus created would interfere with the use of the Mint compound for jetty imports. Moreover, booking outward goods at the station would be contrary to the principle laid down by the Port Facilities Committee of 1913. This principle was that the Port Trust Railway was intended to serve shipment traffic; and that other traffic would be discontinued as soon as it interfered with this. Inward booking to Armenian Ghat will probably also be stopped, in the near future, as the accommodation will be required for jetty imports.

Working of the Port: The Howrah bridge.—The project for re-constructing the bridge between Calcutta and Howrah is still under discussion. As will be known to members, certain designs for a new floating structure, which were submitted by well-known bridge builders, were examined by a committee of engineers in 1912-13. This Committee drew up a specification for a bridge which would, they considered, meet the requirements of both river and road traffic. But the Government of Bengal supplemented this specification by further expert advice, other engineers, including Sir Bradford Leslie and Mr. Basil Mott, being consulted. In October last the Government forwarded a statement summarising the case, and defining the position. The question at issue was as to the particular type of bridge to be built. In 1912-13 the idea was that the floating type should be adopted; and the committee of engineers favoured that type. Sir Bradford Leslie also proposed a floating bridge of a different design; but Mr. Basil Mott recommended a single span arch type of bridge. The construction of a girder bridge on piers had likewise been considered. But the Government had come, they said, to the conclusion that a bridge with fixed piers ought not to be built, inasmuch as local opinion was against it, in view of the risks which were believed to be involved. There remained therefore the floating and the single span arch types. And with reference to these two the Government asked the Chamber to express an opinion on the following three main points:—

(a) Should the single span arch type of bridge be ruled out, and tenders invited for the construction of a floating bridge according.

to one of the two available designs? The selection as between the two designs would be a matter for the Government to determine;

(b) Should the single span arch type of bridge be ruled out and competitive designs be obtained for a floating bridge in accordance with the modified specification drawn up by the Committee in 1913?

(c) Should key drawings for the single span arch type of bridge be obtained from the designer, and the decision regarding the type of bridge, whether floating or single span, be postponed until after their arrival?

Some little time after these enquiries had been framed the Calcutta Port Commissioners suggested that the question of whether an opening span was really required should be investigated. And it appeared to the Committee that this was a most important point, which ought to be thoroughly examined before any decision as to the type of bridge was arrived at. They did not think that there was need for them to express an opinion on this new question at the moment. But they endorsed and supported the recommendation of the Port Commissioners that it should be determined before further action was taken. The various public bodies, and the different commercial and other interests concerned with the river, might be consulted in the first place, and their views ascertained. And with these before them the Government would be in a position to come to a conclusion, and thereafter the question of the type of bridge might be further investigated.

Working of the Port: The Bengal Pilot Service.—In remarking on the Bengal Pilot Service the Public Services Commission 1913 said that the working of the rule under which shipowners were relieved of all liability for carrying pilots out to sea should be investigated, and that the rule should be, if necessary, modified. In conformity with this recommendation the following revised orders were issued, by the Government of India, with effect from the 23rd December 1919:—

(a) Pilots carried out to sea through stress of weather or other unavoidable cause shall be paid by the Government at the same rate as on special duty, i. e., at the rate of normal scale of earnings of their respective grade during the period of their absence.

(b) They will draw travelling allowances in accordance with articles 1011 and 1016 of the Civil Service Regulations and they will also get halting allowances at the rate of Rs. 10 a day or part of a day from the date of disembarkation to the date of first available return train or steamer, the cost of these allowances being recoverable from the respective steamer companies.

During the latter part of the year the Government raised the question of the remuneration and pension of the members of the Bengal Pilot Service. As regards the pension the Marine Department said that, with effect from the 1st December 1919, every officer admissible for members of other uncovenanted services. This arrangement had been accepted as satisfactory by the service. The question of the remuneration to be drawn in future by the pilots had not been however settled, and upon this question the opinion of the Chamber was solicited. The service had put

forward a case for a higher scale of pay, and a careful examination of this had resulted in the acceptance, by the local Government, of the following provisional view: (a) that the remuneration of the officers should be increased by 30%; and (b) that the pilotage fees should be increased by 15% to provide the additional sum required. After consulting the shipping interests of the port the Committee took strong exception to these proposals. The pilotage fees are already so very high as to be a heavy burden on shipping interests. Indeed the cost of bringing ships to this port, of discharging, loading, and taking them away again, has now become exceedingly heavy. It is a factor of such importance that the Committee protest strongly against any further enhancement of the charges on the shipping; and an increase of 15% in the pilotage fees means an additional burden of no less than Rs. 2½ lakhs yearly. The time has come, the Committee think, for the re-organisation of the Pilot Service, and for its transfer to the control of the Calcutta Port Commissioners. This transfer has been urged previously by the Chamber, and the Committee have now again pointed out the advantages to the port that would certainly result from it.

Working of the Port: Supply of water to the shipping.—At the instance of the Calcutta Liners Conference the Committee drew the urgent attention of the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation to the very serious shortage of water for the use of steamers in the port. In April and May it was found to be difficult in some cases to obtain even sufficient water for the personal use of the officers and crews of vessels; and in one instance a steamer had to stop loading, from overside, because there was not enough water to enable the donkey-boiler to supply the derricks with steam. The Committee gathered from the complaints put before them that the supply of water at the hydrants on the jetties was short; that the number of water-boats was inadequate; and that insufficient time was allowed for these boats to re-fill. The matter was obviously one of very great importance and the Committee strongly urged that remedial measures should be undertaken.

The Chairman of the Corporation agreed that at that particular time the plant in use was insufficient to meet the increased demand following on the large influx of steamers. And he enumerated the various remedial measures that the Corporation had decided to take. They were also taking other necessary steps to meet the situation.

The Committee were glad to see that the matter was well in hand, and they suggested to the Corporation that the various remedial measures in question should be put into operation with the minimum of delay.

Working of the Port: Payment for ballast and water.—In answer to an enquiry the Committee stated, after consulting their Shipping Sub-Committee, that, in the absence of provisions to the contrary, it is customary for the charterers of time-chartered steamers to pay for ballast and boiler water.

Working of the Port: F. O. B. delivery of coal.—The Committee were invited recently, by a member, to express an opinion on the following:—Whether, when contracts are made for f.o.b. delivery of a cargo of coal at Calcutta, payment is to be made against survey weights, irrespective of the quantity shown on the mate's receipt. The Committee replied that there is no fixed rule, and that the method of ascertaining the f.o.b. quantity is usually provided for in the contract. If the survey weight be agreed upon the surveyors' figure is taken, irrespective of what is in the mate's receipt. The mate's receipt figure is rarely accepted, save with an allowance of 1% or 2%.

Working of the Port: Labour difficulties.—Several strikes have occurred, during the year, among the labour in the port. One of these was a strike of the men employed by stevedores in discharging and loading steamers. This extended from the 1st to the 11th November, during which period all work of steamers in the port was practically suspended. The Baled Jute Shippers Association pressed the Chamber to intervene in the strike, and to endeavour to arrange a settlement. Jute shippers were running a risk of their October contracts being cancelled, if these could not be shipped by the 15th November. The Committee thought that it would be altogether inadvisable to take any action. The strike was of a serious character, and they feared that they would only weaken the hands of the steamship companies by moving with reference to it.

Working of the Port: Use of hooks.—Attention was drawn recently by Inland shippers to the damage caused to bag-cargo by the use of hooks. The Committee found, on enquiry from the Calcutta Wheat & Seed Trade Association, that there is a general agreement among shippers as to damage being done by the use of hooks. At the same time it is feared that their total abolition is impracticable. For one reason, any attempt to prohibit their use would certainly result in serious labour troubles. Endeavours are however being made by the Calcutta Port Commissioners, and by their labour contractors, to introduce a smaller hook than that which has been in use so far. And it is believed that this change will bring about a considerable improvement.

Rate of exchange for payment of ocean freight and claims.—The revision of the Chamber ruling with reference to the rate of exchange for payment of ocean freight, was mentioned in the last annual report. The revised ruling came into operation on the 20th January 1920. Subsequently members of the Chamber pointed out that it did not specifically state the rate of exchange that was to prevail when the date of shipment is a Sunday, or other public holiday. The Committee examined this point and, after consulting their solicitors, suggested the addition to the ruling of the following clause:—

In the event of any of the above dates falling on a day on which no rate is posted the rate shall be that current on the last previous date of posting.

The ruling, with this addition, was declared by the Committee, on the 23rd March 1920, to be in force from that date.

Shortly afterwards another point was raised by the Calcutta Lagers Conference. This was that the method of determining the rate of exchange, for the payment of claims in respect of import cargo, should also be prescribed. The proposal might, it was thought, take the shape of an additional clause in the ruling referred to above. The Committee submitted the proposal to members, who accepted the following clause, viz. —

In the case of claims on import cargo the rate shall be that current on the day on which the steamer in respect of which the claim is made enters the port of Calcutta.

The complete ruling is as follows:—

Rate of Exchange for payment of ocean freights, steamers' hire and demurrage —

All ocean freight and all steamers' hire payable in Calcutta shall, unless otherwise arranged, be calculated at the rate of exchange for demand-drafts as certified daily by the Associated Exchange Banks and posted by 11 A.M. in the Royal Exchange.

In the case of outward bills of lading the rate shall be that current on the date of shipment as ascertained by the date of the mate's receipt; and, when there is more than one mate's receipt for one consignment, the date of the last mate's receipt shall be considered as the date of shipment for the whole consignment.

In the case of inward bills of lading the rate shall be that current on the day on which payment of freight is made.

In the case of time chartered steamers the rate shall be that current on the day on which hire is payable according to the terms of the Charter-Party.

Demurrage which is paid in sterling shall be paid in rupees at the rate of the day for demand bills.

In the case of claims on import cargo the rate shall be that current on the day on which the steamer in respect of which the claim is made, enters the port of Calcutta.

In the event of any of the above dates falling on a day on which no rate is posted the rate shall be that current on the last previous date of posting.

The Indian Ports Act, 1908: Rules for the port of Calcutta.—The rules for the port of Calcutta were issued under notification No. 96-Mnc. dated 5th October 1894. In May last the Government of Bengal proposed to insert the following new rule:—

11 A. The river between the north end of the cooly line of the Fort Gloster Jute Mills on the north, and the boundary miller on the south, shall be kept clear for turning inward or outward bound vessels and no inland vessels shall anchor within these limits.

As this rule was drafted, it appeared to mean that the Fort Gloster mills might be deprived of the full use of their lanchies and cargo boats and flats carrying jute. After communicating with the mills, the Committee recommended that, for the words "no inland vessels shall anchor within these limits" there should be substituted the words "no inland vessels shall lie at anchor or swinging moorings within these limits." The Government of Bengal accepted the recommendation, and the rule was modified in this sense. They also agreed that inland vessels should be permitted to tie up, head and stern, at moorings to be laid down on the Bowrah side, at a site convenient to the mills, and within three hundred feet of high water level on the river bank.

The Indian Ports Act, 1908: Port dues on Government vessels.—The question of the exemption of Government vessels from payment of port dues in Indian ports was referred to in the last annual report. The position then was that the Government of India had declined to make any change in the existing system, whereby all Government vessels are exempt from the payment of these dues. The Government pointed out that, during the war, most of the Port Trusts had raised their dues on private shipping to meet the losses incurred by the decrease of such shipping. It would not, therefore, be either fair or reasonable now to make the change, seeing that the effect would be merely to the further benefit of certain Port Trusts, which had not suffered by the war, without assisting a port such as Calcutta, which had suffered severely. Moreover the proposal if carried out would not, the Government said, benefit shipowners, although it was upon them that the enhanced dues had exclusively fallen.

This position was contested by the Calcutta Port Commissioners, who said that, had the Government dealt with the case more promptly, such a situation could not have arisen. The Committee supported the Commissioners, and pointed out to the Government of Bengal how great the delay in coming to a conclusion had been. They further urged that the question should be reconsidered, for they thought that it might, and in all probability would, be a question of practical importance in the future. In the general interests of the Indian ports it ought, therefore, to be settled now. The Associated Chambers of Commerce, before whom the correspondence was placed, also agreed with this view, and they urged the Government of India to re-open the question.

A further expression of the opinion of the Government of India was communicated, through the Government of Bengal, in August. The Department of Commerce, appeared to be in doubt as to whether the Calcutta Port Commissioners were, or were not, claiming arrears of port dues which would have been payable if the Act had been amended, as suggested, in 1916. In this matter, however, the Government were not prepared to re-consider their decision, which was adverse to any such claims. The proposal that the Act should be so amended as to make Government vessels liable in future was, the Department said, still under consideration.

The Port of Chittagong.—At the Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers of Commerce held in January 1920 the following resolution was unanimously adopted, on the motion of the Chittagong Chamber:—

That Government be asked to guarantee:—

- (a) That advance copies of the Bill relating to the legalising of the transfer be sent to the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce, and the Chittagong Port Commissioners, for favour of criticism and remark;
- (b) That the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce shall be at least as well represented on the new Harbour Board which will be formed to assist the A. D. Ry. Co. Ltd. to administer the port (as Agents for the Government of India as on the existing Port Trust, i.e. by one nominated and two selected members);
- (c) That when the new port Bill, with reference to the transfer of the port, comes before Government, at least one representative of the Chittagong Chamber

of Commerce be asked to serve on the Select Committee to examine the Bill, whether it be before the Imperial Government, or the Government of Bengal.

It was subsequently intimated by the Government of Bengal, when this resolution was submitted to them, that the necessary legislation to effect the transfer of the port was to be temporarily postponed, and that, in the meantime, the existing arrangements would continue. An opportunity would be therefore afforded to those interested to express their views on the Bill whenever it might be ready for consideration.

So far as the Committee of this Chamber are aware the proposed legislation is still in abeyance.

The Imperial Shipping Committee.—The Imperial War Conference 1918 expressed the opinion that shipping on the principal routes, especially between the heart of the empire and the overseas Dominions including India, ought to be brought under review by an inter-imperial board on which the United Kingdom and the British dominions and dependencies should be represented. His Majesty's Government accordingly appointed, in June 1920, an Imperial Shipping Committee, of which the chairman was Sir H. J. Mackinder, M.P. The dominions and dependencies were represented on the committee, the representative of India being Sir William Meyer, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., late Finance Member of the Governor General's Council.

On the 27th July 1920 the Chairman of the Imperial Shipping Committee published, for general information, a notice to the effect that his Committee were prepared to receive suggestions, or representations, in regard to matters included within the scope of their terms of reference which are as follows:—

- (a) To enquire into complaints from persons and bodies interested with regard to ocean freight, facilities and conditions in the inter-imperial trade, or questions of a similar nature referred to them by any of the nominating authorities, and to report their conclusions to the Governments concerned; and
- (b) To survey the facilities for maritime transport of such routes as appear to them to be necessary for trade within the Empire, and to make recommendations to the proper authority for the improvement of such facilities with regard to the type, size, and speed of ships, depth of water in docks and channels, construction of harbour works and similar matters.

This notice was brought to the attention of the Chamber by the Government of India and by the Government of Bengal. And the Committee, after consultation with some of the recognised Associations, submitted to the Imperial Shipping Committee two matters for consideration. The first of these was the urgent need for the establishment of a lighthouse on the Komari reef on the east coast of Ceylon. Since the beginning of 1915 no fewer than five vessels have met with disaster on or in the neighbourhood of this reef, the most recent case being that of the Harrison liner *Botanist*. The second matter to which the Chamber called the attention of the Committee was the need for a directional wireless installation on the pilot vessel at the Sandheads. Masters of steamers now complain that they experience difficulty in locating the pilot vessel at such times as she is off her station. And they have expressed the opinion that, if the pilot vessel were provided

with directional wireless equipment, this difficulty might be overcome.

The Calcutta Jute Fabrics Shippers Association, and the Baled Jute Shippers Association, suggested to the Chamber that a representation should be made to the Imperial Shipping Committee on the question of whether ocean freight rebates are not illegal, and in restraint of trade. The Committee of the Chamber considered this suggestion, but did not see their way to adopt it. Both shipowners and shippers are members of the Chamber, and it is therefore clearly impossible for the Committee to take up a partisan attitude, as between these two sections, in respect of a question concerning which they are at variance. It was accordingly suggested to the Associations that they should themselves put their case before the Imperial Shipping Committee, and this suggestion they adopted.

The International Labour Conference, Genoa.—A special meeting of the International Labour Conference, constituted under the auspices of the League of Nations, was held at Genoa in June last, to deal exclusively with questions relating to seamen. In March and April the Committee were in correspondence with the Government of Bengal, and the Government of India, in regard to the Conference, the agenda for which was as follows :—

(A) The application to seamen of the Convention, drafted at Washington last November, limiting the hours of work in all industrial undertakings, including transport by sea and, under conditions to be determined, transport by inland waterways, to eight hours in the day and forty-eight hours in the week. The modification and health on board ship.

(B) Supervision of articles of agreement. Provision of facilities for finding employment for seamen. Application to seamen of the Convention and Recommendation adopted at Washington in November last in regard to unemployment and unemployment insurance.

(C) The application to seamen of the Convention adopted at Washington prohibiting the employment of children under fourteen years of age.

(D) Consideration of the possibility of drawing up an international seamen's code.

The Government of India defined their views on these subjects in a letter, dated 26th April 1920, to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. They sent a copy of this communication to the Bengal Chamber, and they suggested that it would be useful if the Chambers were also to formulate their views, and to submit them in the form of a memorandum to the India Office. This suggestion was adopted by the Committee, who compiled and forwarded a statement accordingly. Space does not permit of more than the following brief outline of the position of the Chamber as set forth by the Committee in their memorandum :—

(a) The Committee supported the proposal made by the Government of India that in view of the short notice of the Conference India's but

(b) Subject to this reservation the Committee accepted—with reference to item A of the agenda—the principle of a sixty hour

week for seamen. They expressed the opinion that manning scales were not required for this country, and had not been so far prescribed. And they supported the suggestion of the Government of India that shipping companies should be given reasonable time to enlarge the accommodation provided for seamen, should such alterations follow on the adoption of any Convention by the Conference.

(c) As regards item C of the agenda, the Committee thought that the prohibition of licensed employment agencies should not be allowed to interfere with the system of licensed shipping brokers authorised by section 18 of Act I of 1859;

(d) With reference to item D, they pointed out that Indian children under fourteen years of age are not employed on ocean going ships, so far as Bengal is concerned; and

(e) They did not think that any international code could be so devised as to be made applicable to Indian seamen.

The passages question.—It is needless for the Committee to detail here the action that they took, during the year, in connection with the vexed question of passages. But it may be well to mention that, at the Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers which was held in Calcutta in January 1920 this Chamber moved and carried unanimously a resolution protesting against any attempt to reimpose any form of Government control. Subsequently the Committee were reluctantly forced to depart to some extent from this position, in view of the difficulties that were then being experienced. And they expressed themselves as being in favour of the exercise, by the Government, of a limited system of control over homeward passages in the spring of 1921. Ultimately however the Government of India came to the conclusion that it would be a mistake for them to go beyond what they had already done, namely, to induce the steamship companies to institute their own system of control. They felt that this would be sufficient, having in mind the improved position of the steamship companies as regards steamers, and also the fact that the visit to India of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales had been postponed.

Indian seamen.—The Committee have had before them, during the year, the question of the employment of Indian seamen in the winter months on voyages to any port on the east-coast of America north of 38° north latitude. This question was referred to in the last annual report where the action taken by the Chamber, and by the Lines interested, was defined. It is now understood that H. M. Government are opposed to any modification of the existing regulations governing the employment of lascars on the north Atlantic voyages during the winter months. The Committee have again considered the matter in the light of this information, and they have decided to take no further action in regard to it.

Memorial to Indian seamen who lost their lives in the war.—An appeal was issued, in February, for contributions to a memorial to lascars, and others of the sea-going population, who lost their

lives through enemy action in the great war. A Committee was appointed to promote this memorial, and the Hon'ble Sir John Cumming, K.C.S.I., Marine Member of the Government of Bengal, was appointed President of the Fund. So far a sum of Rs. 83,618-14-0 has been collected, of which members of the Chamber have contributed Rs. 23,350. It is the intention to erect, on the banks of the Hooghly, a memorial column, or obelisk, on the base of which will be inscribed the names of all those seamen who lost their lives in the war. The total number of casualties from gun-fire, or torpedoing, was eight hundred and four, while about thirty-three died on duty in the Arctic regions, twelve were injured, and forty-seven died in internment, making a total of nearly nine hundred Indian sailors who lost their lives in enabling the empire to carry on its trade and commerce during the war.

Outward bills of lading.—The Piece-goods Sub-Committee of the Chamber, and the Calcutta Import Trade Association, approached the Committee on the subject of the outward form of bill of lading, which was introduced towards the end of 1919, as the result of negotiations between the steamship lines and the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. Strong exception was taken by importers and the Association urged that the Bengal Chamber should ask the Manchester Chamber to re-consider these in consultation with the steamship companies. The Calcutta Liners Conference and the Shipping Sub-Committee of the Chamber pointed out, on the other hand, that the matter was one for settlement in the United Kingdom, and that the Chamber could not take it up *ex parte*. After discussing it the Committee forwarded all the correspondence to the Manchester Chamber, whose views upon it have not yet been received.

Fumigation of jute cargoes for the Argentine.—The Director General of Commercial Intelligence favoured the Committee, in September, with the following summary of the rules whereby the Argentine Government require all cargoes of jute manufactures shipped from India to be fumigated on arrival:—

- (a) All shipments of jute and jute goods direct from Indian ports must be fumigated in the Argentine whether they have been fumigated in India or not;
- (b) Part cargoes of jute and jute goods of Indian origin transhipped in any other country must be disinfested prior to shipment from that country; and
- (c) Jute goods manufactured in Great Britain or elsewhere (excluding India) shipments of which are exempted but it is considered advisable that such shipments should be re-impounded by a certificate *visé* by the Argentine Consul, to the effect that the goods in question have been manufactured in that particular country.

The Inland Steam Vessels Act, 1917.—The Committee expressed approval of a proposal, put forward by the Government of Bengal, that the following amendment should be made in the rules for the protection of inland steam vessels from danger by collision, namely, the insertion after article 3 of the following:—

Art. 3 (c). A steam vessel when towing other vessels stern shall, in addition to her side lights, carry two bright white lights in a vertical line one over

the other not less than three feet apart in the forepart of the vessel. Each of these lights shall be of the same construction and character as the light prescribed in Article 2 (c).

Headways of railway bridges over navigable channels.

This question, which has been so frequently under discussion in the past, was raised at the Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers of Commerce in January 1920, when the following resolution was adopted:—

That this Conference recommends to the Government of India that, in every case of the construction of a bridge over navigable channels in India and Burma, a special committee should be appointed comprising adequate representation of the non-official members interested.

The Association submitted this resolution to the Government of India, and to the various local Governments interested. The Bengal Government said that they did not object to the appointment of a special committee, as suggested in the resolution. But they emphasised the fact that, in every case in the past, the various Chambers of Commerce, and the steamer companies interested, had been invariably invited to express their views, and that the claims of the contending interests had been carefully weighed. Moreover, the proposal put forward by the Association had been, the local Government thought, anticipated by the orders passed by the Government of India, in the Railway Department, early in February 1919. Certain rules were drawn up at that time, by the Government of India, on the lines of recommendations submitted by a conference which was held in Calcutta on the 17th November 1917. The principles embodied in these rules were to be observed in fixing headways and spans for railway bridges over the waterways of Bengal.

The particular rule* providing for the settlement of disputes did not appear to be so comprehensive as the resolution adopted by the Conference of Chambers. The Committee did not, however, press that point. They recommended that, so far as

* 10. Disputes or differences of opinion in particular cases should be settled in respect of each case by the local Government after reference, as required, to a local committee representative of all interests and presided over by the Commissioner of the division or valley concerned.

regards the three provinces of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and Assam, the local Government should refer all disputes and differences, concerning headways, to the Standing Waterways Advisory Committee. The recommendation was accepted by the local Government, who said that they already had power, under rule 10, to refer differences of opinion to the Waterways Advisory Committee. And they gave an assurance that all such disputes, or differences, should be so referred in the future.

The Standing Waterways Advisory Committee.—This Committee, which is mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and which was originally appointed in 1906, has been recently re-constituted and enlarged. It is now representative of the three local Governments, (Bengal, Bihar & Orissa, and Assam), the Railways, the Calcutta Port Commissioners, the Bengal, and the Bengal

National, Chambers of Commerce, the commercial interests of Eastern Bengal, and the Inland Steamer Companies. Its functions are to advise on:—

- (a) the maintenance and improvement of waterways, more especially the Ganges, Brahmaputra, Meghna group which connect Bengal with Bihar and Orissa on the one side and with Assam on the other; and
- (b) the regulation of traffic on these waterways.

Mr. R. Langford James (Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd.) is the representative of the Chamber on the Committee.

The Grand Trunk Canal.—The Committee observed with satisfaction, in August last, that the Secretary of State for India had sanctioned the Grand Trunk Canal scheme which has been consistently advocated by the Chamber for many years. The canal will, it is estimated, cost Rs. 300 lakhs. It will be 22½ miles long, and between 250 and 400 feet wide; and it will extend from Barnagar, on the Hooghly near Calcutta, to Kulti on the Kuligong river. It will include an inland harbour at Manikola, which will tend to relieve the congestion on the Hooghly by permitting vessels to turn without entering the river. The harbour and its connected basins will provide a frontage of nearly fourteen miles; and it is believed that, with these facilities, a new industrial centre will be created in the neighbourhood. The construction of the canal will afford the means of reclaiming a large water-logged area in the vicinity of Calcutta. And this will, it is hoped, improve the sanitary conditions, and afford an avenue for the expansion of the city towards the east.

The Government of Bengal expressed a wish that the effect of the scheme on the land available for the extension of Calcutta should be considered in communication with the various public bodies concerned; and that the selected alignment for the canal in the vicinity of Calcutta should be generally accepted by them as the most suitable from every point of view. They accordingly decided to appoint a local Committee, representative of the various interests concerned, to whom the completed scheme would be submitted for consideration and approval. The following bodies were invited by the Government to be represented on the Committee, namely, the Calcutta Corporation, the Calcutta Improvement Trust, the Calcutta Port Commissioners, the Cossipore-Chitpur Municipality, the Manikola Municipality, the District Board of the 24 Parganas, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth, the Vice-President, represented the Chamber on the Committee.

The Nadia rivers.—In 1914 the Government of Bengal placed Major Hirst, Director of Surveys, Bengal & Assam, on special duty to enquire into the conditions of the Upper Hooghly, and its feeders. And in 1917 the Government appointed a committee to advise upon the steps to be taken to carry out systematic

observations of the changes in these rivers; and also, if possible, to improve their condition as navigable channels, and as feeders for the Lower Hooghly. This Committee reported in August 1919, dividing their recommendations into three main heads:—

- (a) The preparation and co-ordination of records for the investigation of the progress of deterioration in the river Hooghly;
- (b) Practical measures for the conservation and improvement of the feeders of the river Hooghly; and
- (c) Administrative control of the connected river system.

The Committee also suggested the appointment of a Board to examine all important projects which are likely to restrict the free flow of flood water, and to report to Government before such projects are sanctioned. This suggestion was accepted by the Government of Bengal, who decided to constitute a permanent Board for the purpose. The Chief Engineer, Irrigation Department, Bengal, is the President of this Board, and its members are:—the Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal, the Director of Agriculture, Bengal, the Hon. Sir Alexander Murray, C.B.E., President of the Chamber; and Mr. P. Parrott, of the joint inland steamer companies.

The Eastern Bengal River Police.—The Inspector-General of Police, Bengal, asked the Chamber, early in the year, for an opinion on the working of the river police scheme, which has been in force, in the Eastern Bengal districts, for the past few years. The Chamber was interested in this scheme when it was started, and the Committee were glad to have an opportunity of expressing their views upon it. They consulted the Associations interested in the jute trade, together with various firms of jute merchants and others, in addition to the inland steamer companies, and the Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents Association. They ascertained that the scheme was considered to be a success, and that the general opinion was in favour of its continuance. Certain modifications were suggested, and these the Committee placed before the Inspector-General. The most important of them was that the force—whose powers have been so far preventive rather than punitive—should be given punitive powers. And it was suggested that they should now be empowered to arrest and to prosecute. It was likewise recommended that the organisation should be made more complete; and that patrols should be increased. Further, it was thought that the river police might assist in the regulation of the country-boat traffic, and in the enforcement of rules for the showing of proper lights by country-boats. A central information bureau was also deemed to be desirable; and the opinion was expressed that the police might adopt protective measures in the case of losses, wrecks, etc., so as to prevent jute and other cargo being stolen.

RAILWAYS.

Indian Railways. The supply of transport facilities.—The deficient supply of railway transport facilities, which has been so

frequently before the Chamber in the past, has been almost constantly under the consideration of the Committee during the year. Only a few days after they had taken office they submitted to the Railway Board a representation from the Calcutta Wheat and Seed Trade Association. Great difficulty was being experienced in obtaining railway wagons for the carriage of linseed, and other produce, to Calcutta. In reply the Board said that, notwithstanding their depleted resources, the railways were being called upon to carry, to the western ports, an abnormal traffic, which should ordinarily go by sea. Arrangements were being made for the provision of shipping to convey Royal Indian Marine coal to western India; and some of the private bunker coal to Bombay was already being diverted to the sea route.

The Committee agreed with the Railway Board as to the advisability of coal going—as it always went before the war—by sea, instead of by rail, to the western ports. And they thought that it was a step in the right direction for the Royal Indian Marine coal, and for private bunker coal for Bombay, to be diverted to the sea route. They understood however that quantities of rice were being sent by rail from Calcutta to Karachi and to Bombay, notwithstanding the fact that sea freight was available. There was believed to be a surplus of rice at Karachi, for which reason exports there had been permitted.

At about the same time the Committee were invited, by the Railway Board, to express an opinion on certain proposals with reference to the carriage of coal. These proposals, which had been put forward by the Indian Mining Federation, were as follows:—

(a) That a Committee consisting of the Coal Manager of the East Indian Railway and the Coal Manager of the Bengal Nagpur Railway, a representative of the Indian Mining Association, and a representative of the Indian Mining Federation, should be appointed to administer the wagon supply rules agreed to at the conference held in Calcutta on the 13th January 1920; and

(b) That the post of Coal Transportation Officer be abolished.

The Committee did not favour these proposals. They agreed with the Indian Mining Association that it is not the business of the coal trade to allot railway wagons; and that the arrangements made at the meeting held on the 13th January 1920 ought to be carried out by the railways themselves. Similarly, they agreed with the Indian Mining Association that the post of Coal Transportation Officer should be retained. For the position was not such as to justify the termination of the appointment, which was considered to be of material assistance to the coal trade.

At the end of May the Railway Board urged that, owing to the continued pressure on the capacity of the railways, it was very desirable to carry all coal for bunkering purposes from Calcutta by sea to the port of destination. This was merely of course a proposal to revert to the practice in existence prior to the war, when coal for bunkering purposes was usually carried from Calcutta to other Indian bunkering ports by sea. The Board pointed out that, as the quantity of coal with which the Kidderpore Dock can deal is limited, it would be necessary to curtail the amount to be exported to foreign ports, and that they proposed to prohibit such export except under license.

The Committee discussed this question with Mr. R. W. Church, the Mining Engineer to the Railway Board, at a special meeting held on the 8th June. To this meeting they invited representatives of the Railways, the Calcutta Port Commissioners, the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, the Indian Mining Association, and the Indian Mining Federation, together with the Collector of Customs, (Mr. A. H. Lloyd, I.C.S.) and the Coal Transportation Officer (Mr. F. C. Legge, C.B.E.). The meeting was adjourned until the 10th June, and in the meantime a specially appointed Sub-Committee considered the questions at issue, and framed recommendations. These recommendations were discussed at the adjourned meeting, and they were ultimately adopted in the following form:—

- (a) That the principle of transferring railway-borne coal to the sea-route, to the greatest extent possible, be unreservedly accepted; and that the wagons so released from the railway routes should be available for general traffic—merchandise and public coal—and should not be utilised for the Mining Engineer's requirements for loco or other coal.
- (b) That the Government estimate of 102 wagons daily, as being the number of wagons needed for their requirements, be likewise accepted.
- (c) That the proposal to give preference to Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co's requirements over other bunker coal might, react unfairly upon other steamship owners, and could not, therefore, be accepted; that their estimate should be included in the same category as the estimate for other public bunkers, it being left to the licensing officer to protect mail steamer requirements; that the figure of 120 wagons daily should not be accepted in the absence of details and destinations; and that any estimate of Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co's requirements should be inclusive of the exports from their own berths at Garden Reach;
- (d) That Calcutta and Achen be treated, not as foreign, but as Indian ports, it being recognised that this recommendation involves the licensing of all public shipments, including Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co's coal, and all bunker coal irrespective of destination, and, further, that it involves the licensing of Calcutta bunkers in order that the sale, by steamers, of their surplus bunkers may be prevented;
- (e) That, with reference to the question of loading at the Kidderpore Dock, the granting of priority, under Government ordinance, should be strongly deprecated; but
- (f) That, on the other hand, a Government ordinance prohibiting export, except under license, is absolutely essential to protect shippers in respect of current and forward commitments; and that this ordinance should be promulgated at the earliest possible moment;
- (g) That steamers, already on the berthing list for the month of June and arriving in the port of Calcutta before the 1st July 1920, should be allowed to complete their requirements, irrespective of any system of licensing that may be introduced; and
- (h) That licenses for cargo coal be given only to colliery owners and/or consignee managing agents of collieries.

A further special meeting of the Committee was held on the 30th June at which, in addition to the officials and non-officials already referred to, Mr. C. A. Innes, C.B.E., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, in the Department of Commerce and Industry, and Mr. E. A. S. Bell, C.B.E., a Member of the Railway Board, were present. At this meeting the question was again fully discussed, and it was unanimously agreed:—

- (a) That the export of all coal from India, except under license, should be prohibited; and that the licensing scheme should include bunker coal for Indian ports and Calcutta bunkers;
- (b) That bunker coal for Indian ports, including R. I. M. coal, should be diverted from the all-rail to the sea route;

- (c) That the quantity of coal to be exported monthly, through the Kidderpore Docks, might be estimated at 250,000 tons ;
- (d) That, of this quantity, preference should be given, in any rationing scheme to be devised, to bunker coal for Indian ports, including R. I. M. coal ;
- (e) That, after such coal had been provided for, the balance of the estimated total monthly quantity should be allocated to the following ports, priority being given in the order named : (a) Colombo, (b) Aden, (c) Singapore, and (d) Sabang ;
- (f) That the issue, by the Government of India, of a notification, under section 3 of the Import and Export of Goods Act, prohibiting the export of coal except under license, would be sufficient protection to shippers in respect of commitments that they might be unable to fulfil by reason of the prohibition ;
- (g) That action in the direction of prohibition should be taken by the Government of India as soon as practicable, their intentions being announced by a press communique, to be followed, after the lapse of a fortnight, by the notification under section 3 of the Import and Export of Goods Act ; and
- (h) That preference on the railways, for bunker coal, should continue for one month after the issue of the notification, in order to give Bombay and Karachi time to make arrangements to get coal by the sea route.

The Government press communique was issued on the 9th July, and the notification referred to above on the 24th July. All coal leaving Calcutta by sea after that date was required to be licensed ; and Mr. A. H. Lloyd, I.C.S., Collector of Customs, Calcutta, was appointed Licensing Officer. To the end of August Bombay, Karachi, and Madras continued to receive preferential treatment in the matter of wagons for the conveyance of bunker coal by the all-rail route. But from the beginning of September no preference was given on the railways for bunker coal required for Indian ports, except from the coalfields to the Kidderpore Docks.

These restrictive measures did not, however, prove to be sufficient. By the middle of October matters again became acute, as all industrial concerns in and around Calcutta were running on dangerously small supplies of coal. The position tended to become worse, and it was such as to give rise to considerable anxiety to those responsible for mills, factories, and similar undertakings. It became evident to the Committee that further action must be taken, and they first arranged for an informal meeting to be held of three of their members* together with the Licensing Officer and the Coal Transportation Officer. The non-officials present at this informal meeting agreed to the following

*The President of the Chamber.
Sir George (Jodrey).
Mr. B. A. White.

recommendations :—

- (a) That every effort should be made to increase the margin of wagons available daily for the public ;
- (b) That to this end the Licensing Officer's programme under the heads "foreign" and "bunkers" should be rigidly cut down to the minimum ;
- (c) That larger quantities of loco coal should be diverted from the all-rail to the part-rail and part-sea route ;
- (d) That steps should be taken to raise the wagon supplies available for public requirements ;
- (e) That a further meeting of all the interests immediately concerned, on the lines of the meetings held in June, should be convened at the earliest and

- (f) That among the items to be submitted to such meeting should be a proposal that representations be made to Government, setting forth the urgent necessity there is for immediately increasing the capacity of railways in India, and that early steps should be taken with a view to providing the funds necessary for the purpose.

The Committee accepted these recommendations, and they arranged for a further meeting, which was held on the 3rd December 1920. On their invitation Mr. C. A. Innes, C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Commerce, came again from Delhi to be present at the meeting, and the railways, the Calcutta Port Commissioners, the coal trade, the jute mills, and other interests were represented. The meeting decided to approach the Government of India on the subject of the improvement of the railway facilities in and around the coal-fields. And the following resolutions were also recorded :—

- (a) That every effort should be made to increase the margin of wagons available daily for the public.
- (b) That to this end it should be recommended to the Government of India that exports of coal to foreign ports should be stopped altogether as soon as it was possible to take this step (an exception being made in favour of coal for the Ceylon Government Railway) and the bunkering of steamers in Indian ports should be rigorously restricted.
- (c) That larger quantities of loco and industrial coal should be diverted from the all-rail route to the part-rail and part-sea route.
- (d) That it should be left to the Coal Transportation Officer to make the best distribution possible in the circumstances, of coal available for public requirements, every effort being made to ensure that the different industries should get an equitable share of the wagons available.

The Committee, in addressing the Government of India, showed that the industrial interests of Calcutta had really no alternative but to urge the rigorous restriction of the supply of bunker coal to steamers engaged in the Indian trade, and the stoppage of supplies to the bunkering ports of Aden, Colombo, Singapore, and Sabang. They went on to say :—

Measures such as the stoppage of exports to foreign ports, and the restriction of the supplies of bunker coal to steamers engaged in the Indian trade, being being unground in themselves are at the best mere palliatives. They do not go to the root of the problem. The only remedy is to improve the railways until they are capable of handling the trade of the country ; and the Committee of the Chamber feel bound to say that the Government of India will incur a grave responsibility if they neglect to apply this remedy. The Chamber is not overlooking the fact that a special Railway Committee is assembling this month to consider, among other matters, the question of railway finance. But some time must of necessity elapse before the recommendations of this Committee can be even formulated, much less considered and put into force. On the other hand the position in regard to coal is such that no time ought to be lost in dealing effectively with it. The Railway Board should consider, in consultation with the authorities of the East Indian and the Bengal-Nagpur Railways, what measures can be taken immediately to improve the railway transport facilities for coal ; and, in the opinion of the Chamber, the money required for these measures should be found at whatever cost. For even in the present state of the public finances it is very doubtful if the Government can be held to be justified in starving the railways ; and it is impossible to resist the conclusion that a short-sighted policy in this direction can only lead to disastrous results in the near future.

Indian Railways : Pooling of goods rolling-stock.—From the beginning of the year there has been in force, on all Indian broad

gange railways, an arrangement whereby a general pool of their goods rolling-stock has been formed. The old rules for the interchange of rolling-stock provided for the prompt return, to the owning line, of wagons after unloading, some slight diversion being allowed to secure a load to, or in the direction of, the owning line. Under the new system of pooling any wagons, irrespective of ownership, can be loaded indiscriminately from one broad-gauge station to any other broad-gauge station. This system was introduced with the object of obtaining the best possible use of the rolling-stock available; and the question to what extent this object has been attained, and whether the system should be continued or modified, was under discussion recently by the Indian Railway Conference Association. From the railway point of view the new method has its advantages and disadvantages; and the President of the Association enquired if, in the opinion of the Chamber, it had been beneficial to the trade of the country as a whole.

In mercantile circles in Calcutta some difference of opinion exists on the subject. But the Committee felt justified in saying that pooling had been beneficial to the trade of the country as a whole. At the same time the information before them pointed to the conclusion that, so far as regards the province of Bengal, the system which has been in force since the beginning of the year has not proved to be so beneficial as was anticipated. The method of control operates against despatching railways, and in favour of receiving railways. Wagons despatched from this side of India have been unduly delayed by the receiving railways in other parts of the country, with the result that the general trade of this province has been at times more or less starved for the benefit of the trade of other provinces. Holding this view the Committee suggested, for the consideration of the Association, that endeavours should be made to establish a more effective method of control for the distribution of rolling-stock. What appeared to them to be required was the adoption of such a procedure as would ensure a more prompt return of the wagons by the receiving railways. If the pooling system could be modified in this direction, the objection to it so far as Bengal is concerned would be, the Committee thought, removed.

Indian Railways: Rates for the carriage of coal.—On the 23rd November, the Railway Board notified that, owing to the continued increase in the cost of working consequent on further rises in wages and prices of materials, the railways had been forced to consider the question of the rates charged for the carriage of coal. The existing rates, which were fixed as from the 1st April 1920, are found to be unremunerative, and to involve actual loss in some cases. The Government of India had accordingly approved public coal, with effect from the 1st April 1921:—

For distances from	1 to 200 miles	0.15 pie per maund per mile.
plus for	201 to 300 "	0.15 " " "
" "	301 to 700 "	0.07 " " "
" "	701 miles and beyond	0.06 " " "

Indian Railways: Resolutions of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India and Ceylon.—It may be noted here that, on the motion of the Bombay Chamber, the following resolution, with reference to railway finance, was adopted by the Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers held in Calcutta in January 1920:—

That Government be urged to consider:—

- whether the pre-war method of financing renewals on certain railways will be adequate to make good within a reasonable time the heavy wear and tear of railway equipment during the war; and
- if not, whether it would not be possible to devise means to provide funds, as a temporary measure, outside the budget, to enable these renewals to be carried out as quickly as new equipment can be obtained, the actual debts to railway revenue being spread over a period of years.

The Conference also accepted the following resolution on the motion of the Bengal Chamber:—

That it is desirable to give every facility for the construction of railways by private enterprises—in respect of which this Conference notes with satisfaction the views of Government as expressed by His Excellency the Viceroy in his opening address to this Conference—and that the Government be asked to declare the terms on which they are willing to grant concessions for this purpose.

On the motion of the Punjab Chamber the following resolution was also adopted by the Conference, but was subsequently put back for re-consideration at the Conference held in January 1921 when it was abandoned:—

This Conference recommends to the Government of India that the recommendation of the Indian Industrial Commission about the desirability of appointing a non-official commercial member of the Railway Board be given effect to at the earliest possible date.

Indian Railways: The Railway Committee.—It was stated in the Indian Legislative Council, on the 25th February and on the 2nd September 1920, that a Committee would be appointed to consider, and to advise the Government of India on certain matters connected with the administration of railways in India. The appointment of this Committee was formally announced on the 9th October 1920, and the terms of reference were defined. These were:—

(1) To consider, as regards railways owned by the State, the relative advantages, financial and administrative, in the special circumstances of India, of the following methods of management:—

- Direct State management;
- Management through a company domiciled in England and with a board sitting in London;
- Management through a company domiciled in India and with a board sitting in India;
- Management through a combination of (b) and (c);

and to advise as to the policy to be adopted as and when the existing contracts with the present railway companies can be determined. (In considering the question of the East Indian Railway, the committee will take note of the decision to remove the management of that railway to India, which was arrived at when the contract with the present company was extended on the amended terms in 1919).

(2) To examine the functions, status and constitution of the Railway Board, and the system of control exercised by the Government of India over the railway administrations, and to recommend such modifications, if any, as are necessary for the adequate disposal of the railway business of the Government.

(3) To consider arrangements for the financing of railways in India and in particular the feasibility of the greater utilization of private enterprise and capital in the construction of new lines.

(4) To report whether the present system of control by Government of rates and fares and the machinery for deciding disputes between railways and traders are satisfactory, and if not, to advise what modifications are desirable.

(5) To make recommendations that may seem germane to the enquiry.

The President of the Committee is Sir William Acworth, and the other members are: Sir Arthur R. Anderson, K.T., C.B.E., C.B., Sir Henry P. Burt, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Sir George C. Godfrey, Mr. E. H. Hiley, C.B.E., Sir R. N. Mookerjee, K.C.I.E., Mr. Purshotamdas Thakurdas, C.I.E., M.B.E., The Hon'ble Mr. V. S. Srinivas Sastri & Mr. J. Luke, Mr. E. A. White, (Messrs. Bird & Co.) was appointed to represent European commercial interests, but owing to illness was unable to serve. Sir Henry Ledgard, late of Cawnpore, succeeded Mr. White. The views of the Chamber were formulated in a memorandum which was submitted to the Railway Committee on the 14th January 1921, and was supported by oral evidence tendered by the Vice-President, Mr. R. M. Watson Smyth, M.L.C.

Railway development in Northern Bengal.—The question of railway development in Northern Bengal was last under the consideration of the Chamber in 1915, and it was referred to in the report for that year. It was recently raised again by the Railway Board, who formulated the following broad policy, the idea being that the individual schemes will be considered when the financial situation permits:—

- (a) That the southern part of the area north of the Ganges and west of the main line to Siliguri can best be developed by broad gauge lines running generally north and south, and focussed at Ishardul so as to make the fullest use of the Haridwar bridge, existing metre gauge lines being converted as far northwards as is commercially justifiable;
- (b) That when it becomes necessary to provide more accommodation for through east and west metre gauge traffic these should be provided by doubling the Katihar-Parbatipur line, and not by building another line on some other alignment;
- (c) That the broad gauge should be continued to Siliguri on the one hand, and eventually to Katihar on the other, and that the area enclosed between these two lines, and south of the Katihar-Parbatipur line, should be a broad gauge area;
- (d) That the country north of the Katihar-Parbatipur line, and west of the main line from Parbatipur to Siliguri, should be considered as a metre gauge area, and that all lines in that area whether north and south, or east and west, should be on the metre gauge; and
- (e) That investigations of the whole area under consideration be made by an experienced traffic officer who should freely consult the local authorities, in order to decide on the best general alignments.

The Committee considered these proposals in consultation with the various mercantile associations interested, and they made the following comments upon them:—

The proposals thus raised are of considerable interest to the Chamber, and to several of the principal mercantile Associations recognised by it. They have been consequently examined with care and attention; and I have been instructed to invite the Board to consider the following remarks concerning them:—

(a) It is agreed that the broad gauge system offers the best chance of development for the southern part of the area, and that existing metre gauge lines should be converted as far northwards as is commercially justifiable.

(b) With this proposal the Committee are in complete accord. But they are inclined to doubt if the doubling of the existing Katihar-Parbatipur line

will be required for a number of years, except perhaps between Dinajpur and Parbatipur. For relief will be given by the contemplated metre gauge lines and Kisingunge to Siliguri and Jalpaiguri, and the direct Purneah-Dalkolha line.

(c) The Committee are likewise in accord with the proposal that the broad gauge should be continued to Siliguri on the one hand, and eventually to Katihar on the other. Further, they support the view that the area enclosed between these two lines, and south of the Katihar-Parbatipur line, should be a broad gauge area. It has, however, been suggested—and they support the suggestion—that the proposed Dinajpur-Mahuli, Dinajpur-Nachool and Dinajpur-Santalar lines will hardly warrant the additional cost of the broad gauge; and that these might well be left as cheap metre gauge railways suitable for carrying local traffic. For it is not anticipated that other than local traffic will come to them.

(d) The proposal that the country north of the Katihar-Parbatipur line and west of the main line from Siliguri should be considered a metre gauge area is also accepted by the Committee. As regards the Kasia-Kisingunge line, the information before the Committee confirms the belief of the Board that the southerly alignment from Purneah to Dalkolha has many advantages over the more direct route.

(e) The Committee have no remarks to offer with reference to this clause.

The Committee also again expressed themselves as being strongly in favour of the continuance of the broad gauge to Siliguri. The urgency of this project they emphasised strongly in 1915, and they had no hesitation in again drawing attention to it.

Eastern Bengal Railway: Rates for jute.—In November 1919 the Agent of the Eastern Bengal Railway informed the Chamber that, owing to the increased cost of living, it had become necessary to enhance the salaries of the staff; and that this, combined with the higher cost of railway material, etc., had resulted in a very heavy increase in the working expenditure of the railway. Every endeavour had been made to effect economies, but notwithstanding that it would be necessary, in order to meet the heavier expenditure, for the railway to obtain improved earnings by other means. The goods rates had been slightly raised; but, owing to the preponderance of the jute traffic, these would not lead to material financial gain. With the exception of jute the only other heavy item of traffic on the railway was coal; and, as the lead for coal was so short, an enhancement of coal rates would not be of much assistance. It was proposed therefore to decrease the rebates granted on the rates for pressed, or baled, jute.

The various jute associations pointed out that, although this reduction in the rebates would increase the rates for baled jute, it left these for drummed jute untouched. This was considered to be unsatisfactory, and the Railway authorities agreed, on the point being put to them, that the rates for drummed jute should be increased by 10% and that the rebates on baled jute should be left undisturbed. As the rates for drummed jute are the basis rates, this meant that both drummed and pressed jute would contribute towards the increased revenue required by the railway.

The change came into operation as from the 1st August 1920.

Darjeeling Himalayan Railway: Enhancement of rates.—The European Association drew the attention of the Chamber to certain increases in rates which came into force on the Darjeeling

Himalayan Railway with effect from the 1st October 1920. The Darjeeling Planters Association, and the Darjeeling Branch of the European Association, had protested against these increases as being excessive, particularly in view of the prevailing high level of prices, and the unsatisfactory condition of the tea industry. The Committee considered the matter, in consultation with the Darjeeling and Dooars Sub-Committee of the Indian Tea Association, who had also protested against the increases. They came to the conclusion, however, that no useful purpose would be served by action on the part of the Chamber.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

The English Mail.—In May the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs discussed several important postal and telegraph matters with the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. Among these was the question of the day of the arrival, in Bombay, of the English mail steamer. The Bombay Chamber took the view that Friday is by far the most suitable day, and this opinion was strongly endorsed by the Bengal Chamber. Prior to the war it was for some time the practice for the steamer to reach Bombay on Friday; and it followed that the English mail was delivered in Calcutta on Sunday. Experience showed this to be an entirely convenient arrangement for the general public, and for the commercial community. Its resumption is therefore desirable, and the Committee suggested to the Director General that it should be resumed as far as the limited number of fast mail steamers might permit. They added that, on those occasions when the steamer cannot reach Bombay by Friday, there should be no question of slowing down in order to avoid, for example, a Sunday arrival. The steamer ought to reach Bombay at the earliest possible moment, and the postal staff should be sufficiently large to enable the mail matter to be promptly handled, without putting any unreasonable strain upon the men.

Delivery in Calcutta of the English Mail.—Mention was made, in the last report, of the fact that the special mail train from Bombay had been sent on several occasions *via* Jhansi and Cawnpore, owing to a breach on the Jubbulpore section of the East Indian Railway. This diversion entailed considerable delay in the delivery of the English mail in Calcutta. And the Committee took the view that, as the Jubbulpore route was not available at the time, the Bengal-Nagpur Railway should have been made for bringing the mail by Jubbulpore route, *via* Jhansi and Cawnpore. The Director General stated that in future, when the Jubbulpore route was interrupted, the special would be diverted *via* Nagpur. As regards using the Nagpur route ordinarily for the special train, instead of that *via* Jubbulpore, the Director General said that this arrangement would not materially benefit Calcutta. On the other hand it would involve extra expense, and would cause considerable inconvenience to several very important places.

The Committee did not pursue the matter further, and they have not since heard of any complaints in respect of it.

Rate of Exchange on Sterling Money Orders.—The Associated Chambers of Commerce circulated recently a protest which they had addressed to the Government of India on a case which had arisen in connection with the sale of sterling money-orders. It appeared that, in March 1920, the rate of exchange for these orders had been altered from Rs. 6-15 to Rs. 7-8 per pound sterling. But the Rangoon Post Office, not having received the information, issued a number of the orders at the lower rate. The postal authorities, on learning of these issues, instructed the Bombay Post Office, by telegraph, that the money-orders were to be paid at destination at the rate of Rs. 7-8. The Burma Chamber protested against this decision, and it was reversed. But ultimately the Government of India decided that the Post Office was not liable for the error. The Associated Chambers protested against this decision on the part of the Government, and they urged that there should be no hesitation as to the course to be followed in such a case. All technical questions of liability under rules should be, they urged, set aside, and the contracts, which were regularly made in the ordinary course of business, should be fulfilled.

The Government of India refrained from expressing an opinion on the matter for the reason that they understood it was being brought before the courts.

The V.P.P. System between Great Britain and India.—In the report for the year 1918 the Committee mentioned that the proposed extension of the cash-on-delivery system to the exchange of parcels between the United Kingdom and India had been under their consideration, but that they had not expressed a definite opinion either for or against it. In thus abstaining from supporting or opposing the suggestion they were following the line adopted by their predecessors in 1908. That the scheme would be in some respects advantageous they admitted but it might be, they thought, antagonistic to the interests of retailers throughout the country. During the year 1919 the position changed entirely, so much so that, at the beginning of 1920, the Committee came to the conclusion that it would be idle for them to suggest that their previous attitude any longer represented the views of the commercial community. Opinion had been modified largely by the fact that the retail rupee prices of imported goods had remained stationary, or had fallen but slightly, notwithstanding the great advance in exchange. It was true of course that sterling prices in the United Kingdom had risen to an extraordinary level. But it was possible nevertheless to buy at retail establishments in the United Kingdom at prices which, when converted into rupees, were far below the rupee prices ruling in Calcutta for similar goods. There seemed, therefore, to the Committee to be no reason why the consumers of British goods in India should not have every facility given to them to fulfil their requirements at the lowest possible prices. The cash-on-delivery system might, they thought, help in this

direction; and they accordingly urged the Government of India to introduce it.

There was throughout the country at the time a consensus of opinion in favour of the introduction of the system, which was brought into operation by the Government on and from the 12th April 1920.

The Postal Committee.—By a resolution dated 19th April 1920 the Government of India, in the Commerce Department, appointed a Committee of Government officers, non-officials, and representatives of the staff of the Post Office, to enquire into the conditions of service and pay of the subordinate postal staff. The President of the Committee was Mr. H. N. Haseltine, C.I.E., formerly of the Indian Finance Department. The terms of reference were "to enquire into the conditions of service of the "non-gazetted supervising, clerical, sorting, delivery and menial establishments employed in the postal branch and such subordinate establishments of the telegraph branch, including telephone staff, as have not been dealt with by the recent Telegraph Staff Committee with special reference to the rates of pay and allowances, the hours of duty and the numbers which have been laid down for fixing the strength of the staff." The Committee reported at the end of August 1920, but their recommendations are not of course such as need to be referred to here. Soon after their appointment they asked this Chamber, for information in regard to the pay, etc. of clerks in banks and mercantile offices in Bengal.

Mr. R. W. Puckley, Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

Mr. A. N. Dix, Bank of Bengal.

Mr. M. A. Hughes, Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.

Mr. J. H. Slater, Messrs. Bird & Co.

particulars contained in this were forwarded by the Chamber to the Postal Committee.

The Telegraph Administration.—Towards the end of 1919 members of the Chamber brought to notice instances in which telegrams so badly written as to be more or less illegible had been received from the Calcutta Central Telegraph Office. These cases raised the question of whether all messages should not be re-produced either by the typewriter, or some other mechanical means. From a personal inspection of the Central Telegraph Office the Committee were satisfied that everything possible was being done there, by the Superintendent and his staff, to assist the public. But, in the absence of sufficient mechanical facilities, handwriting has still to be employed to some extent. The aim of the telegraph administration is to extend the use of the Baudot mechanical telegraph as being by far the best and the most satisfactory instrument. With this aim the Committee are in sympathy, and they asked the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, at the beginning of the year, if there was any likelihood of the extension of the system in the near future. They were informed, in reply,

that the Department was endeavouring to obtain more Baudot instruments, and that these would be installed as they became available.

Rates for foreign cables: Delays to cables.—At the Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers of Commerce held in Calcutta in January 1920 the two following resolutions were adopted—

(1) That the charges for foreign telegrams, particularly those from India to the United Kingdom and Australia, are now unreasonably heavy in view of the position of the sterling exchange; and that this Conference urges the Government of India to take immediately such action as may be calculated to bring about a reduction.

(2) That in the opinion of this Conference serious injury is being sustained by the import and export trade of India as a result of the prolonged delays that are now customary in the transmission of foreign telegrams, in particular those to and from the United Kingdom; and

That this Conference desires to ask for the co-operation of Government in the limitation of telegraphic and cable messages by Government itself to such matters only as cannot be dealt with by post; and further

That the Government of India be moved to impress upon His Majesty's Government the imperative need for prompt remedial measures.

Through the courtesy of the Hon'ble Sir George Barnes, K.C.B., K.C.S.I. an informal meeting was held at the Calcutta office of the Indian Telegraph Department on the 10th January, the day after the Conference closed. In addition to the Honourable Member, the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs was present, as were also representatives of the Chambers. Subsequently a summary of the discussion which took place was published for general information. In this the position as regards delays was defined, as were also the efforts which were being made, by the cable companies, to improve matters. In view of the then high exchange ruling, the Chambers had urged a reduction in rates; and at the meeting it was pointed out, by the Director General, that with exchange at 2s. the charge on a message to Europe would be about 14s. It had however to be remembered that India lost on the amount collected as its share, from the cable companies, on telegrams coming into and crossing India.

On the 12th February the Government of India announced that the rate on foreign telegrams from India to Europe would be reduced from Re. 1-4 to Re. 1, with effect from the 1st March; and that the rate would be subject to revision once in every three months. In April the Committee pressed for a further reduction, in view of the fact that exchange was above 2s. The Director General did not however see his way to comply with this request; and, as subsequently exchange declined, the question was not pressed.

The Telegraph Administration: The Indian Telegraph Gazette.—In the last annual report the Committee referred to the fact that the cost of printing and publishing the *Indian Telegraph Gazette* was in excess of the revenue derived from its sale. This question had been raised, in 1919, by the telegraph authorities who had proposed either, to reduce the rate of subscription, or to lessen the number of issues daily from six to three.

The Committee, in considering these suggestions, had favoured the latter alternative; and they had recommended 9, 12 and 16 hours as the most convenient times for publication. But later on the Vice-Chairman of the Calcutta Port Commissioners complained of the reduction in the number of issues. For it was found that the Harbour Masters Department could not get information as to the movements of steamers in time to allow of the issue of orders to assistant harbour masters. The result was that steamers coming up the river were detained at Garden Reach waiting for the assistant harbour masters. Six issues daily were, the Vice-Chairman of the Commissioners said, essential; and he suggested that the times should be 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 19 hours.

The Committee did not take exception to this, and they ascertained from the telegraph authorities what the additional cost would be. The annual subscription, up to that time, to the *Gazette* had been Rs. 120. To permit of six issues, this was raised to Rs. 160, with effect from the 1st March.

The Indian Wireless Telegraphy (Shipping) Act, 1920.—The Committee examined this Act, which was passed during the autumn session of the Imperial Legislative Council, but they did not offer any criticisms with respect to it. The provision of wireless telegraph installations on various classes of British ships registered in the United Kingdom is compulsory under certain English statutes. But several classes of ships plying in Indian waters did not come within the scope of these Acts. The Government of India decided to supply this omission by legislation; and they framed the Bill on the lines of the English Merchant Shipping (Wireless Telegraphy) Act 1919. It applies primarily to sea-going British ships registered in British India; but ships other than British ships registered in British India will also become subject to its provisions while they are within any port in British India.

FINANCE.

The Exchange and Currency Question.—The report of the Indian Exchange and Currency Committee 1919 was published early in February 1920. The fundamental recommendations which were made in it were thus summarised by the Secretary of State for India:—

- that the present rupee, unchanged in weight and fineness, should remain unlimited legal tender;
- that the rupee should have a fixed exchange value and that this exchange value should be expressed in terms of gold at the rate of one rupee for 11·30016 grains of fine gold, that is, one-tenth of the gold contents of the sovereign;
- that the sovereign which is now rated by law at rupees 15 should be made legal tender in India at the revised rate of rupees ten to one sovereign;
- that the import and export of gold to and from India should be free from Government control so soon as the change in the statutory ratio has been effected, and that the gold mint at Bombay should be open for the coining into sovereigns of gold tendered by public;
- that the notification of Government undertaking to give rupees for sovereigns should be withdrawn;

(f) that the prohibition on the private import and export of silver should be removed in due course and that the import duty on silver should be repeated unless the fiscal position demands its retention.

On the 2nd February 1920 the Government of India announced that the acquisition rate for gold imported under license into India had been fixed at ten rupees for each sovereign tendered for import, or one rupee for 11·30016 grains of fine gold. The Finance Department also said that Council drafts would be offered by the Secretary of State at his discretion; but that no limitation would be given as to the minimum rate at which tenders would be accepted. The Government of India would also, when occasion required, offer for sale weekly amounts of sterling reverse drafts (including immediate telegraphic transfers) on the Secretary of State. The rates for the immediate telegraphic transfers on London would be announced on each occasion by the Controller of Currency, and would be based on the sterling equivalent of the price of 11·30016 grains fine gold, as measured by the prevailing sterling dollar exchange, less a deduction representing the charge of remitting gold. The rate for deferred drafts on London would, until further notice, be one-sixteenth of a penny higher than the immediate rate.

In pursuance of this policy it at once became necessary to sell Reverse Councils. A sum of £ 5 mils was sold for one week, but subsequently the amount was £ 2 mils. Weekly until the 29th April when it was reduced to £ 1 mil. A divergence between the gold price at which the bills were sold, and the market rate for sterling, became immediately apparent. The extent of this divergence will be seen from the following quotations of the sales of Reverse Councils in the last week of each of the months of February, March, April, May:—

	s.	d.	T. T.	s.	d.
26th February	2	10½	}	2	7
25th March	2	5½		2	7½
28th April	2	5½	}	2	5
29th May	2	5½		2	3½
					2 1

On the 20th June the Government of India announced that, having regard to the fall in the market rate for sterling, the price of Reverse Councils to be offered on the 24th June, and at subsequent sales, would be per rupee 1s. 11½d. for immediates and 1s. 11¼d. for deferreds. These are the rates which will ultimately hold when sterling once more returns to par with gold. The sales of Reverse Councils at these rates were continued until the 28th September, on which date the Government of India announced that the sales would be suspended.

The Government of India further announced, on the 20th June, that from the 21st of that month the restrictions over the imports of gold bullion and foreign coin would be removed. And there was likewise issued, at the same time, an ordinance declaring that sovereigns and half-sovereigns would cease until further notice to be legal tender; but that they would be received by the

Government at the rate of Rs. 15 until the 12th July. On the expiry of this moratorium the restrictions over the imports of British gold coin were withdrawn. Early in September the Indian Coinage Act 1906 was amended so as to prescribe the new ratio of one sovereign being equivalent to ten rupees, at which rate the sovereign again became legal tender.

On the 28th September 1920 the Government announced that the sale of Reverse Councils would be suspended. By the 9th October the demand rate for sterling had fallen to 1s. 6½d. and on that day the Committee of the Chamber telegraphed as follows to the Finance Department:—

The suspension of sales of Reverse Councils has already resulted in the collapse of exchange from above one shilling ten pence to one shilling 6½ pence nominal. Enormous losses have been and are being incurred by all importers while export business is paralysed by the uncertainty and trade generally is at a standstill. Chamber Committee wish to know whether it is the definite intention of Government to jetison the recommendations of the Currency Committee. If not the Committee consider that the present constitutes a period of exchange weakness demanding weekly sales of Reverse Councils to the full extent of Government resources. Further the suspension of sales of gold by Government in India has resulted in large purchases of gold for import into India entailing heavy demand for remittances to finance these purchases and this has contributed materially to the slump in exchange. Committee strongly recommended that sales of Reverse Councils and also Government sales of gold should be immediately resumed. In any event an early announcement of Government intentions is urgently required.

The Government of India replied that they had no intention of resuming the sale of Reverse Councils or of gold. The Committee then asked that the Chamber should be informed as to their future intentions in regard to the recommendations of the Indian Exchange and Currency Committee. It was the opinion of the Committee that confidence could only be restored by a clear and definite statement of the policy that Government intended to pursue. They strongly urged that there should be no delay in framing and publishing such a statement, and they suggested that it should have special reference to the position of the Government in respect of the recommendations of the Currency Committee. The Government replied at once stating their views fully and defining their position. In the concluding paragraph of the letter the Finance Department dealt with the future in the following terms:—

As regards the future policy of Government your Committee have already been informed that in present conditions it is not the intention of Government to take steps to re-introduce the sale of Reserve Councils; and it is not their intention to take action against the importation of gold. Nor are they at present able to see any measure which they could usefully take to regulate the exchange export and the import trade of the recent fluctuations in exchange. Quite apart from their own financial arrangements and policy are seriously affected by uncertainty in the trade outlook and by wide fluctuations in the exchange value of the rupee. They have therefore been giving, and will continue to give, their most anxious consideration to any practical measures which, even if only palliatives, can help to prevent or mitigate any such sudden and wide fluctuations. Thus, the desirability of doing all that is possible to stimulate exports is continuously before them. They have recently received, and are now considering, the report of the delegates from India at the Brussels Financial Conference which will shortly be published, and they will in due course take the opportunity of consulting your Committee as to the practicability of introducing a system of international credits as recom-

mended by the Conference, the object of which is to facilitate the purchase of essential imports by those countries whose financial position as a result of the war has seriously affected their purchasing power. But for the rest, they can only now rely on the natural course of events, and the return of favourable export conditions, combined with the reduction of imports which is the natural corollary of the recent overstocking the Indian market, to strengthen exchange. Experience has demonstrated that, in the present condition of world trade, stability is at present unattainable; but the Government of India do not reason why the operation of the natural conditions, to which reference has been made above, should not allow of the eventual fixation of exchange at the level advocated in the report of the Currency Committee.

The International Financial Conference, Brussels.—On the 23rd July the Committee telegraphed to the Secretary of State for India that, in their opinion, it was advisable for all possible steps to be taken to increase Indian exports and so to improve the position of exchange. They consequently urged that in discussing the question of credit facilities to promote shipments to Europe, India's delegates at the Brussels International Conference should endeavour to arrange for the provision of increased outlets for Indian produce such as tea, hides and jute reserving the right to ration raw material within the Empire in the event of demand exceeding supply. The Committee were supported by the Government of India to whom the Secretary of State replied that the delegates were being asked to present a written statement dealing with India's foreign trade. To enable this to be prepared information as to the quantities of the staple exports likely to be available was wanted. And the Government of India suggested that the Chamber should express an opinion as to these quantities. The Committee gave their views as regards jute, tea, raw hides, oils, oils, myrabolans, mica and manganese. And, generally, they expressed the opinion that it was not unreasonable to assume that the pre-war quantity of each staple commodity might be considered to be still available provided of course that proper credits could be arranged.

The Conference opened at Brussels on the 24th September and concluded its sittings on the 8th October. India was represented by Mr. H. F. Howard, formerly Secretary to the Government of India, in the Finance Department, Sir Marshall Reid, and Sir Fazlulhoj Currimbhoy. In November the Chamber received from the Government of India a report by these delegates of the proceedings. The report of the Conference itself was also forwarded, together with copies of the recommendations made by certain Committees of the Conference. One of these Committees examined the question of international credits, and set forth a scheme. This scheme, together with a supplementary suggestion which was made by Sir Marshall Reid, has been described in the *Economic Journal* in the following terms:—

The scheme adopted consequently provides for the creation of an International Commission which will normally control and administer the assets which Governments are prepared to pledge for the sake of obtaining imports on credit for themselves or for their nationals. But the greatest care was taken to leave the initiative entirely with the Government of the borrowing country. The International Commission will be "placed at the disposal of" borrowers. A Government which wishes to participate will approach the Commission and simply specify the security which it is prepared to pledge. The Commission will then examine the

security and name the gold value of the credits that it would be good business to open against these guarantees. The Government must not judge for itself whether the game is worth the candle, and in the event of acceptance it will forthwith prepare bonds with a currency of five or ten or possibly fifteen years and bearing a rate of interest which would be determined in agreement with the Commission. The principal and interest of the bonds would have to be payable in the currency selected in each case by the exporter, and as this currency would vary according to the particular transaction in respect of which the bonds were ultimately issued, it would have to be left indeterminate at the time of their preparation. Having prepared the bonds, the Government concerned would not be in a position to take them to its nationals, and would usually require from the individual importer some kind of security—perhaps a mortgage—against the loss of the bonds. This importer who borrows the bonds in this way from his Government, in order to use them as collateral, is left entirely free to fit up with the exporter with whom he is dealing the terms of the credit which he requires; and those terms need not correspond, either as to the rate of interest or as to the period of the credit, with the rate or the maturity of the bonds themselves. But before the bonds issued and lent by the Government to the individual importer, they must be countersigned by the International Commission, as evidence that the particular transaction in respect of which they are issued has been approved by that authority. The Commission must have absolutely unfettered judgment as to the necessity of each particular import and as to the propriety of the term for which the credit is to be granted. There is nothing to prevent the issuing Government from importing on its own account under the scheme, subject to the same conditions.

When the bonds have been issued they are sent by the importer as collateral to the exporter, and if the terms of the credit arranged between them are faithfully observed the coupons are returned at their due date, and the bonds themselves on the final repayment of the credit, to the importer, who in his turn returns them to his Government against release of any security that he may have given. The bonds are then cancelled, and other bonds to an equivalent amount, if necessary in terms of a different currency, can then be issued for any new transaction that may be approved by the International Commission.

A further supplementary suggestion was made with the intention of adapting the Tor Menlen scheme to the needs of distant countries, such as America, China, India, and Japan. The only bond, it was urged, which will be of real use in such cases is a bond which will be accepted at about its face value by banks as collateral, and which can be realised on international markets. Therefore, instead of being sent to the exporter, the Tor Menlen bonds should be delivered to the Central Commission, who would retain them as collateral and issue their place to the local importer, who would own a guarantee fund subscribed to by all buying and selling nations, or other bodies, who wished to participate in the scheme.

The Chamber was consulted by the Government of India, and

Mr. R. Langford James, M.L.C.
Mr. M. J. Calvoreschi.
Mr. D. Mitchell.
Mr. R. H. Child.

The Committee appointed a special Sub-Committee to examine the scheme and to report upon it. The views expressed by the Sub-Committee were adopted, and were summarised in the following terms in the Committee's reply to the Government of India—

The Committee of the Chamber agree with the Government of India in cordially welcoming any endeavour to work out a scheme of international credits. For they are clearly of the opinion that if a scheme can be put into operation it will have the effect of promoting at any rate to some extent, the export trade of India. They agree also as to the necessity for making the bonds that may be created fully negotiable. And if there were provided for by an international guarantee, as contemplated by Sir Marshall Reid, the Committee would approve of the Government of India accepting responsibility for some definite share in working the credits in this country. For they do not see how it would be possible for the Government of India to distribute among exporters the amount which might be at their disposal, without raising dissatisfaction which might even become political in character. It must also be remembered that the resources of the Banks in India

are limited. And this limitation would not be overcome by the guarantee, because it would be necessary for the actual cash to be provided by the Bank with a long look-up of funds; and the Banks here could not provide cash, under such conditions, except to a moderate extent.

In view of the foregoing considerations the Committee feel that any credit scheme such as that contemplated must be centred in, and worked from, London. In fact this would appear to them to be the only practicable way of putting the system into successful operation. Credit is of course very fluid, and it would quickly find its way to this country from the centre which would be established in London. The Banks and accepting houses there would take up the bonds and issue large quantities of credits, which would enable business to proceed in the customary way. Probably also the Banks might regard the amount thus placed at their disposal as a means of credit, and themselves take a share in the risk. It is, the Committee think, of the highest importance that any scheme which may be agreed upon should be put into operation with the minimum of delay. And they believe that if it is operated from London, as they suggest, it will be put into practice and worked much more quickly than it could possibly be from this country. They accordingly recommend, for the consideration of the Government, that the India Office should be asked to discuss the question with the leading London Banks interested in the Indian trade, both the Exchange Banks and others, and to endeavour, in consultation with them, to formulate a practical method of working the system.

INDUSTRIAL

International Labour Conference.—By the Treaty of Versailles there was created a permanent organisation for the promotion of the international regulation of labour conditions. This permanent organisation—of which the original members are the members of the League of Nations—consists of a general conference of representatives of the members, and an International Labour Office controlled by a governing body provided for by article 395 of the Treaty. Article 389 prescribes for meetings of the general conference of representatives of the members to be held at least once in every year. And the annex to part XIII of the Treaty laid it down that the first of these annual meetings was to be held at Washington. The agenda for this meeting was as follows:—(1) "The application of the principle of the eight-hour day, or of the forty-eight hour week; (2) The question of preventing or providing against unemployment; (3) Women's employment: (a) before and after child-birth, including the question of maternity benefit; (b) during the night; (c) in unhealthy processes; (4) Employment of children: (a) minimum age of employment; (b) during the night; (c) in unhealthy processes; (5) Extension and application of the international Conventions adopted at Bern in 1906, on the prohibition of night work for women employed in industry, and the prohibition of the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches.

It was mentioned in the last annual report that Sir Alexander Murray, C.M.E., who was then Vice-President of the Chamber, had been appointed by the Government of India to be the delegate of the employers of labour in this country. Article 389 of the Treaty provides that each of the members—i.e. each of the various countries—shall have four representatives, two of whom are to be Government delegates, and the two others are to be the delegates respectively of the employers and the work-people of each of the members. Each delegate may be accompanied by advisers, who shall

not exceed two in number for each item on the agenda of the meeting.

Sir Alexander Murray submitted a full report of the proceedings of the Conference, together with copies of the draft Conventions and Recommendations. These papers will be re-printed in the appendix to this volume.

In May the Board of Industries and Munitions (Government of India) circularised the local Governments and Administrations, on the subject of the nomination of delegates of employers and workers for the International Labour Conferences and for Commissions of Enquiry. Articles 411 and 412 of the Treaty provide for the appointment and constitution of Commissions of Enquiry to investigate complaints made by any member, or members, against any other member or members. Each Commission of Enquiry is to consist of three persons drawn from a panel. And the panel is formed by each member, i.e. each country, nominating—within six months of the date on which the Treaty came into operation—three persons of industrial experience: one a representative of employers, one a representative of workers, and one a person of independent standing. The Government of India proposed that the various employers associations in India should devise machinery whereby they might elect for the whole country:—

(a) Delegates and advisers to represent employers at the periodical general labour conferences to be held annually in accordance with the provisions of article 330 of the Treaty; and

(b) A representative for India for the employers panel from which members of Commissions of Enquiry, to be constituted under article 412 of the Treaty, are to be selected.

The Treaty came into force on the 10th January 1920, and consequently nominations for the first panel to be formed under article 412 had to be made before the 10th July 1920. The Government of India decided to request the Bombay Millowners' Association to choose an employers' representative. And they invited Mr. N. M. Joshi—who had been the Indian workers' delegate at Washington—to serve as the representative of workers.

The Committee took no exception to this action on the part of the Government of India. They recognised, however, that the India might co-operate with the object of making nominations for the Conference, and for the Commissions of Enquiry, would require consideration and discussion. The Indian Jute Mills Association and the Bombay Millowners Association moved in this question, and industrial associations of these organisations, and of other 1920. It was then decided to form an Employers Federation, and steps are now being taken in that direction.

The draft Conventions & Recommendations adopted at the Washington Conference are twelve in number, and they deal with the following subjects:—

(1) Draft convention limiting the hours of work in industrial undertakings to eight in the day, and forty-eight in the week; (2) Draft convention concerning

unemployment; (3) Recommendation concerning unemployment; (4) Recommendation concerning reciprocity of treatment of foreign workers; (5) Draft convention concerning the employment of women before and after child-birth; (6) Draft convention concerning the employment of women during the night; (7) Recommendation concerning the prevention of accidents; (8) recommendation concerning the protection of women and children against lead poisoning; (9) Recommendation concerning the establishment of Government health services; (10) Draft convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment; (11) Draft convention concerning the night work of young persons employed in industry; (12) Recommendation concerning the application of the Berne Convention of 1906 on the prohibition of the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches.

During the year the Government of India (Board of Industries and Munitions) raised a number of important questions with reference to these Conventions and Recommendations in relation to India. Upon these, questions the views of the Chamber were invited by the Government of Bengal; and the Committee appointed a Sub-Com-

mittee to examine them, and to make recommendations. The Sub-Committee

The President of the Chamber,
Mr. C. D. M. Hindley, Agent, East Indian
Railway.

Mr. A. Cushman, C.B.E., Chairman, Indian
Engineering Association.

Mr. W. D. Panton representing the Indian
Mining Association.

Mr. D. P. Mackenzie representing the Indian
Jute Mills Association.

Mr. V. H. MacCaw, C.B.E., Messrs. Kettwell,
Bullen & Co.

and the Indian Mining Association.

It dealt with the ques-

tions in detail, and was accepted by the Committee of the Chamber, who forwarded it to the Government as an expression of the opinion of the Chamber.

In an earlier paragraph of this report, it was mentioned that a special meeting of the International Labour Organisation was held at Geneva, in June last, for the discussion of questions affecting senmen. The next meeting has been fixed to take place at Geneva in October 1921, when, inter alia, the question of the observance of a weekly rest-day in industrial and commercial employment will be considered. The Chamber was consulted by the Government of Bengal with reference to this question. The Indian Factory Act, 1911, provides for a weekly rest-day for nearly all industrial workers; and a modification of its provisions in this respect is now under the consideration of the Government. But there is no statutory provision for a weekly rest-day in commercial employment; and the Government expressed the opinion that the majority of commercial employees in India do not receive any such regular holiday. The Chamber was asked by the Government for: (a) an opinion as to how far a weekly rest-day is given to commercial employees; and (b) suggestions bearing on the practicability of legislation in this respect, and on the position to be taken up by the Government delegates from India at the Geneva Conference.

It is obviously not an easy matter to state definitely whether the majority of commercial workers in India do, or do not, receive

a regular weekly holiday. The term "commercial workers" has not been defined, and it is consequently difficult to distinguish between what is commercial, and what is industrial, employment. But the Committee use the term as meaning office-workers, and such others as are not directly engaged in producing or manufacturing. And, subject to this definition, their reply to the first enquiry is that, so far as the members of the Chamber are concerned, their commercial employees, in and around Calcutta, undoubtedly do receive a weekly rest-day. The case is however different in the Bengal mofussil, where it is customary—in seasonal employment, for example—for commercial employees to work on every day of the week. The Committee are without sufficient knowledge of the conditions prevailing in the other provinces to enable them to express a positive opinion, but they believe that these conditions approximate to those obtaining in Bengal. If this be so, the position would appear to be that, while in the large towns a weekly rest-day is observed, such is not the case in the smaller centres, and in the mofussil. At the same time it ought not to be overlooked that Indian merchants and shopkeepers make a practice of observing a considerable number of religious festivals, both Hindu and Mahomedan, and that on these days they do not require their employees to work. It is difficult to state the number of these days, but they are sufficiently numerous to be regarded as being, to a certain extent, a set-off against the absence of the regular weekly rest-day. As regards the second enquiry, the Committee do not anticipate that objection would be raised, by the members of the Chamber, to legislation designed to enforce the observance of the weekly rest-day for commercial employees. But they apprehend that there would be considerable difficulty in enforcing the law throughout the country generally; and that for this purpose the establishment and maintenance of an extensive system of inspection would be necessary. Should however the Government of India come to the conclusion, as a result of their enquiries, that legislation is practicable their delegates at Geneva might, the Committee think, accept the principle that, save in seasonal employment and other exceptional cases, all commercial employees should be legally entitled to a regular weekly day of rest.

Proposed all-India legislation on the lines of the English Industrial Courts Act, 1919.—Towards the end of May the Committee were asked for their opinion on the question of whether all-India legislation, on the lines of the English Industrial Courts Act 1919, would be of any value, and should be undertaken. The Committee appointed a special Sub-Committee to examine this question, and to report upon it. The Sub-Committee formulated their views in the shape of a draft letter addressed to the Government of Bengal.

This draft the Committee accepted, fully endorsing the opinions expressed in it. After summarising existing labour legislation in United Kingdom, the letter con-

The President of the Chamber.
Mr. E. D. M. Hindley.
Mr. A. Cochran, C.B.E.
Mr. B. A. White.

trasted the labour position there with the position in India, as follows:—

In the United Kingdom fear of unemployment is the dominating idea in the minds of the work-people. If left unorganised labour would bid against itself for the right to work; and Trade Unions, and other labour organisations, have been therefore created, to protect the workers against themselves. In India the position is reversed. In the present stage of industrial development capital has to compete for labour. In actual practice capital in India has to bid against itself; and, by the offer of increased wages, improved working conditions, and a higher standard of living, has to attract labour in order to develop existing, and to create new, industries. The main object of the English Industrial Courts Act was to maintain the higher standard of wages brought about by war conditions; and the arbitration clauses in the Act were intended to be a safeguard against employers reducing rates. In India the conditions are exactly the opposite. There is no prospect of reducing wages. The tendency is, and must be, all the other way, if labour is to be attracted to industry. For there is no large body of Indian workers entirely dependent on industries for a livelihood. It has always been open to such workers to revert to agriculture; and in actual practice the great majority of Indian factory workers do so revert. In the highly developed industrial conditions of the United Kingdom capital holds the key to the situation; and labour, with the ever-present dread of unemployment before it, is constantly endeavouring to safeguard itself against a reduction in wages, or an eventual lock-out. In India, with its rapidly developing industries, the increasing competition of capital for labour places the latter in a strong position; and, if the ordinary economic laws of supply and demand are left uncontrolled, there is every likelihood of industrial labour in India being able to raise its standard of life, and, in improving its condition, to assist in the development of industry.

In conclusion, I am to explain that the Committee of the Chamber realise that they have dealt with the question raised by your letter in greater detail than is perhaps absolutely necessary. But labour problems are becoming of increasing importance as industries develop in this country; and they feel that the slavish copying of the labour legislation of other countries should be avoided. They entirely agree that full advantage should be taken of the experience gained elsewhere. But, in the determination of policy in Indian labour matters, the special conditions of India ought obviously to receive the fullest consideration and to be the governing factor. It is for this reason that the Committee have treated the subject so fully. And, having done so, they conclude by expressing, without hesitation, their considered opinion that all-India legislation on the lines of the English statute of last year would be of no value and should not be undertaken. At the same time they recommend that early steps be taken to test the possibility of developing in this country a system of Works Joint Committees. These bodies would provide suitable machinery for the immediate ventilation of grievances, for the speedy settlement of disputes, and for the steady maintenance of a good understanding between workers and their employers. The attention of the members of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and of the members of the various mercantile and industrial associations recognised by the Chamber, is being drawn to this important matter.

Indian Industrial Commission 1916-18: Land acquisition for industrial purposes.—The Land Acquisition Act of 1894 provides for the acquisition of land for companies—sections 38 to 44. But by sub-section 40 (1)(b) it must be shown that the work for which the land is wanted is likely to prove useful to the public. And, as the Industrial Commission pointed out in their report, the sub-section makes it difficult to utilise the provisions of the Act in respect of ordinary industrial concerns which are not public utilities. They consequently suggested further legislation, to enable local Governments to acquire land compulsorily from private owners for such concerns. The local Government should be satisfied, the Industrial Commission thought, before moving in the matter:—

(a) that the industry, on reaching a certain stage of development, will be in the interests of the general public;

(b) that there are no reasonable prospects of the industry reaching such a stage of development without the acquisition proposed; and

(c) that the proposed acquisition entails as little inconvenience to private rights as is possible, consistently with meeting the needs of the industry.

The Government of Bengal, in drawing attention recently to the recommendations of the Industrial Commission, pointed out that a distinction may be drawn between cases in which land is required for a work which will be of direct benefit to the general public, and which the public will be entitled to use on terms approved by the Government, and those cases in which the land is required for any work of only indirect benefit to the general public, but at the same time fulfilling conditions (a), (b), and (c) above. For the first of these two classes of cases the Government were inclined to think that the existing procedure might be maintained. For the second class of cases they defined three alternative ways of bringing the matter to the cognisance of the legislature.

The third of these alternatives would be, the Committee thought, the most satisfactory. It provided for the consideration of such cases as those in question by a Board of selected persons to be appointed by the local Government. The Board would be empowered to hold public enquiries, and to call and to hear witnesses. They would be expected to examine any scheme broadly in the light of the conditions suggested by the Industrial Commission. And their report would be submitted to the local Government, by whom it would be published, to enable persons to raise objections. As regards the constitution of the Board, the Committee thought that the official element might consist of the Member of the Board of Revenue, the Commissioner of the Division, and the Director of Industries. The interests to be represented by the non-official members might appropriately be European commerce and industry, Indian commerce and industry, and the land-owning interest; and, in respect of these seats, this Chamber, the Bengal National Chamber, and the British Indian Association, might each be required to make a nomination. It would seem to be also necessary that the district board, or municipality, concerned with the particular case under discussion, should be represented on the Board.

The Indian Jails Committee.—The Committee appointed by the Government of India to investigate the system of prison administration in India prepared a paper of interrogatories which was circulated by the local Governments. The Government of Bengal, in forwarding these enquiries to the Chamber, drew particular attention to question ix, which was as follows:—

IX (c). Do you approve of the present methods of providing labour for prisons, and have you any criticisms or suggestions to offer on the subject?

(d) Do you consider that the employment of power-driven machinery in jails is justifiable? If so, under what conditions and with what limitations?

It did not seem to be necessary for the Chamber to submit a written statement, or to depute a representative to give oral evidence.

before the Committee, on this question. It is true that in the past there has been correspondence between certain of the Indian Chambers, and the Government, on the subject of the use of power-driven machinery in jails. But there does not appear to be any reason for taking up this subject so far as regards Calcutta, as it is unlikely that members of the Chamber would be affected in any way by the use of such power-driven machinery as is likely to be installed in jails.

The Committee of the Chamber put this view of the matter before the Government of Bengal for consideration.

The tanned hides trade.—The unsatisfactory position of the trade in tanned hides has been under the consideration of the Committee, at intervals, during the past nine months. The Southern India Skin and Hide Merchants Association asked for support to certain resolutions which they had adopted at their annual meeting. These were to the effect that the export of tanned skins and hides should be discontinued for a fixed period; that, beginning with the May sale, skins and hides should not be sold below a certain level of price; and that from the 1st May 1920 no hides should be soaked for tanning purposes. The Northern India Tanners Federation was not, on the other hand, prepared to accept these restrictions; and with their view the Committee of the Chamber agreed.

At about the same time the Madras Chamber drew the attention of the London Chamber of Commerce to the large stocks of East India tanned hides held by the British Government. It was thought to be most undesirable that prices should be depressed by the placing of these stocks on the market. The Northern India Federation supported Madras in this matter, and urged upon the London Chamber the need for a restriction of the sales of Government stocks at the London auctions.

The Committee examined this question, but they did not move in regard to it. Later in the year it came before them again in connection with a representation which had been made to the Government of India by the Madras Chamber, and the Southern India Skin and Hide Merchants Association. This representation drew attention to the possibility of the forced realisation, by the British Government, of their surplus stocks. It had been understood that negotiations for the sale of these to Germany were in progress. And Indian tanners, encouraged by this possibility, had continued a restricted output of tanned hides notwithstanding the rise in the Indian exchange. The British export trade in finished leathers had been practically stopped by the increasingly unfavourable continental exchanges, and financial stringency at home. British manufacturers were consequently unable to buy Indian tanned hides, with the result that prices had slumped, and Indian tanners were suffering heavy losses. If forced sales of the Government stocks were made, such could only result in ruin to many Indian tanners, and the virtual stoppage of the Indian industry for possibly two years.

The Northern India Federation supported Madras, pointing out that the production of bark tanned hides had been greatly diminished,

and that many bark tanneries had been compelled to close for the time being. This position would be, it was apprehended, greatly accentuated if the Home Government began to sell. The Federation asked that the Chamber should address the Government of India in support of the Madras representation, urging in particular the need for promptitude in approaching His Majesty's Government.

The Committee doubted if they would be well-advised to move in the matter, and they did not take action. The retail prices of boots and shoes, and other leather goods, in the United Kingdom are still abnormally high. And the proposal to keep the Government stocks off the market was presumably calculated to have the effect of maintaining these high retail prices. In view of the distress caused in the United Kingdom, by the high cost of living, it did not seem right that the Chamber should support a proposal which would tend to prolong this state of affairs in respect of all classes of leather goods.

Bengal Engineering College, Sibpur.—In chapter xlv of their report the Calcutta University Commission put forward certain proposals for the future government of the Sibpur Engineering College—now known as the Bengal Engineering College—and its relations with the University of Calcutta. The Commission agreed, more or less, with the views expressed by the Indian Industrial Commission, namely, that the college should be connected with the University; that its internal administration should be controlled by a Board, or Council; that the members of this Board should be nominated by the Department of Industries, the University, and public bodies representing employers; and that it should have the privilege of delegating a certain number of its members to represent it on the Senate of the University. Following this line of argument, it was proposed that the college should be a constituent college of the University; that it should be brought into close touch with the new Indian Institute of Engineers; and that the great engineering firms in Calcutta should be interested in its management. The governing body, which would have wider powers than the present governing body, would consist, the Commission suggested, of twenty members, of whom eight would be appointed by the Government of India (one), and the Government of Bengal (seven); two would be appointed by the Executive Council of the University; two would represent engineering industries; two would be appointed by the Indian Institute of Engineers; one by the Mining and Geological Institute; one by the Faculty of Science of the University; one by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce; two by the Academic Board of the College, and the remaining member would be the Principal of the College.

The Committee of the Chamber expressed their concurrence with the proposal that the management of the College should be transferred to this suggested new governing body. Their views were invited by the Government of Bengal, and they consulted the leading local engineering firms. These were all clearly in favour of

the transfer, which opinion was shared by the Committee, who also recommended that the governing body, as contemplated by the Commission, might very well be reduced in size. They further suggested that the governing body should meet alternately once a month in Calcutta, and at the College; and that the existing arrangement, whereby the Principal of the College is required to act as Secretary, should be discontinued, and that a whole-time Secretary should be appointed.

The Chemical Services Committee.—The Indian Industrial Commission 1916-18 laid stress, in their report, on the urgent need for the formation of an Indian Chemical Service. And they recommended that a special Committee should be appointed to formulate proposals for the permanent organisation, and terms of service, of the staff, and for the location and equipment of research laboratories. The Government of India accepted this recommendation, and early in the past year they appointed a Committee presided over by Professor J. F. Thorpe, F.R.S., of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. The report of the Committee was published in due course, and the Government of India submitted it to the local Governments and Administrations for an opinion as to certain of its findings. These were: (a) The creation, constitution, and terms of employment of an Indian Chemical Service; (b) The establishment of research institutes under local Governments, and a central research institute under the Government of India; and (c) Publications.

The Government of Bengal consulted the Chamber on the subject, Mr. S. G. I. Rastakee, and the Committee appointed a special Subcommittee to report upon it. The Subcommittee reported against the scheme and their views were submitted to Government as an expression of the opinion of the Committee.

MUNICIPAL.

The Calcutta Fire Brigade.—It will be remembered that the Committee took exception in 1919 to a proposal that the control of the Calcutta Fire Brigade should be transferred from the Commissioner of Police to the Corporation of Calcutta. The idea was that the Brigade should be made over to the Corporation, and be managed by a statutory committee on which the suburban municipalities contributing to the cost of the brigade were to be represented. The Government of Bengal declined to accept this proposal, being of the opinion that there was no sufficient reason for disturbing the existing arrangement.

During the past year the larger question of the maintenance of the brigade has been once again under consideration. At the end of June the Government of Bengal said that they proposed to appoint a committee to examine the question of the arrangements for fire control in the Calcutta port area and the docks; and also to advise as to what amendments were required in the Licensed Ware-house

and Fire Brigade Act, I of 1893. The following amendments in section 10 of the Act had been, the Government mentioned, already suggested from time to time :—

(a) That an abatement of the annual license fee should be permissible if a warehouse is occupied for a shorter period than twelve months ;

(b) That the rate of assessment of the annual fee should be lowered ;

(c) That the maximum of the annual fee should be raised from Rs. 750 to Rs. 1500 ; and

(d) That the limit of 50 per cent. in the first proviso to section 10 of the Act should be increased to 75 per cent.

In view of the importance of these questions the Chamber appointed a special sub-committee to examine and to report upon them. The sub-committee reported in some detail, defining the attitude of the Chamber in the past, in the matter of the maintenance of the Brigade. It was in 1871 that the levy of exceptional taxation for the maintenance of a fire brigade was first mooted. And in 1872 the Bengal Government passed an Act which established a municipal brigade, required fire insurance companies to contribute to its cost, and provided likewise for the application to the same purpose of the fees derived from the licenses issued to jute warehouses. The Chamber consistently opposed this special taxation on jute warehouses, which buildings were originally licensed and made subject to taxation in 1866. But the Government undertook further legislation in the same direction in 1875 and in 1879—when the control of the brigade was vested in the Commissioner of Police—and again in 1883. In 1876 and in 1877 the Chamber protested against the special taxation, urging that the brigade should be maintained from the general municipal rates. The protest was renewed in 1887 and again in 1890. The Government of Bengal then had the whole question of the maintenance and working of the brigade examined by a special committee, upon which the Chamber was represented. After a protracted discussion, the existing Act was passed early in 1893. The Chamber failed to obtain the abrogation of the special taxation, which was in fact extended by the new law.

Summarised in the briefest possible way the main provisions of the Act of 1893 may be defined as follows :—

(a) It applies to the municipal area of Calcutta and of Howrah, and it has been extended by the local Government to Cossipur-Chitpur, Manikata and Garden Reach Municipalities.

(b) It makes these five municipalities responsible for the whole cost of the Brigade ; and they have to pay the required amount annually to the Commissioner of Police.

(c) It empowers the municipalities to raise half of the necessary revenue by licensing warehouses used for storing jute, cotton and other substances. The license fee is 10% of the rateable value, less a rebate of 10% on any outlay in respect of fire extinguishing appliances. The maximum fee in respect of any license is Rs. 750. :

(d) It also empowers the municipalities to levy certain special rates ; but these have not in fact been levied, the municipalities making up the deficit, after crediting the licensed warehouses fees to the fire brigade account, from their general funds.

The Sub-Committee agreed with the view taken by the Chamber in the past, namely, that the cost of maintaining the brigade should be met from the general rates levied by the various municipalities, and that, if necessary, these rates should be increased for the purpose. But, in the event of the Government of Bengal refusing to consider this suggestion, they recommended that the Chamber should strongly oppose any enhancement of the fees paid by the warehouses. They also criticised the system upon which the accounts of the fire brigade are prepared. In these accounts all expenditure, whether it is on block or in respect of maintenance, is charged to revenue. This method naturally increases the annual cost, and makes it necessary to raise an unduly large revenue.

The Committee accepted the report of the Sub-Committee, and submitted it to the local Government as an expression of the views of the Chamber on the questions at issue.

Calcutta Rent Enquiry Committee.—It was stated in the last report that the Government of Bengal had appointed a special Committee to enquire into the causes of the excessive land values and high rents in Calcutta, and if possible to suggest remedies. This Committee reported in the early part of the year, but contrary to what was anticipated they expressed the opinion that a Rent Act, on the lines of the legislation in England, Bombay and Rangoon, was inadvisable. In their view the only permanent solution of the problem of inflated land values and high rents lies in :—(a) the rapid development of the suburbs ; and (b) the improvement of communications, and the means of transport within the city proper, and between the city and its suburbs. What was required was drastic action designed to provide, at the earliest possible moment, large areas of land ready for an ever-increasing population. Several indirect remedies were also recommended by the Committee, and were defined in their report.

Notwithstanding the opinion expressed by the Rent Committee the Government of Bengal decided to legislate, with the object of restricting temporarily, the increase of rents in the city. A Bill, with this object in view, was introduced in the Bengal Legislative Council on the 18th March 1920, and, after some extensive modification in select committee, was ultimately passed into law by the Council, and received the assent of H. E. the Governor-General on

the 1st May 1920. In its main provisions the Act follows more or less on the lines of the Bombay and the Bangalore Acts.

Calcutta Corporation: Licensing of factories in central areas.—One of the recommendations made by the Rent Enquiry Committee was that the Corporation of Calcutta should consider the desirability of not licensing any more factories in the central areas of the city. The Rent Committee did not clearly indicate the class of industrial concerns coming within the definition of a factory; nor did they precisely define what was meant by the term "central areas." It was however presumed by the Corporation that, by the word "factories", the Committee had in mind all power-using concerns irrespective of the number of employees; and that what was desired was the removal of industrial concerns outside the central area, retaining that area as primarily a residential and business locality. It was also presumed by the Corporation that, by the term "central areas", the Committee intended to refer to the area lying within the Circular Road. The Health Officer to the Corporation suggested that not only should factories be prohibited in defined areas, but that certain portions of the city, or its environs, should be set apart for large industrial concerns, particularly those using steam-power. He thought that the following alternatives might be considered:—

(a) The reservation of narrow zones along the existing canals, railways and docks, as factory areas, facilities for transport being essential in such cases; or

(b) The opening up and development of the extensive area in Tangra which has been set apart for offensive trades, and hide godowns, so as to concentrate factories, hide godowns, tanneries, etc., to the east of the city proper.

The Corporation consulted the Chamber on the subject, and the Committee suggested that a satisfactory definition of the word "factory" was required. They agreed with the Corporation that employing power, irrespective of the number of employees. And they pointed out that the question of the number of employees is of the Indian Factory Act of 1911, restricts the use of the term to premises where not less than fifty persons are employed simultaneously on any day. Small factories employing fewer than fifty number. And on the other hand small repairing shops, to which no exception could be taken, might be excluded as coming within the definition. With the general principle that new industrial concerns should not be established within the central parts of the city the Committee were in accord. And they also supported the proposal put forward by the Health Officer, namely, that narrow zones along canals, railways, and docks should be reserved for such concerns. The east of the city proper would be a suitable area in which to concentrate factories, tanneries, etc. And certain suburban areas ought obviously to be restricted to residential purposes.

It is understood that the subject is still engaging the attention of the Calcutta Corporation.

Corporation of Calcutta: Location of hide godowns.—Clause (3) of section 469 of the Calcutta Municipal Act 1899 empowers the Corporation of Calcutta to prescribe the areas in which no person shall use any premises for the storing of hides, skins, etc., as a godown. In 1915 the Corporation proposed so to exercise these powers as to force the hide merchants, who have been for many years located in the neighbourhood of Harinbari Lane, to remove to an area outside the city. No action was however taken at the time, seeing that the hide merchants were supplying war material. The Chamber supported this view in a representation to the Corporation.

During the past year the Corporation returned to the subject, and definitely decided to enforce the removal of the hide godowns from their present location. The hide merchants, through their organisation the Calcutta Skins and Hides Traders Association, appealed to the Chamber to help them in the matter. The Committee did not however see their way to take action for, as they recognised in 1915, the godowns cannot remain permanently in their present location. Another site must be found for them sooner or later.

Calcutta Communications Committee.—In the early part of the year the Government of India constituted a Committee—with Mr. E. A. S. Bell, C.I.E., member of the Railway Board as Chairman—to consider how the problem of rapid transport to and from Calcutta might best be solved. In opening the investigation this Committee defined the following as being the chief possibilities:—(a) The improvement of road facilities with its consequent speeding up of tramway services, and other vehicular traffic. The question of right of way over crossings to be included in this connection; (b) The improvement of existing rail facilities and their extension into the city; (c) The development of existing ferry services; (d) Tube railways; (e) Overhead railways; and (f) Fleets of motor-buses.

The Chamber was consulted on the subject, and several expressions of opinion from members were forwarded to the Communications Committee. At the same time the Committee of the Chamber stated their views, which were more or less as follows:—

(a) **Improvement of road facilities.**—Electric tramways will probably be the most popular form of road transport, but should not be allowed in narrow streets. A good service of motor-omnibuses would likewise be popular with the working classes. An attempt might also be made, the Committee thought, to improve the traffic regulation and control in the city; and they were likewise of the opinion that the matter of the repairing and cutting up of roads might be examined, with a view to the reduction of the obstructions that now occur from this cause;

(b) *Improvement of existing rail facilities and their extension into the city.*—The electrification of the suburban services of the several railways seemed to the Committee to be desirable. A system of tube railways would also, they thought, be greatly preferable to overhead lines. And they recognised the great importance, if any scheme of rapid transport is to be successful, of the provision of a central station in the city.

(c) *Ferry services.*—The development of these services would be undoubtedly useful, and the Committee recommended it.

They also dealt with another point that had been raised by the Enquiry Committee. This had reference to areas, such as Kanchrapara, that are already served by main line railways. Contrasting areas such as these with those such as Belgurhia, that are nearer to Calcutta, the Enquiry Committee had asked if the more distant, or the nearer, areas should be developed first. The Committee of the Chamber believed that the more distant areas would become popular if rapid railway transport to the principal centres of industry in the city could be provided. But they regarded the congestion as being so serious as to demand the simultaneous development of all available areas whether near or at a distance.

The report of the Communications Committee was published in due course, but the conclusions and recommendations contained in it are too numerous to be specified here. It will be sufficient to say that one of the principal proposals was that an east and west tube railway should be constructed from the Eastern Bengal Railway to the East Indian Railway passing under the Hooghly. Another important recommendation was that the construction of the proposed new bridge between Calcutta and Howrah should be taken in hand without delay; and that a second bridge should be constructed at once from a point opposite Nimtola Ghat Street.

Calcutta streets : Traffic control.—The effective control of the constantly increasing traffic in the streets of Calcutta is a matter of very considerable difficulty. Notwithstanding the determined efforts made by the Police authorities to effect an improvement, the existing state of affairs leaves much to be desired. Clive-street is one of the most congested thoroughfares, particularly between the hours of 1 o'clock and 6 p.m. daily. And with the object of relieving this congestion the Commissioner of Police proposed recently that all bullock-cart traffic approaching from the north should, between the hours mentioned, go down Canning-street to Strand-road, or by south would go down Fairlie Place; and those approaching from the north would go west along Dalhousie-square east, and approaching west from Lall-Bazar would be made to go west along Dalhousie-square south. The only exception from firms to their godowns located in the streets named. With this proposal the Committee agreed, except that they suggested the use of Kolighat-street instead of Fairlie Place for the

diversion of carts from the south. The Commissioner of Police accepted this alteration; and he brought the diversion into operation as from the 1st October 1920.

The nuisance caused by cattle straying in the streets was also raised by the Committee in the course of their correspondence with the Commissioner. A very large number of cattle stray about the streets, and the removal of these animals to the pounds represents a very considerable Police effort. More than 19,000 cattle were so removed during the year 1919. The poundage fees appear to be too low, and the Commissioner suggested that they should be increased. With this suggestion the Committee agreed, as they thought that the fees ought to be high enough to be a deterrent. Persons who allow their cattle to wander about the streets ought certainly to be required to pay such fees as will be likely to lead to their taking greater care of the animals. When bringing the matter before the Commissioner, in the first instance, the Committee had chiefly in mind the principal thoroughfares in the business quarter. For in these streets the traffic is now so very heavy that the nuisance caused by straying cattle is really more serious than it is in the less frequented parts of the town. It appears however that approximately three fourths of the number of animals impounded come from the business quarter and from the Strand-road. The Commissioner of Police has recommended that the existing poundage fees should be doubled, that is to say, the charge for every goat, sheep, or hog should be raised from eight annas to one rupee, and the charge for every other animal should be raised from one rupee to two rupees. It has to be borne in mind that an alteration in the fees means an amendment of the Calcutta Police Act, and that to effect this will probably take some time.

Another proposal for improving the traffic control has also been brought forward by the Commissioner of Police. Great difficulty is now experienced in controlling office-jams, particularly in Clive-street, Clive-row, Canning-street and Harrison-road. A large number of drivers of these vehicles are summoned for various offences; but the Commissioner stated that not five per cent. of them attend court, and that it is almost impossible to trace them. They frequently give wrong names and addresses and, in those cases where the correct names and addresses are given, and a summons is duly served, the accused is absent on the day of the hearing of the case and a warrant is issued. The complainant in the case, on going to the address where the summons was served, is informed, by the owner of the office-jam, that the driver has been discharged, or has gone to his native country on leave. The warrants are consequently returned with the remark "no trace" and the case is filed or struck off. The result is that drivers of office-jams have got completely out of hand, and disobey all police regulations. Office-jams are practically the only vehicles over which the police can exercise no control; and the Commissioner suggested that they should be licensed.

With this suggestion the Committee were entirely in accord, and they informed the Commissioner that they supported it.

The Indian Motor Vehicles Act: Motor-cycles.—Rule 19 A of Pt. II of the Calcutta Motor Vehicle Rules is as follows:—

The driver or person in charge of a motor-vehicle shall not carry any attendant or other person on the footboard or any other portion of the vehicle except within the body thereof, or in a seat provided on the near side or behind the vehicle which has been passed by the registering authority.

The Commissioner of Police, recently invited attention to this rule, and asked the Chamber for an opinion on it:—

(a) The question of the advisability of prosecuting riders of motor cycles for allowing others to ride on their cars; and

(b) The question of the police declining to pass motor-cycles which have seats behind, unless such cycles are specially built.

In Calcutta and in India generally, as distinguished from the United Kingdom, all private cars and motor-cycles are registered by the police after examination, and driving licenses are issued after a test. In these circumstances the police ought, the Commissioner contended, to act in the matter of carrier-riding, not only because it is a practice dangerous to those immediately concerned, but also because it is so to users of the road, whether motorists, pedestrians, or others. Riding on the carrier renders a motor-cycle difficult to control, especially at corners, in checking and increasing speed, and in steering, because of the unbalanced weight.

The practice is undoubtedly dangerous, and should be prohibited. Indeed the Committee go even further than the police authorities, being of the opinion that the prohibition should be extended to the ordinary cycle. For an ordinary cycle, when weighted by more than one person, is an even greater danger to the traffic than a motor-cycle with a passenger on the carrier.

Earlier in the year the Committee expressed their approval of certain alterations which the Government of Bengal proposed to make in the rules. These had reference chiefly to the measurements and technical requirements of motor-cabs.

The Calcutta Improvement Trust: The Burra-Bazar scheme and the proposed removal of the Calcutta Mint.—At a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council on the 18th September 1912 the then President of the Chamber, Sir Erskine Cram, moved the following resolution:—

That this Council recommends to the Governor-General in Council that the question of removing the Calcutta Mint to another site be taken into consideration.

The Government of India accepted the resolution, subject to the reservation that they were in no way committed to the suitable site; or if, on enquiry, it was considered that there were other obvious weighty objections which prevented the proposal being proceeded with. To hold the enquiry the Government appointed, in February, a small Committee, and requested them to

report on the following points:—(a) the advisability of removing the Mint from its present site; (b) if such removal is considered desirable, the site to which it should be removed, the efficiency of the Mint, the proper discharge of Government business, and the convenience of the public, being duly considered; and (c) if the removal be recommended, the probable cost of the operation. The President of the Committee was the Controller of the Currency, who at that time was Mr. W. Alder, I.C.S., and the members were Mr. W. K. Dods (who was nominated by the Chamber in succession to Mr. W. O. Grazebrook), and Mr. S. W. Goode, I.C.S., nominated by the Government of Bengal. The late Rai Sitanath Roy Baladur was also a member, representing the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.

The Government of Bengal asked the Chamber to express an opinion on the question, and the Committee appointed a small Sub-Committee who, in reporting upon it, pointed out the disadvantages of the present location of the Mint. Bullion coming into Calcutta by steamer, and coin going from the Mint to the Currency Office, or to the Central Treasury in Port William, has to be taken through some of the most crowded thoroughfares of the city. Moreover, in times of civil commotion the road to the Mint is liable to be entirely closed. Furthermore, the buildings cannot be considered to be adequately protected; for they are comparatively easy to enter, and they cover a large area. In suggesting an alternative site the Sub-Committee kept in mind the points prescribed by the Government of India and set out above. They also had before them the following definite conditions which were laid down by the Government of India when the proposal was under discussion in 1906:—(a) that the site should be: (i) not more than three miles distant from the Controller General's Office; (ii) not less suitable than the present site for the purpose of Government, including the import of bullion and the Currency Office work; (iii) not less convenient than the present site for the banks and the offices of the commercial public; and (iv) capable of being at least as efficiently defended in the case of disturbances as the present building; and (b) that the cost of the new site, both initial and recurring, should not be prohibitive. An entirely suitable site could be found, the Sub-Committee thought, in Hastings, at the south end of the Kidderpur-bridge-road, on a tongue of land between that road and Canal-road. This would be, they suggested, an ideal site. It is, in view of its proximity to Fort William, its protection would be much easier than in the case of the present Mint. Moreover it is on the edge of the maitan instead of being in the middle of the city. It would consequently present no difficulty in time of civil disturbance as regards transport to the Currency Office and the banks. It is near the river and the docks; and imported bullion would have to travel only a short distance, as compared with the long journey that is now necessary. The Sub-

Committee also believed that, as regards cost, the site would be likewise quite suitable.

The foregoing expression of opinion was communicated to the Controller of Currency in April last. In September the Committee enquired as to whether any progress had been made by the special enquiry committee with their investigation into the question. Early in November, the Controller replied that it was hoped to complete the enquiry, and to issue the report by the end of the year. No further information is so far available, but it is greatly to be desired that a conclusion should be arrived at as quickly as possible. The question is really one of importance, because it involves the larger, and still more important, question of the reconstruction and improvement of the Burra-Bazar area.

The Presidency General Hospital.—The Committee examined proposals, put forward by the Government of Bengal, for increasing—with effect from the 1st November 1920—the fees charged to paying-patients at the Presidency General Hospital. They did not however take exception to the increases as these appeared to be unavoidable. For the Government pointed out that, on account of the abnormal rise in the price of foodstuffs, the diet scale of the paying-patients and also of the ward-patients had had to be enhanced, with effect from the 1st April 1920. The cost under this head, as well as under other heads, had thus risen considerably. It was therefore desirable, the Government thought, for the fees realised from the paying-patients to be increased in proportion to the increase in the cost of their diet and treatment at the hospital. The following are particulars of the old and the new scales:—

<i>Woodburn Ward:</i>	<i>Old Scale.</i> —Per room daily in winter Rs. 10; in summer Rs. 11.
	<i>New Scale.</i> —Rs. 15 per room daily.
<i>Main Block:</i>	<i>Old Scale.</i> —Single room in winter Rs. 4 daily; in summer Rs. 4-10.
	<i>New Scale.</i> —Rs. 6 per room daily.
<i>Two-bedded room:</i>	<i>Old Scale.</i> —Rs. 2 per bed daily in winter and Rs. 2-8 in summer.
	<i>New Scale.</i> —Rs. 3 per bed daily.

In addition, the charge for persons allowed to occupy a private room, with sick friends or relatives was raised from Rs. 2 daily to Rs. 2-8.

Mendicancy in Calcutta.—The views of the Committee on the question of professional mendicancy in the city were explained in the last report. On the 10th February 1920 the Government of Bengal published a resolution on the question. This resolution referred to the action taken by the Bengal Legislative Council in 1918, when it was suggested that a Committee should be appointed to consider the desirability of legislative action to discourage professional begging in the different provincial municipalities. A preliminary enquiry was then made by the Government of

Bengal. The result suggested that, in the mofussil municipalities, mendicancy had not increased of recent years; and that it has not even yet attained such dimensions as to justify special remedial measures. As regards Calcutta the weight of opinion, as elicited by the enquiry, was with certain exceptions to the effect that professional begging is on the increase.

His Excellency the Governor in Council accepted this view, and came to the conclusion that action in Calcutta was necessary. It was proposed to begin with a scheme for:—(a) an infirmary for beggars, and (b) an industrial school; and it was further proposed to appoint a Committee to work out practical details on these lines. The Committee consisted of three members nominated by the Government of Bengal, three by the Corporation of Calcutta, and one member nominated respectively by the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Association, and the British Indian Association. The terms of reference to the Committee included the elaboration of practical proposals for dealing with the problem, and were not confined to the conclusions specified above.

The Committee, of which Mr. A. D. Pickford, M.L.A., was Chairman, reported towards the end of the year. Among their principal recommendations were the following:—

The following Poor Law Institutions should be provided:—

- (a) Receiving Centre and Casual Ward.
- (b) Hospital for Incurables and Curable Ward.
- (c) Almshouse.
- (d) Industrial Home.
- (e) Industrial School.

The proposals made are of an experimental nature owing to the great change in custom advocated and the introduction of a system new to India.

All five institutions should be grouped together in an outlying site in the northern area.

They should be under a fully qualified Medical Superintendent, who will devote his time to the medical and psychological study of beggars.

Vagrants on commitment should be sent to a Receiving Centre for observation and classification and thence drafted to one or other institution for treatment according as to whether incurable, diseased but curable, aged and infirm, able-bodied or capable of being taught an occupation, or children.

The Kidderpore Bridge.—The bridge over Tolly's Nala at Kidderpore was closed to traffic, as being unsafe, in September or October 1918. Its reconstruction was undertaken by the Government of Bengal, but the progress of the work has been exceptionally slow. Early in the year the Chamber asked the Government for information as to what was being done. The reply was that the tenders for the steel structure had been received, and that it was hoped to place the order by the end of March. The completion of the bridge would depend on the celerity with which the steelwork could be obtained from Great Britain. And, although in these circumstances it was not possible to fix the date of completion, it was hoped that the new bridge would be opened for traffic before the monsoon of 1921.

The Balliaghatta and Eastern Canals.—The quality of the water in these canals has been on several occasions in the past the subject of correspondence between the Chamber and the Local Government. The question was again brought forward in the early part of the past year by owners of factories that have to draw their boiler water from the canals. The Committee referred again to the Government of Bengal but they have not yet heard if any steps have been taken. In the meantime they were informed by the firm complaining, that the quality of the water had improved.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Civil aviation.—The question of the development of civil aviation was mentioned in the last report. It has been again under consideration during the past year, in the early part of which the Committee urged upon the Government the importance of permitting the establishment of a permanent aviation ground at Dum Dum. For there certainly did not appear to them to be any doubt as to this being the best site available in the vicinity of Calcutta. They took the opportunity afforded to them, by the announcement of its selection, to suggest that the ground should be got into working order with the utmost despatch. They also recommended that the Government of India should give practical encouragement to the development of aviation in such directions as, for example, the provision of properly prepared landing grounds, and the reduction of the cost to private enterprise of the organisation of experimental and demonstration services. They likewise indicated another direction in which help might be given. The import tariff did not provide specially for aeroplanes, which were treated—for customs purposes—as motor-cars. It followed that Looking duty at the rate of 7½ per cent. was levied upon them, this seemed to be an excessive rate of duty. A rate of 2½ per cent. might, the Committee thought, be justifiable, but they suggested that no duty should be charged on aeroplanes, spare parts, etc.

The Government reduced the duty to 2½ per cent. *ad valorem*, and gave the concession retrospective effect, so as to include imports on which excess duty had been paid. In order not to hamper, or to discourage, long distance flying the Government also authorised the local Governments to exempt from duty aircraft arriving by air, when they were satisfied that such was to be used merely for the purpose of flying across India, and was not to be detained in the country.

The Daily Weather Reports.—During the year 1919 the Committee were in correspondence with the Director General of Observatories with reference to the weather reports. There are two at Simla, and the Bengal report published at Calcutta. The Indian report is, as its name implies, the more comprehensive of the two, but it cannot be of course obtained here until the third

day after its issue. It contains information, respecting important wheat and cotton areas, which does not appear in the Calcutta report. And members of the Chamber pointed out to the Committee, in 1919, that the delay in the receipt of it here was inconvenient to merchants. The Committee brought this complaint to the notice of the Director General of Observatories, who suggested that it might be sufficient if the telegraphic weather summary issued daily from Simla were included in the following morning's report. To give in the latter all the particulars shown in the Indian report would, he said, involve an increase in expenditure that did not appear to be justifiable. It was finally arranged to include, in the daily telegraphic summary, all rainfalls of 1" or over, at certain of the principal crop-growing centres outside the area dealt with by the Bengal report.

At the end of July last the Director General of Observatories pointed out that this arrangement was working unsatisfactorily in practice, and he proposed not to adhere rigorously to it in the future. He contemplated sending, on the other hand, to the Meteorologist, Calcutta, a daily telegram giving the rainfall of 1", or over, at certain stations indicated by him in the course of the previous correspondence. This information was to be included in the summary, and distributed on the following day, together with the Bengal Daily Weather Report.

Exception was not taken by the Chamber to this proposed modification of the arrangement agreed to in 1919. At the same time it is of course necessary that the requirements of the wheat and seed merchants should be kept steadily in view. But there has been no complaint so far, and there is every reason to believe that the information which is now made available is satisfactory. An alternative proposal, which was mentioned by the Director General, was not approved. It was that the additional information should be sent in the form of a multiple telegram to the Calcutta subscribers of the Daily Telegraphic Weather Summary. It is considered to be unlikely that such an arrangement as this would be satisfactory.

The Sea-Borne Trade and Navigation Returns.—Towards the end of February a reference was made by the Officiating Director of Statistics on the question of additions to, or alterations in, the lists of articles separately specified in the sea-borne trade returns. A statement of certain contemplated additions was also submitted; and the Officiating Director asked to be furnished with any proposals that the Chamber might have to make in respect of the lists. The Committee consulted members, and, as a result, they put forward certain recommendations for the amendment of the lists. Some of the articles so recommended were adopted for separate specification, with effect from April 1920; and as regards the others a reference was made to the Collectors of Customs in the maritime provinces. The Committee have not so far heard the result of this reference.

In August the Commercial Intelligence Department informed the Chamber that the Government of India were considering the revision, in certain respects, of the sea-borne trade statistics. Two important questions in connection with this work were the following, in respect of which an expression of opinion was invited:—

- (a) The classification to be followed in the abstract tables, or summaries of imports, exports, and re-exports; and
- (b) The constitution and arrangement of the groups within each main head of the classification decided on under (a).

The Committee thought that the proposals which the Department set forth with reference to these two questions should be adopted. For they were not calculated to give rise to any inconvenience, or difficulty, as far as the commercial community are concerned. On the contrary the fuller information that the statistical tables would afford when presented according to the new methods, would be advantageous. There is no need to set out the proposals here as they dealt of course with matters of detail. But the general effect of them is to afford, to the public, more complete and detailed information with reference to exports and imports.

Prices of loose jute in Calcutta.—It was suggested recently, by the Government of Bengal, that the Chamber should advise as to which of the following means of obtaining an accurate price in Calcutta of loose jute should be adopted:—

- (a) The price of a particular mark, *e.g., fours*;
- (b) A simple arithmetic mean of the prices on the date on which they are taken;
- (c) A weighted average of prices having regard to the respective quantities of jute sold at the various prices.

The information was required for inclusion in the fortnightly returns of wholesale prices current, as published by the Director of Agriculture. The Committee looked into the matter, and made proposal (b) would serve any useful purpose, and they did not therefore recommend it. On the other hand they thought that (a) would be useful, and could be easily obtained; but they suggested district price. They also considered that (c) would be of service. The Government accepted these recommendations; and, at the request of the Committee, Messrs. Landale & Clark, Ltd. kindly undertook to furnish the required particulars fortnightly.

The trade in cotton piece-goods: Statistics.—The attention of the Chamber was drawn recently, by the Offg. Director and Indian cotton piece-goods imported into, and exported from, the Bombay Presidency during the five years ended 1917-18. The Collector of Customs, Bombay, had examined these figures, and

had brought to light the following anomalies: (a) that very much larger quantities of imported piece-goods left Bombay than were brought into the port; and (b) that exports of locally manufactured piece-goods were much smaller than would be expected. From these results it was inferred that a large proportion of the piece-goods recorded in the rail-borne returns as "foreign" were really of Indian manufacture. The railways concerned had been approached by the Director of Statistics, and from their replies it was concluded that the anomalies were probably due to two main reasons: (i) wrong declaration of goods by the consignors; and (ii) wrong classification by the station staff. The Offg. Director of Statistics suggested that the Chamber should impress upon mills, merchants, and consignors of goods, the necessity for describing correctly goods despatched by rail or steamer; and for giving details as to whether such goods are of foreign, or of Indian, origin; and for avoiding, as far as possible, the use of abbreviations in their consignment notes.

The Piece-goods Sub-Committee of this Chamber considered the matter, and they doubted if the road and rail-borne returns are of much interest to Calcutta merchants as regards imports of piece-goods. For the Customs imports lists for foreign goods, and the tables of production of the Bombay mills, which are substantially correct, serve all requirements. The importance of the rail-borne returns is therefore considerably lessened. And owing to mixed consignments these figures must, the Sub-Committee believed, be very difficult to compile accurately. At the same time they recognised that it would be of course advantageous if, by the exercise of greater care, more accurate results could be obtained.

The decimal system of weights and measures.—The question of the adoption, by the British Empire, of the decimal system of weights and measures has been frequently before the Committee in recent years. It was last referred to in the report for the year 1916, when the attitude of the Chamber, in respect of it, was defined. During the past year it was raised by the British Chamber of Commerce for Spain, by which body attention was invited to the advantages which would accrue to British foreign trade by the adoption of the metric system. The British Chamber contemplated the submission, to His Majesty's Government, of a petition pointing out the volume of trade which is annually lost to the Empire by the retention of the existing British system.

The Committee do not see that any practical purpose would be served by attempting to introduce the decimal system into India, with reference to either internal or external trade, prior to its adoption by the United Kingdom. They agree with the view, which was taken by their predecessors in 1916, and which was expressed in the following terms:—

On various occasions during the past fourteen or fifteen years the Chamber has had under discussion the question of the introduction of the metric system into India. But the Committee have consistently taken the view that no

practical purpose would be served by attempting to introduce this system prior to its adoption by the United Kingdom. As a result of the war it is presumably possible that a change from British to decimal weights and measures may be made by Great Britain, if not by the Empire as a whole. Should this possibility stand in the way of adopting the metric system would be worthy of serious consideration, and the Chamber might favour action in that direction. The system would, the Committee think, make the way to uniformity more arduous than it would be made by the adoption of standards based on the tola of 180 grains. But, if success could be attained, the resulting advantages would be greater, particularly as regards international trade, with which the Chamber is of course primarily concerned. If the United Kingdom decides to retain its existing system the Committee would not advocate any attempt being made to introduce the metric system into India. For the advantages of the system, as regards international trade, would obviously then be less apparent, while the difficulties attendant upon its adoption would remain. One of the chief of these difficulties would arise in connection with the exchange of For, as the Weights and Measures Committee, and the Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta, have pointed out, the system would really necessitate, if full advantage is to be taken of it, the adoption of a decimal coinage in India, and this would be an innovation of considerable magnitude and difficulty.

The metric equivalent of the ton—2240 lbs.—The question of whether the British ton is equivalent to 1015 kilos or to 1016, was under discussion during the year. It appears that in this connection there has been litigation in Europe, chiefly with respect to the payment of freight on exports from India. Shippers to continental ports suggested that the Chamber should issue a ruling to the effect that the ton is equivalent to 1016 kilos. They quoted a decision of the Board of Trade in support of this suggestion and they referred to a case which had been decided by a Marseilles court in favour of 1016 kilos, as against 1015. The Committee examined the question, but they did not take action immediately. For, from information which was then placed before them, there appeared to be such a difference of opinion, as between shipowners and shippers, as to make a Chamber ruling out of the question. Later in the year they were however approached by the Calcutta Liners Conference, and they gathered that shipowners had more or less agreed that a Chamber ruling would be advantageous. They then consulted the members of the Chamber, and, after considering the opinions thus elicited, they decided to proceed. But in the meantime information came to them to the effect that commodities were still being offered from the continent to Calcutta firms per ton of 1015 kilos. This being so they deferred the matter, and asked the East India Section of the London Chamber of Commerce for their views upon it. The enquiry is still pending.

The rice control.—At the Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers, which was held in Calcutta in January 1920, the following resolution was adopted:—

That in view of the experience of the people in Bengal and Assam during the outcome of the past year, when imports of rice were not allowed in sufficient quantities from Burma to the port of Chittagong until the distress had become acute, this Conference urges the Government to take immediate steps for allowing adequate quantities of rice from Burma to the different parts of India in consultation with the local authorities and the mercantile communities of each port.

In commenting on this resolution the Department of Revenue and Agriculture said that, under the food control system, allotments of Burma rice, for export to each province in India, were fixed monthly by Government on receipt of an indent from the Director of Civil Supplies of the province concerned. The indent of the Director was based on information received from local authorities as to their requirements; and all that appeared to be necessary was therefore that the mercantile communities should keep in touch with local authorities as to their needs for Burma rice.

It was announced subsequently, by the Government of India, that the whole of the profits from the Burma rice control were to be allocated to the Government of Burma, on condition that they should be profitably expended for the benefit of the cultivator.

The embargo on the exportation of flour.—The question of raising the embargo on the exportation of flour to foreign countries was brought forward by the Punjab Chamber in May last. The Bengal Chamber did not however at the time agree that it would be advantageous to move in this direction. For the Committee feared that the raising of the embargo would affect the local markets, as regards the price of flour, and to a certain extent the price of wheat also. They took the view that the embargo on flour should be raised simultaneously with embargo on wheat. And acting on this view they supported the Punjab Chamber, later in the year, when the Government of India decided to permit the exportation of 400,000 tons of wheat. The Government of India declined however to remove the embargo. They would, they said, allow the exportation of a further 24,000 tons during the quarter ended 31st December 1920, making a total of approximately 86,000 tons for the year. And they added that this total compared favourably, with the average exports, during the three prewar years, of 67,000 tons.

The Indian Cotton Committee.—By a resolution, dated 27th September 1917, the Government of India appointed a Committee to investigate the possibilities of extending the growth of long-stapled cotton in India.

The Committee reported early in 1919, and in August of that year the Government of India issued a resolution in which they indicated broadly the lines upon which it was proposed to deal with the recommendations set forth in the report. At the beginning of 1920, the Government of Bengal consulted the Chamber in regard to proposals made in the report for the organisation of the cotton trade, and for co-operation between it and the agricultural departments of Government. The chief of these proposals was one for the formation of a permanent central cotton committee, consisting of representatives of the agricultural and co-operative departments, the Director General of Commercial Intelligence, the Director of Statistics, and representatives of the trade. This central committee would act through provincial committees and local sub-committees. The direct representation of Bengal on the central committee was not contemplated by the proposals. But the Government of Bengal

thought that it might be desirable for a provincial committee to be formed in this province, although local sub-committees would not be necessary.

Those members of the Chamber who are interested in the Bengal cotton trade were consulted on the subject. They recognised that the Cotton Committee had expressed an opinion in favour of the establishment of a provincial committee in Bengal. But notwithstanding this they were disposed to take the opposite view. And they doubted if the labour and expense of establishing a provincial committee in the province would be justified. The Committee of the Chamber held no strong opinion on the subject, but they submitted the foregoing view to the Government.

Later in the year the Committee expressed approval of certain proposals made by the Government of India, with reference to other recommendations contained in the report. These proposals had reference to matters such as standard weights, the licensing of gins and presses, etc.

Vocational training of British and Indian soldiers.—The question of the vocational training of British and Indian soldiers has been under discussion recently. Education is beneficial to be an integral part of the training of the army; firstly, in order to increase the military efficiency of the soldier; and, secondly, to prepare him for his return to civil life as an efficient citizen. To carry out this obligation it is desired to offer to the soldier, during his term of service with the colours, facilities to obtain instruction in such trades or businesses as he may elect to follow on the completion of his army service.

The General Officer Commanding the Presidency and Assam District put the foregoing considerations before the Committee, and asked if firms in Calcutta would be disposed to take soldiers, either engineering, building, carpentering, mining, etc., and also, in respect of British soldiers, certain branches of business such as accounting, book-keeping, and business methods generally. The Committee scheme was by no means unfavourably regarded, there was some apprehension as to its practicability. Presumably the training would duties. This would, it was feared, mean that there would be a lack and would be detrimental to the routine and discipline of the men, or workshop. Then there would also be the question whether effective control could be exercised, by the employer, over the men in the event of irregular attendance, etc. Doubts were likewise raised as to whether the training which a man would get in such circumstances would be sufficient to enable him to earn his living on leaving the army. Although these objections were raised to the scheme, some of the members of the Chamber were nevertheless quite prepared to co-operate. The suggestion was, therefore, made that possibly more

satisfactory, and more rapid, progress might be anticipated, so far as the men were concerned, if the army could establish its own workshops for training purposes.

The question is understood to be still engaging the attention of the military authorities.

Local clearing office for India for settlement of enemy debts.—On the 8th July 1920 the Government of India announced that it had been decided—in accordance with section 1 (f) of the India Treaty of Peace Order in Council 1920—to establish a local clearing office in India, working under the central clearing office in Great Britain, for the settlement of outstanding debts and claims between subjects of Germany and of the British Empire, in accordance with the terms of the Versailles Peace Treaty. Mr. B. S. Kish, I.C.S., was appointed controller of the clearing office; and he issued, in due course, a notice defining the procedure of the local office the address of which is 1 Council House Street, Calcutta.

Ex-enemy businesses.—The Government of Bengal informed the Chamber, in May last, that India would adhere to an agreement entered into between the United Kingdom and France, namely, that in the liquidation of an enemy business, or a company controlled by enemies, French nationals would have the same rights as British nationals, with respect to the restoration of property held on their behalf and for their benefit, the payment of debts owing to them by the business or company which is liquidated, and their participation as partners, or as shareholders, in the distribution of the proceeds of the liquidation, provided that debts owing to, and property held on behalf of, the business or company by French nationals are paid or delivered to the person appointed to conduct the liquidation. Similarly in the liquidation, in France, of an enemy business, or a company controlled by enemies, British nationals would, on the same conditions, have the same rights as French nationals in regard to the matters specified.

Proposed universal language.—The question of the adoption of a common world language was debated by the Northern Peace Congress, which was held at Stockholm in September 1919. The Board of the Northern Peace Union subsequently made enquiries throughout the world as to what language would be the most suitable as a universal means of communication. The idea was to gain knowledge as to which language, whether dead, living, or artificial, had the greatest prospect of being accepted by the different nations as a common language of correspondence and conversation, in addition to the language of each separate country. As business-men are particularly interested in the question, the Union enquired as to the general trend of opinion among the business-men of India among other countries.

It was pointed out by the Committee that the position of India in regard to language is exceptional. No fewer than a hundred and thirty indigenous dialects, belonging to six distinct families of

speech, have been distinguished by the linguistic survey of this country. But as regards India's external commerce, English is by far the most extensively used language. Rather less than two millions of the people of India are literate in English, but the import and export trades of the country are carried on almost exclusively in it. The Committee's answer to the enquiry was therefore that the general trend of opinion among business-men here is that the only common language which can be used by India, for correspondence with other countries, is English, which is of course also the official language of the Government of India.

The Indian Industrial Commission, 1916-18 : Collection of commercial intelligence.—The following is a summary of certain of the recommendations of the Indian Industrial Commission on the subject of the collection of commercial intelligence :—

- (a) That for the compilation of pure statistical information on an imperial basis the department of statistics should remain a distinct department, as at present, subordinate to the commerce department of the Government of India ;
- (b) That the department of commercial intelligence should be re-constituted so as to undertake the collection of both commercial and industrial intelligence, and be placed under the control of the proposed imperial department of industries ;
- (c) That the director of commercial and industrial intelligence should be a member of the proposed industrial service ;
- (d) That statistics and intelligence relating to industries and commerce should be collected and analysed by directors of industries and other expert agents under the general control of the proposed imperial department of industries ;
- (e) That two special commercial intelligence officers be appointed at Calcutta and Bombay, working under the provincial directors of industries but communicating direct, when necessary, with the director of commercial and industrial intelligence ; and
- (f) That provision be made for expenditure in connection with the increased establishment of the department of commercial and industrial intelligence, and for allowances to trade correspondents.

The Government of Bengal expressed the opinion that it would be undesirable for the director of commercial intelligence to be subject to the control of the director of industries. They set out at length their views in this connection, and they invited the Chamber to comment upon the issue. They maintained that the proposals of the Commission would mean that the collection of commercial and industrial intelligence would really become a provincial matter, while imperial character of the appointment of the director general should be retained ; and that his staff should be very considerably strengthened ; and that the collection of industrial intelligence should be undertaken by agencies of a different kind.

The Committee are disposed to agree with the Government of Bengal. They think, that is to say, that the collection of commercial intelligence should be an imperial matter ; that the staff of the director general should be very largely increased ; and separately.

MEMBERSHIP.

The following have been provisionally elected to membership, subject to confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting :—

CHAMBER MEMBERS.

- Messrs. G. A. Achard & Co.
 " The Asiatic Petroleum Co., (India) Ltd.
 " Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ltd.
 " Bengal Iron Co., Ltd.
 " Ellerman's Arracan Rice & Trading Co., Ltd.
 " Alfred Herbert (India) Ltd.
 " Hollingshurst & Co., (India) Ltd.
 " Linton, Molesworth & Co., Ltd.
 " George Payne & Co., Ltd.
 " The Scottish Union & National Insurance Co
 " A. J. Shellim & Co.
 " Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd.
 " J. Stone & Co., Ltd.
 " Tata Sons, Ltd.
 " Villiers, Ltd.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

- Messrs. Comptoir D'Orient Delaroux et Cie.
 " Comptoir de L'Industrie du Jute (C.I.J.).
 " G & M. Fort.
 " Osaka Shosen Kaisha.
 " Senda Barnett & Co., Ltd.

The number of members of the Chamber on the 31st January 1921 was : Chamber members 223, Associate members 14.

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE.

Chamber.—The addition to the capital of the Chamber in 1920 amounts to Rs. 25,317-8-1 derived as follows :—

Bengal Chamber of Commerce surplus	Rs.	23,083	1	8
revenue	...	2,234	6	5
Royal Exchange surplus	...			
	Rs.	25,317	8	1

The income and expenditure for 1919 and 1920 are as follows:—

<i>Income :—</i>		1919.	1920.
Members' subscriptions	... Rs.	62,781	69,650
Monthly contributions	... "	1,21,440	1,27,740
Sale of Prices Current	... "	1,119	1,136
Arbitration fees	... "	1,24,996	1,04,935
Certificates of Origin	... "	1,688	4,393
Railway Traffic Returns	... "	266	311
	Rs.	3,12,290	3,08,105

<i>Expenditure :—</i>		1919	1920
Establishment	... Rs.	1,60,071	2,00,850
Interest, Taxes and repairs	... "	4,585	Cr. 2,424
Interest and rent received	... "	15,135	17,020
Printing and stationery	... "	31,038	29,505
Depreciation	... "	26,259	29,887
Sundries	... "	594	1,232
Electric Fans and Lights	... "	6,753	8,937
Contribution to Provident Fund	... "	67,855	23,083
Surplus	... "		
	Rs.	3,12,290	3,08,105

Royal Exchange.—The surplus for 1920 is Rs. 2,234-6-5 against Rs. 708-15-0 for 1919.

<i>Income :—</i>		1919.	1920.
Entrance Fees	... Rs.	500	500
Subscriptions	... "	38,894	42,489
	Rs.	39,394	42,989

<i>Expenditure :—</i>		1919.	1920.
Rent	... "	18,000	18,000
Contribution to Chamber	... "	6,000	6,000
Establishment	... "	5,682	6,580
Restaurant License	... "	200	200
Books & Newspapers	... "	2,934	3,187
Sundries	... "	5,869	6,788
Surplus	... "	709	2,234
	Rs.	39,394	42,989

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.
Calcutta, 4th February 1921.

ALEXANDER R. MURRAY,
President.

ACCOUNTS

**Bengal Chamber of
BALANCE SHEET as**

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
5% MORTGAGE DEBENTURE LOAN, 1915	6,00,000	0	0
OUTSTANDING INTEREST ON ABOVE LOAN	17,315	10	0
DEPOSITS FOR ARBITRATION CASES	97,669	13	11
CASHIER'S SECURITY DEPOSIT—G. P. NOTES	5,000	0	0
Sundry LIABILITIES—						
Provident Fund	8,937	3	9
Printing Report	5,015	11	0
Establishment	1,161	2	0
Sundries	4,078	11	0
Collector of Income Tax	19,192	4	9
	860	7	3
CAPITAL ACCOUNT—						
As per last Account	6,01,307	15	4
Bengal Chamber of Commerce Surplus	23,083	1	8
Royal Exchange Surplus	2,234	0	5
	6,26,715	8	0
TOTAL Rs.	13,66,758	11	11

We beg to report that we have audited the Balance Sheet of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, dated 31st December, 1920, as above set forth, and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is drawn up in conformity with the law and exhibits a true and correct view of the state of the Chamber's affairs according to the best of our information, and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Chamber.

CALCUTTA :
The 4th February 1921.

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Chartered Accountants.

Auditors.

Commerce, Calcutta.

at 31st December 1920.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
LAND NO. 2 CATE STREET	3,11,512	8	0
NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING—						
Expenditure to 31st December 1919	5,88,008	7	5
Less—Depreciation to date	42,937	14	2
FURNITURE—						
Expenditure to 31st December 1919	87,520	3	8
Since added	2,094	15	9
Less—Depreciation to date	80,627	2	5
LIBRARY AND PICTURES—						
Expenditure to 31st December 1919	34,192	1	0
Since added	1,908	12	6
Less—Depreciation to date	29,517	6	7
STANDARD WEIGHTS, MEASURES AND TEST						
APPLIANCES—						
Expenditure to 31st December 1919	1,882	12	9
Less—Depreciation to date	755	7	10
INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC AND SANITARY						
WORKS—						
Expenditure to 31st December 1919	1,12,465	12	9
Since added	295	0	0
Less—Depreciation to date	1,12,670	12	9
OTHER CHARGES—						
Expenditure to 31st December	855	0	0
Less—Depreciation to date	150	0	0
DEBTS DUE TO THE CHAMBER—						
Outstandings for 1920	11,267	13	5
Sundry outstandings	4,248	13	6
Advance	125	0	0
	15,641	10	11
ROYAL EXCHANGE CONTRIBUTION	2,234	0	5
CASHIER'S SECURITY DEPOSIT—						
1/2 Government Promissory Notes for Rs. 5,000 at par	5,000	0	0
CASH AND INVESTMENTS—						
1/2 Calcutta Port Trust Debentures for Rs. 10,000 @ Rs. 63 1/2	6,300	0	0
5 1/2 % War Bonds of 1925 for Rs. 1,75,000 @ 95 1/2 %	1,68,875	0	0
5 1/2 % B. C. C. Debentures of 1915 for Rs. 24,500 @ purchase value...	19,375	0	0
Bank of Bengal 5% Mortgage Debenture Loan 1915 Interest	17,315	10	0
Bank of Bengal Current Account	1,21,491	10	7
In hand...	4,614	4	5
TOTAL Rs.	13,66,758	11	11

ALEXANDER R. MURRAY,
President.

R. M. WATSON SMYTH, Vice-President.

J. CAMPBELL,
S. G. L. RUSTACK,
C. G. COFFEY,
H. HARRIS,
R. LANGRISH JAMES,
A. D. PICKFORD,
B. A. WHITE.

Committee.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

Bengal Chamber of

REVENUE ACCOUNT for the

EXPENDITURE.			Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
To Establishment and Pensions	...	...	...	...	...	2,00,839	1	1
" Municipal Taxes	...	...	...	...	...	10,065	8	0
" Current Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	1,900	5	8
" Electric Lights, Fans, Lifts and Pumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cost of Current and up-keep	...	...	5,048	11	3	...	...	...
Received for the use of the above	...	...	3,816	10	0	...	...	...
" Depreciation on Building	...	...	13,977	11	3	1,232	1	3
" Do. on Furniture	...	...	6,113	14	4	...	...	...
" Do. on Library and Pictures	...	...	507	13	5	...	...	...
" Do. on Standard weights, etc.	...	...	59	5	3	...	...	...
" Do. on Electric Installation	...	...	8,251	0	6	...	...	...
" Do. on Sanitary Works	...	...	165	0	0	...	...	...
" Do. on Office Chattry	...	...	...	...	...	29,504	14	9
" Fire Insurance	...	...	1,350	0	0	...	...	...
" Contribution to Provident Fund	...	...	8,697	3	9	...	...	...
" Printing Report	...	...	6,144	1	3	...	...	...
" Do. General	...	...	7,442	3	9	...	...	...
" Commercial Education Prize	...	...	1,078	4	6	24,851	13	5
" Charges general	...	...	4,345	11	0	...	...	...
" Petty charges	...	...	2,592	5	0	...	...	...
" Law charges	...	...	1,553	8	6	...	...	...
" Stamps	...	...	1,518	9	3	...	...	...
" Telegrams	...	...	1,601	12	0	...	...	...
" Book Binding	...	...	500	2	6	...	...	...
" Government Gazettes, etc.	...	...	1,520	8	10	...	...	...
" Audit fees	...	...	3,200	0	0	...	...	...
" Stationery	...	...	3,440	4	9	...	...	...
" Telephone subscription	...	...	638	10	9	...	...	...
" Advertising	...	...	10	0	0	...	...	...
" Travelling expenses	...	...	599	0	0	21,831	9	4
" Passage	...	...	...	...	...	1,066	2	0
" Surplus revenue carried to Profit and Loss Account	...	...	...	...	...	16,764	0	1
TOTAL Rs.	...	...	...	...	...	3,08,105	5	5

Examined and found correct,

LOVELOCK & LEWES,

Chartered Accountants. } Auditors.

CALCUTTA,

The 4th February 1921.

Commerce, Calcutta.

year ended 31st December 1920.

INCOME.			Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
By Members' subscriptions	...	...	...	...	...	69,650	0	0
" Monthly Contributions from Associations affiliated to the Chamber	...	...	76,740	0	0	...	...	...
" Do. do. from Licensed Measurers Department	...	...	24,000	0	0	...	...	...
" Do. do. Royal Exchange	...	...	6,000	0	0	...	...	...
" Do. do. Indian Tea Cess Committee	...	...	9,000	0	0	...	...	...
" Do. do. Calcutta Liners Conference	...	...	12,000	0	0	1,27,740	0	0
" Sale of Price Current	...	...	...	...	...	1,136	2	1
" Arbitration fees	...	...	...	...	...	1,64,934	14	0
" Fees for Certificates of Origin	...	...	...	...	...	4,333	0	0
" Railway Traffic Returns	...	...	...	...	...	311	5	4
TOTAL Rs.	...	...	...	...	...	3,08,105	5	5

ALEXANDER R. MURRAY,
President.R. M. WATSON SMYTH, Vice-President.
J. CAMPBELL,
S. G. L. EUSTACE,
G. C. GODFREY,
H. HARRIS,
R. LANGFORD JAMES,
A. D. TUCKFORD,
B. A. WHITE.
Committee.H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

Bengal Chamber of
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
To Interest on Debentures	30,000	0	0
.. Bank of Bengal, Cost of management of Debentures	300	0	0
.. Loss on revaluation of Investments	8,100	0	0
.. Net Surplus for the year carried to Capital Account	23,083	1	8
TOTAL Rs.	61,483	1	8

Examined and found correct,

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Chartered Accountants.

Auditors.

CALCUTTA.

The 4th February 1921. }

Commerce, Calcutta.

the year ended 31st December 1920.

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
By Balance of Revenue Account ... ..	...	...	...	16,764	0	1
.. REST OF NO. 2, CLIVE STREET—						
Royal Exchange	18,000	0	0			
Licensed Measurers' Department	12,000	0	0			
Restaurant Contractors	600	0	0			
Brokers' Exchange	3,000	0	0			
Rent on account of Dinner on 17th December 1919	50	0	0	33,650	0	0
.. Interest on Investments ... ..	...	...	...	11,069	1	7
TOTAL Rs. ... ..	...	...	...	61,483	1	8

ALEXANDER R. MURRAY,
President.

R. M. WATSON SMYTH, Vice-President.

J. CAMPBELL,
S. G. L. BUSTACE,
G. C. GODFREY,
H. HARRIS,
R. LANGFORD JAMES,
A. D. PICKFORD,
B. A. WHITE

Committee.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

Bengal Chamber of
BALANCE SHEET

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
LIABILITIES.						
CAPITAL ACCOUNT—						
As per last account	1,00,997	12	3			
Amount contributed by employees in 1920	Rs. 8,937	3	9			
Add—Amount contributed by Chamber in 1920	8,937	3	9			
	17,874	7	6			
	1,18,872	3	9			
Less—Refunds	130	4	3			
" Forfeits	129	7	4			
	259	11	7			
	1,18,612	8	2			
Deduct—Balance of Profit and Loss Account	5,422	1	6	1,13,190	6	8
SENDER CREDITORS				100	0	0
TOTAL Rs.				1,13,290	6	8

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
To Expenses	234	0	0			
" Loss on revaluation of securities	10,310	0	0	10,534	0	0
TOTAL Rs.				10,534	0	0

Examined and found correct,
 CALCUTTA, } LOVELOCK & LEWES, } Managers.
 The 4th February 1921. } Chartered Accountants.

Commerce, President Fund.
as at 31st December 1920.

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
ASSETS.						
OUTSTANDING—						
Amount due by Chamber				8,937	3	9
INVESTMENTS—						
½ Calcutta Port Trust Debentures for Rs. 65,500 @ market value	40,350	0	0			
½ Calcutta Municipal Debentures for Rs. 14,000 @ market value	8,170	0	0			
Treasury Bill for Rs. 50,000 @ 95%	47,500	0	0	96,020	0	0
Interest on Investments accrued Bank of Bengal				2,625	7	4
				5,707	11	7
TOTAL Rs.				1,13,290	6	8

for the year ending 31st December 1920.

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
By Interest	4,982	7	2			
" Forfeits	129	7	4	5,111	14	6
" Deficit carried to Balance Sheet				5,422	1	6
TOTAL Rs.				10,534	0	0

ALEXANDER R. MURRAY, }
 R. M. WATSON SMYTH, } Trustees.

List of Presidents of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

<i>President.</i>	<i>Firm.</i>	<i>Election.</i>
Ho. Jas. J. Mackenzie	Messrs. Mackillop, Stewart & Co.	1st May 1853
Jas. J. Mackenzie	Do.	18th " 1854
David Cowie	Cowie & Co.	21st " 1855
David Cowie	Do.	27th " 1856
David Cowie	Do.	27th " 1857
D. Mackinlay	Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.	29th " 1858
D. Mackinlay	Do.	28th " 1859
J. N. Bullen	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	19th " 1860
W. S. Fitzwilliam	Agent, Chartered Mercantile Bank	6th " 1861
J. N. Bullen	Messrs. Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	6th " 1862
Wm. Maitland	Mackillop, Stewart & Co.	1st " 1863
Hon. Mr. J. N. Bullen	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	18th " 1864
" J. N. Bullen	Do.	3rd June 1865
Mr. E. Schiller	Borradaile, Schiller & Co.	28th May 1866
R. Scott-Moncrieff	Steel, McIntosh & Co.	31st " 1867
Henry Crooke	Crooke, Rome & Co.	July 1867
Jas. Rome	Do.	1st June 1868
Jas. Rome	Do.	31st May 1869
R. J. Bullen Smith	Jardine, Skinner & Co. shortly after, no date.	
Do.	Do.	31st May 1870
Hon. Mr. R. J. Bullen Smith	Do.	31st " 1871
Mr. J. C. Murray	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	31st " 1872
J. C. Murray	Do.	31st " 1873
Hon. Mr. H. H. Sutherland	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	Jan. 1874
" B. D. Colvin	Colvin, Cowie & Co.	March 1874
" B. D. Colvin	Do.	30th May 1874
Mr. J. C. Murray	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	8th Aug. 1874
" R. C. Morgan	Ashburner & Co.	8th May 1875
" J. C. Murray	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	31st " 1876
" B. D. Colvin	Colvin, Cowie & Co.	30th " 1877
Duncan Mackinnon	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.	— 1878
Geo. Yule	Andrew Yule & Co.	31st May 1878
Geo. Yule	Do.	31st " 1879
Hon. Mr. A. B. Inglis	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	Jan. 1880
Mr. W. B. Croom	Graham & Co.	31st May 1880
" A. B. Inglis	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	31st " 1881
" R. Miller	Hoare, Miller & Co.	April 1882
" J. J. J. Keswick	Jardine, Skinner & Co.	7th Aug. 1883
" J. J. J. Keswick	Do.	29th May 1884
" J. J. J. Keswick	Do.	— 1885
Hon. Mr. D. Cruickshank	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	29th May 1886
Mr. H. B. H. Turner	Turner, Morrison & Co.	22nd Apr. 1887
" H. B. H. Turner	Do.	28th May 1887
Hon. Mr. R. Steel	R. Steel & Co.	14th June 1887

<i>President.</i>	<i>Firm.</i>	<i>Election.</i>
Sir Alex. Wilson, Kt. ...	Messrs. Jardine, Skinner & Co. ...	29th Feb. 1888
" Alex. Wilson, Kt. ...	Do. ...	28th " 1889
Mr. Jas. L. Mackay ...	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co. ...	28th " 1890
Hon. Mr. Jas. L. Mackay, C.I.E. ...	Do. ...	9th " 1891
" " Jas. L. Mackay, C.I.E. ...	Do. ...	29th " 1892
" " Jas. L. Mackay, C.I.E. ...	Do. ...	28th " 1893
" " P. Playfair ...	Barry & Co. ...	6th Oct. 1893
Mr. Allan Arthur ...	Finlay, Muir & Co. ...	26th Feb. 1894
Hon. Mr. P. Playfair ...	Barry & Co. ...	28th " 1895
" " P. Playfair, C.I.E. ...	Do. ...	29th " 1896
" " Allan Arthur ...	Ewing & Co. ...	12th Mar. 1897
" " Allan Arthur ...	Do. ...	28th Feb. 1898
" " M. C. Turner ...	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co. ...	17th May 1898
Mr. G. H. Sutherland ...	Ewing & Co. ...	21st Feb. 1899
" " M. C. Turner ...	Begg, Dunlop & Co. ...	20th " 1900
Hon. Mr. M. C. Turner ...	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co. ...	25th " 1901
Sir E. Cable, Kt. ...	Do. ...	25th " 1902
Hon. Mr. A. A. Apear ...	Bird & Co. ...	27th " 1903
" " A. A. Apear ...	Apear & Co. ...	29th " 1904
" " A. A. Apear, C.S.I. ...	Do. ...	28th " 1905
" " A. A. Apear, C.S.I. ...	Do. ...	28th " 1906
Mr. W. Brown ...	Do. ...	27th " 1907
Hon. Mr. C. W. N. Graham ...	Finlay, Muir & Co. ...	28th " 1908
Mr. A. M. Monteth ...	Graham & Co. ...	20th " 1909
Hon. Mr. C. W. N. Graham ...	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co. ...	3rd Mar. 1910
Mr. A. M. Monteth ...	Graham & Co. ...	24th Feb. 1911
Hon. Mr. A. M. Monteth ...	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co. ...	27th " 1912
" " R. G. Monteth ...	Do. ...	27th " 1913
" " F. H. Stewart, C.I.E. ...	Do. ...	27th " 1914
" " F. H. Stewart, C.I.E. ...	Gladstone, Wylie & Co. ...	26th " 1915
" " R. H. Bay ...	Do. ...	29th " 1916
" " W. A. Ironside ...	Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co. ...	28th " 1917
" " W. E. Crum, C.B.E. ...	Bird & Co. ...	26th " 1918
Mr. A. R. Murray, C.B.E. ...	Graham & Co. ...	28th " 1919
" " R. M. Watson Smyth, M.L.C. ...	Thos. Duff & Co., Ltd. ...	27th " 1920
	Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd. ...	25th " 1921

Bengal Chamber of Commerce

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OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

(Corrected to 31st January 1921.)

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G. Atherton & Co.
W. & T. Avery, Ltd.

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Bank of Bengal.
Barlow & Co.

Berry & Co.
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Begg, Dunlop & Co.
Sir Jacob Behrens & Sons.
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Bengal Nagpur Railway Co., Ltd.
Bengal & North-Western Railway
Co., Ltd., (Gorakhpore).
Bengal Telephone Co., Ltd.
Bird & Co.

Birkmyre Bros.
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Bonhays Co., Ltd.
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Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd.
Buksh Ellahie & Co.
Bullock Brothers & Co., Ltd.,
(Chittagong).
Burnah Oil Co., Ltd.

Burn & Co., Ltd.

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ration, Ltd.
Calcutta Port Commissioners.
Calcutta Tramways Co., Ltd.
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H. D. Cartwright & Co.
Chartered Bank of India, Aus-
tralia & China.
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S. C. Chunder & Co.
Commercial Union Assurance
Co., Ltd.
Continental Trading Society.
Thomas Cook & Son.
Cox & Co.
W. S. Cresswell & Co.
Currimbhoy & Co. Ltd.

Davenport & Co.
M. David & Co., (Narayanganj).
John Dickinson & Co. Ltd.
Don, Watson & Co.
Louis Dreyfus & Co.
Thos. Duff & Co., Ltd.
J. C. Duffus & Co., Ltd.
Dugdale, Everton & Halstead.
Duncan Brothers & Co.

East Indian Railway Co.
Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Eastern Bengal Railway.
D. Easton & Co.
Ellerman's Arracan Rice & Trad-
ing Co., Ltd.
"Englishman", Ltd.
Ewing & Co., Ltd.
David Ezra, Esq.

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James Finley & Co., Ltd.
Samuel Fitze & Co., Ltd.
A. Forbes & Co., Ltd.
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Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
Gladstone, Wyllie & Co.
C. T. Godfrey & Co.
Graham & Co.
Gramophone Co., Ltd.
Grundage, Moir & Co., Ltd.
Greaves, Cotton & Co.
Grindlay & Co.
P. E. Guddar & Co.

F. Harley & Co.
Harrisons & Crossfield, Ltd.
Hashim Ariff Bros. & Co.
W. Haworth & Co.
Hazareemul, Heernalal, Heath & Co.
Heath & Co.
Healy & Gresham, Ltd.
F. W. Heilgers & Co.
George Henderson & Co.
W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd.

Alfred Herbert, (India) Ltd.
Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.
Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.
Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ltd.
Hollingshurst & Co., (India) Ltd.
Holmes, Wilson & Co.
Hong-Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Imperial Tobacco Co. of India, Ltd.
India General Navigation & Ry. Co., Ltd.
Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Co., Ltd.
Imes, Watson & Co.
International Banking Corporation.

William Jacks & Co.
Jambon & Co.
Jardine, Skinner & Co.
Jessop & Co., Ltd.

Kahn & Kahn.
Kerr, Tarruck & Co.
Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.
Kilburn & Co.
Killick, Nixon & Co.'s Agency
King Brothers.
King, Hamilton & Co.
John King & Co., Ltd.
R. Knight & Sons, (The Statesman.)

Landale & Clark, Ltd.
Landale & Morgan.
Prawn Kissen Law & Co.
Linton, Molesworth & Co., Ltd.
Lipton, Ltd.
London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Longmans, Green & Co.
Lovecock & Lewes.
H. V. Low & Co., Ltd.
James Luke & Sons.
Lyall, Marshall & Co.

Macbeth Brothers & Co., Ltd.
Macfarlane & Co., Ltd.
Mackenzie, Lyall & Co.
J. Mackilloch & Co.
Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
Mackintosh, Burn, Ltd.
Macnelli & Co.
A. & J. Main & Co., Ltd.
A. M. Main & Co.
S. Manasseh & Sons.
Marshall Sons & Co., (India) Ltd.
Martin & Co.
Mather & Platt, Ltd.

McLeod & Co.
Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Meugens, Peat & Co.
E. Meyer & Co., Ltd.
D. L. Miller & Co.
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Ltd.
Moran & Co.
Morgan, Walker & Co.
Mytton, Wallace & Co.

National Bank of India, Ltd.
Nestlé and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co.

New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd.
Nippon Menkwa Kabushiki Kaisha
(Japan Cotton Trading Co., Ltd.)

Stanley Oakes & Co.
Oriental Gas Co., Ltd. of London,
(Calcutta Branch.)

Parry & Co.
George Payne & Co., Ltd.
Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Co.
Peninsular Tobacco Co., Ltd.,
(Monghyr).

Perman and Hynd.
Petrochino Brothers.
Pigott, Chapman & Co.
Pien, Siddons & Gough.
Planters' Stores and Agency Company, Ltd.
Poppe, Delius & Co.
T. R. Pratt, Esq.
Fyne, Hughman & Co., Ltd.

Ralli Brothers.
Randutt, Ramkissendass.
L. & I. Rapaport.
Renwick & Co., Ltd., (Kushtia).
Rivers Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.
Royal Exchange Assurance.
Royal Insurance Co.

David Sassoon & Co., Ltd.
E. D. Sassoon & Co.
H. A. Sassoon, Esq.
James Scott & Sons, Ltd.
Banshand Seal & Co.
Sunday & Co.
Scottish Union & National Insurance Co.
Sewaram, Kaluram.
Shaw, Wallace & Co.
A. J. Shellim & Co.
Shinwell & Brother.

R. Sim & Co., Ltd.
Sinclair & Co.
Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd.
Skippers & Co., Ltd.
Smith, Forrester & Co.
South British Insurance Co., Ltd.
Standard Life Assurance Co.
Standard Oil Co. of New York.
Steel Brothers & Co., Ltd.
Octavius Steel & Co.
R. Steel & Co., Ltd.
Steiners, Ltd.
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd.
J. Stone & Co., Ltd.
Struthers & Co., Ltd.
Sun Insurance Office.

W. H. Targett & Co., (Capital).
Tata Industrial Bank, Ltd.
Tata Sons, Ltd.
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Thomson, Lehzen & Co., Ltd.
Thornycroft (India), Ltd.
Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
Turnbull Brothers, Ltd.

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Valvoline Oil Co.
Villiers, Ltd.
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Walker & Co.
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Associate Members.

The Angus Co., Ltd.

Olof Borin.

British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd.

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Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Oversea Export and Import Co.,
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Senda, Barnet & Co., Ltd.

Stoll, Earl & Co., Ltd.

United States Steel Products Co.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

The Most Hon'ble The Marquis of Lansdowne, K.G., P.C.,
G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E.

Mr. J. Scobell-Armstrong, C.S.

Mr. C. W. Odling, C.S.I., C.E.

Sir William Comer Petheram, Kt., K.C.

Sir Walter Roper Lawrence, Bart., G.C.I.E.

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districts.Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1 of 1859: Rules for examina-
tion of masters and mates.

Indian Patents and Designs Act, 1911: Bill to amend

Inland Steam Vessels Act, 1 of 1917: Certificates of com-
petency as engineers.Inland Steam Vessels Act, 1917: Rules for protection of
passengers against epidemic diseases.

Agency arrangements for overseas connections.

Amsterdam: Rates of Exchange in

Animal Contagious Diseases Act, 1906: Canada.

Arbitration law in the State of New York.

Armenian Relief Committee of Mesopotamia.

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Bruce Institution.

Brushes, &c.: Prohibition of importation into New Zealand.

Bulgarian Treaty of Peace.

Burm Bazar traffic: Complaints against the Police.

Burma: Roads and railways in

Chitragong: Administration Report for 1919-20.

C. I. F. Calcutta contracts.

Coir yarn for ropes: Market value of Laccadive

Coke scarcity in Calcutta.

Commercial Bulletin: Punjab.

Commercial education: Krishnath College.

Commercial Intelligence Notes.

Commercial travellers in India: Regulations applicable to

Commission chargeable by steamer agents.

Contracts: Fulfilment subject to labour conditions, &c.

Correspondence: Loss in the post.

Cotton yarns: Trade between India and Greece.

Dyestuffs: Removal of restrictions on import of

Egypt: Commercial situation in

Exhibition in London, 1921-1923: British Empire

Exhibition of the British Institute of Industrial Art.

Exports of prohibited goods: Lists of

Fair at Christiansia.

Fair: International Shoe and Leather

Famine Relief and Insurance Fund: Indian

Fumigation of ships for India and the Far East leaving the Panama

Canal.

Germany: Enquiry regarding trade with

Germany: Removal of restrictions on trading with

Grain compensation allowance.

Gunnies: Late shipment: Interest on purchase-money.

Hooghly: Map of the river

Hookworm disease.
 Imports into Australia without invoices.
 Imports into United Kingdom : Restrictions on
 Indian Employees Association.
 Indian goods : Colonial and foreign importers of
 Indian produce : Trade with South-West Asia.
 Industries : United Kingdom
 Influenza epidemic : Prevention of
 International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and Manu-
 facturers Association.
 Jute contract : Definition of term " Home guaranteed".
 Jute statistics : Supply to Director of Agriculture, Bengal.
 Labour Market in Bihar & Orissa : Reports.
 Labour Market in districts of Bengal : Report.
 Lady Chelmsford's League for maternal and child welfare.
 Look-outs special masthead for the British Mercantile Marine.
 Luxuries : Prohibition of importation into France of
 Manganese ore : Rates of freight from Calcutta.
 Merchant vessels : Stiffening of
 Mesopotamia : Trade with
 Military Service : Release of mercantile employees from
 Norway : Exports to
 Paints, varnishes, etc. : Supply to Indian Munitions Board.
 Passports for journey out of India.
 Piece-goods : Alleged pilferage on railways.
 Prices Enquiry Committee.
 Quarantine Proclamation : Commonwealth of Australia.
 Relief Funds : Imperial Indian
 Reparation Commission : Claims for compensation for loss of British
 vessels.
 Retalte chime : Rate of exchange for calculation of
 River craft in India and Mesopotamia : Disposal of
 Shipping Offices in Bengal : Reports on the working of
 Storm Signals : Bay of Bengal
 Stores for the Indian Army : Purchase of
 Stores Purchase Committee : Indian Munitions Board.
 Subordinate Civil Service.
 Sugar Committee : The Indian
 Tea industry : Position of
 Telephone Service.
 Textiles : Disposal of surplus Government stocks of
 Trade Convention San Francisco : Seventh National Foreign
 Trade publicity in China.
 Trading with persons of enemy nationality in China, Siam and
 Persia.
 Wages of clerks in commercial offices.
 Weather working days.
 Whalers and machinery : Sale by the Admiralty of
 Wireless communication to and from merchant ships : Wireless
 direction-finding

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

— : O : —

Committees of the Chamber, &c., and
Recognised Associations.

(Corrected to 24th June 1921.)

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

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1. Mr. R. M. WATSON
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Vice-President ... " Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.
3. " C. F. BEADEL ... " Becker, Gray & Co.
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4. " J. COATES ... Acting Agent, Eastern Bengal
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5. " W. L. CAREY, M.L.C. ... Messrs. Bird & Co.
6. " W. C. CURRIE, M.L.C. ... " Mackinnon, Mackenzie &
Co.
7. " W. J. K. HEGARTY ... Manager, National Bank of India,
Ltd.
8. " R. LANGFORD JAMES, M.L.C. Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
9. Hon. Sir ALEXANDER MURRAY,
C.B.E. ... " Thos. Duff & Co., Ltd.

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of State:

Hon. Sir ALEXANDER MURRAY, C.B.E. Messrs. Thos. Duff & Co., Ltd.

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4. " JAMES E. ROY, M.L.C. " Macneill & Co.
5. " GEORGE MORGAN, M.L.C. " Morgan, Walker & Co.
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*The Hon. Sir Alexander Murray, C.B.E. Messrs. Thomas Duff & Co., Ltd., acting
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†Mr. W. C. Currie, Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., acting for twelve
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4. " W. KEAY ... " Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
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4. " M. P. BAIRD ... " Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
5. " A. J. MOIR ... " Grandage, Moir & Co.

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3. " T. ASHTON ... " Allen Bros. & Co., (India) Ld.
4. " J. G. MARTIN ... " Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.

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5. " COL. P. C. SHERIDAN, C.M.G. Agent, East Indian Railway.
6. " OSWALD MARTIN ... Messrs. Martin & Co.

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3. " F. C. DANGER, C.B.E. ... " Hoare, Miller & Co., Ld.
4. " J. REID KAY ... " Graham & Co.

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4. " S. A. H. SITWELL ... Secretary & Treasurer, Imperial Bank of India.

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3. " W. KIRKPATRICK ... Messrs. Bird & Co.
4. " J. E. ROY, M.L.C. ... Messrs. Macneill & Co.
5. " P. PARROTT ... " Kilburn & Co.

Electricity Sub-Committee:

1. Mr. J. T. MERTENS,
Chairman ... Agent, The Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd.
2. " W. H. BRADBURY ... Messrs. Balmer, Lawrie & Co.
3. " FRANCIS HOLT ... " Octavius Steel & Co.
4. " W. E. A. NORBY, A.M.I.E.E. " Kilburn & Co.

Indian Tea Cess Committee:

Nominated by:—

1. Mr. F. G. CLARKE ...
 2. " A. SCOTT SMITH ...
 3. " W. J. LLOYD,
Vice-Chairman ...
- } *Bengal Chamber of Commerce.*
4. Mr. C. SIMPSON ... *Madras Chamber of Commerce.*
5. Mr. R. GRAHAM, *Chairman* ...
 6. " J. A. C. MUNRO ...
 7. " A. D. GORDON, M.L.C. ...
 8. " J. RAMACKERS ...
 9. " W. G. FIGG ...
 10. " B. E. G. EDDIS ...
 11. " A. C. SEN ...
- } *Indian Tea Association.*
12. Mr. A. L. PLAYFAIR, M.L.C. ...
 13. " L. CHURCH ...
- } *Assam Branch, Indian Tea Association.*
14. Mr. A. J. G. CRESSWELL ...
 15. " J. D. JENKINS ...
- } *Surma Valley Branch, Indian Tea Association.*
16. CAPT. R. D. MACKIE ...
- } *The Darjeeling Planters' Association and the Terai Planters' Association, jointly.*
17. Mr. G. L. HAIG ...
 18. " G. J. H. TURBETT ...
- } *The Doon Planters' Association.*
19. Mr. F. G. QUARRY ...
- } *The Dehra Doon Planters' Association.*
20. Mr. H. L. PINCHES ...
- } *The United Planters' Association of Southern India.*

RECOGNISED ASSOCIATIONS.

Indian Tea Association.

General Committee:

1. MR. T. C. CRAWFORD,
Chairman ... Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
2. " J. A. C. MUNRO,
Vice-Chairman ... " Duncan Brothers & Co.
3. " W. G. FIGG ... " Begg, Dunlop & Co.
4. " J. A. MACBEAN ... " Shaw, Wallace & Co.
5. " A. D. GORDON, M.L.C. ... " Williamson, Magor & Co.
6. " J. MEIN AUSTIN ... " Jardine, Skinner & Co.
7. " W. N. C. GRANT ... " Macneill & Co.
8. " F. G. CLARKE ... " Octavius Steel & Co.
9. " J. RAMACKERS ... " Balmer, Lawrie & Co.

Darjeeling and Doars Sub-Committee:

1. MR. J. A. C. MUNRO,
Chairman ... Messrs. Duncan Brothers & Co.
2. " J. ANBLER ... " J. Macmillan & Co.
3. " J. M. DAVENPORT ... " Davenport & Co.
4. " T. C. CRAWFORD ... " James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
5. " C. D. INGLIS ... " W. S. Cresswell & Co.
6. " A. D. GORDON, M.L.C. ... " Williamson, Magor & Co.
7. " R. B. LAGDEN ... " McLeod & Co.
8. " A. PERCY BROWN ... " Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
9. " G. MACRELL ... " Octavius Steel & Co.

Scientific Department Sub-Committee:

1. MR. T. C. CRAWFORD,
Chairman ... Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
2. " J. A. C. MUNRO ... " Duncan Brothers & Co.
3. " A. D. GORDON, M.L.C. ... " Williamson, Magor & Co.
4. " W. G. FIGG ... " Begg, Dunlop & Co.

Tea Sellers Sub-Committee:

1. MR. T. C. CRAWFORD,
Chairman ... Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
2. " J. A. C. MUNRO ... " Octavius Steel & Co.
3. " J. MEIN AUSTIN ... " Jardine, Skinner & Co.

Calcutta Tea Traders Association, Committee:

1. MR. W. J. LLOYD, *Chairman* ... Messrs. Barry & Co.
2. " O. W. TAYLOR,
Vice-Chairman ... " Octavius Steel & Co.
3. " CARL REID ... " Harrison & Crofield, Ltd.
4. " A. D. GORDON, M.L.C. ... " Williamson, Magor & Co.
5. " J. MEIN AUSTIN ... " Jardine, Skinner & Co.
6. " H. BALKWILL ... " Heath & Co.
7. " T. G. EVERS ... " J. Thomas & Co.
8. " C. D. INGLIS ... " W. S. Cresswell & Co.
9. " E. H. TOWNEND ... " Carrist, Moran & Co.

Indian Jute Mills Association, Committee:

1. MR. D. P. MCKENZIE, M.L.C.,
Chairman ... Messrs. Duncan Bros. & Co.
2. " R. H. MUIR ... " George Henderson & Co.
3. " J. BELL ROBERTSON ... " Bird & Co.
4. THE HON. SIR ALEXANDER
MURRAY, C.B.E. ... Thos. Duff & Co., Ltd.
5. MR. G. F. ROSE ... " Andrew Yule & Co., Ltd.

Calcutta Import Trade Association, Committee:

1. MR. F. W. BALDWIN, *Chairman* ... Messrs. Grandage, Moir & Co., Ltd.
2. " F. BLICK, *Vice-Chairman* ... " Martin & Co.
3. " G. H. NICHOLSON ... " Bird & Co.
4. " F. DOXEY ... " Barlow & Co.
5. " F. HOLT ... " The General Electric Co.
(India), Ltd.
6. " B. N. SIRCAR ... " Kerr, Tarnack & Co.
7. " J. McMURRAY ... " Burn & Co., Ltd.

Calcutta Fire Insurance Agents' Association, Committee:

1. MR. CHAS. W. BEWLEY,
Chairman ... London & Lancashire Fire
Insurance Co., Ltd.
2. " L. V. MOINET,
Deputy Chairman ... Messrs. Jardine, Skinner & Co.
3. " H. LEGAT ... " Western Assurance Co., Ltd.
4. " R. FERGUSON ... " Scottish Union & National Insurance
Co.
5. " D'A. H. KILGOUR ... " Royal Exchange Assurance.
6. " C. J. ROGERS ... " South British Insurance Co., Ltd.
7. " T. C. BUDDLE ... " New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd.

**Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents' Association,
Committee:**

1. MR. G. F. ROSS, *Chairman* ... South British Insurance Co., Ltd.
2. " A. W. HUGHES ... Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.
3. " L. R. BUSBY ... Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co., Ltd.
4. " W. HENDERSON ... London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., (M. Department).
5. " T. C. BIDDLE ... New Zealand Insurance & Co., Ltd.
6. " L. V. MOUET ... Messrs. Jardine, Skinner & Co.
7. " D'A. H. KILGOUR ... Royal Exchange Assurance.

**Calcutta Wheat and Seed Trade Association,
Committee:**

1. MR. A. E. GAREH, *Chairman* ... Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., Ltd.
2. " N. GRIMALDI ... " Petrocchino Bros.
3. " L. WALKER ... " Walker, Goward & Co.
4. " R. I. MEYER ... " Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta), Ltd.
5. " N. E. PETROPOULOS ... " E. D. Sassoon & Co.

**The Wine, Spirit and Beer Association of India,
Committee:**

1. MR. H. F. COLTANT, *Chairman* ... Messrs. G. F. Kellner & Co.
2. " A. H. BALLINGALL ... " Mackenzie, Lyall & Co.
3. " W. G. HUMPHRIES ... " Herbert, Parrott & Co.
4. " F. H. JEFFREYS ... " Samuel Pitze & Co., Ltd.
5. " G. E. PENNEY ... " John Dever & Sons, Ltd.
6. " W. W. LEITH ... " Spencer & Co., Ltd.
7. " O. HEARN ... " Cutler, Palmer & Co.

Indian Mining Association, Committee:

1. MR. J. H. PATTINSON, M.L.C., *Chairman* ... Messrs. H. V. Low & Co., Ltd.
2. " E. J. OAKLEY, *Vice-Chairman* ... " Kilbarn & Co.
3. " W. D. PANTON ... " Andrew Yule & Co., Ltd.
4. " H. T. ACTON ... " Balmer, Lawrie & Co.
5. " A. A. F. BRAY ... " Jardine, Skinner & Co.
6. " T. W. HOCKLEY ... " Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
7. " E. S. TARTLTON ... " Bird & Co.

**Calcutta Baled Jute Association,
Committee:**

1. MR. C. F. BEADEL, *Chairman*. Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta), Ltd.
2. " J. F. S. MILLAR ... " D. L. Millar & Co.
3. " BHADUR SINGH ... " Hurising Nchachand.
4. " M. C. GUZDAR ... " P. E. Guzlar & Co.
5. " LACHMIPAT SINGH ... " Ramdutt, Ramkissendass.
6. " GEO. MORGAN, M.L.C. ... " Morgan, Walker & Co.
7. " S. H. SINGLETON ... " Landale & Morgan.
8. " G. U. EUTHYMOPULO ... " Ralli Brothers.
9. " H. K. BANKS ... " J. Thomas & Co.

**Indian Paper Makers Association,
Committee:**

1. MR. J. M. CHISHOLM, *Chairman* ... Messrs. Balmer, Lawrie & Co.
2. " W. L. CAREY, M.L.C. ... " F. W. Heiglers & Co.

**Indian Engineering Association,
Committee:**

1. MR. A. COCHRAN, C.B.E., M.L.C., *Chairman* ... Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd.
2. " A. CAMERON, M.L.M.E. ... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
3. " MILLAR M. KING ... " John King & Co., Ltd.
4. " A. GRAY ... " Martin & Co.
5. " S. A. SKINNER ... " Jessop & Co., Ltd.

**Calcutta Jute Fabrics Shippers Association,
Committee:**

1. MR. W. S. WALLIS, *Chairman*. Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
2. " R. C. DONALDSON ... " Harrison & Eastern Export, Ltd.
3. " T. G. DELLAPORTA, O.B.E., D.C.M. ... " Ralli Brothers.
4. " P. D. HENERY ... " Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
5. " A. BRENNER ... " Shaw, Wallace & Co.

**Calcutta Hydraulic Press Association,
Committee:**

1. Mr. M. C. GUZDAR, *Chairman* Ghosery Jute Press.
2. " P. K. ARJANI ... Express Press.
3. " DOOLY CHAND ... Hooghly Press.
4. " SOORAJMALL JALLAN ... India Jute Press.
5. " J. FLETCHER ... Ocean Jute Press.
6. " C. H. FREEMAN ... Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co., Ltd.

**Jute Fabric Brokers Association,
Committee:**

1. Mr. G. W. WALKER, *Chairman* Messrs. H. D. Cartwright & Co.
2. " E. d'A. WILLIS ... " Poppe, Delius & Co.
3. " T. E. CORRIE ... " King Brothers.
4. " GEO. HYND ... " Perman & Hynd.
5. " J. FORD ... " J. Thomas & Co.

**Baled Jute Shippers Association,
Committee:**

1. Mr. D. L. MILLAR, *Chairman* ... Messrs. D. L. Millar & Co.
2. " JOHN CRAWFORD ... " Birkmyre Brothers.
3. " J. P. ARGENTI ... " Ralli Brothers.
4. " NORRIS L. MACDOWELL ... " D. Easton & Co.
5. " J. W. FERGUSON ... " J. C. Duffus & Co., Ltd.

**Calcutta Jute Dealers Association,
Committee:**

1. Mr. GEO. MORGAN, M.L.C., *Chairman* Messrs. Morgan, Walker & Co.
2. " H. K. BANKS ... " J. Thomas & Co.
3. " G. C. MOON ... " Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd.
4. " H. F. MYTTON ... " Mytton, Wallace & Co.
5. " H. M. SHERMAN ... " Moran & Co., Ltd.
6. " A. SMITH ... " Smith, Forrester & Co.

**Calcutta Hides & Skins Shippers Association,
Committee:**

1. SIR WILLIAM MAXWELL, K.C.I.E., M.V.O., *Chairman* Messrs. Grace Brothers (India), Ltd.
2. Mr. P. V. ROEROWICKI ... " Enrico. N. Stein.
3. " E. L. KELLY ... " Graham & Co.
4. " D. MITCHELL ... " A. Forbes & Co., Ltd.
5. " L. C. MOUSELL, ... " Grace Brothers (India), Ltd.

Indian Indigo Association, Committee:

1. Mr. W. KIRKPATRICK, *Chairman* ... Messrs. Bird & Co.
2. Col. G. E. LLEWELIN ... Serrayah Indigo Concern.
3. Mr. W. H. MEYRICK ... Kurnowl Indigo Concern.
4. " T. D. BOELSTON ... Messrs. Begg, Dunlop & Co.
5. " J. REID KEY ... " Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.
6. " IAN. B. FRASER ... Motipore Indigo Concern.
7. " C. G. LEES ... Lalseriah Indigo Concern.
8. " M. DOWSON ... Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.
9. " J. MILLER ... " Moran & Co.

**Calcutta Motor Insurance Association,
Committee:**

1. Mr. G. F. ROSS, *Chairman* ... South British Insurance Co., Ltd.
2. " W. G. DANIEL, *Dy. Chairman* ... Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance.
3. " W. H. DEACON ... London & Lancashire Insurance Co.
4. " A. E. FOX ... Messrs. McLeod & Co.
5. " S. GEARING ... Royal Exchange Assurance Corpn.
6. " N. S. D. POCOCK ... Northern Assurance Co., Ltd.
7. " R. D. WANDS ... Royal Insurance Co.

**Associations recognised by the Bengal Chamber
of Commerce.**

NAME.	JOINED.
Calcutta Wheat and Seed Trade Association ...	July 1884.
Indian Jute Mills Association ...	November 1884.
Indian Tea Association ...	May 1885.
Calcutta Tea Traders Association ...	September 1886.
Calcutta Fire Insurance Agents' Association ...	July 1888.
Calcutta Import Trade Association ...	September 1890.
Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents' Association ...	April 1891.
The Wine, Spirit and Beer Association of India ...	December 1891.
Indian Mining Association ...	March 1892.
Calcutta Baled Jute Association ...	May 1892.
Indian Paper Makers Association ...	May 1895.
Indian Engineering Association ...	December 1895.
Jute Fabrics Shippers Association ...	January 1899.
Calcutta Hydraulic Press Association ...	December 1903.
Jute Fabrics Brokers Association ...	January 1906.
Baled Jute Shippers Association ...	March 1908.
Calcutta Liners Conference ...	March 1915.
Calcutta Jute Dealers Association ...	October 1915.
Calcutta Hides & Skins Shippers Association ...	January 1919.
Northern India Tanners Federation ...	April 1919.
Indian Indigo Association ...	January 1920.
Calcutta Motor Insurance Association ...	February 1921.

**REPORT
PIECE-GOODS SUB-COMMITTEE**

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE,

Calcutta, 31st January 1921.

REPORT OF THE PIECE-GOODS SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to submit to you the twenty-third Annual Report of the work done in connection with references affecting the piece-goods trade, and arbitrations and surveys.

As regards piece-goods arbitrations the number of cases disposed of was 329 as compared with 219 in 1919. Of the 329 cases disposed of during the year, 315 were arbitrations under the rules of the Tribunal, and 14 were applications for survey reports. The revenue derived by the Chamber from Institution fees and from references undertaken from non-members amounted to Rs. 11,380/- as compared with Rs. 10,975/- in 1919.

In May last, you invited an expression of our views upon a letter from the Collector of Customs pointing out that the practice of working on banks' selling rates for demand drafts for the conversion of sterling invoice values into rupees added considerably to the difficulty of the work both of appraisers and of merchants, since the rates varied fractionally from day to-day. To obviate this difficulty it was suggested that, while continuing to take the demand draft rate as the basis, the appraisers should take the nearest whole penny for their calculations.

After consideration we replied that we were in favour of the proposal.

In June you referred to us a letter from the Government of Bengal, Political Department, Police Branch, putting forward certain proposals with the object of dealing with the goonda question in Burra Bazar. The Government of Burra Bazar would welcome the procedure suggested by Government to deal with the evil. While supporting the proposal should be made for some European police to be allotted to that section of the town.

In June you also submitted to us for an expression of our views a letter of 4th June from the Director of Statistics, Calcutta, pointing out the discrepancies in the figures of exports and imports of cotton piece-goods. Discrepancies in the figures of exports and imports of cotton piece-goods. The goods of foreign and Indian origin imported into and exported from the Bombay Presidency by rail and sea during the five years ended 1917-18. It was stated that the discrepancies appeared to be due to the fact that a very large proportion of the piece-goods recorded in the rail-borne statistics as foreign produce was actually piece-goods of local manufacture. It was suggested that the mercantile community should take the greatest care in declaring the contents of bales or cases tendered for despatch by rail or steamer. After consideration we replied that the road and rail-borne returns were not of much interest to Calcutta merchants in connection with information regarding imports of piece-goods. The Customs import lists for foreign goods and the tables of production of the Bombay mills, which are substantially correct, serve all requirements. The importance of the statistics in the rail-borne returns was, therefore, considerably lessened. Owing to mixed consignments, these statistics must, we believed, be very difficult to compile accurately. At the same time we thought it would be an advantage if by greater care being exercised by all concerned, the compilation of the rail returns could be more accurately done.

In reply to an enquiry from a member of the Chamber, in August last, we stated that the disposal of consignment goods and the method of rendering account sales is a matter for arrangement between the consignor and consignee. There is no fixed custom in this respect.

Statement of arbitrations and surveys.

The classes of goods in which references have been most frequent are :—

	1920.	1919.
Grey Shirtings	148	50
Grey Dhooties	13	93
White Nainsooks	42	...
White Dhooties	9	7
Prints	15	11
Undershirts	24	6
Flannelettes	...	...
Fancies	16	...
Silk Voils	10	...
	5	...

The following were references for assessment of allowances for millev, stain, or other damage :—

	1920.	1919.
Grey Dhooties	...	1
White Dhooties	3	...
White Nainsooks	18	...
Sarries	1	...
Cotton Trouserings	1	...

The following table shows the number of references during each of the last five years, and the manner in which they were disposed of :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Year.	Total number of references.	Number of references in which no allowance was given.	Number of references in which no allowance was given.	Percentage of references in which no allowance was given.	Number of references in which no allowance was given.	Number of references in which an allowance was given.	Number of references in which an allowance was given.
1916 ...	53	24	19	35	10	...	...
1917 ...	70	28	32	45	10	...	...
1918 ...	41	15	17	41	9	...	...
1919 ...	219	19	106	48	64	...	30
1920 ...	329	68	85	25	129	...	47

The following comparative statement shows the revenue derived by the Department in respect of references undertaken for parties, not members of the Chamber, and from additional institution fees during the last five years :—

Year.	Rs.
	Amount.
1916	1,440
1917	2,565
1918	1,502
1919	10,975
1920	11,380

We are Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,
W. S. FAIRLIE, Chairman,
C. ANNINOS,
W. DODS,
W. McCONNELL,
M. H. SMITH.

List of Piece-Goods Arbitrations dealt with under the
Rules of the Tribunal of Arbitration, and
Surveys during the year 1920.

Goods.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
White Diagonals	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	9
" Nainsooks	1	...	2	...	4
" Mails	2	...	1	...	3
" Jacquenetta	1	...	1	...	2
" Shirtings	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4
" Twills	1	...	1	...	2
" Broadens	1	...	1	...	2
" Lawns	1	...	1	...	2
Grey Diagonals	1	...	1	...	2
" Shirtings	1	...	2	...	1	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	10
Black Brades	3	2	101	9	...	...	23	...	2	...	3	...	143
" Italians	1	...	1	...	2
Khaki Drills	1	...	1	...	2
Satin Drills	1	...	1	...	2
Khaki Twills	1	...	1	...	2
Striped Shirtings	1	...	1	...	2
Prints	1	...	1	...	2
Series	1	...	1	...	2
Dooris	1	...	1	...	2
Cotton Flannelettes	1	...	1	...	2
" Undershirts	1	...	1	...	2
Bengalin	...	1	...	...	2	1	5	2	1	1	9	24	39
Popin	1	...	1	...	2
Taffetene	1	...	1	...	2
Overcrossings	1	...	1	...	2
Trousersings	1	...	1	...	2
Hose	1	...	1	...	2
Fancies	1	...	1	...	2
Permanenta Cloth	1	...	1	...	2
Black Cashmere	2	2	1	4	10
Serge	1	...	1	...	2
Artificial Silk	1	...	1	...	2
Silk Voils	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4
TOTAL	18	4	105	12	4	4	31	7	18	27	34	70	329

List of Piece-Goods Arbitrations only dealt with under the
Rules of the Tribunal of Arbitration during
the year 1920.

Goods.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
White Diagonals	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	9
" Nainsooks	1	...	2	...	4
" Mails	2	...	1	...	3
" Jacquenetta	1	...	1	...	2
" Shirtings	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4
" Twills	1	...	1	...	2
" Broadens	1	...	1	...	2
" Lawns	1	...	1	...	2
Grey Diagonals	1	...	1	...	2
" Shirtings	1	...	2	...	1	1	1	...	2	...	3	...	14
Black Brades	3	2	101	9	...	...	23	...	2	...	3	...	143
" Italians	1	...	1	...	2
Khaki Drills	1	...	1	...	2
Satin Drills	1	...	1	...	2
Khaki Twills	1	...	1	...	2
Striped Shirtings	1	...	1	...	2
Prints	1	...	1	...	2
Series	1	...	1	...	2
Dooris	1	...	1	...	2
Cotton Flannelettes	1	...	1	...	2
" Undershirts	1	...	1	...	2
Bengalin	...	1	...	...	2	1	5	2	1	1	9	24	39
Popin	1	...	1	...	2
Taffetene	1	...	1	...	2
Overcrossings	1	...	1	...	2
Trousersings	1	...	1	...	2
Hose	1	...	1	...	2
Fancies	1	...	1	...	2
Permanenta Cloth	1	...	1	...	2
Black Cashmere	2	2	1	4	10
Serge	1	...	1	...	2
Artificial Silk	1	...	1	...	2
Silk Voils	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4
TOTAL	12	4	105	11	4	3	28	7	18	23	34	66	315

List of Piece-Goods Surveys only during the year 1920.

Goods.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
White Dhooties	1	1	1
.. Naincocks	1	1	1
Grey Dhooties	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
.. Chuddars	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
.. Shirtings	1	...	...	1
Satin Drills	1	...	...	1
Prints	1	...	...	1
Cotton Undershirts	2	...	...	...	2	...	4
Overcoatings	1	...	...	1
Trouserings	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
TOTAL	1	...	1	...	1	3	...	...	3	1	4	14	

REPORT

SHIPPING SUB-COMMITTEE

(135)

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE,

Calcutta, 31st January 1921.

REPORT OF THE SHIPPING SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

As requested by you we considered, early in the year, the question of the revision of the charges levied by the Calcutta Port Commissioners on goods and shipping in the port. We did not take exception to the proposals which the Commissioners made in this connection. These included the abolition of the war surtax, and the re-adjustment of the ordinary charges so as to cover the resulting deficit, and to make provision for the payment of interest on the capital expenditure on the new dock scheme.

We have had several references from you, during the year, on the subject of the Bengal Pilot Service. Adverting to the first of these, we did not take exception to certain orders, which the Government of India had passed, and which were to the effect that steamship companies were made liable for the allowances paid to pilots carried out to sea through stress of weather, or other unavoidable cause. The other references were on the subject of the emoluments, pensions, etc. of the members of the Bengal Pilot Service. In this connection the Government of Bengal made proposals to the effect that the remuneration of the pilots should be increased by 30 per cent.; and that the pilotage fees should be increased by 15 per cent. to provide the additional sum required. To these proposals we took very strong exception, and we note with satisfaction that you agreed with our views, and made a representation to Government on the subject. In our opinion the time has come for the re-organisation of the Pilot Service, and we advanced suggestions with this end in view.

We expressed approval of a proposal that the special fees payable by merchants and shipowners, to the Customs authorities, for Sunday working on vessels should be re-imposed. These fees were discontinued, during the war, at the instance of the Calcutta Liners Conference.

But early in the past year the Government suggested that they might be re-imposed; and they were again brought into operation with effect from the 28th March 1920.

In remarking upon a reference from you on the subject of the branch Shipping Office at Kidderpur Dock we stated our agreement with a proposal, which the Government had made, to close this branch, and to concentrate all the work in the Shipping Office in the Strand-road.

In March you forwarded for our opinion a report by the Conference on time-keeping at sea. The Conference was a body appointed by the British Admiralty in 1917 to consider the advisability of adopting a system of time zones for time-keeping at sea. We did not offer any comment on the report.

You also consulted us in March, upon the subject of the International Labour Conference which was held in Genoa, in the following June, for the discussion of questions relating to seamen. We put forward certain recommendations in this connection.

We agreed with a suggestion, which came from the Calcutta Liners Conference, that the method of determining the rate of exchange for the payment of claims in respect of import cargo should be prescribed by a ruling of the Chamber. And we also thought that the rate should be that current on the day on which the steamer, in respect of which the claim is preferred, enters the port of Calcutta. The rate current would be the daily rate posted in the Royal Exchange in connection with Chamber ruling No. 14.

On your invitation we took such action as was possible to assist the Government of Bengal to complete their lists of British vessels: (1) on the Indian register; and (2) on the British register but domiciled in India; which were lost by enemy action during the war.

You consulted us, in June, in regard to the question of the supply of water to the shipping in the port. We considered the measures which the Corporation of Calcutta were undertaking to increase the then very inadequate supply, and we came to the conclusion that nothing further could be done in the meantime. But we emphasised the need for very prompt action by the Corporation in putting their proposed remedial measures into operation.

We replied in the affirmative to an enquiry from you as to whether the Chamber should issue a ruling to the effect that the British ton of 2,240 lbs is equivalent to 1010 kilos. A question as to whether the metric equivalent of the ton should be 1015 or 1016 kilos had arisen in connection with shipments to continental ports.

You submitted to us, in June, a representation by your Piece-goods Sub-Committee on the subject of the Conference outward lading had been arranged by steamship owners in consultation with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. And the Piece-goods Sub-Committee urged that this Chamber should ask the Manchester Chamber to amend the bill of lading. We did not agree with this

proposal for, seeing that the Chamber represents both steamship owners as well as importers of piece-goods, we considered that it could not take up an *ex parte* attitude on a question regarding which these two interests are at variance. We recommended accordingly.

At your request we examined the Indian Wireless Telegraphy (Shipping) Bill, 1920. We did not, however, remark upon it further than to suggest that six months' notice should be given before it was brought into operation.

In October we expressed the opinion, in reply to an enquiry from you, that in the absence of provisions to the contrary it is customary for charterers of time-chartered steamers to pay for ballast, and boiler water.

The question of the employment of Indian seamen, during the winter months, on voyages to any port on the east coast of America north of 88° north latitude has been under our consideration during the year. We favoured the relaxation of the rule preventing the employment of lascars on northern voyages in the winter. But seeing that the Board of Trade was understood to be definitely opposed to any change, we recommended that the Chamber should not pursue the matter further. It was, as you are aware, advocated by the Chamber in 1919.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,

R. M. WATSON SMYTH (Chairman)

N. BIRRELL

J. CAMPBELL

F. C. DANGER

REPORT
RAILWAYS SUB-COMMITTEE

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE,

Calcutta, 31st January 1921.

REPORT OF THE RAILWAYS SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

You invited us to consider the question of the height of bridge headways over navigable channels, in connection with correspondence between the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India and Ceylon and the Government of India, and certain of the local Governments. We suggested that the rules which were drawn up by the Railway Board, and which were the outcome of a conference held in Calcutta in September 1917, were adequate for the protection of the interests of the railways and of navigation. We thought also that the Board which was, we understood, being constituted by the Government of Bengal, in connection with the conservation of the Hooghly river and its head-waters, might have jurisdiction over questions of navigation. We understand, however, that you subsequently arranged for all disputes and differences occurring in the three provinces of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and Assam to be referred to the Standing Waterways Advisory Committee.

In June you consulted us with reference to the question of the railway development of Northern Bengal. In respect of this question the Railway Board formulated a broad policy, the leading features of which they submitted for consideration. We examined their proposals attentively, and expressed our approval of them, subject to certain modifications. We also urged the importance of the prompt conversion to the broad-gauge of the metre-gauge section of the Eastern Bengal Railway to Siliguri.

You invited us, in September, to consider a reference which you had received from the Indian Railway Conference Association on the subject of the general pool of goods rolling-stock, which has been in operation in India since the beginning of the year 1920.

We examined this matter carefully, but we did not come to a unanimous conclusion with respect to it. We understand, however, that you eventually expressed the opinion that pooling had been beneficial to the trade of the country as a whole. But that, so far as regards Bengal, the system introduced at the beginning of the year had not been so beneficial as had been anticipated.

In October you asked us to advise with reference to certain increases in rates which had been brought into force on the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway with effect from the 1st October 1920. We considered these increases, but they did not seem to us to be of such a character as to necessitate the intervention of the Chamber, and we recommended accordingly.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,

G. C. GODFREY, (*Chairman*)
J. J. GODFREY
C. D. M. HINDLEY
A. D'A. WILLIS

(Lieut.-Colonel H. A. Cameron and Mr. Harold Martin, having left Calcutta, do not sign the report.)

REPORT

INLAND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE,

Calcutta, 31st January 1921.

REPORT OF THE INLAND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To
THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

You referred to us, on several occasions during the year, in regard to the question of the height of railway bridge headways over navigable channels. Some correspondence passed in respect of this question between the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India and Ceylon and the Government of India, and certain of the local Governments. In this correspondence the rules which were drawn up by the Railway Board, as a result of a conference which was held in Calcutta on the 17th November 1917, were discussed. After examining this correspondence, and considering the rules, we suggested to you that rule 10—which provides for

10.—Disputes or differences of opinion in particular cases should be settled in respect of each case by the local Government after reference, if required, to a local Committee representative of all interests and presided over by the Commissioner of the Division or Valley concerned.

the settlement of disputes —was less comprehensive than the resolution which was adopted by the conference of Chambers of Commerce at their meeting in 1920, and which reads

as follows :—

That this Conference recommends to the Government of India that, in every case of the construction of a bridge over navigable channels in India and Burma, a special committee should be appointed comprising adequate representation of non-official members interested.

You accepted our view, and ultimately arranged with the Government of Bengal for all disputes concerning the headways of bridges over navigable channels in the three provinces of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and Assam to be referred to the Standing Waterways and Advisory Committee. We quite agreed with this proposal, and at our suggestion you obtained, from the Government of Bengal, a definite assurance that all disputes or differences would be referred to the Waterways Committee.

In a resolution, No. 1514-J dated 1st June 1920, the Government of Bengal announced the enlargement and re-constitution of the Waterways Committee. We approved of this step, but we were disappointed to learn, from the resolution, that the Secretary of State had vetoed the project for the formation of a Waterways Trust to control and to supervise the rivers of Bengal and the contiguous provinces. We agreed with the Secretary of State that a Waterways Board was not required if a Board of the nature of the Railway Board were contemplated. But we regretted his decision in respect of the Trust.

In reply to an enquiry from you we expressed approval of a proposal, put forward by the Government of Bengal, that the rules for the protection of inland steam vessels from danger by collision should be amended so as to provide for special lights for a steamer when towing other vessels astern.

Similarly, we took no exception to a proposal for the insertion of a new rule—11 A—in the Calcutta Port Rules, published under notification No. 96 Mnc. dated 5th October 1894. This rule provided that the river between the north end of the cooly lines of the Fort Gloster Jute Mills on the north, and the boundary pillar on the south, should be kept clear for turning inward or outward bound vessels, and that no inland vessels should anchor within these limits. We understand that, at your suggestion, this proposed rule was modified to some extent in order to avoid the possibility of inconvenience to the Fort Gloster Mills.

You brought before us, in June, the question of railway development in northern Bengal, in respect of which the Railway Board had made certain proposals. We approved of these proposals—which need not be detailed here—and we suggested that you should emphasise the urgent importance of the prompt conversion to broad-gauge of the existing metre-gauge main Eastern Bengal Railway line from Santahar to Siliguri.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,

R. M. WATSON SMYTH,
(Chairman)

G. C. GODFREY
S. G. L. EUSTACE
J. E. ROY
B. A. WHITE

REPORT FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE,

Calcutta, 31st January 1921.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

You have consulted us, on two occasions during the year, with reference to the Indian Negotiable Instruments Act of 1881. We agreed with a proposal that the Government of India had made for inserting in the Indian Act, a provision in conformity with section 46 (1) of the English Bills of Exchange Act, 1882. This section excuses delay in presentment for payment of promissory notes, bills of exchange, and cheques, when such delay is caused by circumstances beyond the control of the holder. We also suggested that the time allowed by the Indian Act for obtaining acceptance should be extended from twenty-four to forty-eight hours. You agreed with us in both these matters, and represented them to the Government of India accordingly. Our proposal for extending the time for obtaining acceptance has been recently circulated by the Government of India to the local Governments and Administrations for an expression of opinion.

In reply to an enquiry from you we stated, early in April, that we approved of a proposal for the levy of an *ad valorem* duty of 4 per cent on the capital of all companies registered under the Companies Act. We further suggested that, where the capital was not fully subscribed and paid up, the tax should be borne by the promoters. We understand that you adopted our views, and submitted them to the Government of India.

Towards the end of May we stated, at your request, the position in respect of the restrictions placed by the Government

of India upon the transport of specie. The object of these restrictions is of course to diminish the demand for the encashment of notes, and to encourage the use of notes in place of silver.

In reply to a suggestion from you we named certain places in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and Assam at which it would be desirable, we thought, for the newly constituted Imperial Bank of India to open branches.

In October you asked us to formulate an expression of opinion for the Chamber in regard to the working of section 14 of the Indian Paper Currency Act, 1920. This section empowers the Government of India to issue currency notes to the extent of Rs. 5 crores against bills of exchange. Our views, stated in the briefest possible way, were that neither export bills, nor import bills, could be utilised for this purpose; but that there would be no objection to issuing notes to the extent proposed against *hundis*—internal bills. You agreed with this opinion, and addressed the Government of India accordingly.

Under the Bengal Chamber of Commerce Trust Deed the Finance Sub-Committee of the Chamber is appointed to be the Committee of Management of the Trust. The business connected with this Trust has hardly begun so far, but such matters as have come before us we have disposed of under the powers vested in us.

We have the honor to be

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servants,

A. R. MURRAY, (Chairman)

H. HARRIS

A. BOWIE

R. LANGFORD JAMES

(Mr. N. H. Matheson, having left Calcutta, does not sign the report).

Price of Silver in America, London and Calcutta; Demand Exchange in Calcutta; Monthly amounts of Secretary of State's Drafts on India and on London; and amount of Gold held in the European Banks.

Quarter ending 31st of month.	Price of Silver per oz. in America.	Price of Silver per oz. in London.	Price of 17½ R. Bar Silver per 100 tolas in Calcutta including Import duty.	On Demand rate of Exchange in London.	Monthly amount of Secretary of State's Drafts on India.	Monthly amount of Secretary of State's Drafts on London.	Amount of Gold in the European Banks.
	Cents.	d.	Rs. As. P.	s. d.	Rs.	£	£
July ...	131	70½	112 0 0	2 3½	5,70,00,000	14,725,000	678,631,680
" ...	133	82½	112 0 0	2 4	...	...	689,534,222
Aug. ...	135	84½	112 0 0	2 7½ to 2 8½	...	274,454,000	697,373,164
" ...	133½	84½	117 0 0	2 7½	...	...	703,315,308
Sept. ...	129½	83½	117 0 0	2 7½ to 2 7½	...	427,020,000	708,023,163
" ...	128½	70	112 8 0	2 3½ to 2 4½	...	124,011,000	701,031,405
Oct. ...	125	72½	117 0 0	2 4½	...	...	702,108,500
" ...	123	68½	116 0 0	2 3½	...	...	702,337,402
Nov. ...	118	64½	115 0 0	2 3½	...	209,524,000	703,387,461
" ...	103	58½	112 0 0	2 0½	...	...	704,378,072
Dec. ...	100	57½	95 8 0	2 18 1 10½ to 1 9½	...	407,448,000	707,670,518
" ...	87	44½	90 0 0	1 9½	...	...	707,990,228
Jan. ...	90½	52	97 0 0	1 9½	...	451,717,000	583,403,116
" ...	90½	53½	101 8 0	1 9½	...	...	584,000,845
April ...	90½	56½	103 8 0	1 10½	...	445,647,000	583,726,014
" ...	90½	50½	113 0 0	1 10½	...	...	583,960,079
September ...	90½	58½	107 8 0	1 10½ to 1 11½	...	601,360,000	581,195,189
" ...	90½	60½	110 8 0	1 10½	...	...	579,803,171
October ...	90½	59½	111 8 0	1 9½	...	...	581,965,672
" ...	90½	55½	114 0 0	1 7½ to 1 8½	...	...	582,024,642
November ...	90½	52½	114 0 0	1 7½	...	...	583,022,565
" ...	90½	53½	115 0 0	1 8	...	...	584,518,563
December ...	90½	44½	108 8 0	1 5½	...	...	Not received.
" ...	90½	40½	108 8 0	1 5½	...	...	...

Prices of Silver in America, London and Calcutta; Demand Exchange in Calcutta; Monthly amounts of Secretary of State's Drafts on India and on London and amount of Gold held in the European Banks.

Quotations nearest to 1st and 15th of each month.	Price of Silver per oz. in America.	Price of Silver per oz. in London.	Price of 17½ B. Bar Silver per 100 tolas in Calcutta including Import duty.	On Demand rate of Exchange in London.	Monthly amount of Secretary of State's Drafts on India.	Monthly amount of Secretary of State's Drafts on London.	Amount Gold held in European Banks.
1919.	Cents.	d.	Rs. As. P.	s. d.	Rs.	£	£
January ...	101½	48½	108 0 0	1 6½	...	45,000	723,112
" ...	101½	48½	110 0 0	1 6½	...	...	721,038
February ...	101½	48½	113 0 0	1 6½	...	1,215,000	721,038
" ...	101½	48½	116 0 0	1 6½	...	...	722,141
March ...	101½	47½	115 8 0	1 6½	...	425,000	723,832
" ...	101½	47½	115 0 0	1 6½	...	...	723,469
April ...	101½	47½	114 0 0	1 6½	...	...	721,420
" ...	101½	48½	114 0 0	1 6½	...	150,000	715,800
May ...	101½	48½	114 0 0	1 6½	2,70,00,000	...	712,000
" ...	110½	58	114 0 0	1 8½	...	...	702,302
June ...	104½	52½	114 0 0	1 8½	5,00,00,000	...	695,000
" ...	110½	53½	114 0 0	1 8½	...	...	685,171
July ...	118½	53½	110 0 0	1 8½	3,70,00,000	...	673,309
" ...	107	53½	108 0 0	1 8½	...	...	671,035
August ...	107½	55½	112 0 0	1 8½	3,40,00,000	...	670,600
" ...	112½	58½	113 0 0	1 10½	...	...	672,200
September	111	58	111 8 0	1 10½	6,01,50,000	...	674,002
" ...	113	61	111 0 0	1 10½	...	...	673,455
October ...	118½	64	112 0 0	2 0½	2,31,35,000	...	673,480
" ...	117	62½	112 0 0	2 0½	...	...	674,007
November	120½	65	112 0 0	2 0½	2,40,00,000	...	674,300
" ...	127	68½	112 0 0	2 0½	...	...	674,500
December	137½	74	112 0 0	2 2½	4,20,00,000	...	678,300
" ...	131	70½	112 0 0	2 4½	...	...	680,000

* Of this amount Rs. 1,01,50,000 from New York.
† " " 30,00,000

REPORT ELECTRICITY SUB-COMMITTEE

(155)

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ROYAL EXCHANGE,

Calcutta, 31st January 1921.

REPORT OF THE ELECTRICITY SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

We have had only one question before us during the past year, and this was the question of the revision of the Indian Electricity Rules, 1911. In May the Board of Industries and Munitions (Government of India) circulated to the local Governments and Administrations a reprint of these rules, with certain proposed additions and amendments. We carefully examined the rules as thus revised, and put forward certain recommendations and criticisms concerning them. These recommendations and criticisms—which are too detailed to be reproduced here—you adopted, and submitted in due course to the Government of India.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,
J. T. MERTENS, (*Chairman*)
H. BURKINSHAW
W. E. A. MORBY
S. L. DIGGOORY
FRANCIS HOLT

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
LICENSED MEASURERS DEPARTMENT
OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
1st JULY 1919 to 30th JUNE 1920.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
LICENSED MEASURERS DEPARTMENT,
ROYAL EXCHANGE.
Calcutta, 15th November 1920.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to submit to you our report on the working of your Licensed Measurers Department for the year ended on the 30th June 1920. We have at the same time to ask you to be good enough to appoint a new Committee to manage the Department during the enrent year.

At our first meeting we elected Mr. J. W. Hely-Hutchinson to be our Chairman. He resigned in July on leaving for Europe; and we then elected Mr. R. H. Child to be Chairman. Mr. Child was in England from February to July and during his absence Mr. P. E. R. Hoerder represented Messrs. Bird & Co. Mr. J. A. Tassie left for England in April, and Messrs. James Finlay & Co. Ltd. appointed Mr. T. C. Crawford to serve in his place. Mr. G. P. Mackenzie succeeded Mr. J. W. Hely-Hutchinson as the representative of Messrs. George Henderson & Co.; and Mr. N. Damiano resigned in October, Messrs. Balli Brothers appointing Mr. G. U. Eathymopulo to succeed him.

Including the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Office Manager, and four Assistant Superintendents, the staff on the 30th June 1920 consisted of 127 officers, as compared with 165 on the corresponding date of the previous year.

Our predecessors stated, in their report for the year 1919, that they had appointed Mr. R. Ellis to be the Superintendent. Superintendent of the Department. Mr. Ellis has been in charge throughout the year, and his management of the business of the Department has been very satisfactory. He has introduced a number of changes, and has greatly improved the organisation and system of work.

The audited revenue and profit and loss account, and the balance-sheet are, as usual, appended to this report. The income has increased by Rs. 80,004-15-1 as compared with the previous year, the figures being :—

1918-19	...	Rs. 8,15,792 10 3
1919-20	...	Rs. 8,95,797 9 4
		<hr/>
		Rs. 80,004 15 1

Measurements contributed Rs. 5,82,123-0-9, as compared with Rs. 5,64,419-11-7, and weighments Rs. 2,41,892-2-3, as against Rs. 2,08,137-10-11. Mill fees amounted to Rs. 24,285-8-0, as against Rs. 14,200-4-0.

The expenditure for each of the two years 1918-19 and 1919-20 was as follows :—

1918-19	...	Rs. 6,93,039 12 3
1919-20	...	Rs. 8,24,513 14 10
		<hr/>
Increase		Rs. 1,31,474 2 7

The revenue account shows a surplus of Rs. 71,283-10-6, compared with Rs. 1,22,752-14-0, for the previous year. By interest on investments, &c., this sum is increased to Rs. 91,367-8-7 against which there are debits on profit and loss account amounting to Rs. 22,939-6-10. The result is a net surplus of Rs. 68,428-1-9.

The following is a statement of the invested funds standing to the credit of the Department on the 30th June 1920 :—

		Par Value.		Nominal Value on 30th June 1919.		Nominal Value on 30th June 1920.	
		Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
GENERAL ACCOUNT.							
3½%	Government Securities	1,24,000	0 0	86,800	0 0	73,470	0 0
4%	Calcutta Municipal Debentures	47,000	0 0	39,950	0 0	35,720	0 0
	India Treasury Bills	...	...	244,631	4 0	3,49,000	0 0
PROVIDENT FUND.							
3½%	Government Securities	28,000	0 0	20,230	0 0	17,125	4 0
5%	Calcutta Municipal Debentures	4,000	0 0	3,960	0 0	3,960	0 0
4%	Do. do. do.	1,50,500	0 0	1,21,935	0 0	1,09,516	0 0
4½%	Calcutta Port Trust Debentures	1,500	0 0	1,305	0 0	1,350	0 0
4%	Do. do. do.	1,07,500	0 0	84,533	0 0	76,270	0 0
4%	Bombay Improvement Trust Debentures	7,000	0 0	6,300	0 0	5,617	8 0
4½%	Rangoon Municipal Debentures	18,000	0 0	16,775	0 0	16,775	0 0
4%	Rangoon Port Trust Debentures	20,000	0 0	16,000	0 0	16,000	0 0
4½%	Do. do. do.	10,000	0 0	9,000	0 0	9,000	0 0
	10 Bank of Bengal Shares	5,000	0 0	10,250	0 0	17,350	0 0
	India Treasury Bills	...	...	71,362	8 0	90,600	0 0
5%	Fixed Deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	...	...	45,650	0 0	45,882	8 0
5%	Fixed Deposit with the National Bank of India, Ltd.	...	...	38,664	0 0	40,550	0 0
COMPASSIONATE FUND (OFFICERS).							
3½%	Government Securities	1,000	0 0	*948 12 0		*948 12 0	

(Cost price)

In the following statements we detail the business of the Department during the past year, as compared with the preceding year.

The first statement gives the number of packages measured. It shows a net increase of 11,11,739 as compared with the total for 1918-19.

Goods.	From 1st	From 1st	From 1st	Increase.	Decrease.
	July 1917 to 30th June 1918.	July 1918 to 30th June 1919.	July 1919 to 30th June 1920.		
Jute, Cuttings, Rejections ...	20,01,703	22,55,070	32,23,880	10,65,810	...
Hemp ...	27,291	1,15,310	1,21,367	6,069	...
Cotton ...	20,006	38,572	1,77,100	38,528	...
Tobacco ...	5,243	10,388	20,246	8,308	...
Shells ...	23,281	34,876	59,208	25,332	...
Hides ...	42,550	94,084	51,412	...	...
Gummi ...	18,01,018	16,90,620	17,08,876	99,350	3,572
Indigo ...	8,138	4,854	6,193	1,209	...
Tea ...	28,07,314	22,85,142	24,12,937	1,94,795	...
Sundries ...	6,58,430	9,72,677	7,35,049	...	2,37,628
TOTAL PACKAGES ...	74,00,970	75,99,620	87,11,268	...	...

The second statement gives particulars of weighments. It shows a net increase of 6,33,240 packages compared with the total for 1918-1919.

Goods.	From 1st	From 1st	From 1st	Increase.	Decrease.
	July 1917 to 30th June 1918.	July 1918 to 30th June 1919.	July 1919 to 30th June 1920.		
Jute, Cuttings, Rejections ...	24,72,370	22,78,723	27,38,049	4,62,326	...
Hemp ...	1,740	1,149	13,008	11,909	...
Cotton ...	10,97,380	11,00,534	25,85,004	9,35,050	...
Tobacco ...	11,80,826	17,20,620	5,36,608	...	...
Shells ...	20,75,163	23,90,381	33,10,284	9,18,401	11,86,922
Hides ...	62,407	13,301	47,804	33,653	...
Gummi ...	21,380	...	46,469	18,721	...
Indigo ...	...	...	14,254	...	...
Tea ...	...	...	85,117	...	...
Sundries ...	...	...	32,630	...	...
TOTAL	75,11,265	75,65,106	82,33,346	...	...
Metals ...	Tons. Cwt.	Tons. Cwt.	Tons. Cwt.	Tons. Cwt.	Tons. Cwt.
Coal ...	123 10	2,077 14	1,122 4	...	163 19
Saltpetre ...	19,484 0	15,174 18	4,646 13	...	10,628 5
TOTAL	10,009 10	10,138 15	5,768 17	...	...

The third statement shows the average measurement of jute bales as taken at thirty-three press houses in and around Calcutta. For comparative purposes similar figures are given for twenty previous years.

SEASON.	Total bales measured.	Average measurement.		Largest average of a Press.		Smallest average of a Press.	
		Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
1899-1900 ...	21,64,189	52	0-15	52	9-65	51	3-90
1900-1901 ...	28,56,857	52	0-37	52	7-00	51	7-05
1901-1902 ...	37,67,298	51	10-50	52	4-88	51	6-99
1902-1903 ...	26,93,366	51	10-03	52	1-40	51	3-50
1903-1904 ...	30,24,156	51	9-52	52	2-19	51	6-12
1904-1905 ...	29,44,076	51	11-36	52	8-25	51	4-31
1905-1906 ...	35,69,599	51	11-99	53	2-78	51	1-22
1906-1907 ...	37,04,672	52	9-48	55	3-15	51	0-33
1907-1908 ...	35,43,698	52	3-00	54	1-98	51	2-40
1908-1909 ...	38,95,076	52	8-29	55	1-77	51	1-32
1909-1910 ...	31,54,254	52	11-36	54	10-34	51	4-09
1910-1911 ...	31,78,400	53	2-21	55	2-16	51	8-74
1911-1912 ...	30,32,756	52	10-27	54	9-05	51	8-94
1912-1913 ...	41,20,547	53	1-20	54	10-78	51	7-71
1913-1914 ...	36,37,888	52	8-62	54	8-99	51	5-86
1914-1915 ...	27,73,168	52	5-34	55	9-82	51	4-25
1915-1916 ...	30,11,323	52	2-86	57	5-88	51	2-52
1916-1917 ...	27,13,373	52	0-29	54	2-78	51	1-77
1917-1918 ...	17,93,978	52	4-81	54	2-86	51	2-82
1918-1919 ...	21,77,741	53	7-01	56	9-25	51	8-72
1919-1920 ...	30,62,346	54	8-56	58	8-10	52	5-00

* The measurement of Hemp, Jute &c., for shipment, previously done at the Press-house, was transferred to Kidderpore in November 1917 when the "along side" measurement scheme was instituted.

The fourth statement shows the progress of the work of the Measurement and Weighment Department since the year 1884-1885.

YEARS.	MEASUREMENT.			WEIGHTMENT.		
	Packages.	Increase.	Decrease.	Packages.	Increase.	Decrease.
1884-1885	19,42,590	...	...	...	...	...
1885-1886	20,85,174	1,42,578	...	...	...	...
1886-1887	24,56,504	3,71,420	...	...	...	...
1887-1888	26,79,372	2,22,778	...	...	...	...
1888-1889	30,68,759	3,89,387	...	11,61,774	...	...
1889-1890	32,17,004	1,48,245	...	15,44,189	3,82,415	...
1890-1891	35,87,967	3,70,963	...	18,96,604	3,52,415	...
1891-1892	23,35,126	...	12,52,841	12,82,663	...	6,13,941
1892-1893	34,30,735	10,95,609	...	19,39,418	6,56,750	...
1893-1894	30,78,978	...	3,51,757	20,34,150	94,737	...
1894-1895	41,46,385	10,67,407	...	26,21,303	5,87,243	...
1895-1896	41,58,348	11,963	...	26,71,705	50,402	...
1896-1897	41,74,785	16,437	...	27,38,939	67,144	...
1897-1898	52,42,139	10,67,354	...	30,00,563	1,61,624	...
1898-1899	38,74,563	...	13,67,576	33,92,881	...	5,07,682
1899-1900	38,77,837	3,274	...	33,19,927	...	72,954
1900-1901	45,02,018	9,24,181	...	38,69,147	5,49,220	...
1901-1902	55,43,199	7,41,181	...	43,57,594	4,88,447	...
1902-1903	47,24,965	...	8,18,234	40,55,419	...	3,02,175
1903-1904	51,95,824	4,70,859	...	42,65,271	2,09,859	...
1904-1905	50,85,223	...	1,10,601	48,78,633	6,13,362	...
1905-1906	57,52,886	6,67,663	...	56,11,836	7,33,203	...
1906-1907	65,52,936	6,00,050	...	58,12,623	2,00,787	...
1907-1908	61,53,236	...	1,99,706	58,27,288	14,665	...
1908-1909	65,84,449	4,31,219	...	58,79,565	52,277	...
1909-1910	63,43,273	...	2,41,176	71,10,310	2,30,745	...
1910-1911	58,41,994	...	5,01,279	78,53,828	7,43,518	...
1911-1912	65,34,801	7,12,807	...	1,00,26,000	21,72,241	...
1912-1913	70,12,145	4,57,254	...	1,11,28,881	1,32,784	...
1913-1914	67,30,240	...	2,81,905	80,61,430	30,97,423	...
1914-1915	67,56,929	26,680	...	65,45,381	15,13,049	...
1915-1916	77,86,482	10,29,553	...	70,24,584	4,76,203	...
1916-1917	73,99,032	...	3,87,450	67,45,974	2,78,610	...
1917-1918	74,09,970	10,938	...	75,11,265	7,65,291	...
1918-1919	75,99,529	1,89,559	...	75,95,106	83,841	...
1919-1920	87,11,268	11,11,739	...	82,33,946	6,38,240	...

The fifth statement gives the strength of the staff in each year since 1889, when the Department was established, and in detail the number on the 30th June 1920:—

Year.	Strength.	Year.	Strength.
1883	13	1902-1903	70
1884	19	1903-1904	74
1885	31	1904-1905	80
1886	27	1905-1906	88
1887	25	1906-1907	88
1888	30	1907-1908	91
1889	38	1908-1909	89
1890	37	1909-1910	99
1891	36	1910-1911	109
1892	37	1911-1912	115
1893	40	1912-1913	125
1893-1894	49	1913-1914	137
1894-1895	47	1914-1915	153
1895-1896	54	1915-1916	140
1896-1897	50		Exclusive of men on active service.
1897-1898	53		
1898-1899	57	1916-1917	139
1899-1900	59	1917-1918	132
1900-1901	58	1918-1919	145
1901-1902	69	1919-1920	145
		1920-1921	127

The staff of the Department on the 30th June 1920 consisted of:—

- 1 Superintendent, 1 Deputy Superintendent, 1 Office Manager, 4 Assistant Superintendents, 103 measurers, 8 scalewrights, 13 Probationers, 1 plant-keeper, total 127.

In August 1919 the measurers asked that in view of the increased cost of living the scale of salaries might be revised. Our predecessors did not see their way to take action, and the measurers again brought the subject forward in February. We examined the 1912 scale and we came to the conclusion that it was inadequate in view of the great increase in the cost of living in Calcutta. The introduction of a more liberal scale should, we thought, be seriously considered forthwith; and its possible effect on the revenues of the Department be closely examined. The Superintendent drew up for our consideration certain alternative schemes, and after fully discussing these we adopted the following scale with effect from the 1st July 1920: an initial salary for the first year of service as a measurer Rs. 100 monthly increasing by sixteen annual increments of Rs. 15 monthly to Rs. 340; and increasing thereafter from this rate by thirteen annual increments of Rs. 20 monthly to Rs. 600 in the thirtieth year of service. Thence to the thirty-fifth year of service the salary to remain at Rs. 600 monthly.

In order to provide for the additional cost of this revised scale of salaries we increased the surtax of 33½% on the measuring and weighing fees to 40%. This higher surtax we brought into operation on the 1st July 1920.

On the 30th June 1920 the assets of the Provident Fund aggregated Rs. 5,01,023-5-11 as compared with Rs. 5,11,447-4-0 on the 30th June 1920. The Trustees of the Fund are the Chairman and Mr. T. E. Cunningham. With effect from the 1st July 1920 we modified the rules of the Provident Fund so as to provide for a subscription at the rate of 8½% of each member's salary, a like contribution being payable by the Department. Previously the subscription had been at the rate of 6% for members on a salary not exceeding Rs. 100 monthly, and 8½% for members on a salary of more than Rs. 100.

It was mentioned in the last annual report that Dr. Nevill Medical Officers. Chambers was acting temporarily as medical officer of the Department. Dr. Chambers relinquished the appointment as from the 1st June 1920

from which date it was taken over by Dr. Douglas Cameron and his partner Dr. Fetherstonhaugh.

The two Compassionate Funds, one for the measurers and the other for the clerical staff, have been carried on as usual during the year. Loans are allowed from these funds at the rate of 5% per annum re-payable by monthly instalments.

The Measurers Club which was located at 6 Mission Row vacated the premises there as from the end of February 1920. The furniture was disposed of, and the Club continues as an athletic club only. We contribute a sum of Rs. 100/-monthly from the funds of the Department towards its upkeep.

We are,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient servants,

R. H. CHILD, *Chairman*.

T. C. CRAWFORD,

T. E. CUNNINGHAM,

G. U. EUTHYMOPULO,

J. B. HODGSON,

G. P. MACKENZIE,

E. H. H. SQUIRE.

Members.

APPENDICES.

Licensed Measurers Department.

Staff

30TH JUNE 1920.

- 1 Superintendent.
- 1 Deputy Superintendent.
- 1 Office Manager.
- 4 Assistant Superintendents.
- 103 Measurers.
- 3 Scalewrights.
- 1 Plant-keeper.
- 13 Probationers.

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Superintendent.

R. ELLIS.

Deputy Superintendent.

A. H. LUGG.

Office Manager.

C. G. SMITH.

Assistant Superintendents.

J. G. SMYTH.
A. H. MATTHEWS.
W. H. KITCHEN.
G. L. BENNET.

INVENTORY OF WEIGHING AND MEASURING APPARATUS AND TRANSPORT.

MEASURING IMPLEMENTS:—

- 1 Standard ebony callipers.
- 1 6 Feet steel standard rod.
- 14 Teakwood callipers with brass index, 8 to 9 feet, for hides.
- 10 Teakwood callipers with brass index, 5 feet, for hides.
- 1 Teakwood callipers with brass index, 5 feet, for casks.
- 9 Teakwood callipers with brass index, 5 feet, for gunnies.
- 101 Teakwood callipers with brass index, 5 feet, for jute.
- 27 Teakwood callipers with brass index, 3 feet to 4 feet, for cases.
- 5 Teakwood callipers with brass index, 3½ feet claw end, for cases.
- 2 10 feet teakwood folding rods.
- 2 5 feet teakwood rods with brass slide.
- 4 2 feet wooden rules.
- 1 Wooden gauge with brass slide for chain and rope.
- 2 Steel standard wire gauges.
- 1 100 feet Chesterman's steel tape.
- 8 50 feet Chesterman's steel wove tapes.
- 7 12 feet Chesterman's steel wove tapes.
- 1 Callipers for measuring animals.

CUBIC MEASURES:—

- 1 of 1 Cubic feet brass.
- 1 of 10 Cubic feet iron with suspending chains.
- 2 of 250 feet, wooden, mounted on removable wheels.

LIQUID MEASURE:—

- 1 Set brass standard liquid measure from 1 gallon down to ½ gill.

WEIGHTS:—

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Set brass standard avoirdupois from 1 cwt. down to ½ dram. | } Verified, certified and stamped by Standard Department, London. |
| 1 Set metal from 10 grains to 0.1 grain. | |

WEIGHTS:—contd.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Set brass standard avoirdupois from 1 cwt. down to ½ oz. | } Made and tested by Calcutta Mint. |
| 1 Set brass standard Indian from 1 maund down to ¼ chatak. | |
| 155 Iron of 56 lbs. each. | |
| 10 Sets Iron from 28 lbs. down to ¼ lb. | |
| 3 Iron of 1 Maund. | |
| 3 Iron of 20 seers. | |
| 3 Iron of 10 seers. | |
| 3 Iron of 5 seers. | |

SCALES AND WEIGHING MACHINES.

BEAM SCALES :—

- 1 42" Beam with trays for weights up to 1 cwt.
- 2 40" Beams with trays for weights up to 56 lbs.
- 1 24" Beam with trays for weights up to 28 lbs.
- 1 24" Beam with trays for weights up to 14 lbs.
- 1 16" Beam with trays for weights up to 4 lbs.
- 1 14" Beam with trays for weights up to 4 oz.
- 1 of ton capacity.
- 1 with trays of 1,000 lbs. capacity.
- 6 with trays of 600 lbs. capacity.
- 1 with trays of 200 lbs. capacity.
- 1 with trays of 100 lbs. capacity.

For testing purpose : sensitive to grains.

COUNTERPOISE SCALES :—

- 4 of 7 cwt. or 10 maunds capacity.
- 66 of 450 lbs. capacity.
- 1 of 280 lbs. capacity.
- 8 of 20 cwt. capacity.
- 3 of 10 cwt. capacity.
- 1 of Thomsons 5 cwt.

For jute, cotton, etc.

For coal.

PLATFORM WEIGHING MACHINES :—

- 4 Portable, to weigh 4,000 lbs.
- 6 Portable, to weigh 2,000 lbs.
- 1 Portable, to weigh 500 lbs.
- 1 Personal to weigh up to 32 stone with measuring rod.

CRANE WEIGHING MACHINES :—

- 1 of 10 ton capacity.
- 1 of 5 ton capacity.
- 20 of 2 ton capacity.
- 74 of 20 cwt. capacity.
- 8 of 10 cwt. capacity.

DIFFERENTIAL LIFTS :—

- 1 of 5 ton.
- 1 of 3 ton.
- 1 of 2 ton.
- 1 of 1 ton.

COAL TUBS :—

- 4 of 10 cwt. capacity.
- 1 of 8 cwt. capacity.
- 1 of 5 cwt. capacity.

IRON CRADLES :—

- 2 for jute.
- 4 for pig iron.
- 2 for bar iron.
- 2 for plate iron.
- 10 for bags.

WOODEN TRAYS OF PLATFORMS :—

- 3 of 4' x 4'.
- 3 of 4' x 2'—6" with suspending chains.
- 1 of 3½' x 3' for testing scales.

FRAMES AND STANDARDS :—

- 4 of teakwood 8' to 10' for coal, hides, gunnies to carry 20 cwt.
- 76 of teakwood 6' and 7' for jute, cotton, etc.
- 14 of iron 7½' high for metal, weightments, up to 20 cwt.
- 16 of iron 6' high for metal, jute, etc., up to 20 cwt.
- 8 iron standards for beam scales.

SLINGS :—

- 60 of rope and chain for weighing gunnies.
- 4 of chain for weighing hides.

HOOKS :—

- 18 for gunnies.
- 82 for jute, cotton, etc.
- 7 for casks.
- 4 to clamp to deck beams for suspending scales on.
- 7 Spring hooks for Pig Iron weightments.

TRANSPORT IN STABLES:—

- 4 Four wheeled horse carts to carry 6 cwt. each.
- 3 Two wheeled buffalo carts to carry 30 cwt.
- 2 Two wheeled hand carts to carry 3 cwt.
- 6 Horses.
- 5 Buffaloes.

[illegible]

Monthly Statement of Goods Measured—Season 1919-1920.

	Mondia.	The Cottages, Repentans and Penitents. Total.	Homp. Tobacco	Cotton.	Shedde.	Hidde.	Gumme.	Indigo.	Ten.	Sundries.	Total.
July 1919	"	1,62,843	1,300	17,438	8,690	5,374	1,43,172	887	1,71,589	1,17,650	9,25,301
August "	"	1,38,194	1,633	3,684	6,039	9,375	1,40,917	228	1,83,007	48,738	5,60,128
September "	"	4,47,018	13,071	8,859	3,238	8,708	1,69,885	639	3,06,087	90,020	9,54,240
October "	"	4,46,688	19,382	3,400	2,764	1,392	1,29,275	175	2,27,043	43,398	9,11,218
November "	"	4,74,707	8,692	1,745	6,736	4,222	1,07,791	360	5,05,200	69,462	11,80,336
December "	"	1,68,625	3,646	5,073	14,274	2,621	2,900	1,30,320	881	2,93,266	50,925
January 1920	"	3,11,505	7,874	11,150	18,839	1,822	3,807	1,57,694	1,114	2,23,065	47,000
February "	"	2,52,578	8,138	400	39,380	4,861	1,924	1,43,076	789	1,58,383	78,458
March "	"	9,25,697	1,078	39,129	6,967	4,100	1,48,439	488	1,64,268	77,857	6,85,764
April "	"	2,57,447	12,721	59	28,223	3,028	3,072	1,71,301	460	1,11,089	47,002
May "	"	1,83,872	7,087	369	10,690	5,123	2,888	1,91,000	29	1,92,122	61,100
June "	"	4,48,885	7,007	283	3,688	6,707	1,057	1,76,329	359	25,457	5,90,910
Total.		32,25,000	23,946	1,77,100	26,206	31,119	17,98,570	6,103	34,12,937	7,35,044	78,11,358

Comparative Statement of Goods Weighed from 1st July 1907 to 30th June 1920.

[illegible]

Monthly Statement of Goods Weighed—Season 1919-1920.

Months.	Jute, Cuttings, &c.	Hemp.	Cotton.	Gummi.	Rice.	Tea.	Hides.	Tobacco.	Shallot.	Indigo.	Sundries.	Total.	Metals.		Oils.		Sampels.		Total.	
													Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.	Cwt.
July 1919	2,22,857	2,48	900	1,04,577	1,16,328	1,644	4,145	1,280	7,175	122	3,24,250	7,86,323	...	...	...	...	46	0	46	0
August "	2,07,146	6,020	1,100	1,12,742	18,310	3,392	5,732	1,422	15,494	...	2,84,137	6,56,296	...	...	...	...	60	0	60	0
September "	3,31,391	6,016	18	1,40,050	16,246	10,599	5,830	8,004	11,444	116	3,05,192	8,23,196	...	...	...	...	227	0	227	0
October "	3,72,399	3,87	...	1,10,770	36,722	7,694	1,616	873	3,035	...	1,77,519	7,13,796	...	...	...	...	106	0	106	0
November "	3,35,693	3,011	...	82,631	9,495	7,656	4,392	...	11,695	128	2,22,654	6,02,775	...	...	...	...	298	0	298	0
December "	1,84,776	1,701	101	87,771	1,902	8,743	3,197	2,675	5,266	293	2,47,657	5,44,352	1,125	4	...	...	104	13	1,220	17
January 1920	2,22,597	134	...	1,22,770	26,059	2,442	3,939	...	12,471	25	3,38,061	7,40,965	...	...	...	...	924	0	924	0
February "	1,85,591	1,162	180	97,735	...	3,782	1,916	...	5,932	45	2,64,489	5,44,132	...	...	...	...	232	5	232	5
March "	2,94,191	1,985	1,173	1,13,353	71	1,100	6,504	...	5,407	290	3,02,330	6,57,092	...	...	...	...	865	15	865	15
April "	2,64,133	2,105	101	1,29,453	1,32,252	296	4,136	...	1,694	...	2,93,673	7,88,471	...	...	...	...	575	14	575	14
May "	1,65,691	1,074	...	1,33,839	1,41,058	...	3,568	4,129	...	...	2,74,112	7,25,331	...	...	...	...	387	6	387	6
June "	1,28,445	1,337	9,485	1,45,348	26,692	1,098	2,074	...	10,665	...	2,83,200	6,05,692	...	...	...	...	696	0	696	0
Total.	27,28,049	32,630	13,633	13,86,094	5,30,693	47,864	46,469	14,294	93,117	959	33,19,234	82,33,346	1,225	4	4,644	13	5,758	17

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STATEMENT showing the Total quantity and Average Measurement

NAME OF PRESS-HOUSE.	SEASON 1910-11.		SEASON 1910-11.		SEASON 1911-12.		SEASON 1911-12.	
	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.
Ashcroft	5,633	54-77	12,888	53-04	59,730	54-170	81,504	54-70
Aith	75,222	53-04	55,472	53-79	55,181	54-04	31,144	53-04
Bengal	76,581	51-12	57,530	53-25	83,639	50-10-16	90,023	50-07
Calcutta	5,37,116	50-11	5,69,217	53-125	2,57,794	52-128	2,81,282	53-03
Campdown	1,14,256	51-87	14,700	51-1125	1,00,602	53-071	2,63,969	53-75
Chal	81,372	51-31	73,538	53-115	1,19,464	53-4-28	1,29,035	53-43
Central .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chitpore .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Docks	1,16,818	51-1192	1,01,692	52-403	67,128	53-0-05	1,00,872	53-08
Empress of India	1,81,769	52-975	1,19,315	54-021	2,55,419	53-0-05	3,11,043	53-08
Ganges	1,34,208	51-02	1,23,747	51-4-09	90,083	52-0-23	1,18,731	52-43
Garden Reach .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gohabara	2,50,607	51-74	1,76,408	51-878	1,52,570	51-874	2,21,303	51-84
Gundar's	2,52,670	52-00	2,04,415	52-7-45	1,15,593	52-0-14	1,91,040	52-08
Hannuman .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Houghly	1,53,796	52-0-20	1,50,250	52-11-24	31,699	52-0-48	1,18,746	52-08
Moorh	1,09,977	52-10-00	71,134	52-11-02	62,100	52-0-07	89,000	52-07
India	1,04,288	52-77	46,874	51-0-37	31,633	52-0-07	75,421	52-05
Jhel	1,27,233	52-10-22	1,85,484	51-3-42	1,41,027	52-11-54	1,24,828	52-04
Jakhmi	72,304	52-0-25	52,752	52-3-77	64,188	52-7-44	1,07,807	52-04
Kanungo's	1,54,410	52-11-32	1,21,178	52-10-73	1,05,000	52-10-70	1,27,458	52-08
Kali Bera .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Strand Bank	615,185	51-0-23	4,76,145	51-7-23	4,21,745	51-0-79	4,71,038	52-03
Sun	1,29,360	52-0-26	1,21,410	52-0-20	45,029	51-8-20	50,281	52-03
Sure .. ..	...	...	1,02,862	52-4-24	1,00,045	52-10-28	98,187	52-11-54
Union	2,04,508	52-0-72	52,267	51-8-11	1,08,283	52-0-23	1,18,220	52-04
Victoria	1,28,852	52-0-47	1,13,811	51-4-03	88,401	52-10-23	1,24,723	52-09
West's	85,156	52-0-07	50,895	52-11-18	30,000	51-1-22	46,451	52-13
Total	38,80,676	52-0-29	31,64,521	52-01-26	31,78,400	53-0-21	38,28,378	52-10-27

Burst Bales

of Jute &c., for the Seasons 1906-1909 to 1919-1920.

SEASON 1912-13.	SEASON 1913-14.		SEASON 1914-15.		SEASON 1915-16.		SEASON 1916-17.		SEASON 1917-18.*		SEASON 1918-19.		SEASON 1919-20.	
	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.
...	4,574	52-0-3	42,143	52-4-05	54,903	51-10-77	54,500	51-0-74	4,600	51-7-30	3,217	52-0-13	230	52-2-03
...	10,84	53-10-9	54,698	52-5-47	39,079	52-0-10	27,441	52-1-31	17,190	52-0-32	14,688	51-10-74	5,270	54-0-72
...	3,185	52-0-17	40,694	53-0-10	65,267	51-8-12	50,979	51-0-27	31,161	51-7-57	3,090	52-0-15	6,622	52-4-54
...	12,844	52-8-16	3,14,120	52-4-21	5,06,744	51-0-83	3,62,643	51-4-43	2,31,220	51-0-28	24,206	52-7-08	30,909	54-1-43
...	17,843	53-2-19	1,43,537	51-0-86	1,19,910	51-7-90	94,916	51-7-83	67,026	51-7-77	4,500	52-3-41	823	52-10-16
...	1,60,00	53-2-02	1,20,138	52-8-03	66,218	54-0-05	1,03,858	53-1-40	46,827	51-10-08	18,096	52-3-72	8,816	54-7-18
...	1,31,351	51-0-51	1,12,436	51-11-07	1,08,623	51-7-90	1,76,207	51-0-05	1,15,494	51-4-25	25,878	51-2-83	16,200	52-4-85
...	1,31,325	51-0-20	1,11,137	53-0-37	76,250	52-1-01	51,713	51-10-00	65,842	51-11-10	20,064	52-4-28	16,429	54-3-16
...	1,31,228	54-0-25	3,39,789	51-0-03	1,74,961	51-7-91	3,08,721	52-5-19	1,15,478	51-7-78	13,843,315	53-8-08	13,75,137	53-0-12
...	1,29,331	52-1-47	1,11,084	51-11-23	90,567	51-10-75	83,261	51-8-08	55,223	51-4-91	3,629	52-5-02	713	53-1-03
...	1,44,25	52-6-13	70,213	52-0-23	64,910	51-0-08	19,494	52-0-85	66,125	51-11-36	9,889	52-1-07	8,777	54-1-28
...
...	17,004	51-7-72	1,58,012	51-7-93	1,10,468	54-0-17	1,20,028	51-0-05	1,22,818	51-4-44	20,431	52-0-50	13,175	53-0-63
...	1,82,116	52-0-38	2,55,807	52-4-41	1,52,894	52-3-74	2,20,171	51-6-24	2,15,324	51-8-21	32,671	52-7-20	6,472	54-0-65
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,200	51-8-40	5,815	52-11-28	1,547	52-11-45
...	1,02,81	54-4-14	1,11,083	52-3-30	1,00,230	52-4-19	81,071	51-2-28	83,818	51-10-02	5,700	52-4-85	23,517	53-10-77
...	1,02,817	52-0-12	1,21,262	52-5-71	58,171	52-8-51	84,423	52-8-80	70,235	52-0-01	9,145	51-7-56	5,080	52-0-25
...	70,428	52-7-52	72,763	52-7-72	41,090	51-10-03	37,007	51-10-02	44,003	51-8-04	12,496	52-3-07	5,166	52-7-00
...	1,00,137	51-7-11	1,00,007	51-0-86	1,10,008	51-0-79	71,200	51-7-02	60,678	51-5-07	6,220	51-1-18	12,811	51-8-72
...	9,225	52-0-41	65,003	52-2-30	1,880	51-8-76	17,813	51-8-19	30,006	51-2-20	3,136	51-2-85	2,500	52-0-15
...	1,04,900	51-0-08	1,00,310	53-0-43	1,40,003	52-0-15	1,27,857	52-0-05	1,20,228	52-0-08	10,883	51-10-27	750	52-0-05
...	6,320	52-11-09	81,862	52-0-11	58,145	52-0-42	49,233	52-0-42	50,023	51-11-05	200	52-10-75	340	52-0-58
...	3,12,120	52-0-15	3,11,887	51-0-08	3,02,762	51-1-05	2,65,000	51-4-21	3,10,008	51-0-29	40,003	52-0-08	62,282	52-10-71
...	9,028	51-10-18	52,874	52-7-10	76,128	53-1-40	85,241	52-0-22	88,229	51-0-70	12,739	53-3-05	6,484	54-0-08
...	1,20,802	52-0-71	2,04,003	51-7-72	66,094	51-0-03	44,001	52-1-54	18,327	52-11-19	4,705	52-10-27	7,403	53-10-73
...	1,20,802	52-0-71	1,00,000	51-0-08	1,05,000	51-7-17	1,84,003	52-0-31	1,60,004	51-11-06	25,525	52-0-47	18,884	52-7-32
...	1,74,341	52-0-70	1,50,130	52-0-46	15,903	52-0-03	1,12,714	51-10-01	17,267	52-11-15	10,003	52-0-25	5,592	54-0-27
...	1,16,001	53-0-08	88,698	52-0-04	88,978	52-7-85	1,10,011	52-7-85	75,427	52-0-42	10,022	52-1-47	12,552	52-7-02
...	4,827	52-0-06	47,261	52-10-37	1,280	53-0-01	17,476	52-0-22	10,211	52-0-07	2,200	52-0-03	888	54-7-03
...	61,304	53-10-20	36,37,888	52-0-02	37,74,123	52-0-21	38,11,303	52-0-26	37,13,723	52-0-29	17,25,778	52-4-01	21,77,511	52-0-28

62-10-19 299 62-4-17 32 62-0-07 313 64-1-20

* The measurement of Hony. Jute, &c., for shipment previously done at the Press-houses, was transferred to Kidderpore in November 1917 when the "Kiddie" measurement scheme was instituted.

[26a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Dr.

REVENUE ACCOUNT from

CHARGES.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
ESTABLISHMENT—						
Salaries and Wages—						
Officers	4,21,884	13	7			
Belans	37,024	1	6			
Scalewright and staff	38,455	2	9			
Storekeeper and staff	1,643	0	0			
Stable staff	2,230	11	11			
Peons' Wages	29,620	9	0			
Boat staff	2,212	13	11			
				5,28,071	4	8
Fees (Officers)—						
Early and Late	22,883	0	0			
Sunday and Holiday	8,316	7	0			
				31,199	7	0
Fees (Medical)				8,553	4	3
Allowances (Night)—						
Officers	40,457	0	0			
Jauns	1,126	8	2			
Peons	2,784	8	6			
				44,368	0	8
Allowances to Staff—						
Subsistence	7,218	4	11			
Grain	8,111	7	5			
				15,329	12	4
Allowances to Officers—						
Officers' Distance Fees	622	8	0			
" Travelling Expenses	2,000	12	0			
				2,693	4	0
Pensions				6,696	8	3
Provident Fund Contribution for year				35,080	14	6
Coolie Hire				20,962	5	9
Motor Car Expenses and Allowances				14,728	9	1
Rents and Taxes				14,345	11	0
Contribution to Bengal Chamber of Commerce				24,000	0	0
Uniforms and Clothing				21,831	10	1
Stationery and Printing				19,946	9	6
Carried over				7,87,802	5	1

[27a]

LICENSED MEASURERS DEPARTMENT.

1st July 1919 to 30th June 1920.

Cr.

INCOME.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Measurement Jute	2,06,878	1	6			
" Sundry	3,74,048	5	6			
" Import	1,196	9	9			
				5,82,123	0	0
Weightment General	2,39,765	3	3			
" Import	11,126	15	0			
				2,41,892	2	3
Fees—						
Early and Late	20,941	0	0			
Sunday and Holiday	11,866	13	4			
Mil. Freshhouse and Godown	24,285	0	0			
				57,092	13	4
Revenue from Sundry Charges as under						
Quotine	522	8	0			
Certificates	1,810	12	0			
Calculations	10,647	9	3			
Deliveries	272	0	0			
Repairs to Plant	131	11	9			
Labour	1,305	0	0			
				14,689	9	0
Carried over				8,95,707	9	4

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Mr.

REVENUE ACCOUNT from

CHARGES.				Rn.	A.	P.	Rn.	A.	P.
Brought forward				...	...	...	7,87,802	5	1
SUNDRY EXPENSES—				...	...	...
Pieces Train and Dinghy Hire	...	...	...	814	1	0			
Petty Conveyance Charges	...	...	...	754	14	6			
Pieces' Cycles Maintenance	...	...	...	2,043	7	0			
Club Rent and Contribution	...	...	...	1,760	0	0			
Electric Light and Fans	...	...	...	1,072	1	9			
Telephones	...	...	...	2,018	14	1			
Stable Expenses	...	...	...	7,879	10	2			
Postage Stamps	...	...	...	71	6	0			
Receipts	...	...	...	198	10	0			
Law Charges	...	...	...	580	2	6			
Rent Expenses	...	...	...	633	1	0			
Miscellaneous Charges	...	...	...	4,471	13	0			
Boat Hire	...	...	...	520	0	0			
Draft, Repairs and Renewals	...	...	...	2,860	9	11			
Repairs to plant	...	...	...	5,212	15	4			
Tea and Refreshments	...	...	...	31	11	9			
Medicines	...	...	...	1,188	15	0			
Audit Fees	...	...	...	900	0	0			
To Insurance	...	...	...				34,260	6	6
“ Dock Building Repairs	...	...	...				600	11	3
“ Balance carried to Profit & Loss A/c	...	...	...				1,850	8	0
	...	...	...				71,288	10	6
TOTAL RA.				...	...	...	8,95,797	9	4

		MEMO.	
Profit	1918-1919	Rs.	1,22,752 14 0
Do.	1919-1920	" "	71,283 10 6

CALCUTTA, 25th September 1920.

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

LICENSED MEASURERS DEPARTMENT.

1st July 1919 to 30th June 1920.

	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
INCOME.						
Brought forward	8,06,797	9	4
TOTAL Rs.	8,06,797	0	4

Examined and found correct,
LOVELOCK & LEWES,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, } *Auditors.*

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Mr.

	Rs.	A	P.	Ru.	A	P.
June 30 To Depreciation on Dock Buildings 2½ % ...	980	0	10			
" Weighment Plant 20% ...	2,672	2	7			
" Measurement „ 20% ...	534	12	9			
" Deptl. Transport 20% ...	602	7	0			
" Furniture 20% ...	412	6	4			
" Machinery 20% ...	377	5	4			
" Loss on Revaluation of Securities ...				5,370	6	10
" Net Profit carried to Balance Sheet ...				17,560	6	0
				68,428	1	0
TOTAL Rs.				91,367	8	7

CALCUTTA, 25th Sept. 1920.

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

to 30th June 1920.

Er.

	R.S.	A. P.	R.S.	A. P.
June 30 By Balance from Revenue Account			71,283	10 6
" Interest on Government Promissory Notes, Municipal Debentures and India Treasury Bills			20,083	14 1
TOTAL Rs.			91,367	8 7

Examined and found correct,
 LOVELOCK & LEWES,
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, } Auditors.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

[32a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
(Incorporated as a Company under Section 26

BALANCE SHEET as

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
CAPITAL—						
Balance at credit of Profit and Loss						
Account at 30th June 1919	4,81,770	5	3			
Add profit for the year	68,428	1	0	5,50,198	7	0
LIABILITIES—						
For Deposits from Constituents of the Department				42,276	11	6
„ Goods supplied	4,965	13	0			
„ Unpaid salaries	3,089	4	0			
„ Officers' allowances	1,497	0	0			
„ Sundry liabilities	1,630	4	8			
SECURITY DEBITES FROM EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT—				11,182	7	2
Purna Chandra Mookerjee	300	0	0			
Hoonman Dolay	300	0	0	600	0	0
Carried over				6,04,207	0	8

[33a]

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.
of the Indian Companies Act 1882.)

at 30th June 1920.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Fixed CAPITAL EXPENDITURE—						
DOCK BUILDING—						
As per account at July 1st 1919	39,502	3	3			
Additions during the year	21,726	12	3			
Less Depreciation	60,028	15	6	50,948	14	8
	980	0	10			
WEIGHMENT PLANT—						
As per account at July 1st 1919	12,860	13	2			
Additions during the year	5,223	7	2			
Less Depreciation	18,084	4	4	15,012	1	9
	2,572	2	7			
MEASUREMENT PLANT—						
As per account at July 1st 1919	2,574	0	0			
Additions during the year	321	3	3			
Less Depreciation	2,995	3	3	2,469	6	6
	534	12	9			
DEPARTMENTAL TRANSPORT AND BOATS—						
As per account at July 1st 1919	2,612	3	0			
Less disposed of during the year	163	6	2			
Less Depreciation	2,348	12	9	1,846	5	9
	202	7	0			
FURNITURE—						
As per account at July 1st 1919	2,062	0	0			
Additions during the year	5,546	13	0			
Less Depreciation	7,638	13	0	7,196	6	8
	412	6	4			
MACHINERY—						
As per account at July 1st 1919	1,887	15	0			
Additions during the year	851	15	5			
Less Depreciation	2,739	14	5	2,362	5	1
	377	9	4			
Carried over				89,326	8	5

[34a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
(Incorporated as a Company under Section 26)

BALANCE SHEET as

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Brought forward	0,04,207	9	8
TOTAL Rs.	0,04,207	9	8

CALCUTTA,
25th Sept. 192

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

[35a]

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.
of the Indian Companies Act 1882.)

1920.

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Brought forward ...	...	...	...	80,826	8	5
Money CIES and CYCLES OF WIRE—						
As per account at July 1st 1919	12,541	1	0			
Additions during the year	5,400	0	0			
Less Motor Car taken over and Cycles sold during the year	17,941	1	1			
	4,082	14	8			
Less paid up by the Hires	13,858	2	5			
	3,737	8	0	10,120	10	5
STOCKS—						
Stock at 30th June 1920, (at cost)	...	...	...	2,228	12	10
BOX DUES and SEVERAL OUTFSTANDINGS ..	...	...	...	3,164	1	3
SECURITIES—						
Calcutta Municipal Debentures—						
Rs. 47,000/- at Rs. 75/-	35,720	0	0			
Govt Government Promissory Notes						
Rs. 1,25,000/- at Rs. 50/4	73,470	0	0			
Indian Treasury Bills Rs. 1,40,000/-						
at Rs. 95/-	1,33,000	0	0			
Indian Treasury Bills Rs. 2,25,000/-						
at Rs. 96/-	2,16,000	0	0	4,58,190	0	0
OUTSTANDING INTEREST ON SECURITIES—						
Amount of interest due on Calcutta Municipal Debentures, Government Paper and India Treasury bills	...	...	...	8,218	12	7
SECURITY DEPOSIT INVESTMENTS—						
Purna Chandra Moorjee	300	0	0			
Hamman Doley	300	0	0	600	0	0
UNREVENUED WORK—						
For Sundry Weighments and Measurements taken during the month of June 1920, not charged at date	...	...	...	22,607	15	6
Cash—						
With Bank of Bengal	9,346	3	7			
In hand	404	9	1	9,750	12	8
TOTAL Rs.	...	...	...	6,04,207	9	8

We beg to report that we have audited the Balance Sheet of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, "Liquor Measurers" Department dated 30th June 1920 and above set forth and have obtained all the information and explanations required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is drawn up in conformity with the law and exhibits a true and correct view of the state of the Department's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Department.

UYELOCK & LEWIS, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS,	Auditors,	H. M. HAYWOOD, Secretary.
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H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

LICENSED MEASUREMENTS DEPARTMENT,

PROVIDENT FUND.

Calcutta, 29th Sept. 1920.

THE TRUSTEES OF
THE PROVIDENT FUND.

DEAR SIRS,

We have the pleasure to enclose herewith the accounts of the Provident Fund for the year ending 30th June 1920.

Profit and Loss Account:—

There is a surplus on this account of Rs. 17,958-12-4

made up as follows.

	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
Interest on securities	Rs. 2211 4 2	
Perfected contributions	16763 11 6	
Perfected interest on contributions	1450 12 7	
Perfected subscriptions	145 12 0	
Perfected interest on subscriptions	750 7 9	
Perfected fund suspense account	1141 11 4	42,309 11 4
Loss on revaluation of securities	24,074 4 0	
Audit fees	260 0 0	
Sundry expenses	56 11 0	
	24,410 15 0	
	17,958 12 4	

The Surplus of Rs. 17,958-12-4 has been divided *pro rata* between the employees contributing to the fund on the basis of the balance standing at their credit on 30th June 1920. The surplus thus divided yields Rs. 4-1-50 per cent. on the amount at credit of each employee.

Subscriptions for the year were ... 35,080 14 6
 Subscriptions repaid during the year amounted to 44,441 7 11

Yours faithfully,

LOVELOCK & LEWIS,

Managers.

Loss on re-valuation on Securities

This account is made up as follows:—

Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Year.	Nominal values on 30th June 1920.						Increase.	Decrease.	
							Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Securities as on 30th June 1919 and as at present.															
80 Government Promises	21 2	0	0	0	0	1919	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1920	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1921	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1922	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1923	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1924	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1925	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1926	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1927	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1928	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1929	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1930	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1931	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1932	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1933	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1934	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1935	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1936	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1937	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1938	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1939	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1940	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1941	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1942	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1943	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1944	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1945	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1946	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1947	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1948	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1949	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1950	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1951	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1952	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1953	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1954	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1955	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1956	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1957	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1958	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1959	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1960	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1961	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1962	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1963	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1964	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1965	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1966	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1967	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1968	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1969	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1970	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1971	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1972	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1973	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1974	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1975	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1976	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1977	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1978	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1979	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1980	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1981	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1982	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1983	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1984	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1985	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1986	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1987	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1988	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1989	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1990	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1991	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1992	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1993	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1994	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1995	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1996	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1997	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1998	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	1999	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2000	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2001	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2002	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2003	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2004	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2005	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2006	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2007	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2008	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	0
100 Do.	21 2	0	0	0	0	2009	100	245	28	4	0	0	0	0	

[38a]
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PROVIDENT

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Dr.		Rs.		P.		Rs.		P.	
		CHARGES							
1929									
June 30		To loss on revaluation of securities	...	21,074	4	0			
		" Audit fees	...	250	0	0			
		" Sundry expenses	...	86	11	0			
		" Balance provisionally credited to cash	...				24,410	15	0
		credited in proportion to the amount	...						
		standing at his credit on the 30th	...						
		June 1929	...				17,858	62	4
		TOTAL Rs.	...				42,300	11	4

Calcutta, 25th Sept. 1929.

LOVERLOCK & LOWES,
Managers.

[38b]
LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

FUND.

for the year ending 30th June 1919.

Cr.

		Rs.		P.		Rs.		P.	
		INCOME.							
1919									
June 30		By Interest on securities	...			22,211	4	2	
		" Forfeited contributions and interest	...			16,114	8	1	
		" " subscriptions	...			902	2	0	
		" " fund suspense account	...			1,141	19	4	
		TOTAL Rs.	...			40,368	11	4	

R. H. CHILLY,
T. K. CUNNINGHAM, } Trustees.

[40a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

PROVIDENT

BALANCE SHEET as

LIABILITIES.	Rs.		Rs.	
	A.	P.	A.	P.
Employers' subscriptions ...	2,31,104	4 0		
Department's contribution to employes ...	2,31,300	11 11		
Reserve Fund ...	20,000	0 0		
Forfeited fund suspense account ...	10,497	6 0		
Retiring Bonus Fund ...			8,130	0 0
Carried over ...			5,01,032	6 11

[41a]

LICENSED MEASURERS DEPARTMENT.

FUND.

at 30th June 1920.

ASSETS.	Rs.		Rs.	
	A.	P.	A.	P.
3½ per cent. Government Promissory Notes Rs. 28,500-0-0 @ Rs. 69-4-0 ...	17,123	4 0		
Accrued interest on above ...	306	1 0		
5 per cent. Calcutta Municipal Debentures Rs. 4,000-0-0 @ Rs. 92-0-0 ...	3,950	0 0		
Accrued interest on above ...	46	14 0		
4 per cent. Calcutta Municipal Debentures Rs. 44,500-0-0 @ Rs. 75-0-0 Rs. 33,320-0-0 " 85,000-0-0 @ " 72-0-0 " 61,200-0-0 " 8,000-0-0 @ " 70-0-0 " 5,600-0-0 " 9,000-0-0 @ " 69-0-0 " 6,210-0-0 " 4,000-0-0 @ " 67-0-0 " 2,680-0-0	1,09,510	0 0		
Accrued interest on above ...	1,129	11 0		
4½ per cent. Calcutta Port Trust Debentures Rs. 1,500-0-0 @ Rs. 90-0-0 ...	1,350	0 0		
Accrued interest on above ...	18	7 3		
4 per cent. Calcutta Port Trust Debentures Rs. 5,500-0-0 @ Rs. 75-0-0 Rs. 5,075-0-0 " 1,000-0-0 @ " 74-0-0 " 740-0-0 " 41,000-0-0 @ " 73-0-0 " 29,930-0-0 " 4,000-0-0 @ " 72-0-0 " 4,320-0-0 " 8,500-0-0 @ " 70-0-0 " 5,950-0-0 " 44,500-0-0 @ " 68-0-0 " 30,300-0-0	76,270	0 0		
Accrued interest on above ...	1,185	2 0		
4 per cent. Bombay Improvement Trust Debentures Rs. 7,000-0-0 @ Rs. 80-4-0 ...	5,617	8 0		
Accrued interest on above ...	13	14 0		
4½ per cent. Rangoon Municipal Debentures Rs. 6,000-0-0 @ Rs. 93-0-0 Rs. 5,580-0-0 " 5,500-0-0 @ " 91-0-0 " 5,015-0-0 " 5,500-0-0 @ " 95-0-0 " 5,250-0-0	16,775	0 0		
Accrued interest on above ...	125	9 0		
4 per cent. Rangoon Port Trust Debentures Rs. 20,000-0-0 @ Rs. 80-0-0 ...	16,000	0 0		
Carried over ...	2,49,432	7 0		

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

BALANCE SHEET as

CALCUTTA, 25th Sept. 1920.

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Managers.

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

d 30th June 1920.

R. H. CHILD,
T. E. CUNNINGHAM, } Trustees.

[44a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

COMPASSIONATE

Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

1920	CHARGES.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
June 30	To Sundry expenses ...	...	...	...	6	4	0
	.. Balance being Profit for the year carried to Balance Sheet ...	...	...	...	270	10	1
	TOTAL Rs. ...	...	...	...	270	14	1

CALCUTTA, 29th Sept. 1919.

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

[45a]

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

FUND.

for the year ending 30th June 1920.

Cr.

1920	INCOME.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
June 30	By interest on Loans ...	...	...	...	244	1	1
	.. interest on Government paper ...	...	...	...	32	12	0
	TOTAL Rs. ...	...	...	...	276	14	1

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, } Auditors.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

[46a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

COMPASSIONATE

BALANCE SHEET as

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance at credit shown as per last statement	6,880	4	1			
Add Profit for the year	270	10	0	7,150	14	2
TOTAL Rs.				7,150	14	2

CALCUTTA, 25th Sept. 1920.

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

[47a]

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

FUND.

at 30th June 1919.

ASSETS.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Loan to Measurers				4,732	0	0
3½% Government Promissory Note Rs. 1,000/- @ 54-14-0 (cost price)				948	12	0
Accrued interest on above				13	10	0
Cash— With Bank of Bengal				1,465	7	5
TOTAL Rs.				7,150	14	2

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS. } Auditors.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

[48a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
BABUS' COMPASSIONATE

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Dr.

1920	CHARGES.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
June 30	To Sundry expenses	1	0	0	
	.. Balance being profit for the year carried to Balance Sheet	11	11	7	
	TOTAL Rs.	13	4	7	

CALCUTTA, 28th September 1920.

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent

[49a]

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

FUND.

for the year ending 30th June 1920.

Cr.

1920	INCOME.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
June 30	By interest on Loans	13	4	7	
	TOTAL Rs.	13	4	7	

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.

Auditors.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
BABUS' COMPASSIONATE.

BALANCE SHEET as

LIABILITIES.			Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Balance at credit shown as per last statement.			1,998	7	0			
Add Profit for the year	...		11	11	7	2,010	2	7
TOTAL RS.	...	.....				
						2,010	2	7

, 5th September 1920.

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

FUND.

at 30th June 1920.

ASSETS.		Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Loans to Babus					419	12	0
Cash—							
With Bank of Bengal					1,560	6	7
TOTAL Rs.					2,010	2	7

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Chartered Accountants.

Auditors.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

[52a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

MEASURERS'

Dr.

REVENUE ACCOUNT from

CHARGES.	Rs.		Rs.	
	A.	P.	A.	P.
Establishment	1	197	16	0
Tent	568	7	9	
Electric light and fans	185	15	0	
Billiards	164	6	0	
Miscellaneous Charges	108	13	0	
Stationery and Printing	80	0	6	
Library	41	2	0	
Uniforms	38	0	0	
Tennis	23	13	0	
Hockey	20	0	0	
Rent	6	0	0	
Balance transferred to Profit and Loss account			2,434	8
			1,975	0
TOTAL Rs.	4	409	0	7

CALCUTTA, 25th September 1920

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

[53a]

LICENSED MEASURERS DEPARTMENT.

CLUB.

1st July 1919 to 30th June 1920.

Cr.

INCOME.	Rs.		Rs.	
	A.	P.	A.	P.
Subscriptions			2,241	0
Dues			827	11
Wines			578	15
L. M. D. Contribution			900	0
Snacks			157	7
Refreshments			56	14
Football			37	8
Cricket			10	0
TOTAL Rs.			4,409	0

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Hong. Auditors.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

CALCUTTA, 25th September 1920.

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

to 30th June 1920.

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Honorary Auditors.

[56a]

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
MEASURERS

BALANCE SHEET

CAPITAL & LIABILITIES.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Capital—						
Balance at Credit as per last Statement ...	490	9	2			
Add—Profit for the year ...	2,580	5	11			
Liabilities—				3,070	15	1
For Goods supplied ...	.....	...	...	371	14	9
Security Deposit from Employee of the Club—						
Karimnagar Mali ...	.....	...	...	150	0	0
Calcutta Sporting Club—						
Amount subscribed by members...	.....	...	...	40	0	0
TOTAL RS.	...	...	...	3,632	13	10

CALCUTTA, 25th September 1920.

R. ELLIS,
Superintendent.

[57a]

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.
CLUB.

at 30th June 1920.

ASSETS.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Furniture—						
Stock of Furniture on hand	134	0	0
Stock—						
Stock at 30th June 1920	170	5	6
Outstanding—						
On Hony. Members account	40	11	0
Security Deposit Investment—						
Karimnagar Mali (Bank of Bengal Savings Bank)	150	0	0
Cash—						
With Alliance Bank of Simla, Ltd.	3,137	13	4
TOTAL RS.	3,632	13	10

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Hony. Auditors.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

Schedule of charges for weighing and measuring goods.
(Revised with effect from 1st July 1920.)

1. All charges shown in the subjoined list are subject to a surtax of 40 per cent. with the exception of the special fees under clauses 7, 8 and 9, which are net.
2. The minimum charge for any order to be executed at the Docks or Jetties, or in the Stream is Rs. 10.
3. The following are certain special charges :—
 - (a) Goods selected for arbitration and sealed by the Officers of the Department, Rs. 10 per lot.
 - (b) Piece-Goods measured and weighed for arbitration or survey purposes Rs. 10 per case.
 - (c) Gauging done in connection with weight Rs. 5 otherwise Rs. 10 for only Gauging.
 - (d) Coal, Iron and similar minerals in bulk As. 4 per ton.
 - (e) Hides and Skins :—

		Measurement or Weighment.		
Any figure up to 10%		Over 10% and up to 40%	Over 40% and up to 75%	Over 75% and up to 100%
		As. 9	As. 11	As. 12
Hides in Bales ...	As. 9	As. 10	As. 11	As. 12
Hides in Casks ...	6	7	8	9
Hide Cuttings ...	6	7	8	9
Hide Fleshings ...	6	7	8	9
Skins in Bales ...	3	3½	4	4½
Skins in Casks ...	3	3½	4	4½

per bale or cask calculated on the entire shipment.

4. If the weighment or measurement of percentages other than those shown in the annexed schedule of rates is required, special arrangements must be made with the Superintendent. Special arrangements must also be made for measuring coal, ballast and similar articles for stock-taking, or other purposes.

5. For night work (6 P.M. to 6 A.M.) a fee of Rs. 15 is charged for the attendance of each Measurer, the Department reserving the option of charging double weighment and measurement fees instead. If no work is done the attendance fee will be charged in each case.

6. For each Officer in attendance at Mills, Press Houses or Godowns, a minimum charge of Rs. 12 per day is levied.

7. For work at Mills, Press Houses or Godowns the following additional special charges are also levied :—

- (a) Within a limit of 20 miles of the Hooghly Bridge, for the attendance of each Officer Rs. 10.
- (b) Exceeding 20 and up to 30 miles in distance from the Hooghly Bridge, for the attendance of each Officer Rs. 15.
- (c) Distances beyond a limit of 30 miles to be a matter for special arrangement.

8. The following holiday fees are charged in addition to the schedule rates :—

- (a) On Sundays Rs. 10 for each Officer.
- (b) On New Year's Day, Good Friday, King Emperor's Birthday and Christmas Day Rs. 20 for each Officer.

9. When the attendance of an Officer before 8 A.M. or after 5-30 P.M. is required a fee of Rs. 1 per hour or part of an hour for each Officer will be charged.

10. The Department have the right of refusing the acceptance of any order.

ARTICLES.	Quantities.	Rate for weightment.		Rate for measurement.
		10 per cent.		7 per cent.
Aloes in bags ...	Per 100 bags ...	Rs. 0 12	P. 0	/2/6 per ton of 50 c.ft.
Alum ...	" " " "	0 12	0	do.
Anisid in bags ...	" " " "	0 12	0	do.
Arrowroot in cases ...	" case ...	0 2	0	do.
Asafetida in boxes ...	" box ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Baggage ...	" package ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Bag cargo, unenumerated ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Baled cargo do. ...	" bale ...	0 0 6	0	do.
Bark in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Beeswax in cases ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Belout in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Blood in bags (dry) ...	" " " "	0 12	0	do.
Bonemell in bags ...	" " " "	0 12	0	do.
Born in cases ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Born in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Bristles in cases ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Buttosh in chests ...	" chest ...	0 2 0	0	do.
Canvass in cases ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Cardamom in cases ...	" 100 bales ...	1 8	0	do.
Carpet in bales ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Caster Oil in cases ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Chalk ...	" " " "	0 1 0	0	do.
Chillies in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0 4	0	do.
China Root in bags ...	" ton ...	0 12	0	do.
Chirata in bales ...	" " bales ...	0 12	0	do.
Chussum in bales ...	" " " "	1 0	0	do.
Cigars in cases ...	" " " "	1 0	0	do.
Cloves in bags ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Cloves in cases ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Coal ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Cochinial in bags ...	" ton ...	0 4	0	do.
Coconuts in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Coconuts in bales ...	" " " "	0 12	0	do.
Coffee in bags ...	" " bales ...	1 0	0	do.
Coffee in hogheads ...	" " bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Coff in bales ...	" hoghead ...	0 4	0	do.
Coff fibres in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1 0	0	do.
Coke ...	" " " "	0 0	0	do.
Copper ...	" ton ...	0 6	0	do.
Copper Ore ...	" " " "	0 4	0	do.
Corpa in bags ...	" case ...	0 4	0	do.
Corral in bales ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Corral in cases ...	" " bales ...	1 0	0	do.
Cotton in bales ...	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.
Cotton waste in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1 0	0	/-1/2 per bale.
Covries in bags ...	" " " "	1 0	0	/-1/2 per bale.
Cutch in cases ...	" " bags ...	0 12	0	/-2/6 per ton of 50 c.ft.
Cutch in bags ...	" 100 cases ...	1 0	0	do.
Cylinders ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Dates in bags (dry) ...	" ton ...	0 4	0	do.
" " (wet) ...	" 100 bags ...	0 12	0	do.
Drugs in cases ...	" " " "	0 12	0	do.
	" case ...	0 1 0	0	do.

ARTICLES.	Quantities.	Rate for weightment.			Rate for measurement.
		10 per cent.			7 per cent.
		Rs.	As.	P.	
		0	1	0	
Dyestuff in cases ...	Per case ...				/-3/8 per ton of 50 c.ft.
Figures ...	" " " "	0	2	0	do.
Fire-bricks ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Fishing rods in bundles ...	" bundle ...	0	1	0	do.
Furniture ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Fuse ...	" case ...	0	4	0	do.
Garlic and onions in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Ghee in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Ginger in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Glass in boxes ...	" box ...	0	2	0	do.
Groundnuts in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Gum in bags ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Gummi in cases ...	" case ...	1	8	0	do.
Gummit in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	0	2	0	do.
Guts in cases ...	" case ...	1	0	0	/-1/8 per bale.
Hemp in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0	0	do.
Hides in bales ...	" bale ...	0	9	0	/-3/8 per bale.
Hides in cases ...	" case ...	0	6	0	/-1/2 per bale.
Hide Flusings in bales ...	" bale ...	0	6	0	do.
Hide Cuttings in bales ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	/-2/6 per ton of 50 c.ft.
Horns, Hoofs and Tapes in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
India Rubber in bags ...	" " " "	0	12	0	do.
India Rubber in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Indigo in chests ...	" chest ...	0	2	0	do.
Iron or other metals ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Jute in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0	0	/-1/8 per bale.
Jute in drums ...	" 100 drums ...	1	0	0	/-1/8 per drum.
Kut wood in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	/-2/6 per ton of 50 c.ft.
Lac in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Lac in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Lard in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Lard in cases ...	" case ...	0	12	0	do.
Limeced oak in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	4	0	do.
Lugs ...	" ton ...	0	8	0	do.
Machinery ...	" case ...	0	12	0	do.
Malama in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	4	0	do.
Manganese ore ...	" ton ...	1	0	0	do.
Mats in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	0	1	0	do.
Mica in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Miscellaneous packages ...	" package ...	0	2	0	do.
Molasses in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Molasses in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Mother o'-pearl in bags ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Mother o'-pearl in cases ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Myrsabolams in bags ...	" keg ...	0	1	0	do.
Nails in kegs ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Nutmegs in bags ...	" " " "	0	12	0	do.
Nux Vomica in bags ...	" " " "	0	12	0	do.
Oil cake in bags ...	" case ...	0	2	0	do.
Oil in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Opium in chests ...	" chest ...	0	2	0	do.

ARTICLES.	Quantities.	Rate for weighment.		Rate for meas- ure- ment.
		Rs.	As. P.	
Oxide ...	Per ton ...	0	4 0	1/26 per ton
Paint in drums ...	" drum ...	0	1 0	do.
Paper in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12 0	do.
Paper in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0 0	do.
Paper in cases ...	" case ...	0	1 0	do.
Piece-goods in bales ...	" bale ...	0	1 0	do.
Rags in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0 0	do.
Rape Cakes in bags ...	" bags ...	0	12 0	do.
Rattans in bundles ...	" bundle ...	0	1 0	do.
Red-wood ...	" ton ...	0	4 0	do.
Rice in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12 0	do.
Rice Dust in bags ...	" " ...	0	12 0	do.
Rope in coils ...	" coil ...	0	1 0	do.
Rosin in barrels ...	" barrel ...	0	2 0	do.
Safflower in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0 0	do.
Sage in cases ...	" case ...	0	1 0	do.
Saltpetre ...	" ton ...	0	4 0	do.
Salt ...	" " ...	0	4 0	do.
Shells in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12 0	do.
Shooks in bundles ...	" 100 bundles ...	1	0 0	do.
Silicate of Soda in barrels ...	" barrel ...	0	2 0	do.
Silk in cases ...	" case ...	0	1 0	do.
Skins in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0 0	do.
Skins in cases ...	" bale ...	0	3 0	1/3 per bale
Spirits in cases ...	" case ...	0	1 0	1/26 per ton
Spirits in cases ...	" case ...	0	1 0	1/26 per ton
Straw plait in cases ...	" case ...	0	2 0	do.
Sugar in bags ...	" ton ...	0	4 0	do.
Sugar in barrels ...	" " ...	0	4 0	do.
Sulphate of Soda in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12 0	do.
Sulphate of Copper in cases ...	" case ...	0	2 0	do.
Sulphur ...	" ton ...	0	4 0	do.
Talc in cases ...	" " ...	0	4 0	do.
Tamarinds in barrels ...	" barrel ...	0	2 0	do.
Tea in chests ...	" chest ...	0	0 3	do.
Tea Waste in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12 0	do.
Thread Waste in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0 0	1/6 per bale
Timber ...	" ton ...	0	4 0	1/26 per ton
Tinplates in boxes ...	" box ...	0	1 0	1/26 per ton
Tin Clippings in bundles ...	" 100 bundles ...	1	0 0	do.
Tobacco in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0 0	do.
Turneric in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12 0	1/26 per ton
Twine in bales ...	" bales ...	1	8 0	do.
Wax in bags ...	" bags ...	0	12 0	do.
Wool in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0 0	1/26 per bale
Yarn in bales ...	" " ...	1	0 0	1/26 per ton

CALCUTTA, 25th September 1920.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

LICENSED MEASURES DEPARTMENT.

At a Special General Meeting of the Chamber, held on the 31st October 1922,
the following Resolution was adopted:—

"That Rule 1 under the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule be altered as follows, in
accordance with the Resolution proposed and adopted by the mercantile community
at their meeting on the 3rd July 1922, and in accordance with the notice issued by
the Chamber of Commerce, on the 4th July 1923, under rule 23 of the Chamber",
viz. :—

- 1.—That where freight is payable by measurement, measurement be by
Sworn Measurers, to be placed under the direction of the Bengal
Chamber of Commerce.
- 2.—That measurement be taken at place of shipment, i.e., exporting
wharf, jetty or press-house where adjacent to place of shipment at
measuring Superintendent's discretion, but only whilst the bales
are actually being removed in course of shipment.
- 3.—That such measurement be final.
- 4.—That in cases of shut-out cargo or cargo transferred from one vessel
to another, original measurements to hold good.
- 5.—But that any cargo re-landed be re-measured.
- 6.—That measurement be taken at the largest part of the bale, inside the
lashing on the one side, and outside on the other.
- 7.—That the measurement of jute shipment without measurement shall
be entirely at shipper's risk, and that measurement be a matter of
special arrangement between the shippers and ship; further, that
all expenses connected with the measurement thereof be payable
by the shippers.
- 8.—That all cotton and other baled cargo arriving at the East Indian
Railway Company's terminus at Howrah for shipment direct by
boat be measured by the Sworn Measurers in the Railway Com-
pany's shed while being removed in actual course of shipment.
- 9.—That all baled cargo pressed at, or exported from, any of the Press-
houses to which a Sworn Measurer may be attached be treated in
the manner as jute, and as provided for in the second Resolution.
- 10.—That gunny bales packed at, or exported from, mills, within the limits
of the port, be also measured as described in the second Resolution.
- 11.—That gunny bales or other cargo exported by boat direct from outside
the limits of the port be measured by the Sworn Measurers on the
deck of the ship or alongside; but it shall be optional with outside
mills and press-houses to make arrangements with the Managing

Committee, on such terms as may be mutually agreed on for the attendance of Sworn Measurers at their ordinary shipping wharves for measurements in accordance with Rule 3.

12.—That all baled, cased, or other cargo not provided for in any of the foregoing Resolutions, and which at present is measured on this side under any of the tonnage schedules now in use in the Port, or which may require to be measured on this side, by a special arrangement made between shippers and ship, that all such cargo be measured on the Custom House Wharf (if for export by boat) or in the jetty sheds (if for shipment through the jetties) by the Sworn Measurers.

13.—That for the present the Sworn Measurers to be appointed to carry out this scheme be placed under the direction of a Representative Committee to be nominated by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

14.—That the charge for measurement be defrayed by the ship.

H. W. I. WOOD;

Secretary.

1st January 1884.

SCHEDULE.

Not less than seven per cent. to be measured if the bales have been pressed in 400 lbs. press boxes; but where bales pressed in 500 lbs. press boxes are also included in the lot, the percentage must be taken proportionately. All crooked or badly-pressed bales shall be objected to for measurement, and the Measurer shall cause all such bales to be returned to the Press-house, having previously ripped open the lashings in such a way as to cause them to be re-pressed; but if Press-houses elect to have them shipped, a fair percentage of all such bales must be measured. Measurement to be taken at the largest part of the bale inside the lashing on the one side and outside on the other. In taking the length and breadth, the measurement of one bale shall be with ticket upwards and of another with the ticket downwards.

Not less than seven per cent. to be measured of each assortment, and the measurement must be taken of the surface and not over the hoop binding. In small lots up to 50, not less than five bales are to be measured.

Not less than five per cent. of each assortment to be measured.

Not less than five per cent. of each assortment and size to be measured.

Five to ten per cent. to be measured.

Jute.
" Cuttings.
" Rejections.
" Thread Waste.
" Rope Ends.
Gunny Cuttings.
Cotton.
Hemp.
Safflower.
Tobacco Leaf and all other goods packed in bales bound with rope lashing.

Cotton.
Gunny Cloth.
" Bags.
Piece-goods.
Twist and all other goods packed in bales bound with hoops.

Indigo.
Shellac.
Button Lac.
Lacdyo.
Tea.
Piece-goods and all other goods packed in cases.

Hides.
Skins.

Fishing Rods.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

PROVIDENT FUND.

(As amended to 1st of July 1920.)

1. These Rules and Regulations shall take effect as from the 1st day of January 1899.

2. "Department" shall be and include the members of the Committee, for the time being, of the Licensed Mensurers Department of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

"Managers" shall be the persons or person in whom the management of the Fund shall, for the time being, be vested as hereinafter provided.

"Trustees" shall be and include the Trustees of the Fund, for the time being, appointed as hereinafter provided.

"Salary" comprises only the fixed monthly salary received by each employee from the Department and does not include any allowance, bonus, commission, or other remuneration or profit whatever, derived by any employee by any means outside his fixed ascertained salary.

3. The management of the Fund shall, subject to the general supervision and control of the Department, be vested in the members, for the time being, constituting the firm of Messrs. Lovelock and Lewes, Chartered Accountants, or such other person or persons as the Department may, from time to time, at its uncontrolled discretion appoint, and the necessary expenses of management, including the remuneration of the Managers (to be, from time to time, agreed on by the Managers and the Department), shall be borne by, and be a charge on, the Fund.

4. The Committee of the Licensed Mensurers Department shall appoint, annually, two Trustees of the Fund, both of whom shall be members of the Committee. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the course of any year, the Committee shall appoint one of their number to fill the vacancy for the remainder of such year.

5. Every employee of the Department in the service of the Department in receipt of a salary of not less than thirty-five rupees

monthly who was in the service of the Department as on 1st January 1899, or who shall join the service of the Department on or after that date, shall submit to these Rules and Regulations, and every such employee shall sign an Agreement (in the form annexed to these Rules and Regulations) to become a member of the Fund.

6. As and from the 1st day of July 1920 every member of the Fund shall subscribe a sum equal to 8½ per cent. on the amount of his salary in respect of each month.

7. The Department shall in any manner it may think most convenient, from time to time, deduct from any sum payable by them to any member whether by way of salary, or otherwise, such sum as may be required to pay any subscription due from him to the Fund, and shall, from time to time, pay over to the Managers all sums so deducted by them.

8. The subscriptions of any member absent on leave or furlough shall, during the period of such absence, be assessed on the salary allowed during such absence, but any member shall be at liberty, subject to the consent of the Department, to subscribe on the full amount of his salary, if desired, provided notice in writing of such desire shall have been given by him to the Department prior to the due date for payment of salary next after such member shall have obtained leave or furlough.

9. Deleted, 28th July 1910.

10. For and in respect of each complete year ending with the 30th day of June the Department shall contribute to the Fund a sum equal to the aggregate amount of the subscriptions of the members for such year.

11. The Managers shall, from time, to time, pay into the Bank of Bengal at Calcutta, or any other Bank at Calcutta sanctioned by the Department, to the credit of an account to be opened in the names of the Trustees, all moneys received by the Managers after payment thereof of the expenses of management. All moneys to the credit of such account shall be dealt with only in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, and all or any portion of such moneys shall be withdrawn from such account only by cheques bearing the signatures of the two Trustees in addition to the signature of the Secretary of the Department.

12. All moneys not immediately required for the purposes of the Fund shall be, from time to time, invested by the Trustees at their discretion in any of the following securities, that is to say, any of the rupee or sterling securities of the Government of India, or the securities of the Government of Great Britain or any securities, the interest on which is or shall be guaranteed by the Government of India or in the Bonds, Debentures or Securities of, or issued by, any public, municipal or local body or authority in India or in the fully paid-up stock or shares of any of the Presidency Banks in India, or in the Mortgage Debentures of any Joint Stock Company of limited liability having paid up share Capital, the par value whereof exceeds the nominal amount of any debentures issued by such Company, and on the ordinary share capital of which an average dividend of 10% has been paid for five years prior to the date of the investment, or on the mortgage debentures of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce or on fixed deposit with or loan to the Bank of Bengal, Allahabad Bank, Limited, Alliance Bank of Simla, Limited, Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Mercantile Bank of India, Limited or the National Bank of India, Limited, with power for the Trustees at their discretion from time to time to vary or transmute such investments into or for others of any nature hereinbefore authorised.

13. The Trustees shall, from time to time, upon the written requisition of the Managers by a sale of the investments standing in their name or of a sufficient part thereof or by a loan on the security of the same, raise such sum or sums as may be required for the purposes of these Rules and Regulations.

14. All sums that may, under the provisions of rule 10, be contributed in any year to the Fund shall on, or as soon as may be, after the 30th day of June in each year, be paid by the Department to the Trustees and, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained, be credited by the Managers to the members' respective accounts.

15. On, or as soon as may be after, the 30th day of June in each year, the Managers shall prepare an account showing the amount available on that date for division among the members arising from the interest accrued on securities, any sums allocated or forfeited to the Fund under these Rules and Regulations, and all

other moneys (if any) that should properly be brought into account. They shall ascertain and fix the market value, as on the said 30th June, of the total net investments and securities held by or belonging to the Fund, including interest up to the same day on any securities on which interest is usually calculated on sale or transfer thereof, and after deducting payments made therefrom, they shall forthwith debit or credit the account, as the case may be, with the difference between the cost according to the books of the Fund and the then market value (as so fixed and ascertained as aforesaid) of the said investments and securities.

After debiting the account with all expenses of management the Managers shall subject to the provisions hereinafter contained debit or credit each member in proportion to the amount standing to his credit on each 30th June (in respect of subscriptions and interest thereon) with his share of the balance of such account.

16. A statement of account of each member shall be made up to the 30th June of each year, and each member shall be required to certify in writing upon such account that the amount therein shown, as standing to his credit, is correct.

17. Except, as is by these Rules and Regulations expressly provided, no member, or any person or persons on his behalf, in respect of his interest in the Fund, shall be entitled to claim any payment of money to him or them.

18. On the death of any member while in the service of the Department the Managers shall subject to these rules pay to his executors, or administrators, or to the grantee of a Succession Certificate the amount standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 30th day of June preceding such death, and shall also pay to his executors, or administrators, or to the grantee of a Succession Certificate, the amount in full of his paid-up subscription for the then current year.

19. On the voluntary resignation or retirement of any member from the service of the Department at the expiration of his term of employment or previous thereto with the written sanction of the Department and without the existence of any cause justifying his dismissal, the Manager shall pay to him the aggregate amount subscribed by him to the Fund and the amount (if any) standing to his credit for interest thereon and shall, in respect of the balance

standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 30th day of June preceding such resignation or retirement, pay to him one twentieth part of such balance for each completed year of service and the balance if any of all moneys then standing to his credit in the books of the Fund shall, notwithstanding the provision of rule 14, be forthwith forfeited to the use of the Fund and shall be dealt with accordingly.

20. In case of any member becoming permanently incapacitated owing to injury sustained whilst in the service of the Department, or in case of resignation or retirement with the previous written sanction of the Department of any member owing to illness, old age, or any other reason considered adequate by the Department and so certified in writing by them, the Managers shall (subject to the provisions of these Rules) pay to such incapacitated, resigning, or retiring member the amount standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 30th day of June preceding such incapacity, resignation, or retirement, and also (subject as aforesaid) the full amount of his paid-up subscriptions for the then current year.

21. If any member shall be dismissed from or shall, previous to the expiration of his term of employment without the written sanction of the Department first obtained, retire from the service of the Department, the Managers shall (subject to these Rules and in particular notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 14) pay to him the aggregate amount only subscribed by him to the Fund, without interest, and the balance, if any, of all moneys then standing to his credit in the books of the Fund shall (subject as aforesaid), upon such dismissal or retirement, be forfeited to the use of the Fund and shall be dealt with accordingly: Provided also that the Managers may at any time, at the discretion of the Department, pay to any such dismissed or retiring member the amount to which he would have been entitled under Rule 19, if he had not been dismissed and had voluntarily retired from the service of the Department either at the expiration of his term of employment or previous thereto with the written sanction of the Department.

22. The Department shall have a first and paramount charge upon the amount, from time to time, standing to the credit of each member and upon all other moneys of the Fund in or to which he may be interested or entitled for and in respect of all losses, damages, costs, and expenses, which the Department may at any

time pay, sustain, or be put to, by reason of any act of embezzlement, or default of or by such member and the amount, from time to time, standing to the credit of each member, and all such other moneys as aforesaid shall be deemed and treated as a deposit made by him with the Department as security for his fidelity and be dealt with accordingly; and in the event of any claim arising by the Department against any member under this rule, the same shall be paid, so far as the funds in which such member shall be interested shall extend, by the Fund to the Department on the written requisition of the Committee of the Department, and such member shall forfeit all right and interest thereto and therein.

23. Deleted 1st July 1920.

24. In all cases wherein a certificate shall be required of the amount of the balance standing in the books of the fund to the credit of a deceased member, for the purpose of obtaining free of stamp duty a grant of probate or Letters of Administration or Succession Certificate or for any other purpose, such certificate shall be in the following form:—

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LICENSED MEASURERS DEPARTMENT
PROVIDENT FUND.

It is hereby certified that the balance standing in the books of the Provident Fund of the Licensed Measurers Department, Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to the credit of.....
of..... on the.....
day of..... was Rupees.....
Dated this..... day of..... 19.....
Managers.

25. No member shall be entitled to transfer or assign, whether by way of security or otherwise howsoever, his interest or any part thereof in the Fund, and no such transfer or assignment shall be valid, and the Managers, Trustees, or Department shall not recognise or be bound by notice to them respectively, of any such transfer or assignment, and all moneys standing in the books of the Fund to the credit of the member so transferring or assigning his interest as aforesaid shall, notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules and Regulations, forthwith be forfeited as from the date of such transfer or assignment, to the use of the Fund, and be dealt with accordingly; and further, if any prohibitory order or attachment, or process of a Civil Court, be served upon the Trustees, or the Department, or the Managers, or any of them, or any person on their behalf, by which any moneys standing to the credit of any member in the books of the Fund shall be attached, or be ordered to be paid into a Civil Court, or be ordered to be withheld from such member, such moneys shall notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules and Regulations forthwith be forfeited to the use of the Fund, and be dealt with accordingly.

And if any member shall file his petition in insolvency or be adjudged bankrupt, or if he or his property, shall otherwise become amenable to any law relating to bankruptcy or insolvency in India, Great Britain or elsewhere or if he shall make any arrangement or composition with his creditors, his interest and every part thereof in the Fund shall notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules and Regulations thereupon cease and determine and all moneys then standing and which thereafter might during the period of his bankruptcy or insolvency stand to the credit of the member in the books of the Fund shall forthwith be likewise forfeited to the use of the Fund and be dealt with accordingly.

25A. The Department shall be at liberty in the uncontrolled discretion if they shall so think fit at any time after the forfeiture of any sum or sums standing to the credit of any member made under any of the foregoing rules to give such forfeited moneys or any part thereof, and in any manner which they may deem desirable, to or for the benefit of any such member, his wife, children or relations and the Managers shall with such moneys accordingly on the written requisition or instructions of the Department.

25B. If any member shall become a lunatic or of unsound mind or his mental incapacity shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Department, then, unless and until a Committee to the estate of such lunatic shall be duly constituted, the Department shall be at liberty to withhold and retain any moneys so standing as aforesaid to the credit of such member: Provided that the Department shall be at liberty, if the Department in their uncontrolled discretion shall so think fit, at any time thereafter, to give such moneys or any part thereof for the benefit of any such member or his wife, children or relations, and the Managers shall deal with such moneys accordingly on the written requisition of the department.

26. It shall be lawful for the Department, from time to time and at any time hereafter, in writing under their hands, to alter, vary, modify, remake, rescind, or add to these Rules and Regulations, or any of them, but so that no such alteration, variation, modification, remaking, rescission, or addition shall affect the rights of any member with respect to the Fund.

27. If any dispute shall, at any time, arise between the Managers or the Trustees, for the time being, of the Fund on the one hand and any member or any executor, administrator, or next-of-kin of any member or any person claiming as such, next-of-kin, in any other capacity, on the other hand, regarding these Rules and Regulations and the interpretation thereof, or any matter arising thereout or connected therewith, then and in every such case the matter in dispute shall be referred in writing to two arbitrators, and such reference shall be deemed to be a submission to arbitration within the Indian Arbitration Act, 1899, or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof, for the time being in force, the provisions whereof shall apply as far as applicable.

[74a]

I hereby declare that I have read the foregoing Rules and Regulations of the Provident Fund of the Licensed Measures Department of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and that I agree to be bound by them.

Dated the.....day of.....19.....

Name in full.....

Date of birth.....

Nature of appointment.....

Date of joining service.....

Salary per month, Rupees.....

Signature.....

Witness.....

REPORT ROYAL EXCHANGE



ROYAL EXCHANGE, CALCUTTA.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 1920.

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the provisions of rule 7 of the rules of the Royal Exchange, we have now the honour to submit a report on its working for the year ended 31st December 1920.

2. During the year one individual member died, two were absent, one firm member resigned, two individual and four firm members closed business, and four individual and nine firm members were elected, while one individual member re-joined. At the end of the year there were upon the Exchange Register 164 firm and 22 individual members. A list of the firms and individual subscribers on the 31st December 1920 is appended to this Report.

3. We submit a balance sheet and revenue account for the year ended 31st December 1920, which has been prepared, as usual, by Messrs. Lovelock and Lewes, Accountants to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. The surplus of income over expenditure shewn in the Revenue Account is Rs. 2,234-6-5 against Rs. 708-15-0 in the year 1919.

(78a)

In accordance with the provisions of rule 21 of the Rules of the Exchange, this amount has been transferred to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce as a contribution towards the payment of the Debentures issued by the Chamber, and of the interest thereon.

We are, GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servants,

A. R. MURRAY, *President*,
R. M. WATSON SMYTH, *Vice-President*,
C. A. CARR
G. S. E. COLVILLE
H. HARRIS
GEOFFREY MARTIN
D. L. MILLAR
I. G. TREDAWAY
L. WALKER

Members.

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

CALCUTTA,

5th February 1921.

(79a)

General Exchange, Calcutta.

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st December 1920.

LIABILITIES.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	ASSETS.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
SECURITY CREDITORS—			OUTSTANDING—		
Sundries	Subscriptions .. ..	...	...
			Cash—		
BENGLAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—			At Bank of Bengal	3,750 5 3	...
Contribution Account	In hand	300 11 11	...
					4,057 1 2
TOTAL RS.	TOTAL RS. ....	...	4,347 1 2

Examined and found correct.
LOVELOCK & LEVIES,
Chartered Accountants.

Auditors.

A. R. MURRAY,
President.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

CALCUTTA, 5th February 1921.

(80a)

Royal Ex-

REVENUE ACCOUNT for the

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
TO RENT	18,000	0	0
" MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION TO BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	6,000	0	0
" ESTABLISHMENT	6,580	6	0
" RESTAURANT LICENSE	200	0	0
" BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS	3,180	10	1
" STAMPS	37	6	6
" PRINTING AND STATIONERY	224	6	3
" TELEPHONE SUBSCRIPTION	680	0	3
" PETTY CHARGES	1,989	2	6
" ELECTRIC FANS AND LIGHTS, ETC.	3,519	2	6
" COST OF TICKETS FOR MEMBERS	331	6	0
 SURPLUS INCOME over expenditure transferred to Bengal Chamber of Commerce Contribution Account (Rule 21, Royal Exchange)	2,234	0	5
 TOTAL Rs.	42,989	0	0

CALCUTTA,
 The 3rd February 1921. }
 Examined and found correct.
 LOVELOCK & LEWES,
 Chartered Accountants. } Auditors.

(81a)

change, Calcutta.

year ended 31st December 1920.

INCOME.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
By ENTRANCE FEES	500	0	0
" SUBSCRIPTIONS	42,489	0	0
 TOTAL Rs.	42,989	0	0

A. R. MURRAY,
 President.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
 Secretary.

(82a)

Royal Exchange, Calcutta.

COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1920.

President:

THE HON'BLE SIR ALEXANDER MURRAY, C.B.E.,
MESSRS. THOMAS DUFF & Co., LD.

Vice-President:

MR. R. M. WATSON SMYTH, M.L.C.,
MESSRS. TURNER, MORRISON & Co., LD.

Members:

MR. C. A. CARR,
MESSRS. PLACE, SIDDSONS & GOUGH.

MR. G. S. E. COLVILLE,
MESSRS. J. THOMAS & CO.

MR. D. L. MILLAR,
MESSRS. D. L. MILLAR & CO.

MR. I. G. TREDAWAY,
MESSRS. SINCLAIR & CO.

MR. H. HARRIS,
Agent, CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA & CHINA.

MR. GEOFFREY MARTIN,
MESSRS. PIGOTT, CHAPMAN & CO.

MR. L. WALKER,
MESSRS. WALKER, GOWARD & CO.

(83a)

LIST OF MEMBERS AS ON 31st DECEMBER 1920.

FIRMS.

- Allen Brothers & Co., (India) Ltd.,
(9)
Alliance Bank of Simla, Ltd., (3)
Anderson, Wright & Co., (4)
The Angus Co., Ltd., (12)
Apar & Co., (1)
Alex. A. Apear, (Jr.), (2)
T.S. Apear & Co., (6)
Ankiel Bros., (1)
Asiatic Petroleum Co., (India)
Ltd., (13)
G. Atherton & Co., (4)
W. Atkinson & Co., (3)
W. & T. Avery, Ltd., (2)

Balmer, Lawrie & Co., (6)
Barry & Co., (2)
Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta)
Ltd., (2)
Begg, Dunlop & Co., (3)
Sir Jacob Behrens & Sons, (1)
Bengal Coal Co., Ltd., (2)
Bengal-Nagpur Railway Co., Ltd.,
(3)
Bengal Telephone Co., Ltd., (9)
Berthoud & Co., (2)
Bird & Co., (14)
Birkmyre Brothers, (9)
Blackie & Co., (8)
Bombay Co., Ltd., (3)
Bollen & Co., (2)
Burb Brothers, (3)
Burn & Co., Ltd., (4)
W. J. Burn & Co., (1)

Calcutta Improvement Trust, (3)
Calcutta Port Commissioners, (38)

"Capital," Ltd., (3)
H. D. Cartwright & Co., (7)
Chartered Bank of India, Australia
& China, (3)
S. C. Chunder & Co., (2)
Cobbold & Co., (3)
Commercial Union Assurance Co.,
Ltd., (4)
Comptoir De L'Industrie Du Jute
(C. I. J.), (2)
W. S. Cresswell & Co., (3)

A. Damiano & Co., (2)
Demetrius Brothers, (2)
John Dickinson & Co., Ltd., (3)
W. F. Ducat & Co., (3)
Thomas Duff & Co., Ltd., (2)
J. C. Duffus & Co., Ltd., (2)
A. B. Duigennan, Ltd., (3)
Duncan Brothers & Co., (4)

East Indian Railway Co., (3)
Eastern Bank Ltd., (4)
Eastern Bengal Railway, (5)
D. Easton & Co., (3)
Ellerman's Arracan Rice &
Trading Co., Ltd., (2)
"Englishman," Ltd., (3)

A. W. Figgis & Co., (5)
James Finlay & Co., Ltd., (24)

G. A. Georgiadi & Co., (2)
Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co., (25)
Gladstone, Wyllie & Co., (6)
C. T. Godfrey & Co., (5)
Graham & Co., (26)
Gramophone Co., Ltd., (2)

FIRMS—contd.

- Greaves, Cotton & Co., (2)
 P. E. Guzdar & Co., (3)
 W. Haworth & Co., (4)
 F. W. Heilgers & Co., (10)
 George Henderson & Co., (21)
 W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., (3)
 Alfred Herbert, (India) Ltd., (3)
 Hoare, Miller & Co., (4)
 Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd., (3)
 Imperial Tobacco Co. of India, Ltd., (3)
 Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Co., Ltd., (3)
 Innes, Watson & Co., (4)
 James Luke & Sons, (4)
 Jardine, Skinner & Co., (27)
 Jessop & Co., Ltd., (2)
 A. M. John & Co., (1)
 Ivan Jones, Ltd., (3)
 Kestlewell, Bullen & Co., (3)
 Kilburn & Co., (3)
 Killick, Nixon & Co., (3)
 King Brothers, (6)
 John King & Co., Ltd., (3)
 Marcus Koch & Co., (1)
 Landale & Clark, Ltd., (10)
 Landale & Morgan, (7)
 Linton, Molesworth & Co., Ltd., (4)
 Lipton, Ltd., (2)
 Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Co., Ltd., (3)
 London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., (5)
 Lovelock & Lewes, (3)
 H. V. Low & Co., Ltd., (4)
 Lyall, Marshall & Co., (3)
 Ludlow Jute Co., Ltd., (11)
 Mackenzie, Lyall & Co., (3)
 J. Mackillican & Co., (2)
 Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., (3)
 Macneill & Co., (4)
 A. & J. Mair & Co., Ltd., (2)
 A. M. Mair & Co., (5)
 S. Manasseh & Sons, (3)
 W. G. Martelli & Co., (1)
 Martin & Co., (4)
 Massey & Co., (6)
 Mather & Platt, Ltd., (7)
 E. T. McCluskie & Co., (3)
 McGregor & Balfour, Ltd., (1)
 McLeod & Co., (3)
 McVicar & Co., (2)
 Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., (3)
 Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., (3)
 E. Meyer & Co., Ltd., (3)
 D. L. Millar & Co., (3)
 Mitani Bussan Kaisha, Ltd., (6)
 Mornan & Co., (14)
 Morgan, Walker & Co., (4)
 Mytton, Wallace & Co., (2)
 Joaquim Nahapiet & Co., (3)
 National Bank of India, Ltd., (2)
 New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd., (2)
 Normans, Ross & Co., (4)
 F. C. Pallachi & Co., (2)
 Perman & Hynd, (9)
 Petrocchino Brothers, (3)
 Petrie, Marshall & Co., (3)

FIRMS—conclld.

- Pigott, Chapman & Co., (14)
 Place, Siddons & Gough, (8)
 Planters' Stores & Agency Co., Ltd., (3)
 Poppe, Delius & Co., (10)
 Ralli Brothers, (20)
 J. Reed, (3)
 Remington Typewriter Co., (India) Ltd., (3)
 Royal Insurance Co., Ltd., (3)
 Salinas Hermanos, Ltd., (1)
 Sanday & Co., (3)
 A. N. Sassoon & Co., (2)
 David Sassoon & Co., Ltd., (4)
 E. D. Sassoon & Co., (3)
 James Scott & Sons, (3)
 Senda, Barnet, & Co., (4)
 Shaw, Wallace & Co., (41)
 Duncan Sherriff & Co., (3)
 R. Sim & Co., Ltd., (7)
 Sinclair & Co., (8)
 Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd., (11)
 Skippers & Co., Ltd., (4)
 Smith, Forrester & Co., (2)
 South British Insurance Co., Ltd., (2)
 Standard Oil Co. of New York, (3)
 R. Steel & Co., Ltd., (3)
 Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., (2)
 T. M. Thaddeus & Co., (2)
 J. Thomas & Co., (29)
 Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd., (21)
 United States Steel Products Co., (3)
 Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., (3)
 Walker, Goward & Co., (4)
 W. J. Walker & Co., (2)
 G. Ward & Co., (4)
 Williamson, Magor & Co., (2)
 Herbert Whitworth, Ltd., (3)
 Windram & Co., (2)
 Andrew Yale & Co., (9)
 Ziffo & Co., (2)

INDIVIDUALS

- Ezra Arakie.
 C. G. Baxter.
 H. W. Brady.
 John S. Brodie.
 R. Forbes-Smith.
 C. O. Gregory.
 G. I. M. Gregory.
 A. R. Gubby.
 David Wooster King.
 D. C. Mangos.
 J. S. Manook.
 D. J. Parsons.
 Geo. S. Pelly.
 F. W. Pettitt.
 P. Pogoso.
 A. Ronald.
 R. H. M. Rustonjee.
 J. R. Saklat.
 G. A. Sophor.
 W. T. Stoddart.
 P. O. Vertannes.
 P. Warburton.

ROYAL EXCHANGE RULES

1. The Royal Exchange is intended for the use of members only, in accordance with the rules and regulations hereinafter set out.
2. The election of members shall be vested in the Committee, and the elections shall be by ballot or otherwise at the ordinary monthly meetings. The Committee may elect a limited number of honorary members.
3. The Royal Exchange shall be managed by a Committee of nine persons. The President and Vice-President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce shall be *ex-officio* President and Vice-President of the Committee of the Royal Exchange. The members of the Royal Exchange shall elect seven members of the Committee, including—one merchant, one banker, one stock broker, one exchange broker, one produce broker and one freight broker. Failing such members offering themselves, others will be eligible.
4. The election of members of the Committee, under the preceding rule, shall take place in February of each year; and the new Committee shall come into office from the first March next ensuing after the election. The election shall be by ballot.
5. The exchange shall be open to members from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. except on Saturdays, when it shall be open from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. The holidays to be observed by the Royal Exchange shall be the holidays declared by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.
6. The Committee shall have power from time to time, besides electing members, to make bye-laws, fix the rates of entrance fee and subscription, and, generally, to conduct the business of the Royal Exchange and of the Restaurant attached thereto, as an Association working in connection with the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.
7. The Committee shall submit, in February of each year, a report of the working of the Royal Exchange to the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.
8. No person shall be allowed to attend the Exchange without having previously paid his entrance fee and subscription.

*9. The subscription to the Royal Exchange shall be for the present :—

- Rs. 15 per mensem for every firm or company admitting up to three representatives; and an extra charge of Rs. 5 per mensem for every additional representative. A payment of Rs. 40 per mensem by a firm or company shall secure the right of membership for the whole of their European staff, but the names of those members of the staff, who are to exercise the privilege of attending the Exchange, must be sent in to the Secretary, who will furnish each one with a ticket, as under rule 10.
 - Rs. 8 per mensem for every individual not established under the style of a firm or company.
- For *mofussil* members, the subscription shall be as follows :—
- Rs. 6 per mensem for every firm or company admitting up to three representatives; and an extra charge of Rs. 3 per mensem for every additional representative.
 - Rs. 3 per mensem for each individual not established in the *mofussil* under the style of a firm or company.
- The above subscriptions shall be collected monthly, as from the 1st of July 1918.
10. Each subscriber, on payment of his subscription, will be furnished with a ticket, which must be produced on demand. Any subscriber refusing to show his ticket, when so demanded, shall be liable to refusal of admission at the discretion of the Master.
 11. Any person creating a disturbance in the Royal Exchange or wilfully interfering with the comfort of the subscribers, shall be liable to removal from the list of members.
 12. Members may use the reading-room and lounge of the Exchange, but shall not remove any papers, books, maps or documents of any kind from the premises.
 13. Members may have the use of Committee rooms set apart for the purpose of public meetings. Application for the use of rooms will be dealt with according to priority.

* As adopted by a Special General Meeting of the Royal Exchange held on the 7th April 1918.

14. Public companies, and associations not members of the Royal Exchange, may have the use of Committee rooms for the purposes of public meetings of shareholders, or members upon payment of a fee to be determined by the Committee, and to be deposited at the time of making the application.

15. No assistant to a firm or company shall be eligible for election unless one of his principals is a member. A member elected as an assistant to a firm or company, and who shall cease to be an assistant of such firm or company, shall thereby cease to be a member, but may be afterwards elected as an assistant, under the rule, or as a principal.

16. The name of any member who shall neglect, after written notice, to pay his subscription within two months after it is due, shall be posted in the room, and if the subscription shall remain unpaid for a further term of two weeks, shall cease to be a member.

Any individual member, who may be absent from Calcutta for more than three consecutive calendar months, shall be entitled to claim exemption from payment of his subscription during such absence.

17. The Committee shall have power to call a General Meeting of the members of the Exchange at their discretion. They shall call a General Meeting upon receiving a requisition signed by fifteen members. At meetings called by requisition only the business mentioned in the requisition shall be transacted.

18. All proceedings of the Committee shall be subject to confirmation at the next ensuing General Meeting.

RESTAURANT.

19. Complaints in any way affecting the Restaurant shall be made to the Committee in writing.

VISITORS.

20. Strangers visiting Calcutta and non-residents of Calcutta may be introduced by any subscriber for ten consecutive days, and may, on payment of one-half the subscription, be elected temporary members for a period of not less than one month and not more than three months, and not oftener than once a year. Subscribers introducing strangers must enter the names of the persons introduced in a book provided for that purpose.

GENERAL.

21. After defraying the necessary expenses, any balance of the funds of the Royal Exchange shall be made over to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce as a contribution towards the payment of the debentures issued by the Chamber, and to the interest thereon.

22. The Secretary and the Assistant Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce shall be *ex-officio* Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Royal Exchange.

23. The Assistant Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce shall be *ex-officio* Master of the Royal Exchange, and all complaints and suggestions shall, in the first instance, be made to him.

24. A List of newspapers supplied to rooms shall be exhibited in a conspicuous place in the reading-room, and the Committee may add others to the list, upon receiving a requisition from twenty-five members, showing that such additions would be desirable and useful.

25. No advertisement bills will be allowed to be posted in any of the rooms of the Exchange, or on the walls of the Exchange premises and no samples of goods shall be exhibited.

26. The rules, or any of them, may not be rescinded or altered, nor may new rules be made, unless by a resolution passed at a Special General Meeting, at which at least twenty-five members shall be present, and such resolution must be passed by a majority consisting of at least two-thirds of the number of votes given. Resolutions of at least two-thirds of the number of votes at once, and shall not need confirmation at any subsequent Special General Meeting.

By order,

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

ROYAL EXCHANGE

BY-LAWS

1. Newspapers and Books are not to be removed from the premises.

2. Any one found writing upon, or defacing, the walls or notice boards at the Exchange, or the books or newspapers in the reading-room, or otherwise injuring them, may be excluded for such time as the Committee may determine.

3. The Committee shall have power to close any part of the Royal Exchange, from time to time, on such occasions and for such time as they may deem necessary.

4. Any members having a suggestion to make as regards the papers kept in the Exchange or for adding thereto, shall address the Committee through the Master.

5. Members may use the reading-room for the purpose of taking notes or memoranda, or consulting works of reference available to members.

6. The Committee will supply " Royal Exchange Memorandum forms ", which are only to be used on the premises.

7. Tiffins will be supplied in the Restaurant according to a notice approved by the Committee and to be signed by the Master.

8. Wines and spirits will also be supplied at rates to be approved by the Committee.

9. The Restaurant shall be open for such hours as may, from time to time, be approved by the Committee.

10. The lessee of the Restaurant may supply dinners to members, to be given on the top flat; the rates for these dinners shall be a matter of arrangement between the lessee and the members concerned. When such dinners are given, the lessee shall pay to the Committee the sum of Rs. 4 for use of the rooms, cook-rooms, etc., on the top flat.

11. Disorderly conduct in the restaurant, or excess of any kind, shall be reported by the lessee to the Committee, through the Master, and shall be dealt with as the Committee may determine.

12. The lessee of the Restaurant shall not employ any person, the disapproval of whose conduct shall have been communicated to him by the Committee.

13. A Smoking-room will be provided on the top flat.

14. The Committee appeal to members to abstain from giving servants of the Exchange, or of the restaurant, any gratuities. The Committee lay stress upon this by-law.

15. The Broker's room is entirely private, and admission thereto is at the pleasure and discretion of the members of the room.

16. A room, or rooms will be set aside, on the top floor, where members may make a change of dress.

17. By arrangement with the Master, a room on the top flat may be reserved for private meetings.

18. Mofussil members may have their correspondence addressed to the care of the Master, Royal Exchange.

19. A list of newspapers supplied to the Royal Exchange shall be exhibited in a conspicuous place in the Reading-room.

By order of the Committee,

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

MEMORANDUM & ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

OF

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

1. The name of the Association is the **BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.**

2. The Registered Office of the Association will be situate at No. 1, Clive Street, Calcutta or at such other place in Calcutta as the Association may from time to time determine.

3. The objects for which the Association is established are—

- (1)—To promote and protect the trade, commerce and manufactures of India, and in particular the trade, commerce and manufactures of Calcutta.
- (2)—To watch over and protect the general commercial interests of India, or any part thereof, and the interests of persons engaged in trade, commerce or manufactures in India, and in particular in Calcutta.
- (3)—To consider all questions connected with trade, commerce and manufactures.
- (4)—To collect and circulate statistics and other information relating to trade, commerce and manufactures.
- (5)—To promote or oppose legislative and other measures affecting trade, commerce and manufactures.
- (6)—To adjust controversies between members of the Association.
- (7)—To arbitrate in the settlement of disputes arising out of commercial transactions between parties willing or agreeing to abide by the judgment and decision of the Association.
- (8)—To establish just and equitable principles in trade.
- (9)—To form a code or codes of practice to simplify and facilitate transaction of business.
- (10)—To maintain uniformity in rules, regulations, and usages of trade.
- (11)—To communicate with Chambers of Commerce and other mercantile and public bodies throughout the world and concert and promote measures for the protection of trade, commerce and manufactures, and persons engaged therein.

- (12)—To provide, regulate and maintain a suitable building or room, or suitable buildings or rooms, for a Commercial Exchange in Calcutta.
- (13)—To provide rooms and other facilities for holding and conducting sales of property, brokerage or commercial transactions, meetings of creditors, companies or arbitrators and other like matters.
- (14)—To establish and conduct in or in connection with any building or room erected, provided, regulated or maintained by the Association for the purposes aforesaid a residence for the members of the Association and others resorting to such building or room for the negotiation or transaction of business.
- (15)—To acquire by purchase, taking on lease, or otherwise, lands and buildings, and all other property, movable and immovable, with the Association, for the purposes thereof, may from time to time think proper to acquire, and in particular to acquire by purchase the premises Nos. 1 and 2, Clive Street, Calcutta, for such Commercial Exchange as mentioned in sub-section (12) and certain property on the south side of New China Bazar Street, and to carry out effect the contract already entered into between the Hon'ble Mr. J. L. Mackay, C.I.E., on behalf of the Association and the Liquidator of the new Oriental Banking Corporation, Ltd., and others for the purchase of the said several premises for the price or sum of Rs. 3,20,000.
- (16)—To sell, improve, manage, develop, exchange, lease or let, under-lease or sublet, mortgage, dispose of, turn to account or otherwise deal with all or any part of the property of the Association.
- (17)—To construct upon any premises acquired for the purposes of the Association any building or buildings for the purposes of the Association, and to alter, add to, or remove, any building upon such premises.
- (18)—To borrow or raise any moneys required for the purposes of the Association, upon such terms and in such manner and on such securities as may be determined, and in particular by the issue of debentures charged upon all or any of the property of the Association.
- (19)—To subscribe, to become a member of, and co-operate with, any other Association, whether incorporated or not, whose objects are altogether or in part similar to those of this Association, and to procure from, and

communicate to any such Association, such information as may be likely to forward the objects of this Association.

- (20)—To do all such other things as may be conducive to the extension of trade, commerce or manufactures, or incidental to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

4. The income and property of the Association, whosoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Association, as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to the persons who at any time are, or have been, members of the Association, or to any of them, or to any person claiming through any of them. Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Association, or to any member thereof, or other person employed by the Association, or to any member thereof, or other person employed for any services actually rendered to the Association, or the payment of interest on money borrowed from any member of the Association.

5. The fourth paragraph of this memorandum is a condition on which a license is granted by the local Government of Bengal to the Association, in pursuance of Section 26 of the Indian Companies' Act, 1882.

6. If any member of the Association pays or receives any dividend bonus, or other profit in contravention of the fourth paragraph of this Memorandum, his liability shall be unlimited.

7. Every member of the Association undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Association, in the event of the same being wound up during the time that he is member, or within one year afterwards, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Association contracted before the time at which he ceases to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up the same and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves such amount as may be required, not exceeding Rs. 50, or, in cases such amount as may be required, such other amount as may be required in pursuance of the last preceding paragraph of this Memorandum.

8. If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association, there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among, the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred by some other institution or institutions, having objects similar to those of the Association, to be determined by resolution passed by the objects of the Association, to be determined by the members of the Association at or before the time of dissolution, and members of the Association at or before the time of dissolution, and in default thereof by such Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

We, the several persons whose names and addresses are subscribed, are desirous of being formed into an Association in pursuance of this Memorandum of Association.

No.	NAMES, ADDRESSES AND DESCRIPTION OF SUBSCRIBERS.
1	JAS. L. MACKAY, 16, STRAND ROAD, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
2	P. PLAYFAIR, 5, LYON'S RANGE, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
3	JOHN A. RALLI, 9, CLIVE ROW, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
4	J. A. TOOMEY, 3, COUNCIL HOUSE STREET, CALCUTTA, <i>Bank Manager.</i>
5	JAS. TURNER, 3, CLIVE GHAT STREET, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
6	R. GARDINER, LT.-COL., R.E., EAST INDIAN RAILWAY HOUSE, CLIVE STREET, <i>Agent, E. I. Ry. Co.</i>
7	J. N. STUART, 108, CLIVE STREET, <i>Merchant.</i>
8	JAS. STEVENSON, 9, CLIVE STREET, <i>Merchant.</i>
9	N. H. T. BECKER, 2-3, CLIVE ROW, <i>Merchant.</i>

Dated the 20th day of June 1893.

Witness to the above
Signatures.

ELPHINSTONE JACKSON,
*Attended Clerk to R. L. Upton,
Solicitor, Calcutta.*

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

Adopted by Special Resolution of the Chamber passed and confirmed at Extraordinary General Meetings held on the 30th day of May, 1919, and the 20th day of June, 1919.

1. In these Articles, unless there be something in the subject or context inconsistent therewith—

"THE CHAMBER" means "The Bengal Chamber of Commerce" incorporated under Section 26 of the Indian Companies' Act, 1882.

"MEMBER" means a member of the Chamber.

"GENERAL MEETING" means a general meeting of the Chamber.

"THE PRESIDENT" means the President of the Chamber.

"THE VICE-PRESIDENT" means the Vice-President of the Chamber.

"THE COMMITTEE" means the Committee of the Chamber elected under these Articles.

"THE SECRETARY" means the Secretary to the Chamber.

"BRITISH SUBJECT" for the purposes of these Articles means:—

(a) Any person born within His Majesty's dominions and allegiance whose parents were natural-born or naturalised British subjects, provided that such naturalised parents have entirely renounced all allegiance to any foreign State.

(b) Any person born out of His Majesty's dominions whose parents were natural-born British subjects.

2. For the purpose of registration the Chamber is declared to consist of 300 members.

3. The Committee may, when they think fit, register an increase of members.

4. The Chamber is established for the purpose expressed in the Memorandum of Association.

MEMBERS.

5. There shall be three classes of members, namely, Chamber Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members.

6. Every individual, firm, joint-stock company or other corporation, respectively, who or which was a member of the Chamber

on the 28th day of February 1917, and has not ceased to be a member since that date shall *ipso facto* and without election be a Chamber Member of the Chamber.

7. Merchants, bankers, shipowners, representatives of commercial, railway and insurance companies, brokers and persons engaged in commerce, agriculture, mining or manufacture, and persons engaged in or connected with art, science or literature, who are British subjects shall be eligible for election as Chamber Members.

8. Every person not being a British subject similarly engaged or interested other than a subject of a State with which the British Empire was at war on the 1st January 1918, shall be eligible for election as an Associate Member.

9. Any firm engaged in commerce, agriculture, mining or manufacture and any joint-stock company or other corporation formed for any purpose or object connected with commerce, agriculture, mining or manufacture may be admitted as a member of the Chamber and the provisions of these Articles relating to persons being candidates for membership and to persons being members of the Chamber shall, where not excluded by the context, apply to firms, joint-stock companies and other corporations, *mutatis mutandis*, subject nevertheless to the following conditions, namely:—

- (a) Any firm, company or corporation of which three-fourths of the capital, in the case of a firm, shall belong to, or in the case of a company or corporation shall be represented by shares held directly by persons who are British subjects and of which the remaining one-fourth of the capital or any part thereof in the case of a firm shall not belong to, or in the case of a company or corporation shall not be represented by shares held or controlled directly or indirectly by persons who are subjects of a State with which the British Empire was at war on the 1st January, 1918, shall be eligible for admission as a Chamber Member.
- (b) Any other firm, company or corporation not being a firm, company or corporation of which a Partner, Director, Agent or Manager shall at the time of application for admission to membership be a subject of a State with which the British Empire was at war on the 1st January, 1918, shall be eligible for admission as an Associate Member.
- (c) Any firm, company or corporation being a Chamber Member other than a firm, company or corporation elected prior to the 28th February, 1917, shall be deemed ineligible to continue a Chamber Member if three-fourths of the capital in the case of a firm shall cease to belong to, or in the case of a company or corporation shall cease to be represented by shares held directly by persons who are British subjects and upon

the happening of any such events as aforesaid the firm, company or corporation shall immediately give notice thereof to the Secretary and the name of the firm, company or corporation shall be struck off the list of Chamber Members and entered in the list of Associate Members.

- (d) Any firm, company or corporation being a member of either class shall be deemed ineligible to continue a member of the Chamber which in the case of a firm shall introduce as a partner or in the case of a company or corporation shall elect as a Director, Agent or Manager any person who shall be at the time of such introduction or election a subject of a State with which the British Empire was at war on the 1st January, 1918, and upon any such introduction or election as aforesaid (of which the firm, company or corporation shall immediately give notice to the Secretary) the name of the firm company or corporation shall be struck off the list of members of the Chamber.
 - (e) Any firm, company or corporation which is a candidate for membership as a Chamber Member shall send with the proposal form provided for by Article 14 of these Articles a declaration, in the case of a firm, by one of the partners of the firm, or in the case of a company or corporation by one of its directors or by any manager or officer, of any such firm, company or corporation duly authorized by power-of-attorney that the firm, company or corporation, as in the case may be, is eligible for election as a Chamber Member.
 - (f) All persons, firms, companies and corporations whose names shall appear in the register of the Chamber shall be entitled to attend or be represented at the meetings of the Chamber but only those persons, firms, companies or corporations which shall have been admitted to membership as Chamber Members shall be entitled to vote.
10. Any individual who was, or in the case of a firm any of whose partners were, or in the case of a company or corporation any of whose Directors, Agents or Managers were or one-fourth of whose shareholders were a subject or subjects of any country or State which was at war with the British Empire on the 1st January 1918, which was at war with the British Empire for a period shall not be eligible for election as Associate Members for a period of ten years for the 1st January 1919, and thereafter such class of individuals, firms, companies or corporations shall not be eligible for election as Associate Members unless and until it shall be decided to admit such class as Associate Members by a majority of three-fourths of the Chamber Members present and voting at a General Meeting specially convened for that purpose.

11. An Associate Member shall not be entitled to vote for any purpose whatever, nor to hold any office in the Chamber nor to act as an arbitrator of the Chamber nor to participate in any Trust or Provident Fund which may hereafter be created for the benefit of the members of the Chamber or their assistants. Subject as above Associate Members shall be entitled to all the other privileges of Chamber Members.

12. Any firm, joint-stock company or other corporation eligible for election as a Chamber or Associate Member may become a Chamber or Associate Member in their conventional or corporate name.

13. Subject to the provisions and restrictions contained in these Articles, the rights and privileges of membership may, in the case of a firm elected in their conventional name as a member of either class, be exercised by any partner in such firm or by any person authorised by power-of-attorney or letter of procuration to sign the name of the firm or to sign such name per procuration and may, in the case of a joint-stock company or other corporation elected a member in its corporate name, be exercised by any responsible officer of such company or corporation.

14. A candidate for election either as a Chamber or Associate Member whether an individual, a firm or a Joint Stock Company or other Corporation, shall be proposed by one and seconded by another Chamber Member, and may be elected provisionally by the Committee and such election shall be subject to confirmation at the Annual General Meeting next ensuing such provisional election. The proposal form shall be sent in to the Secretary signed by the Proposer and Seconder and shall state the name in full of the candidate and in the case of a firm the names of the partners thereof, his or their address, business and nationality, and if British, whether natural-born or naturalised, and if naturalised, his or their previous nationality and date of naturalisation, and whether he or they has or have changed his or their name since the first of August, 1914. If the candidate is a Joint Stock Company or other Corporation, the proposal form shall set out the nationalities of the Directors, Agents, and/or Managers, and the proportion of shares respectively held by British (other than naturalised), naturalised British and non-British subjects, as the case may be. In case the candidate shall have been previously proposed and not elected the fact shall be stated and the number of times if more than one. In the event of the candidate being elected and it appearing subsequently at any time, to the satisfaction of the Committee, that any statement contained in such proposal form was incorrect in any material particular, the Committee may cancel the election and the member shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Chamber, but may be proposed and seconded again.

15. The Committee shall decide any question which may arise as to the eligibility or otherwise of any candidate for admission as a member of either class and their decision shall be final.

16. Except as hereinbefore provided a firm shall not cease to be a member by reason only of a change in the constitution of the firm

occasioned by the admission or retirement or death of a partner, provided the business of the firm is continued in the conventional name in which such firm was elected a member.

17. A firm, joint-stock company or other corporation shall cease to be a member upon any change being made in the conventional or corporate name of the firm, company or corporation.

18. Any member may withdraw from the Chamber by giving two calendar months' notice in writing to the Secretary of the intention of such member so to do and upon the expiration of the notice such member shall cease to be a member.

19. A member shall cease to be a member of the Chamber on his or their being adjudicated insolvent.

20. The annual subscription of each Chamber Member shall be Rs. 300 and of each Associate Member Rs. 300. Members of either class elected after the 30th June in any year shall pay half the above amounts for the remainder of that year. The first subscription of each new member shall be due on election and all other subscriptions shall be due on the 1st January in each year but may be made payable quarterly.

21. Honorary Members shall not be required to subscribe to the funds of the Chamber.

22. Any member whose subscription shall be three months in arrear, and who shall not pay such arrears within one month after written notice calling for such payment, shall cease to be a member, and the name of such defaulting member shall be removed by the Committee from the list of members.

23. A majority of three-fourths of the Chamber Members present and entitled to vote and voting at an annual or special general meeting of the Chamber may by resolution expel any member of either class. Any such person, firm, company or corporation shall, from the passing of such resolution, cease to be a member of the Chamber.

24. A firm or joint-stock company or other corporation which shall be expelled under the last preceding article shall be eligible for re-election after the expiry of one year from the date of expulsion, provided not less than three Chamber Members in addition to the proposer and seconder concur in the proposal for re-election.

25. An individual who shall be expelled under Article 23 shall not be eligible for re-election.

26. Any member who shall by any means cease to be a member shall nevertheless remain liable for and shall pay to the Chamber all moneys which at the time of such member ceasing to be a member may be due from such member to the Chamber.

27. Officials and others indirectly connected with the trade, commerce or manufactures of Bengal, or who may have rendered distinguished service to the interests represented by the Chamber, may be elected Honorary Members by the Committee upon the proposal of any two Chamber Members, whether members of the Committee or not.

28. Strangers visiting the Presidency may be admitted by the Committee as Honorary Members for a period not exceeding two months on the proposal of any Chamber Member whether a member of the Committee or not.

29. Honorary Members shall be entitled to receive the last published report of the Committee, and to attend and speak, but not to vote, at any General Meeting held during their membership, and may upon the invitation of the President, Vice-President or Chairman, as the case may be, attend under the like conditions any meeting of Committee or of any departmental committee or sub-committee.

REGISTER OF MEMBERS.

30. A list or register of members shall be kept, in which shall be set forth the names and addresses of the members, Chamber, Associate and Honorary, for the time being, and in which all changes in membership from time to time taking place shall be recorded. There shall also be entered in such register the nationalities of the partners for the time being constituting each firm and of the Directors for the time being of each Company or Corporation whether admitted to Membership as a Chamber Member or as an Associate Member.

OFFICERS.

31. There shall be the following officers of the Chamber, namely, a President, Vice-President, seven Ordinary Members of Committee, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, and an Auditor. The Officers of the Chamber, with the exception of the Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Auditor, shall act without remuneration.

32. The Committee shall consist of nine Members, namely, the President and Vice-President and seven Members.

33. At the time of the adoption of these Articles the following are the Officers of the Chamber:—

President—The Hon. Mr. W. E. Crum, O.B.E.

Vice-President—A. R. Murray, Esq., O.B.E.

Ordinary Members of the Committee—

1. The Hon. Mr. F. W. Carter, C.I.E., O.B.E.

2. W. O. Grazebrook, Esq.

3. W. J. K. Hegarty, Esq.

4. W. McA. Houstoun, Esq.

5. The Hon. Mr. R. V. Mansell, O.B.E.

6. J. A. Marshall, Esq.

7. B. A. White, Esq.

Secretary—H. M. Haywood, Esq.

Assistant Secretary—D. K. Cunison, Esq.

Auditors—Messrs. Lovelock and Lewes.

34. The President, Vice-President and the ordinary members of the Committee shall retire at each Annual General Meeting. A retiring officer shall be eligible for re-election.

35. Any Chamber Member, any partner in or person holding a power-of-attorney or letter of procuration from a firm registered as a Chamber Member in their conventional name, and any person being a responsible officer of any joint-stock company or other corporation registered as a Chamber Member in its corporate name shall be eligible for election as an officer of the Chamber provided he is a British subject.

36. During the tenure of office as President, Vice-President or as Ordinary Member of Committee by any partner in or person holding a power-of-attorney or letter of procuration from a firm registered as a Chamber Member in their conventional name, or during the tenure of office as a President, Vice-President or as an Ordinary Member of Committee by any person being a responsible officer of any joint-stock company or other corporation registered as a Chamber Member in its corporate name, no other partner or person representing the same firm, company or corporation, as the case may be, shall be eligible for election as a member of Committee.

37. If the President, Vice-President or any Ordinary Member of Committee shall be absent from Calcutta for a period of three consecutive months, the Committee shall declare his office vacant, and he shall thereupon cease to be an officer of the Chamber.

ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

38. At each Annual General Meeting the Chamber Member shall fill up the places vacated by the retirement of the President, Vice-President and ordinary Members of the Committee.

39. The retiring members of the Committee shall, before their retirement from office, and before or contemporaneously with the issue of voting cards by the Secretary under the next succeeding article, intimate to Chamber Members of the Chamber the interests

for which it may, in their opinion, be desirable that special representatives shall be elected as members of the Committee.

40. The election of the President, Vice-President, and the ordinary Members of the Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes of Chamber Members. Such votes shall be given by voting cards to be numbered and signed by the Secretary, and to be issued by him not less than 14 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. No voting cards shall be received or used unless so numbered and signed.

41. The voting cards shall be returned to the Secretary within seven days from the date on which the same shall be issued, and no voting cards shall be used unless returned within that time.

42. On the return of the voting cards to the Secretary, such cards shall be examined by two Chamber Members who shall be appointed by the Committee as scrutineers, and the scrutineers so appointed shall report the result of their examination for confirmation at the Annual General Meeting.

43. If any vacancy shall occur in the office of President or Vice-President during the interval between two Annual General Meetings the Committee shall, if the vacancy shall occur in any month other than the months of January or February in any year, and they may, if the vacancy shall occur in either January or February in any year, proceed to the election of a President or Vice-President, as the case may be, to fill the vacancy until the next ensuing Annual General Meeting. The votes shall be given by voting cards numbered, signed, issued, returned and examined in manner prescribed for the election of a President or Vice-President at an Annual General Meeting. The result of the examination of the voting cards by the scrutineers shall be communicated to members by a letter signed and circulated by the Secretary.

44. Any vacancy in the Committee other than in the office of President or Vice-President occurring in the interval between two Annual General Meetings shall be filled up by the Committee electing a Chamber Member to supply the vacancy.

45. The Secretary and Assistant Secretary shall be appointed by the Committee at a remuneration, such appointment to be subject to confirmation at the next ensuing Annual General Meeting.

46. The Auditor shall, from time to time, be appointed by the Committee at a remuneration to be fixed by the Committee.

PRESIDENT.

47. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Committee, at all general meetings and over all deputations. He shall preside at the Annual General Meeting, address the members on such subjects as he may deem proper to bring to their notice, but

such address shall not be taken to represent the views of the Chamber or of the Committee unless such representation is expressly indicated.

48. The President shall also, at any time when he shall deem proper communicate to the Chamber or to the Committee such matters, and shall make such suggestions as may in his opinion tend to promote the prosperity and welfare and increase the usefulness of the Chamber, and shall perform such other duties as may be incident to the office of President.

VICE-PRESIDENT.

49. The Vice-President in the absence of the President shall have the powers and perform the duties of the President.

THE COMMITTEE.

50. The Committee shall meet at such times as they may deem advisable, and may make such regulations as they think proper as to the summoning and holding of meetings of the Committee, and for the transaction of business at such meetings, and the record of their proceedings shall be open to the inspection of the Chamber Members subject to such regulations as the Committee may from time to time deem expedient.

51. The President or in his absence the Vice-President shall be *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee. In the absence of both President and Vice-President, the Committee shall elect their own Chairman.

52. Five members of the Committee shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

53. All proceedings of the Committee shall be subject to the control of the Chamber in Annual General Meeting.

54. A yearly report of the proceedings of the Committee shall be prepared, printed and circulated for the information of the members of the Chamber, at least three days previous to the Annual General Meeting. Such report shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting for confirmation, and shall be confirmed or otherwise dealt with or disposed of as the Meeting shall determine.

55. The management of the business and funds of the Chamber shall be vested in the Committee who in addition to the powers by these Articles expressly conferred upon them, may exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the Chamber and are not hereby or by law expressly directed or required to be exercised or done by the Chamber in General Meeting.

56. Without prejudice to the General powers conferred by Article 55 hereof, the Committee shall have power—

- (a) To appoint any departmental committees or sub-committees of the members of the Committee or of the

Chamber Members of the Chamber, and such departmental committees or sub-committees may be permanent or temporary or for special purposes as the Committee may determine.

- (b) To delegate, subject to such conditions as they think fit, any of their powers to departmental committees or sub-committees, and to make, vary and repeal bye-laws or rules for the regulation of the proceedings of departmental committees or sub-committees.
- (c) To make, vary and repeal bye-laws or rules for the regulations of the business of the Chamber, the officers or servants or of the Members of the Chamber or of any department or section of the Chamber.
- (d) To enter into arrangements upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Committee may deem desirable for working in connection with any Association organized for the protection or better development of any branch of trade, commerce or manufacture in Bengal or with like objects that may apply to be allowed to work in connection with the Chamber, provided the objects for which such Association is or shall be formed are not inconsistent with the objects of the Chamber as defined in its Memorandum of Association.
- (e) To make such bye-laws as the Committee may consider expedient for the regulation of the joint working of the business of any Association connected with the Chamber, or for the purpose of defining the terms and conditions of the joint working of the business of such Association, or as may from time to time be agreed upon between such Association and the Committee.

SECRETARY.

57. The Secretary shall devote himself entirely to the business and affairs of the Chamber except in cases where he has received the special permission of the Committee. He shall have charge of all correspondence, and shall keep an account of the funds of the Chamber and of funds connected with or in any way controlled by the Chamber. He shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Chamber and of the Committee, of the Departmental Committees and Sub-Committees, and of all Associations connected with the Chamber. He shall have the care of the rooms, furniture, library, pictures and of all documents belonging to the Chamber. He shall give notice of all meetings of the Chamber, of the Committee, of the Departmental Committees and Sub-Committees of the Chamber, and of all Associations working in connection with the Chamber. He shall duly notify members of their election, shall countersign all cheques signed by the President or any Chairman of an Association, Fund or Committee, shall collect all dues from members of the

Chamber or from any Committee or any Association working in connection with the Chamber. He shall prepare the annual report of the Chamber under the guidance of the Committee, and the reports of all Committees and of all Associations connected with the Chamber and generally shall perform all such duties as are incidental to his office.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

58. The Assistant Secretary, in the absence of the Secretary, shall perform all or any of the duties of the Secretary, and all such of the duties of the Secretary as may be assigned to him from time to time by the Secretary with the sanction of the Committee.

AUDITOR.

59. The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Chamber, of Departments of the Chamber, Associations connected with the Chamber, and of all funds connected with or controlled by the Chamber.

GENERAL MEETINGS.

60. General Meetings shall be held in the month of February in every year at such place as the Committee may consider convenient for the despatch of business, at which a report of the proceedings of the Committee and the yearly accounts shall be submitted for confirmation. Such meetings shall be called Annual General Meetings.

61. The Committee may, whenever they think fit, and they shall, upon a requisition made in writing by any five Chamber Members, convene a Special General Meeting.

62. Any requisition made by the Chamber Members shall express the object of the Special General Meeting proposed to be called and shall be left with the Secretary.

63. Upon the receipt of such requisition the Committee shall forthwith proceed to convene a Special General Meeting, and such meeting shall be held within 15 days from the date of the receipt of such requisition unless it be convened to consider, revise or amend (a) any bye-law or bye-laws relating to Arbitrations, (b) any bye-law or bye-laws or rules relating to the Measurement Department of the Chamber, (c) the Chamber's Schedule of Commission Charges, (d) the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule for the Port of Calcutta, (e) the Chamber's form of Bill of Lading, or (f) the regulations of the Chamber as contained in these Articles of Association.

64. One month's notice at the least specifying the place, the day and hour of meeting and the nature of the special business shall be given of any Special General Meeting convened to consider, revise or amend the bye-laws or rules relating to Arbitrations or to revise or amend the Measurement Department or to revise or amend the Chamber's Schedule of Commission Charges or the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule for the Port of Calcutta.

65. Six months' notice at the least specifying the place, the day and hour of meeting and the nature of the special business shall be given of any Special General Meeting convened to consider, revise, amend or deal with the Chamber's form of Bill of Lading.

66. At Special General Meetings only the business of which notice has been given or such questions as naturally arise thereon shall be discussed.

67. Resolutions passed at any Special General Meeting convened for the purpose of considering, revising or amending the bye-laws or rules relating to Arbitrations or to the Measurement Department, the Chamber's Schedule of Commission Charges, or the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule for the Port of Calcutta or for the purpose of considering, revising, amending, or dealing with the Chamber's form of Bill of Lading, shall not take effect unless and until such resolutions shall be confirmed at a subsequent Special General Meeting held as regards resolutions passed to revise or amend the bye-laws or rules relating to Arbitrations or to the Measurement Department, the Chamber's Schedule of Commission Charges or the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule for the Port of Calcutta, at an interval of not less than one month from the date at which such resolution was first passed, and as regards resolutions passed to revise, amend or deal with the Chamber's form of Bill of Lading at an interval of not less than three months from the date at which such resolution was first passed.

68. Subject to the provisions of the Indian Companies' Act, 1913, as to the power to alter regulations by special resolution, three months' notice at the least specifying the place, the day and the hour of meeting and the nature of the special business, shall be given of any Special General Meeting convened to revise, alter or amend the regulations of the Chamber as contained in these Articles of Association.

69. Except as herein, and in the Indian Companies' Act, 1913, provided resolutions passed at any Special General Meeting shall take effect and come into operation on the dates on which they shall be passed, unless the time from which they shall take effect and come into operation be otherwise expressly stated in such resolution.

70. The non-receipt of a notice convening any General Meeting by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings at any such meeting.

71. Any number of Chamber Members present and entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting shall constitute a quorum, but at any Special General Meeting twelve Chamber Members shall constitute a quorum. No business shall be transacted at any Special General Meeting unless a quorum of Chamber Members is present at the commencement of such business.

72. If within half an hour from the time appointed for a Special General Meeting a quorum of Chamber Members is not present

the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of Chamber Members, shall be dissolved. In any other case the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the following week at the same time and place, and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum of Chamber Members is not present the meeting shall be adjourned *sine die*.

73. The Chairman may with the consent of the meeting adjourn any meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

74. Every question submitted to a General Meeting shall be decided by a majority of Chamber Members present and voting at such meeting.

VOTES OF MEMBERS.

75. Every Chamber Member shall have one vote.

76. Any number of representatives of a firm registered as a Chamber Member in their conventional name or any joint-stock company or other corporation registered as a Chamber Member in its corporate name may attend any General Meeting but only one of such representatives shall be entitled to vote.

NOTICES.

77. A notice may be served upon any member either personally or by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to such member at such member's registered address.

78. Any notice sent by post shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the letter containing the same would be delivered in the ordinary course of the post.

SEAL.

79. The Committee shall forthwith provide a common seal for the Chamber. The seal shall be deposited with the Secretary and shall never be affixed to any document except in the presence of the President or Vice-President and in pursuance of a Resolution of the Committee or of the Chamber in General Meeting.

80. Deeds, bonds and other contracts under seal made on behalf of the Chamber sealed with the common seal of the Chamber and signed by the President or Vice-President and countersigned by the Secretary or the person acting as Secretary shall be deemed to be duly executed.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION.

RULES.

Interpretation.

I. The marginal notes hereto shall not affect the construction hereof, and in these Rules the following words have the following meanings:—

Interpretation clause.

- (1) "CHAMBER" means the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.
- (2) "MEMBERS" means the members for the time being of the Chamber.
- (3) "TRIBUNAL", means the Tribunal of Arbitration hereby constituted.
- (4) "REFERENCES" means any submission or agreement to refer differences or disputes to the Tribunal.
- (5) "PARTY" shall include an individual, a firm or a company.
- (6) "COURT" means the Arbitrator or Arbitrators appointed for determining a particular dispute, or the Umpire where an Umpire has been appointed and is acting in the arbitration.

Objects and Constitution of Tribunal

II. The object of the Tribunal is the determination, settlement and adjustment of disputes and differences relating to trade, business, manufactures and to customs of trade, between parties, all or any of whom reside or carry on business personally or by agent or otherwise in Calcutta, or elsewhere in India or Burma, by whomsoever of such parties the said disputes and differences be submitted.

Objects.

III. (1) The Tribunal shall consist of and be constituted by such members or assistants to members as may, from time to time, annually or otherwise be selected by the Registrar as hereinafter mentioned and be willing to serve on the Tribunal.

Constitution.

(2) The Registrar shall, from time to time, annually or otherwise as he shall consider necessary, select and make a list of such

members and/or assistants to members as may be willing to serve to constitute the Tribunal for the time being, and shall circulate to all members a printed copy of such list, and may, if he thinks fit, supply a copy of the said list to persons other than members applying for the same.

(3) The Registrar may at any time if he thinks proper so to do, add to the said list the names of other persons qualified as aforesaid, and it shall not be necessary in such case to print or to circulate any list of the added names, but a list of the members of the Tribunal complete for the time being shall be kept by the Registrar, and shall always be open to inspection by members on application, and, at the discretion of the Registrar, also by persons other than members.

Registrar.

IV. The Secretary, or Acting Secretary for the time being of the Chamber, shall be and he is hereby appointed to be and to act as the Registrar of the Tribunal and his duty as such shall ordinarily consist of or include the following:—

He shall, by himself or his subordinates, receive submissions, references, or applications to the Tribunal and receive payment of fees and costs; constitute the Court; receive all applications made to the Court by the parties, and communicate to them the orders and directions of the Court; keep a register of submissions, references, and applications to the Tribunal and of awards, and such other books and memoranda, and made such returns as the Chamber or the Tribunal shall from time to time require, and generally carry out the directions of the Court, and take such steps as may be necessary to assist the Court in the execution of its functions.

Constitution of Court.

Appointment
of
Arbitrators.

V. (1) In every case where a dispute has arisen either in relation to a contract which provides for a decision thereof by the Chamber or the Tribunal, or in relation to a contract which does not so provide, but the parties to which have by a special agreement signed by them referred the particular dispute for settlement by the arbitration of the Chamber or of the Tribunal, an application for arbitration may be addressed by either party to the Registrar, which application, in the case of disputes relating to piece-goods, shall be in such form as the Committee of the Chamber may from time to time prescribe.

(2) On receipt of such application, the Registrar shall constitute a Court for the adjudication of the dispute by appointing and nominating in writing two Arbitrators, selected by him from the Tribunal constituted as aforesaid; or if the parties so desire, one Arbitrator only or three Arbitrators.

(3) The consent to act of the Arbitrator or the Arbitrators shall be obtained by the Registrar, and the arbitration shall forthwith proceed in accordance with these rules.

(4) In the event of the Arbitrators disagreeing, the Registrar shall appoint and nominate an Umpire to be selected from the List aforesaid, and whose consent to act shall be obtained by the Registrar to constitute the Court for the adjudication of the said dispute, and such Umpire shall then proceed with the Arbitration in accordance with these rules.

VI. In making any appointment and nomination as aforesaid the Registrar shall select, as far as possible, persons or a person having a practical knowledge of the subject-matter of the contract or contracts in question, and the Registrar shall not appoint any person who for any reason within his knowledge would not be a proper person to act as Arbitrator or Umpire in the particular matter; but no award shall be invalid nor shall any objection be taken thereto by any party, on the ground that any person so nominated and appointed did not possess such practical knowledge, or was not in fact a proper person to act as Arbitrator or Umpire, but whose unfitness was unknown to the Registrar.

Arbitrators
to have
practical
knowledge.

VII. The names or name of the persons or person constituting the Court shall not ordinarily be disclosed to the parties nor shall the parties be entitled to such information as of right. In the event of any of the parties applying on special grounds (to be specified in writing to the Registrar) for the disclosure of the said names or name the decision as to whether such disclosure shall be made or not shall rest in the absolute discretion of the Registrar. The non-disclosure of the said names or name shall not in any case affect the validity of the arbitration proceedings, or of any award therein, nor afford ground of objection to the filing of the award.

Name of
Arbitrators.

VIII. If any Arbitrator or Umpire decline or fail to act, or if he die, or become incapable of acting, the Registrar may substitute and appoint a new Arbitrator or Umpire in manner aforesaid, and the Court so reconstituted shall proceed with the arbitration with liberty to act on the record of the proceedings as then existing and on the evidence, if any, then taken in the arbitration, or to commence the arbitration *de novo*.

Arbitrator
failing to act.

Conduct of Arbitrations.

IX. The parties shall within such time as may be directed by the Court, prepare and submit to the Registrar a written statement of their respective cases.

Statement
to be filed
within
specified
time.

X. The Court may at its discretion enlarge the time for submission of a written statement, but it shall not be bound to receive or to consider any written statement of either party tendered after the expiration of the original or subsequently extended time as the case may be.

Enlargement
of time for
submission
of statement

Communication to be made through the Registrar.

XI. All applications which the parties desire to make to the Court, and all notices to be given to the parties, before or during the course of the arbitration, or otherwise in relation thereto, shall be made through the Registrar who shall communicate the orders and directions of the Court thereon to the parties.

Obligations of the parties.

XII. The said parties, respectively, shall do all acts necessary to enable the Court to make a just award, and shall not wilfully do or cause or allow to be done any act to delay or to prevent the Court from making an award, and if either party shall do or cause or allow to be done any such act, that party shall pay to the other such costs as the Court shall deem reasonable.

Hearing.

XIII. Unless oral evidence beyond mere proof of documents of which the factum is not disputed is taken, it shall not be necessary to have a formal hearing of a reference before the Court, but in all cases the Court shall have power to appoint a time and place for the hearing of references when it considers a hearing to be necessary.

Appearance of parties.

XIV. No party to a reference shall, without express permission of the Court, be entitled to appear by Counsel, Attorney or other Advocate or adviser, before the Court, but the Court, at its discretion may, through the Registrar, require the parties, with or without witnesses, to attend before it or before any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Chamber to be examined on or without oath or solemn affirmation.

Evidence.

XV. The parties to the reference, and all persons claiming through them, respectively, shall subject to the provision of any law for the time being in force, submit to be examined by the Court on oath or affirmation in relation to the matters in dispute, and shall, subject as aforesaid,

produce before the Court all books, deeds, papers, accounts, writings and documents within their possession or power, respectively, which may be required or called for by the Court;

comply with the requirements of the Court as to the production and selection of samples; and generally do all other things, which during the proceedings on the reference, the Court may require.

Absence of parties.

XVI. The Court may proceed with the reference notwithstanding any failure to file a written statement within due time and may also proceed with the reference in the absence of any or both of the parties who, under these Rules, is entitled to appear and being desirous of appearing before the Court shall, after due notice, refuse, or neglect to attend.

Arbitrators empowered to consult Committees and Solicitors or Counsel.

XVII. The Court may at its own instance at any time or times before making a final award, and at the expense of the parties consult, refer to, and act on and adopt the advice, recommendations or suggestions of any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Chamber

having or exercising special jurisdiction or powers relating to the particular industry, commodity, produce or branch of trade concerned in the reference or of any experts whether members or not. The Court may also, at the like expense of the parties, consult and adopt the advice of Solicitors or Counsel upon any question of law, evidence, practice, or procedure arising in the course of the reference.

Awards.

XVIII. In cases where the Court shall consist of more than two Arbitrators the decision of the majority shall be taken as the decision of the Court.

Decision of majority.

XIX. The Court shall make its award in writing within thirty days after entering on the reference or on or before any later day to which the Court, by any writing signed by them, may from time to time, enlarge the time for making the award.

Time for making award by Arbitrators.

XX. The Umpire shall make his award within thirty days after his entering upon the reference or on or before any later day to which he, by any writing signed by him, may from time to time, enlarge the time for making his award.

Time for making award by Umpire.

XXI. If the Court have allowed the time or extended time to expire without making any award, and without having signified to the Registrar that they cannot agree, the Registrar shall constitute in manner aforesaid another Court which shall proceed with the arbitration and shall be at liberty to act upon the record of the proceedings as then existing and on the evidence, if any, then taken in the arbitration or to commence the arbitration *de novo*.

Extension of time.

XXII. The Court may, by its award, order and determine what it shall think fit to be done by either of the said parties respecting the matters referred.

Extent of award.

XXIII. The decision or award of every Court shall be signed by the Court and by the Registrar. When completed, a copy of the award shall be sent by the Registrar to each of the parties, but the name or names of the member or members of the Court shall not ordinarily be disclosed on such copy and such non-disclosure shall not affect the validity of the award nor afford any ground of objection to the same being filed.

Signatures to and issue of awards.

XXIV. The Parties shall in all things abide by and obey the award, which shall be binding on the parties and their respective representatives notwithstanding the death of any party before or after the making of the award, and so that such death shall not operate as a revocation of the submission.

Award binding on all parties.

XXV. Subject to the operation of section 14 of the Indian Arbitration Act, 1899, no objection shall be taken or be entertained

Setting aside of awards.

to any application to file an award, nor shall any award be set aside or varied or attempted to be set aside or varied by reason or on account of any informality, omission, delay, or error in the proceedings or of any neglect, omission, delay, mistake or error by the Court in or about the same or in relation thereto.

Further
award.

XXVI. Whenever an award directs that a certain act or thing shall be done by one party to the reference, *e.g.*, delivering or taking (with or without allowance) delivery of goods and such party fails to comply with the award, the party in whose favour the award is made may make a fresh application for a further award determining the amount of damages or compensation payable by reason of such failure, and the Registrar, on receipt of such application shall proceed to constitute a new Court which may or may not consist of the same or of one or more of the members constituting the Court who made the first award, and the new Court shall proceed, under these rules, to arbitrate on the said application and the award thereon may be filed separately or together with the original award.

Fees.

XXVII. (1) The said parties shall pay as and when demanded by the Registrar all fees, charges and expenses incident to the reference and the award thereon according to the scale prescribed for the time being, by the Committee of the Chamber, and all further fees, charges and expenses falling under rule XVII.

(2) Any party making such payment may recover the whole or any part of the sum so paid from any other party ultimately held by the Court to be liable to pay the same.

(3) Unless the Court shall otherwise direct, no rebate or refund shall be claimed or made in respect of fees, charges or expenses when once incurred, or paid.

XXVIII. The cost of the reference and award including fees payable, according to the scale aforesaid to the Court, shall be in the discretion of the Court, who may direct to and by whom and in what manner and in what proportion such costs or any part thereof shall be borne and paid, and may tax and settle the amount of costs to be so paid or any part thereof, and may award costs to be paid as between solicitor and client.

Immunity of Arbitrators.

XXIX. Neither of the parties shall bring or prosecute any suit or proceeding whatever against the Court, or any member thereof, for or in respect of the matters in dispute or any of them or of the arbitration, nor any such suit or proceeding (save for the enforcement of the award) against the other party.

Notices.

XXX. All notices required by these rules to be given shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently given if left at the last known place of abode or business, of the party to whom the notice is addressed, or if sent by post prepaid addressed to him by name at such place of abode or business, and not returned through the post undelivered, before signature of the award by the Court and shall, if sent by post, be deemed to have been given at the time at which the letter would in the ordinary course be delivered. In the case of a contract entered into by an agent in Calcutta on behalf of a person having no place of business there, the place of abode or person having no place of business there, the place of the party. Every business of the agent shall be deemed that of the party. Every determination and award of the Court shall be deemed and taken for all purposes to be the determination and award of the Tribunal or the Chamber, as the case may be.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION.

Resolution of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce adopted at a Meeting held on the 6th March 1912.

Resolved—

(1) That henceforth, and until further notice, application in disputes relating to piece-goods referred to in rule V (1) of the rules of the Tribunal of Arbitration adopted and confirmed at special General Meetings of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce held on the 12th January and 27th February 1912, respectively, shall be in the following hereby prescribed form:—

To

THE REGISTRAR,

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION.

DEAR SIR,

PIECE-GOODS ARBITRATIONS.

Under rule V (1) of the rules of the above Tribunal, we, the undersigned, hereby apply for the appointment of..... Arbitrator and the issue of an Award for cancellation of the contract or allowance or such other relief as the Arbitrators may think fit to award upon the undermentioned complaint or upon investigation of all facts arising out of the contract. We give particulars of the dispute below.

We hand you Rs.....on account of fees, the original contract and the sale sample.

Yours faithfully,

.....(Sellers).

.....(Buyers).

(Buyer's address).....

Contract No....., dated.....

Goods covered by Contract.....

Basis of Sale.....

*Here state whether one or two Arbitrators are required.

Shipments:—

Mark.	Nos.	Quantity.	Steamer.	Mark.	Nos.	Quantity.	Steamer.

Packages available for inspection.....
 Buyers' complaints.....
 Sellers' remarks.....

(2) That until further notice the scale of fees referred to in rule XXVII (1) of the rules aforesaid is hereby prescribed to be as follows:—

Piece-Goods Arbitrations:

Arbitrators and Umpires—

For contracts involving only one quality of cloth.
 For quality, dimensions, etc. .. Rs. 16-0
 For midlew .. " 16-0
 For quality, dimensions, etc., and midlew .. 32-0
For contracts involving ranges of cloth.
 For quality, dimensions, etc., for first quality .. " 16-0
 For quality, dimensions, etc., for each additional quality .. " 4-0
 For midlew .. " 16-0
 For quality, dimensions, etc., and midlew, for 1st quality .. 32-0
 For quality, dimensions, etc., for each additional quality .. " 4-0
 For other piece-goods arbitrations, fees according to the merits of the case.
 Institution fee to be prepaid in every case .. 16-0

Jute Arbitrations:

Arbitrators and Umpires—

Rs. 80-0 each.
 For wages of assorters .. Re. 1 to 1-8 "
 Expenses connected with selection and carriage of samples .. 20-0 "
 Institution fees to be prepaid in every case .. 82-0 "

General Arbitrations :**Arbitrators and Umpires—**

For gunnies	Rs. 80-0 each.
For all other classes of goods	32-0 "

For other arbitrations and those involving consideration of documents only, fees according to the merits of each case.

Institution fee to be prepaid in every case " 32-0 "

When neither of the parties to an arbitration is a permanent member of the Chamber, residing and carrying on business in Calcutta, double fees will be payable; and if and so often as one Arbitrator only shall be appointed or shall act as sole Arbitrator, he shall be entitled to a double set of fees, namely, the fees chargeable hereunder by two Arbitrators.

Stamp fees :

To be paid in all cases	Rs. 5-0
For certified copies of awards	Re. 1-0

Additional fees :

Additional fees within the discretion of the Court, but not exceeding the fee prescribed by the scale for the particular reference, shall be payable in cases where goods are examined at premises other than those of the Chamber in respect of every attendance on such other premises.

(3) That the aforesaid prescribed scale of fees shall be deemed to take effect as on and from the 28th February 1912.

(4) That a copy of this resolution be published for the information of all members of the Chamber.

By order of the Committee,

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.**TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION—RULE III(2).**

MEMO. :—The following list of members and assistants to members, who are willing to serve to constitute the Tribunal of Arbitration, in connection with disputes relating to piece-goods, for the year 1921-22, is circulated, under the provisions of Rule III (2), for the information of members.

NAMES.	FIRMS.
Mr. K. ARCHER	Messrs. Dugdale, Everton & Halstead.
" GEO. ASPINWALL	" Ashworth, Taylor & Co.
" T. ASHTON	" Ewing & Co., Ltd.
" M. P. BAIRD	" Gillanders, Arbutnot & Co.
" L. BESWICK	" Dugdale, Everton & Halstead.
" J. BULLOCK	" Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" R. W. COCKER	" Steiners, Ltd.
" F. CRAWFORD	" Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" R. A. CURTIS	" Lipton, Ltd.
" F. DOXEY	" Barlow & Co.
" G. H. E. DOUGLAS	" Herbert Whitworth, Ltd.
" W. S. FAIRLIE	" Graham & Co.
" C. W. FILDES	" Herbert Whitworth, Ltd.
" W. D. GRAY	" Bird & Co.
" H. E. HANNA	" Greaves, Cotton & Co.
" A. HEATHER	" Walker, Goward & Co.
" H. A. HENRY	" Graham & Co.
" H. H. HESSLING	" Steiners, Ltd.
" A. HODGSON	" Grandage, Moir & Co., Ltd.
" J. A. JOHNSON	" Jas. Scott & Sons, Ltd.
" H. J. W. KAAH	" The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ltd.
" W. KINLOCH	Messrs. Graham & Co.
" W. KNOX-ORD	" Ralli Brothers.
" E. R. LEEFE	" Kahn & Kahn.
" F. B. LEBELL	" Dugdale, Everton & Halstead.
" I. E. LEHURAU	" Ralli Brothers.
" GEO. LORENZO	" Ewing & Co., Ltd.
" WM. MCCONNELL	" Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.
" P. MILNES	" Struthers & Co., Ltd.
" M. MINOTTO	" Ralli Brothers.
" A. J. MOIR	" Grandage, Moir & Co., Ltd.
" G. N. R. MORGAN	" The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" R. PROPHET	Messrs. Allen Brothers & Co., (India) Ltd.
" ROBT. SCOTSON	" Anderson, Wright & Co.
" H. A. TANSER	" Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.
" P. J. THOMAIDES	" Petrocchine Brothers.
" E. H. WATSON	" Bird & Co.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION—RULE III (2).

MEMO.—The following list of members and assistants to members, who are willing to serve to constitute the Tribunal of Arbitration, in connection with disputes relating to general trade questions, jute, jute cuttings and manufactured goods, for the year 1921-22, is circulated under the provisions of Rule III (2) for the information of members of the Chamber.

NAMES.	FIRMS.
Mr. E. G. ABBOTT (1, 2 & 3) ...	Messrs. Macneill & Co.
" GEO. L. ALLAN (1, 2, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Jas. Scott & Sons, Ltd.
" A. ANDERSON (2) ...	" Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.
" RALPH ARAKIE (1) ...	" E. D. Sassoon & Co.
" R. N. BAND (1, 2 & 3) ...	" Thos. Duff & Co., Ltd.
" H. K. BANKS (1, 3 & 5) ...	" J. Thomas & Co.
" J. F. BARTON (1 & 2) ...	" Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.
" G. F. F. BATCHELOR (2 & 3) ...	" Jas. Luke & Sons.
" A. W. BAXTER (3) ...	" R. Sim & Co., Ltd.
" H. N. BETTS (1 & 3) ...	" Morgan, Walker & Co.
" J. C. BLACK (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" A. M. Mair & Co.
" F. T. BLOCHLEY (1) ...	" Landale & Morgan.
" F. G. H. BRAND (1, 2, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Jas. Scott & Sons, Ltd.
" G. M. BROTCHE (3) ...	" Jas. Scott & Sons, Ltd.
" A. BREMER (1 & 2) ...	" Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" R. C. BROWN (1, 3 & 5) ...	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
" G. E. F. CAMPBELL (1 & 2) ...	" Lipton, Ltd.
" H. SR. V. CHANCELLOR (1 & 2) ...	" Becker Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ltd.
" R. H. CHILD (4 & 5) ...	" Bird & Co.
" A. P. CONWAY (1 & 2) ...	" Andrew Yule & Co.
" JOHN CRAWFORD (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Birkmyre Bros.
" ALEX CRAWFORD (1 & 2) ...	" Birkmyre Bros.
" W. F. DAVIS (1, 2, 3 & 5) ...	" Bird & Co.
" T. C. J. DAVIS (1) ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
" T. G. DELLAPORTA (1 & 2) ...	" Ralf Brothers.
" H. S. DEMPISTER (4) ...	" Bird & Co.
" A. K. DESANGES (3, 4 & 5) ...	" Tata Sons, Ltd.
" R. C. DONALDSON (1 & 2) ...	" Harrissons & Crosfield, Ltd.
" T. DOUGLAS (1 & 3) ...	" Duncan Brothers & Co.
" WILLIAM J. DREDGE (1, 4 & 5) ...	" D. Easton & Co.
" P. M. DUNCAN (3) ...	" Geo. Henderson & Co.
" J. R. EDEN (2) ...	" Hoare, Miller & Co., Ltd.
" Y. S. EDWARDS (1) ...	" Geo. Henderson & Co.
" J. A. E. EVANS (2) ...	" Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ltd.

- (1)—General Trade questions—excluding Quality.
 (2)—Gunnies—Quality &.
 (3)—Jute—Kutcha bales—Quality &.
 (4)—Jute—Pucan bales—Quality &.
 (5)—Cuttings—Quality &.

NAMES.	FIRMS.
Mr. J. S. EZRA (1 & 2) ...	Mr. M. A. Sassoon.
" J. T. FINLAYSON (3) ...	Messrs. Geo. Henderson & Co.
" J. CAMPBELL FORRESTER (1, 3 & 5) ...	" Smith, Forrester & Co.
" W. C. FRASER (1 & 3) ...	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
" J. A. GALLOWAY (3, 4 & 5) ...	" A. M. Mair & Co.
" F. GRAHAM (2 & 3) ...	" Jardine, Skinner & Co.
" D. S. K. GREIG (1) ...	" Begg, Dunlop & Co.
" M. C. GUZDAR (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" P. E. Guzdar & Co.
" INGLES HARVEY (3, 4 & 5) ...	" Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ltd.
" G. HARVEY (1) ...	" Tata Sons, Ltd.
" P. D. HENRY (1) ...	" Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
" P. E. R. HOERDER (1 & 2) ...	" Bird & Co.
" D. P. HOW (1 & 3) ...	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
" J. K. JOHNSTON (1, 2 & 3) ...	" Macneill & Co.
" W. B. KEDDIE (1, 4 & 5) ...	" Morgan, Walker & Co.
" C. M. KEDDIE (3, 4 & 5) ...	" Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd.
" R. KEE (1, 2, 3 & 5) ...	" Birkmyre Bros.
" T. KERR (3, 4 & 5) ...	" Birkmyre Bros.
" D. H. KILGOUR (1 & 2) ...	" Jas. Scott & Sons, Ltd.
" J. N. KING (1 & 2) ...	" Jas. Scott & Sons, Ltd.
" D. KING (1, 3 & 5) ...	" J. Thomas & Co.
" R. B. LAIRD (1, 2 & 3) ...	" Thos. Duff & Co., Ltd.
" T. LAMB (1, 2 & 3) ...	" Begg, Dunlop & Co.
" D. J. LECKIE (1, 2 & 3) ...	" Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.
" F. S. LITTLE (1 & 2) ...	" Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.
" J. LONGMUIR (3) ...	" R. Sim & Co., Ltd.
" N. R. LUKE (1 & 3) ...	" Jas. Luke & Sons.
" G. D. LYS (1) ...	" Graham & Co.
" J. F. MACDONELL (1 & 2) ...	" The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" M. S. MACRASSALL H. (1 & 2) ...	Messrs. S. Manasseh & Sons.
" NORMAN L. MACDONWELL, (1 & 4) ...	" D. Easton & Co.
" G. P. MACKENZIE (3) ...	" Geo. Henderson & Co.
" A. M. MAIR (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" A. M. Mair & Co.
" W. MARSHALL (3) ...	" Jas. Luke & Sons.
" F. R. MARTIN (1 & 2) ...	" Bird & Co.
" A. W. MATTHEW (1 & 3) ...	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
" W. MCCASH (3 & 4) ...	" Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd.
" J. W. McDONALD (1 & 2) ...	" Harrissons & Crosfield, Ltd.
" L. V. N. MEARES (1 & 3) ...	" Geo. Henderson & Co.
" D. L. MILLAR (3, 4 & 5) ...	" D. L. Millar & Co.

- (1)—General Trade questions—excluding Quality.
 (2)—Gunnies—Quality &.
 (3)—Jute—Kutcha bales—Quality &.
 (4)—Jute—Pucan bales—Quality &.
 (5)—Cuttings—Quality &.

NAMES.	FIRMS.
MR. J. F. S. MILLAR (3, 4 & 5) ...	Messrs. D. L. Millar & Co.
" A. MILLER (1) ...	" E. Meyer & Co., Ltd.
" J. R. MILLER (1 & 3) ...	" Mytton, Wallace & Co.
" F. R. MILNE (1, 2 & 3) ...	" Begg, Dunlop & Co.
" G. T. G. MILNE (1, 2 & 3) ...	" Geo. Henderson & Co.
" A. J. MOIR (1) ...	" Grandage, Moir & Co., Ltd.
" G. C. MOON (3, 4 & 5) ...	" Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd.
" G. MORGAN (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Morgan, Walker & Co.
" M. MORRISON (1 & 3) ...	" W. Haworth & Co.
" R. M. MORRISON (1 & 2) ...	" Innes, Watson & Co.
" H. F. MYTTON (1 & 3) ...	" Mytton, Wallace & Co.
" L. D. NICOLL (3) ...	" R. Sim & Co., Ltd.
" J. A. OGG (1, 2 & 3) ...	" Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.
" A. C. ROBERTSON (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Landale & Morgan.
" J. BELL ROBERTSON (1, 2, 3 & 5) ...	" Bird & Co.
" G. F. ROSE (1, 2, 3 & 5) ...	" Andrew Yule & Co., Ltd.
" J. C. RUST (2, 3 & 5) ...	" Bird & Co.
" J. L. RUTHVEN (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Landale & Morgan.
" S. H. SINGLETON (1, 4 & 5) ...	" Landale & Morgan.
" ANDREW SMITH (1, 3 & 5) ...	" Smith, Forrester & Co.
" K. C. SMITH (3) ...	" W. Haworth & Co.
" W. J. SOUTAR (1 & 3) ...	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
" R. P. STANLEY (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd.
" R. B. STEWART (1 & 3) ...	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
" T. J. STEWART (2, 3 & 5) ...	" Bird & Co.
" P. E. SUTTIE (1, 3, & 5) ...	" Sinclair, Murray & Co., Ltd.
" G. TARRAT (1 & 3) ...	" W. Haworth & Co.
" T. M. THADDUS (3, 4 & 5) ...	" T. M. Thaddus & Co.
" E. W. TOMLINSON (1, 2 & 3) ...	" McLeod & Co.
" H. T. TOOEZ (1, 2, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
" C. O. WALKER (1 & 2) ...	" Anderson, Wright & Co.
" W. J. WALKER (1, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" W. J. Walker & Co.
" W. S. WALLIS (1 & 2) ...	" McLeod & Co.
" G. O. WARE (2) ...	" Andrew Yule & Co., Ltd.
" A. N. WIGTON (3) ...	" J. Thomas & Co.
" C. A. WILD (1, 2, 3, & 5) ...	" Anderson, Wright & Co.
" R. R. WILL (1, 2, & 3) ...	" Geo. Henderson & Co.
" D. WILSON (3 & 5) ...	" Andrew Yule & Co., Ltd.
" G. M. WILSON (1, 2, 3, 4 & 5) ...	" Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
" R. B. WILSON (1, 2, 3 & 5) ...	" Birkenhead Bros.
" L. H. WOODNUTT (3 & 4) ...	" Bird & Co.
" A. WRIGHT (2 & 3) ...	" Jardine, Skinner & Co.
" STEPHEN YOUNG (1 & 2) ...	" Duncan Brothers & Co.

(1)—General Trade questions—excluding Quality.

(2)—Gunnies—Quality &c.

(3)—Jute—Kutcha sales—Quality &c.

(4)—Jute—Pacca sales—Quality &c.

(5)—Cuttings—Quality &c.

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION.

ARBITRATORS OF MISCELLANEOUS GOODS, 1921-22.

ANCHORS & CHAINS.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
Capt. R. M. Dooley	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
Mr. C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" V. A. Laurie	... " John King & Co., Ltd.

ANILINE DYES.

Mr. R. H. Turnbull	... Messrs. Turnbull Bros., Ltd.
" E. G. Wheeler	... " D. Waldie & Co.
" A. C. Wright	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.

BARLEY.

Mr. W. E. Bailey	... Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" C. Warren Boulton	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
" C. H. Pawthrop	... " Lipton, Ltd.
" J. P. Longland	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
" H. McDonald	... " Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ltd.
" R. I. Meyer	... " Petrocchino Bros.
" P. Nicchi	... " "

BELTING.

Mr. H. R. Bell	... The Asbestos & Belting Co., Ltd.
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BLEACHING POWDER.

Mr. E. Roper Lowe	... Messrs. D. Waldie & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull	... Turnbull Bros., Ltd.
" A. C. Wright	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.

BOLTS & NUTS.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
" A. Cameron	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" V. A. Laurie	... " John King & Co., Ltd.
" J. P. Longland	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
" H. McDonald	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
" J. Skippers	... " Skippers & Co., Ltd.

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BONE MEAL.

Mr. B. A. Biddulph Messrs. Hollingshurst & Co.
" E. E. Cossey " Hollingshurst & Co.
" W. S. Fairlie ...	... " Graham & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ltd.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.

BOOTS & SHOES.

Mr. N. M. Carter ...	... Messrs. Bird & Co.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ltd.

BRASS.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
" A. Cameron ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" J. P. Longland ...	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ltd.
" H. McDonald ...	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ltd.
" J. F. Macdonald ...	... The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" J. Skippers ...	... Messrs. Skippers & Co., Ltd.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ltd.

BUILDING AND DECORATING MATERIALS.

Mr. H. R. Bell ...	... The Asbestos & Belting Co., Ltd.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" G. F. Walton ...	... " Bird & Co.

CEMENT.

Mr. A. Cameron ...	... Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ltd.
" J. F. Macdonald ...	... The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... Messrs. Kahn & Kahn.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ltd.
" G. F. Walton ...	... " Bird & Co.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.

CHALK.

Mr. Gordon Duff ...	... Messrs. Bird & Co.
" C. H. Holmes " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" A. C. Wright " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
" E. G. Wheeler " D. Waldie & Co.

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CHEMICALS.

Mr. C. H. Holmes Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" R. H. Turnbull " Turnbull Bros., Ltd.
" A. C. Wright ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... " D. Waldie & Co., Ltd.

CHINA CLAY.

Mr. C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ltd.

CIGARETTES.

Mr. C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ltd.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... Messrs. Turnbull Bros., Ltd.

COAL.

Mr. A. A. F. Bray ...	... Messrs. Jardine, Skinner & Co.
" W. L. Carey, M.L.C. ...	... " F. W. Heilgers & Co.
" S. Eardley-Wilmot ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" J. H. Jennaway ...	... " Martin & Co.
" B. R. C. Lindsay ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
" A. McKerrow ...	... " F. W. Heilgers & Co., Ltd.
" W. Morgan ...	... " Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" E. S. Tarlton ...	... " Bird & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ltd.
" H. H. Wadsworth ...	... " Bird & Co.
" D. A. Wills ...	... " F. W. Heilgers & Co.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.

COAL TAR.

Mr. S. Eardley-Wilmot	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ltd.
" E. S. Tarlton ...	... " Bird & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ltd.
" H. H. Wadsworth ...	... " Bird & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.

COKE.

Mr. A. A. F. Bray ...	... Messrs. Jardine, Skinner & Co.
" W. L. Carey, M.L.C. ...	... " F. W. Heilgers & Co.
" S. Barclay-Wilmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" J. H. Jennaway ...	... " Martin & Co.
" B. R. C. Lindsay ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" A. McKerrrow ...	... " F. W. Heilgers & Co.
" W. Morgan ...	... " Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" E. S. Tarlton ...	... " Bird & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" H. H. Wadsworth ...	... " Bird & Co.
" D. A. Wills ...	... " F. W. Heilgers & Co.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.

CONDENSED MILK.

Mr. C. H. Faethrop ...	... Messrs. Lipton, Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" F. H. Jefferys ...	... " Samuel Fitz & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... " The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... Messrs. Kahn & Kahn.
" T. A. Ryde ...	... " The Anglo Swiss Condensed Milk Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... Messrs. Turnbull Bros., Ld.

COPPER.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton ...	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" J. P. Longland ...	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" H. McDonald ...	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" J. F. Macdonald ...	... " The Bombay Co., Ld.
" J. Skippers ...	... Messrs. Skippers & Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.

CORRUGATED IRON.

Mr. F. Blich ...	... Messrs. Martin & Co.
" C. Warren Boulton ...	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... " The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" J. P. Longland ...	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" E. Roper Lowe ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.
" H. McDonald ...	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" J. F. Macdonald ...	... " The Bombay Co., Ld.
" J. Skippers ...	... Messrs. Skippers & Co., Ld.

COTTON.

Mr. T. A. Kay ...	... Messrs. Birkmyre Bros.
" J. G. Martin ...	... " Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.
" A. B. Westerhout ...	... " Anderson, Wright & Co.

CUTLERY.

Mr. C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... " The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... Messrs. John King & Co., Ld.
" J. Skippers ...	... " Skippers & Co., Ld.

DRUGS & MEDICINES.

Mr. W. H. Miles ...	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

EARTHENWARE.

Mr. C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... " The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.

ELECTRICAL FITTINGS & SUPPLIES.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton ...	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... " The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" W. E. A. Morby ...	... Messrs. Kilburn & Co.

FIRE BRICKS.

Mr. A. Cameron ...	... Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" S. A. Roberts ...	... " Bird & Co.
" E. S. Tarlton ...	... " Do.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

FIRE CLAY.

Mr. A. Cameron ...	... Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" S. A. Roberts " Bird & Co.
" E. S. Tarlton " Do.
" R. H. Turnbull " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" E. G. Wheeler " D. Waldie & Co.

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GLASS.

Mr. C. H. Holmes Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... Messrs. Kahn & Kahn.

GLASS BANGLES & BEADS.

Mr. C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray ...	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... Kahn & Kahn.

HARDWARE.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron ...	... Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... Messrs. John King & Co., Ld.
" J. P. Longland ...	... Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" H. McDonald ...	... Do.
" W. F. Machray ...	... G. Atherton & Co.
" J. Skippers ...	... Skippers & Co., Ld.

HEMP (MANILA).

Mr. R. H. Child ...	... Messrs. Bird & Co.
" T. A. Kay ...	... Birkmyre Bros.
" C. A. Padfield ...	... Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.

IRON.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron ...	... Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" J. P. Longland ...	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... John King & Co., Ld.
" E. Roper Lowe ...	... D. Waldie & Co.
" H. McDonald ...	... Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" W. F. Machray ...	... G. Atherton & Co.
" J. F. Macdonald The Bombay Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull Messrs. Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" J. Skippers Skippers & Co., Ld.

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IRON ORE.

Mr. F. W. Baldwin	... Messrs. Grandage, Moir & Co., Ld.
" C. Warren Boulton	... Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" Gordon Duff ...	... Bird & Co.
" J. Lyle ...	... John King & Co., Ld.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... Kahn & Kahn.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... D. Waldie & Co.

MANGANESE ORE.

Mr. S. Eardley-Wilmot	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... Kahn & Kahn.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.

LAO (SHELL, STICK & BUTTON).

Mr. L. G. de Bretton	... Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ld.
" G. E. F. Campbell	... Lipton, Ld.
" R. Hayward ...	... D. Waldie & Co.
" J. T. Larton ...	... Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" S. E. A. Whiteway	... Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

LEAD.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" E. Hayward	... D. Waldie & Co.
" C. H. Holmes	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... John King & Co., Ld.
" J. P. Longland	... Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" H. McDonald	... Ditto.
" R. H. Turnbull	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" A. C. Wright	... Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

LEATHER & LEATHER GOODS.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" J. Skippers	... Skippers & Co., Ld.
" L. B. Sutcliffe	... Bird & Co.

LIGHT RAILWAY MATERIALS.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" J. J. Godfrey	... Melrod & Co.
" C. A. J. Hendry	... Martin & Co.
" C. H. Holmes	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... John King & Co., Ld.
" A. M. Oblin	... Kahn & Kahn.
" S. A. Roberts	... Bird & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.

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LINSEED.

Mr. W. E. Bailey Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" C. Warren Boulton " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" R. Donaldson ...	... " Harrisops & Crossfield, Ld.
" J. S. Ezra ...	... Mr. M. A. Sassoon.
" R. I. Meyer ...	... Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta), Ld.
" P. Nicachi ...	... " Petrocochino Bros.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

MACHINERY.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton ...	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" G. F. Huggins (printing) ...	... John Dickinson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" S. A. Roberts ...	... " Bird & Co.
" R. J. D. Ward (printing) ...	... John Dickinson & Co., Ld.

MATCHES.

Mr. C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" E. G. Wheeler ...	... Messrs. D. Waldie & Co.

MANGANESE ORE.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton ...	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" S. Eardley-Wilmot ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" E. Hayward ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... " Kahn & Kahn.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

MICA.

Mr. L. G. de Bretton ...	... Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta), Ld.
" C. Warren Boulton ...	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" S. Eardley-Wilmot ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.

MYRABOLLAMS.

Mr. L. G. de Bretton ...	... Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta), Ld.
" G. E. F. Campbell ...	... " Lipton, Ld.
" S. Eardley-Wilmot ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.

(135a)

NAILS.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton ...	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... Messrs. John King & Co., Ld.
" J. P. Longland ...	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" H. McDonald ...	... " Do.
" J. F. Macdonald ...	... The Bombay Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray ...	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... " Kahn & Kahn.

NEEDLES.

Mr. C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray ...	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... " Kahn & Kahn.

OIL.

Mr. K. Ainslie ...	... Messrs. F. W. Heilgers & Co.
" R. Donaldson (Castor) ...	... " Harrisons & Crossfield Ld.
" E. Hayward ...	... " D. Waldie & Co.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" D. C. Lawrence ...	... " Anderson, Wright & Co.
" J. W. McDonald (Castor) ...	... " Harrisons & Crossfield Ld.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... " Kahn & Kahn.
" A. C. Wright ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

OILMAN'S STORES.

Mr. C. H. Fawthrop ...	... Messrs. Lipton, Ld.
" C. H. Holmes ...	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" F. H. Jefferys ...	... " Samuel Fitze & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan ...	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" A. M. Oblin ...	... Messrs. Kahn & Kahn.

PAINTS.

Mr. C. H. Holmes ...	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie ...	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull ...	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" A. C. Wright ...	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

PAPER.

Mr. A. R. Barbour	... Messrs. F. W. Heilgers & Co.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" G. F. Huggins...	... " John Dickinson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" R. J. D. Ward	... Messrs. John Dickinson & Co., Ld.

PEAS.

Mr. W. E. Bailey	... Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" D. C. Lawrence	... " Anderson, Wright & Co.
" R. I. Meyer	... " Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta), Ld.
" P. Nicchi	... " Petrocchino Bros.

PERFUMES & ESSENCE.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" W. H. Miles	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" A. M. Oblin	... " Khan & Kahn.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

PITCH.

Mr. V. A. Laurie	... Messrs. John King & Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" A. C. Wright	... Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

QUICKSILVER.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray	... " G. Atherton & Co.
" J. F. Macdonald	... The Bombay Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull	... Messrs. Turnbull Bros., Ld.

RED & WHITE LEAD.

Mr. E. Hayward	... Messrs. D. Waldie & Co.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" J. P. Longland	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" H. McDonald	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. M. Oblin	... " Kahn & Kahn.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" A. C. Wright	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

RICE.

Mr. W. E. Bailey	... Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" R. Donaldson	... " Harrison & Crossfield, Ld.
" D. C. Lawrence	... " Anderson, Wright & Co.
" R. I. Meyer	... " Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta), Ld.
" J. F. Macdonald	... The Bombay Co., Ld.
" P. Nicchi	... Messrs. Petrocchino Bros.

ROPES (WIRE).

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray	... " G. Atherton & Co.
" C. A. Padfield	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

ROPES (HEMP).

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" C. A. Padfield	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

ROSIN.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" E. Hayward	... " D. Waldie & Co.
" A. C. Wright	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

SADDLERY AND SADDLERS IRONMONGERY.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray	... " G. Atherton & Co.

SALT.

Mr. A. Duggan	... Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" G. D. Lys	... " Graliam & Co.
" A. M. Oblin	... " Kahn & Kahn.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" S. H. White	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

SALTPETRE.

Mr. B. A. Biddulph	... Messrs. Hollingshurst & Co., (India), Ld.
" L. G. de Bretton	... " Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta) Ld.
" E. E. Cossey	... " Hollingshurst & Co., (India), Ld.
" G. E. F. Campbell	... " Lipton, Ld.
" R. Donaldson	... " Harrison & Crossfield, Ld.
" E. Hayward	... " D. Waldie & Co.
" D. C. Lawrence	... " Anderson, Wright & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

SCHOOL SLATES.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" A. M. Oblin	... Messrs. Kahn & Kahn.

SCREWS.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... Messrs. John King & Co., Ld.
" J. P. Longland	... " Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" H. McDonald	... " Do.
" W. F. Machray	... " G. Atherton & Co.
" A. M. Oblin	... " Kahn & Kahn.

SPELTER.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... Messrs. John King & Co., Ld.
" J. F. Macdonald	... The Bombay Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

SPIRIT.

Mr. H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull	... Messrs. Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" E. G. Wheeler	... " D. Waldie & Co.

STEEL.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" F. Bliet	... " Martin & Co.
" A. Cameron	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... Messrs. John King & Co., Ld.
" J. F. Macdonald	... The Bombay Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" E. O. Pearce	... " Bird & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

STRUCTURAL IRON WORK.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" C. S. Whiteman	... Martin & Co.
" R. Young	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" J. S. Young	... John King & Co., Ld.

SUGAR.

Mr. T. C. J. Davis	... Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" R. Donaldson	... Harrison & Crosfield, Ld.
" A. Duggan	... Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" G. D. Lys	... Graham & Co.
" R. I. Meyer	... Becker, Gray & Co., (Calcutta) Ld.
" J. Prentice	... Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" R. B. Turnbull	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" A. L. B. Tucker	... Kilburn & Co.
" A. B. Westerhout	... Anderson, Wright & Co.
" E. G. Wheeler	... D. Waldie & Co.

TARPAULINS.

Mr. A. Bremner	... Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" C. H. Holmes	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" T. A. Kay	... Birkmyre Bros.
" C. A. Padfield	... Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

TEA CHESTS.

Mr. Alex. Davenport	... Messrs. Bird & Co.
" J. M. Davenport	... Davenport & Co.
" F. W. Davenport	... Kilburn & Co.
" Carl Reid	... Harrison & Crosfield, Ld.
" R. K. Stevens	... McLeod & Co.
" F. Wellings	... Lipton, Ld.

TEA LEAD.

Mr. Alex. Davenport	... Messrs. Bird & Co.
" T. W. Davenport	... Kilburn & Co.
" C. H. Holmes	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... John King & Co., Ld.
" Carl Reid	... Harrison & Crosfield, Ld.
" R. K. Stevens	... McLeod & Co.

TIN.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... John King & Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull	... Turnbull Bros., Ld.

TIN PLATES.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... Messrs. John King & Co., Ld.
" J. F. Macdonald	... The Bombay Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" F. Wallings	... " Lipton, Ld.
" A. C. Wright	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

TOBACCO.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" A. B. Westerhout	... " Anderson, Wright & Co.

TOYS.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" H. J. W. Kaan	... The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ld.

TURPENTINE.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" A. C. Wright	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

TWINE.

Mr. A. Bremner	... Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" G. E. F. Campbell	... " Lipton, Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" T. A. Kay	... " Birkmyre Bros.
" C. A. Padfield	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

VARNISHES.

Mr. C. H. Holmes	... Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" R. B. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" A. C. Wright	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

WHITING.

Mr. A. C. Wright	... Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
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WHEAT.

Mr. W. E. Bailey	... Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" G. E. F. Campbell	... " Lipton, Ld.
" R. I. Meyer	... " Becker, Gray & Co. (Calcutta), Ld.
" P. Nicachi	... " Prococchio Brothers.

YELLOW METAL.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" J. F. Macdonald	... The Bombay Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.

ZINO.

Mr. C. Warren Boulton	... Messrs. Alfred Herbert (India), Ld.
" A. Cameron	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.
" C. H. Holmes	... " Holmes, Wilson & Co., Ld.
" V. A. Laurie	... " John King & Co., Ld.
" J. F. Macdonald	... The Bombay Co., Ld.
" W. F. Machray	... Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" R. H. Turnbull	... " Turnbull Bros., Ld.
" E. G. Wheeler	... " D. Waldie & Co.
" A. C. Wright	... " Turner, Morrison & Co., Ld.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF

THE PROVIDENT FUND

*Adopted at the Annual General Meeting of the Chamber held
on Wednesday, the 27th February 1907.*

1. These Rules and Regulations shall take effect as from the 1st day of January 1907.

2. "Chamber" means the Bengal Chamber of Commerce incorporated under Section 26 of the Indian Companies Act, 1882.

"Committee" means the members of the Committee for the time being of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

"Managers" means the persons or person in whom the management of the Fund shall, for the time being, be vested as hereinafter provided.

"Trustee" means the Trustees of the Fund, for the time being, appointed as hereinafter provided.

"Salary" means only the fixed monthly salary received by each employé from the Chamber, and does not include any acting, officiating or personal allowance, bonus, commission, or other remuneration or profit whatever, uncertain in amount, or derived by any employé by any means outside his ascertained salary.

3. The management of the Fund shall subject to the general supervision and control of the Committee, be vested in the members, for the time being, constituting the firm of Messrs. Lovelock and Lewis, Chartered Accountants, or such other person or persons as the Committee may from time to time, at its uncontrolled discretion, appoint, and the necessary expenses of management, including the remuneration of the Managers (to be from time to time agreed on by the Managers and the Committee), shall be borne by and be a charge on the Fund.

4. The Committee shall appoint, annually, in the month of March, two Trustees of the Fund, both of whom shall be members of the Committee. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the course of any year, the Committee shall appoint one of their number to fill the vacancy for the remainder of such year.

5. Every employé of the Chamber in the service of the Chamber on 1st January 1907, and every employé who shall join the service of the Chamber, on or after that date, shall submit to

these Rules and Regulations, and every such employé shall sign an Agreement in the form annexed to the Rules and Regulations.

6. The subscription to the Fund shall be a sum equal to 5 per cent. on the amount of the salary of each employé which subscription shall be deducted by the Committee monthly from such salary before payment of same and such subscription shall be placed to the credit of each employé with the Provident Fund.

7. The Committee shall in any manner it may think most convenient, from time to time, deduct from any sum payable by them to any employé, whether by way of salary or otherwise, such sum as may be required to pay any subscription due from him to the Fund, and shall, from time to time, deal with the sums so deducted in the manner prescribed in Rule 10.

8. The subscription of any employé absent on leave or furlough shall, during the period of such absence, be assessed on the salary allowed during such absence, but any employé shall be at liberty, subject to the consent of the Committee, to subscribe on the full amount of his salary, if desired, provided notice in writing of such desire shall have been given by him to the Committee prior to the due date for payment of salary next after such employé shall have obtained leave or furlough.

9. For and in respect of each complete year ending with the 31st day of December, the Chamber shall contribute to the Fund a sum equal to the aggregate amount of the subscriptions of all the employés of the Chamber for such year and shall pay the same to the credit of the Fund, but the Chamber may at any time cease and withdraw contribution in respect of any employé whose interest in the Fund shall have been transferred, assigned, attached or otherwise dealt with or affected as indicated by Rule 24 and thereupon all moneys standing to the credit of such employé represented by or referable to, contributions by the Chamber and the interest thereon shall on demand be refunded by the Trustees to the Chamber.

10. The Committee shall, from time to time, pay into the Bank of Bengal at Calcutta, or any other Bank at Calcutta sanctioned by the Committee, direct under advice of the Managers, to the credit of an account to be opened in the names of the Trustees, all moneys received by them after payment thereof of the expenses of management. All moneys to the credit of such account shall be dealt with only in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, and all or any portion of such moneys shall be withdrawn from such account only by cheques bearing the signatures of the two Trustees in addition to the signature of the Secretary of the Chamber.

11. All moneys not immediately required for the purpose of the Fund shall be, from time to time, invested by the Trustees in the name of the Bank of Bengal (who shall hold same in safe custody on behalf of the Trustees) at their discretion in any of the following Securities, that is to say—any of the Rupee or Sterling Securities

of the Government of India or any Securities, the interest on which is or shall be guaranteed by the Government of India, or in the Bonds, Debentures, or Securities of, or issued by, any public, Municipal or local Body or Authority in India, or in the fully paid-up Stock or Shares of any of the Presidency Banks in India with power for the Trustees, at their discretion, from time to time, to vary or transmute such investments into or for others of any nature hereinbefore authorised. No Trustee shall be liable for any loss arising from or contingent upon any such investment, unless it has been occasioned by his negligence or fraud.

12. The Trustee shall, from time to time, upon the written requisition of the Managers, pay to them such sum or sums as may be required for the purposes of these Rules and Regulations, and shall, if necessary, raise the moneys required for same by a sale of the Securities held by the Trustees, or of a sufficient part thereof or by loan on the security of the same.

13. On the 31st day of December in each year, the Managers shall credit each employé with the equivalent of his subscription for the preceding year, as provided for under Rule 9, and thereafter having ascertained the amount available for division among the members arising from the interest accrued on Securities, any sums forfeited to the Fund under these Rules and Regulations, and all other moneys, (if any) that should properly be brought into account less the necessary expenses of management as provided by Rule 3, the Managers shall provisionally credit each employé, in proportion to the amount standing to his credit on each 31st December in respect of his total subscriptions, with his share of the amount so ascertained.

14. On or as soon as may be after the 31st day of December 1907, and the 31st day of December of every succeeding year, the Managers, subject to the approval of the Trustees, shall ascertain and fix the Market-value, as on the said 31st December, of the total net investments and Securities held by or belonging to the Fund, including interest up to the same day on any Securities, on which interest is usually calculated on sale or transfer thereof, and after deducting the payments made therefrom, and providing for debts and ascertained liabilities, paid or incurred, respectively, agreeably with these Rules and Regulations, the Managers shall forthwith debit or credit, as the case may be, the account of each employé in the books of the Fund with a share of the difference between the value as appearing from the last preceding valuation recorded in the said books and the then market-value as so fixed and ascertained as said books and the then Investments and Securities, including interest as aforesaid, in proportion to the amount at credit of each employé on the said 31st December.

15. A statement of account of each employé shall be made up to the 31st December of each year, and each employé shall be

required to certify in writing upon such account that the amount therein shown, as standing to his credit, is correct.

16. Except as is by these Rules and regulations expressly provided, no member or any person or persons on his behalf, in respect of his interest in the Fund, shall be entitled to claim any payment of money to him or them.

17. On the death of any employé, the Managers shall pay to his Executors or Administrators the amount standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 31st day of December preceding such death, and shall also pay to his Executors or Administrators the amount in full of his paid-up subscription for the then current year.

18. On the voluntary resignation or retirement of any employé from the service of the Chamber without the existence of any cause justifying his dismissal, the Managers shall pay to him the aggregate amount subscribed by him to the fund and the amount (if any) standing to his credit for interest, and shall in respect of the balance standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 31st day of December preceding such resignation or retirement, pay to him one-twentieth part of such balance for each completed year of service from the 1st January 1907.

19. In case of any employé becoming permanently incapacitated owing to injury sustained whilst in the service of the Chamber, or in case of the resignation or retirement with the previous written sanction of the Committee of any employé owing to illness, old age, or any other reason considered adequate by the Committee and so certified in writing by them, the Managers shall (subject to the provisions of these Rules) pay to such incapacitated, resigning or retiring employé, the amount standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 31st day of December preceding such incapacity, resignation, or retirement, and also (subject as aforesaid) the full amount of his paid-up subscriptions for the then current year, together with such sums as are provided for under Rules 9 and 18.

20. If any employé shall be dismissed from the service of the Chamber, the Managers shall (subject to these rules) pay to him the aggregate amount only subscribed by him to the Fund, without interest, and the balance, if any, of all moneys then standing to his credit in the books of the Fund shall (subject as aforesaid) upon such dismissal be forfeited to the use of the Fund, and shall be dealt with accordingly: provided also that the Managers may dismiss member the amount to which he would have been entitled under Rule 18, if he had voluntarily retired from the service of the Chamber and had not been dismissed.

21. The Chamber shall have a first and paramount charge upon the amount, from time to time, standing to the credit of each employé, and upon all other moneys of the Fund in or to which he

may be interested or entitled, for and in respect of all losses, damages, costs and expenses, which the Chamber may at any time pay, sustain, or be put to, by reason of any act of embezzlement or default of or by such employé, and the amount from time to time standing to the credit of each employé; and all such other moneys as aforesaid, shall be deemed and treated as a deposit made by him with the Chamber as security for his fidelity and be dealt with accordingly, and in the event of any claim arising by the Chamber against any employé under this Rule, the same shall be paid so far as the fund in which such employé shall be interested shall extend, by the fund to the Chamber on the written requisition of the Committee, and such employé shall absolutely forfeit all right and interest thereto and thereon.

22. In case any employé shall die leaving any moneys standing to his credit in the books of the Fund such moneys shall be paid only to the Executor, or Administrator, of the deceased member on the production to the Managers of Probate of the Will or of Letters of Administration to the Estate of such employé.

23. In all cases wherein a certificate shall be required of the amount of the balance standing in the books of the Fund to the credit of a deceased member, for the purpose of obtaining free of stamp duty a grant of Probate of Letters of Administration, or any other purpose, such certificate shall be in the following form—

No.	
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROVIDENT FUND.	
It is hereby certified that the balance standing in the books	
of the Provident Fund of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce,	
to the credit of .....	..... numbered as above on the
..... of .....	..... day of
..... was Rupees .....	..... 19
dated this day of	
Entered	
Examined	
Managers.	

24. No employé shall be entitled to draw money from the Fund against his interest in it, or to transfer or assign, whether by way of security or otherwise howsoever, his interest or any part thereof in the Fund, and no such transfer assignment shall be valid, and the Managers, Trustees, or Committee shall not recognize or be

bound by notice to them, respectively, of any such transfer or assignment, and all moneys standing in the books of the Fund to the credit of the employé so transferring or assigning his interest as aforesaid, shall forthwith be forfeited as from the date of such transfer or assignment to the use of the Fund, and be dealt with accordingly, and further, if any prohibitory order or attachment or process of the Civil Court, be served upon the Trustees, or the Committee or the Managers, or any of them, or any person on their behalf, by which any moneys standing to the credit of any employé in the books of the Fund shall be attached, or be ordered to be paid into a Civil Court, or be ordered to be withheld from such employé, such moneys shall forthwith be forfeited to the use of the fund, and be dealt with accordingly; provided that the Committee shall be at liberty, if the Committee in their uncontrolled discretion shall so think fit at any time thereafter, to give such moneys or any part thereof for the benefit of such employé or his wife, children, or relations, and the Managers shall deal with such moneys accordingly on the written requisition of the Committee.

25. The Chamber undertakes to hold every Trustee indemnified against all proceedings, costs and expenses, occasioned by any claim in connection with the Fund, not arising from his negligence or fraud.

26. It shall be lawful for the Committee, from time to time and at any time hereafter, in writing under their hands, to alter, vary, modify, re-make, rescind, or add to these Rules and Regulations, or any of them, but so that no such alteration, variation, modification, re-making, rescission, or addition shall affect the rights of any employé with respect to the Fund.

27. If any dispute shall at any time arise between the Managers or the Trustees for the time being of the Fund on the one hand, and any employé or any Executor, Administrator, or next-of-kin of any employé, or any person claiming as such next-of-kin or in any other capacity, on the other hand regarding these Rules and Regulations and the interpretation thereof, or any matter arising there or connected therewith, then and in every such case the matter in dispute shall be referred in writing to two Arbitrators, and such reference shall be deemed to be a submission to arbitration within the Indian Arbitration Act, 1899, or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof, for the time being in force, the provisions whereof shall apply as far as applicable.

I hereby declare that I have read the foregoing Rules and Regulations of the Provident Fund of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and that I agree to be bound by them.

Dated the.....day of.....19.....
 Name in full.....
 Date of birth.....
 Nature of appointment.....
 Date of joining service.....
 Salary per mensem, Rupees.....
 Signature.....
 Witness.....

CHAMBER RULINGS.

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CHAMBER RULINGS.

1

When two-thirds of a ship's inward freight was payable at home and one-third in Calcutta, it was held that "inward freight" meant "the freight collected in Calcutta."

2

There being nothing to the contrary in the Charter Party, lay-days will count while a vessel is in the stream, provided she is ready and able to work, and boats can lie alongside and deal with cargo in safety.

If a vessel enters at a Custom House before 12 noon on, say, the 1st of a month, lay-days commence 24 hours after notice of readiness is given. If she enters after 12 noon then lay-days commence on the morning of the 3rd.

Notice of readiness before inward entry of a vessel at the Custom House is not a proper notice.

NOTE:—This ruling does not apply to coal charters.

3

An Agent should return to his constituents any discounts allowed on insurance

4

"Running days" means every day without exception or exclusion.

"Working days" exclude Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and such public gazetted holidays as may be declared by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce as holidays recognised by the Chamber under Charter Parties and Shipping Orders according to the custom of the port, also such days as may, under the provision made in the succeeding paragraph, be declared to be non-working days.

During inclement weather the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, in consultation with the Port Officer, will decide as to what may or may not be considered a working day.

After a vessel comes on demurrage, all time counts.

NOTE:—Holidays are now declared in December of each year by the Chamber, as under Shipping Orders and Charter Parties according to the custom of the port.

5

There is no custom of the port which would make warehousing at the jetties a shipment according to the custom of the port.

6

New rules of business.—The limits of the Port of Calcutta having been extended by a Notification of the Government of Bengal, dated 24th June 1886, which came into force on the 10th July 1886 so as to include within these limits the new petroleum depot at Budge-Budge, it has become necessary to frame a rule of business which shall meet the special circumstances which have made this extension of the Port necessary.

The following rule, which has met with almost unanimous support, is recommended by the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for general adoption :—

"Unless specified in the Charter-Party or Shipping Order, steamers or sailing vessels cannot demand of the consignee to take delivery of, or fill up cargo, except within the limits of the Port, as set forth in the Notification of the 18th August 1879 of the Government of Bengal."

7

So long as a ship is ready to take in the stipulated quantity of cargo continuously, she is in position to give notice of being ready for outward cargo, no matter if she had still a portion of her inward cargo on board.

8

The Indian Maund only is used by the Customs authorities for salt weightings. It weighs 82½ lbs.

9

Shipments at Diamond Harbour.—In cases where, for mutual convenience, arrangements are made to put cargo on board vessels at Diamond Harbour or between Calcutta and Diamond Harbour, shipments so made shall be deemed to be, and shall be accepted, as Calcutta Shipment.

[NOTE.—This rule is not believed to be binding on the other side without express arrangement to that effect.]

10

Value of Jute Marks.—In a suit (No. 270 of 1892), tried by Mr. Justice Trevelyan on 18th January 1893, for damages on account of the non-acceptance of 1,000 bales jute a question of the value of the jute mark was raised—on this point the Judge said :—

"It was suggested on behalf of the plaintiffs that, if the bales were marked (mark given) and contained jute cuttings of any class, they would be sufficient to satisfy the contract. This would be true if the expression—'Jute

"cuttings marked (mark given) has no meaning in the market. If, on the other hand, it has any such meaning "then the plaintiffs must, under the terms of section 113 "of the Indian Contract Act, be taken as guaranteeing "that the goods supplied were what is commercially "known by that description."

Section 113 of the Indian Contract Act, IX of 1872, is as under.

113.—When goods are sold as being of a certain denomination, there is an implied warranty that they are such goods as are commercially known by that denomination, although the buyer may have bought by sample, or after inspection of the bulk.

Explanation.—But if the contract specifically states that the goods, though sold as of a certain denomination, are not warranted to be of that denomination, there is no implied warranty.

The Committee understand, as the invariable custom of the jute trade, that a certain mark carries with it, unless specially contracted for otherwise, a certain guarantee of quality with a reasonable divergence ruled by crop and period of delivery.

11

General liability of Brokers.—A reference having been made by the Indian Jute Manufacturers' Association "on the general question of the liability of Brokers," the Committee replied—"In their opinion a broker is liable to his principals for consequences if he does not deliver identical contracts.

12

Sundays and Charter-Party Holidays in relation to Mercantile Contracts.—Goods falling due for delivery on Sunday or on a Charter-Party and Shipping Holiday, must be delivered on the day previous to the Sunday or the Charter-Party and shipping holiday, as the case may be.

13

Steamers' Lay-days under Coal Charters.—

- (1) A steamer's lay-days commence at 6 A.M. on the working day next following the day before 12 noon of which notice of readiness to load has been given. But notice cannot be given until the vessel is (a) entered outwards at the Custom House, and (b) until she is within the

- (2) Half a lay-day shall be counted, when loading is completed by mid-day. Should work be carried on after mid-day, a whole day shall be counted.

14

Rate of exchange for payment of ocean freights, steamers' hire and demurrage.—All ocean freight and all steamers' hire payable in Calcutta shall, unless otherwise arranged, be calculated at the rate of exchange for demand drafts as certified daily by the Associated Exchange Banks and posted by 11 A.M. in the Royal Exchange.

In the case of outward bills of lading the rate shall be that current on the date of shipment as ascertained by the date of the mate's receipt; and, when there is more than one mate's receipt for one consignment, the date of the last mate's receipt shall be considered as the date of shipment for the whole consignment.

In the case of inward bills of lading the rate shall be that current on the day on which payment of freight is made.

In the case of time chartered steamers the rate shall be that current on the day on which hire is payable according to the terms of the Charter Party.

Demurrage which is paid in sterling shall be paid in rupees at the rate of the day for demand bills.

In the case of claims on import cargo the rate shall be that current on the day on which the steamer, in respect of which the claim is made, enters the port of Calcutta.

In the event of any of the above dates falling on a day on which no rate is posted the rate shall be that current on the last previous date of posting.

* *On the North.*—A line drawn from the boundary pillar at the Cossipore Gun Foundry Ghat to a point on the opposite side at Ghosery.

On the South.—A line drawn from a masonry pillar placed at the mouth of the Budge-Badge khal to a pillar on the Howrah side of the river Hooghly, bearing north-west of the first-named pillar.

The limits of the port include to the east and west (a) so much of the River Tolly and the shores thereof as are 50 yards above the high water mark at spring tides; (b) all lands comprised in the area occupied by the Kidderpore Docks and adjoining works constructed for the purposes of such docks; (c) that portion of Tolly's Nala which lies between Hastings Bridge and the entrance to the Kidderpore Dock Canal; (d) so much of Tolly's Nala as lies to the west of a line drawn Deep at Budge-Budge, including all lands, sheds, railway sidings and other works appertaining to it;

No.....

Calcutta,.....18 .

To

THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE

Ship.....

SIR,

Please receive on board the undernoted goods from

Messrs.
and grant a clean receipt for the same.

N.B.—This cargo is only shipped on the special understanding that the Chief Officer will sign for all counter or quality marks and numbers, and the Bales or packages, are not to be taken on board except on these terms, and also when a sirocar is in attendance to check the tally.

In case of any dispute the shippers request prompt information in writing from one of the Officers of the ship.

Marks and Numbers.	Number of packages.	Description of goods.	

No.

Calcutta, 18 ..

Received on board the ship
in good order and condition the undermentioned goods
from Messrs.

N.B.—The Chief Officer is requested not to take in
any packages unless he is prepared to sign for all the
qualifying marks and numbers.

All packages in bad order must be returned.

Marks and Numbers.	Number of packages.	Description of goods.	

Arrived alongside.....

Discharged.....

Returned.....

Remarks.....

(Signature)

Chief Officer

Ship.....

Moorings.....

CONVERSION OF STERLING FREIGHT INTO INDIAN CURRENCY.

*The following Resolutions were adopted at a General Meeting
of the Chamber, held on the 17th January 1882.*

That the Resolutions adopted, 31st May 1876, respecting conversion into Indian currency of sterling freight and commission thereon be hereby rescinded and that the following Resolution be substituted in their stead with immediate effect, viz.:-

1. "That in the absence of any stipulation to the contrary, sterling freight payable in Calcutta, including differences of freight adjusted in Calcutta, and all commission on sterling freight made payable at Calcutta or there brought into account, shall be reduced into Indian money at the rate of exchange for Bank Bills on London on demand which shall have been current on the mail day next preceding the day when the amount to be dealt with shall be ascertained.
2. "That, in the absence of anything to the contrary expressed, the words 'current rate of exchange' shall be held to mean the rate current for Bank Bills on London payable on demand.
3. "That, for the purposes of charging commission or adjusting differences, freight expressed in dollars (American) shall be converted into sterling at a uniform rate of fifty pence per dollar."

H. W. I. WOOD,
Secretary.

(160a)

CONFERENCE BILLS OF LADING.

Extract from Proceedings of a Special General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, held on 26th May 1880.

The Chairman said he would move the following Resolution :—

"That the form of Bill of Lading—Calcutta to United Kingdom—agreed on in London on 11th April 1881 by a Committee of shipowners and merchants, and copy of which is lodged with the Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, be adopted for all ports, whether in the United Kingdom or otherwise."

"At the suggestion of Mr. W. H. McKewan, the following words were added to the Resolution: "as from 1st January 1887."

Mr. James Stevenson seconded the Resolution.

"It was then, as amended, put to the Meeting and carried."

This Resolution was, on the motion of Mr. W. Bleack, Vice-President, seconded by Mr. George Yule, confirmed at a Special General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held on the 27th November 1886.

S. E. J. CLARKE,
Secretary.

(161a)

CONFERENCE BILL OF LADING.

Printed from a signed copy of Bill of Lading, dated 11th April 1881, agreed on in London by Committee of Shipowners and Merchants, and lodged with the Secretary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

SAILING SHIP BILL OF LADING—CALCUTTA TO UNITED KINGDOM.

Shipped in good order and condition, by.....
on board the Ship.....whereof.....
is master for this present voyage.....
lying in the Port of.....
and bound for.....
.....being marked and numbered as per margin, and
to be delivered in the like good order and condition at the aforesaid
port of.....

(The Act of God; the Queen's enemies, loss or damage from fire
on board, in hulk or craft or on shore; any act, neglect or
default whatsoever of Pilots, Master or crew in the navigation
of the Ship in the ordinary course of the voyage and all and
every the dangers and accidents of the seas and rivers, and of
navigation of whatsoever nature or kind excepted.)

unto.....
or to his or their Assigns. Freight to be paid for the said goods at
the rate of.....
without discount, but otherwise subject to the customary mode of
payment. Average as accustomed. In the event of claim for short
delivery, price to be the market price of the day at Port of discharge
on the day of the Ship's reporting at the Custom House, less charge
and brokerage.

Weight, contents, and value unknown.

In witness whereof the Master or Agent of the said Ship
has signed.....Bill of Lading
exclusive of the Master's copy, all of this tenor and date, one of
which being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Dated at Calcutta,

SCHEDULE OF COMMISSION CHARGES.

Revised and adopted by a Special General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce held on the 66th February 1893, with effect from that date.

1. On the sale, purchase, or shipment of Bullion, Gold Dust, or Coins ... 1 per cent.
2. On the purchase (when in funds) or sale of Raw Silk, Silk piecegoods, Opium, Pearls, Precious Stones or Jewellery ... 2½ "
3. On purchasing ditto when funds are provided by the Agents ... 5 "
4. On the sale or purchase of all other goods, the commission in all cases to be charged upon the gross amount of sales, and in regard to purchases upon both cost and charges ... 5 "
5. On returns of consignments if made in produce ... 2½ "
6. On returns of consignments if in Bills, Bullion, or Treasure ... 1 "
7. On accepting Bills against consignments ... 1 "
8. On the sale or purchase of ships, factories, houses, lands, and all property of like description ... 2½ "
9. On goods and treasure consigned, and all other property of any description referred to agency for sale, whether advanced upon or otherwise, which shall afterwards be withdrawn; and on goods consigned for conditional delivery to others and so delivered, on invoice amount at 2s. per rupee ... ½ com.
10. On making advances or procuring loans of money for commercial purchases, when the aggregate commission does not exceed 5 per cent. ... 2½ per cent.
11. On ordering or receiving and delivering goods or superintending the fulfilment of contracts, or on the shipment of goods, where no other commission is derived ... 2½ "
12. On guaranteeing Bills, Bonds or other engagements and on becoming security for administration of Estates, or to Government for the disbursement of public money ... 2½ "
13. On *de-creditors*, or guaranteeing the due realisation of sales ... 2½ "
14. On the management of Estates for Executors or Administrators ... 2½ "
15. On chartering ships or engaging tonnage for constituents for vessels to proceed to outports for loading ... 2½ "
16. On advertising as the Agents for Owners or Commanders of ships for cabin passengers, on the amount of passage money, whether the same shall pass through the Agents' hands or not ... 2½ "

17. On procuring freight for a ship by Shipping Order or Charter, or on procuring employment for a ship on monthly hire or acting as Agents for Owners, Captains or Charterers of vessel, upon the gross amount of freight, brokerage inclusive ... 5 per cent.
18. On engaging Asiatic Emigrants for a ship to the Mauritius, the West Indies or elsewhere, upon the gross amount of earnings ... 5 "
19. On engaging troops for a ship to Great Britain or elsewhere, on the gross amount of passage money for rank and file ... 2½ "
20. On realising inward freight, inward troop, emigrant, or cabin passage money ... 2½ "
21. On landings and re-shipping goods from any vessel in distress, or on landing and selling by auction damaged goods from any such vessel, and acting as Agent for the Master on behalf of all concerned—on the declared value of all such goods as may be re-shipped, and on the net proceeds of all such goods as may be publicly sold ... 2½ to 5 "
22. On effecting insurance, whether on lives or property ... 2½ "
23. On settling insurance claims, losses and averages of all classes, and on procuring returns of premium ... 2½ "
24. On drawing, purchasing, selling or negotiating Bills of Exchange ... 1 "
25. On debts or other claims when a process at law or arbitration is incurred in claiming them ... 2½ "
26. On Bills of Exchange returned dishonoured ... 1 "
27. On collecting house-rent ... 5 "
28. On collecting house-rent ... 2½ "
29. On ships' disbursements ... 2½ "
30. On realising Bottomry Bonds or negotiating any loan on *respondencia* ... 2½ "
31. On granting letters of Credit ... 1 "
32. On sale or purchase of Government Securities and Bank or other Joint Stock Shares and on every exchange or transfer, not by purchase, from one class to another ... ½ "
33. On delivering up Government Securities and Bank or other Joint Stock Shares, on the market value ... ½ "
34. On all amounts debited and credited within the year (less the balance brought forward) upon which no commission amounting to 5 per cent. has been charged ... ½ "

Brokerage when paid is to be separately charged.

S. E. J. CLARKE,
Secretary.

Tonnage Schedule and Measurement Rules for the Port of Calcutta.

(Adopted at a Special General Meeting of the Chamber
held on the 25th February 1921.)

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per ton. Nett.	Cubic feet per ton.
Amieed in bags	8	...
Barley	20	...
Beeswax	20	...
Betal-out	20	50*
Bones, crushed	20	...
Bonemeal	20	...
Borax	20	...
Brass	14	...
Bristles ... ..	...	50
Bullion ... ..	...	not valorem.
Camphor in cases ... ..	...	50
Carbonate of Potash	8	...
Cardamoms in Robbins ... ..	...	50
" in boxes ... ..	...	50
Carpets	12	...
Cassia in bags	15	...
Caster seed	8	...
Chillies (dry) in bags or bundles	8	50
Chirrette in bundles	20	...
Chrome ore	8	...
Cloves in bags ... ..	...	50
" in cases	20	50
Coal	18	...
Cochineal	10	...
Coffee in bags	20	...
Coir in dhols	12	...
Coke	20	...
Copra	20	...
" cake or coconut cake	12	...
Copper ore	20	...
Coriander seed ... ..	...	50
Corundum ore	14	...
Cotton	20	...
" seed	18	50
Cowries ... ..	...	not exceeding 20 cwt. gross.
Cummin seed ... ..	...	...
Cutch in bags ... ..	...	...
" in cases ... ..	...	...
Dates (wet)	20	...
(dry)	16	...
Dhal or dhal	20	50
Fibres, all sorts	12	...
Gallo & vinters in bags	16	...
Ginger	20	...
Gum ... ..	...	50
Gum in cases	20 cwt. gross.	50*
Gumies ... ..	...	50
Gunjah ... ..	...	50
Hemp in bales ... ..	...	50
Hides in bales ... ..	...	50
Hide outtings in bales ... ..	...	...

* At steamers' option.

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per ton Nett.	Cubic feet per ton.
Hoofs, cow & buffalo horns & horn-tips loose	20	...
Hoofs, cow & buffalo horns & horn-tips, in bags or in bundles ... ..	...	50
Horns deer, in bags or in bundles ... ..	...	50
Indigo	50	...
Jute	50	...
Kapok	50	...
" seed	14	...
Lac, button, seed, stick and shellac in bags	16	...
Lac, button, seed, stick and shellac in cases ... ..	...	50
Lac, kirie lac, or lac refuse, in bags	20	...
Lac dye in cases ... ..	...	50
Lard	20	...
Leather in cases or bales ... ..	...	50
Lentils	20	...
Linseed	20	...
Maize	20	...
Manganese	20	...
Mica, tale, in cases	20 cwt. gross.	...
Mother-of-pearl in bags or cases	20 cwt. gross.	...
Morrah seed	20	...
Mosses	20 cwt. gross.	...
Munjeet dye in cases ... ..	...	50
Mustard seed	20	...
Myrabollans whole or crushed	20	...
Niger seed	20	...
Nux vomica seed	20	...
Nutmegs in cases	16	...
Onion	20	...
Oil in cases ... ..	...	50
" in casks or drums ... ..	...	50
" essential seed cake	20	ad valorem.
Oryza ... ..	...	per chest.
Paddy	16	...
Peas	20	...
Pepper long	12	...
" black	14	...
Pig iron & Pig lead	20	...
Poppy seed	20	...
Rattans for dunnage	20	50*
Red wood for dunnage	20	50*
Rape seed	20	...
Rice	20	...
Rope in coils or bundles ... ..	...	50
Rubber in cases ... ..	...	50
Salt	20	...
Safflower	20	...
Salammoniac in bags or boxes	20 cwt. gross.	...
Saltpetre	20	...
Sapwood for dunnage	20	50*
Seams in bales	16	50
Silk raw in bales ... ..	...	50
" in cases or bales ... ..	...	50
" chassum ... ..	...	50
" waste ... ..	...	50
" piece goods	ad valorem.	or 50*

*At steamers' option.

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per ton Nett.	Cubic feet per ton.
Silver specie and/or valuable cargo	15	ad valorem.
Soup in bags ... ..	...	50
" in cases	20	...
Sugar	30 cwt. gross.	...
Skins in casks ... ..	...	50
" in bales	30 cwt. gross.	...
Tamarind in casks or cases	30 cwt. gross.	...
Tallow	20	...
Ten	16	...
" waste as broken stowage	20	...
Tin seed	20	50
Timber ... ..	...	50
Tobacco in cases or bales	16	50
Turneric ... ..	...	50
Twine in cases	20	...
Wax	20	...
Wheat	20	...
Woolfram ... ..	...	50
Wool ... ..	...	...

All unenumerated articles at 50 cubic feet or 20 cwt. gross, at steamers' option. Goods in casks or cases to be calculated at gross weight when paying freight by weight.

Measurement and, when necessary, weighing, shall be made by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Licensed, Measurers Department, in accordance with their rules, and their certificate shall be final, and freight shall be payable in accordance therewith.

Deadweight.—The term *Deadweight* shall be understood to mean the following articles only—Sugar, Saltpetre, Rice, Wheat, Gram, Dholl & Peas.

At a Special General Meeting of the Chamber held on the 4th of October 1883 the following Resolution was adopted:—

"That Rule 1 under the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule be altered as follows, in accordance with the mercantile community at their meeting on the 3rd July 1883, and in accordance with the notice issued by the Chamber of Commerce on the 4th July 1883, under Rule 23 of the Chamber," viz. :—

- 1.—That where freight is payable by measurement, measurement be by sworn measurers, to be placed under the direction of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.
- 2.—That measurement be taken at place of shipment, i.e., exporting wharf, jetty or press-house, where adjacent to place of shipment, at measuring Superintendent's discretion, but only whilst the bales are actually being removed in course of shipment.
- 3.—That such measurement be final.

- 4.—That in case of shut-out cargo, or cargo transferred from one vessel to another, original measurements to hold good.
- 5.—But that any cargo re-landed be re-measured.
- 6.—That measurement be taken at the largest part of the bale, inside the lashing on the one side, and outside on the other.
- 7.—That the measurement of jute shipped without measurement shall be entirely at shipper's risk, and that measurement be a matter of special arrangement between the shippers and ship. Further, that all expenses connected with the measurement thereof, be payable by the shippers.
- 8.—That all cotton and other baled cargo arriving at the East Indian Railway Company's terminus at Howrah, for shipment direct by boat, be measured by the sworn measurers in the Railway Company's sheds, while being removed in actual course of shipment.
- 9.—That all baled cargo pressed at, or exported from, any of the press-houses, to which a sworn measurer may be attached, be treated in the manner as jute, and as provided for in the 2nd Resolution.
- 10.—That gunny bales packed at, or exported from, mills within the limits of the port, be also measured as described in the 2nd Resolution.
- 11.—That gunny bales or other cargo exported by boat, direct from outside the limits of the port, be measured by the sworn measurers on the deck of the ship or alongside, but it shall be optional with outside mills and press-houses to make arrangements with the Managing Committee, on such terms as may be mutually agreed on, for the attendance of sworn measurers, at their ordinary shipping wharves for measurements in accordance with Rule 2.
- 12.—That all baled, cased, or other cargo not provided for in any of the foregoing Resolutions, and which at present is measured on this side, under any of the tonnage schedules now in use in the port, or which may require to be measured on this side, by a special arrangement made between shippers and ship, that all such cargo be measured on the Custom House wharf (if for export by boat) or in the jetty sheds (if for shipment through the jetties) by the sworn measurers.

- 13.—That for the present the sworn measurers to be appointed to carry out this scheme, be placed under the direction of a representative Committee, to be nominated by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

- 14.—That the charge for measurement be defrayed by the ship.

At a Special General Meeting of the Chamber, held on the 29th November 1883, it was resolved—

That for Gunny Bags and Gunny Cloth the ton shall be 50 cubic feet not exceeding 2,240 lbs. "gross".

That the term "Dead Weight" shall be understood to mean the following articles "only":—Sugar, Saltpetre, Rice, Wheat, Gram, Dhol, Peas and all Metals.

* As per standards preserved by the Chamber. In case of disagreement, either shipper or steamer may claim survey by the Chamber which may fix any scale as per standards intermediate or otherwise.
† As per standards preserved by the Chamber. The scale for grades differing from the standards to be settled by private arrangement between shippers and steamer agents. Any disputes between them to be referred to and decided by the Chamber.

1 In accordance with the average quality of which a standard is prescribed by the Bureau.
2 Priced Bran to be understood as not less than 5 pounds (of 25 lbs.) in a bag of 45 1/2 x 25 inches.

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers at Ports in India, Ceylon, Burma and Straits Settlements—(contd.)

[illegible]

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and
Steamers at Ports in India, Ceylon, Burma and
Straits Settlements—(contd.)

[illegible]

* As broken stowage

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and
Steamers at Ports in India, Ceylon, Burma and
Straits Settlements—(contd.)

[illegible]

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and
Steamers at Ports in India, Ceylon, Burma and
Straits Settlements—(contd.)

[illegible]

* This standard is for guidance only. In case of disagreement, either shipper or steamer may claim survey by the Chamber, which may fix any scale based on the standard.

**Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and
Steamers at Ports in India, Ceylon, Burma and
Straits Settlements—(contd.)**

[illegible]

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers at Ports in India, Ceylon, Burma and Straits Settlements—(contd.)

[illegible]

*At ship's option

(India 10 cwts, and Borneo 12 cwts.)

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Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers at Ports in India, Ceylon, Burma and Straits Settlements—(contd.)

[illegible]

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Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and
Steamers at Ports in India, Ceylon, Burma and
Straits Settlements—(concl'd.)

[illegible]

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NOTES.

COLOMBO.

The standard ton of Colombo for ships and steamers for measurement of goods is 40 cubic feet.

In the Colombo Scale D signifies net delivered.
" S " " " shipped unless otherwise stated."

BOMBAY.

The standard ton at Bombay for ships for measurement of goods shall be taken at 50 cubic feet.

The tonnage scale for steamers shall be on the basis of 40 cubic feet, but in no case to exceed 20 cwt. dead-weight to the ton.

Freight, Inwards.

Payable in Bombay.

That the conversion into Indian currency of sterling freight inward to Bombay, payable in Bombay, shall, unless otherwise stipulated, be made at the rate for Bank Bills on London payable on demand; and that the rate ruling at the close of a Mail shall be the rate applicable to such purpose during the subsequent week.

Freight, Outwards.

Payable in Bombay.

That freight outward from Bombay, stated in sterling, payable in Bombay (in the absence of any stipulation in the Shipping Order or Charter-Party to the contrary), shall be converted into Indian currency at the rate for Bank Bills on London payable on demand; and that the rate ruling at the close of a Mail shall be the rate applicable for Bills of Lading presented during the subsequent week; on difference of freight, $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. as customary in the case of Sailing Ships, and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for steamers being allowed as discount to cover cost of insurance and interest, until the due date of the freight.

Shut-out Cargo.

That in cases when shipping orders have been issued without any special stipulation in respect of shut-out cargo, the shipper, provided he has fulfilled the terms of his shipping order shall have the right to demand a fresh shipping order in the first going vessel for the same port from the agent of the vessel that has failed to take in his cargo, and shall also be entitled to recover any losses and additional expenses which he may have incurred through his cargo being shut-out. If the agent declines or omits to grant this, the shipper should himself have the power to engage the necessary tonnage, and to claim on the said agent for any difference in freight or other expense to which he may have been put.

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KARACHI.

The Karachi Tonnage Scale for steamers shall be on the basis of 40 cubic feet to the ton, but in no case to exceed 20 cwt. dead-weight, except in the case of salt.

The standard ton at Karachi for measurement of goods shall be taken at 50 cubic feet for ships.

The freight on oil to be paid on the full gauge of the cask, ascertained at the port of discharge.

When freight is payable on weight, the same is to be on the net weight delivered.

When cotton is shipped at a rate per bale, in the absence of special agreement, if the average measurement exceeds 13 feet per bale, the ship shall be entitled to proportionate extra freight, but in no case shall a ship be compelled to take bales larger than 14 feet.

Freight, Inwards.

Payable in Karachi.

The conversion into Indian currency of sterling freight inward to Karachi, payable in Karachi, shall, unless otherwise stipulated, be made at the rate for Bank Bills on London payable on demand; and the rate ruling at the close of a Mail shall be the rate applicable to such purpose during the subsequent week.

Freight, Outwards.

Payable in Karachi.

That freight outwards from Karachi, stated in sterling, payable in Karachi, in the absence of any stipulation in the Shipping Order or Charter-Party to the contrary, shall be converted into Indian currency at the rate for Bank Bills on London payable on demand; and that the rate ruling at the close of a Mail shall be the rate applicable for Bills of Lading presented during the subsequent week; on difference of freight $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. as customary in the case of Sailing Ships, and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for steamers being allowed as discount to cover cost of insurance and interest until the due date of the freight.

MADRAS AND COCONADA.

The articles mentioned in the margin are to be measured before shipment at the press, godown or on the beach, at the option of the shipper, and the measurement is to be entered on the face of the Bill of Lading. In measuring, the calipers are to take in the rope, or iron hoop, on the one side of the bale and leave it out on the other.

Half inches are to be given and taken alternately. Ten bales per cent. as a maximum are to be measured; moiety to be chosen by the shipper and moiety by the ship; and, in the event of any dispute arising, the bales are to be measured by a Surveyor to be appointed by the Chamber of Commerce. The Surveyor's decision to be final, and his fee to be five rupees, one-half to be borne by each party. All other goods to be measured at port of discharge.

When freight is payable on weight, it is on the net weight delivered.

Note.—*Gingelly Seed, Ground-nut Kernels, Castor Seed, &c.*, from the Madras Coast, are taken at the above scale; but if for a Continental or Mediterranean Port, it is usual to stipulate for 20 cwt. to the ton.

COCHIN AND MALABAR COAST.

Coin junk, horns, oil-breakers, hides (loose), and all packages not exceeding 56 lbs. gross may be taken as broken stowage at half freight.

All goods shipped by measurement to be measured before shipment, and the cubic contents entered on the face of the Bill of Lading. In measuring, the callipers are to take in the rope or iron hoop on the one side of the bale and leave it out on the other, $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch to be given and taken alternately; and that, in any case of dispute as to measurements, the Master attendant be requested to measure the disputed package, and that his decision shall be considered final. The party found to be in error shall pay a fee of Rs. 15.

SINGAPORE.

Dunnage and broken stowage in all cases 20 cwt. Freight payable on net weight delivered, or on measurement delivered.

RANGOON.

The rates shown in the Tonnage Schedule of this port for the following articles, are charged in accordance with Schedule A, now in use in the office of the Rangoon Port Trust.

Animals (in cages); Betel and biper leaves; Boxes (empty); Buffaloes; Bullocks and Cows; Calves; Carriages and Carts; Casks (empty); Cocoanuts in the husk; Crockery and earthenware, except pots and chetties and China cups in roll; Drums (empty, not exceeding 12 inches in diameter); Drums (empty, exceeding 12 inches in diameter); Horses, ponies, mules and donkeys; Liquor (in cases or baskets); Mats; Poultry (in coupes); Samples; Sheep or goats; Wheels, cart and carriage.

MONEY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

With their European or Indian equivalents.

CEYLON.

The weights and measures of Ceylon are the same as those of the United Kingdom. The currency consists of:—Copper; Ceylon 1 cent. and $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. pieces, $\frac{1}{4}$ cents, being equivalent to 1d. English. Nickel: Ceylon 5-cent. piece. Silver; Indian rupees (100 cents.), equivalent (by Ordinance 6 of 1903) to 1s. 4d. English; and Ceylon 50 cent., 25 cent. and 10 cent. pieces. Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 to the Sovereign. Ceylon Government currency notes of Rs. 1,000; 100; 5; 2 and 1.

CHINA.

MONEY.

The sole official coinage and the monetary unit of China has been hitherto the copper cash, of which about 1,220=1 haikwan tael, and about 35=1 penny. A coin recently issued in great numbers by the provincial mints is the 'hundredth of a dollar.' This coin, of which the issue to the end of 1906 is computed to have been 12,500,000,000 has been readily accepted, but latterly at rates corresponding closely to the intrinsic value of the metal in it. The face value of the coin is about $\frac{1}{100}$ d.; the intrinsic worth about $\frac{1}{150}$ d. The use of silver bullion, or sycee, as the medium of exchange, is not now much less common, but the circulation of the dollar is certainly extending. The haikwan (or customs) tael was equal in value in 1917 to 51 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

The dollar (of the same weight and touch as the Mexican dollar) is now current in all the provinces, even in out-of-the-way districts. Notes for cash are also much in vogue. But there is unparalleled currency confusion. It is recognised by the Chinese Government that currency reform is the most pressing need of the country.

In the Treaty of September 5th, 1902, China agreed with Great Britain to take the necessary steps to provide a uniform national coinage which should be legal tender for all purposes throughout the Empire, and an Imperial Decree was issued in October 1908, commanding the introduction of a uniform tael currency, of which the unit must be a silver tael coin of .98 touch weighing 1 Kiangling or Treasury-scale tael or ounce. This decree was cancelled by a further decree of 25th May 1910, establishing the silver dollar (value of .90 touch and weighing 72 Treasury-weight tael as the unit of currency. The touch and weight of the silver subsidiary coins (50c., 25c., 20c. and 10c.) was also definitely specified, while provision was made for further subsidiary coins (5c. nickel, 2c., 1c., $\frac{1}{2}$ c. and $\frac{1}{4}$ c. copper) of touch and weight to be laid down later. The minting of these silver coins has begun, but very few are as yet in circulation. By the law of May 1910, the several mints have been brought under the Central Government, and are no longer practically

private ventures of provincial governors. All coins are now minted at the Imperial Mint in Tientsin and at branch Mints in Hankow, Chengtu and Mukden. The K'up'ing tael weighs 575.042039 grains, somewhat less than the Haikwan tael which weighs 581.47 grains. A decree for uniform weights and measures was issued October 9, 1907, whereby the K'up'ing or Treasury scale was made the standard weight.

In 1918 a gold currency scheme was promulgated, but owing to foreign opposition it has been postponed, if not abandoned.

WEIGHT.

10 <i>Sau</i>	...=1 <i>Hu</i>
10 <i>Hu</i>	...=1 <i>Hao</i>
10 <i>Hao</i>	...=1 <i>Li</i> (nominal cash)
10 <i>Li</i>	...=1 <i>Fên</i> (Candaren)
10 <i>Fên</i>	...=1 <i>Chien</i> (Mace)
10 <i>Chien</i>	...=1 <i>Liang</i> (Tael)=1½ oz. avoirdupois by treaty.
16 <i>Liang</i>	...=1 <i>Chin</i> (Catty)=1½ lb.
100 <i>Chin</i>	...=1 <i>Tan</i> (Picul)=133½ lb.

CAPACITY.

10 <i>Ko</i>	...=1 <i>Sheng</i> .
10 <i>Sheng</i>	...=1 <i>Tou</i> (holding from 6½ to 10 <i>Kin</i> of rice and measuring from 1.13 to 1.63 gallon). Commodities, even liquids, such as oil, spirits, etc., are commonly bought and sold by weight.

LENGTH.

10 <i>Fên</i>	...=1 <i>Ts'un</i> (inch).
10 <i>Ts'un</i>	...=1 <i>Ch'ih</i> (foot)=14.1 English inches by treaty.
10 <i>Ch'ih</i>	...=1 <i>Chang</i> =2 fathoms.
1 <i>Li</i>	...=approximately one-third of a mile.

In the tariff settled by treaty between Great Britain and China, the *Ch'ih* of 14.1 English inches has been adopted as the legal standard. The standards of weight and length vary all over the Empire, the *Ch'ih*, for example, ranging from 9 to 16 English inches, and the *Chang* (=10 *Ch'ih*) in proportion; but at the Treaty Ports the use of the foreign treaty standard of *Ch'ih* and *Chang* is becoming common.

INDIA AND DEPENDENCIES.

The money, weights and measures of India and the British dependencies are as follows:—

MONEY.

The <i>Pie</i>	...=1 <i>Pice</i> (Bronze or Copper)=1 Farthing.
3 "	...=1 <i>Pice</i> (Bronze or Copper)=1 Farthing.
4 <i>Pice</i> , or 12 <i>Pies</i> =1 <i>Anna</i>	...=1 Penny.
16 <i>Annas</i>	...=1 <i>Rupce</i> ...=1 Shilling and 4 Pence.
15 <i>Rupces</i>	...=1 <i>Sovereign</i> ...=£1. (Nominal).

The rupee weighs one tola (a tola=180 grains) .916 fine. Nickel 1, 2, 4 and 8 *anna* pieces have been introduced into India.

The sum of 100,000 rupees is called a 'lakh' and of 1,000,000 a 'crore' of rupees. A lakh of rupees is equivalent to £6,666-13-4.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The <i>Mund</i> of Bengal of 40 <i>seers</i>	...=82½ lbs. avoirdupois.
" " Bombay	...=28 lbs. nearly.
" " Madras	...=25 lbs. "
" " <i>Tola</i>	...=180 gra.
" <i>Guz</i> of Bengal	...=36 inches.

An Act to provide for the ultimate adoption of a uniform system of weights and measures of capacity throughout British India was passed by the Governor-General of India in Council in 1871. The Act orders: Art. 2.—"The primary standard of weight shall be called a *seer*, and shall be a weight of metal in the possession of the Government of India, equal, when weighed in a vacuum, to the weight known in France as the kilogramme, =2,205 lbs. avoirdupois." Art. 3.—"The units of weights and measures of capacity shall be, for weights, the said *seer*; for measures of capacity, measure containing one such *seer* of water at its maximum density, weighed in a vacuum." Unless it be otherwise ordered, the subdivisions of all such weights and measures of capacity shall be expressed in decimal parts. This Act, however, has never been brought into operation. The matter has been again considered by a Weights and Measures Committee appointed in 1913, and the evidence was generally in favour of a uniform system, provided there is not a too radical change from the existing practice.

JAPAN.

The present monetary law came into force from October, 1897, by which gold standard was adopted. The unit of value is 0.75 gramme of pure gold, and is called the *yen*=2s. 0½d., which, however, is not coined. The pieces coined are as follows:—Gold coined (20, 10, and 5 *sen* pieces), silver coins (50, 20, and 10 *sen* pieces), nickel (5 *sen* piece), and bronze coins (1 *sen* and 5 *rin* pieces). The *coin* (5 *sen* piece), and the *rin* is the tenth part of a *sen*. The gold coins are .900 fine, and the silver coins .800 fine. The gold coins formerly issued (20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 *sen* pieces) are used at double their face value. The One-*yen* silver coin formerly issued is withdrawn. The old copper 2, 1 and ½ *sen* pieces are used as formerly.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The <i>Kin</i>	=160 <i>Momme</i>	...=1,323 lb. avoirdupois.
" <i>Kuen</i>	=1,000 "	...=8,367 "
" <i>Sau</i>=1,193 inch. "

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The <i>Shaku</i> (10 <i>Sšin</i>) = 11.931 inches.
" <i>Ken</i> ...	= 6 <i>Shaku</i> ... = 5.950 feet.
" <i>Chō</i> ...	= 60 <i>Ken</i> ... = $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, 5.4229 chains.
" <i>Ri</i> ...	= 36 <i>Chō</i> ... = 2.44 miles.
" <i>Ri</i> , sq. ...	... = 5.9552 sq. miles.
" <i>Chō</i> , land measure ...	... = 2.45 acres.
" <i>Koku</i> , liquid ...	... = 39.7033 gallons.
" " dry ...	... = 4.9629 bushels.
" <i>To</i> , liquid ...	... = 3.9703 gallons.
" " dry ...	... = 1.9851 peck.

Besides, the system of weights and measures based on the metric system is acknowledged as legal in the following ratios:—

<i>Metre</i> ...	... = 3.3 <i>Shaku</i> .
<i>Gramme</i>...	... = 0.26667 <i>Mommé</i> ($\frac{1}{17}$ <i>Mommé</i>).

MAURITIUS.

All accounts are kept in Indian rupees. The metric system is in force.

NETHERLANDS (THE).

The money, weights and measures of the Netherlands and the British equivalents, are—

MONEY.

The standard coin is the 10-florin piece weighing 6.720 grammes, 900 fine, and thus containing 6.048 grammes of fine gold. The unit of the silver coinage is the gulden or florin, weighing 10 grammes, 945 fine and containing 9.45 grammes fine silver.

Gold is legal tender, and the silver coins issued before 1875.

The principal coins are—

The *gulden*, *gulder* or *florin* of 100 cents. = 1s. 8d., or 12g. = £1

The *rijksdaalder* = $2\frac{1}{2}$ guilders.

The Gold-piece of 10 guilders and of 5 guilders.

$\frac{1}{2}$ gulder, $\frac{1}{4}$ gulder (*Kwartje*), $\frac{1}{16}$ gulder (*dubbeltje*).

Cent. coins are : of nickel, 5 cents.; of bronze, 1 cent., $\frac{1}{2}$ cent., and $\frac{1}{4}$ cents.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The metric system of weights and measures, and, with trifling changes, the metric denominations are adopted in the Netherlands

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NETHERLANDS, INDIAN (EAST INDIES).

MONEY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The <i>Amsterdamsch Pond</i> = 1.09 lb. avoirdupois.
" <i>Pikol</i> ...	... = 133 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
" <i>Catty</i> ...	... = 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
" <i>Tjenghal</i> ...	... = 4 yards.

The legal coins of 10, 5, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ guilders, as well as the weights and measures of Dutch-India are those of the Netherlands. But the country has coins of its own, viz., 25, 10, 5, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. pieces.

PERSIA.

MONEY.

The monetary unit is the *krān*, a silver coin, formerly weighing 28 *nakhods* (88 grains), then reduced to 26 *nakhods* (77 grains), now the weighing only 24 *nakhods* (71 grains) or somewhat less. The proportion of pure silver was before the new coinage (commenced 1877) 92 to 95 per cent., it was then fixed at 90, but occasionally 1877) 92 to 95 per cent., it was then fixed at 90, but occasionally a *krān* had the value of a franc, 25 being equal to 11. The value of a *krān* was (September 1919) about 8d.

The coins in circulation with their values calculated at exchange 11 = 50 *krāns*, are:—

Copper:— <i>Pāl</i> ...	... 0.12d.
<i>Shāht</i> = 2 <i>Pāl</i> ...	... 0.24d.
Four <i>Shāhts</i> = 1 <i>Abdā</i> ...	... 0.96d.
Five <i>Shāhts</i> = 10 <i>Pāl</i> = $\frac{1}{4}$ <i>Krān</i> ...	... 1.20d.
Ten <i>Shāhts</i> = $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>Krān</i> ...	... 2.40d.
One <i>Krān</i> = 20 <i>Shāhts</i> ...	... 4.80d.
Two <i>Krāns</i> ...	... 9.60d.
Five <i>Krāns</i> ...	... 24.00d.

Copper is out of circulation. In consequence of an excess of coinage by a former mint master, the copper money greatly depreciated in value since 1896, and was circulating at less than its price of copper, viz., 80 to 85 copper *shāhts* (weighing about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.) to one silver *krān* ($\frac{1}{4}$ lb.). The Government then decided to introduce a nickel coinage instead: great quantities of five and ten centimes pieces, of same size and weight as those current in Belgium, and of the nominal value of $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ *krān*, were coined at Brussels and put into circulation in the autumn of 1900.

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Gold coins are:— $\frac{1}{2}$ Toman, $\frac{1}{3}$ Toman, 1 Toman, 2, 5, and 10 Tomans; but they are not in circulation as current money, because of their ever varying value in *Krāns* (silver) and no coins of the higher values have been struck for some years. A Toman in silver is the equivalent of 10 *Krāns* (now worth 3s. 4d.), but a gold Toman has a value of 22 *Krāns* (7s. 4d.).

Accounts are reckoned in *dīndrs*, an imaginary coin, the ten-thousandth part of a toman of ten *krāns*. A *krān* therefore = 1,000 *dīndrs*; one *shāhi* = 50 *dīndrs*.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The unit of weight is the *miskāl* (71 grains), sub-divided into 24 *nakhshs* (296 grains) of 4 *gandim* (74 grains) each. Sixteen *miskāls* make a *zir*, and 5 *zir* make an *abdhāsī*, also called *wakheh kerwākeh*. Most articles are bought and sold by a weight called *batman* or *man*. The *mans* most frequently in use are—

<i>Man-i-Tabriz</i> = 8 <i>Abdhāsīs</i> ...	=	640 <i>Miskāls</i> ...	=	640 lbs.
<i>Man-i-Noh Abdhāsī</i> = 9 <i>Abdhāsīs</i> ...	=	720 " ...	=	720 "
<i>Man-i-Kolneh</i> (the old man) ...	=	1,000 " ...	=	1014 "
<i>Man-i-Shāh</i> = 2 <i>Tabriz Mans</i> ...	=	1,280 " ...	=	1298 "
<i>Man-i-Rey</i> = 4 " ...	=	2,560 " ...	=	2596 "
<i>Man-i-Bender Abdhāsī</i> ...	=	840 " ...	=	852 "
<i>Man-i-Hashemi</i> = 16 <i>mans</i> of ...	=	720 " ...	=	11680 "
Corn, straw, coal, etc., are sold				
by <i>Kharidr</i> ...	=	100 <i>Tabriz Mans</i> = 640142		

The unit of measure is the *zar* or *pes*; of this standard several are in use. The most common is the one of 40.95 inches; another, used in *Azerbāidjān*, equal 44.09 inches. A *farasakh* theoretically = 6,000 *zar* of 40.95 inches = 3.87 miles. Some calculate the *farasakh* at 6,000 *zar* of 44.09 inches = 4.17 miles.

The measure of surface is *jerib* = 1,000 to 1,066 square *zar* of 40.95 inches = 1,294 to 1,379 square yards.

RANGOON.

The measure of weight is the *viss* which equals 360 lbs. One-hundredth part of a *viss* is a *tical*.

The measure of capacity is the basket. This varies very much in different parts of the country, but in the Rangoon Municipal Bazaar the standard bushel basket is enforced. Elsewhere a basket is an indefinite and fluctuating measure.

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BURMESE MEASURES OF WEIGHT.

2 <i>Pai</i> =	1 Maa.
2 <i>Moo</i> =	1 Mat.
4 <i>Mats</i> =	1 Tical.
100 <i>Ticals</i> =	1 <i>Viss</i> (about 140 tolas).
100 <i>Viss</i> ...	... =	360 lbs.

MEASURES OF CAPACITY.

1 <i>Lamyet</i> ...	... =	1 Gill.
9 <i>Lamyets</i> ...	... =	$\frac{1}{2}$ Pint.
9 <i>Lamyans</i> ...	... =	1 Pint.
9 <i>Zalay</i> ...	... =	1 Quart.
9 <i>Dyes</i> ...	... =	1 Gallon.
9 <i>Zayoot</i> ...	... =	1 Peck.
9 <i>Seit</i> ...	... =	$\frac{1}{2}$ Bushel.
9 <i>Hwevi</i> ...	... =	1 Bushel.

SIAM.

The unit of the monetary system is the silver tical, officially called "baht" weighing 15 grams 900 fine. Its value (formerly varying with the price of silver) has, by the Gold Standard Act of 1908, been fixed at 1s. 6½d. or 13 ticals = £1, the gold value of the tical being equal to that of 55.8 centigrams of pure gold. There will be a 10 tical gold piece or *Dos* weighing 62 grams 900 fine and the following coins are now actually in use:—(silver) the *Salung* = $\frac{1}{2}$ tical; the 2 *Salung* piece = $\frac{1}{2}$ tical; (nickel) the 10 *Salung* piece = $\frac{1}{10}$ of a tical; the 5 *Salung* piece = $\frac{1}{20}$ of a tical; and (brönze) the *Salung* = $\frac{1}{100}$ of a tical. The *Salung* is of silver 800 fine.

There are no standard weights and measures in Siam. The customary measures of weight are:—

MEASURES OF WEIGHT.

1 <i>Tical</i> ...	=	15 grams or approximately 53 oz.
4 <i>Ticals</i> ...	=	1 <i>Tamlung</i> (60 grams of 21 oz.).
20 <i>Tamlungs</i> ...	=	1 <i>Chang</i> (12 kilograms or 2 lbs. 10.8 oz.)
50 <i>Chang</i> ...	=	1 <i>Hap</i> (60 kilograms or slightly over 132½ lbs.)

MEASURES OF LENGTH.

The unit of length is the *Wah*.

1 <i>Nieu</i> ...	=	83 inches.
12 <i>Niu</i> ...	=	1 <i>Keup</i> (10 inches).
2 <i>Keup</i> ...	=	1 <i>Sauk</i> (20 inches).
4 <i>Sauks</i> ...	=	1 <i>Wah</i> (80 inches).
20 <i>Wah</i> ...	=	1 <i>Sen</i> (133 feet).
400 <i>Sen</i> ...	=	1 <i>Yote</i> (10 miles, roughly).

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MONEY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The dollar, value 2s. 4d. is the standard coin of the Colony, and with the half-dollar and the British sovereign is legal tender for the payment of any amount. Subsidiary silver coins are 20, 10 and 5 cent. pieces; copper coins are cents., half-cents., and quarter cents. On December 31st, 1916, Government currency notes to the value of \$68,394,140 dollars (7,979,316l) were in circulation in the Colony and Federated Malay States.

The measure of length in use in the Settlements is the English yard, with its divisions and multiples, and land is measured by the English acre. The Native terms are, however, still in use. Commercial weights are:—

1 <i>Kati</i>	=	16 <i>Tahil</i>	=	1½ lb. avoirdupois.
1 <i>Pikul</i>	=	100 <i>Kati</i>	=	133½ " "
1 <i>Koyan</i>	=	40 <i>Pikul</i>	=	5,333½ " "

The *Kati* of 1½ lbs. is known as the Chinese *Kati*. Another weight known as the Malay *Kati*, and still in partial use in Penang, is equal to the weight of 24 Spanish dollars, or 9·984 grains. This gives 142·628 lbs. as the weight of the *pikul*, and 5,705·143 lbs. as the weight of *koyan*. The measures of capacity throughout the Colony are the *gantang* or gallon, and *chupak* or quart.

