

C 1903/131

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE
INDIAN BRANCH

Report for October 1939

N.B. Every section of this Report may be taken out separately.

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Ratifications

Draft Convention re. Hours of Work and Manning (Sea):

Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, urges setting
up of National Maritime Board. ✓

Reference was made at pages 40-41 of our February 1938 report to the circular letter sent by the Government of India on 8-12-1937 to Provincial Governments to ascertain the views of the interests concerned on the Government's suggestion that India should take action on the I. L. Convention re. Hours of Work and Manning (Sea) without ratifying it. The following views on the subject were expressed by the committee of the ~~London~~ *Indian* Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta:

The Committee of the Chamber pointed out that the Indian Employers' Delegates representing Indian Shipping had all along opposed the proposal to exclude Indian seamen from the application of such Convention and give them special treatment so as to make them work for a longer number of hours than the hours of work laid down for the other seamen in the Convention. The Committee stated that it could not accept the grounds on which the Government urged special treatment for Indian seamen. According to the Committee the Government should not object to include Indian seamen serving in foreign-going ships in different climatic conditions within the scope of the Convention on the ground of the necessity for providing employment for them. Moreover, the Committee could not accept the views that ~~the~~ Indian seaman in the engine room or in the saloon department was less efficient than his European counterpart. The Committee was further of the opinion that since Indian seamen on British vessels were engaged in India and since they were not included in the collective agreements made in England under the National Maritime Board, it was desirable that an Indian National Maritime Board for the settlement of such questions as were dealt with by the National Maritime Board in England, should be immediately established more or less on the lines of such a Board functioning in England.

(Summarised from the Annual Report
for 1938 of the Committee of the
Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta) ✓

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Draft Convention re. Sickness Insurance for Indian.

Seamen: Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.

Supports Scheme. ✓

References were made at pages 1 and 33 of our August and September 1938 reports respectively to the circular letter sent by the Government of India on 8-7-1938 to Provincial Governments to ascertain the views of the interests concerned on the action proposed to be taken by the Government on the I.L Convention re. sickness insurance. (For a statement on the action proposed to be taken on the convention, vide also pages 1 to 2 of our November 1938 report.) The following views have been expressed on the question by the committee of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta:-

The Committee disagreed with the conclusion arrived at by the Government of India that the establishment of a compulsory system of sickness insurance based on the provision of the Draft Convention was not feasible at present. It was pointed out that about 43,000 Indian seamen were employed by British shipping companies and that these companies were under an obligation, according to the National Health Insurance Act, to pay their contribution even for the Indian seamen employed by them. Such contribution was, however, not utilised for the benefit of Indian seamen but was spent solely for the welfare of British seamen. The Committee felt it strange that such a large class of seamen should be excluded from the benefit of sickness insurance, particularly in view of the fact that the rate of wages paid to the Indian seamen was only about half of the rate paid to British seamen. The Committee therefore strongly urged that efforts should be made to secure an agreement by which the amount contributed by British companies could be claimed on behalf of Indian lascars. The scheme, now under contemplation of the Government of India should not be organized for only one class of seamen; but arrangements might be made in the beginning in such a way as to bring ultimately all seamen under the sickness insurance scheme. It was also suggested that liberal provisions in regard to the period up to which wages should be paid to the sick seamen as well as the period up to which it should be the liability of the shipowner to pay for his treatment, should be made. The Committee also referred to the difficulty about securing proper hospital treatment for Indian seamen at important Indian ports.

(Summarised from the Annual Report
for 1938 of the Committee of the
Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta). ✓

National Labour Legislation

Attention is directed to the following:

Government of India:

Coal Mines Safety (Stowing) Act, 1939, to come into force
on 1-12-1939

The Government of India has notified 1-12-1939 as the date from which the excise duty on coal imposed by the above Act will be levied. Annas two per ton has been fixed on coal and soft coke and annas three per ton on hard coke.

(Notification No. M-955 (1) dated
17-10-1939; The Gazette of India,
Part I, dated 21-10-1939, page 1725).

Government of India:

The Coal Mines Safety (Stowing) Rules, 1939.

The above rules are made under Sec. 12 of the Coal Mines Safety (Stowing) Act, 1939, and deal with questions of procedure relating to the work of the Coal Mines Stowing Board and of the maintenance of the Coal Mines Stowing Fund and accounts.

(Notification No. M.955 (2) dated 17-10-1939;
The Gazette of India, Part I, dated
21-10-1939, pages 1726 to 1731).

Ajmer-Merwara:

The Ajmer-Merwara Employment of Children (Workshops)
Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of age required by the Act.

(Notification No. 1326/85-A/39 dated
27-9-1939; The Gazette of India,
Part II-A, dated 7-10-1939, pages
573 to 574.)

Ajmer-Merwara:

The proposed Extension of the Employment of Children Act, 1938.

The Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, proposes to extend the Employment of Children Act, 1938, to (1) Snuff making concerns, and

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(2) Smithies and foundries. The proposal is to be taken into consideration by 6-1-1940.

(Notification No.1364/85-A/39 dated 26-9-1939; The Gazette of India, Part II-A, dated 7-10-1939, page 574.)

Bengal:

Extension of Employment of Children Act, 1938.

The Bengal Government has extended the operation of the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and its Amending Act of 1939, to Darjeeling district and to the partially excluded areas of Mymensingh district with effect from 1-10-1939.

(Notification No.3011 Com. dated 26-9-1939. The Calcutta Gazette, Part I, dated 28-9-1939, page 2517.)

Bihar:

The Employment of Children (Workshops) Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of age required by the Act.

(Notification No. 1700-IF-62/39 Com. dated 7-10-1939; The Bihar Gazette, Part II, dated 11-10-1939, pages 822 to 823.)

Bombay:

Extension of the Bombay Industrial Disputes Act, 1938.

The Bombay Government has extended the Bombay Industrial Disputes Act, 1938, to the silk industry of Bombay City; application of the Act is restricted to concerns using power and employing 20 or more workers including their mechanics' shops, dyeing, bleaching and printing departments.

(Notification No.3269/34 dated 30-9-1939; The Bombay Government Gazette Extraordinary, Part IV-A, dated 30-9-1939, pages 1782 to 1783.)

Bombay:

The Bombay Employment of Children (Workshops) Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of

age required by the Act.

(Notification No.2764/34-II dated 22-9-1939:
The Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV-A,
dated 28-9-1939, pages 1760 to 1761).

Bombay:

The Employment of Children (Minor Ports) Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of age required by the Act.

(Notification No.130/39 dated 28-9-1939:
The Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV-A,
dated 5-10-1939, pages 1803 to 1804).

Bombay:

The Hazardous Occupations (Rubber) Rules, 1939.

These rules are in supersession of the Hazardous Occupations (Rubber) Rules, 1937, promulgated by the Government of India (vide page 13 of our March 1937 report). The Bombay Rules of 1939 declare ~~certain operations in factories~~ connected with rubber as hazardous and prohibit the employment of women, children and adolescents in those operations. The Rules also contain protective provisions to ensure the safety of workers in the operations now declared to be hazardous.

(Notification No. 1539/34 dated 28-9-1939:
The Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV-A,
dated 12-10-1939, pages 1832 to 1834).

Bombay:

The Bombay Shops and Commercial Establishments Bill Passed.

Reference was made at page 2 of our August 1939 report to the Select Committee report on the Bombay Shops Bill, 1939. The Bill as amended by the Select Committee was taken into consideration by the Bombay Assembly on 28-10-1939 and was adopted with certain amendments the same day. The more important of the amendments adopted are that (1) daily hours of work in a shop should be 9½ hours, instead of 10 as provided in the Bill; (2) work over the daily limit in shops should not exceed in the aggregate 120 hours in a year, instead of 60 as provided in the Bill; (3) no person employed in any shop should be allowed to work for more than seven hours (instead of eight hours) on any day unless he had had an interval for rest of at least one hour, provided that no person so employed should be allowed to work for more than five hours (instead of six) on any day, unless he had an interval of rest for at least half an hour.

(The Times of India, dated 30-10-1939).

The Bill was passed by the Bombay Legislative Council on 30-10-1939.

(The Statesman, dated 31-10-1939)

C.P. and Berar:

The C.P. and Berar Collection of Statistics Act, 1939.

The Act, ^{now Gazetted,} empowers the Government to ask, as and when needed, employers to collect for it statistics regarding production and labour.

(The C.P and Berar Gazette, Part III dated 6-10-1939, pages 1356 to 1358).

C.P. and Berar:

The C.P. and Berar Factories (Amendment) Act, 1939 (Act XXXVI of 1939)

The Act, ^{now Gazetted,} makes it obligatory for factory owners to register their factories and to renew the registration every year. The object of the Act is to lighten the Government's financial burden in maintaining ~~the~~ Factory Inspection Department by levying a fee from the factory owners for registration of factories and annual renewal of their registration certificates*

(The C.P. and Berar Gazette, ^{dated 27-10-1939,} Part III, page 1438).

Delhi:

The Delhi Province Employment of Children (Workshops) Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of age required by the Act.

(Notification No.F.37/39-L.S.G./Industries, dated 26-9-1939. The Gazette of India, Part II-A dated 30-9-1939, Pages 566 to 567).

Madras:

The Madras Employment of Children Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of age required by the Act.

(Notification No.787: G.O.No.2289, Development, dated 19-9-1939: Fort St. George Gazette, Part I, dated 26-9-1939, page 1252).

Orissa:The Employment of Children (Orissa Workshops) Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of age required by the Act.

(Notification No.6882-II P-31/39 - Com. dated 5-10-1939; The Orissa Gazette, part III, dated 6-10-1939, pages 351 to 352.)

Punjab:The proposed Factories (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 1939.

The Punjab Government proposes amending the Indian Factories Act, 1934, in its application to the Punjab so as to regulate the establishment of large factories for the promotion of key-industries. The proposed Bill prohibits the unauthorised establishment or extension of factories manufacturing textiles, glass, cement, chemicals and hydrogenated oils, as also cotton ginning and pressing, hosiery manufacturing and flour milling factories.

The Bill also authorises the Government to levy, so as to meet part of the cost of factory inspectorate, fees for issue of registration certificates or their renewal. (It will be recalled in this connection that a Bill was adopted in the C.P. Legislative Assembly on 14-4-1939 for the same purpose and that the Chief Inspector of Factories, Bengal, approached this Office for information as to the methods adopted by leading industrial countries to meet the cost of administration of the Factories Act.) *Vide our Minute B.1/1452/39 dated 23-8-1939.*

(The Government Gazette (Extraordinary), Punjab, dated 27-9-1939, pages 403 to 404.)

Punjab:The Punjab Trade Employees Bill, 1939.

Reference was made at page 5 of our August 1939 report to the proposed Punjab Trade Employees Bill, 1939. The Bill was introduced in the Punjab Legislative Assembly on 24-10-1939 and was referred to a select committee the same day.

(The Statesman, dated 25-10-1939).

Punjab:Punjab Printing Press Control Bill.

It is understood that Sardar Sohan Singh Josh has given notice of a Bill to be introduced in the Punjab Legislative Assembly to regulate hours of work, payment of wages and industrial relations in the printing trade in the Province. The Bill prescribes a 45-hour week and provides for paid holidays and establishment of contributory provident fund schemes. Safeguards against dismissal of workers except for sufficient

reasons are also provided for.

(The Tribune dated 9-10-1939.)

Sind:

The Employment of Children (Workshops) Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of age required by the Act.

(Notification No.262-M/38 dated 29-9-1939; The Sind Government Gazette Extraordinary, Part IV-A, dated 30-9-1939, pages 811 to 812.)

U.P.:

The Employment of Children (Workshops) United Provinces, Rules, 1939.

The Rules relate to the appointment of inspectors under the Employment of Children Act, 1938, and to the form of certificate of age required by the Act.

(Notification No.3741/XVIII-948-37 dated 26-9-1939; The Government Gazette of the United Provinces, Part I-A, dated 30-9-1939, page 331.)

U.P.:

The U. P. Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 1939.

Reference was made at page 8 of our May 1939 report to the introduction of the U.P. Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1939. The Bill was passed by the U.P. Legislative Assembly on 12-7-1939 and by the local Legislative Council on 21-8-1939; ~~and~~ the Act received the assent of the Governor of the province on 26-9-1939 *and is now gazetted.*

(The Government Gazette of the United Provinces, Part VII-A, dated 7-10-1939, page 43.)

Exemptions Under Factories Act for War Time Emergency.

Bombay:

The Bombay Government has issued two notifications exempting for two months two factories from the hours of employment provisions of the Factories Act, presumably as a war measure.

(Notification No.S.129 dated 17-10-1939; The Bombay Gazette, Part IV.A, dated 19-10-1939, pages 1851 and 1857.)

Exemptions Under Factories Act for War Time Emergency.

Punjab:

The Punjab Government has issued a notification exempting for one year from the hours of employment provisions of the Factories Act certain factories in the Province which are either concerned with production of war materials or with materials needed for the prosecution of the war.

(Notification No. 7807-1 and L-39/33514 dated 16-10-1939: The Government Gazette (Extraordinary), Punjab, dated 16-10-1939, page 531.) ✓

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Conditions of Labour.

Review of Labour Conditions in India in 1938. ✓

Below are reproduced extracts from a note reviewing State action taken in 1938 to improve labour conditions in India, issued on 5-10-1939 by the Principal Information Officer, Government of India.

Hours of Work. - The principal events during the year relating to the hours of work in industry are the promulgation by the Bengal Government of an ordinance to regulate working time in Bengal ~~Government~~ jute mills and the passing of a new Factories Act in the Travancore State. Under the Jute Mills Ordinance issued in September, the Government of Bengal took power to regulate working time and restrict the increase and replacement of looms. A 45-hour week was thereafter fixed as the maximum working period for all big mills and a 72-hour week for five small mills having 175 looms or under. The State Council of Travancore adopted in August 1938 an Act incorporating amendments necessary to bring the factory legislation of Travancore into conformity with the revised Indian Factories Act of 1934. The new Act provides for reduction of hours of work from 60 to 54 in the week.

Regulation of Hours of Work in Shops. - Following the introduction of an unofficial Shop Hours and Shop Assistants Bill in January, 1938, the Government of Bengal announced its intention of introducing an official bill to regulate the conditions of work of employees in all classes of shops and invited the interested parties to submit their views. The Government of Bombay at about the same time circulated for opinion a draft bill to regulate the hours of work of shop assistants and commercial employees and for certain other purposes.

Hours of Work of Motor Drivers. - The Motor Vehicles Act passed ~~in~~ by the Central Legislative Assembly in September 1938 provides that no person shall cause or allow any person employed by him to drive, for longer than five hours without an interval of rest of at least half-an-hour or for longer than nine hours in the aggregate without an interval for rest of at least 11 hours or for longer than 54 hours in the week. The Provincial Governments are empowered to extend all or any of these provisions to drivers of such motor vehicles as may be prescribed and to grant such exemptions as they may think fit to meet cases of emergency, or of delay due to unforeseen circumstances. They may also require employers to fix hours of work beforehand and may provide for the recording of the hours so fixed.

Minimum Age of Employment.- To bring Indian legislation into accordance with the Minimum Age (Industry) Convention (Revised), 1937, legislation was enacted extending the minimum age of 12 years to work ~~in factories employing from 10 to 20 persons and to undertakings~~ which though they do not use mechanical power and are not therefore defined as factories, are deemed to be unhealthy. An Act was also passed fixing at 15 years the minimum age for admission to employment in transport and in the handling of goods in ports, and providing for the appointment of inspectors to secure its enforcement.

Trade Dispute Legislation.- An Act passed by the Central Legislature, the Trade Disputes Amendment Act of 1938, extends the definition of "trade disputes" by the inclusion of disputes between employers and employers in addition to disputes between employers and workmen or ~~between~~ between workmen and workmen, and the definition of "public utility services" by the inclusion of undertakings supplying power to the public and by provision for the inclusion, on notification by the Provincial Government concerned, of tramway services or water transport passenger services subject to the Inland Steam Vessels Act, 1917.

A new section provides that the Central Government, in respect of undertakings carried on by them or under their authority or by a railway company, and the Provincial Governments, in respect of undertakings carried on within the Provinces, may appoint Conciliation ~~Officers charged with the duty of mediating in or promoting the settlement of trade disputes.~~ Such an officer may, after giving reasonable notice, enter the premises of any undertaking and inspect ~~any document which he considers relevant to any existing or apprehended dispute.~~ Provision is made to secure the confidential nature of information thus obtained and to prevent its disclosure except in accordance with the Act.

^{Industrial}
The Bombay Trade Disputes Act, 1938.- The Bombay Industrial Disputes Act, 1938, assented to on 13-2-1939, provides for the registration of trade unions and the settlement of disputes by conciliation and arbitration. In each local area of the province, only one union may be registered in respect of each industry, and one union in respect of each occupation in the industry. The basis of registration is membership relative to the total number of workers or recognition by an employer. Under certain conditions, a registered union may be declared a "representative" union and, where no registered union exists, an existing union may be declared a "qualified" union.

Every employer must submit, for the approval of the Commissioner of Labour, standing orders relating to the discipline and working of his establishment. An employer may not make any alteration in the standing orders or in conditions of service, wages, etc., without giving due notice to his employees and to the Government authorities. Employees desiring changes must also give notice of their wishes. Negotiations regarding the proposed changes will take place and, if agreements are reached, they will be registered. If no agreement is reached, the dispute will be referred to an official Conciliator or to a Board of Conciliation, composed of a chairman and an equal number of persons representing the interests of employers and of workers respectively. Strikes and lock-outs are illegal during conciliation proceedings.

A distinctive feature of the Act is the establishment of a Court of Industrial Arbitration for the voluntary arbitration of disputes. Employers and employees may submit disputes either to an agreed arbitrator or to the Court for decision. In addition to its functions with respect to voluntary arbitration, the competence of the Court includes the power to hear and decide appeals from decisions relative to registration of trade unions or approval of standing orders of establishments and to decide whether a strike or lock-out or a change of conditions is illegal.

The Act does not apply to disputes for the settlement of which proceedings are taken under the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, of the Central Legislature.

Employment of Women excluded from Underground Work in Mines.- Subsidies were granted by the Government of India to the Governments of Bengal and Bihar towards schemes for the training ~~of~~ in hand-loom weaving, basket-making, etc., of women excluded from the underground working of mines to enable them to set up cottage industries in their own homes with Government aid. Many of the women so excluded were also found employment on screening plants, on general surface work in coal mines and in quarries.

Maternity Benefit Legislation.- A Maternity Benefit Act was passed in the United Provinces and a similar bill is in preparation in Orissa. The former also provides for the necessary inspections ~~under the Act to be carried out by inspectors of factories.~~ The Government of Madras, in agreement with the planters, has provided for the employer to bear charges in connection with the free feeding of women for six weeks, care in hospital and an additional bonus during the period of confinement.

State Protection to Industries to benefit Labour also.- A resolution urging the institution of sufficient wages and fair treatment for workers employed in industries receiving any assistance or subsidy from the State — that is, most of the organised industries in the country — was adopted by the ~~Legislative~~ ^{Legislative} Assembly on February 4, 1938. It was stated that the wage should be such as to ensure to every worker the necessities of existence, such as food, clothing, housing and education, due regard being given at the same time to the practical sides of the question and the needs of the industry.

Progress of Labour Legislation in Indian States.- Acts for the investigation and settlement of trade disputes on the lines of the British Indian Trade Disputes Act, 1929, were passed in 1938 in the States of Indore (Trade Disputes Conciliation Act 2 of 1938), Baroda (Trade Disputes Act of 1938) and Travancore (Trade Disputes Regulation of 1938).

With certain adaptations to meet local conditions, the provision of the Payment of Wages Act adopted ~~for~~ British India in 1936 was extended to the Holkar State by the Indore Payment of Wages Act 1938. The work of inspection is assigned by the Act to inspectors of factories appointed under the Indore Factories Act 1929 (though it is also provided that the Government may appoint such of ~~the~~ ^{the} inspectors as it thinks fit). ✓

Abolition of Forced Labour in the Punjab:
Government's Decision against Legislation. ✓

Attention is directed to pages 332 to 336 of Vol. IX, No.5 of the Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates of 6-4-1939 where are published certain interpellations regarding abolition of forced labour in the Punjab. In its reply, the Government pointed out that its recent communiqués and circulars to district officials urging abolition of forced labour are having the desired effect and that, therefore, it does not consider legislation on the subject necessary. ✓

Industrial Workers' Welfare in Bombay:
Review of Government Action. ✓

The Government of Bombay allotted Rs.100,000 in its 1938-39 budget for providing social amenities for industrial workers in the Province and Rs.476,300 for the Bombay development scheme. Out of the latter amount, Rs.334,300 was ~~spent~~ spent on improvement of chawls (workers' dwellings provided by the Government), Rs.38,400 on electric installation and Rs.2,900 on appointment of social workers. In order to accelerate the progress of social welfare work among the industrial workers, Government has also undertaken the construction of recreation pavilions at Worli and Naigaum at an estimated cost of Rs.38,338.

Duties of Social Workers. - The duties allotted to social workers employed by the Industrial Housing Committee demand that they should (1) live among the workers and by propoganda and advice help the workers and their surroundings to be clean and sanitary; (2) wean workers from habits of extravagance and other vices and teach them how to live a better and healthier life within their earnings; (3) persuade workers to spend part of their leisure time in cottage industries and impart instruction in such industries; and (4) inculcate in workers an interest in reading and writing and persuade workers to take advantage of night schools, libraries, maternity homes, etc.

For the above purpose a census is to be made recording the present condition of each chawl from the point of cleanliness, habits of people, number of people in each room, general economic condition of each family, unemployment, etc. This preliminary report is to be submitted within a week and a diary kept by each social worker, of the work done by him and the improvements made through his efforts. A monthly report on his work should be sent by each social worker to the Manager of the Development Department Chawls.

(Summarised from the October 1939 issue of "Public Information" Series", Bombay.) ✓

War and Labour Disputes in Bengal:Government's Warning against Strikes. ✓

Strikes not to be Resorted to.- The Government of Bengal issued a communiqué on 10-10-1939 warning industrial workers, that in view of the present war they should not go on strikes and that they should settle their grievances through peaceful means. The communiqué points out that the Government has taken powers under the Defence of India Act to "prevent any activities likely to prejudice mutual confidence and collaboration between labour and their employers", and suggests that, therefore, workers' grievances may be settled by the following procedure:-

Procedure for Settling Disputes.- The workers should present their grievances and demands to the employers. If they feel that their demands are not receiving proper consideration, they should present them to the Labour Department of the Government of Bengal, to which reasonable time should be allowed to effect a settlement. If the Government's terms are not acceptable to the parties and ~~there appears to Government that there is a reasonable trade dispute,~~ Government may order an enquiry or conciliation proceedings by a tribunal, which will go into the subject-matter of the dispute thoroughly and frame its award. Government will thereupon pass orders on the award, and expects that the parties will accept the award.

Workers and Profiteering.- The communiqué also points out that Government has taken steps to prevent war-time profiteering as far as possible, but that there still appears to be a tendency towards a rise in prices above those prevailing just before the declaration of war. Government is enquiring carefully into this matter to ascertain to what extent this has effected the cost of living of the labourers in the industrial areas.

(Communiqué dated 10-10-1939
issued by the Director of Public
Information, Bengal.) ✓

Prohibition of Forced Labour in U.P.

U. P. Tenancy Act Provision. ✓

The U.P. Legislature passed into law recently the United Provinces Tenancy Bill which was introduced in the U.P. Legislative Assembly on 20-4-1938. (The text of the bill was published at pages 1 to 112 of the U.P. Gazette Extraordinary dated 21-4-1939). The Bill contained a provision (vide section 123) which made the demand of certain forms of money payments and unpaid labour from tenants illegal. The provision, as amended by the Select Committee, reads as follows:

"Notwithstanding any contract or custom to the contrary and notwithstanding anything in section 56 or section 86 of the United Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1901, all fees, charges, or impositions upon tenants under the denomination of abwab, zaid mutalba, hari, begar, or other like appellations in addition to the rent or ~~navar~~, if any, payable shall, from the date of the commencement of this Act, be illegal and unenforceable in a court of law, and all stipulations and reservations for the payment of such demands shall be void."

Labour Welfare in Bombay:

Government appoints Two Industrial Health Advisory Boards. ✓

The Government of Bombay has constituted two Industrial Health Advisory Boards of twelve members each, one for Bombay city and the other for Ahmedabad. The Chairman of both the Boards is Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier of Bombay, and the Secretary of the Board is the local Certifying Surgeon in each case. Besides medical officers, each Board includes a representative each of local employers and workers. The members of the Boards who are not ex-officio ~~do~~ to hold office for a period of three years in the first instance. The function of the Boards will be to advise the Labour Welfare Department in all its health activities.

(Press Note No. 499 dated 27-10-1939, issued by the Public Relations Officer, Bombay). ✓

Industrial Disputes in British India during
the quarter ending 31-3-1939. ✓

According to a press note dated 11-10-1939 on industrial disputes in British India during the quarter ending 31-3-1939, issued by the Department of Labour of the Government of India, the total number of strikes during the period was 105 and the total number of workers, involved was 88,370 as compared with 136 strikes, involving 123,831 workers during the preceding quarter. The total number of working days lost during the quarter was 803,251 as compared with 1,991,161 during the preceding quarter. In all, cotton textile mills and jute mills accounted for 45.7 per cent. of the strikes, 59.5 per cent. of the workers involved and 59.2 per cent. of the total loss of working days.

Provincial Distribution: During the period under review, there were 35 disputes in the Province of Bengal involving 24,543 workers and entailing a loss of 227,218 working days. Next comes Bombay with 19 disputes involving 13,653 workers and entailing a loss of 90,833 working days; Madras ~~with~~ 18 disputes involving 16,455 workers and entailing a loss of 308,410 working days; the United Provinces with 11 disputes involving 4,967 workers and entailing a loss of 37,626 ~~working days~~; Bihar with 9 disputes involving 12,378 workers and entailing a loss of 112,060 working days; the Punjab with 7 disputes involving 344 workers and entailing a loss of 1,028 working days; Assam with 4 disputes involving 5,382 workers and entailing a loss of 14,546 working days; C.P. and Berar, and Assam ~~each~~ with 1 dispute ~~each~~ involving 10,606 and 42 workers and entailing losses of 10,606 and 924 working days respectively.

Causes and results of Strikes: Of the 105 disputes, 46 were due to questions of wages, 30 to those of personnel, 4 to those of leave and hours of work, 1 to those of bonus and 24 to other causes. In 14 cases the workers were fully successful, in 36 partially successful and in 44 unsuccessful; 11 disputes were in progress on 31-3-1939.

Classification by industries: Classified according to industries, there were 42 disputes in cotton and woollen industries involving 42,031 workers and entailing a loss of 349,018 working days; 13 in engineering workshops involving 4,950 workers and entailing a loss of 72,931 working days; 6 in jute mills involving 10,521 workers and entailing a loss of 126,211 working days; 3 in mines involving 7,740 workers and entailing a loss of 49,176 working days; 1 in railways (including railway workshops) involving 120 workmen. In all other industries together there were 40 disputes involving 23,008 workers and entailing a loss of 205,915 working days. ✓

Industrial Disputes in British India during

the quarter ending 30-6-1939. ✓

According to a press note dated ²⁻¹¹⁻¹⁹³⁷~~25-10-1939~~ on industrial disputes in British India during the quarter ending 30-6-1939, issued by the Department of Labour of the Government of India, the total number of strikes during the period was 109, of workers involved, 94,804, and of working days lost, 1,579,719, as compared with 105 disputes involving 88,370 workers and entailing a loss of 803,251 working days in the previous quarter. The largest number of disputes occurred in Bengal where 34 disputes involving 36,737 workers and entailing a loss of 211,318 working days. Next comes Bombay with 27 disputes involving 9,358 workers and entailing a loss of 54,977 working days, Madras and Punjab with 12 disputes each involving 99,715 and 8,019 workers and entailing losses of 276,873 and 18,352 working days respectively, the Central Provinces with 7 disputes involving 13,837 workers and entailing a loss of 94,904 working days, the United Provinces with 6 disputes involving 5,028 workers and entailing a loss of 132,150 working days, Assam and Sind with 4 disputes each involving 10,906 and 281 workers and entailing losses of 759,402 and 623 working days respectively and Bihar with 3 disputes involving 923 workers and entailing a loss of 31,119 working days.

Classified according to industries, cotton and woollen mills were responsible for 33 disputes involving 23,336 workers and entailing a loss of ~~309,613~~ working days; jute mills were responsible for 10 disputes involving 29,540 workers and entailing a loss of 251,588 working days; engineering workshops were responsible for 7 disputes involving 4,556 workers and entailing a loss of 42,254 working days; mines were responsible for 1 dispute involving 1,528 workers and entailing a loss of 1,796 working days; other industries were responsible for 58 disputes involving 29,944 workers and entailing a loss of 975,067 working days.

Of the 109 disputes during the quarter under review, 59 were due to wage questions, 15 due to personnel, 3 due to leave and bonus and 32 to other causes. In 19 disputes the workers were successful, in 42 partially successful and in 37 unsuccessful. 11 disputes were progressing at the end of the period under report. ✓

Working Class Cost of Living Index Numbers for Various
Centres in India during August 1939. ✓

The cost of living index number for working classes in various centres of India registered the following changes during August 1939 as compared with the preceding month.

Bombay: The index number (base: year ending June 1934) of the cost of living for working classes in Bombay in August 1939 remained stationary at 105. The average for 1938 was 105.

Ahmedabad: The index number (base: year ending July 1927) of the cost of living in Ahmedabad during August 1939 increased by 1 point to 73. The average for 1938 was 71.

Sholapur: The index number (base: year ending January 1928) of the cost of living in Sholapur during August 1939 declined by 1 point to 73. The average for 1938 was 73.

Nagpur: The index number (base: year ending January 1927) of the cost of living in Nagpur in August 1939 rose by 4 points to 64.

Jubbulpore: The index number (base: January 1927) of the cost of living in Jubbulpore in August 1939 remained unchanged at 58.

Madras: The index number (base: year ending June 1936) of the cost of living in Madras during August 1939 was stationary at 98.

(Extracted from the Monthly
Survey of Business Conditions
in India, August 1939 issue). ✓

Hours of work in Bengal Jute Mills:

Increased from 45 to 54 per week. ✓

The Committee of the Indian Jute Mills Association decided on 21-9-1939 to increase the weekly working hours in the ^{Jute} mills ^{of Bengal} from 45 to 54 with full complement of looms as from 25-9-1939. The Chairman, Mr. P. S. Macdonald, explained that the increased hours were being adopted for the purpose of manufacturing sand bags or other war requirements of the Government and he added that when these Government orders had been completed, the Committee would review the position.

(~~The~~ Indian Finance dated 23-9-1939 and the Hindu dated 22-9-1939). ✓

Raising the Standard of Living in Bengal:

Board of Economic Enquiry refers Question to Sub-Committee. ✓

The Board of Economic Enquiry, Bengal, has, it is understood, recently appointed a sub-committee to consider, amongst other things, in what ways the income of the people of the province or different sections thereof can be raised. To supplement their schemes which the Committee will consider directly, the public has been invited to co-operate by suggestions and schemes.

(The Amrita Bazar Patrika, Calcutta, dated 2-10-1939). ✓

Control of Labour Conditions in Sugar Factories in U.P.

Government Decision to appoint Labour Officer. ✓

It is understood that the U.P. Government proposes to consult the Sugar Control Board on the necessity of appointing a labour officer for sugar factories in the Province. It may be mentioned that the U.P. Sugar Factories Control Act, 1938, made provision for ^{the} proper observance of ^{proper} labour conditions. Hitherto the Government has not taken action under this section, as it was anxious to leave it to the factory owners to observe proper conditions and to pay a minimum wage of five annas. It appears that while a majority of factories have made earnest efforts in this direction, a few have

disregarded the advice offered on the subject. It has thus become necessary to appoint a labour officer who will visit the various factories and ensure the payment of a minimum wage and the observance of satisfactory labour conditions.

(Industrial Bulletin dated
15-10-1939 of the Employers'
Federation of India, Bombay).

Enforcement of Conventions.

Factory Administration in U. P. 1938.* ✓

Number of Factories.- The total number of factories in the United Provinces, which was subject to the control of the Factories Act at the close of the year 1938, was 606, as against 585 in the previous year; 48 factories were registered, and 27 removed from the register, making a net increase of 21 factories. Of the 606 factories 396 were perennial and 210 seasonal. The number of perennial factories on the register increased from the 1936 figure by 39 while that of seasonal ones decreased by 18.

Number of Workers.- The average daily number of workers employed in the registered factories as obtained from the annual returns received, was 155,085 against 153,484 in the previous year; nearly 95.7 per cent. of this was adult male labour. About 67 per cent. of the total number of workers were employed in non-seasonal factories and 33 per cent. in the seasonal concerns. Of the 155,085 workers, 5,119 were women, 1,154 adolescents and 412 children.

Inspection.- The number of inspections and visits made during the year was 1,563 against 1,130 in 1937. 189 factories were inspected once, 172 twice, 91 thrice and 77 four times or more. Only one factory was not inspected. Many visits were also made to unregistered factories with a view to keep a check on the number of factories which may be avoiding registration. In this way several factories were brought on the register, which previously were not registered.

Prosecutions and Convictions.- 48 prosecutions were instituted by the Inspectorate against 33 factories for offences committed in 1938. Convictions were obtained in 19 cases including admonition in one case. In 5 cases, the accused were acquitted. The remaining 24 cases are pending.

The fines ranged from Rs.5 to Rs.300 and amounted to a total of Rs.1,125. In three cases the fines were Rs.100 or over, and in one case between Rs.100 and Rs.50 and in remaining 20 cases under Rs.50. The number of cases in which the fine imposed was less than Rs.50, again increased from 12 in 1937 to 20 in 1938. The majority of prosecutions were launched for the violation of the provisions relating to restrictions on working hours and fencing precautions. ✓

* Annual Report on the working of the Factories Act in the United Provinces for the year 1938. Allahabad: Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, United Provinces, India. 1939. Price 8 annas.pp.46

Workers' Organisations.

Freedom of Association of Government Servants:

Bombay Government denies right to Government Servants. ✓

In reply to an interpellation in the Bombay Legislative Assembly on 6-10-1939, the Hon'ble Mr. Morarji R. Desai, Revenue Minister, *Bombay*, declared that Government clerical staff cannot form themselves into a trade union as defined in section 2 (h) of the Indian ^{Trade} Unions Act, 1926.

(The Times of India, Bombay, dated 7-10-1939). ✓

Progress of Trade Unionism in India, 1937-38.* ✓

Registered and Unregistered Trade Unions: As in previous years, the statistics accompanying this note relate only to trade unions which (a) are registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, and (b) have submitted returns. Registration under this Act, with the consequent submission of returns, is not compulsory. According to the Bombay Labour Gazette for February 1939, for example, there were in Bombay on the 1st December 1938, 153 unions with a membership of 141,592 of which only 57 with 114,800 members, were registered.

Statistics of Unions and Membership: The total number of registered Trade Unions increased from 271 in 1936-37 to 420 in 1937-38. Of the 420 unions 343 submitted the annual returns. The number of registered trade unions increased in all Provinces except Orissa and Ajmer-Merwara. In Ajmer-Merwara there was no change. Orissa had only one trade union which was dissolved during the year. As in previous years, the group containing the largest number of unions was that of unions with a membership of between 100 and 299.

The total membership of the unions which submitted returns was 390,112 in 1937-38 as against 261,047 in the previous year. This represents an average membership of 1,137 per union during 1937-38, as against 1,145 during the previous year. There were increases in membership in all Provinces except Ajmer-Merwara, Bihar and Orissa.

Organisation of Women Workers: The number of women who were members of registered Trade Unions in 1937-38 increased from 9,025 in 1936-37 to 14,703. The figures for 1937-38 are the highest yet recorded; 3.8 per cent. of the members of all trade unions submitting returns were women as compared with 3.4 per cent. in the previous year.

*Note on the Working of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, for the year 1937-38, together with statistics for that year. Printed by the Manager, Government of India Press, New Delhi, 1939. Price as -/7/- or 8d. pp.8.

General and Political Funds: The total income rose from Rs. 488,431 to Rs. 693,444 while the balance in hand fell from Rs. 622,610 to Rs. 506,970. The average income for 1937-38 was Rs. 2,022 per union and Rs. 1.12.5 per member, as compared with Rs. 2,123 and Rs. 1.13.11 respectively in 1936-37.

Withdrawals and Cancellations: 13 unions ceased to exist or had their certificates of registration cancelled during the year (4 in Bengal, 3 each in Bombay and Madras, 2 in the Central Provinces and Berar and 1 in Delhi).

General: In Madras the suit in the District Court, ~~Trichinopoly~~, against the order of the Registrar of Trade Unions cancelling the registration of the South Indian Railway Workers' Union during 1936-37 has not yet been decided. In Bihar, an appeal against the order of the Registrar refusing to register the Labour Federation, Jamshedpur, was filed in the Court of the District Judge, Parulia, but as the Court had no jurisdiction to hear such appeals, the appeal was returned to the appellant for presentation in proper Court, viz., the Court of the District Judge, Patna. The appeal does not appear to have been filed in that Court.

58 Unions in all (Bengal 14, Bihar 5, Bombay 9, C.P. and Berar 7, Madras 10, Punjab 5, Sind 3, and U.P. 5) have been recognised for the purposes of elections to the labour seats in the Provincial Legislative Assemblies.

(A copy of the 'Note on the working of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, during the year 1937-38' was forwarded to Geneva with this Office's minute D. 1/3/39 dated 21-11-1939.)

(The Note on the working of the Indian Trade Unions Act during 1936-37 was reviewed at pages 31-32 of our February, 1939, report).

Conference of Employees of Commercial Offices in Calcutta. ✓

At a representative conference of the ^{Calcutta} local mercantile employees held on 30-9-1939, resolutions were adopted demanding war bonus and legislation to regulate conditions of labour of shops and commercial assistants, and suggesting the convening of an All-India Conference of Commercial Employees. A brief summary of the resolutions which were adopted is given below:

Grant of War Bonus: As a result of the outbreak of war the prices of foodstuffs and other necessities of life have gone up and further increases in the immediate future are apprehended, thus causing great hardship to all wage-earners. In order to afford relief to employees of mercantile and commercial establishments, the conference urged the employers to pay substantial war bonuses to their staff.

Shops Legislation: A law should be enacted by the Government to regulate and improve the service conditions of clerks and other employees

in commercial undertakings. ^{The Conference} and approved of a Memorandum prepared by the Employees' Association, Calcutta, on the subject. The Conference ^{also} authorised the Association to forward the Memorandum to the representatives of both the Central and Provincial Governments for consideration at the Provincial Ministers' Conference to be held at New Delhi in the middle of November, 1939.

All-India Conference of Commercial Employers: The time has come when an All-India Conference of commercial employees in all the provinces should be convened as early as possible so as to co-ordinate efforts towards the attainment of better conditions of work of shop and commercial assistants; the Employees' Association was requested to take the initiative in the matter.

(The Amrita Bazar Patrika, dated 12-10-1939). ✓

The Bombay Shop Assistants' Conference. ✓

A Conference of shop and commercial assistants in Bombay was held at Bombay on 15-10-1939, under the presidentship of Mr. S.A. Brelvi, to consider the grievances of shop assistants. The following is a summary of the resolutions adopted at the Conference.

Amendments to the Bombay Shop Assistants' Bill: The Conference urged the following amendments in the Bombay Shop Assistants' Bill: (1) an 8-hour day and a 46-hour week; (2) closure of shops at 6 P.M., (3) closure of shops on Sundays and public holidays, (4) prohibition of night trading in forward markets.

Demands of Shop Assistants: Mr. Yusuf Meherally, Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Conference, formulated the main demands of the shop assistants as follow: (i) an 8-hour day, (ii) holiday on Sundays and on all public holidays, (iii) prohibition of employment in shops of children under 12, (iv) one month's leave with pay every year, (v) minimum wage regulation, (vi) closing of night work in forward markets, (vii) recognition of shop employees' unions, (viii) 20 per cent. war bonus, (ix) provident fund benefits, (x) stoppage of victimisation of union workers.

(The Bombay Chronicle, dated 17-10-1939). ✓

^{Shop} Conference of Staff Assistants in the Punjab, Lahore, 12 and 13-10-1939. ✓

A Conference of Shop Assistants in the Punjab was held on 12 and 13-10-1939 at Lahore under the presidentship of Chaudhri Krishana Gopal Dutta, M.L.A. A brief summary of the resolutions adopted by the Conference is given below:

Amendments to Punjab Trade Employees Bill: A resolution suggested certain changes which the conference wanted the Punjab Government to incorporate in the Punjab Trade Employees Bill. The changes suggested are, inter alia, (1) time of closure of shops to be regulated by local conditions; (2) closure of shops during the daily interval; (3) a 54-hour week; and (4) leave with pay for one month in the year. The resolution also demanded provision in the Bill to ensure provident fund benefits to shop assistants and compensation for accidents while on duty and adequate gratuity payments.

Minimum Wage: Another resolution was moved demanding that a standard minimum wage should be fixed for the shop assistants in accordance with their standard of living. The resolution also demanded that in view of the rise in prices of ordinary necessities of life a proportionate increase should be made in the wages of shop assistants.

(The Tribune, dated 14 and 15-10-1939).

Intellectual Workers.

State-Aided Provident Fund Scheme

for Teachers in Non-Government Schools in Bombay. ✓

The question of establishing a State-Aided Provident Fund for teachers in non-Government secondary schools was under consideration of the Government of Bombay during the years 1923-37, but it was held over on financial grounds. Government now thinks that the time has come when it should be taken up in the general interest of education, and, accordingly, has sanctioned a scheme and a set of rules for the institution and administration of the Fund.

Nature of Schools affected by the Scheme.- The Fund will be called the Bombay Secondary Schools Teachers' Provident Fund. All secondary schools, including secondary schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians, which were not recognised permanently by the Educational Department on 1-6-1939, and all secondary schools receiving recognition or grant for the first time after that date must adopt the scheme of the Fund. The secondary schools already ~~recognised before 1-6-1939~~ may join the fund within three years or within such other period as may be fixed by the Director of Public Instruction in each case. The adoption of the scheme of ~~the Fund shall be~~ a condition precedent to the continuance of recognition by the Educational Department in the case of secondary schools which had no Provident Fund in operation on 1-6-1939. But a secondary school which had a Provident Fund of its own on 1-6-1939 may adopt the scheme of the Fund in place of its own. But if it chooses to retain the scheme of its own in preference to the scheme now sanctioned by Government, specific sanction of the Director for such retention will be necessary.

Membership of the Fund.- All teachers in non-pensionable employment who receive pay not less than Rs.30/- a month can subscribe to the Fund. The minimum and maximum ages of admission will be 20 and 50 years respectively. A teacher who is a missionary and a member of a religious order may, at his own request, be exempted by the Controlling Officer from subscribing to the Fund. No teacher shall be allowed to subscribe to the Fund after he has completed 55 years of age.

Details of Contributions and Administration of the Fund.- The control of the Fund will vest in the Provincial Government which may, however, delegate its power to such Officers as it may appoint in that behalf. The amount of a teacher's subscription shall be one anna for each complete rupee of the teacher's monthly pay. The management must contribute out of the school funds to the account of each teacher a sum equal to one-half of the sum subscribed by the teacher. The contribution by the Provincial Government will be paid when the final payment to the teacher becomes due and will be paid in lump sum, equal to one-third of the sum standing to the credit of the teacher on that date.

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The Fund will be managed by means of a Post Office Savings Bank System. The amount of subscription realised from each teacher and the contribution made by the management will be paid to the local postmaster for credit to a Post Office Savings Bank Account to be opened on behalf of each teacher.

Rules re. Payment of Benefits.- Should a teacher be dismissed or removed from service or should he quit it without due notice or before completing five years' service, he shall be entitled to receive only the sum which he has himself subscribed and the interest thereon. If a teacher is disabled, or becomes invalid through no fault of his own or his services are dispensed with for no fault of his own before completing five years' service he will receive the total of the deposits to his ~~ex~~ credit and the Government contribution with the sanction of the Controlling Officer.

Should he leave the school after due notice and after a completed service of not less than five years, he will be entitled to receive the sum which he has himself subscribed and the interest thereon. He will also be entitled to receive the Management's contribution and the interest thereon and the Government contribution.

In the event of the teacher's service being dispensed with for no fault of his own, he may be permitted by the Controlling Officer to continue as a subscriber to the Fund provided he joins within one year a secondary school which has adopted the scheme of the Fund.

On the death of a teacher before quitting the service, the amount standing to his credit in the Fund will be paid either to his nominees or to his heirs.

(Press communiqué No.P-446
dated 30-9-1939 issued by the
Public Relations Officer, Bombay.) ✓

Economic Conditions.

Problems of the Indian Sugar Industry:

Government of India to convoke Conference of Interests in November 1939 ✓

According to a special correspondent of ~~The~~ Times of India, the Government of India has decided to convene an all-India sugar conference early in November 1939 to consider measures for the rationalisation and stabilisation of the industry. Amongst the items that will be brought up for discussion will be the regulation of cane production, payment of premium for special varieties of cane, legislation for zoning, licensing of factories, appointment of controlling bodies, establishment of subsidiary industries and preparation of a draft resolution for a central marketing organisation.

The conference will be held in Delhi and is to be attended by representatives of the Indian Sugar Syndicate, ~~Ind.~~, and the Indian Sugar Mills Association, of cane cultivators as also representatives of the Governments of the United Provinces, Bihar, Bombay, Madras and the Punjab, which are the chief provinces interested in the production of sugar. Representatives of Indian States which produce sugar are also to be invited.

Licensing of Factories: The question of licensing of factories is one on which there has already been much controversy. The United Provinces and Bihar feel that their efforts for stabilising the industry by the system of licenses, whereby production of factories is controlled, will be set at naught if such legislation is not made applicable to other provinces, for the U.P. and Bihar industry has to find a market for about 75 per cent. of its sugar in areas outside the U.P. and Bihar.

(The Times of India, dated
27-9-1939. ✓)

Industrial Research in Punjab:

Government sets up Machinery ✓

Some time back the Industries Department of the Punjab Government created an Industrial Research Fund, for the purpose of encouraging and carrying out research work in connection with the problems facing industrialists in the province. The Department has now invited those engaged in various industries, including the cottage industries, to take advantage of the research facilities provided by the Department.

(The Tribune dated 9-10-1939) ✓

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Economic Resources Board for India:

Advisory Body Set Up By The Government Of India. ✓

According to a press note issued by the Government of India on 2-10-1939, the Government of India has set up an Economic Resources Board for India to enable the Government to cope with the greatly increased number of problems which are likely to arise in the economic field as a result of the war. The possibility that the war may last a considerable time and the certainty that it will bring with it dislocation of the existing trade and productive conditions as well as new demands have all had to be taken into account. The problem of conserving and utilizing the economic resources of India to the best advantage has had to be squarely faced.

Constitution of the Board: The President of the Board will be the Commerce Member to the Government of India and the Vice-President, the Economic Adviser to the Government of India. The Board will develop its own administrative apparatus, but, in order to avoid any suggestion of overlapping, it will not possess any ~~executive functions.~~ ~~On the contrary,~~ its field of activity will be confined to acting as a clearing house of economic and statistical information, discussion and advice. It is hoped, by the creation of the Board, to avoid the danger on the one hand that important problems will be overlooked altogether and on the other hand that the specialised outlook of particular departments will prevent the full exploration of all aspects of what may be a problem of common interest.

Provincial Governments and Industrial Interests to be consulted: Owing to the obvious limitations imposed by the circumstances of the war situation, which calls for instant decisions and continuous consultation, it will not be possible to ask provincial Governments to appoint representatives to the Board, although it is expected that intimate contact will be maintained by means of correspondence, conferences and personal meetings. For the same reason, it is not possible to appoint representatives of professional, industrial or commercial organisations to be members of the Board. Contact with professional organizations will be maintained by the adoption of the principle of appointing specialised ad hoc committees for the elucidation of particular problems, in the solution of which it is hoped to make the fullest use of the non-official fund of information and experience available in India at the present time.

(The Hindustan Times dated
3.10-1939 & "Indian Information",
New Delhi, 9/11-1939.

Economic conditions:Economic Life under the Defence of India Ordinance, 1939. ✓

Soon after the declaration of the present war, the Government of India issued a Defence of India Ordinance (vide pages 1 to 10 of the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 3-9-1939), section 2 of which empowers the Government to issue rules under the Ordinance, among other things, "for maintaining supplies and services essential to the life of the community". The Defence of India Rules, issued under section 2 of the Ordinance, includes provisions for exercising general control over industry including the regulation of production and prices of commodities. (vide section 81 of the Rules published at pages 11 to 63 of the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 3-9-1939).

Prices Control: On 8 and 11-9-1939 the Government of India published notifications in the Gazette of India (vide pages 251 and 267 of the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 8 and 11-9-1939) by which the Central Government delegated its powers to take action under sub-rule (2) of Rule 81 of the Defence of India Act to the Provincial and Indian States Governments under the following conditions:

- (a) The power shall only be exercised in respect of necessaries such as medical supplies, foodstuffs, salt, kerosene oil and the cheaper qualities of cotton cloth.
- (b) Imported commodities, other than medical supplies, salt and kerosene oil, shall not be brought within the scope of the orders without the previous sanction of the Central Government.
- (c) The orders shall be applicable to prices at each of the following stages: sale by producer or importer, each stage of wholesale trade and the point of retail sale.
- (d) The orders shall not subject the prices charged at any of the above stages to a minimum lower than 10 per cent. above the ruling price at the same stage on 1st September, 1939.

In pursuance of the Central Governments' delegation of powers noted above, the Provincial Governments issued warnings against profiteering, as also notifications controlling the prices of commodities in common demand, like foodstuffs and medical goods, by fixing the maximum increase permissible over pre-war prices. This maximum limit for home-made goods has invariably been 10 per cent. ✓

Price Control in War Time:

Decisions of Marketing Officers' Conference. ✓

The fifth session of the Conference of the Senior Marketing Officers in provinces and certain States and the Central Marketing Staff was held from 10 to 14-10-1939. The main subject under discussion at the Conference related to the measures to be taken during the war to keep in touch with current prices, visible stocks, available supplies of essential commodities, etc.

Decisions of the Conference: The Provincial and State Marketing Officers explained the steps that had already been taken by their Governments for the control of prices. The consensus of opinion was that the fixing of prices presents enormous difficulties; the Conference recommended that price fixing, if it is to be adopted, should be resorted to only in special cases and should normally be done in consultation with all the interests concerned. A considerable measure of control and uniformity throughout the whole country could, however, be secured by ensuring the free play of the normal economic forces of supply, demand and competition. The position regarding prices and supplies should, therefore, be kept continuously under close observation in order to provide the fullest possible publicity regarding the prices ruling in different parts of India or in case it may later become necessary to fix the prices of certain articles. For this purpose, it was felt that the marketing staff should be adequately equipped and some machinery should be established to ensure co-ordination between the Centre, Provinces and States and also between districts within the Provinces and States themselves. In determining the ruling prices, due regard should be paid to the various classes, types and grades of a commodity at each season of the year and in different districts. It was considered that a proper market news service on the lines indicated would be an important aid to the detection and checking of profiteering.

(The Hindustan Times dated
16-10-1936). ✓

Price Control in War Time:

Conference of Representatives of Provincial and States' Governments. ✓

A Conference of ~~official~~ representatives of the Governments of Provinces and Indian States was held under the presidentship of the Commerce Member, Government of India, at New Delhi on 18 and 19-10-1939 to discuss State Policy in regard to price control in war time. The members of the Economic Resources Board of the Government of India also attended the Conference.

The following is a summary of the main decisions of the Conference:

Price Control of Agricultural Produce Undesirable at Present: The conference generally agreed that agricultural produce having not yet recovered fully from the depressed state in which it found itself some time back, the agriculturist was entitled to demand higher prices. It was, however, pointed out that in course of time the problem might become serious and that there might have to be imposed two limitations on the tendency for a rise in the prices of agricultural commodities, the first with regard to the necessaries of life when the prices rose so sharply as to bring about serious social discontent, and the second with reference to Government supplies for war purposes when a steep rise in prices would militate against adequate war effort.

Powers of Commandeering Commodities not to be exercised: It was also generally the opinion of the conference that it is inexpedient to utilise the powers for commandeering commodities, and that the difficulties following on such commandeering were so great that these powers should not be utilised except in the very last resort.

Centralisation of Information re. Trend in Prices: The conference agreed that it would be useful if the Central Government could keep the various provincial and State Governments informed of the trend of prices generally and of the prices in the different provinces of particular commodities, the provinces undertaking to keep the centre informed of such trends in their own areas.

Replacement Cost as Factor in Price Fixing: The general view was that both on economic grounds and on grounds of administrative expediency it was desirable to recognise as a general proposition that the trader was entitled to fix his prices on the basis of replacement costs. From the purely administrative point of view it would be impossible to distinguish between existing and renewed stocks from time to time and different levels of prices could not be adopted for the two kinds of stocks.

Besides taking the above decisions, the Conference had a general discussion on price control measures taken in the provinces, the methods adopted to enforce them and the experience gained.

(The Statesman, dated 19 and
21-10-1939). ✓

Organisation of Jail Industries in C.P.:

Government Appoints Enquiry Committee. ✓

While making a statement on jail reforms in the C.P. Legislative Assembly on 24-3-1938, the Prime Minister of the province, ^{had} announced that a committee of experts in trade and industry would be appointed to consider the question of jail industries, including hand-spinning. In pursuance of this announcement, the Governor of the Central Provinces and Berar has constituted on 17-10-1939 a committee with the Minister for Finance as chairman and the Deputy Superintendent of Factories, Jubbulpore, as Secretary. The terms of reference to the committee are:

(1) To enquire into the existing organisation of jail industries including manufactures and to report what improvements are desirable and practicable.

(2) To review the present method of employment of different classes of prisoners and to report what changes are necessary in the existing arrangements. In particular, with a view to teach subsidiary occupations to agriculturists from which class the majority of jail population is drawn and thus make prisoners more useful citizens on their release, to report on - (a) the suitability of introducing handspinning and weaving of hand-spun yarn in jails; (b) the introduction of improved methods of cultivation; and (c) the introduction of subsidiary industries closely connected with agriculture, e.g., bee-keeping, dairy farming and poultry farming.

(3) To consider the problem of providing labour for all prisoners throughout the year.

(4) To examine and report on the basis on which prices of jail manufactures are fixed and to make recommendations for their reduction.

(Notification No. 638-610-III
dated 17-10-1939; The C.P. and Berar
Gazette, Part I, dated 20-10-1939.
Page 938.) ✓

Indo-Ceylon Trade Negotiations to start in November 1939:

Ceylon agrees to discuss Problem of Indians in Ceylon. ✓

It is understood that the Government of Ceylon recently approached the Government of India to begin the trade negotiations for a commercial agreement. The Government of India is understood to have replied that it could only begin trade talks if the Ceylon Government was agreeable to discuss the other outstanding question relating to Indian settlers

in the Colony and that the negotiations for a trade agreement should follow the settlement of those questions. It is gathered that the Government of Ceylon has now accepted the Government of India's standpoint, and that the Ceylon Ministers for Agriculture, Labour and Local Administration and the Financial Secretary, Ceylon, will comprise the personnel of the Ceylon Government's deputation to New Delhi for a conference with the ~~India~~ Government of India.

It is expected that the Conference between the representatives of India and Ceylon will begin in November 1939.

(The Statesman, dated 12 and 26-10-39)✓

Social Conditions :

The Bihar Funeral Feasts Prohibition Bill 1939. ✓

On 25-9-1939 the Bihar Funeral Feasts Prohibition Bill, 1939, (a non-official bill) was introduced in the Bihar Legislative Council. The Bill seeks to prohibit the custom of spending large sums of money in giving customary, but non-religious, feasts in connection with funerals. In several cases the amount spent is far beyond the means of the person giving the feasts and such expenditure leads the working classes generally into heavy debts. The Bill prohibits the giving of funeral feasts and penalises third parties encouraging one to give funeral feasts or visiting one not giving a feast with excommunication or other kinds of social boycotts.

(The Bihar Gazette, Part V, dated 4-10-1939. Pages 379 to 381). ✓

Extension of Prohibition of Opium in Assam Valley

From 1-1-1940. ✓

It is understood that the opium prohibition scheme of the Assam Government will be extended to cover the Sub-divisions of North Lakhimpur, Jorhat, Golaghat and Nowgong Districts and those parts of Kamrup which lies to the South of the Brahmaputra with effect from 1-1-1940. The scheme will be further extended to the districts of Darrang and Goalpara and the remaining parts of Kamrup to the north of Brahmaputra with effect from 1-4-1940.

The Government, it is further understood, is also considering the extension shortly of its liquor prohibition scheme to certain parts of Assam including Tezpur and South Sylhet.

(The Amrit Bazar Patrika dated, 7-10-1939.) ✓

Public Health

Medical Inspection of School Children in Bombay:

Government Orders Examination of Primary School Children. ✓

According to a press communiqué issued by the Government of Bombay on 4-10-1939, the question of the medical inspection of school children has been engaging the attention of the Government of Bombay for some time past; ~~and that~~ the Government has now directed that all children in the primary schools in the Province should be medically examined at least twice — for the first time on their admission into the schools and later when they reach the age of 8 or 9. In the case of children who, on medical examination, are found to be defective in health and to be in need of medical treatment for ailments that may be observed in them, medical examination should be undertaken more frequently and the necessary medical treatment should also be given to them.

Government has already issued orders to the effect that medical inspection of school children in local board and Government schools in areas allotted to them should be one of the obligatory duties of the subsidised medical practitioners appointed under the rural medical relief scheme. Instructions are now being issued that wherever there are local boards or Government aided dispensaries, it shall be incumbent on them to treat the children in primary schools who, on examination, are found to be in need of medical treatment, and that in towns and cities, Government as well as municipal hospitals shall be utilised for the treatment of school children.

A provision of Rs.50,000 has been made in the current year's budget for grants to local authorities in this connection.

(Communiqué No.P.451 dated 4-10-1939 issued by the Public Relations Officer, Bombay.) ✓

Nutrition Problems of India:Dietary Map of India in Preparation at Coonoor. ✓

It is understood that a dietary map of India showing, among other things, the defects of diet in different areas is being prepared by nutrition research workers at Coonoor, under the auspices of the Indian Research Fund Association. Diet surveys have been carried out in Madras City, Delhi Province, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, Bengal including Calcutta, Orissa, Assam and the Kangra district in the Punjab. Data about the state of nutrition have been collected, the major portion of which relates to rural areas. A survey of families with leprosy in Madras revealed that these families consumed an extremely deficient diet. A point of interest was the relative freedom from dental disease of children examined in Delhi province.

Diet of school children: Previous experiments had shown that the nutritive value of the poor South Indian diet for ~~rats~~ could be improved by the addition of calcium salt. It has now been observed that children ~~living on diets largely composed of rice and consuming little or no milk~~ benefit from the regular administration of calcium lactate. Children receiving 0.5 to 1.0 gramme of calcium lactate for three to five months showed significantly greater increase in weight and height than children not receiving calcium. The results were confirmed in two different schools.

(The Statesman, Dated 3-10-1939) ✓

The Bihar Consolidation of Holdings Bill, 1939. ✓

Attention is directed to pages 385 to 399 of Part V of the Bihar Gazette dated 4-10-1939 where is published the Bihar Consolidation of Holdings Bill, 1939, introduced in the Bihar Legislative Council on 25-9-1939 by a non-official member. The Bill seeks to promote the development of agriculture through consolidation of agricultural lands. ✓

The proposed Punjab Relief of Indebtedness (Amendment) Bill,
1939. ✓

Attention is directed to pages 521 to 523 of the Government Gazette (Extraordinary), Punjab, dated 7-10-1939 where is published the Punjab Relief of Indebtedness (Amendment) Bill, 1939, which the local Government intends introducing in its Legislature shortly. The Bill seeks to remedy certain defects, particularly, in respect of the powers and procedure of Conciliation Boards, in the Punjab Relief of Indebtedness Act, 1934, which have become apparent as a result of the working of the Act for the last 5 years. Opportunity is also being taken to strengthen the original Act in certain other respects. ✓

Indians in Ceylon, 1938:

Report of the Agent of the Government of India.* ✓

General.- The Annual Report for 1938 of the Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon points out that the total area of Ceylon is 16,212,400 acres, of which 559,237 acres are under tea, 605,200 under rubber, 1,100,000 under coconut and 1,272,000 under other products. The total cultivated area is 3,536,437 acres. The estimated total population of the Island in 1938 was 5,864,500 of which 800,000 were Indians.

Indian Estate Population.- The number of Indian labourers and their dependents on estates on 31-12-1938 was 682,570, as against 677,897 at the end of 1937. Of the 682,570 persons, 212,715 were men, 204,530 women and 265,325 children. The total number of estates employing 5 or more Indian labourers and paying acreage fees to the Indian Immigration Fund on the 31st December 1938 was 1,325 as against 1,372 in 1937.

Migration Statistics.- The number of Indian estate labourers who came to Ceylon from India during the year 1938 was 47,210 as against 51,427 in 1937. During the year under review 43,803 estate labourers returned from Ceylon to India against 37,605 in 1937. There were 3,407 immigrants into Ceylon in excess of emigrants from Ceylon. There were 45,923 more departures from than arrivals in the un-assisted class during the year, as against 30,810 in 1937.

Labour Position on Estates.- The welfare of the vast majority of Indian labourers in Ceylon is bound up with the prosperity of the two main industries, namely, tea and rubber. Generally speaking, the condition of the industries during the year may be said to have been normal. The small variations in the tea export quota and tea prices did not have any appreciable effect on the demand for labour. The reduction in the exportable quota of rubber would, it was feared, cause some dislocation of labour on rubber estates and increase unemployment. But owing to such factors as programmes of replanting, etc., the fears did not materialise. The stoppage of recruitment from India had an indirect but nevertheless substantial and wholesome effect on the general condition of labour on Ceylon estates and availability of work.

It will be remembered that when, in pursuance of a resolution passed by the State Council in September 1937, the Ceylon Government wished to recruit labour from India for estates in Ceylon, the Government of India regretted their inability to accede to that request until assurances were received in respect of (1) removal of discrimination against Indian estate labourers in the matter of franchise to the

* Annual Report of the Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon for the year 1938. Published by the Manager of Publications, Delhi. 1939. Price Rs. 2 or 3s. pp.56

village committees and (2) restoration of wages of labourers on mid and low country estates to the level which prevailed between May 1931 and February 1932. Patent discrimination against Indians in section 12 of the Village Communities (Amendment) Ordinance now passed by the State Council and assented to by the Secretary of State for the Colonies may be said to have been removed, though it cannot be said to have satisfied Indian public opinion. No settlement was reached at the end of the year under report in the matter of restoration of wages also. The prohibition of recruitment of labour from India to Ceylon estates continued throughout the year.

Control of Non-recruited Emigration from India. - During the year a Bill to amend the Indian Emigration Act, VII of 1922, was adopted by the Indian Legislature. Under the Amendment Act the Central Government took power to prohibit emigration of all persons or any specified class of persons from departing by sea out of British India to any specified country beyond the limits of India for the purpose of unskilled work unless possessed of a prescribed permit or otherwise exempted by general or special order of the Central Government.

Minimum Wages on Estates. - There was no change in the minimum rates of wages during the year. The following rates continued to prevail as in 1937:-

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Children</u>
	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.
Up country	49	39	29 0 With the issue
Mid country	43	35	25 0 price of rice not
Low country	41	33	24 0 exceeding Rs.4/8 per bushel

Résumé of Events: (1) Report of Immigration Commissioner. - The most important event during the year was the publication of the report of the Immigration Commissioner in April. The Commissioner finds that, so far from causing economic injury to the permanent population, immigrant workers made possible an economic and general advance which could not have taken place without them and in the benefits of which the great majority of the population directly or indirectly share today. He does not recommend any restriction of immigration from India and expresses the opinion that the cause of the indigenous labourer will not be assisted by the imposition of any such restriction. The report does not appear to have satisfied that section of opinion in Ceylon which clamoured for drastic restriction of immigration from India, and the publication of the report was immediately followed by demands for ignoring it.

(ii) Political Status of Indians in Ceylon. - Events in the political field soon commanded public attention to the exclusion of other questions. In September, however, the Village Communities Ordinance which had been reserved for His Majesty's assent was again brought before the State Council with a new amendment to section 12 thereof designed to remove the charge of racial discrimination, by providing for the exclusion of all labourers resident on the estates,

whether Indians or Ceylonese, from the right to village committee franchise. It passed through all the stages and became law with effect from the 1st January 1939. Towards the end of the year the publication of the Governor's despatch provided another landmark in the political field and transferred the attention of the Indians from local franchise in the villages to their political status in the Island.

Economic Position of Indians in Ceylon.-

(iii) ~~In the economic field 1938 was,~~ generally speaking, a normal year. Wages of estate labourers remained stationary; and there was no recruitment from India nor was there any surplus Indian labour nor any undue outflow by repatriation. Indian labour position on estates was more or less static; and conditions as to availability of work were satisfactory. The tea industry was reasonably prosperous throughout the year. Though the year began with a serious deterioration in the fortunes of rubber, the market gradually rallied, thanks to the working of the Restriction Scheme. Outside estates there was less employment available to Indians.

(iv) Health Conditions in Estates.- Health on estates was satisfactory. On the whole sanitary conditions on the larger estates were satisfactory though the same could not be said of the smaller estates. In the matter of housing of labour, the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services has recommended provision of separate kitchens in the lines for labourers on estates in the future. There was a small fall both in the birth and death rates among the Indian estate population. ~~More midwives were appointed on estates;~~ and a beginning has been made in the provision of maternity wards on estates. There was an increase in the number of estate schools and also in the number of children attending them. The only disappointing feature is the slow progress made in the spread of co-operative institutions on estates. The general relationship between Indian estate labourers and their employers was satisfactory. ✓

Wages of Indian Workers in Malaya:

Old Rates Restored. ✓

It is understood that a cut in the wages of Indian labourers in Malaya, which was imposed in May 1938, has been abolished and the old wage rates restored with effect from 1-10-1939. The wage rates after the cut in May 1938 were: man, 40 cents and woman, 36 cents. The restored rates from 1-10-1939 are: man, 50 cents and woman, 40 cents. The increased rates have not yet been gazetted by the Malayan Government.

(The Statesman, 21-10-1939.) ✓

Indians in the West Indies:

Report of Mr. J. D. Tyson to the Government of India. ✓

Reference was made at pages 43-44 of our June 1939 report to a memorandum submitted by Mr. J. D. Tyson to the Royal Commission on ~~the~~ social and economic conditions in the West Indies, on behalf of Indian settlers in those Colonies. Mr. Tyson has now submitted to the Government of India a report on the conditions of Indians in the West Indies; this report is substantially the same as his memorandum to the Royal Commission referred to above. ✓

(A copy of Mr Tyson's Report was sent to Geneva with this Office's Minute : D.I / 1800 / 39 dated 21-11-1939.)

GeneralLabour Ministers' Conference:Memorandum on Economic Consequences of Divergent Labour Standards
Submitted by the Employers' Federation of India.

References were made at pages 56 and 51 of our July and August 1939 reports to the Conference of Labour Ministers in the Provincial Governments and of representatives of the Central Government to be held in New Delhi in November 1939 to effect co-ordination in the labour policy of provincial Governments. In this connection the Employers' Federation of India, Bombay, has published a Bulletin: "Economic Consequences of Divergent Labour Standards" for consideration by the Conference.

The Bulletin examines the effect of the Government of India Act, 1935, on labour legislation in India and points out that Provincial Ministries have begun to take unilateral action in labour legislation, thereby upsetting the economic equilibrium of the country. An objective study is then made of the present divergencies in labour standards between the Provinces inter se on the one hand and between British India and Indian States on the other. The economic consequences resulting from these divergencies are examined in detail and the need for setting up an Industrial Council on the lines recommended by the Royal Commission on Labour in India is stressed. Several references are made in the course of the Bulletin to the work of the I.L.O.

(A copy of the Bulletin was forwarded to Geneva with this Office's minute D.1/1000/39, dated 2-11-1939.)

Postponement of Labour Ministers' Conference.

In view of changes in the Governments of certain provinces (consequent on the resignation of the Congress Ministries in eight out of eleven provinces) the Government of India has postponed the Labour Ministers' Conference from 15-11-1939 to end of January 1940.

(The Hindustan Times, 9-11-1939)

List of more important publications received
in this office during October, 1939. ✓

Conditions of Labour:

- (1) Report together with the prescribed Returns on the working of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, (VIII of 1923) in the United Provinces for the calendar year 1938. Allahabad: Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, United Provinces, 1939. (Price 2 annas).
- (2) Statistical returns under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, for the year 1938 for the Province of Orissa. The Government of Orissa, Law, Commerce and Labour Department.
- (3) Statistical returns under the Workmen's Compensations Act, 1923, for the year 1938 for the Province of Bihar. The Government of Bihar, Revenue Department.

Enforcement of Conventions:

- (1) Annual Report on the working of the Factories Act in the United Provinces for the year, 1938. Allahabad: Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, U.P., 1939. (Price 8 annas).

Industrial Organisations:

- (1) Report of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the year 1938. Vol. II, Documents and Correspondence. Calcutta.
- (2) Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta; Annual Report of the Committee for the year 1938. Published by the Secretary, Indian Chamber of Commerce, 135, Canning Street, Calcutta. 1939.
- (3) Note on the working of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, for the year 1937-38 together with Statistics for that year. Published by the Manager of Publications, Delhi. 1939. (Price annas 7 or 8d)
- (4) The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association: Report for the year 1938. Published by the Secretary, Karachi Indian Merchants' Association, Karachi. 1939.

Economic Conditions:

- (1) Report on the Administration of the Department of Statistics, Hyderabad-Deccan for the year 1347 Fasli (6th October 1937 to 5th October 1938) Hyderabad-Deccan. Government Central Press, Hyderabad, 1939. (Price Re. 1).
- (2) Report of the C.P and Berar Industrial Survey Committee - Part ~~II~~. Vol. I: Government Printing, C.P. and Berar, Nagpur, 1939. (Price Annas 8.)

Social Conditions:

- (1) Annual Administration Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act in the Province of Bombay for the year ending 31st

- ... March, 1939. Part I. ~~Bombay~~: Printed at the Government Central Press, 1939. (Price Annas 3 or 4d).
- (2) Report of the Bombay Criminal Tribes Act Enquiry Committee, 1939, ~~Bombay~~: Printed at the Government Central Press, 1939. (Price annas 3 or 4d).
- (3) Reports for 1936-37, 1937-38, and 1938-39 of the Women's Fellowship of Service, ~~Bombay~~.

Public Health:

- (1) Annual Public Health Report of the Province of Bihar for the year 1937 and the Annual Vaccination Report for the year 1937-38 by the Director of Public Health, Bihar; Superintendent, Government Printing, Bihar, Patna, 1939. (Price Rs. 2.7.0).
- (2) The Administration Report of the Medical and Public Health Department of H.E.H. the Nizam's Government for the year 1347 Fasli (6th October 1937 to 5th October 1938). Hyderabad-Deccan: Government Central Press, 1939.

Co-operation:

- (1) Report on the working of Co-operative Societies in Orissa for the year 1937-38. Press Officer, Government Press, Orissa, Cuttack. 1939. (Price Re. 1/7/-).

Education:

- (1) Report on Public Instruction in the North West Frontier Province for the year 1937-38. Printed and Published by the Manager, Government Stationery and Printing, N.W.F.P., Peshawar, 1939. (Price Rs. 6-3-0 or £.0.9.3).
- (2) Report on the Progress of Education in Bihar for the year 1937-38. Superintendent, Government Printing, Bihar, Patna. 1939. (Price Rs. 1-4-0).

Agriculture:

- (1) Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Publication No. 6: Legislative Protection and Relief of Agriculturist Debtors in India, by K.G.Sivaswamy, B.A., Member, Servant of India Society, and Secretary, Servindia Rural Centre, Mayanoor. 1939. (Price Rs. 4).

Maritime Affairs:

Bombay Port Trust: Administration Report, 1938-39.

Migration:

- (1) Annual Report of the Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon for the year 1938. Published by the Manager of Publications, Delhi. 1939. (Price Rs. 2/- or 3s).

- (2) Report on the Conditions of Indians in Jamaica, British Guiana and Trinidad. By J.D.Tyson, O.B.E., I.C.S., Officer on Deputation in connection with the West Indies Royal Commission, 1938-39* Printed by the Manager, Government of India Press, Simla. 1939.

Miscellaneous :

- (1) Report on the Progress of the Hyderabad (Deccan) City Improvement Board for the year 1347 F. (1937-38 A.D).
- (2) Administration Report of the Hyderabad (Deccan) Public Works Department for the year 1346 F. Hyderabad-Deccan: Government Central Press, 1939.
- (3) Administration Reports of the North-West Frontier Province Public Works Department, Building and Roads Branch, for the year 1936-37. (Price Rs. 4-3-0 or £.0.6.3), and for the year 1937-38 (Price Rs. 2-7-0 or £.0-3-9): Printed and published by the Manager, Government Stationery and Printing, North West Frontier Province, Peshawar. 1939.
- (4) Report on the administration of the Jails ^{in Hyderabad (Deccan)} for the year ending 1347 Fasli. By the Director-General of Police and Jails, Hyderabad-Deccan: Government Central Press, 1939.