

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

INDIAN BRANCH

(ILO)
C 1903/54

Report for May 1 9 3 3

Contents.

B. I. T. Registry
17 JUN 1933
File No: C1903/54
With:
or:
Referred to:
Approved:

	<u>Pages.</u>
1. <u>References to the I. L. O.</u>	
2. <u>National Labour Legislation.</u>	
(a) The C.P. Protection of Industrial Debtors Bill, 1933.	9 -10
(b) The Indore Trades Disputes Act, 1933.	10-12
(c) Labour Legislation; Programme of August 1933 Session of the Assembly.	12
3. <u>Conditions of Labour.</u>	
(a) Minimum Wages in Ceylon; Privy Council Decision in Perth Case.	13-14
(b) Payment of Wages Bill, 1933; Views of Bombay Chamber of Commerce.	14-15
(c) Payment of Wages Bill; Views of S. Indian Chamber of Commerce.	16
(d) Payment of Wages Bill; Views of M & S.M. Railway Union.	17
(e) Labour Cases before Indian Courts.	17-18
(f) Crisis in Textile Industry; Mill Closures & Strikes continue.	18-19
(g) Appointment of Labour Commissioner, Bombay.	20
(h) Free Holiday Trips for Workers; Delhi Cloth Mills Experiment.	20
(i) Conditions of Work in the Posts and Telegraphs Department, 1931-32	21-23
4. <u>Industrial Organisation.</u>	
<u>Employers' Organisations.</u>	
The Employers' Federation of India.	24-25
<u>Workers' Organisations.</u>	
National Trades Union Federation; Office Bearers for 1933-34.	26
5. <u>Intellectual Workers.</u>	
The 7th Annual Session of the All India Compounders' Association, Aligarh, 1933.	27-28
6. <u>Economic Conditions.</u>	
(a) Relief of Agricultural Indebtedness; Three U.P. Bills.	29-32
(b) Pope Committee Report; Recommendations for Further Economy.	32-35

Economic Conditions. (contd.)

(c) Reorganisation of Railways in Ceylon; Proposed Commission of Enquiry.	35
(d) Protection for Steel; Board of Enquiry to be set up.	36
(e) Proposed Industries Ministers' Conference to be held in July 1933.	36-37
(f) Tea Restriction; Export Regulation Rules.	38-39
(g) Textile Crisis; Proposals for New Indo-Japanese Agreement.	40-42
7. <u>Employment and Unemployment.</u>	
(a) Industrial Training for Bengal Unemployed; Free Classes to be Opened.	43-44
(b) All-India Unemployed Association; Programme of Work.	44-45
(c) Fraudulent Fee-Charging Employment Agency; A Delhi Case.	46-47
8. <u>Public Health.</u>	
(a) Health Conditions in Asansol Coal Mines, 1931-32.	48-50
(b) Housing Problem in Bangalore; Municipality's Scheme.	51-53
(c) Housing of N.S. Railway Staff; Administration's Scheme.	53.
(d) Industrial Housing in Ahmedabad; Millowners' Scheme.	53-54
(e) Collection of Vital Statistics through non-Official Agencies; A Travancore Experiment.	54-55
9. <u>Co-operation.</u>	
(a) Co-operation in Baroda State, 1931.	56-58
(b) Amending Co-operative Law in Mysore; Proposed Enhanced Powers for Registrar.	59-60
10. <u>Education.</u>	
(a) Compulsory Primary Education in Bombay City, 1931-32.	61-62
(b) Extension of Compulsory and Adult Education in Bombay City; Corporation School Committee's Report.	63-64
(c) 25th Madras Educational Conference, 1933, Trichinopoly.	64-66.
(d) Industrial Education in Baroda.	67
11. <u>Agriculture.</u>	
(a) Indian Cotton Cultivation, 1932-33	68-69
(b) Area and Yield of Principal Crops in India, 1931-32.	70-74
12. <u>Migration.</u>	
(Indians in Malaya; The Wilson Report.	75-77

References to the I. L. O.

The Times of India of 1-5-33 publishes a short note announcing the decision of the I.L.O. to transmit by wireless a summary of the Grey-Blue Report on Reduction of Hours of Work. The note also explains briefly the efforts of the I.L.O. towards bringing about a reduction of hours of work in industry.

* * *

The communiqué issued by this Office on 16-5-33 on the Grey-Blue Report based on the wireless telegraphic message sent out from Geneva on 14-5-33 received wide publicity in the Indian press. The communiqué was published in the National Call and the Hindustan Times of 17-5-33, the Hindu of 20-5-33, the Statesman of 21-5-33, the Times of India of 22-5-33, the Indian Labour Journal, Nagpur, of 28-5-33, and in all papers.

(Copies of the communiqué were sent to Geneva with this Office's minute K/802/33 dated 18-5-33).

* * *

Federated India, Madras, of 3-5-33 publishes a communiqué issued by this Office on 20-4-33 on the report issued by the Preparatory Tripartite Conference on Reduction of Hours of Work which was held in January last.

(For a list of other papers which published the communiqué vide page 1 of our April 1933 report. Copies of the communiqué were forwarded to Geneva with this Office's minute H.2/621/33 of 20-4-33).

* * *

Labour Times, Madras, of 1-5-33 reproduces an article under the caption "Unemployment; Unproduced Riches and Undistributed Leisure" by Mr. Arthur Henderson originally published in the Daily Herald, London. The article makes reference to the efforts of the I.L.O. to bring about a 40-hour week and maintains that reduction in hours of work is the best means for the equitable distribution of leisure.

* * *

The Hindu of 3-5-33 and the National Call of 11 & 12-5-33 published an article under the caption "The 40-Hour Week: An Answer to the Challenge of Unemployment" contributed by Mr. K.E. Matthew, a member of the staff of this Office. The article describes the characteristics of the present unemployment problem, the various remedies suggested for relieving it and the efforts made by the I.L.O. towards unemployment relief. In conclusion, the article examines the arguments in favour of the 40-hour week and describes in some detail the I.L.O.'s efforts to bring about an international agreement on the subject of shorter hours in industry.

* * *

Labour Times, Madras, dated 8-5-33 publishes a long article under the caption "The Forty-Hour Week: A Remedy for Unemployment" contributed by Mr. K.E. Matthew, a member of the staff of this Office. The article explains the basis of the move for the 40-hour week and reviews the work of the Preparatory Tripartite Conference on Hours of Work held in January last.

(The cutting of the article from Labour Times was forwarded to Geneva with this Office's minute H.4/801/33 dated 18-5-33).

The same issue of Labour Times publishes an editorial article under the caption "The Forty Hour Week" commenting on Mr. Matthews' article. The article brings out prominently how reduction in hours would help to minimise unemployment.

* * *

The April 1933 issue of the Bulletin issued by H.E.H. the Nizam's State Railway Employees' Union reproduces an article under the caption "Shorter Hours - Less Unemployment" by Mr. Arthur Hayday originally published in the Labour Magazine. The article reviews the work of the Preparatory Conference on Hours of Work held in January last.

* * *

The April 1933 issue of the Labour Gazette, Bombay, publishes at page 61² forecast made by the Associated Press of India of the personnel of the Indian delegation to the 17th I.L. Conference (vide pages 3-4 of our April 1933 report for a list of the other journals which published the message).

* * *

~~The~~ communiqué which was issued on 17-5-33 by the Government of India regarding the personnel of the Indian delegation to the 17th session of the I.L. Conference was published by the Statesman, the Hindustan Times and the Times of India of 18-5-33, the Leader of 19-5-33, the Indian Labour Journal, Nagpur, of 21-5-33, the Advocate, Bombay, of 28-5-33, and by all papers.

The Indian delegation is to consist of the following persons:

Indian Government Delegates:- (1) Sir Atul Chatterjee,

Member, Council of India, London, and (2) Mr. J.F.Gennings, Director of Information and Labour Intelligence, Labour Office, Bombay.

Advisers to the Government Delegates:- (1) Mr. A.Dibdin, India Office, London, and (2) Mr. K.R.Menon, I.C.S., Secretary to the High Commissioner for India, London.

Employers' Delegate:- The Hon. Sir Phiroze Sethna, Member, Council of State.

Workers' Delegate. - Mr. Aftab Ali, General Secretary of the Indian Seamen's Union, Calcutta.

Mr. K.R.Menon is to act as Secretary to the delegation.

The Hindustan Times of 19-5-33 publishes photographs of Sir Atul Chatterjee and the Hon. Sir Phiroze Sethna in connection with their mission to the forthcoming I. L. Conference.

* * *

The Times of India of 22-5-33 publishes a news item to the effect that Mr. Aftab Ali sailed for England on 20-5-33 to attend the 17th I.L.Conference as the Indian workers' delegate. The same message publishes also details about the items on the agenda of the Conference.

* * *

The Indian Labour Journal, Nagpur, of 7-5-33, the Labour Times, Madras, of 15-5-33, Federated India, Madras, of 24-5-33, the Times of India and the Hindu of 3-5-33 and the Leader of 14-5-33, publish the full text of a communique issued by this Office on 27-4-33 on Invalidity Old-Age and Widows' and Orphans' Insurance. (Copies of the communiqué were forwarded to Geneva with this Office's minute H.2/674/33 of 27-4-33. For a list of other journals which published the communiqué vide pages 1-2- of our April 1933 report).

The Hindu of 3-5-33 publishes a long and appreciative editorial article on the above communiqué issued by this Office and expresses the opinion that it is time that India also bestowed some thought on this problem which is becoming increasingly important every day.

* * *

The National Call of 9-5-33 publishes a short note under the caption "Unemployment Insurance" on the report prepared by the I.L.O. on Unemployment Insurance to be submitted to the forthcoming I.L. Conference.

* * *

The Hindu of 23-5-33 publishes a letter from its Cairo correspondent dated 15-5-33 in the course of which a review of the unemployment situation in Egypt as elicited from a press interview with Mr. R.M.Graves, Director of the Labour Bureau, is given. In the course of the interview it is mentioned that Mr. Graves and Ahmed Ziwer Pasha will be attending the forthcoming I.L.Conference as Observers and that Egypt will be represented at the Conference by a complete delegation when she becomes a member of the League of Nations.

* * *

The April 1933 issue of the Labour Gazette, Bombay, publishes at pages 618 to 629 the first instalment of a long review of the recent I.L.O. publication "Industrial Labour in Japan." The review gives a detailed summary of the book.

* * *

Labour Times, Madras, dated 22-5-33, Federated India, Madras, dated 24-5-33, the Indian Labour Journal, Nagpur, dated 21-5-33 and

the Statesman of 12-5-33 publish a communiqué issued by this Office on 10-5-33 on "Industrial Labour in Japan" - Studies and Reports Series A (Industrial Relations) No.37. The communiqué was sent to leading industrial organisations and some of the more important newspapers and labour journals in India.

(Copies of the communiqué were forwarded to Geneva with this Office's minute H.2/778/33 dated 11-5-33).

* * *

The Statesman of 14-5-33 reproduces a long review of Industrial Labour in Japan, contributed by the Labour Correspondent of the Times, London.

* * *

The issue for the second quarter of 1933, dated April 1933 (Vol. XXVI.No.2), of the Anglo-Gujarati Quarterly Journal of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, publishes a summary of the agenda of the World Economic Conference as drawn up in the Report of the Preparatory Commission of Experts. The summary makes references to the unemployment problem, and to the I.L.O.'s researches in this field.

* * *

The Hindu of 29-4-33 and the Times of India of 1-5-33 publish a Reuter's ~~Geneva~~ ^{from Geneva} message to the effect that Sir Atul Chatterjee, Lord Riddell and Herr Engel, as well as three Employers' and three Labour representatives, will represent the I.L.O. at the World Economic Conference.

(For a list of other Indian papers which published the message, vide page 5 of April 1933 report).

* * *

The issue for the second quarter of 1933, dated April 1933 (Vol. XXVI No. 2), of the Anglo-Gujarati Quarterly Journal of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, reproduces in full the article contributed by Mr. A.H. Maru under the caption "The Development of Employers' Organisations in India" originally published in the February 1933 issue of the International Labour Review.

* * *

The Indian Labour Journal, Nagpur, dated 14-5-33 publishes the correspondence between the General Secretary of the A.I. Railway-men's Federation and the Agent of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway on the subject of retrenchment. In a letter addressed by the former, references are made to the methods suggested by the I.L.O. to avoid reduction of staff and a plea is made for adopting those methods in preference to actual reduction of staff.

* * *

The report for 1932 of the Society for the Protection of Children in Western India, Bombay, makes prominent mention of the fact that the Society was consulted by the I.L.O. on the question of child labour.

* * *

The Hindu of 17-5-33 publishes a letter from its special correspondent from Geneva dated 29-4-33 under the caption "Will the Coming War Come"? The letter examines the political situation in Europe in relation to recent German political developments and the rumours which are afloat of an imminent European war. In this connection, the letter mentions as significant the incident which happened at the last meeting of the Governing Body of the I.L.O.

when the absence of the German labour representative was made more conspicuous by the explanation for the absence furnished by the German Government representative.

The same letter also refers to the forthcoming World Economic Conference and mentions that Sir Atul Chatterjee will attend it as a representative of the I.L.O.

* * *

The Times of India of 18-5-33 publishes an editorial article on the latest report of the International Federation ~~and~~^{of} League of Nations Societies under the caption "The Advance Guard of the League". In the course of the article the activities of the Indian branch of the Society is reviewed and the following observations are made in this connection:

"What is this country doing about it? So far as our observation goes, the League of Nations Society in India is very much a paper organisation. It has a central committee and seven branches, of which the most active is in Bombay. The discussions of the Bombay branch, on such subjects as disarmament, the Sino-Japanese dispute and the International Labour Organisation, will be recalled by many of our readers. But there is need for wider activity and for much more educational work, on the social rather than on the political side, and we trust that the proposal to extend the Bombay Society into other parts of the Presidency will be carried through. The League of Nations ought to mean a great deal to India, but it cannot do so until public opinion in the country is efficiently organised to support it. At present India hears little about the League except when the burden of India's financial contribution to it is discussed. That is all wrong, and it is wrong because Indian opinion has not been widely educated to see to it that India plays her proper part in making the League successful".

National Labour Legislation.The C. P. Protection of Industrial Debtors Bill, 1933. ✓

The texts of the two Bills which were introduced by Mr. N.M. Joshi in the Legislative Assembly, one to amend the Indian Criminal Law so as to punish besetting of industrial establishments and the other to amend the Code of Civil Procedure so as to prevent the attachment of salaries below Rs. 300, were given at pages 11-13 and pages 13-15 respectively of our monthly report for March 1933. To secure the same objects, among others, Mr. R.W. Fulay introduced a Bill in the Central Provinces Legislative Council on 23-1-33 called the C.P. Protection of Industrial Debtors Bill, 1933. The present Bill seeks to give effect to recommendations 182, 183, 185, 186 and 187 of the Royal Commission on Labour (vide pages 509 - 510 of the Whitley Report). The following are the main provisions of the Bill:-

(1) If an industrial debtor is indebted to an extent not less than Rs. 250 and has not sufficient means to pay off the debts or is in receipt of an income not exceeding Rs. 60 per mensem, a liquidation petition may be presented either by him or his creditor and the Court may on such petition make an order called "an order of liquidation" adjudging him fit for liquidation of debts.

(2) On presentation of a debt liquidation petition, a creditor who has had notice of the petition will not be entitled to apply to any Court for the arrest of an industrial debtor in execution of any such debt due from him and, if such debtor has been under arrest or imprisonment, the Court which ordered his arrest or imprisonment must forthwith release him.

(3) The Court will, after a summary enquiry, draw an order of liquidation of debt. For the purposes of the order the Court must assess the industrial debtor's assets, his probable earnings and the expenditure reasonably required for the maintenance of the debtor and his family during the two years following the date of the petition. The decree must be based on the difference between the debtor's earnings and expenditure.

(4) On the expiry of three years from the date of the order of liquidation, the Court passing the order of liquidation must discharge the debtor.

(5) No industrial debtor may be subjected to "besetting" by

any creditor for the recovery of his debts.

(6) Any industrial debtor who is "beset" by a creditor may lodge a complaint at the nearest police station and thereupon the offence will be dealt with as a cognizable offence.

(7) Every creditor guilty of "besetting" an industrial debtor is liable on conviction to imprisonment which may extend to six months and/or to a fine.

(8) All orders passed under this Act by a Civil Court before whom liquidation proceedings take place will be final and not subject to appeal by a creditor; but a debtor who is aggrieved by any order of such a Court may appeal to the Court ordinarily hearing appeals from a decision of that Court and such appellate decision will be final.

(The full text of the Bill with the Statement of Objects and Reasons is published at pages 52-55 of Part II of the Central Provinces Gazette of 18-2-1933.)

The Indore Trade Disputes Act - 1933. ✓

A brief summary of the Indore Trade Disputes Act - 1933 (Act No. III of 1933) which came into force on 1-3-1933 was given at pages 15-16 of the report of this Office for March 1933. The fuller particulars given below of its provisions are taken from a copy of the Act forwarded to this Office by the Government of Indore.

Title & Scope. - The Act is called the Indore Trade Disputes Act No. III of 1933. It extends to the whole of the Holkar State and it came into force from 1-3-1933.

Conciliation Officers and Boards. - If any trade dispute exists or is apprehended between an employer and any of his workmen, the Government may by order in writing, -

- (a) refer any matters appearing to be connected with or relevant to the dispute to the Member for Industries and Commerce generally, or to any person either official or non-official, to be appointed by the Government in a special case,

or

- (b) refer the dispute to a Board of Arbitration to be appointed by the Government, provided the Member for Industries and Commerce or the person

appointed under clause (a) failed to bring both parties to the dispute to agree upon terms of settlement.

Constitution of Arbitration Boards. - A Board shall consist of a chairman and six other members.

(2) The chairman shall be an independent person who shall be a High Court Judge and the other members shall consist of two independent non-official persons commanding public confidence, to be nominated by Government and four other persons appointed in equal numbers to represent the parties to the dispute; all persons appointed to represent any party shall be appointed on the recommendation of that party.

(3) A Board, having the prescribed quorum, may act notwithstanding any vacancy in the number of its members other than the chairman.

Special Provision re. Public Utility Services. - (a)

Affecting Workers. - Any person who, being employed in a public utility service, goes on strike in breach of contract without having given to his employer within one month before so striking, not less than 14 days' previous notice in writing of his intention to go on strike or, having given such notice, goes on strike before the expiry thereof, shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to one month, or with fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or with both.

(b) Affecting Employers. - Any employer carrying on any public utility service who locks out his workmen in breach of contract without having given them, within one month before such lock-out, not less than 14 days' notice in writing of his intention to lock them out, or having given such notice, locks them out before the expiry thereof, shall be liable to imprisonment which may extend to one month or to a fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.

Illegal Strikes and Lock-outs. - (1) A strike or a lock-out shall be illegal which -

- (a) has any object other than the furtherance of a trade dispute within the trade or industry in which the strikers or employers locking out are engaged; and
- (b) is designed or calculated to inflict severe, general and prolonged hardship upon the community and thereby to compel the Government to take or abstain from taking any particular course of action.

(2) It shall be illegal to commence or continue, or to apply any sums in direct furtherance or support of any such illegal strike or lock-out.

Picketing and Meetings. - Picketing of any kind in furtherance of any illegal strike or lock-out shall be illegal.

It shall be illegal to commence or continue, or to apply any sums in direct furtherance or support of any such illegal picketing.

A public meeting convened with a view to call in question, in any manner, any order of the Government passed on receipt of a report of the Officer or the Board under the provision of Section 10 shall be illegal.

(A copy of the Indore Trade Disputes Act, 1933 has been forwarded to Geneva with this Offices minute D.1/857/33, dated 1-6-1933.)

Labour Legislation Programme of August 1933 Session of Assembly.

The forthcoming August session of the Legislative Assembly has a heavy agenda of official business before it. It will be remembered that the Government of India drafted a Factories Bill (A copy of the Draft Bill was forwarded to Geneva with this Office's minute D.1/2100/dated 4-8-32. ³², vide pages 11-15 of our June 1932 report for a summary of the Bill) which was forwarded to all local governments and administrations to elicit opinions of industrial interests in the country. (Summaries of the opinions expressed by some of the more important among the employers organisations have been given in the previous reports of this Office). It is now understood that the Government of India intends introducing the Draft Factories Bill in the August ~~session~~ 1933 session of the Assembly. Other Bills of labour interests which ~~are~~ are due to come up before the session are the Workmen's Compensation Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 17-2-1932 (vide pages 10-27 of our February 1932 report for text of the Bill) and the Payment of Wages Bill which was introduced in the Assembly on 1-2-33 (vide pages 15-20 of our January 1933 report for text of the Bill).

Conditions of Labour.Minimum Wages in Ceylon: Privy Council Decisionre. Perth Case. ✓

Reference was made at page 31 of our November 1932 report to the attempts that were being made by estate managers to reduce rates of minimum wages and to a case which came up in appeal before the Ceylon High Court in which criminal proceedings were taken against an estate agent for paying a few of his labourers less than the amount stipulated by the Wages Ordinance, though the workers worked only for six hours a day instead of the eight hours laid down by the Minimum Wages Ordinance. The Supreme Court, it will be recalled, held that though the result of the judgment might be that a number of estates would have to be closed down and that a large number of labourers would have to go with no bread instead of the three-quarter loaf which the contract challenged in the case secured to them, the law had to be enforced as it was, and directed the lower court to convict the manager and issue orders for the payment of the full wages due under the Ordinance. Mr. Douglas Stanley Urquhart, Superintendent of the Perth Rubber Estate, the appellant, petitioned the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council for permission to appeal against the decision of the Supreme Court.

The petition stated that owing to the prevailing and increasing depression in the rubber industry, a system became widely adopted on rubber estates throughout Ceylon by which, as an alternative to discharging large numbers of labourers, the estate owners reduced the working hours from eight to some lesser number paying a proportionately reduced wage. On the Perth Estate the hours, with the consent of the labourers, were reduced to six per day and payment to the men to six-eighths of 50 cents, and to six-eighths of 40 cents to women workers. The present proceedings, it was stated, were brought to test the validity of that procedure.

Mr. Murphy who appeared before the Privy Council for the

~~Section~~

petitioner* contended that where in Section 2(1) the Ordinance (vide pages 341 -344 of Legislative Series, 1927, Part I for the text of the Ordinance) spoke of "minimum rates of wages for time work", and in Section 8(1) of "minimum rates of wages for time work performed on estates", it meant wages to be fixed for a time unit of work done, and not wages to be fixed irrespective of the amount of time worked. It was further submitted on behalf of the petitioner that the Estate Wages Board had expressly refrained from fixing a minimum rate to be fixed for any working day irrespective of hours worked because it would have been ultra vires for them to do so, and had confined themselves to fixing a rate to be paid for a working day consisting of a specified number of hours leaving it open to the parties to contract for a shorter working day at a proportionately reduced wage.

Mr. Preedy who appeared for the Crown, said that while he did not consent that leave to appeal should be given he did not oppose it strenuously. The matter was of great importance and clearly affected a great number of people. The points raised involved the consideration of at least four Ordinances.

Lord Tomlin, Member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, pointed out that the matter was of a criminal nature and that in accordance with well-established rule, their Lordships would not grant leave to appeal unless it could be shown that there had been such a departure from the standards of normal procedure as to amount to a miscarriage of justice. It was suggested by Mr. Murphy that they should split the two limbs of Section 11 of the Ordinance so that sub-section 2, which provides for the repayment to the labourers of money which they ought to have had under the findings of the Supreme Court, could be dealt with as a civil matter. Their Lordships, however, did not accede to that request, and after consultation Lord Tomlin announced on 11-4-1933 that they were unable to advise His Majesty to grant leave and that the application must be dismissed.

Payment of Wages Bill, 1933;

Views of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. ✓

The full text of the Payment of Wages Bill, 1933, with the statement of object and reasons and notes on clauses, which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 1-2-1933, was given at pages 15-20 of our January 1933 report. Copies of the Bill were forwarded to the leading industrial and commercial bodies in India

to elicit their views on the matter. The following comments on the Bill have been made by the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce:-

Clause I (4). - The Committee considered that it was essential that a definition should be given of the term "industrial establishment".

Clause 3 (1). - The Committee considered that in computing ~~the~~ the limit of seven days within which payment should be made, non-working days should be excluded.

Clause 3 (2). - The Committee agreed that provision should be made in this clause for a longer period than two days, say up to ~~the~~ ^{Re} limit ~~of that~~ laid down in clause 3(1) to be allowed in exceptional cases.

Clause 4(2)(b)- It would appear that there was no provision for forfeiture of wages in cases where a workman left his employment without sufficient notice. This, it was considered, should be provided for.

Clause 4(2)(d)- The Committee were of opinion that it should be permissible for deductions to be made, with the previous consent of the employee, for income-tax, provident fund, provisions, etc. ~~and~~ sold, such as cloth, grain, sugar, etc, and refund of loans from Co-operative Credit Societies.

Clause 5 (2) - The Committee agreed that the maximum amount of fine should be one anna in the rupee instead of half an anna, and the recovery under clause 5(4) in not more than four instalments instead of two.

Clause 6. - The Committee were of opinion that if the damage or loss was in excess of the employee's wage and had been done wilfully there was no other remedy available than dismissal, but if it was due to carelessness and not likely to recur and the employer was inclined to forgive the culprit but not forego the loss it might be made recoverable by instalments to the extent of 10 per cent of the earned wages if the employee undertook to pay the amount.

Clause 10(2).- The Committee considered that the Act should lay down that the persons appointed to act on behalf of an employee should be limited to a registered trade union, a lawyer or an officer appointed by mutual arrangement between the employee and the employer to prefer claims.

Payment of Wages BillViews of South India Chamber of Commerce. ✓

The following is a brief summary of the views expressed by the South India Chamber of Commerce on the Payment of Wages Bill, 1933:-

The Chamber expresses the view that the more important provisions of the Bill are too drastic and premature and that such laws are likely to seriously handicap the industrial development of the country. The limit of seven days is far too short, particularly for bigger establishments working with double shifts or on the piece-work system. There should be no objection even from the workers' point of view to payment at longer intervals, say, once in a fortnight. Levy of fines, the Chamber states, is intended in the best interests of the worker and is a useful substitute for punishments like suspensions and dismissals. The proposed provisions relating to fines would reduce their effectiveness as a check. The Chamber strongly opposes the provisions which seek to enable the worker to haul up the employer for delay in payment of wages or for levying fines and characterise it as "a mischievous provision which makes the employer liable to prosecution at the hands of an erratic labourer". This, the Chamber observes, is bound to develop unhealthy relations between employers and employees in this country.

Payment of Wages Bill; Views of M & S. M. Railway Union. ✓

The following are the views expressed by the M. & S. M. Railway Employees' Union on the Payment of Wages Bill. The Union suggests that the Bill should comprehend all classes of employment coming within the scope of the Workmen's Compensation Act and wages up to Rs. 300 per mensem. The provisions of the Bill, the Union is of opinion, ought not to prevent deductions towards trade union subscriptions being made nor should they preclude deductions in respect of dues to co-operative societies or insurance organisations. Fines should be levied only after exhausting the system of warning, and where loss or damage is usual or frequent, the employer should organise an insurance scheme to cover the loss. The Union also urges that special industrial courts should be constituted to hear all cases of wrongful deductions and the right of appeal to a higher judicial authority should also be recognised. Frequent cases of contravention of the provisions of the Bill by an employer should be made liable for criminal prosecution by the employee without previous sanction.

Labour Cases before Indian Courts.

Attention is invited to pages 506-508 and pages 510 to 514 of the March 1933 issue of ^{the} Labour Gazette, Bombay, ~~where~~ two labour cases which came up before the Bombay Courts are published. The first refers to the claim for compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act by the widow of a workman who died of snake-bite in the course of

of his employment. The second case refers to the claim preferred by a workman for wages during period of notice. In both the cases the Court decided against the employer.

Crisis in Textile Industry: Mill Closures & Strikes Continue.

The crisis in the textile industry, details of which were given in the last two reports of this Office, intensified during the month under review. The economic background is still the same owing to formidable Japanese competition. Stocks of mill-made goods are still accumulating, it being found impossible to under-sell Japanese goods. The result is that employers are either closing their mills or are effecting heavy cuts in wages. Such action by employers has precipitated ^a greater deal of labour unrest in the industry all over the country.

Bombay. Conditions in Bombay during ~~the~~ May saw no improvement. Several mills, in pursuance of previously issued notices of closure, closed during the month and others decided to work with reduced wages, the cuts in some cases going up to 20 per cent. The Bombay Girni Kamgar Union continued to carry on propaganda for bringing off a general strike. The large number of meetings held in different parts of the City under the auspices of the Girni Kamgar Union to celebrate "May Day" were all well attended and at these meetings impassioned speeches were made and resolutions passed expressing the solidarity of the working class movement, reiterating its determination "to fight and destroy the capitalist system", and calling upon textile workers to declare a general strike. Noteworthy developments during the month ~~of~~ were the introduction of the four-loom system in a number of mills and of cuts in the wages of the labourers of those mills which were working. These were responsible for a few strikes, most of them shortlived. The majority of the strikes were peaceful but in a few, especially the one which occurred in the Raghu Vamsi Mill due to reduction of wages by 20 per cent, the workers grew violent, and the manager and other officials of the mill were belaboured. The only change in the situation at the end of the month was the reopening, with nearly full complement of workers, of a few of the mills which had closed down earlier. All such cases of resumption were accompanied by wage-cuts.

Ahmedabad. - The situation in Ahmedabad during the month did not show any signs of improvement. A few mills closed down and a few others offered their labourers reduced wages. In several cases the offer of reduced wages resulted in strikes. The Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union carried on negotiations with several mill managements to prevent wage reductions and in some cases the efforts of the Union were successful.

Cawnpore. - The strike at the Elgin Mills, Cawnpore, continued till 8-5-33 when the mills reopened with a complement of workers composed partly of fresh hands and partly of strikers who were willing to resume work. The efforts of the Mazdoor Sabha (workers' union) to prolong the strike were unsuccessful and it is reported that nearly 4,000 workers are now out of employment in that centre as a result of the strike.

Baroda. - Reports of labour unrest have also been received from other textile centres. At Baroda the dead-lock, since March last, between the management and workers of the Old Textile Mills, which occurred as a result of a reduction in wages still continues, the efforts of the State Conciliation Board to effect a settlement proving unsuccessful. The mills resumed work normally with a few strike breakers on 10-5-33. The District Magistrate of Baroda issued an order on 10-5-33 prohibiting meetings and picketing by strikers on the ground that such action by strikers would lead to breach of peace.

Indore. - Four out of the five mills at Indore which had closed down since 1-4-33 put up notices of resumption of work during the last week of May, but with reduced wages. The workers of these mills belong to the Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union, which on behalf of the workers promised to accept a reasonable cut in wages, but requested the management to submit a scheme for the same before the Ahmedabad Board of Arbitration. Since the mill authorities refused to accede to this, the workers refused to resume work.

Other Centres. - Labour disputes and notice of mill closures are also reported from Nagpur, Jalgaon, Amraoti and Beawar.

Appointment of Labour Commissioner, Bombay. ✓

The Government of Bombay have given effect to the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Labour in India as regards the appointment of a Labour Commissioner (vide pages 453 to 455 of the Whitley Report) with effect from 1st May 1933. The administrative control of the Factory and Boiler Departments will shortly be transferred from the Collector of Bombay to the Labour Commissioner. The post of Director of Labour Intelligence thus ceases to exist.

Free Holiday Trips for Workers:

Delhi Cloth Mills' Experiment. ✓

The Delhi Cloth Mills, Delhi, inaugurated a new experiment in welfare work when on 23-5-33 a special excursion train chartered by the management left on a five days' holiday from Delhi to Jaipur, Ajmere and back carrying 450 workers. In addition to residential accommodation, the train had also arrangements for food, water-supply and general service. The scheme was all-inclusive, as in addition to the amenities of train-travel, motor-transport was provided for sight-seeing at the places visited. A doctor was throughout in attendance. An exhibition coach displaying ~~the~~ samples of the goods turned out in the Delhi Cloth Mills also formed part of the train.

The Delhi Cloth Mills has been very attentive in the matter of labour welfare. They have in the past provided cinema-shows, football and hockey amenities, joy-rides, air flights, wrestling matches, gramophone concerts and other diversions to their workers. The offer of organised train-excursions is new and a happy ~~and~~ contribution. So striking has been its success, that there is already a requisition in hand for the conducting of another tour.

Conditions of Work in the Indian
Posts and Telegraphs Department -1931-32* ✓

The following information about the conditions of work in the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department is taken from the annual report on the administration of the Indian Posts & Telegraphs Department for the year 1-4-1931 to 31-3-32.

Financial Working. - The Posts and Telegraphs consists of four branches; Post Office, Telegraphs, Radios, Telephones. The financial results of the working of each of these departments in the table given below:

	Post Office.	Telegraphs.	Radios.	Telephones.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts.	73,684,265	26,610,969	418,042	5,745,849	106,459,125
Expenditure.	78,821,907	30,321,907	1,072,524	5,627,933	115,844,271
Surplus(+) or Deficit (-).	-5,137,642	-3,710,938	-854,482	+117,916	-9,385,146

As compared with the working of the Department in 1930-31, the net results show a total loss of Rs.9,385,146 in 1931-32 as against a total loss of Rs. 13,349,308 in 1930-31.

Effects of Financial Situation on the Conditions of work of the Employees. - It is the accepted policy of the Government that the Department should be so administered that under normal conditions there should be neither substantial profit nor substantial loss. Owing to the exceptional economic and trade conditions of recent years, it has been impossible to maintain this ideal. The reconstituted accounts of the Department show that up to 1926-27 the Department worked at a profit. In 1927-28 expenditure overtook receipt, the reason, according to the report, being, the improvements in the scales of pay and other conditions of service throughout the Department introduced in that year. From 1927-28, all subsequent years have shown a financial loss, though up till 1930-31 there was a steady improvement in receipts by about Rs. 2.15 millions every year and it was, therefore, anticipated that by 1934-35 the Department would

* Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department Annual Report for the year 1931-32 - New Delhi; Printed by the Manager, Govt. of India Press, 1933 Price Rs.2 As. 4 or 3½ s. - pp. 105.

again be working at a profit without having recourse to enhancement of postal or telegraph charges. Such expectations were belied in 1930-31, when receipts fell heavily by Rs. 5.2 millions and the loss of the year, despite retrenchment measures, reached Rs. 13.35 millions. As the losses of the Department continued in 1931-32 in sympathy with the world-wide economic crisis, it became necessary (1) to enhance postal and telegraph rates, and (2) to introduce drastic retrenchment measures involving (a) reductions in personnel or establishments and (b) deductions from pay and personal allowances. In accordance with the recommendations of Post and Telegraphs Retrenchment Sub-Committee which sat from February 31 to May 1931, the cuts in the salaries of the staff and certain other retrenchment measures were introduced from 1-12-1931, which were together responsible for a reduction of Rs. 5.3 millions in the expenditure of the Department. In spite of these in 1931-32 the Department worked at a loss of Rs. 9.3 millions, but the report points out that out of this Rs. 3 millions is loss due to the working of certain unremunerative activities, such as inland press telegraphic traffic, and that the actual loss on the working of commercial side of the department amounted only to Rs. 6.3 millions. Reviewing the financial situation in its entirety, the report maintains that the present losses in a period of acute depression should not be taken as an indication of the failure of the department to be self-supporting and expresses confidence that with a return to normal times the Department would be again working at a profit.

Strength of Working Staff. - On 31-3-1932, the total number of persons employed by the department was 130,412 as compared with 132,398 at the close of 1930-31. These figures include 18,502 extra-departmental staff postmasters, stamp vendors and others, who are not Government servants in the strict sense of the term, as well as 2,042 members of the Audit and Accounts staff, 86 military telegraphists, 2 officials on deputation, and 2,387 vacant posts. The remaining 107,393 employees were directly controlled by the Posts and Telegraphs departmental staff and were distributed as follows in the various departments: Direction - 308, Postal and R.M.S. - 92,538, Telegraph Traffic - 7,208, Telegraph Engineering - 7,035, and Wireless - 304. Out of the total of 130,412 employees, 28,721 were sub-postmasters, clerks and sorters in the time scale, 18,502 were extra departmental postmasters, 1,210 were branch postmasters, ~~1,210 were~~ (departmental), 21,966 were urban postmen, 8514 were village postmen, 14,073 were runners, and 13,727 were other inferior servants.

Volume of Business Transacted. - At the close of 1931-32 there were about 168,000 miles of mail lines; the number of post offices and combined post and telegraph offices was 23,983 and the number of letter boxes 62,300. During the year 1,175.5 million articles, including 48 million registered articles were handled by the department; over 38 million money orders of the total value of Rs. 787 millions were issued and a sum of about Rs. 211 millions was collected for tradesmen and others on value payable articles; over 4.5 million insured articles valued at Rs. 1,215 millions were handled. Besides these, customs duty aggregating to Rs. 7 millions

was realised on letters and parcels for abroad, over Rs. 16 millions were paid to Indian military pensioners and over 14,000 lbs. of quinine were sold to the public. On 31-3-32 there were 2.4 million current saving bank accounts with a total balance of Rs. 382 millions, and over 83,000 postal life insurance policies covering an aggregate assurance of nearly Rs. 155 millions.

Foreign Air Mail Service. - The air mail service between Karachi and Croydon continued to be worked by Imperial Airways Ltd. During the year 53 planes of this service arrived at Karachi with 45,700 lbs. of mails (excluding parcels) for India and the same number of planes left Karachi with 41,600 lbs. of mails ~~for~~ from India. There was an increase of 4,000 lbs. and 2,300 lbs. in the weight of mails carried by east and west-bound planes respectively as compared with the previous year. The total number of air mail articles received at and despatched from Karachi was 2,308,000. The service continued to work with considerable regularity. The most serious delay occurred on the 21st August 1931 when the west-bound plane "City of Karachi" made a forced landing near Lingah and a relief plane had to be sent from Basrah to carry the mails. From the 21st May 1931 the route was changed and the transit period of the planes between Karachi and Croydon was reduced from 8 days to 5 days. From the 21st October 1931 a winter time table and route were introduced and the transit time in each direction was lengthened by a day.

Internal Air Mail Service. - The internal service between Delhi and Karachi continued to be worked by the Indian State Air Service up to December 1931, but from January 1932 it was taken over by the Delhi Flying Club. During the year under report 34 planes of the Indian State Air Service and 13 of the Delhi Flying Club flew between Karachi and Delhi in each direction. Mails weighing 8,700 lbs in all were carried by these planes.

(Conditions of work in the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department during 1928-29 were reviewed at pages 26-29 of our May 1930 report, ~~that~~ for 1929-30 at pages 43-46 of May 1931 report and ~~the~~ for 1930-31 at pages 16-20 of our March 1932 report).

Industrial Organisation.Employers' Organisation.The Employers' Federation of India. ✓

Reference was made at page 33 of our February 1933 monthly report to the proposals which were afoot for the inauguration of an all-India employers' organisation. The organisation was inaugurated at the end of March 1933 and is to be known as "The Employers' Federation of India". Its registered Office is to be at Calcutta. This new organisation, it may be pointed out, is the result of nearly 12 years' effort on the part of the Bombay Millowners' Association.

Objects. - The following are some of the more important objects for which the Federation is established; -

(1) To encourage the formation of Employers' Associations and to foster co-operation between Employers' Associations.

(2) To promote and protect the interests of employers engaged in the trade, commerce, industries and manufactures of India.

(3) To take up, consider and discuss questions connected with or affecting the interests of such employers.

(4) To promote or oppose legislative or other measures affecting the interests of such employers and to make representations to Local, Provincial, Central, Federal, Imperial, International or other authorities on matters concerned with such interests.

(5) To collect and circulate statistics and other information affecting employers.

(6) To nominate delegates and advisers, etc. to represent the employers of India at the annual International Labour Conferences of the League of Nations.

(7) To take up, consider and formulate ideas on the subjects which are on the agenda of each International Labour Conference.

(8) To take all steps which may be necessary for promoting, supporting or opposing recommendations or conventions of International Labour Conferences.

(9) To secure, wherever possible, organised and/or concerted action on all subjects involving the interests of members.

(10) To promote and support all well-considered schemes for the general uplift of labour and to take all possible steps to establish harmonious relations between Capital and Labour.

(11) To carry on propoganda for the purpose of educating the public with regard to the character, scope, importance and needs of industrial enterprise as represented by the Federation.

(12) To subscribe to, become a member of, or otherwise co-operate with any other association, whether incorporated or not, whose objects are altogether or in part similar to those of this Association.

Membership. - The following are declared to be eligible for membership of the Federation; (1) Any Association of Employers in India, whether formed for the specific purpose of promoting and protecting the interests of such employers or otherwise, which represents persons, firms, companies or corporations employing in the aggregate not less than ten thousand workmen, and (2) Any person, firm, company or corporation carrying on business in India and employing not less than five thousand workmen. The original members of the Federation are: - The Millowners' Association, ^(Bombay) The Indian Engineering Association, ^(Calcutta) The Indian Jute Mills Association, ^(Calcutta) The Indian Metallurgical Association, ^(Calcutta) The Indian Mining Association, ^(Calcutta) The Indian Tea Association, ^(Calcutta) The Employers' Federation of Southern India, The Indian Sugar Producers Association, and The Upper India Chamber of Commerce ^(Cawnpore).

Office-bearers. - The following are the first officers of the Federation; President, Mr. H.P.Mody, M.L.A., Deputy Presidents, The Hon'ble Sir E.C.Benthal and Mr. T.C.Crawford.

The first meeting of the Federation was held at Bombay during the last week of April 1933, the proceedings ^{of} at which were of a formal character.

(A copy of the Memorandum & Articles of Association of the Federation has been sent to Geneva with this Office's minute D.S/ 800 /33 of 18- 5 - 1933).

Workers' Organisations.

National Trades Union Federation;

Office Bearers for 1933 - 34. ✓

Reference was made at pages 37-41 of our April 1933 report to the joint meeting between ^{the} Indian Trades Union Federation and ^{the} National Federation of Labour held at Calcutta on 20-4-1933 at which a new central organisation - the National Trades Union Federation - was brought into being. In pursuance of a resolution adopted at the joint meeting, the new organisation began to function from 10-5-1933 with the following Office bearers;- President; Mr. Mrinal Kanti Bose; Vice-Presidents; Messrs. Aftab Ali, Calcutta; Jamnadas M. Mehta, Bombay; and B. Shiva Rao, Madras; General Secretary; Mr. R.R. Bakhale. The office of the new Federation will be at the Servants of India Society's Home, Sandhurst Road, Bombay 4.

Intellectual Workers.

The Annual Session of All India Compounders' Association,
Aligarh, 1933. ✓

The seventh annual session of the All-India Compounders' Association was held on 26-4-1933 at Aligarh, with Major G.H. Fitzgerald, I.M.S., Civil Surgeon of Aligarh, in the Chair. About fifty delegates from different parts of India attended the Conference.

Mr. Bhoj Raj. President of the Reception Committee, in welcoming the delegates dealt in his address with the miserable conditions of compounders in government service, specially with regard to their grade, pay, training, designation, quarters, leave, promotions and pensions.

Major Fitzgerald in the course of his presidential speech said that it was a hopeful and fine thing that any class should be conscious of its weakness and endeavour to improve its ^{position} ~~luck~~ in life. The training of compounders was a matter of great importance as they had to deal with the lives of human beings. With regard to pay, he said there should be an efficiency bar and time scale, and they should be granted three months' leave to attend training. He fully agreed that the demand of compounders to change their designation to that of "Medical Assistant" was just and necessary. In his opinion senior compounders were better than most of the Vaids and Hakims (medical practitioners following indigenous medical systems) specially in urinal and surgical cases and should be appointed in rural dispensaries. He was of opinion that compounders were really overworked and so they should be granted leave on Sundays and festival days.

Resolutions Passed.- An important resolution passed by the Conference related to the opening of Training Classes in the Medical Schools of India to impart education to compounders for a period of two years. By another resolution a change in their designation from "compounder" and "dispenser" to that of "medical assistant" was asked for. Another resolution related ~~to~~ to the request that they may be taken as Sanitary Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents of Vaccination. Resolutions asking for appointments of compounders in rural dispensaries in preference to Vaids and Hakims and regarding leave rules, pay, grade, promotions and pensions were also passed.

Economic ConditionsRelief of Agricultural Indebtedness:Three U. P. Bills. ✓

The fall in prices of agricultural commodities and the consequent general depreciation in land values have occasioned considerable distress among the agriculturist classes in India. The depression has, in particular, adversely affected agriculturists of limited means, as also such members of the village community who are dependant, at least in part, for their livelihood on their daily earnings, as agricultural labourers, general workers, blacksmiths, carpenters, leather workers, barbers etc. These classes as a rule, suffer from chronic indebtedness, their sufferings being aggravated by the fact that, taking advantage of their helplessness and ignorance of their rights, the money-lending classes subject them to a lot of exactions. To prevent this state of affairs and to give relief to the classes concerned, the United Provinces Government have recently introduced in the U.P. Legislative Council the following three Bills:-

(1) The United Provinces Agriculturists Relief Bill, (2) The United Provinces Reduction of Interest Bill, and (3) The Usurious Loans (United Provinces Amendment) Bill. In addition to these three Bills Government have prepared a Land Alienation Bill; but they are considering whether it is adequate in its present form or requires an important addition. Below are given the Statement of Objects and Reasons of these three Bills:-

The U.P. Agriculturists Relief Bill-1933.

Scope of Bill. - The Bill is intended to give relief only to agriculturists who pay a land revenue or rent not exceeding Rs.200, etc., as defined in the definition of "agriculturist" in section 2(1) of the Bill and to agriculturist labourers living outside the boundary of any municipality, notified area or town area who follow

such occupation as those of cowherds or goatherds mentioned in the schedule with the proviso that no person shall be considered to be an agriculturist if he is assessed to income-tax. The limit of Rs. 200 has been provisionally adopted as the result of discussions in the various Committees which have sat to consider this subject; it will, however, remain for subsequent decision in the light of further discussion in the Legislative Council whether a wider scope should not be given to the provisions embodied in the Bill.

Need for Special Protection. - The present economic slump has seriously aggravated the indebtedness of the agriculturists of limited means, whose powers of resistance have been further weakened by a succession of indifferent harvests. The position has been made still worse for want of a legal process by which agriculturist debtors can get their accounts settled or make payment of a portion of their debts. Owing to their illiteracy they do not know how their accounts stand, as there is no process of law by which they can get a regular account from their creditors. When they are able to pay their mortgage debts they often cannot, without recourse to lengthy litigation, redeem their property.

Objects of the Bill. - The object of the present Bill is to provide facilities to agriculturists in these and other matters, and in particular (1) to make provision for a legal process under which an agriculturist debtor can apply to a civil court to get his account settled and to fix instalments for the payment of any sum due; (2) to enable a debtor to deposit in court a sum of money in discharge of his debt for payment to the creditor; (3) to limit the sale of agricultural produce in execution of decrees to four years; (4) to limit ~~the sale of agricultural produce in execution of decrees to four years~~; usufructuary mortgages to a period not exceeding 20 years; (5) to enable occupancy or ex-proprietary tenants to mortgage their holdings to co-operative societies with a view to their getting long-term credit; (6) to enable an agriculturist mortgagor to redeem his land during the currency of the mortgage on certain conditions; (7) to provide for a summary method of redemption; (8) to enable debtors to receive a statement of account from their creditors and to compel the creditors to maintain their accounts in a regular manner; and (9) to make it a penal offence for a creditor to enter in his books a sum larger than that actually lent.

U. P. Reduction of Interest Bill-1933.

The Bill is intended to protect landlords and tenants who pay rent or revenue not exceeding Rs.5,000, as distinguished from other debtors. Landowners of moderate means who depend for their living on agricultural produce or the rent of agricultural land, require special protection. They have suffered an unrelieved loss from the fall in prices and have no gains to set off against their losses; and the

* Agricultural labourers, general labourers, cowherds, goatherds, dairymen, blacksmiths, carpenters, fishers, hunters, boatmen, barbers, tanners and leather-workers, scavengers, basket-makers, potters, midwives, wathmen or other servants of the village community.

moderate scale of their means leaves little scope for adjustment. As a result of the war high prices prevailed during the period from 1917 onwards and agriculturists who borrowed money during this period now find that owing to the rise in the value of money which has taken place in 1930 they have to sell more land to clear their debts than they would have done had prices remained at the 1917-29 level. Interference with the amount of capital borrowed would disturb capital and unduly restrict agricultural credit. This will not equally be the case if the rate of interest is reduced and if borrowing is restricted for the future. Therefore, it is proposed in this Bill to safeguard the interest of tenants and land-owners paying a rent or land revenue not exceeding Rs.5,000 by

(1) reducing the rate of interest for loans contracted between January 1, 1917, and January 31, 1930;

(2) reducing the rate of interest for loans contracted on or after April 1, 1930, till such date as may be found necessary owing to the present economic depression; and

(3) limiting their credit so as to check the tendency to incur improvident loans.

The rates of interest specified in clause 3* of the Bill as representing the points above which interest must be and may not be held by the courts to be usurious are rates which are regarded as safe; they are liable to amendment in the Select Committee and in the Legislative Council.

U. P. Usurious Loan (Amendment) Bill-1933.

The absence of a definition of what constitutes an excessive rate of interest in the Usurious Loans Act, 1918, has led to difficulties of interpretation in the Courts with the result that the Act has remained almost a dead letter. The Bill fixes both the point above which interest is to be held by the Courts to be usurious, and limits decrees for interest to that maximum level, and also the point below which interest shall not be held by the Courts to be usurious. It is hoped by these means to secure that money-lenders who advance loans on reasonable rates of interest shall not be involved in difficulties in obtaining decrees.

* For the purpose of this section, interest is deemed excessive, if, in the case of loans advanced on the security of immovable property or pledge of movable property, it exceeds 12 per cent compound interest with annual rests, or 15 per cent simple interest, and in the case of other loans it exceeds 18 per cent compound interest with annual rests or 24 per cent simple interest.

No interest shall be deemed excessive, if, in the case of loans advanced on the security of immovable property or pledge of movable property, it does not exceed 8 per cent compound interest with annual rests or 10 per cent simple interest and in the case of other loans it does not exceed 12 per cent compound interest with annual rests and 15 per cent simple interest.

The rates of interest specified in clause 4 (the same as those provided in clause 3 of the U.P.Reduction of Interest Bill,1933, quoted above) of the Bill as representing the points above which interest must be and may not be held by the Courts to be usurious are rates which are regarded as safe; they are liable to amendment in the Select Committee and in the Legislative Council.

Pope Committee Report;

Recommendations for further Economy. ✓

Reference was made at pages 54-55 of the Report of this Office for December 1932 to the appointment of a Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. F. A. Pope of the London, Midland & Scottish Railway, to investigate the various methods by which efficiency can be improved and economies effected in the Indian railway systems. The Committee's personnel was as follows:- Mr. F.A.Pope (chairman), Mr. J.A.Bell, divisional superintendent, E.I.Railway, Lt.-Col. C.F.Carson, R.E., divisional superintendent, N.W.Railway, Mr. R.C.Case, deputy transportation superintendent, G.I.P.Railway, Mr. G.S.G.Higginson, district transportation officer, B.N.Railway and Mr. G.A.R.Trimming, deputy chief mechanical engineer, E.I.Railway. The report of the Committee was released for publication on 1-5-33.

The principal points stressed in the report are the following:-

(1) Elimination of waste and disposing of everything that is unnecessary, whether it be land, man or material, and getting the best material, and getting the best value out of what is retained.

(2) Keeping the equipment up-to-date on the principle of spending money to earn more money. The scrapping of obsolete locomotives and the substitution of new and efficient locomotives, and various other measures of a similar character come under this head.

(3) The promoting of amalgamations between the various

railway systems in India so as to secure the maximum benefit out of large scale operation. The report points out that Great Britain and Germany have passed through the difficult phase of amalgamating their railways from a number of different undertakings into four and one respectively. In the United States, large amalgamations are contemplated. The Committee consider that the question arising in schemes for amalgamation should be studied in advance in the light of the experience gained in the various countries in which such schemes have been put into effect, by experienced officers representing commercial, operating, civil and mechanical engineering interests.

(5) The reform of accounting methods so as to enable the accounts being kept in such a way that they will bring out clearly the relation between effort and results or expenditure and revenue in respect of any item at any time.

(6) Optimum economic working of the railways can only be ensured by provision for continuous research and investigation of problems and the sharing of the results thereof by all the administrations through a co-ordinating authority.

The Labour Situation. - The Committee's recommendations are bound to produce serious repercussions on the conditions of life and work of the railway employees. The most important of these will be further retrenchment in personnel. The report points out that there are numbers of surplus men on the railways today. These will be increased if the schemes for economy set down in the report are carried into effect. Surplus staff means extravagance. New and improved methods result in reduction of man power in relation to work to be done. The labour situation may be improved by a revival in trade, but experience has shown that improved organization and methods result in reduction in staff, and that, subsequently, if there is an increase in business, it is not always necessary to bring the complement of staff up to the former level for any given operation. To ascertain as accurately as possible the exact numbers to be retrenched, the Report recommends that a 'job' analysis should be made, which would indicate the proper complement for each department and points out that if the necessary retrenchment cannot be carried

out immediately owing to the difficulty of disposing the surplus staff, a standard will, nevertheless, have been laid down for attainment as early as possible.

The following is a brief summary of the principal recommendations:-

Job Analysis & Retrenchment. - Job analysis can be applied on Indian railways with economy, and it is recommended that it should be inaugurated on certain defined principles.

Coordination of the results of the various analyses on the different railways should be effected by periodical meetings of the officers engaged on the work.

If job analysis is inaugurated on railways not represented on the committee, these railways should nominate officers to spend one month with an officer with experience of job analysis.

The indications of surplus staff given by the job analysis should be borne in mind by the Railway Board when carrying out further retrenchment.

Ensurance of Efficiency & Economy. - The importance of the question of intensive use of locomotive power is emphasized.

Spare ground and accommodation should be scheduled as it is considered that there are considerable possibilities, particularly in cities and large towns, of their utilisation for revenue-earning purposes. The Railway Board are asked to review the existing policy and thereafter address the agents.

There are possibilities of economy by an organised scheduling of surplus equipment, tract and accommodation, not only from the point of view of saving in manufacture and the purchase of new material or plant, but economy in maintenance. It is recommended that the Railway Board should address the agents.

Research and experiments are essential under modern conditions. It is recommended that the Railway Board should arrange the distribution of technical information on an organised basis and that they should make it known that organised and continuous research is of major importance.

Economies can be effected if coordinated action is taken to ensure the fullest possible utilisation of scrap.

Improvements in Accounting Methods. - Management is facilitated by accurate and up-to-date costs. The compilation of all cost and performance data should be done by the accounts department for other departments. The interpretation of this data is a matter for the agents and the heads of departments. There is a lack of cooperation between the accounts and other departments, which leads to managerial difficulties. A fundamental change in responsibility is

ⁱⁿ dedicated. The chief accounts officers should be definitely under the agents except so far as certain statutory functions are concerned. A small committee of works managers and workshop accountants should be set up to effect the standardisation of procedure in workshop accounting.

Amalgamation of Railways. - The economies to be gained by amalgamations of railways in India are apparent. The importance is stressed of a detailed examination of the experience gained in Great Britain and Germany so that a coordinated scheme can be drawn up which can be put into effect stage by stage.

Research and Investigation. - The whole tenor of the report is that it is only by constant organised research and investigation that improved efficiency and increased economy can be effected and that no saving is too small to be ignored.

Reorganisation of Railways in Ceylon:

Commission of Enquiry Proposed. ✓

In consequence of the serious financial condition of the Ceylon Government Railways, the question of appointing a commission to report on the reorganisation of Ceylon railways and on their transport problems in general is being seriously considered. Drastic retrenchment in the shape of curtailment of train services has worsened the position as regards public patronage, while, despite curtailment of services, the establishment costs have not decreased proportionately. Moreover, owing to the enforced idleness of a large amount of the rolling stock, the depreciation charges are said to be increasing out of proportion to the services rendered by the railway. It is feared that imminent tea export restriction would further reduce the goods traffic receipts, but to counteract this as much as possible a propaganda campaign is at present being conducted in the planting districts.

Protection for Steel; Board of Enquiry to be Set up. ✓

The Government of India are considering the question arising out of their obligation to hold a statutory inquiry into the steel industry, the protection for which expires on March 1934.

The Steel Protection Act now in force provides for an inquiry, leaving it to the Government to decide the machinery for this purpose. The present Tariff Board is not a statutory body, but there is no reason why, as far as possible, normal machinery should not be used for the purpose. A Board of Inquiry is likely to be constituted especially for this purpose, and the members are expected to include among others those members of the Tariff Board who have had previous experience in inquiry into the steel industry. The announcement of the personnel of the Board is expected by the end of July or the the beginning of August next so that the the inquiry ^{may} ~~should~~ begin before September, ^{maybe} the report ~~being~~ submitted to the Government early in February. This will enable the Government to approach the legislature with proposals in March 1934.

Proposed Industries Ministers' Conference to be held
in July 1933. ✓

The Government of India, at the request of the several local Governments, propose to hold a conference at Simla of Ministers and Directors of Industries some time in July next. Such conferences used to be held annually for several years, but the practice was given up in pursuance of the recommendations for economy of the Incheape Committee. Local Governments now feel that the annual

conference should be revived as they serve the very useful purpose of pooling ideas and affording opportunities of coordinating industrial work in the provinces, besides eliminating possible duplication of work which could be done better in one province rather than in others.

The main item which is expected to engage the attention of the Conference is the problems which have recently cropped up in connection with the sugar industry owing to the rapid growth of sugar factories since protection was conferred to the industry under the Sugar Industry Protection Act. These problems have arisen particularly with reference to the equitable distribution of the benefit conferred by protection amongst three parties, namely, the grower of sugar cane, the factory owner and the consumer.

The United Provinces Government, within whose area there has been a remarkable growth in the number of sugar factories for some time past, have appointed a committee to examine the question as how best to secure a fair price for the grower of sugar cane. Complaints that the farmer has not received a fair deal from the factory owner have been heard not without justification and ~~far~~ fears have also been expressed that with the rapid growth in the number of factories stimulated by the artificial conditions existing under protection the mistake made in the case of the cotton-ginning factories and rice mills might be repeated and too many factories might be started at a few spots, while large areas of the country which could support factories might be left without them. Questions have also arisen of undue competition between the factory owners. It is felt that the proposed conference might be helpful in leading to the orderly development of sugar factories in India.

Tea Restriction: Export Regulation Rules. ✓

References were made at pages 43-44 of our January 1933 report and pages 44-46 of our April 1933 report to the provisional scheme proposed by the principal tea producing countries of the world to restrict the output of tea in view of the prevailing slump in the tea trade. The following bases were suggested by the India Tea Association to devise a method of allocating in an equitable manner India's quota amongst the producers of tea in the country.

(a) That for the purpose of the scheme India should be treated as one unit.

(b) That allocation should be made at the same percentage throughout.

(c) That the estate is to be regarded as the unit for purposes of calculating the export quota.

(d) That the basis on which allocation should be made should be the maximum crop of each unit for any of the years 1929, 1930, 1931 or 1932 increased by allowances on a definite scale for young clearings.

(e) That export rights should be transferable and saleable.

Measures to restrict the export of tea were foreshadowed by Sir Joseph Bhore, the Commerce Member, in the Assembly on 12-4-33 (vide pages 44-45 of our April 1933 report). The Government of India, he said, understood that the Governments of Madras, Assam and Bengal were prepared to restrict the issue of fresh leases for tea cultivation for five years as fixed by the international agreement. In order to give effect to the restriction of exports the Government had considered the possibility of legislation in the last session, but the legislative programme had been heavy. Hence it was decided that restriction would be enforced by the alternative method of the issue of a notification under Section 19 of the Sea Customs Act.

The following are the principal features of two notifications

and a resolution which have been issued by the Government of India on 19-5-33 on the subject.

The first notification restricts, with effect from 26-5-33, the taking of tea, including green tea, by sea to any place outside India or by land to the French and Portuguese settlements in India, to consignments covered by licences issued by the authority and in the manner prescribed by the Governor-General-in-Council; "provided that the aforesaid restriction shall not apply to Burmese pickled tea or tea, (a) proved to the satisfaction of the Customs Collector to have been imported into British India from a foreign port, or (b) shipped as stores on board any vessel in such quantity as the Customs Collector considers reasonable with reference to the number of the crew and passengers and to the length of the voyage on which, the vessel is about to depart, or (c) exported by parcel post."

The second notification prohibits from 26th May the export of tea seed by sea or land from British India.

The resolution provides for the appointment of the licensing authority contemplated in the above notifications. The licensing authority is to be a Committee to be called the Licensing Committee, representative of the tea growing industry in India, and is to consist of 11 members. The Offices of the Licensing Committee are to be situated at present at Calcutta and Coonoor (South India) and more offices are to be opened at other localities should necessity arise. The Committee is to maintain a record of the yearly (1st April to 31st March) export quota allotted to each tea estate and an account of licenses issued against such quotas.

The decisions of the Committee are to be subject to the orders of the Governor-General in Council who may revise any decision of the Committee. The restrictions are to have retrospective effect and are to apply from 1-4-1933.

(Summarised from the Gazette of India dated 20-5-33, Part I page 499-500).

Textile Crisis: Proposals for New Indo-Japanese Agreement. -

Reference was made at pages 48 to 52 of our April 1933 report to the crisis in the Indian textile industry precipitated by Japanese 'dumping' of piece goods. It will be remembered that the Government of India armed themselves with necessary powers to give protection to Indian industries by executive orders without the necessity of consulting the legislature beforehand, by passing the Safeguarding of Industries Act, 1933, ~~at~~ the last session of the Legislative Assembly. The notice of abrogation of the Indo-Japanese Trade Treaty of 1905 given by His Majesty's Government as also the Safeguarding of Industries Act passed in India were ~~reviewed~~ viewed with satisfaction by industrial interests in the country and the situation promised to improve towards the end of April last. It was reported that the Government of India proposed under sub section 5, section 3 of the Indian Tariff Act to enhance the present duties on cotton piece goods of non-British origin by 25 per cent. ad valorem, the increase to come into effect at a very early date.

During the month under review no definite step however was taken by the Government of India to give the Indian textile industry the necessary protection against Japanese. Early in the month under review, Japan opened negotiations with His Majesty's Government in London on the question of Japanese competition with British goods in India and suggested that exports to India should be regulated on a quota basis. To discuss the future of British and Japanese trade interests it is proposed that a conference should be convened in London shortly by the President of the Board of Trade. It is apparent that the Government of India has delayed action under the Safeguarding of ~~India~~ Industries Act pending the negotiations that

are at present going on for a new Indo-Japanese trade agreement.

Japan's negotiations with His Majesty's Government and the sudden inactivity of the Government of India ~~in the matter~~ have alarmed industrialists in the country. They look askance at the intentions of His Majesty's Government and ^{of} the Government of India and are afraid that Indian industries will be sacrificed in the British and Japanese scramble for markets. Prominent industrialists have denounced the secrecy that is maintained regarding the details of the Anglo-Japanese negotiations and have appealed to the Government of India to ~~save~~ save the Indian textile industry by an increase in tariffs at an early date. Mr. H.P. Mody, Chairman of the Bombay Millowners' Association, made the following observations on the situation on 22-5-1933;

"I refuse to believe that the Government of India are indifferent to the situation or that they are not convinced of the case put up by the spokesmen of the industry. From all that one hears of the negotiations that are supposed to be going on between the Japanese and the British interests and from all the talks of a tariff truce, one is led to think that the Government of India are not a free agent in the matter. ~~The~~ Japanese propaganda which has been so furiously active during the last few weeks lends colour to that supposition. That raises an issue of great importance. Is the tariff policy of this country to be dictated by a foreign power? Did Japan consult the Government of India and did she think she was promoting friendly relations between the two countries when she raised the duty on pig iron to as much as 250 per cent, only very recently? It will be a gross betrayal of India's interests if the Government of India, for one reason or another, are unable to help the industry at this critical juncture."

Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar, President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, issued on 20-5-1933 a statement to the press in which the attitude of Indian industrialists to the proposed ~~trade~~ ^{Trade} Indo-Japanese agreement is clearly enunciated. He says;

"Indian business men have no desire to hurt Japan, but at the same time I would like to tell Japan plainly that her export policy

should be framed with due regard to the interests of our nascent industries. Japan would do well to understand that India is determined to resist the flooding of her markets with Japanese goods which is ~~ruinous~~ ruinous to our industries, especially textiles. It is not necessary for this purpose to find out whether it is technical efficiency, superior productive organisation, or a deliberately deprecated exchange, or a combination of these that is really enabling her to sell so cheap. The mere fact that her sales in India are threatening the existence of Indian industries is sufficient reason to take effective steps to counter the danger. But the most important question suggested to my mind by the situation is whether it is not possible for the representatives of the two countries to sit round a table and hammer out an agreement whereby the two countries can continue to be friendly customers of each other's goods. According to Press reports, Japanese representatives are at present carrying on negotiations at Simla and London. The danger is, that the conclusions arrived at by these negotiations may not be acceptable to real Indian opinion as was the case with the Ottawa Agreement: In fact, we do not want a trade agreement with Japan negotiated by British statesmen and businessmen or by the Government of India or by unrepresentative Indians to be hurled at us for acceptance. British manufacturers are meeting with fierce Japanese competition in East African, Middle Eastern and Southern Asian markets and may be inclined to offer some accommodation in India. While I would warn Britain against using India as a bargaining counter, I would warn Japan against hoping to get all she wants through British intervention alone".

Till the end of the month no steps were taken by the Government to give immediate relief to the industry, nor has it proposed any measures for speedy relief. Conditions in the industry in the meantime ~~are~~ are worsening steadily; the effects of this situation on labour are reviewed separately in the section in this report dealing with Conditions of Labour.

K.

43

Employment & Unemployment

Industrial Training for Bengal Unemployed:

Free Classes to be Opened. ✓

At pages 56-57 of our December 1932 report, reference was made to the scheme chalked out by the Bengal Government for relieving middle class unemployment in that province ("A short account of the scheme", a leaflet published ^{in this connection} by the Bengal Government was forwarded to Geneva with this Office's minute D.1/2689/32 of 1-12-1932). In accordance with this scheme, the Director of Industries, Bengal, has notified that, ~~in connexion with the scheme,~~ the Department of Industries, Engineering Section, has arranged to open free training classes in Calcutta in the following productive industries:

Umbrella making, (bending and marking of umbrella handles and assembling and fitting of complete umbrella);

Manufacture of brass and bell-metal wares with a new alloy;

Manufacture of cutlery;

Making of pottery by the improved potter's wheel and manufacture of glazed pottery.

The full course of training for the above industries, it is stated, will cover a period varying from 4 to 6 months. Unemployed educated youths of Bengal who are keen on genuinely making a living out of any of these industries, after completion of their training, will be eligible for admission.

A number of demonstration parties, contemplated by the scheme (vide pages 56-57 of our December 1932 report) have already started work in various centres, giving free demonstrations in different handicrafts. One such party is demonstrating the weaving and ornamentation of woollen wrappers and similar articles at Calcutta, while another party is teaching the weaving of jute articles, spinning of

badminton nets, weaving^{of} jute mats, etc., at the Calcutta Technical School, where demonstration classes in the manufacture of boots and shoes and other leather articles are also being held. Demonstration parties in silk manufacture and pottery work are started to be in process of formation at the Industrial Research Laboratory, Entally.

All India Unemployed Association;

Programme of Work. ✓

Reference was made at page 45 of our March, 1933 report to the formation of the All India Unemployed Association with headquarters at Lahore. On 4-5-33, the Association issued a statement chalking out its programme of work for relieving unemployment in the country. A short summary of the statement is given below.

According to the statement, the Association is to attack the problem in two stages, the organising stage and the working stage. It is chiefly engaged with the first stage at present. About 50 branches of the Association ^{it is reported,} have been opened in various parts of the country and nearly 4,000 persons have been enrolled as members at these branches. The Association aims at forming a net work of branches in all important towns throughout the country and the unemployed are to be enrolled free of fees and without distinction of colour or creed. A branch of the Association is being opened at London. Some noted English statesmen have promised to be members of the Advisory Board. In the meanwhile, if necessary, connections are to be established with international unions of the unemployed, ^{When} about 300 branches are opened with a strength of 100,000 unemployed,

the executive of the Association propose to tour the country as a preliminary step to ~~see~~ its working programme being put through.

The programme for the working stage is to be, first, the celebration of an All India Unemployed Day when the members of the various branches of the Association are to hold public meetings to voice their demands by passing suitable resolutions. Secondly, a vigorous campaign for inaugurating measures to alleviate unemployment is to be undertaken. With this object in view, the Association intends starting the publication of ^a journal and a series of publications dealing with the unemployment problem. Thirdly, the Association proposes to impress on the Government the necessity for starting schemes to relieve unemployment and to demand the convening of a Round Table Conference on Unemployment. The actual schemes to cope with the problem are to be evolved at the Conference.

In the meantime every possible help is to be rendered to the unemployed. Those who are on the verge of actual starvation are to be given some financial help. With a view to find ^{for} young men employment in cottage and small scale industries, commercial bodies and big business concerns are being approached. The prospects are stated to ^{be} as hopeful. Any unemployed person desirous of starting on his own account, seeking the advice of the Association is to be advised free. Details of another scheme which will simultaneously work at the capital towns of the various provinces of India are being worked out. The object of the scheme is to supply ~~some~~ work to nearly 500 persons. The details of the scheme, however, are to be supplied only to the branch presidents. Some other relief schemes are also stated to be under consideration and suggestions regarding workable relief measures are invited from those interested in the matter.

(It has to be noted that this Office has no direct information regarding this Association)

Fraudulent Fee Charging Employment Agency;A Delhi Case. ✓

The phenomenal increase of unemployment, specially among the educated middle classes, has led in recent years to the setting up of a number of fee-charging employment agencies in the principal cities and towns of India. While some of them are honest and overboard in their operations, it is indisputable that quite a good percentage of these service securing agencies are fraudulent institutions. For one thing they have no fixed scale of charges and levy fees in proportion to the simplicity of the needy applicant. Secondly, instead of providing applicants with bona fide jobs they very often act in collusion with bogus employers and thus mulct applicants in fees who are dismissed after a month or two by the bogus employer. Thirdly, under some pretext or other they take from applicants substantial sums as 'security' without issuing proper receipts for the same and ultimately defraud the applicant of the sum that has been given as security. The fee-charging employing agencies are also accused of diverse other malpractices; as their victims, however, often choose to suffer in silence either from helplessness or a sense of shame, cases of such agencies having been brought to look have been rare. A recent Delhi case in which one Lek Raj has started criminal proceedings on 3-5-33, against Messrs. Kapoor and Co., Service Securing Agents, Delhi, sheds a flood of light on the shady practices of such agencies. Below is given a brief summary of the case:-

The accused in the case are Gauri Mal of Messrs. Kapoor & Co., Service Securing Agents, ~~K.N.Seth~~ ~~and~~ ~~S.B.Khanna~~ ~~and~~ ~~S.R.N.Choudhry~~, Managing Director, Mehr Chand, Secretary, K.N.Seth, and S.B.Khanna, Directors of the Social Insurance Co.Ltd., and they were asked to answer charges under Sections 420, 120-B & 406 of the Indian Penal Code.

In his complaint Mr. Lek Raj said that on reading an advertisement of Messrs. Kapoor & Co., he sent an application to Gauri Mal with the requisite fee and further informed him that he was prepared to furnish security ~~of~~ Rs. 2,000 in case it was required. He was assured by Gauri Mal that he would get a job on Rs.200 per mensem. On that assurance he came to India from Africa and on March 6, 1933, met Gauri Mal and gave him Rs. 100 as his commission for securing a job for him.

Gauri Mal ~~introduced~~ introduced the complainant to R.N.Choudhry of the Social Insurance Company, who demanded from the complainant a cash security ~~of~~ Rs. 2,000 which was furnished. He was given a letter of appointment on a salary of Rs. 150 in Hoshiarpur, Punjab. The accused instead of passing a receipt for the security amount gave him a receipt for the purchase of shares of the Social Insurance Company, and assured him that the money would be ~~treated~~ treated as security money and that it would be refunded to the complainant on termination of his services. They also gave him to understand that they did not have with them the receipt of the security deposit, but it would be given to him later on.

On further thinking about the matter Mr. Lek Raj's suspicions were aroused and on the advise of friends he demanded a proper receipt for the Rs. 2,000/- paid by him as security money. For some weeks, the accused put him off with assurances that a receipt ~~in~~ will be duly issued to him in course of time. Ultimately, instead of a proper receipt a letter ~~in~~ was sent to the complainant that the Directors of the Social Insurance Co.Ltd., have allotted him shares worth Rs.2,000/-. The complainant then instituted criminal proceedings. first, as he was not paid any salary for the period he had worked in the Hoshiarpur branch of the Social Insurance Co.Ltd., and secondly for breach of trust with regard to the Rs. 2,000/- deposited as security money.

The case is proceeding.

Public Health.Health Conditions in Asansol Coal Mines, 1931-32.* ✓

The following information regarding the health conditions in the Asansol Coal Mines during 1931-32 is taken from the Annual Administration Report of the Asansol Mines Board of Health for the year 1931-32. The area of the mining settlement under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health is 413 square miles and the population in 1931 in the settlement was 382,680, of which 47,659 people were living in municipal areas.

Vital Statistics. - Births and Deaths. - During the year, 10,645 births were registered, being 2,613 more than that of the previous year. The birth rate per 1,000 of population was 28.04 as against 24.3 in 1930. The birth rate was higher than that of the province as a whole which stood at 27.8 per 1,000 in the year under report. There were 83 still births registered during the year against 99 in the previous year. Registration of still births is reported to be highly defective and the recorded figure does not by any means represent the correct position. Male births exceeded female births by 385. The proportion was 107.5 to 100. The number of deaths registered during the year from all causes was 7,793 against 6,980 in 1930 and 7,896 in 1929. The death rate per 1,000 of population was 20.52 per 1,000. The rate of mortality for the province for the year under report was 22.3 per 1,000.

Infant Mortality. - The number of deaths among infants under 1 year was 1,438. The infant mortality rate calculated on the number of births registered was 135.08 against 129.2 and 145.0 in the previous two years. The infant mortality rate for the province during the year 1931 was 174.0 per 1,000 births. About 60% of total infant deaths occurred within the 1st month of infant life and 36% within one week of birth.

Principal Causes of Deaths. - Principal causes of deaths in the settlement were (1) fevers (including malaria), (2) pneumonia, (3) dysentery and diarrhoea (4) cholera and (5) respiratory diseases.

The number of deaths returned as due to fevers including malaria during 1931 was 2,842 with a death rate of 7.4 per million.

* Annual Administration Report of the Asansol Mines Board of Health for the year 1931-32 - 1932. pp. 23.

Fevers accounted for 36.4 per cent of total mortality. The report observes that the figure for 1931 indicates a considerable rise compared to that of the previous years. While this is partly due to better classification owing to personal verification by the Registrars, there is no doubt that fever mortality has gone up in the Mining Settlement. The steady decline in mortality from respiratory diseases (including Pneumonia) since 1929 is more marked during the year under report. The mortality rate was 2.3 per 1,000. The death rate from Pneumonia was 1.6 per 1,000 in the Mining Settlement compared to 1.2 in the Bengal Presidency. The death rate is the lowest since the last 5 years. 81 deaths were recorded from childbirth during or within the days of confinement against 44 in the preceding year. There were 305 deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea with a death rate of 0.79 per 1,000, which is the same as in the previous year. There were 309 deaths due to cholera during the year under report, with a death rate of 0.8 per 1,000. The fatality rate was 53 per cent. There were 8 deaths from small-pox compared to 20 in the preceding year. The death rate was .02 as against 0.2 in the province.

Housing Conditions. - A detailed survey of the housing conditions of the miners in the Asansol Mining Settlement was undertaken in September 1931. The survey was completed towards the end of December. The minimum standard laid down by the Board of Health for Dhowrahs (huts) is as follows; - Floor space, 96 sq.ft.; Cubic content of room, 11,000 cft.; Verandah, 7 ft. wide; Ventilation, a door in front and 4 sq.ft. of opening in back wall of each room and open space in between two dhowrahs(huts), 10 ft. This standard was followed in classifying the existing dhowrahs, the deviation from the standard being considered in the light of the practicability or otherwise of their being modified or altered so as to conform to the standard as far as possible. Only 30 per cent of dhowrahs in the Coalfield satisfied the simple test; about 11 per cent could be improved at a moderate cost; and 9 per cent ~~xxx~~ were capable of being brought up to standard requirements by costly additions and alterations. As much as 31 per cent were definitely insanitary, 17.5 per cent of the total number of dhowrahs required only windows to make them better ventilated than ~~what it is now~~. The number of rooms of all types was 21,208 and these were occupied by 51,276 persons according to the census of 1931, giving an average density of 2.41 per room. The report observes that the density per room is variable according to season and, in considering the density as expressed in the statement, allowance is to be made for two factors viz, that the coal trade hit on a lean year in 1931 and the months of October and November, when the population was recorded, were not by any means the busiest season of the year.

Improvement of Water Supply. - Collieries normally depend on wells for their water supply. Where pit water is used for drinking and domestic purposes, chlorination is insisted on. Bacteriological analysis of pit water from various collieries was carried out during the year with a view to find out the degree of purity.

School Hygiene and Health Propaganda. - The School Medical

Officer employed by the Board carried on medical inspection of school children in primary and high schools throughout the year. Altogether 84 schools were visited and 4,115 students were examined during the year as against 3,060 in the previous year. Lectures on personal hygiene, simple precautions to be taken against prevailing diseases including cholera and small-pox are delivered by the Sanitary Assistants in the primary schools throughout the year. A primer on elementary hygiene in Bengali forms the basis of such lectures. Health propaganda outside schools received due measure of attention throughout the year. This was made possible by the appointment of a whole-time propaganda officer.

Maternity and Child Welfare. - The number of trained midwives was increased from 3 to 6 — one for each circle. The work of the midwives was reorganised with a view to bring within its scope anti-natal supervision, free maternity service, post-natal care and advice to mothers. 459 antinatal cases came under the supervision of midwives during the year. 236 maternity cases were conducted and 47 were witnessed, the dais having conducted labour. Post-natal visit after confinement was paid to 248 cases on receipt of report of birth by the dais. The midwives were also called out to attend 374 simple gynaecological cases during the year. Health talks and lectures numbered 512 while 44 dais received training.

Finances of the Board. - The financial position of the Board was sound and satisfactory. There was no loan outstanding. The total income of the Board excluding opening balance of Rs.90,504/- amounted to Rs. 128,345/- against Rs. 114,785/- in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 13,560/- which was due to better collection during the year under review. The total expenditure of the Board amounted to Rs. 116,273/- against Rs.100,792/- in the previous year showing an increase of Rs. 15,481/- . The credit balance of the Board at the end of the year under report was Rs.102,576/- Cess was levied during the year at the following rates;- On Mine-owners at Re. 1-12-0 per 100 tons on the average output of the mine for the past three calendar years, and on Royalty Receivers at 24% of the annual average road cess payable for the past 3 financial years. The cess assessed on Mine-owners for the year under report amounted to Rs. 102,994-8-0 as compared with Rs. 97,890-2-0 for the previous year. The increase was due to increased output. The cess assessed on the Royalty Receivers for the year under report amounted to Rs.18,139-14-0 as compared with Rs.16,148-5-0 for the previous year.

(The report of the Asansol Mines Board of Health for 1929-30 is reviewed at pages 71-74 of our July 1931 report and that for 1930-31 at pages 46-48 of our December 1931 report).

Housing Problem in Bangalore, (Mysore State):

Municipality's Scheme. ✓

References have been made in earlier reports of this Office to the housing problem in Bangalore, Mysore State, and to the interest that is being taken by the City Municipality in the problem of housing the poor and labour classes of the population living in and around the city. (vide pages 50-51 of our January 1932 report, pages 48-50 of September 1932 report and page 61 of December 1932 report). An idea of the acuteness of the problem may be had from the following figures. The population of the city, according to the 1931 census, is 1,72,357 as compared with 1,18,556 according to the 1921 census, 88,651 according to the 1911 census, and 80,285 according to 1891 census. The very large increase of population, during the last two decades especially, is to be accounted for, mainly, by the industrial and commercial progress of the city. While the population of the city in 1931 is nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the 1891 figures, during the same period area has increased only by 4 square miles.

During 20 years, 1891-1911, 4,200 house sites were added in four extensions at a total cost of Rs. 1.7 millions. With this appreciable expansion in housing condition the population increased by 8,000 in these two decades. But during the period 1911-1931, however, the number of extensions formed were few, but the population grew abnormally. The addition of houses did not keep pace with the growth of population. While the increase in the population during 1911-1931 was 30,000, only 1,000 house sites were added. The disparity between these two factors during the last decade, 1921-31, was very

marked. Only 700 new sites were provided for housebuilding to meet an increase of 54,000 population. ~~There were~~ Large numbers of the cooly population have settled ^{as a result} in very unhealthy huts in dist~~ry~~ environments and are reputed to endanger thereby themselves and their neighbours. There is an immediate need, it has been estimated, for providing at least 10,000 families with houses.

This inadequate provision of house sites has ~~led~~ to two evils: (1) conversion of private sites and agricultural lands into house sites without due regard to proper layout, and (2) overcrowding, not only in the old city, but even in the extensions. This brings into consideration another factor. This growth of new house sites indiscriminately certainly adds to the burden of the municipality in providing roads, drains, water and light at its expense.

The Municipal Commissioner, in a note on the subject, suggests either that available municipal or Government land be divided up into sites and allotted to the poorer classes at upset prices, taking care to cover just the cost of the layout; or that the municipality build the houses and rent them out. He has placed before the labour housing committee of the Municipal Council several plans and designs of houses suited for people of different incomes, the houses costing about 450 to 1,000 rupees; the rents to be charged to range from Rs.2 to Rs. 7 monthly. A third scheme suggested was to build houses and sell them on the hire-purchase system. The City Municipality is reported to be seriously considering this problem and the suggestions of the Commissioner are receiving earnest attention. A new loan which the Municipality is floating in the near future, of Rs.

Rs. 1000,000 would release a portion of it for this housing problem.

Housing N. S. Railway Staff:

Administration's Scheme. ✓

The frequent visitation of plague epidemic at Secunderabad had accentuated the difficulty of the problem of providing suitable housing accommodation to the staff. As a result of numerous representations made by the Union, H.E.H. the Nizam's State Railway Administration, it is understood, has sanctioned Rs. 300,000 for providing houses for employees drawing less than Rs.100/- monthly. The Administration has agreed to appoint two representatives of the Union on the Building Committee formed by the Administration in this connection.

Industrial Housing in Ahmedabad; Millowners' Scheme. ✓

References were made in the earlier reports of this Office to a scheme for providing better housing accommodation to the workmen of Ahmedabad City, submitted by Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Secretary of the Ahmedabad Textile Labour Association, for consideration by the City Municipality. (vide pages 21-24 of our September 1930 report and page 60 of January 1933 report). It will be remembered in this connection, that the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association did not favour the Municipality sponsoring any housing scheme, since it would result in an increase in the municipal duty on certain commodities. The Association, however, decided to await the decision of the municipality

and was prepared to launch a huge co-operative housing scheme themselves in case the Municipality decided not to take up Mr. Nanda's scheme (vide pages 40-41 of our May 1931 report). It is now understood that in spite of the Municipality having decided to launch the scheme proposed by Mr. Nanda, the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association is preparing a scheme for co-operative housing of mill operatives as an alternative to the housing scheme prepared by the Municipality. The Association is confident that its scheme will be cheaper than that of the Municipality which will require the raising of ~~a loan~~^{money} by ~~levying~~ additional taxation.

Collection of Vital Statistics through Non-Official Agencies:

A Travancore Experiment. ✓

An interesting experiment in the direction of collecting vital statistics through non-official agency is being tried in certain areas of the Travancore State by the Public Health Department. The collection of vital statistics is normally the function of the revenue authorities in the State, but for certain reasons, one of them being the burden of ~~the~~ other duties devolving ~~on~~ revenue officers, it has been considered advisable to test whether the work can be entrusted to non-official agency. To entrust the work to a paid permanent staff would prove costly, and hence the system of assigning the work to non-officials, who will, however, get some remuneration for their labours.

The experiment is now being tried in nine village areas.

From 100 to 500 houses are assigned to each non-official worker, whose duty it is to collect the vital statistics of the area assigned to him. The majority of the persons thus selected are school teachers. It is ~~understood~~^{expected} that as the workers gain knowledge and experience of the work, better results ~~are being~~^{will be} obtained. If the experiment proves a success, it is hoped to extend the system gradually to other areas.

At present, in the matter of vital statistics, as well as in various other spheres of proposed social legislation, e.g. the initiation of social insurance schemes, one of the greatest handicaps met with is the difficulty and costliness of securing the necessary statistical information. If the Travancore experiment succeeds, it would provide an impetus for action on similar lines in British India as also in other advanced Indian States.

Co-operation.

Co-operation in Baroda State, 1931.* ✓

The following information regarding the progress of the cooperative movement in Baroda State is taken from the Annual Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies in the State during the year ending 31-12-1931.

General Progress. - Although the season during the year under report was not quite bad as compared with those of the last three years, yet the continued low prices of ~~the~~ agricultural produce hardly ameliorated the economic condition of the peasants. Still ~~the~~ Departmental efforts, it is remarked, have succeeded in making ~~an~~ all round progress. The total number of societies increased from 1047 of the last year to 1063 in this year and the total number of members increased from 38,638 to 39,552. The total working capital increased from Rs. 7,492,811 to Rs. 7,672,691 and the reserve fund augmented from Rs. 969,354 to Rs. 1,046,996. From these it may be concluded that the movement, inspite of ~~the~~ adverse circumstances, is gaining strength and making proper progress. The average membership per society was 37.2 as against 36.8 of the last year. The working capital per society and per member was Rs. 7,218 and Rs. 194 during the year under review as against Rs. 7,158 and Rs. 194 respectively in the previous year. The total amount of loans due at the end of the year was Rs. 5,784,441 as against Rs. 5,881,452 of the last year out of which the overdues of the societies from members amounted to Rs. 1,195,263 or 26.5% as against 27% in the previous year. Even this small decrease in the overdues percentage clearly bears out the fact of the improvement in the movement and it is hoped that with better years the result will be still more satisfactory. During the year under report 38 new societies were registered, and 22 were removed from the register.

Classification of Societies. - The 1063 societies at the end of the year consisted of one Co-operative Institute, 3 Central Banks, 3 Union Banks, 1 Supervising union, 871 Agricultural societies and 184 non-agricultural Societies. The 871 agricultural societies comprise of 727 credit, 28 thrift, 40 consolidation of small holdings, 29 cotton sale, 12 milch cattle, 2 milk supply, 3 cattle - breeding, 15 provision supply, 4 seed supply, 1 water works, 4 power pump, 2 fodder and 3 better living and 3 other societies. The 184 non-agricultural societies consisted of 149 credit, 8 thrift, 5 stores, 16 students stores, 5 housing, 1 mutual aid society.

Central Institute and Central Banks. - The Shri Sajaji Sahakar Sevak Institute, the Central Co-operative Institute, completed six years of its existence. During the year under report it had on its roll 29 individual members and 492 societies of the last year. It is a matter of satisfaction to note that 42 societies were added

* Annual Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies in the Baroda State for the year 1931 ending 31st December. -

Baroda State Press 1932. Price Rs. 2-12-0 - pp.60.

to its register of membership. The number of the Central Banks and Banking Unions was six which is the same as last year. The statement re. financial condition of these institutions, shows an all round progress in the membership, share capital, working capital, and reserve fund of the Central Banks. The membership increased from 1,317 in 1930 to 1,320 in the year under review. The share capital, working capital and reserve funds of these 6 Banks during the year were Rs. 281,272, Rs. 2,169,307 and Rs. 145,835 respectively as against Rs. 275,999, Rs. 2,140,784 and Rs. 125,623 respectively during 1930. The Banks have gained public confidence and they attracted a good amount of deposits, inspite of the financial crisis.

Agricultural Societies. - The number of Agricultural Co-operative Societies increased by 10 making a total of 871 as against 861 of the previous year. The 871 societies consist of 727 credit of which 13 are flood-relief credit societies, 28 thrift, 40 consolidation of small holdings, 29 cotton sale, 12 milch cattle, 2 milk supply, 2 cattle breeding, 15 village stores, 4 seed supply, 1 water works, 3 power pump, 2 fodder storage and 3 better living 3 other societies. The membership of these 871 societies increased from 25,208 in 1930 to 25,323 in the year under review. The share capital, reserve funds and working capital of these societies during 1931 were, respectively, Rs. 70,318, Rs. 814,616 and Rs. 3,595,495 as against Rs. 67,879, Rs. 766,155 and Rs. 3,646,066 respectively in 1930. In the year under report the fresh loans advanced were Rs. 738,856 as compared with Rs. 1,072,648 in 1930 and the deposits from members were Rs. 515,582 as against Rs. 490,959 of the previous year.

Cotton Sale Societies. - There were 29 cotton sale societies in the year under report as against 28 in the preceding year. Out of these, 17 societies did their Co-operative work well. The remaining 12 societies did not work owing to the depression in the market and want of Co-operation among the members. The 17 societies which had worked, had a membership of 1,004 in 1931 against 887 in the preceding year, and ginned the total seed cotton in 7072 Bhars (one Bhar equal to 924 lbs.) against 6,118 of the last year. The total proceeds from lint and seed amounted to Rs. 803,631. Sometimes it is found that registered cotton sale societies do not work owing to the threats and ~~clicks~~ ^{cliques} of the interested persons like the money lenders and ~~the~~ middle men. In order that such societies should work, it has been now arranged that organised cotton sale societies should work for ~~some~~ ^{some} time and when they show signs of continuous working, they are registered. In the year under report there were 7 such groups with 139 members which ginned and sold cooperatively 773 Bhars of cotton.

Non-Agricultural Societies. - The number of non-agricultural societies increased by 6 during the year under report. The total number was therefore 184 which ~~comprised~~ ^{was} 149 credit, 8 thrift, 21 stores, 1 mutual help and 5 Housing societies. The membership of the 185 societies was 12,909 as compared with 12,113 in the previous year. The share capital, reserve funds and working capital

were, respectively, Rs. 285,230; Rs. 86,545 and Rs. 1,907,889 as against Rs. 236,187, Rs. 77,576 and Rs. 1,707,961 respectively in 1930.

Credit Societies. - The 149 credit societies consisted of 41 weavers', 11 chamars', 57 flood relief, 13 employees', 6 depressed class societies and 7 societies of ~~the~~ other classes together with 4 Urban Banks in the city and ten urban in the other urban areas of the State. The Chamars' and Weavers' societies provided cheap credit to the members to enable them to develop their home industries. A great effort was made from the department to persuade the lending banks to organise the production and sale of the products of these people's home industry, but the banks do not consider it a feasible proposition at present owing to great stocks of the products of handi-crafts lying undisposed ~~of~~ in the country.

Employees' Societies. - There were 13 Employees' societies, of which 6 are classed as more important. These six societies had a membership of 1,855 and their share capital, deposits, reserve funds and working capital were, respectively, Rs. 40,928, Rs.148,425, Rs. 11,015 and Rs. 200,368. The report remarks that these societies stand out prominently as regards efficiency and discipline.

Co-operative Propaganda and Village Reconstruction. - To popularise and expand the movement with its various schemes a number of leaflets were distributed and lectures delivered at various places. Besides arrangements were made to organise "Refresher classes" for school teachers at various places, where a series of lectures on co-operation ^{was} delivered with the idea that the teachers in their turn would infuse the spirit of co-operation in their own sphere of work. These teachers are also trained in sanitation, village administration, new agricultural methods, scouting etc. with a view to make them village guides. "The Gram Jivan" quarterly was also supplied with many contributions from the department on several subjects on co-operation, and rural reconstruction. All these efforts were made with a view to increase the co-operative spirit which is the sine qua non of the movement.

Co-operation and Women. - During the year under report there were 14 thrift societies of women with a membership of 257 and savings of Rs. 4,070. These societies have found favour with women in the backward areas. The idea underlying ~~the~~ thrift societies is being popularised by persuading women workers to interest themselves in and to carry on this type of work. But ladies of well-to-do families are reported as not showing any inclination for this work.

Amending Co-operative Law in Mysore:Proposed Enhanced Powers for Registrar. ✓

A bill to amend the Mysore Co-operative Societies Regulation (VII of 1918) is at present before the Mysore Legislative Council. (For a summary of the general principles of the Bill see pages 2 & 3 of the "Statement of Government Business to be placed before the Mysore Representative Assembly - October 1932 session" sent as enclosure to this Office's Minute C.1/2627/32 of 17-11-32). The session of the Council held in December 1932 appointed a select committee to examine the draft of the bill. The following main features of the amended bill are taken from the report of the Select Committee which has recently been published:-

1. The bill as amended by the select Committee proposes a provision for appeal against an order of the Registrar refusing to register a society, to be made in the regulation itself.

2. The bill lays down that no vote shall be given by proxy as it is considered inconsistent with the principles of co-operation. The object of this amendment is to do away with the system of voting by proxy now in vogue in co-operative societies.

3. The bill empowers the registrar or his nominees to inspect societies and to examine on oath persons having knowledge of the affairs of the society. The books of the society are likewise ordered to be subjected to the inspection by its financing bank.

4. The bill originally proposed to empower the Registrar to supersede the Committee of management of any society which is not functioning properly and to entrust its duties for a period not exceeding two years to a person or persons appointed by him. In this connection the select committee observe that a co-operative society is a peoples' organisation and that its efficiency and usefulness must ultimately depend upon the interest which the body of persons forming its shareholders take in its affairs. The intervention of Government should, as far as possible, be limited to giving guidance and assistance necessary for enabling a society itself to perform its duties. If the general body is not capable of functioning well, the justification for the existence of the society will have ceased. The procedure of dissolving the managing committee should, therefore, be resorted to as a very temporary expedient, after the general body

had full opportunities of electing a new ^{and} competent committee to manage its affairs but was unable to do so.

5. The bill grants some extra powers to the Registrar, (a) to the effect that any decision passed by the Registrar or Government under sub-section (5) conferring subsidiary powers on the Registrar, shall be final and shall not be questioned ~~x~~ in a civil court or revenue court, and (b) to summon and enforce attendance of witnesses and to compel the production of documents by the same means and, so far as may be, in the same manner as is provided in the case of a civil court under the Civil Procedure Code.

The bill, as amended by the select committee, will come up before the Legislative Council for ~~the~~ second reading in the forthcoming session in June 1933.

Education.

61

Compulsory Primary Education in Bombay City, 1931-32. ✓

The following information about the progress during 1931-32 of primary education within the limits of the municipality of Bombay is taken from the Administration Report for the period issued by the Municipal Commissioner, Bombay City.

The population of Bombay City according to the 1931 census was 1,161,383 and its area 24.19 square miles. For purposes of municipal administration the city is divided into seven wards A, B, C, D, E, F & G. Out of these 7 wards, only in two wards F & G, in which the majority of the residents belong to the poor and working classes, primary education has been made compulsory. The population of F & G wards, according to the 1931 census, was 159,914 and 163,775 respectively. The total number of municipal schools increased during 1931-32 from 330 to 349 and the number of pupils increased from 56,093 to 61,196. The schools Committee of the municipality, which is in charge of the educational activities undertaken by the municipality had an income of Rs. 3,180,702 during the year, and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,159,999.

Compulsory Primary Education in F. & G. Wards. - Valuable

information is given in the report about the difficulties encountered in ensuring the attendance of children of compulsory school attending age in F & G. wards, where alone compulsion is now in operation, the steps taken to overcome these difficulties, and the success that has attended them. In March 1931, the total number of children in 116 municipal schools in the two wards was 20,952 and in aided schools in the two wards 1,779, while it is estimated that the number of non-attending children came up to 3,356. In June 1931, the number of non-attending children went up to 3,832 and in September 1931 to 4,852. Earnest efforts were made by the Schools Committee during 1931-32 to bring into the schools of F & G wards as many non-attending children as possible and to stabilise their attendance in the schools. To check the increasing non-attendance, the School Committee resorted to the experiment of engaging the services of 75 teachers and 5 supervisors who were conversant with the localities in F & G wards on a

monthly pay of Rs.10 & Rs.15 respectively, whose duty it was to move about the areas allotted to them to bring in non-attending children. The experiment proved a success as the number of non-attending children was reduced to 2,070 by March 1932.

Medical Inspection. - The report states ^{that} out of about 60,000 pupils on the rolls in all the schools, only 13,588 pupils could be medically examined during the year. These boys belonged almost entirely to the F. & G wards, as it was thought that the first efforts towards medical treatment of school children should be confined to the wards occupied by the poorer classes of the people and where compulsion is in operation. Among the ~~xxxx~~ pupils examined the general percentage of boys free from any disease was 59.1 and that of girls was 35.2 | 40.9 per cent of the boys and 64.8 per cent of the girls were suffering from one or more defects. Out of the 13,217 children in 116 schools in F & G wards (4,333 girls and 8,794 boys) 42 per cent were found to be suffering from one disease or more. Intimations were sent to the parents informing them of the defects noticed in their children and they were requested to allow the Committee's doctors to give them necessary treatment under ~~xxx~~ care, free of charge. 80 per cent of the parents of the diseased children gave response to the intimations sent. 64 per cent gave consent to the treatment at the clinic. 11 per cent expressed willingness to get their children privately treated and the remaining 25 ^{per cent} refused to do anything in the matter. Out of these 2,829 cases, whose parents consented to treatment under municipal care, only 1,545 cases could be taken to the school & clinic till the end of March 1932. Out of these 1,545 cases, treated at the clinic, 837 got cured and 165 improved and the rest discontinued treatment for one reason or another. 86 pupils were operated upon for Tonsils and Adenoids, 2 for eye trouble, and one child for Mastoid Sinus and one for enlarged congenital toe.

Average Expenditure per Pupil. - The total number of pupils in municipal schools on 31-3-32 was 61,196 and the direct expenditure of the municipality on their education amounted to Rs.2,957,832-11-5. The average expenditure per pupil in 1931-32 amounted to Rs.48-3-0 which the report notes is the lowest since 1920-21. The amount of Rs. 48-3-0 was distributed under the main heads of expenditure as follow:

1. Pay of Teachers -Rs.32-4-0, ~~Rax~~ (2) Pay of Servants - Rs.1-6-0 (3) Rent and Repairs - Rs.7-3-0, (4) Furniture - Rs.0-7-0, (5) Superintendents and their Establishment - Rs. 1-2-0, Medical Inspection - Rs.0-6-0, Census - Rs.0-3-0, (8) Pension & Provident Fund -Rs.2-3-0, (9) Contingencies & Miscellaneous - Rs. 1-9-0. Total = Rs.48-3-0

Extension of Compulsion. - The Corporation have not been able to extend compulsory education to other wards in the City as Government have refused on financial grounds to sanction any further schemes of extension of Compulsory Education.

Extension of Compulsory & Adult Education in Bombay City:

Corporation School Committee's Report.

The Bombay Municipal Corporation asked its Schools Committee in June 1932 to report if free and compulsory primary education facilities cannot be extended to the C ward of the City as certain localities there in are inhabited mostly by depressed, back-ward, working and poorer class people and if the introduction of evening or extension classes for adult education in the said localities would be desirable. The Corporation also asked the Committee to place its proposals before the Corporation on the question of finances.

Numbers & Cost; School Committee's Views. - The Schools Committee has now submitted its report and it states that according to the census of 1931, the population of C ward is 205,000. In a city like Bombay, where there are people staying without the members of their families, it is the usual experience that about $\frac{1}{12}$ th or 8.3 per cent of the population (both males and females) is of school-going age (6-11 years) under the Compulsory Education Act. This means that there ought to be in schools today in the C ward about 1,70,000 children. But the number actually attending is 12,800, of which 10,300 are in municipal schools and 2,500 are in aided schools. Taking into consideration the number that may be attending the un-aided private schools, it may be roughly taken to be 13,000. So provision must be made for about 4,000 more pupils in order to bring all the non-attending children of compulsory age to school. It is presumed that all these children will have to be provided for in municipal schools, and therefore, at an average rate of Rs. 50 per pupil, the additional expenditure to be borne on this account will come to Rs. 200,000. This is exclusive of any incidental charges to be borne on account of extra agency to be devised for the purpose of introducing compulsion and that agency will not cost more than Rs. 10,000. However, about 20 per cent of the number of children of compulsory age will not join schools from the beginning and as such the total cost to be borne by the Corporation will be proportionately lower, i.e., to begin with the Corporation will have to spend about Rs. 160,000.

Adult Education Classes; Private Initiative to be Encouraged. - Regarding the question of the introduction of evening or extension classes for adult education in the locality referred to, the Committee states that from its longstanding experience of conducting such classes for adults in the city, it is convinced that such classes do not flourish well. The best agency to conduct such classes are

institutions like the Social Service League, where the organisers find full scope and time to make the necessary appeal to the people to attend such schools in numbers. The Committee would, therefore, suggest that if any such agency undertakes to run such classes they should be liberally aided. Unless, therefore, it is decided ~~as to~~ ^{that} whether the Schools Committee should, in the light of its past experience, undertake the working of the said classes, the Committee is not in a position to make any proposals in the matter of the funds required for the purpose.

Night Classes for Workers. - With regard to the opening of night classes for imparting primary education to the adult population of F & G wards, where free compulsory primary education is given to the children, the Committee was of opinion that the classes would not give the desired results. It was found by experience that there was less possibility of night classes for adult education being largely taken advantage of.

25th Madras Educational Conference -1933, Trichinopoly. ✓

The 25th Madras Provincial Educational Conference was held at Trichinopoly from 15 to 18-5-33 under the presidentship of Mr. N.S. Subba Rao, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Mysore State. About 600 delegates were present at the Conference. The following is a brief summary of Mr. Subba Rao's presidential address:-

Need for Vocational Bias. - Two factors which were in operation even before the war have come to be of immense importance after it. One is that the full implications of mass education have been realized but recently. Educational opportunities were extended from the classes to the masses, but the need for diversity of courses to suit variations in individual capacities was not simultaneously realized, and the courses and the methods appropriate for the few were continued without a realization that radical changes were called for. Almost simultaneously, industry has been undergoing great changes, and is no longer able to train recruits within its gates. A revolutionary recasting of the educational organization is called for, with a strong vocational basis at an appropriate stage in the general schools, along with an adequate supply of vocational instruction as a follow-up.

Economic Under-development. - It is a startling comment on the economic condition of the country that even the comparatively small number of educated young men and women cannot be readily absorb-

into ancillary occupations as they would be, if agriculture, industry and trade were prosperous. Therefore, we have the significant fact that a population of 330 millions cannot readily find work of a soft-handed character for such a comparatively small number as 50,000 (in round numbers) per annum. Is it a case of over-education or economic under development? The glaring evils of the system, are excessive wastage and wasted effort during the process of production, and unmarketability of the comparatively small output. Their causes must be ascertained and suitable and prompt remedies suggested if the tax-payer is to get value for his money. The task calls for co-operative effort on the part of a body of experts and men of the world.

Post-secondary Vocational Courses. - It is the task of the educational system to fit the training to the individual, avoid disharmony between the two, and thus eliminate wastage. Whether the trained individual will be able to find his appropriate niche in life depends entirely on the intimacy of contact of education with industry, and the ability and prescience with which the latter has planned for itself and formulated its personnel policy. Therefore, speaking from the side of educational organization, one can say that there is a lack of variety in the courses available in our institutions. To my mind there is only one solution, and that is that the Universities should themselves provide post-Secondary Vocational courses, on the successful completion of which Diplomas will be given.

The following were among the more important papers read at the Conference:- "Education and Economic Efficiency" by Mr. N.S. Narasimha Iyengar, M.A. (Trivandrum), "The Diagnosis of Personality" by Mr. B.K.Naidu (Mysore), "Teachers' Guilds and Trade Union Organisations" by Mr. K.R. Avadhani, B.A., B.L. (Trichinopoly).

The presence of so many delegates was utilised for the holding of the following subsidiary conferences:- (1) The Physical Education Conference, (2) The Geographical Conference, (3) The English Teachers' Conference, and (4) The Tamil Pandits' Conference.

The following is a summary of the more important resolutions passed at the Conference:-

Bill re. Teachers' Service Conditions. - This Conference resolves to appoint a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. S.K. Yegnanarayana Aiyar, C.V. Krishnaswami Aiyar, K.V. Krishnaswami Aiyar, M.S. Sabesan and S.T. Ramanuja Iyengar with Mr. Yegnanarayana as convener to consider the bill published in the "S.I. Teacher", to elicit the opinion of the affiliated Guilds and get it introduced in the

Madras Legislative Council before the next Conference.

Secondary Education. - (a) This Conference requests the Government to appoint a Committee with a fair representation of those actually in the teaching profession to enquire into the condition of secondary education in general in this province with special reference to (1) the nature and extent of State control over Secondary Schools; (2) the relationship between teachers and managers; (3) the adequacy of grants to aided schools and subsidies to local bodies; (4) the medium of instruction; (5) the necessity for a vocational bias in secondary schools; (6) the appropriate curricula of Secondary Schools.

(b) This Conference recommends that a Secondary Education Act for the Province be framed on the basis of the report of the Committee of enquiry.

Teachers and Adult Education. - This Conference urges (a) that Teachers' associations ought to take a deeper interest in Adult Education, a new movement vital to the growth of the nation (b) that for the furtherance of Adult Education referred to above, Teachers' Associations ought to start branches of the Madras Library Association and induce the Local Board or Municipality in their centres to start public lending libraries.

Industrial Education in Baroda. ✓

Baroda State is making rapid progress in industries and ~~the~~ ^{special} ~~main~~ attention is being given to the promotion of chemical industries. The State, it may be recalled, was the first in the country to establish a technical school. This is known as the Kalabhawan which is now more than fifty years old, and has contributed materially to the industrial advancement of the State. The Durbar has now decided, it is reported, to start a new Science Institute, in which students will be given post-graduate courses in science, mainly chemistry, as in the Royal Science Institute, Bombay, but special emphasis would be placed on industrial chemistry, and selected students will be trained in different kinds of chemical manufactures. For the practical training of students, special workshops and laboratories will be constructed, but it will be open for the students under training to utilise the laboratories of the Alembic Chemical Works, which from small beginnings have now developed into a very big factory, producing chemicals, pharmaceuticals, etc.

Agriculture.

Indian Cotton ^{Cultivation} Industry, 1932-33. ✓

The following is a brief summary of the work of the Indian Central Cotton Committee during 1932-33. The work of the Committee may conveniently be reviewed under the following four heads: (1) Schemes for better growing and marketing of cotton, (2) Collection of statistics of value to the trade, (3) Agricultural and Technological research, and (4) Propaganda and broad-cast of information.

Schemes for better Growing and Marketing of Cotton. - (a)

As a result of comments and suggestions received from the public on the Committee's pamphlet "Cotton Improvement in India", the Committee took up for enquiry two important questions. They were (i) India is capable of growing its present mill requirements of long staple cotton, but will it pay the grower in every case? (ii) If staple cotton replaces the short-staple varieties at present grown, what effect will that have on the price of the two commodities? The problems are still under consideration.

(b) The preliminary work in collaboration with the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research in connection with the proposed investigation into the cost of cultivation of cotton and its rotation crops (vide page 54 of our August 1932 report) was completed and the full scheme was placed before the Committee for approval.

(c) The year under report witnessed still further progress in the steps taken to open regulated cotton markets in India. The question of the adoption of universal cotton standards for Indian cottons came up for discussion and the Committee decided to ascertain the views of commercial bodies and agricultural associations.

(d) In addition to the above, the Committee, carefully watched the working of Cotton Transport Act, the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act and safeguarded the interests of Cotton growers by making suitable representations to the government.

Collection of Statistics. - The Committee supplied statistical information regarding cotton crop forecast figures, weekly figures of purchases for Indian mills of American cotton, its arrivals and quantity.

Research Work. - There were 29 research and other schemes under operation, during the year under review, at a cost of Rs. 493,840. An important activity of the Committee was the extension of improved varieties of cotton which have been evolved by the provincial

Agricultural Departments and to bring to the notice of growers the results of the Committee's schemes which have proved successful. This phase of the Committee's achievements, it is observed, of considerable value and increases in usefulness as the schemes now in progress bear fruit. The Technological Laboratory at Matunga, Bombay, maintained the high level reached in the previous year. Promising strains of new cottons which are being evolved at the different agricultural research stations were regularly tested. The results of the tests of standard Indian cottons were published in "Technological Reports on Standard Indian Cottons, 1932". The ~~xxx~~

The Institute of Plant Industry at Indore has been successfully carrying out its work as the centre of cotton research for the black cotton soil tract of Central India. Considerable progress has been made in the direction of agronomy, and the cumulative effect of grading, surface drainage, clean cultivation and application of cheap compost has trebled the yield of cotton on the Institute Farm. Attempts were being made to carry these improvements to the contributing States. Selection work reached the stage of comparative trial. The botanical survey of cottons grown in India was continued, and root systems, and X-ray exposure of seed buds and pollen with a view to induce mutations, were studied.

Propaganda. - A new feature in the Committee's activities was the launching of a campaign of propaganda on behalf of Indian cotton on an extensive scale. By every means of publicity available, — Press, poster, pamphlet, and exhibit — the Committee brought before the public the improvements effected in Indian cotton, encouraged growers to adopt improved types of seeds and methods of agriculture, and exhorted manufacturers to give preference to Indian cotton.

Area & Yield of Principal Crops

in India, 1931-32.* ✓

The following information about the estimate of area and yield of principal crops in India for 1931-32 is taken from a publication issued on the subject by the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics of the Government of India. The crops dealt with are rice, wheat, sugarcane, tea, cotton, jute, linseed, rape and mustard, sesamum, castor-seed, groundnut, indigo, coffee and rubber. The estimates for cotton, wheat, castorseed (in the case of castorseed, no estimates are framed for the mixed crop of the United Provinces) and jute, as also those for tea, coffee (in the case of coffee, estimates are framed for plantations having an area of 10 acres or more), and rubber, relate to all the tracts in India where these crops are grown to any extent, excluding certain unimportant outlying tracts such as Baluchistan, Kashmir, Nepal, and Sikkim. For other crops, however, the estimates relate to all the British provinces where they are grown to any considerable extent, but exclude Indian States, except certain Feudatory States in the Central Provinces, the Rampur State in the United Provinces, the States in the Bombay Presidency, the States of Hyderabad, Mysore, Baroda, and the Alwar and Kotah States in Rajputana in certain cases.

Rice. - The provinces to which the estimates for rice now relate are Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, Burma, Madras, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces and Berar, Assam, Bombay (including Sind), and Coorg. The Indian States for which estimates for rice are prepared are Hyderabad, Mysore, and Baroda, and ~~the~~ Rampur State in the United Provinces, certain ~~B~~ Feudatory States in the Central Provinces and the

* 34th issue. Department of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, India. Estimates of Area and Yield of Principal Crops in India, 1931-32 - Published by order of the Governor-General in Council. Delhi: Manager of Publications. 1933. Price Rs.2-6 or 4s.3d. - pp.54

States in the Bombay Presidency (including Sind). These tracts comprise about 97 per cent of the total rice area of India. The total area under rice in all these tracts in 1931-32 was reported as 84,353,000 acres, a record area, as compared with 82,846,000 acres in the preceding year. The condition of the crop was good except in Burma, where the crop suffered considerably owing to failure of late rains. The total yield was estimated at 33,052,000 tons, as against 32,198,000 tons in 1930-31. To this figure should be added about 1,071,000 tons in respect of other tracts (Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Ajmer-Merwara, Manpur Pargana, and certain Indian States) having an area of about 2,733,000 acres, for which no forecasts are made.

‡ Wheat. - The provinces and States to which the estimates for this crop relate are the Punjab (including Indian States), the United Provinces (including Rampur State), the Central Provinces (including Indian States) and Berar, Bombay (including Sind), Bihar and Orissa, the North-West Frontier Province, Bengal, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara, Central India, Gwalior, Rajputana, Hyderabad, Baroda, and Mysore. These tracts contain practically the whole of the area under wheat in India. The total area under wheat in 1931-32 was reported to be 33,749,000 acres, which is greater than the area of the preceding year by 5 per cent. The condition of the crop was reported to be fairly good. The total estimated yield was 9,026,000 tons, which is 3 per cent less than the yield of 1930-31. An addition of some 147,000 tons should be made to this estimated yield in respect of some other tracts (Burma, Madras, and Kashmir) having an area of about 551,000 acres, for which no reports are made.

Sugarcane. - The provinces to which the reports on this crop relate are the United Provinces, the Punjab, Bihar and Orissa, Bengal, Madras, Bombay (including Sind), the North-West Frontier Province, Assam, the Central Provinces and Berar, and Delhi. Reports are also received from the Rampur State in the United Provinces and the States in the Bombay Presidency and from Hyderabad, Mysore and Baroda. These tracts contain a little over 96 per cent of the total area under sugarcane in India. The total area reported under sugarcane in 1931-32 was 2,885,000 acres, as compared with 2,801,000 acres in the preceding year. The condition of the crop was reported to be good. The estimated yield amounted to 3,886,000 tons of raw sugar (gur), a record production, which is 20 per cent above the final figure (3,228,000 tons) of the preceding year. To this figure should be added approximately 141,000 tons in respect of other tracts having an area of 105,000 acres, for which no separate estimates are made.

Tea. - The provinces where tea is grown are Assam, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, the United Provinces, the Punjab, Madras, Coorg, and the States of Tripura (Bengal), Travancore, Cochin, and Mysore. In Burma, tea is grown principally for consumption as pickles. The total area under tea in 1931 was reported to be 807,400 acres, as compared with 803,500 acres in the preceding year. The total production of manufactured tea (black and green) was calculated at 394,083,500 lbs, as against 391,080,800 lbs in the preceding year.

Cotton. - Cotton is grown in all the provinces. The total reported area under cotton was 23,495,000 acres in 1931-32, as against 23,812,000 acres in 1930-31. The condition of the crop was reported to be only fair. The total estimated outturn was 4,060,000 bales of 400 lbs each, as compared with 5,224,000 bales in 1930-31, or a decrease of 22 per cent owing to damage caused by excessive rains. The table given below compares the estimates of yield for the years 1929-30 and 1930-31 with the sum of exports and internal consumption (in thousand of bales). The figures of mill consumption are those compiled by the Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay, and refer in the case of mills in British Provinces to Indian cotton alone. The estimate of mill consumption in Indian States refers to all cotton, but it is presumed that little foreign cotton was consumed in the States during those two years.

	1930-31	1929-30
Exports	1,000 bales. 3,729	1000 bales. 3,868
Mill consumption	2,271	2,373
Extra-factory consumption (conjectural).	750	750
Approximate crop	6,750	6,991
Estimated in forecast	5,224	5,243

Jute. - The provinces where it is grown are Bengal (including Cooch Behar and Tripura States), Bihar and Orissa, and Assam. It is also grown to a small extent in the Nepal State, but no reliable information is available from that State except the figures of export. As a result of restricted cultivation the total area under jute in 1931 was 1,862,000 acres, which is nearly 47 per cent less than that of the preceding year, and the estimated yield 5,542,000 bales (of 400 lbs each), being about 51 per cent below that of 1930. The area and yield of jute in 1932 are estimated to be 1,899,000 acres and 5,820,000 ~~kt~~ bales, an increase of 2 and 5 per cent respectively, as compared with 1931.

Linseed. - The provinces to which the estimates for linseed relate are the Central Provinces and Berar, the United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa, Bengal, Bombay and the Punjab. Reports are also received from Hyderabad, Kotah (in Rajputana), the States in the Bombay Presidency, and certain Feudatory States in the Central Provinces. These tracts comprise about 92 per cent of the total area under linseed in India. The total area under linseed in all the reporting tracts in 1931-32 was 3,241,000 acres, which is 8 per cent above the final figure of the preceding year. The condition of the crop was reported to be fairly good. The total estimated yield was 411,000 tons, as against 377,000 tons last year. To this figure should be added some 38,000 tons for other tracts having an area of 303,000 acres, for which no reports are made.

Rape and Mustard. - The provinces from which reports are received are the United Provinces, the Punjab, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, Assam, Bombay (including Sind), the North-West Frontier Province, the Central Provinces and Berar and Delhi. Reports are also received from the States of Alwar (Rajputana), Baroda, Hyderabad and from the States in the Bombay Presidency. These tracts contain about 96 per cent of the total area under rape and mustard in India. The total area under rape and mustard in all the reporting tracts in 1931-32 was 6,131,000 acres, as against 6,632,000 acres in the preceding year. The condition of the crops was reported to be fairly good. The total estimated yield, 1,026,000 tons, was 4 per cent above the final figure of the preceding year. To this figure should be added some 44,000 tons in respect of other tracts having an area of 260,000 acres for which no reports are made.

Sesamum. - The provinces to which the estimates for sesamum relate are Burma, the United Provinces, Madras, Bombay (including Sind), the Central Provinces and Berar, Bihar and Orissa, Bengal, the Punjab, and Ajmer-Merwara. Reports are also received from the States of Hyderabad, Baroda, Kotah (Rajputana), and the States in the Bombay Presidency. These tracts contain about 89 per cent of the total area under sesamum in India. The total area under sesamum reported in 1931-32 was 5,481,000 acres, as against 5,618,000 acres in the preceding year. The condition of the crop was fair. The total estimated yield was 464,000 tons, as against 526,000 tons in 1930-31. An addition of approximately 58,000 tons should be made to this figure in respect of other tracts containing an area of about 680,000 acres for which no reports are made.

Castorseed. - The estimates for the crop relate to Madras, Bombay (including Sind), the Central Provinces and Berar, Bihar and Orissa, the United Provinces. Reports are also received from the States of Hyderabad, Mysore, Baroda and those in the Bombay Presidency. These tracts contain practically the whole area cultivated with castorseed in India. The total area sown in these tracts in 1931-32 was estimated at 1,569,000 acres and the yield at 144,000 tons, as against 1,457,000 acres with an estimated yield of 120,000 tons last year.

Groundnut. - The estimates for the groundnut crop relate to Madras, Bombay, Burma, and the Central Provinces and Berar from which a report has been received for the first time in the year under review. Estimates are also received from the Hyderabad State and the States in the Bombay Presidency. These tracts comprise about 94 per cent of the total area under groundnut in India. The total area under groundnut in these tracts in 1931-32 was reported to be 5,490,000 acres, which was 17 per cent less than that of the preceding year. The estimated yield (2,673,00 tons of nuts in shell) was also 15 per cent less than that of the preceding year. The condition of the crop was reported to be fair.

Indigo. - The provinces to which the estimates for indigo relate are Madras, the Punjab, Bihar and Orissa, the United Provinces, and Bombay (including Sind). No report is received from any Indian

State, except the State of Khairpur in Sind. These tracts contain about 93 per cent of the total area under indigo in India. The total reported area (52,500 acres) in 1931-32 was 18 per cent below the final figure of the preceding year. The total estimated yield of dye was 9,900 cwts, which was 24 per cent less than the yield of the preceding year.

Coffee. - The crop is practically confined to southern India, comprising the Madras Presidency, Coorg, and the States of Mysore, Travancore, and Cochin. The total reported area under coffee in 1930-31 was 160,900 acres, the yield of cured coffee therefrom being estimated at 32,973,000 lbs.

Rubber. - The provinces where rubber is cultivated to an appreciable extent are Burma, Madras, Coorg, and the States of Mysore, Travancore, and Cochin. The total area under rubber in 1931 was 183,000 acres, as against 192,500~~0~~ acres in the preceding year. The total yield of dry rubber was 20,117,100 lbs, as against 24,351,500 lbs in 1930.

(The estimates of area and yield of principal crops in India during 1930-31 was reviewed at pages 34-37 of the report of this Office for April 1932).

Migration.Indians in Malaya - The Wilson Report. ✓

Reference was made at pages 69-70 of the report of this Office for December 1932 to the visit to Malaya of Sir Samuel Wilson, permanent Under-Secretary of State for Colonies, in order to study conditions on the spot preliminary to introducing certain changes in the constitution of that country. The changes, it may be pointed out, are the outcome of the policy of decentralisation proposed by Sir Cecil Clementi, High Commissioner for Malaya, by which considerable powers are to be transferred ~~is~~ from the Federal to the various State Governments. Sir Samuel's presence was availed of by the members of the Indian community in Malaya to present him with a memorandum regarding their conditions of life and work and the numerous disabilities they were labouring under. (For details see pages 69-70 of our December 1932 report). At the conclusion of his visit, Sir Samuel has submitted a report which was released to the press on 20-4-33. A chapter of the report deals with the position of Indians in Malaya. The following is a brief summary of the points dealt with in the chapter.

Indian Population in Malaya. - The population of the Federated Malaya States is comprised of:-

	Per cent.
Malayas (including all indigenous people of the Peninsula and Archipelago)	34.7
Chinese	41.5
Indians	22.2
Others	1.6

It will be seen, therefore, that the Chinese and Indians form the major part of the population. According, however, to the census report, the number of the Chinese population which has been for a long time in the country is relatively very small and the number of these who were born there and expect to end their days there is smaller still. The report also states that the same is true of the Indian immigrant, so that the number of non-Malays who have adopted Malaya as their home is only a very small proportion of the whole population of the territory, and the increase that is taking place in this number is hardly appreciable. That the people who come under this category form only a small proportion of the total population

must not, Sir Samuel observes, be allowed to affect the way in which they are treated.

Grievances of Indians. - After pointing out that Indians born in Malaya, or whose children have been born there have acquired great vested interests in Malaya and have contributed in no small degree to its development, Sir Samuel observes that the main grievances of the Indian community can be attributed to the following reasons:-

(a) The cry of "Malaya for the Malays" which has recently been heard much more than in previous years.

(b) The proposals expounded by the High Commissioner for transferring considerable powers to the State Governments, and the fear that the reduction of the powers of the Chief Secretary will expose them to discrimination, since they appear to regard this officer as their protector against any unfair treatment by the State Governments.

(c) The fact that the progress of education amongst the Malays has resulted in more appointments in the Government services being given to Malays than previously.

(d) The fact that the alienation of so much land in recent years for the development of the rubber and other industries has led to a longer view being taken of the land needs of the Malays; and a correspondingly greater use of the Government's powers under the Malay Lands Reservation Enactment.

Preferential Treatment of Immigrant Malays Resented by Indians - Because of the facts mentioned in (c) and (d) above, the non-Malay communities are inclined to the view that the Government have adopted a new policy. This is not so, since for some years past the Federated Malay States Government have recognized the claims of the Malays to preferential treatment in the matter of appointments in the Public Service and to the reservation of suitable and sufficient land for their needs. What the non-Malays ~~seem~~ appear to object to is discrimination in principle and the extension of the preferential treatment to immigrant Malays from the Dutch Archipelago who are Dutch subjects. Some of them would willingly support a policy of fair chance.

Fair Treatment of Indians Advocated. - The report points out that Indians who have made Malaya the country of their adoption form a loyal and useful section of the community and that the policy of the Government which has been to accord ~~the~~ full recognition to their status as British subjects (in the case of those born in the Colony) and British ~~is~~ protected persons in the case of those born in the Malaya States, should be continued. Indians should be given an assurance that their interests will not be adversely affected by the proposed decentralisation scheme. The report says that subject to the policy of preferential employment of qualified Malays in the Government Services, and the reservation of ~~sufficient~~ sufficient lands for Malay needs, persons born in the Malaya States of non-Malay parents (although only British protected persons) should be treated

78

in those States in exactly the same way as persons born in the Colony of non-Malay parents (who are British subjects) and should have the same professional and business opportunities as European British subjects.

Other Grievances. - The report also refers to other grievances of the Indian community regarding educational facilities, representation in the Councils and in other public bodies, restriction of alien immigration and so on. As these matters were not directly relevant to the decentralisation proposals, Sir Samuel states that he has made representations on these points separately to the Governor and the High Commissioner.