

BULLETINS OF INDIAN INDUSTRIES & LABOUR

No. 59

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
EIGHTH INDUSTRIES CONFERENCE**

(Held at Lucknow on the 7th and 8th December 1936)

JANUARY 1937



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[January

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTH INDUSTRIES
CONFERENCE.**

Held at Lucknow on the 7th and 8th December 1936.

AGENDA.

I. Rule-making power in Acts affecting industry, with special reference to electricity and boilers.

II. Handloom weaving.

(a) **Progress of the schemes for the development of the handloom industry in the various provinces and the allotments for 1937-38.**

(b) **Introduction of the hand-weaving industry among the women workers who are excluded from underground work in the Jharia coal fields.**

(c) **Grant for an All-India hand-weaving exhibition and competition to be held along with the United Provinces Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition at Lucknow in December 1936—February 1937.**

III. Standardization of weights and measures throughout India.

IV. Publication of fuller trade statistics regarding important manufactured and semi-manufactured goods in the country and raw materials consumed therein, along with figures of inter-provincial movements of these articles.

V. Removal of inter-provincial barriers to trade in the pharmaceutical and drug industry in India.

VI. Matters arising out of the proceedings of the second session of the Industrial Research Council.

VII. Minutes of the second meeting of the Imperial Sericultural Committee.

VIII. Minutes of the first meeting of the Woollen Industry Committee.

PRESENT :*Government of India.*

The Hon'ble Sir Frank Noyce, K.C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S.,
Member of the Governor General's Executive Council
—*Chairman.*

Department of Industries and Labour.

Mr. A. G. Clow, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary.

Mr. N. Mahadeva Ayyar, I.C.S., Additional Deputy
Secretary.

Indian Stores Department.

Mr. R. W. Targett, Officiating Chief Controller of Stores.

Mr. N. Brodie, M.Sc., F.C.S., A.I.C., Director, Industrial
Research Bureau.

*Provincial Governments.**Madras.*

Mr. L. B. Green, M.B.E., M.I.E.(Ind.), Acting Director of
Industries.

Mr. J. L. Thompson, A.M.I., Mech.E., Chief Inspector of
Boilers.*

Bombay.

Mr. P. B. Advani, M.Sc., Tech., M.I.E., J.P., Director of Indus-
tries.

Mr. R. G. Higham, M.I.E.E., F.R.S.A., J.P., Electrical Engineer
to Government.*

Bengal.

Mr. A. T. Weston, M.Sc., M.I.C.E., M.I.E.(Ind.), Director of
Industries.

Khan Bahadur A. M. Arshad Ali, Registrar, Co-operative
Societies.

Mr. C. C. Ghosh, B.A., F.R.E.S., Deputy Director of Sericulture.
(Adviser).

Mr. B. C. Bhattacharya, B.Sc. (Cal.), M.Sc., Tech.(Manch.),
A.M.C.T., Principal, Serampore Government Weaving
Institute. (Adviser).

United Provinces.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava, Kt., M.Sc., A.M.S.T.,
Minister.

*Attended on the 7th December 1936.

Mr. S. P. Shah, I.C.S., Officer on Special Duty.

Mr. R. T. Shivdasani, I.C.S., Director of Industries.†

Lieutenant-Colonel A. G. Warren, A.M.I.E.E., M.I.E.(Ind.),
Electric Inspector.*

Mr. W. G. Mackay, M.B.E., A.M.I., Mech.E., Chief Inspector of
Factories and Boilers.*

Punjab.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang, Kt., M.A., Ph.D.,
Minister.

Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Lal, M.B.E., Director of Industries.

Bihar.

The Hon'ble M. Saiyid Abdul Aziz, Bar.-at-Law, Minister.†

Mr. S. M. Dhar, I.C.S., Director of Industries.

Mr. K. S. Rao, L.T.M., A.T.I., Textile Expert. (Adviser).

Central Provinces.

Mr. G. S. Bhalja, I.C.S., Director of Industries.

Mr. M. B. Mandé, L.T.M., A.T.L., Textile Expert. (Adviser).

Assam.

Mr. S. L. Mehta, I.C.S., Director of Industries.

Orissa.

Mr. S. N. Mozumdar, I.C.S., Director of Development.

Indian States.

Hyderabad.

Mr. T. J. Tasker, C.I.E., O.B.E., I.C.S., Member for Revenue,
Police and Commerce and Industries.

Nawab Rais Jung Bahadur, Secretary, Commerce and Industry
Department.

Mr. Ghulam Ali Mohammadi, B.A., F.C.S., Director of Commerce
and Industries.

Mysore.

Mr. N. Madhava Rau, B.A., B.L., Second Member of Council.

Mr. S. G. Sastri, B.A., M.Sc. (Lond.), F.I.A.S., Director of
Industries and Commerce.

*Attended on the 7th December 1936.

†Attended on the 8th December 1936.

Baroda.

Dr. S. M. Pagar, B.A. (Wis.), A.M., Ph.D. (Columbia), Development Commissioner.

Mr. A. B. Pandya, B.A., LL.B., Director of Commerce, Industries and Labour.

Gwalior.

Lala Ramji Das Vaishya, F.R.S.A., M.R.A.S., Secretary, Commerce Department.

Indore.

Mr. N. S. Rahalkar, B.A., Commissioner of Customs, Excise, Commerce and Industries.

Travancore.

Mr. C. Kumara Das, Director of Industries.

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Monday, December 7th, 1936.

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING SPEECH.

GENTLEMEN, I welcome you to this great and historic city. This is the first time since it was revived that this Conference has met at a centre other than the headquarters of the Government of India. We are doing so at the instance of the Government of the United Provinces, whose suggestion that we should do so was welcomed by us all as it was felt most appropriate that an Industries Conference should be able to avail itself of the bird's eye view of the progress that Indian industry is making in all directions which is afforded by the Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition now being held here. I am sure you would all wish me to tender our most grateful thanks to the Government of the United Provinces for their kind hospitality. I am particularly glad that, in spite of the pre-occupations which must be weighing rather heavily on them at the moment, as many Ministers have found it possible to attend the Conference as were able to do so last year, and I am sure that their presence will be—as it always is—of the greatest assistance to us in our deliberations.

2. We have a full agenda and very limited time at our disposal, so that I do not propose to comment on the subjects which we are to discuss later. I would merely remark that, so far as the handloom grants are concerned, the progress made appears to be very satisfactory. A sum of nearly Rs. 11 lakhs has so far been allotted for expenditure on approved schemes and, so far as I am able to judge, these sums and the amounts which Provincial Governments are providing from their own revenues for this purpose are being wisely spent. Since we last met, the Government of India have made a further grant of Rs. 5 lakhs to be spread over five years for the benefit of the small-scale and cottage woollen industry, and a Committee has already been set up to advise on the administration of this grant.

3. This is the last occasion on which I shall have the privilege of addressing you and in these circumstances I may perhaps be forgiven if I indulge in a brief retrospect. I do not propose to delve at all deeply into the distant past—not so dim for me, for my impressions of India as it was when I first reached its shores almost exactly thirty-four years ago remain as vivid as ever—or to weary you with a detailed comparison of the Industrial India of those days with the Industrial India of to-day. Suffice it to say that an industrial exhibition of the character of that we have seen or shall be seeing here would not then have been possible. It would have been almost entirely

an exhibition of the arts and crafts of this country and of the products of the large old established industries such as cotton and jute. Those were the days before that great enterprise, the Tata Iron and Steel Works, was established, the days when India imported 2,000 million yards of cotton piece-goods and manufactured only a quarter of that amount, the days when the factory production of sugar was trifling, the days when the output of coal, that valuable index to industrial activity, was less than one-third what it was last year. The position in regard to cotton piece-goods and sugar is now completely reversed. Last year the imports of cotton piece-goods had fallen to less than a thousand million yards, whilst mill production had increased to 3,500 million yards. The production of factory sugar was over 926,000 tons, some four and a half times the quantity imported, and the disparity between home production and imports will be very much greater this year. Take the figures for a few selected industries for the few years during which I have held charge of my present office, a period of unprecedented economic depression. The outturn of pig iron has increased by about 75 per cent. with other iron and steel manufactures in somewhat similar proportion, the outturn of cement by 50 per cent., of matches by 30 per cent. and of paper by 20 per cent. As for the smaller industries, I would invite you to look around you and do no more than mention a few of the articles now purchased by the Indian Stores Department which until recently were either not made at all in this country or not of such a quality as justified their purchase. Out of the long list of such articles, I would single out lawn mowers, weighing machines, centrifugal pumps, cooking ranges, electric bulbs, motor car tyres and tubes, vacuum brake fittings and water-proof cloth.

4. The question which naturally arises out of the brief survey I have given you is "To what extent have Government—I need hardly say that I include under 'Government' both the Central and Provincial Governments as well as the Governments of the States—contributed to this striking advance?" and also "To what extent has this Conference contributed?" On the general aspect I do not propose to dwell, for you will find it faithfully recorded in Mr. Clow's admirable little book on "The State and Industry" and its successor "State action in respect of Industries 1928—35" which was published a few weeks ago. But I should like to say something about what we have done here. I think we may put forward the modest claim that we have provided an organization which has great potentialities of usefulness. That organization falls into four parts. In the first place, there is this Conference itself, successfully revived in 1933 after being in abeyance for over a decade, which furnishes a forum for the discussion of industrial questions of common interest to the whole of India, a forum the value of which should become more and more apparent in the days ahead of us when there may develop

a tendency for the Centre and the Federal Units more and more to go their own ways. In the second place, there is the Industrial Research Council by whose advice the Government of India—and I hope I may add the Governments of the Provinces and States—are guided in questions of policy in connection with industrial research. The Council has so far held two meetings, in July, 1935 and July, 1936, the proceedings of which have been placed before you. In the third place, there is the Industrial Research Bureau at the headquarters of the Government of India which is, so to speak, the executive agency of the Council, and lastly, there is the Research Branch of the Government Test House at Calcutta, where research approved by the Council is carried out.

5. The most important work undertaken by the Research Bureau during its short existence has been its work on glass. Its survey of the glass industry has drawn attention to the difficulties under which the industry is working and has enabled the Bureau to put forward concrete suggestions for carrying out research in the laboratories of the Central and Provincial Governments and some of the Universities. We, on our part, have accepted the suggestions which directly concern us and research on the lines proposed has been undertaken at the Test House. For the research work here, which covers a number of other enquiries suggested by the Council, the Government of India have sanctioned the appointment of two gazetted officers, twelve officers of the rank of Chemical and Physical Assistant, and nineteen other officers. For the senior gazetted officer's post Dr. L. C. Verman, a physicist of wide experience, has been selected. The accommodation at the Test House is rapidly outgrowing its expanding needs and the question of enlarging it and of placing the Research Bureau on a permanent footing is engaging our active attention. In connection with the work of the Bureau, I should perhaps mention the three Bulletins it has already published, the one on the glass industry, a bibliography of industrial publications published in India since 1921, and one on a highly technical aspect of the annealing of copper bar. Six more Bulletins are nearly ready for the press and should appear early next year.

6. I need not enlarge on any other activities here such as the work being done in administering the grants from the Government of India for the benefit of the cotton handloom weaving, the sericultural and the woollen industries. Critics, notably those who advocate planned economy, forgetting the close association between planned economy and dictatorship and the entirely unsuitable field for dictatorship presented by a country on the eve of great constitutional changes, will say that we might have covered a bigger field. There is so much to be done in this vast country that I readily admit there are other things I would have liked to have

tackled, but I do claim that, considering the financial and constitutional difficulties under which we have laboured, we have no reason to be ashamed of our record. There is one point on which I should like to comment before I pass on. It will be evident from what I have said that this Conference and its connected organizations have made the small and cottage industries its first care. Though, as time goes on, they, I hope, will be able to render service to the larger industries, I trust that the smaller industries will always receive their special consideration. For it is to the development of the smaller and scattered industries away from the big industrial centres, which have in so many cases only too faithfully copied the evils which have accompanied industrialization in the West, that there lies the best hope of raising the standard of living and, with it, the cultural level of the countryside.

7. I should like, in conclusion, to say something about a subject which has in the past few years been constantly in my thoughts and, I am sure, it has been in yours. That is the question of middle-class unemployment. Those of you who attended the Conference of 1933, which was the first of the present series of Conferences, will remember that we had it on our agenda, but we were not able to get very far with it at that time for various reasons. In the first place, I think most of us were agreed that it was a problem that could not be solved by any steps that could be taken on the industrial side alone, and in the second place, some of us at least felt that there was little prospect at that time of getting public opinion to support the steps that seemed best calculated to secure an agreement on the position. But a good deal has happened since then. The problem has received attention in many directions; it has been explored by further Committees, including the important Committee presided over by The Right Honourable Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru which was set up in these provinces, and certain aspects of it have been engaging the very close attention of educational experts and of the Central Advisory Board of Education. There is an increasing volume of support for some of the remedies that may be necessary and an increasing determination to face up to the difficulties of the problem. I think that you may find it useful to discuss again certain aspects of the question at your Conference next year. In particular, the question of the development of schemes of apprenticeship is one on which a Conference, composed as this one is, might be able to offer very valuable advice. There has been, and is still, a tendency to concentrate on academic teaching, even in the technical sphere, and to forget that the most important part of education for industry is generally that which only work in the industry can give.

8. There is no cut and dried solution of this great problem, for it does not owe its origin to any single factor and it will not be solved except by concentrated advance in many directions. But I

have spent much of my time in the last few years in the attempt, which has, I am sorry to say, more often than not been unsuccessful, to assist young men who have approached me or who have been brought to my notice, and in the light of this experience and of the thought I have given to the question over a long period, spent partly in a department of education and partly in a department of industries, I venture to place before you a few conclusions to which I have come. On the educational side of the question, I am satisfied that those responsible should endeavour to bring the educational results of the country into closer correspondence with its needs. I think you will probably all agree that on the more technical side of education it is impossible to justify the production of specialist officers for whom there is no particular demand. If, for example, we produce more mining engineers or more printers than industry can absorb, we are definitely wasting our resources, we are making conditions more difficult for those who are seeking a career in the industry and we are creating a class of young men who will feel a constant sense of frustration at being unable to utilize the specialist training they have laboriously acquired. When you come to education of a more general and cultural type, the position is in at least one respect different, for it can be claimed that cultural education represents an enrichment of life, whatever the subsequent career of the student. But there are two further questions which those who encourage our young men to pursue academic careers must face. In the first place, they must ask themselves whether the student who goes to a University is looking merely for cultural enrichment or whether he is looking for a definite economic advantage as well and whether he would be prepared to go on if we told him frankly that he would be provided with the first and not with the second. In the second place, they must ask themselves whether, educational resources being what they are, it is right to devote a substantial part of them in providing young men with an education which leads many of them into the desert while those in other spheres of society are still unable to secure even the rudiments of literacy. I should be the last to discourage the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake or to suggest curtailing in any way the assistance given to those who are likely to obtain, through higher education, a wider and more useful life. India needs far more first class men than are produced at present. But there are others who get little except disappointment from such education, and it seems to me a mockery to suggest to the man who finds himself unable to secure a place in society that his life has been enriched by his studies. Man does not live by bread alone, but the man without bread is not going to find life.

9. The final suggestion that I would throw out for your consideration is that we can do little if we concentrate our attention too much on the educated middle-class. Their prosperity depends, to a much greater extent than is often recognized, upon the welfare of

the masses, and little can be achieved on the industrial side without a definite rise in the standard of living and in the demands of the bulk of the population. It is a fairly easy matter to demonstrate that in present conditions even if we were to make in this country everything that we now import, the result would, as Sir George Schuster put it in the Sir George Birdwood Memorial Lecture he delivered before the Royal Society of Arts last year, be but a ripple on the surface of India's economic life. But an increase in the demands from the villages would give a great stimulus to industry and would open up a multitude of new careers. I suggest that in the end it is in the village, rather than in the colleges or the industrial areas, that we must find a lasting solution.

I.—RULE-MAKING POWER IN ACTS AFFECTING INDUSTRY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ELECTRICITY AND BOILERS.

MEMORANDUM.

Government of India.

1. *Constitutional changes.*—Under the Government of India Act, 1935, general executive authority in respect of subjects in List I of the Seventh Schedule will vest in the Federal (or Central) Government; in respect of subjects in Lists II and III of that Schedule, it will vest in the Provincial Governments. The making of regulations and rules under various Acts is regarded as an exercise of executive power. Consequently all power to make regulations or rules, together with other powers conferred on the Provincial Governments by Acts now in force relating to List I subjects will, from 1st April 1937, pass to the Government of India. On the other hand, in respect of Acts now in force relating to List II and List III subjects, all powers conferred on the Government of India will, with minor exceptions, pass to the Provincial Governments. It will be possible for the Government of India to employ Provincial Governments as their agents in certain respects; and powers vested in authorities other than the Provincial Government, e.g., District Magistrates, in respect of List I subjects will not be affected. But it will not be possible by legislation, either before or after 1st April 1937, to confer on the Central Government executive powers in respect of a List II or List III subject.

2. *Federal subjects.*—A review of the Acts affecting industry and labour has been made. In respect of List I subjects the main changes will be the transfer to the Central Government of all rule-making power, etc., under the Indian Mines Act and of all powers vested in the Local Government under the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act. As, under the former Act, the power to make regulations, which cover matters of major importance, is already Central and the whole administration is Central, no serious difficulty should arise. Similarly, under the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act, there should be little difficulty. The most important powers vested in the Local Governments can only be exercised subject to the Government of India's previous permission or control, the most important rule-making powers are already Central, and the powers vested in district authorities will not be affected.

3. *Provincial subjects.*—In respect of List II subjects there should be no difficulty, as there are no Acts of the kind under dis-

ussion which are central, and no need arises of any action at the Centre.

4. *Concurrent subjects.*—The bulk of the important Central Acts affecting industry relate to subjects falling in List III. These include—

- (1) The Indian Electricity Act, 1910,
- (2) The Indian Boilers Act, 1923,
- (3) The Indian Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923,
- (4) The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926,
- (5) The Trade Disputes Act, 1929,
- (6) The Factories Act, 1934,
- (7) The Payment of Wages Act, 1935,

and some less important Acts that raise no points of difficulty in the present connection. The Acts named may be considered in two groups, *viz.*, (1) the Electricity and Boilers Acts, and (2) the Labour Acts.

5. *Workmen's Compensation.*—Dealing with the latter group first it would appear that the transfer of executive powers will result in little more than a certain amount of inconvenience. Under the Workmen's Compensation Act, the main powers of the Central Government are (1) power to frame rules relating mainly to procedure, (2) power to include fresh classes of workmen, (3) power to add industrial diseases, and (4) power to prescribe returns. The transfer of (1) to the Provinces should have no substantial effect. The procedure is now established and provincial variations are not likely to give inconvenience to parties, though they may add slightly to the difficulties of insurance companies or organizations operating over several provinces. Returns can probably be kept uniform by mutual arrangement. The addition of workmen and of diseases by one province and not by another is, on the whole, undesirable; but proposals could be considered by the Industries Conference and, when necessary, uniform advance could be secured by Central legislation.

6. *Factories.*—Under the Factories Act nearly the whole of the rule-making power is already provincial; the only important powers the Government of India have at present relate to hazardous occupations and returns. Mutual arrangements can probably be made to retain virtual uniformity, and here again the Industries Conference should be of assistance in this respect. Further, in respect of all the Labour Acts, the Federal Legislature will be able to empower the Federal Government to issue directions, if necessary.

7. *Other Labour Acts.*—In respect of the Trade Unions Act and the Trade Disputes Act, there should be no difficulty. Powers in

respect of Federal Railways and Central Services under the latter Act will probably remain with the Central Government. The Payment of Wages Act should give rise to equally little difficulty. The only important rule-making power vested in the Government of India relates to procedure and as the Government of India intend to promulgate the necessary rules before 1st April 1937, the position will be similar in this respect to that under the Workmen's Compensation Act. Here again, powers in respect of Federal Railways will probably remain with the Central Government.

8. *Boilers and Electricity.*—In respect of boilers and electricity, on the other hand, the transfer of all power to make regulations and rules to Provincial Governments is likely to create considerable difficulty. Of these subjects, although "Boilers" is placed in Part I of List III and "Electricity" in Part II, the present position in respect of the two subjects is very similar. The Acts themselves are supplemented in each case by an elaborate code of Central regulations or rules designed to ensure that the standards to which manufacturers, licensees and others have to conform is generally uniform throughout British India.

9. *Unification of Boilers Standards.*—In respect of boilers, the matter was at first regulated by provincial Acts, but the inconvenience of these was increasingly recognized as industry developed. Manufacturers, owners and importers of boilers complained of the arbitrary differences existing in different provinces and the Boiler Laws Committee which enquired into the subject in 1920-21 came to the conclusion that there was no justification for differences in the regulations of different provinces. The regulations were entirely technical in nature and could not be affected by local conditions. On a reference being made, the conclusion that the standards should be uniform throughout British India was accepted by every Local Government, and in pursuance of this conclusion, the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, was passed. The case for maintaining general uniformity appears to the Government of India to be at least as strong now as it was in 1922-23.

10. *Electrical Standards.*—Under section 33 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1903, the power to make rules was vested both in the Government of India and in the Local Governments (subject to the previous sanction of the Government of India); but the power was never used by any province. The Indian Electricity Act, 1910, withdrew the general rule-making power from the Local Governments, who retained responsibility for the general administration of the Act and the power to grant licences. The reasons for this change were stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons as follows:—

“ The necessity for continuing the rule-making power of local Governments has not been proved, and no such rules have

hitherto in fact been made. Further, the change is believed to be in the interests of the commercial community who desire to have as far as possible uniform rules throughout British India, a result which can only be secured if all the rules are made by the same authority."

So far as safety is concerned, the needs do not differ from province to province, and provincial variations have hardly ever been suggested. The requirements of manufacturers and industrialists generally would appear to be best served by having uniform standards, and with the steady growth of electrical supply, it will probably give rise to increasing inconvenience if the more important requirements of the law vary from one province to another.

11. *Uniformity by substantive legislation.*—It is, in theory, possible to secure uniformity by embodying in central legislation the substance of the existing and future regulations. But this would give rise to serious difficulties in practice. Owing to the constant development which is taking place both in respect of electricity and in respect of boilers, the regulations or rules require frequent amendment. It would be extremely inconvenient if amendments could only be made by legislation, as a constant series of central bills would be required, often dealing with matters of small importance; and considerable delay would occur in securing necessary modifications of the law.

12. *Central Boards.*—If, therefore, it is generally accepted that uniformity is desirable, it appears to be necessary to devise some other means of securing it. The Conference is accordingly asked to consider whether it would not be desirable to set up an authority consisting mainly of provincial representatives which might be invested with the regulation-making and rule-making power at present possessed by the Government of India. The rule-making power vested in the Provincial Governments need not be transferred to the Boards. Thus, for example, a Central Electricity Board and a Central Boilers Board could be set up composed of two Government of India officials, one of whom would act as Chairman, and a representative of each of the major provinces and of Delhi. These Boards would regulate their own procedure, but they would be required, as the Government of India are at present, to publish all proposals for amendment of the rules for criticism and they would thereafter, in the light of the criticisms and opinions received, make such final amendments as appeared to be desirable to the members or to a substantial majority of them. If the amendments were of a very minor character, the work could be done by correspondence, but it would probably be necessary for the Boards to have meetings about once a year to consider substantial amendments.

13. *Advantages of discussion.*—Such a system, in addition to securing uniformity, would effect an improvement on the existing

system. Correspondence would be reduced to a minimum and necessary changes in the regulations would probably be made more expeditiously than has been possible in the past. Further, the experts on the subject would have opportunities, either as members or as advisers to the Board, of meeting from time to time, of resolving differences in discussion and of considering developments in the subject generally.

14. *Time of legislation.*—If legislation is desired, it will have to be passed in the Central Legislature before 1st April 1937. It will hardly be possible, therefore, to consult Local Governments after the Conference, and it is desirable that representatives to the Conference should be able to express definite views on behalf of the Governments they represent.

Discussion.

Monday, December 7th, 1936.

Mr. Green (Madras) said that as he had no instructions from his Government on the subject of electricity and had not had the advantage of perusing the note on the subject, he was not in a position to offer any authoritative views.

Mr. Thompson (Madras) said that the Government of Madras supported the proposal to vest the rule-making powers under the Boilers Act in a Central Boilers Board. He suggested that the Board should consist of two Government of India officials, one of whom should act as Chairman and the Chief Inspectors of major provinces, one of whom should act as Secretary with powers to co-opt any other Chief Inspector of a smaller province. The Board should after consultation with the various authorities and interests make the necessary amendments to the Act or regulations for adoption by the Local Governments. It should meet once a year to discuss all major matters.

Mr. Dhar (Bihar) asked whether it was suggested that rules which could now be made by Local Governments should be made by the Boards.

Mr. Clow said that that was not the intention. The proposal was to transfer to the Boards only the rule-making or regulation-making powers now held by the Government of India.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) said that the Government of Bombay were in general agreement with the proposal that there should be a Central Boilers Board. It should hold meetings in various industrial centres by rotation.

Mr. Higham (Bombay), with regard to the Indian Electricity Act, said that the Government of Bombay desired that meetings should

be held annually in order to secure entire agreement and to recommend to Local Governments the rules that should be made.

The Chairman observed that the proposal was that the rule-making powers of the Government of India should be transferred to the Central Board so that the rules framed could be applicable to all provinces. If the Board were merely advisory, there would be no guarantee of uniformity. He asked for opinions on this proposal.

Mr. Higham (Bombay) said he was prepared to accept the proposal.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) fully endorsed the proposal to establish Central Boards for Boilers and Electricity. He had personally presided over a Boilers Commission in Bengal which recognised the danger it was designed to prevent. In their view, chaos was likely to result if some such arrangements like that proposed were not made.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) said that the subjects fell within the purview of the reserved departments, on behalf of which he was not authorised to speak. But he personally and his expert advisers were strongly in favour of the proposal. He also assumed that the Local Government would welcome the proposal as it was not proposed to take away any of their rule-making powers.

Mr. Mackay (United Provinces) thoroughly agreed.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) said that he could not speak for the reserved departments but that his personal views were the same as those of the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava.

Mr. Dhar (Bihar) said that his Government were of opinion that there should be uniformity of practice and standards throughout India in respect of both electricity and boilers. As regards the Electricity Act, his Government were of opinion that the Central Electricity Board was desirable but that it should consist solely of experts. Its functions should be merely advisory and the necessary regulations should be issued by the Government of India under the Board's advice. He doubted, however, whether the last suggestion could be given effect to because legislation could not confer on the Central Government executive powers in respect of List III subjects. As regards the Boilers Act, his Government were of opinion that the power to make regulations should be vested in some competent authority. It would not be necessary for that body to deal with any rules under section 29, which confers the power to make rules on the Local Governments.

Mr. Bhalja (Central Provinces) agreed that uniformity was desirable and that frequent amendments of the Act would be obviated

by the establishment of the Central Statutory Board. Of the two alternatives possible, namely, Central Statutory Boards and Advisory Boards advising Local Governments, his Government would prefer the former provided they were composed not of experts but of administrative officers who might be accompanied by experts. If the alternative of establishing Advisory Boards was adopted, there would be no guarantee that their advice would be followed. He presumed that the Central Statutory Board would not arrive at any conclusion unless it had the support of a substantial majority. Where this was not forthcoming his Government considered that a further reference should be made to Provincial Governments.

Mr. Mehta (Assam) said that a Central Board was desirable for Boilers but the Local Government wished to retain the power to prescribe fees payable for the issue of renewed certificates. The Central Board for Electricity was not so necessary but his Government would not oppose if the Conference came to the conclusion that one ought to be established.

Mr. Mozumdar (Orissa) stated that the Government of Orissa were substantially in agreement with the proposals of the Government of India.

The Chairman observed that the question had been raised as to who the provincial representatives should be. He thought that Local Governments should have perfect freedom in the matter, but enquired whether it was desired that the representatives should be specified in the Act. After some discussion it was agreed that the Local Governments should have full discretion regarding the nomination of their representatives.

Mr. Tasker (Hyderabad) stated that though he had no instructions from his Government, Hyderabad was not constitutionally interested because the Boards would be established before Federation took place, and because the States would not federate as regards subjects in the Concurrent List. But administratively Hyderabad was interested because such regulations obviously should obtain throughout India and in practice the States would have to adopt normally technical regulations. He wished to know how it was proposed to consult Indian States both before and after Federation.

Mr. Clow said that before Federation the position so far as the States were concerned, would be unchanged, and the Government of India at present did not consult the States before framing rules or regulations for British India. His personal view was that after Federation it was desirable to have representatives of the States on the Boards, if these were set up.

Mr. Tasker said that what was desired was that they should be taken into consultation while the regulations were actually being hammered out. Room should be left for States representatives.

The Chairman said that the question of consulting the representatives of important States was well worth consideration.

Mr. Madhava Rau (Mysore) stated that these subjects were outside the Federal List and that his Government were not constitutionally interested in the proposals for their regulation in British India. As regards the Boilers Act, they would watch and adopt such of the conclusions of the Board as would suit their requirements with such modifications as they might consider necessary. In respect of Electricity, similar regulation was unnecessary as there were no private licensees and all enterprises belonged to the State.

Dr. Pagar (Baroda) stated that he had no specific instructions from his Government. They had their own Electricity and Boilers Acts which they would adopt according to their requirements on the lines of any regulations that might be issued in British India.

Lala Ramji Das Vaishya (Gwalior) observed that Gwalior generally followed British India regulations.

Mr. Rahalkar (Indore) stated that the proposal created no difficulty as they had their own Boilers and Electricity Acts. He assumed, however, that the regulations were intended to apply to British India only and would not apply to Indian States. His Government were anxious that any step taken now should not affect the negotiations in respect of Federation.

Mr. Kumara Das (Travancore) desired to make it clear that any step taken now should not affect any negotiations that might be carried on with the Federal Government in future in respect of this matter.

The Chairman observed that there was virtually complete unanimity and summarized the conclusions as follows :—

- (1) That it is desirable to have Boards for both Electricity and Boilers to exercise such rule or regulation-making power now held by the Government of India.
- (2) That the Local Governments should have full discretion regarding the nomination of their representatives.
- (3) That the representatives should be able to bring advisers.
- (4) That the suggestion that representatives of States, prior to Federation, be invited to co-operate with the Boards should be examined.
- (5) That, if possible, provision be made for States members of the Board after Federation.

II.—HANDLOOM WEAVING.

REPORTS ON THE OPERATION OF THE SCHEMES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN THE VARIOUS PROVINCES.

Madras.

(30th June 1936).

The scheme of the development of handloom industry, as approved by Government, contemplated the formation of a provincial co-operative society and a number of primary production societies composed of weavers affiliated to it. The subvention of the Government of India was utilized in giving help to the Provincial Society. The primary societies were to be given a subsidy to cover the cost of their staff and to purchase appliances. The scheme provided for the supply of raw materials by the Provincial Society to the primary societies for production and for the sale of finished goods. Provision was also made for the appointment of a Secretary, a Marketing Officer, a Cloth Designer and five Marketing Agents to work under the Provincial Society. The Agents are to assist the primary societies in marketing their output, while the Marketing Officer is to co-ordinate the work of the Marketing Agents, secure forward contracts from wholesale dealers of cloth and pass them for execution to the Marketing Agents. The scheme also provided for the introduction of small units of machinery for preparing and distributing ready made warps which would pave the way for the standardization of handloom products and thereby ensure their marketability.

2. The Provincial Society was registered in April 1935 and started work in August 1935. The Secretary and the Marketing Officer were appointed in September 1935 and the Marketing Agents (styled as Supervisors) in October 1935. The Cloth Designer was appointed only in April 1936.

3. There were thirty-nine weavers' societies in existence when the Provincial Society was registered. Most of them were merely credit societies doing very little production work. Of these, thirty were converted into production societies during the course of the year and thirteen societies were newly organized for production during the year.

4. The weavers are generally poor and they have no funds to purchase the raw materials required for weaving. The first thing that the Provincial Society did was to arrange for the supply of

raw materials to the societies ; five mills agreed to supply yarn to the societies on the guarantee of the Provincial Society. The mills allow credit for thirty days and the extent of guarantee given by the Provincial Society is fixed on the recommendation of the local Deputy Registrars. If the societies are unable to pay the price of yarn within thirty days, the Provincial Society advances the sum and charges interest at 6 per cent. The amount of guarantee given by the Provincial Society during the year amounted to Rs. 29,420, but the actual supply of yarn amounted to Rs. 12,364-7-3 only.

5. The Provincial Society also tried to effect sales of finished goods produced by the affiliated societies through merchants and other co-operative institutions ; but this did not prove successful. The Provincial Society thereupon resolved to open sales depots in the city and the mufassal. Three mufassal centres, Madura, Calicut and Bezwada and Madras City, have already been fixed upon for the opening of sales depots. The sales depot called the Emporium at Madras was opened in June 1936 and arrangements are being made to open sales depots in the mufassal centres.

6. The amount of grant allotted to the Madras Presidency was Rs. 26,500 for 1934-35 and Rs. 59,500 for 1935-36. During the year 1935-36 a sum of Rs. 21,831-10-0 only was drawn from the subvention account ; of this Rs. 18,455-6-0 was utilized before 31st March 1936 and the balance during the quarter ending 30th June 1936. The amount was spent as shown below :—

Particulars.	Amount spent up to 31st March 1936.		Amount spent (and due) from April to June 1936.	
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
I.—Establishment	7,306	4 0	3,002	6 7
II.—Miscellaneous—				
1. Travelling allowances and sitting fees to Directors	1,979	0 0	396	10 0
2. Travelling allowances to Secretary, Marketing Officer and Executive Officer	513	12 0	202	9 6
3. Travelling allowances to Supervisors	1,529	11 0	377	7 6
4. Rent for the Provincial Society and for the store rooms of Supervisors	912	0 0	468	11 0
5. Furniture, electric fittings, contingencies, etc.	1,419	14 0	647	10 9
6. Stationery, postage, advertisement	1,329	4 8	2	4 0
7. Exhibition			50	0 0
8. Typewriter and duplicator	1,361	15 0		..
III.—Emporium rent			21	8 0
IV.—Direct help to societies	2,103	0 0	1,511	0 0
Total	18,455	6 5	6,680	3 4

GRAND TOTAL—Rs. 25,135-9-9.

The society spent a sum of Rs. 3,303-15-9 in excess of the subvention during the co-operative year. This sum will be recouped from out of the subvention to be given for the current year. The society has already applied for this sum and the matter is pending before Government.

7. Though the scheme approved by the Government of India was followed in all its essential details, there were a few minor modifications. The Marketing Officer was given a pay of Rs. 200 and the Secretary Rs. 300 while the scheme provided for Rs. 400 for the former and Rs. 250 for the latter. The Cloth Designer was paid Rs. 75 while there is provision for payment of Rs. 100 in the scheme, while under the scheme there was provision for appointing only five Supervisors (Marketing Agents), the society employed seven men until April 1936 after which date their number was reduced to five. Expenditure on office contingencies, furniture, fittings, printing, advertisement, etc., was increased. Specific provision was made for expenditure under travelling allowance and sitting fees to Directors while there was no mention of such expenditure in the original scheme; menial staff of peons and watchman was also increased. With more experience, the society felt that there was no need for two highly paid officers like the Marketing Officer and Secretary and it applied for the services of a departmental Sub-Deputy Registrar to serve as Secretary and Marketing Officer combined. This officer joined duty on 27th March 1936. He tours for about 15 days in a month.

8. During the year under review, the Provincial Society has not achieved any striking measure of success. Beyond arranging for the supply of yarn to a few societies (*viz.*, nineteen societies), it has not done any other work. No attempts were made to bring down the cost of production of cloth. Though the society recognised the fact that it was necessary to have a standard quality of goods, no effective steps were taken to achieve this object. It is, of course, too soon to expect the society to cover the whole field being yet in its infant stages. The Local Government sanctioned, free of hire charges, the loan of five departmental hand-driven sizing machines and the power-driven sizing plant at the Textile Institute, to the society but it did not take advantage of this offer as the society could not make arrangements for their working.

9. The number of weavers who are members of the affiliated societies is just over 2,500; while the weaver population in the Presidency is more than five lakhs. It would thus appear that the society has not touched even the fringe of the problem of providing employment for the weavers. The value of the goods bought by the affiliated societies (including the stock on hand at the beginning of the year) was Rs. 1,47,603. The Provincial Society arranged for the supply of yarn amounting to Rs. 12,364, that is, about less than

9 per cent. of the goods. This shows that the members got more than 90 per cent. of the yarn themselves from their own funds, without the intervention of the Provincial Society. Unless the society makes adequate arrangements for the sale of finished goods as quickly as they are produced, the weavers cannot have continuous employment. The other alternative is that the society should make advances on the security of such finished goods. But the society has a paid up share capital of Rs. 16,400 and the amount of guarantee given by it to the mills is already twice this sum. The society is faced with the problem of finding money for paying the mills on the due dates, as the affiliated societies which received yarn are generally unable to pay the price of yarn within 30 days—(the period allowed by the mills) and the society cannot advance loans on the security of finished products unless its share capital is substantially increased.

10. The society has been in existence only for a short time and it is too soon to judge whether it has achieved the objects for which it was brought into existence. The problem of handloom weaving is admittedly a difficult one in the face of competition of the mills and foreign import. Government are aware that the problem of weavers was one of the earliest of the problems to be tackled by Government. Several Committees have sat over the problem—(e.g., the Textile Conference in 1928-29).

11. The chronic indebtedness of weavers is too big a question to be tackled by the society within such a short period. A Government Officer, who has some experience of the problem, is working in the society. He is submitting monthly reports of his work and of the society and the usefulness of the institution is being watched.

Bombay.

(31st July 1936.)

Briefly, the scheme is to appoint a Marketing Officer (Handloom Products) and a Textile Designer and to organize industrial associations on co-operative basis at five important centres, viz., Ahmednagar, Hubli (Dharwar District), Ahmedabad, Poona and Hyderabad (Sind). The objects of the associations are to supply to weavers raw materials as cheaply as possible, to market their finished products, to advise them with regard to new patterns, designs and qualities, and to supply to them improved weaving appliances on hire-purchase system. The overhead expenses on staff, rental of premises, etc., of these associations amounting to Rs. 3,340 per year for each are to be met from the Government of India grant. A provision of Rs. 2,000 per year for each association is made to meet any loss due to depreciation or bad debts in its working. Expenses on account of salaries, travelling allowance, etc., of the Marketing Officer and the Textile Designer amounting to Rs. 12,504 per year are also to be met from this grant. The working

capital for the associations is to be obtained from co-operative banks on the security of their share capital and reserves. Each association was given in the beginning of the year Rs. 2,000 set aside for bad debts and depreciation in the first year's grant to constitute its reserve so that it can raise a reasonable amount of working capital from the local co-operative banks. The associations are intended to work on the basis of a small profit on their business with a view to be self-supporting as soon as practicable.

2. The Marketing Officer (Handloom Products) and Textile Designer were appointed and took charge of their respective posts on 1st June 1935 and 3rd September 1935, respectively. All the five associations referred to in paragraph 1 have been organized. Out of these three, *viz.*, those at Ahmednagar, Hubli and Poona, started business operations with effect from January 1936. The association at Ahmedabad has been registered and is expected to begin working shortly. Organizing work in the case of Hyderabad association had to be suspended after it was registered on account of separation of Sind.

3. The Ahmednagar, Hubli and Poona associations have opened shops with a staff, in each case, of a Manager, a Salesman, and an Accounts clerk, they stock raw materials such as yarn etc., improved weaving appliances and finished handloom products. Some important points of note in the work of the associations are as under :—

(a) In connection with their stock of raw materials the associations have made available to weavers at economic rates a variety of counts of yarn in different guaranteed fast colours. Such a variety was not available in the local markets before.

(b) Another point worth note in connection with the sale of raw materials is that since the associations charge only a small profit, they are able to set rates for raw materials in their respective markets, thus benefitting both their members and non-members. Besides, an organized attempt on their part to get the raw materials dyed by local dyers in fast colours has resulted in considerable reduction in cost of dyeing in fast colours in those centres.

(c) As regards finished products the associations found that most of the looms were working on one or two qualities only in which there was a glut. They, therefore, undertook, with the help of the Textile Designer appointed under this scheme, to teach their members to produce new qualities of cloth with attractive patterns and designs, such as shirtings, coatings, sarees, curtains and table cloths, all meant for daily use. These qualities fetch better wages to the weavers and are found more easily saleable than the usual varieties. This has reduced competition in the usual products of these centres, thus benefitting non-member weavers also.

(d) The associations have also introduced a system of manufacturing cloth strictly according to given specifications in counts of yarn, threads per inch both in warp and weft, and the fastness of colour, thus ensuring reliability in their products tending to create confidence in the customers.

4. The turnover of the three associations working at present, up to 31st July 1936, as shown in the statement on the opposite page is Rs. 20,536 for Ahmednagar, Rs. 6,139 for Hubli, and Rs. 12,271 for Poona. This business with a working capital raised on the security of Rs. 2,000 paid to the associations during December 1935-January 1936, and a share capital of Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,200 for a period of effective working of seven months only, is considered satisfactory. The share capital is low, as was expected, because the value of each share was fixed at Rs. 2 to enable even the poorest weaver to participate in the scheme. The progress of the associations should, however, not be judged only on the basis of turnover but also on such factors as (a) that even with a small capital they are controlling the market rates of the raw materials and (b) that they have successfully introduced new qualities of cloth, thus widening consumption of handloom products. The associations find the working capital at their disposal very small and the question of augmenting their reserve to enable them to raise adequate working capital and show a reasonably large turnover is under the consideration of the Government of Bombay. It is expected that with better facilities of finance, the associations will be able to take steps to achieve their objective of becoming self-supporting in due course.

Statement showing the progress of the Ahmednagar, Hubli and Poona Associations up to 31st July 1936.

Name and place of the Association.	No. of mem- bers.	No. of shares sub- scribed.	Amount of share capital sub- scribed.	Approximate No. of hand- looms covered by membership.	Date of registration.		Date of commence- ment of business.		Date of receipts of Government loan on security of which bank loans were to be raised for working capital.		Sales up to 31st July 1936.	Gross profit up to 31st July 1936.
1	2	3	4	5	6		7		8		9	10
			Rs.								Rs.	Rs.
N. C. D. Industrial Co-operative Association, Ltd., Ahmednagar.	490	870	1,340	1,000	9th	Aug.	7th	Oct.	21st	Dec.	20,536	331
The Industrial Co-operative Association, Ltd., S. D. Hubli.	145	373	746	1,000	15th	Aug.	14th	Nov.	27th	Dec.	6,130	138
South Central Weavers and Industrial Co-operative Association, Ltd., Poona.	80	877	1,354	325	14th	Sept.	14th	Nov.	17th	Jany.	12,271	432

1937.]

Handloom Weaving.

25

Bengal.

Although the Government of India allocated a grant of Rs. 33,000 in 1934-35 for implementing the scheme approved by the Sixth Industries Conference held in Simla in 1934 the grant could not be utilized immediately as the final sanction of the Government of India for disbursement of the amount was not received till August, 1935. As provided in the scheme, expert staff was appointed for all the Unions by the middle of November 1935 and they were provided with improved looms and dyeing appliances while orders were placed for the supply of one slasher sizing machine and one calendering machine for the Bagerhat Union. A subsidy of Rs. 2,000 was also sanctioned for the Alamdanga Yarn Depot. The duties allotted to the experts and supervisors attached to the Industrial Unions according to the provisions in the approved scheme were to train up the weavers in producing fabrics of improved and new designs, texture and finish as also to supply them with dyed yarns and to advise them on the reduction of the cost of production. The duties of the staff attached to the Provincial Industrial Society, *viz.*, the Marketing Officer, the Designer and the Canvassers were to supply new designs to the Industrial Unions and information regarding market conditions and to push up the sale of the finished products of the Unions. On assumption of office, the staff carried out a general survey of the existing condition of the industry in their respective areas. The progress made by them during the last six months in furtherance of the scheme in respect of each Industrial Union is indicated below :—

2. *The Bankura Industrial Union*.—The staff given to this Union was one weaving and dyeing expert and three supervisors. Rs. 800 was granted for purchase of improved looms and dyeing appliances. Four demonstration centres have so far been started in the midst of co-operative weavers' societies. Twenty weaver members have been fully trained and many others are receiving training. As a result of this training it has been possible for the weavers to produce fabrics of attractive designs and qualities to the extent of about 12,000 yds. of which water-proof lining cloth of 2,000 yds., 200 pieces of attractive designs of sarees for a girl's school uniform, an improved pattern mosquito net cloth according to the specification supplied by Calcutta merchants, turban cloth for Bengal Nagpur Railway and towels of various designs are noteworthy. The staff has also been able to supply dyed yarn to the weavers to moderate extent.

3. *Alamdanga Co-operative Yarn Depot*.—The past activities of this Depot were confined largely to supplying of yarn to the weavers. Since the posting of one weaving expert and one weaving supervisor to this Depot its activities on the manufacturing side have improved. A grant of Rs. 800 for improved looms and dyeing appliances and

special subsidy of Rs. 2,000 were sanctioned. One demonstration centre has been opened here. Thirty-six weaver members have since received training in handling improved looms. The Depot has utilized a part of the Government grant of Rs. 2,000 in purchasing dye stuffs to the value of Rs. 750. The special aptitude of the weavers of this place is to weave woollen fabrics, woollen wrappers and shirtings which have created an impression in the Calcutta market. They have now been trained to manufacture wrappers with Kashmere border which has a good market in Calcutta. It is proposed to increase the manufacture of woollen fabrics in this area for consumption in the next winter. The Depot has also been asked to supply gauze cloth for which an order has been secured by the Marketing Officer. The local sale of the Depot has increased to Rs. 2,012 since the appointment of the staff as against Rs. 1,592 during corresponding period of last year which may be attributed to improvement in the volume and quality of production.

4. *Naogaon Industrial Union.*—The Union was supplied with one expert and one weaving supervisor. Rs. 800 was sanctioned for purchase of improved looms and dyeing appliances. A demonstration centre has been started and thirty weavers have up till now attended the demonstration out of whom two are constantly at work in the centre. Improved quality of curtain cloth of mock-lino type, bandage and jaconet (envelope lining) cloth are now being woven by the weaver members. Orders for 3,000 yds. of the cloth have been placed with the Union by the Marketing Officer. The weavers are also supplying towels and dusters to the local hospital.

5. *Dacca Industrial Union.*—The staff allotted to this Union consists of one expert and four weaving supervisors. There are four centres of activities of the Union, namely, Gopaldi, Madavdi, Dhandi and Demra, which are inhabited by a very large number of weavers. These weavers are used to handling looms of improved types. Although the Union has purchased English jacquard looms with a Government grant of Rs. 800 for demonstration purpose the weavers prefer to be trained on their own looms which is being done at present. Thirty modern designs have since been introduced by the staff and about two hundred weavers are now working on these designs. 1,000 yds. of lining cloth and 200 yds. of *pardah* cloth of new designs have been supplied according to orders by the weavers trained under the scheme. The weavers of this place being capable of handling improved looms and weaving fine fabrics, the Union has immense possibilities for development of the industry. During this year provision has been made to supply the Union with a slasher sizing and a calendering machine.

6. *Chittagong Industrial Union.*—In the scheme an expert and a weaving supervisor were provided for the Raipura (Noakhali) Industrial Union but the working of that Union having deteriorated

the provision was partly shifted to the Chittagong Industrial Union under Government orders. One expert and a grant of Rs. 400 have been sanctioned for the Chittagong Union in March 1936. The expert has commenced giving training to the weaver members in their homes. No demonstration centre has been opened yet. The expert has been able to secure orders to the extent of Rs. 1,200 for the weavers. Attempts are being made to improve the quality of *lungis* that are largely used in the district of Chittagong.

7. *Choumohani Industrial Union.*—One expert and two weaving supervisors and also Rs. 800 as grant were sanctioned for this Union. The expert has opened one weaving and dyeing demonstration centre with the looms and appliances purchased from the grant. He is experiencing difficulty in persuading the weavers to attend the centre for training. Attempt is, however, being made to overcome the difficulty.

8. *Bagerhat Weaving Union.*—Provision was made to supply this Union with a slasher sizing and calendering machine at a cost of Rs. 15,000. The machines have recently been imported at a cost of Rs. 19,304 Government having sanctioned the extra cost. After the installation of the machines ready warps will be available for distribution amongst the weavers. The calendering machine will further improve the finish of the Union's products which are already in demand in Calcutta. The Union will undertake the organization of weavers' societies within its area of operation and supply ready warps to the members of these societies which will improve the volume and quality of production.

9. *Provincial Industrial Society.*—This society has received the assistance of one Marketing Officer, one Designer and two Canvassers who are attached to the society and working in collaboration with it. The Marketing Officer has supplied orders from Calcutta to the various Unions and disposed of their goods worth about Rs. 4,000. He has also been able to dispose of 4,000 yds. of old fabrics which were lying unsold in the Provincial Society. He had to refuse several big orders such as 5,000 yds. water-proof lining, 1,15,000 yds. envelope lining cloth and *pardah* cloth to the value of Rs. 2,000 for want of funds in the Unions for execution of such orders. As a result of negotiations with Messrs. Indo-Africa Agency, Dundee, Natal, South Africa, by the Marketing Officer for supply of suitings and shirtings a sample consignment of goods worth Rs. 500 has recently been sent to the Company. If the goods are approved it is hoped that a regular business of aggregate value of £70,000 per year will be established. The Designer has supplied 40 new designs of various class of fabrics to the different Industrial Unions. About 30 of these designs have been successfully taken up by the weavers in different centres. The canvassers have helped in the disposal of

goods in the Provincial Society as also of the Unions forwarded to the Provincial Society for disposal.

10. A statement of expenditure in connection with the scheme since the receipt of the grant is indicated below :

		<i>Expenditure.</i>			
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs. A. P.
1934-35	.. .. .	Nil			
1935-36					
	Pay of establishment	4,640	6	0	
	Travelling allowance	1,000	0	0	
	Contingencies	245	3	9	
	Grants-in-aid, contribution	11,317	12	0	
		17,203	5	9	17,203 5 9
1936-37					
	Commitments				
	Pay of establishment	18,180	0	0	
	Travelling allowance	6,000	0	0	
	Contingencies	1,500	0	0	
	Grants-in-aid, contribution	38,304	0	0	63,984 0 0
Bagerhat—Rs. 14,304					
Dacca—Rs. 24,000					81,187 5 9

11. In summing up, the net results achieved during the last six months by implementing the scheme are that a general survey of the conditions of the industry prevailing in different centres has been made, the Unions supplied with improved looms and dyeing appliances and demonstration and training centres have been established. A number of new designs transmitted to the Unions has been and is being introduced among the weavers while the Marketing Officer has been able to secure some orders for classes of goods hitherto unknown to the weavers. The objects of the Government of India grant include the training of weavers in improved methods of production, establishment of sale depots and weavers' co-operative societies for the marketing of handloom products and the introduction of new patterns, new designs and improved appliances. Although our work is progressing slowly as it is not possible to rush it in the view of various handicaps we are working fully keeping in view the purposes for which the grant has been made.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES, BENGAL.

Government Weaving Institute, Serampore.—The report furnished by the Principal of the Institute regarding the experimental work into new designs and equipment for the handloom weaving industry carried out in his Institute during the year 1935-36 is given below.

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Every effort to break new ground and develop new enterprise is of an experimental and tentative character in regard to which definite and concrete results do not always materialize as expected. In the case of this scheme a certain amount of time was inevitably consumed in assembling the equipment and getting these new ideas into the mental outlook of the staff operating it, also in establishing contact with the Bengal Home Industries Association and Good Companions and other sources of new ideas for the handloom weaving industry. This was done effectively towards the end of the year and I am glad to report that progress in recent months has been even more marked than the annexed report indicates. The Secretary of the Bengal Home Industries Association has expressed to me her satisfaction with the valuable response which the experimental party has been able to make to the ideas and suggestions propounded by that body. Within the limitations of this small experimental scheme the progress made is reasonable and is producing valuable results.

It is understood that proposals for new schemes will shortly be considered by the Government of India and perhaps by an Industries Conference. The position at present is that for a number of years the Serampore Weaving Institute and latterly the Textile Section of the Department of Industries headquarters has been concentrating its attention on the improvement of the handloom weavers' equipment, particularly the substitution of fly-shuttle looms, and the introduction of jacquard and dobbies with the sole purpose of strengthening the economic position of the handloom weavers. A considerable measure of success has thus been already achieved. The incidence of the present economic depression and particularly the dumping of abnormally cheap products of Japan in recent years has however created new and even more formidable difficulties in the handloom weaving industry. It is the general consensus of responsible opinion that the present difficult economic position of the handloom cottage industry can only be substantially aided, provided that the services of competent designers with the power of expression of new and marketable ideas together with the services of efficient and businesslike marketing organization is made available.

**REPORT ON THE WORK DONE BY THE HANDLOOM RESEARCH PARTY
STATIONED AT THE GOVERNMENT WEAVING INSTITUTE, SERAMPORE,
FROM JULY 1935 TO 31ST MARCH 1936.**

The staff consisting of one Expert Textile Organizer, two Artisan Assistants and one Workmen Labourer joined their respective duties in the second week of July 1935.

Equipment.

The party has now been equipped with four fly-shuttle frame looms, two of which have been specially constructed for supporting

jacquard attachments of 300 and 100 hooks, respectively. A semi-automatic fly-shuttle loom and a country dobbie with 26 jacks have been purchased recently and are expected to begin working early in the month of April. Three show-cases have been purchased for the adequate display of the experimental fabrics woven in this section.

Work for the cottage handloom workers in the mufassal.

Immediately on joining his post the Expert Textile Organizer began to study the various piece-goods markets of Calcutta and its neighbourhood and to establish contact generally with parties who deal in better class textile goods in order to ascertain the trend of fashion and demand.

The Expert has visited different weaving centres in the districts of Pabna, Dacca, Bankura and Mymensingh. Thus he has placed on record the actual conditions of the important weaving communities of the aforesaid districts and formed the experience of what can be done by them with improved designs and appliances.

It is a part of the Textile Organizer's duty to attend to the difficulties of the handloom weavers on the spot when he goes out on tour. Very frequently his help is sought by the handloom weavers of the localities visited by him in connection with such problems as the proper management of jacquards and dobbies and the preparing of suitable designs of various types of fabrics. He has also supplied some new designs to parties who have asked for the same. In this way he is helping the handloom weavers to solve their practical difficulties.

He has also attended the All-India Hand-weaving Competition and Exhibition held at Patna, where he got an opportunity of making a comparative study of the condition of handloom weaving industry in the different provinces of India, the methods adopted by the several Provincial Governments to improve the hand-weaving industry in their respective provinces and the general capacity of an Indian handloom weaver.

Work for the Bengal Home Industries Association.

Up till now a large part of the time of the research staff has been devoted to the production of samples of furnishing fabrics for the Bengal Home Industries Association, who are getting them manufactured on a large scale by handloom weavers of this province on the basis of the samples produced at this Institute.

On the suggestion of the Lady Secretary of the above Association nineteen samples suitable for furnishing fabrics have so far been woven while four additional samples are under preparation. It is expected that the Bengal Home Industries Association will be

able to place considerable orders for these in preparation for the next cold weather season thus opening out an avenue of lucrative employment to our handloom weavers.

Original weaves and designs worked out.

In addition to working out the ideas and suggestions of the Bengal Home Industries Association, twelve other samples have been produced of which three are suitable for coatings, one for ladies' dress material and eight are found to be suitable for furnishing fabrics.

Two experimental warps for curtain cloth were prepared which were woven with a variety of fancy dyed weft and the resulting fabrics were found to have certain novel effects which when fully developed are likely to prove attractive. The weaves being plain, it is hoped this art of weaving with fancy dyed weft will open up a new avenue of income to the Bengal handloom weavers. This line of work is being further developed.

Improved appliances designed.

A new sley has been designed with adjustable reed-space capable of weaving cloths of widths varying from 60" to 27". This is calculated to enable the poor weavers who are not in a position to buy looms of various widths, to increase their earnings by extending the range of their production. The research party has two such sleys working which are found to be satisfactory under actual working condition.

A leasing paddle also has been designed, which is expected to simplify leasing for warpers who make their warps in the usual indigenous way. This paddle is at present being tried out at this Institute.

Future programme.

In addition to the production of samples on the basis of the ideas and suggestions of the Bengal Home Industries Association and supplying designs and technical advice to parties applying for them, the Expert proposes to carry out a series of experiments with fancy dyed yarn, which is capable of producing various artistic effects on plain cloth. He is also to try a few novel figure effects with simple weaves, all of which will be quite within the scope of the ordinary handloom weaver. These experiments and his normal touring duties are likely to keep him fully occupied for some time to come.

United Provinces.

(31st August 1936.)

1. *Survey.*—Fifteen investigators who were appointed in April, 1935, to carry out a detailed survey of the cotton handloom industry

of the Province, submitted their reports by 20th December, 1935, and compilation of statistics was completed by the 29th February, 1936. A draft report has been drawn up and the final report is likely to be ready soon. The total expenditure incurred on this work out of the Government of India grant amounts to Rs. 17,283-1-6.

2. *Samples.*—A complete range of cotton samples of the different weaving centres of the Province has been collected, arranged and priced in sample books.

A sum of Rs. 3,000 was provided for this purpose for 1934-36 in addition to Rs. 1,500 provided in the survey grant. The actual expenditure has been Rs. 1,047 under the survey grant *plus* Rs. 558-0-6 during the year 1935-36, and Rs. 373-6-3 from 1st April to 31st August 1936.

3. *Commercial Travellers.*—The scheme provides for six travellers at Rs. 60 p. m. But it was found that such persons were not suitable for work in the rural markets. Therefore only four out of six persons were appointed on Rs. 60 p. m. and instead of the remaining two, eight canvassers were proposed to be appointed on Rs. 15 p. m. Four of these have been appointed and the remaining four will be appointed shortly. These village canvassers have to go from village to village and attend important bazaars in districts.

There is no provision for contingencies for the Commercial Travellers. This is required for the carriage of samples, and their display at fairs and exhibitions. A provision of Rs. 1,000 per annum is needed for such contingencies.

4. *Designs.*—As there is no institution in India where specialized training in designs is given, it has been difficult to get a suitable candidate for the Head Designer's post which is therefore still vacant. The principals of the weaving institutions in India were also requested to bring the post to the notice of suitable candidates. Some more applications have now been received and are being examined. One assistant weaving designer and one printing designer have been appointed since July 1936. The other weaving designer will be appointed shortly.

As the work of the design section is not yet in full swing, designs supplied by our weaving schools have been tried and some of them have found a good market. A list of such designs is given in Appendix I. It is expected that when this section is fully equipped with its full staff, many more marketable designs will be introduced.

There is a provision of Rs. 1,500 for contingencies for this section. It has been found that the initial cost of new designs is much more than what has been provided for. It is therefore proposed to increase the allotment for this item by Rs. 1,000 in the current year's budget. This will cover the cost of making trial blocks for printing designs.

Provision has also been made in the current year's budget for two attendants at Rs. 10 p. m. each to help the designers.

5. *Supervision of Manufacture.*—The six Stores contemplated in the scheme have been started at the places and with effect from the dates noted below :—

Tanda	..	..	..	..	23rd October 1935.
Amroha	..	..	..	..	15th January 1936.
Sandila	..	..	..	..	15th January 1936.
Mau	..	..	..	..	20th January 1936.
Etawah	..	..	..	..	9th May 1936.
Bara Banki	..	..	..	..	1st July 1936.

The first three have co-operative organizations and have been taken over for intensive work. The weavers of other centres are being organized on co-operative lines. These Stores except the one at Tanda are in charge of a supervisor trained in handloom weaving and a store-keeper trained in dyeing and printing. At Tanda the position is reversed, i.e., the supervisor is a dyeing expert and the store-keeper trained in handloom weaving. They supervise the production of the right type of fabrics for the Provincial Marketing Organization. At all these places the yarn is supplied by the Store and finished products are purchased from the weavers on cash payment by the Provincial Marketing Organization.

No expenditure has been incurred under the grants for subsidy to stockists and supply of appliances.

6. *Provincial Marketing Organization.*—A Textile Section has been attached to the United Provinces Arts and Crafts Emporium, Lucknow, to organize wholesale marketing and to co-ordinate the various activities under the scheme. It was started on 21st November 1935, and was opened by Lady Haig. It is directly under the charge of an Assistant Manager who works under the general supervision of the Business Manager of the Emporium. The Divisional Superintendent of Industries in charge of the handloom scheme is the Controller. This organization controls the work of the Commercial Travellers and renders assistance to the Stores. Since the date of its opening to the 15th August 1936, it has done business amounting to about Rs. 56,000. It has participated in the Exhibitions held at Garhmukteshwar, Etawah, Gwalior, Patna, Aligarh, Bulandshahr, Dhanbad, Cawnpore, Rangoon, Delhi and Allahabad. Handloom products were also displayed in the Exhibition train which toured the whole of South India and Central India. Our exhibits have already won nine medals and sixteen certificates.

The post of the Salesman on Rs. 80 has been split into two posts of Rs. 40 p. m. each. Since the central shop attached to the organization remains open from 9 A.M. to 8-30 P.M. it was found necessary to have two Salesmen, who could work in shifts.

The pay of the two sales attendants has had to be increased from Rs. 10-8-0 to Rs. 15 p. m. as they were not available on less pay. Two posts of attendants were also created as it was not possible to cope with the work with the existing staff. A new post of a chowkidar has also been found necessary.

7. *Finishing and Calendering.*—There is provision for a recurring grant of Rs. 3,000 for running the finishing plant which was proposed to be erected at a cost of Rs. 40,000. On further examination it is found that a centralised finishing plant would not serve a very useful purpose as there is no centre where there would be enough work for such a big plant. A better scheme would be to subsidize persons who are prepared to put up smaller plants at different centres. But the recurring provision of Rs. 3,000 would still be required to subsidize calendering and finishing of weavers' products through the Emporium and preliminary experiments in finishing and calendering.

So far a private calendering plant at Tanda has been utilized for finishing. Hand finishing has also been tried and found successful at Mau and Gorakhpur.

8. *Research and Experiments.*—The Research Assistant has not yet been appointed. The person who was selected for the post did not join. It had therefore to be advertised again. The applications received are under consideration. Meanwhile, the Government Central Weaving Institute, Benares, has evolved the following appliances :—

- (a) double box sley,
- (b) multiple box sley,
- (c) newar loom,
- (d) pick and pick sley for fancy work,
- (e) peg dobby,
- (f) wooden jacquard,
- (g) multiple bobbin winding machine,
- (h) combined warping and beaming machine,
- (i) yarn doubling or grandrille machine.

Of these the wooden jacquard has won the Government of India's prize of Rs. 500 for the best appliances at the Patna Exhibition. The double box sley and the combined warping and beaming machine have also won prizes. The double box sley has been introduced at Bara Banki and the jacquard is now commonly used at Benares.

Experiments in hand mercerising have been successfully carried out at the Government School of Dyeing and Printing, Cawnpore, and arrangements are being made at Tanda for this work. Fast dyeing processes have also been introduced at Tanda.

9. *Sole Buying Agency Scheme.*—It has not been possible to interest any firm to take up the Sole Buying Agency for buying all the goods produced by co-operative societies of cottage workers. But firms are prepared to take up Sole Selling Agencies in different territories in return for a subsidy on guaranteed business at the following rates :—

- (a) Rs. 100 p. m. on guaranteed minimum business of Rs. 20,000 a year.
- (b) Rs. 50 p. m. on guaranteed minimum business of Rs. 10,000 a year.
- (c) Rs. 20 p. m. on guaranteed minimum business of Rs. 5,000 a year.

10. Appendix II contains a statement of the sanctioned grant for 1934-36 and the expenditure incurred up-to-date. Proposals for the utilization of the savings and for the increased grant for the current year are awaiting sanction.

11. The above summary will show that satisfactory progress has been made in the development of the scheme although there are some sections which have not yet been started as they could not be taken up simultaneously. It was also not considered desirable to rush them as some modifications from the original scheme are found necessary in the light of actual experience for which proposals have been submitted. Even with regard to these, preliminary arrangements have been completed and it is expected that the whole scheme will be in full swing in a few months' time.

APPENDIX I.

List of new designs of textile fabrics introduced in connection with the Handloom Weaving Scheme.

(1) About $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen woven curtain designs.

(a) Jamdani pattern curtain.

(b) Jacquard design cloth.

(c) Vertical striped curtains.

(2) Three designs of woven bedspreads.

- (3) Printed crepe scarves.
- (4) Printed saree cloth in about twenty different designs.
- (5) Printed curtain cloth.
- (6) Wax work printed sarees.
- (7) Sarees of beading.
- (8) Chadars printed as shawls.
- (9) Printed upholstery cloth.
- (10) Drills.
- (11) Mock-lino shirting.
- (12) Silk chints.
- (13) Coloured four fold sojni.
- (14) Coloured sambhal durries.
- (15) Mercerised table covers, napkins, and curtains to match
- (16) Coloured sport shirtings.
- (17) Printed net curtains.
- (18) Waivy sarees.
- (19) Mosquito curtains cloth.
- (20) Printed garha chints.
- (21) Printed—
 - (a) Doyllies.
 - (b) Ground cushions.
 - (c) Burka.
 - (d) Dressing gowns.
- (22) Sarees of different designs and textures.
- (23) Long cloth.
- (24) Shirting designs about twenty.

APPENDIX II.

Expenditure incurred from the Government of India Grant (1) during the year 1935-36, and (2) from 1st April, 1936, to 31st August, 1936, on the development of handloom industry.

Particulars.	1935-36.			Expenditure from 1st April 1936 to 31st August 1936.			Total expenditure on the scheme till 31st August 1936.				
	Grant.	Actual expenditure.			Grant.	Actual expenditure till 31st August 1936.					
	Rs. (1)	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
1. Handloom Survey.	17,719	15,549	2	6	..	1,333	15	0	17,283	1	6
2. Purchase and Supply of Samples.	3,000	558	0	6	..	373	6	3	931	6	9
3. Commercial Travellers.	7,590	1,636	13	0	..	2,086	7	9	3,723	4	9
4. Design ..	7,280	..	..	..	..	171	4	0	171	4	0
5. Supervisors and Stores.	16,588	768	9	6	..	3,134	15	9	3,903	9	3
6. Provincial Marketing Organization.	7,247	8,872	4	6	..	7,117	12	0	15,990	0	6
7. Finishing and Calendering.	40,000	117	3	3	..	42	13	6	160	0	9
8. Research and Experiments.	4,600	..	..	..	..	133	5	0	133	5	0
9. Sole-Buying Agency (Subsidy).	2,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(2) 1,04,000	27,902	1	3	86,400	13,063	0	3	42,296	0	..
		(3) 1,333	15	0							
		29,236	15	0							

(1) Non-recurring.

(2) After deducting probable savings of Rs. 1,924 from items 2 to 8.

(3) Debited to last year's survey grant.

NOTE.—More than half the savings are due to the provision of Rs. 40,000 for a calendering plant which has not yet been put up owing to modifications in the original scheme awaiting sanction.

APPENDIX III.

Expenditure incurred during the year 1935-36, on the development of handloom industry.

	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Pay of Staff			
3 Divisional Superintendents of Industries	15,513	3	0
3 Peons of Divisional Superintendents of Industries ..	378	0	0
Travelling allowances of Divisional Superintendents of Industries and Peons	4,000	0	0
Supplies and Services	No separate figures can be given.		
Contingencies	530	0	0
	(For a typewriter and a photo camera.)		
2. Exhibitions	2,056	0	0
3. Expenditure on Government Institutions devoted to handloom industry	1,54,006	2	0
4. Aid to Non-Government Institutions devoted to handloom industry	16,574	12	0
5. Expenditure incurred by the Co-operative Department in organizing the weavers, in marketing their products, and giving technical assistance by means of weaving supervisors, etc.	6,323	0	0
Total	2,12,766	11	3

Punjab.

(31st August 1936.)

The expenditure incurred on the scheme up to the end of August 1936 under each primary unit is shown below :—

Primary unit.	1934-35.			1935-36.			1936-37 (1st April 1936 to 31st August 1936).			Total expenditure up to 31st August 1936.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Pay of Establishment	..			11,269	13	0	7,281	6	0	18,551	3	0
Other allowances and honoraria ..	..			..			33	0	0	33	0	0
Travelling allowance ..	..			1,022	14	0	879	4	0	1,902	2	0
Supplies and Services ..	..			7,713	0	0	2,643	12	3	10,356	12	3
Contingencies ..	308	2	0	4,552	9	0	2,938	6	6	7,790	1	6
Rewards and Subsidies	..			166	7	0	..			166	7	0
Total	308	2	0	24,724	11	0	13,775	12	9	38,808	9	9

Apart from the expenditure which would be incurred within the sanctioned allotments on Pay of Establishment, Other allowances and honoraria, Travelling allowance and Rewards and Subsidies, Rs. 21,000 will be spent during the current financial year on the purchase and installation of preparatory machinery at the central and two branch depots, leaving a balance of about Rs. 4,000 in hand under "Supplies and Services" (non-recurring). With this saving and such other savings as might occur under other primary units, and with such other amount as might become available next year for the purpose, it is proposed to purchase a finishing plant in the year 1937-38. It is expected that the preparatory machinery will soon be received and installed.

2. A Central Depot has been opened at Amritsar, which is the biggest distributing centre for textiles in the Punjab, in addition to being an important weaving centre. Branch depots have been opened at two other big weaving centres in the Province, *viz.*, at Hoshiarpur and Multan. The scheme started functioning about the middle of 1935. The Marketing Officer was appointed in May 1935. The Central Depot at Amritsar was opened in June 1935, and the two Branch Depots at Hoshiarpur and Multan, respectively, towards the end of 1935.

3. The Central Depot at Amritsar controls the entire marketing organization under the scheme. It works out designs and distributes them not only locally and to Branch Depots, but also amongst the weavers generally in the Province.

Till recently cotton handloom weaving alone was dealt with under the scheme. The use of silk, mixed silk and artificial silk yarn in borders, etc., has only recently been allowed.

Service has been rendered to handloom weavers in two ways, *viz.*, (a) by employing them directly for the execution of orders received from buying agents, and (b) by increasing the scope of their work generally by supplying them the latest marketable designs and by teaching them the use of improved appliances. Hundreds of weavers are working directly for the Marketing Officer, while thousands have gained indirectly from the new designs which have been distributed and from other assistance rendered by the marketing organization.

4. Assistance has generally been rendered in the following ways :—

- (a) The Central and Branch Depots provide show rooms to exhibit the best samples of woven and printed goods for the benefit of dealers, weavers and printers. The

Show Room at Amritsar contains the largest collections of exhibits and is the one most popular.

- (b) New and marketable designs are continually being prepared and distributed. Eighty-seven new designs were successfully introduced last year, and over six hundred samples and designs were analysed as to their technical data and costing. The classes of fabrics for which new designs have been successfully introduced are shown in Appendix I.
- (c) The Central and Branch Depots serve as a clearing house of industrial intelligence for the benefit of the industry. Weavers are supplied information regarding technical analysis and costing so as to enable them to secure better prices for their goods and as far as possible they are supplied with information regarding the current market prices of finished goods and raw materials. They are also educated in the utilization of such technical data by demonstrations and explanations on the spot by the technical experts employed under the scheme. For instance, weavers have been successfully taught how to do very fine weaving on fly-shuttle looms which had never before been attempted in this Province.
- (d) Separate buying agents have been appointed for each Depot with definite areas allotted to each. They secure orders and are bound to receive cloth produced for them through the agency of the Marketing Officer. The buying agents supply the required raw materials and are bound to pay wages fixed by the Marketing Officer for weavers and printers. In the beginning there was an active opposition on the part of shopkeepers and dealers to the working of this scheme for they considered it a rival organization set up by Government to deprive them of their business, and the first batch of buying agents also lost some money in their business. This gave a certain amount of set back. But it has lately been brought home by actual working to the weaver as well as to dealer that the scheme will work to the benefit of all concerned. The weaver secures better wages and has been taught how to get better production, while the dealer secures better prices on goods of uniform quality. Things have consequently improved and dealers have begun to take goods of standard quality through the Marketing Officer or from

the weavers who have previously worked for the Marketing Officer.

In addition, small-scale weavers in villages (e.g., Rahon in Hoshiarpur district) have recently begun to come over to the Marketing Officer for help in the sale of the goods produced by them on their own account.

- (e) Effective help has been given in the introduction of improved appliances. The marketing organization has by demonstrations brought home to the weaver that the improved fly-shuttle looms, dobbies and jacquards would give him better and greater production along with better wages. This has resulted in the more general adoption of improved appliances. For instance, fly-shuttle looms have been introduced for the weaving of fine *pathas* (turbans) unlike before when pit looms alone were used for such work. Double fly-shuttle sleys have been introduced for the weaving of two colour cloth. Solid border cloth which was previously woven entirely on pit looms, is being gradually taken up on fly-shuttle looms under the guidance of the Marketing Officer.
- (f) The use of fast colours has been encouraged. It has been demonstrated to the weaver by actual working that the use of fast colours not only brings him more orders, but that it is also not very expensive in the long run.
- (g) Improved designs in printing have been introduced. Coarse cloth such as *khaddar* woven on the handloom cannot compete with the mill product, unless it is printed in attractive designs. Over eighty new designs which were supplied last year, have been taken up with great success. Several good printers at Kamalia, Multan and Amritsar are employed for printing cloth on orders. Printing work is likely to increase in course of time.
- (h) Standardization of cloth has been helped. Certain standard specifications have been fixed and as far as possible sized warp is supplied. No order is accepted unless it secures to the weaver higher wages than what he would have ordinarily got in the market. Higher wages have been possible through the use of better designs and the weaving of uniform quality of cloth.

APPENDIX I.

List of articles for which new designs in weaving have been introduced.

Class of fabrics.	Number of designs.
Baby's cot-cover	1
Bed cover (in Government College colours)	1
Coating and suitings	20
Curtain cloth	17
Dining table cover	1
Dress material	1
Flooring cover	1
Khaddar (bleached)	1
Khaddar for printing	1
Khees (double cloth)	3
Lungis (cotton) .. .. .	..
" (mercerised)	7
" (rakhvin kanni)	3
Sarees	6
Sarees with jacquard border	4
Table cover (in Government College colours)	1
Tea-poy covers (in Government College and F. C. College colours)	2
Towels (Honey Comb)	3
Turbana	3
Total	87

Bihar.

(31st July 1936.)

The Bihar Cottage Industries (Handloom Marketing Organization) financed by the grant from the Government of India started work on the 1st April 1935, and the old Purdah Manufacturing Section of the Local Government was merged in the same. While the establishment charges of the latter and necessary funds for the purchase of raw materials and finished goods were provided by the Local Government, the grant received from the Government of India was utilized in payment of salaries of the additional staff required for the new marketing organization and those employed for organizing and working the weavers' co-operative societies, in paying the rent of sales depots and the price of the finishing plant, and to meet the

cost of participation in exhibitions and fairs, advertisements and other propaganda work undertaken to popularize the hand-woven textiles.

Since the separation of Orissa in April 1936 and the receipt of a separate grant by that Province, the internal administration of the scheme in Orissa has been left to the Orissa Government while the marketing arrangements have been kept joint on payment of proportionate charges by Orissa until she is able to make her own arrangements.

2. *Manufacture.*—(a) *Organization of weavers' societies.*—In addition to the three weavers' co-operative societies at Bihar Shariff in Patna district, at Irba in Ranchi district and at Obra in Gaya district, five new weavers' co-operative societies were started by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, viz., three in Darbhanga district, one at Bhagalpur and one at Fatwa in Patna district. The five weaving supervisors appointed by him to manage these societies were posted at Madhubani, Obra, Fatwa, Bhagalpur and Irba, respectively. The society at Bihar Shariff employed its own supervisor. After organizing some of these societies in Bihar, the organizer of weavers' co-operative societies went to Orissa in November 1935 where he remained till the end of the year 1935-36.

(b) *Standardization and output.*—In addition to the various patterns of cotton purdahs, durries, etc., in which the Purdah Section had been dealing in the past, forty-eight different patterns of popular cotton fabrics were designed and standardized. Special care was taken in working out the costing of these goods so as to allow a sufficient margin as wages for the weaver while the price compared favourably with that of mill-made cloth of similar quality. The profit of the weavers' societies and master weavers was fixed at 12½ per cent. of the cost of yarn and weaving charges.

During the year 1935-36, goods of a total value of Rs. 97,217 were manufactured and supplied to the Bihar Cottage Industries. Of this, goods worth Rs. 38,276 were supplied by seven weavers' co-operative societies and those worth Rs. 58,941 were supplied by twenty master weavers and ex-students of our textile institutes. The supplies received by the central institute in the four months of the year from April to July 1936, amounted to Rs. 41,429. During this period a few more patterns of cloth were also designed and added to the list of standard goods.

3. *Finishing.*—The finishing plant, consisting of a starch mangle with a set of drying cylinders, a damping machine and a five bowl calender, was received in the last week of November 1935 and its erection was completed by the end of January 1936. Arrangements for the supply of electric power for running this machinery were completed in July 1936, when the finishing master also joined his

duties. Since then, bleaching vats have been constructed and water pipes are being laid out. It is now hoped that bleaching and finishing of the staple goods will be started very shortly.

4. *Marketing.*—During the year 1935-36 handloom fabrics of a total value of Rs. 1,32,173 were sold in the markets in addition to raw materials worth Rs. 41,751 sold to the weavers. Similar sales for four months ending 31st July 1936 amounted to Rs. 50,442 and Rs. 18,901, respectively. The sale of finished goods was effected at the central warehouse at Gulzarbagh and through sales depots, selling agents both Indian and foreign, and a commercial traveller.

(a) *Sales depots.*—Besides the central warehouse at Gulzarbagh, five sales depots were opened at Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Bhagalpur, Delhi-Simla and Patna. The depots at Calcutta, Cuttack, and Muzaffarpur could not be started for various reasons. The one at Calcutta is proposed to be opened after the finishing plant is in working order. The opening of the depot at Cuttack has been delayed by the separation of Orissa. The business done in the sales depots, excepting that at Delhi-Simla, has not been up to our expectations. It is hoped that when the staple goods are properly finished by machinery, better sales will be effected.

(b) *Sales agents.*—In addition to Indian agents, there were two foreign agents, one in London and the other in New-Zealand. The sales effected by the London agent in 1935-36 amounted to ₹5,555 and those by the New-Zealand agent of £1,025. The sales of these agents for four months of 1936-37 amounted to ₹2,892 and ₹337, respectively.

(c) *Commercial traveller.*—The commercial traveller visited several exhibitions and *melas* and also some important places in and near the Province, and arranged for the sale of our handloom fabrics besides giving publicity to Bihar textiles. The second commercial traveller was appointed in June 1936.

5. *Exhibitions.*—During the year 1935-36 the Bihar Cottage Industries participated in six exhibitions held in different parts of the Province. Of these, the All-India Hand-weaving Exhibition held at Patna in February 1936 was the largest and the most important. It also participated in six other exhibitions held at Delhi, Allahabad, Mysore, Srinagar and Baroda. The exhibits of the Bihar Cottage Industries were also displayed at the British Industries Fair in London, the Poznan International Industries Fair in Poland, the Prague Fair in Austria, the Leipzig International Spring Fair in Germany and the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto. The unique designs and the high quality of workmanship of Bihar textiles were appreciated in all these exhibitions and in some of them medals and certificates were also awarded.

6. *Expenditure.*—The expenditure out of the grant received from the Government of India during the year 1935-36 amounted to Rs. 61,792. This amount included Rs. 32,028 being the value of the finishing plant, the cost of furniture and equipment required for the sales depots, and a sum of Rs. 4,040 spent by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for the organization and management of the weavers' co-operative societies. The total expenditure during the year 1935-36 was less than the budgetted amount on account of the fact that the finishing department could not be started earlier and only five out of seven sales depots could be opened during the year. There was also a saving in the allotment made for the organization of weavers' co-operative societies owing to the difficulty in obtaining properly qualified hands.

Revised estimate for 1936-37 and the proposed budget for 1937-38.

The revised estimate for the current year and the proposed expenditure in 1937-38 are shown below :—

Items of expenditure.	As per scheme originally sanctioned.	Revised estimate for 1936-37.	Budget estimate for 1937-38.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Establishment	16,500	13,733	16,012
2. Travelling allowance	2,500	2,000	2,000
3. Advertisement and publication	2,000	7,750	1,728
4. Cost of participation in exhibitions and fairs.	2,500	3,130	2,000
5. Subsidies to Branch Stores	5,000	5,000	7,200
6. Contingencies—			
(a) Marketing	3,000	6,120	3,000
(b) Finishing Department	3,000	1,927	3,000
(c) Finishing plant .. .. .	..	4,500	..
7. Cost of additional demonstration parties	12,000	..	7,000
8. Organization of weavers' co-operative societies.	6,000	8,000	9,000
Total	52,500	53,609	52,500

The revised estimate for 1936-37 on account of advertisements and publications is shown at Rs. 7,750 for the reason that the initial expenditure for the purchase of show cases, signboards, etc., to be placed at important public places and railway stations, has to be incurred during this year. The cost of participation in exhibitions will exceed the original estimated amount by Rs. 630 as a large sum has to be spent on stall-rent in the ensuing United Provinces Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition, Lucknow. The total expenditure under contingencies of the marketing and finishing departments will also increase by about Rs. 2,000 during the current year as all the charges, in connection with the installation of the finishing department, could not be paid in 1935-36. Provision is also made during the year for a capital expenditure of Rs. 4,500 on the finishing plant, for the reason that the amount allotted for this purpose in the year 1935-36 could not all be spent in that year. Thus the total expenditure for the year 1936-37 will be Rs. 53,509, of which Rs. 41,800 represents the grant for the current year and the balance of Rs. 11,709 is the saving from the last year's grant after excluding Orissa's share.

The budget estimate for 1937-38 has been kept at the same figure as in the original scheme, *i.e.*, Rs. 52,500. On account of the additional expenditure of Rs. 3,000 required for the weavers' societies and Rs. 2,200 for the two sales depots at Delhi and Calcutta, provision is made for the starting of only two demonstration parties in place of three provided in the original scheme.

Central Provinces.

(30th June 1936).

The grant-in-aid to this Province for the year 1935-36 was Rs. 17,000. Out of this a sum of Rs. 7,615 was advanced as working capital to the Central Provinces and Berar Weavers' Co-operative Society and the balance of Rs. 9,385 was given as grant-in-aid for working expenses. The former amount together with the sum of Rs. 6,500 advanced from the grant-in-aid for five months ending on the 31st March 1935, making a total of Rs. 14,115, was the working capital of the society during the year. The number of members on roll of the society at Nagpur was two hundred and seventeen against seventy-nine in the previous year and the number in the branch society at Kamptee was seventy-one against twenty-one.

2. A brief description of the method of working followed during the year is given below.

Raw materials required for the manufacture of cloth were purchased at wholesale rates and issued to members on credit for weaving the sarees ordered by the wholesale purchaser. Paid supervisors were engaged to see that the society's material was not substituted and that the weavers brought back the woven cloth. The cloth when

received from the weavers was examined by the wholesale purchaser who purchased the approved pieces at pre-fixed prices and wages were paid to the weavers accordingly. The rejected pieces were kept with the society and gradually sold at reduced prices according to the prevailing market rates. This method was followed for the Nagpur society throughout the year. The weavers of the Kamptee society, however, weave coarse sarees and it was found difficult to sell them. Therefore the above method was not adopted at Kamptee. Yarn was supplied to the members on credit, and they were to sell the cloth on their own responsibility and pay the cost of the yarn.

3. Raw materials worth Rs. 12,250 were issued to the members of the Nagpur and Kamptee societies. The total number of sarees manufactured by the two societies was 1,736 valued at Rs. 12,520 of which 1,405 sarees valued at Rs. 11,455 were sold. Out of the sarees sold 582 sarees were purchased by the wholesale purchaser for Rs. 4,444 and 823 sarees were sold by the society direct for Rs. 7,011. Wages paid to the weavers amounted to Rs. 3,656-10-3. The profit on the year's working is estimated to be Rs. 1,100.

4. The staff of the Nagpur society consisted of one Manager on Rs. 75, one Accountant on Rs. 40, one clerk on Rs. 30, five supervisors on Rs. 25 each and two peons on Rs. 12 each. The staff of the Kamptee society consisted of one Manager on Rs. 45, four supervisors on Rs. 25 each and one Chowkidar on Rs. 12. In March 1936, the Manager of the Kamptee society resigned and one of the supervisors was appointed to act as Manager on an extra allowance of Rs. 10 per month. The house-rent paid for the Nagpur and Kamptee societies was Rs. 75 and Rs. 10, respectively. The expense on the staff of the two societies for the year ending the 31st March 1936 amounted to Rs. 4,693 and on contingencies and travelling allowance to Rs. 1,903. The total working expenses amounted to Rs. 6,596, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,334 from the allotment.

5. Some of the difficulties in the working of the scheme were explained in the previous report. While attempts were made to mitigate them, other unforeseen difficulties were encountered. The unreliable and irresponsible character of the weavers is well-known. The supervisors coming from the same stock proved equally unreliable with the result that when individual cases were scrutinized large amounts were found to be outstanding against the weavers as well as the supervisors. The wholesale purchaser who had contracted to buy the society's whole out-put resigned in December 1935. During the time he purchased the cloth he applied such rigorous tests that the number of rejected pieces was higher than the number accepted. The responsibility of selling the rejected pieces and the material woven after the wholesale purchaser resigned fell on the society. The cloth had to be sold at reduced prices according to the

prevailing market rates and the society could not pay the weavers full wages till the cloth was sold. The reduction in the wages effected according to the reduction in the selling price and the unavoidable delay in payment of the wages resulted in discontent among the members and the outstanding against them went on increasing. Cases of malpractices by weavers and supervisors were brought to light when investigating the cases of outstandings against them and the energies of the staff had to be concentrated, during the latter part of the year, on investigating cases, preparing individual accounts and realizing the dues. Experience has shown that the method of issue of raw materials to the weavers should be modified and that a separate selling organization for marketing the society's cloth is necessary.

6. The society has, however, established reputation for the quality of its cloth. The Nagpur weavers' cloth is noted for its fine texture, but has lost its hold on the market owing to the lowering of the quality and short measurements. It is the aim of the society to establish a market for the Nagpur cloth which will be standard in quality and full in measurements. At present the produce of the society is limited to Deccani sarees nine yards in length but the texture and quality of the cloth is such that it is likely to be appreciated in up-country places also. Some sarees of six yards in length were taken to the All-India Hand-weaving Exhibition, Patna, last February and were readily sold. The following extract from the report of the Patna Exhibition would be interesting in this connection :—

“ The Central Provinces Court had on exhibition a large range of designs in Deccani sarees which created great interest. Owing to their low prices they were much in demand. But as the local market required five and six yards length sarees and goods on show were on nine yards length this court lost some business.”

It is proposed to expand the market for the Nagpur sarees in up-country places through canvassers and branch agencies in important centres.

7. The society of Chanda depressed class weavers which was registered early in 1934 was revived during the year. Two new societies, one at Chhindwara and the other at Ellichpur were organized, while attempts are being made to organize two more at Chanda and Umrer. After these societies are registered they will be affiliated to the central society at Nagpur and assistance will be given to them from the grant-in-aid in the shape of supply of raw materials or working expenses or both for some time till they become self-supporting.

8. Considering the character of the people for whom and through whom the society has to work and the continued economic depression, uniform success could hardly be expected. The scheme is inherently

sound, and is likely to prove of lasting benefit to the industry, although the progress is slow. Experience in working the scheme has shown that some modifications in details are necessary.

Assam.

A contribution of Rs. 17,692 was sanctioned by the Government of India for the year 1935-36 for financing the following schemes for the development of handloom industry in the Province—

- I. Re-organization of the Government Emporium and Central Stores at Gauhati.
- II. Establishment of a branch Emporium at Sylhet.
- III. Appointment of Inspectors for organization and supervision of weavers' association and standardization of products.
- IV. Dyeing and printing instructions to and through the peri-patetic weaving parties.

Scheme I.—The Emporium with its dwindled assets was struggling hard for its existence. The grant of Rs. 2,500 to this useful institution out of the contribution sanctioned by the Government of India gave it a new lease of life and helped it to expand its activities. A Marketing Officer was recruited from Bengal in July 1935 but as he was not found suitable, he was discharged and Babu Rash Behari Das, L.T.M., Head Teacher of the Government Weaving Institute, Gauhati, was appointed to the post in October 1935. He toured extensively to study the important local markets and weaving centres and collected typical samples of fabrics which are generally in demand. These samples after they were finally approved were standardized. Some new patterns were also introduced. The local weavers and the ex-students of the Government Weaving Institutes were asked to weave these patterns according to demands. They accepted the orders enthusiastically and executed them satisfactorily. The Emporium participated in fourteen exhibitions held within the Province and outside during the year.

Two Travelling Canvassers were appointed during the latter part of July 1935. They were engaged in propaganda and advertisement and also sent out into the interior of the Province to effect sales and procure orders. The results so far obtained seem to be encouraging. The sales of the Emporium during the year amounted to Rs. 26,539 against Rs. 13,460 in 1934-35. The Emporium still suffers from financial difficulties. It cannot increase its sales without more money for the purchase of yarns, accessories, etc., at wholesale rates. A portion of its stock was transferred to its branch at Sylhet.

Scheme II.—The branch Emporium at Sylhet was started on the 9th August 1936 in a rented house in the bazaar. The staff consists of one Manager on Rs. 50 per mensem, a Salesman on Rs. 40 per mensem and a Chowkidar on Rs. 15 per mensem. Looms, accessories, yarn and some cloths were sent to the branch from the main Emporium at Gauhati in the beginning but after a short time the weavers were induced to leave their fabrics with the branch for sale on commission. Some of the weavers were also supplied yarn for making fabrics according to the patterns given to them.

The working of the branch appears to be quite satisfactory as will be evident from the fact that it effected total sales of Rs. 4,872-10-3 and made a gross profit of Rs. 482-8-6 during 1935-36. The sales from 1st April 1936 to 31st August 1936 stood at Rs. 5,014-10-0.

The Emporium not only encourage weavers in the manufacture and the marketing of fabrics, but also are helping the local carpenters with orders for looms and accessories.

Scheme III.—Two Weaving Assistants of peripatetic parties, with some experience in co-operative work were selected for the posts of the two Inspectors sanctioned for this scheme. They joined their appointments by the end of August 1935. They were given specific areas for work. Their duties are to make a survey of the important weaving centres, to organize co-operative weaving societies in consultation with the local Co-operative Inspector and to improve the existing co-operative societies through weaving. They are working in close co-operation with the officers of both the Co-operative and the Industries Departments.

The Inspectors have been provided with a magic lantern each with adequate slides on weaving, co-operation and rural uplift. They visited one hundred and three villages and forty-nine co-operative societies and organized ten weaving societies and delivered thirty-nine lantern lectures during the year.

Scheme IV.—A practical dyer with considerable experience in cotton mills in Bengal was appointed as the Dyeing Supervisor in August 1935. He toured in the interior for one hundred and eighty-six days and gave demonstrations in various places in dyeing of yarn and cloth in various shades. He visited fifty-eight villages, fourteen schools, seventeen weaving and dyeing factories, ten co-operative societies some of the important local markets, the Sylhet Jail and attended some of the exhibitions held in the Province. He conducted demonstrations of various shades of indanthrene, naphthol and sulphur colours to individual weavers, to amateur dyers, to students, to members of societies, also to the Weaving Demonstrators of the parties. The demonstrations given by him were popular everywhere and over 2,000 lbs. of yarn and cloth were dyed by way of

demonstration during the period. A good deal of propaganda for fast colours has been done during the period under review and a good demand for fast dyeing and coloured fabrics has been created. The Dyeing Supervisor has helped in the successful introduction of new and popular shades.

A passed student of the Cawnpore Dyeing and Printing School with some business experience was appointed as Calico Printer during the latter part of July 1935. He was at first posted to Gauhati where he arranged for his blocks and colours and prepared some samples of various designs in the Government Weaving Institute. As soon as some typical and attractive samples of printed fabrics were ready, he conducted a series of demonstrations in the Government Weaving Institute for the benefit of the students. He then went out on tour to various important weaving centres in the Province to popularize block printing with fast colours. He was on tour for ninety days up to the 31st March 1936. He visited forty-nine villages, ten schools, five factories and participated in four exhibitions. His demonstrations were highly appreciated by the public. Some students received special training under him.

The total expenditure on the above schemes during 1935-36, amounted to Rs. 12,918-14-3.

These schemes, as subsequently modified, will cost about Rs. 24,450 during the current year as detailed below :—

	Rs.
Scheme I	8,080
Scheme II	4,900
Scheme III	4,000
Scheme IV	5,470
Aerograph printing set for the Surma Valley Technical School, Sylhet	2,000
Total	24,450

A sum of Rs. 20,185 will be required for the working of the schemes during 1937-38 as shown below :—

Scheme I	Rs.
Establishment	3,500
Travelling allowance	1,500
Cost of looms and accessories	1,500
Contingencies	1,400
Total	7,900

						Rs.
Scheme II						
Establishment	..	..	..	..	..	1,337
Contingencies	..	..	..	..	..	1,100
Total						2,437
Scheme III						
Establishment	..	..	..	..	..	2,856
Travelling allowance	..	..	..	..	..	800
Contingencies	..	..	..	..	..	400
Total						4,056
Scheme IV						
Establishment	..	..	..	..	..	3,018
Travelling allowance	..	..	..	..	..	1,000
Contingencies	..	..	..	..	..	1,675
Total						5,693
Grand Total						20,185

Burma.

The scheme was put into operation on the 15th December 1934 when a sale depot was opened in Rangoon under the name of the Burma Handloom Textile Depot. A small stock of silk and cotton goods was purchased from the handloom weavers of Shwedaung and Amarapura but it became apparent at once that if any good business was to result, the Depot must maintain a considerable stock of goods of all kinds in order that the needs of retail dealers in Rangoon may be met. The wholesale dealers therefore continued to send their buying agents to the principal weaving centres as the Depot was unable to meet their requirements. The stock could not be increased during the year 1934-35 as the allotment for the purchase of stock was only Rs. 2,500. Expansion took place to some extent during the year 1935-36 when it was found possible to provide the sum of Rs. 6,250 for the purchase of stock. But even then the Depot did not bring before the buying public of Rangoon all the different fabrics woven in various parts of the Province, and the present allotments are still inadequate. For instance, the silk cloths of Akyab and Tavoy could not, up to the present date, be stocked except in very small quantities. During the year 1936-37, the sum of Rs. 4,250 has been allotted for additions to the stock and it is hoped to have a good display in the Depot when the money has been spent. During the

year 1935-36, small firms in Rangoon began to get their requirements from the weavers through the agency of the Depot which became a clearing house for the handloom products, and the trade done during the year 1935-36 was not inconsiderable, being Rs. 28,215-15-9. The difficulty has been to keep the Depot stocked with a sufficiently large quantity of goods to enable the dealers of Rangoon to make their choice. At present, about 75 per cent. of the goods on arrival are bought up by traders, leaving the balance to be disposed of to retail buyers. The result has been a period of comparatively little trade during the gap between the disposal of one lot of goods and the arrival of the next consignment of the weavers. Retail trade has never been brisk because it is the policy of the Depot to avoid competition with the small retail traders in the bazaar and prices, therefore, had to be maintained at the level of outside shops.

2. The business transactions during the year 1934-35 (3½ months), amounted to Rs. 2,325-12-6 ; during 1935-36, Rs. 22,397-9-9 and during 1936-37 up to the date of report Rs. 6,184-9-0.

3. The staff of the Burma Handloom Textile Depot consisted of a Manager on Rs. 200 per mensem with a fixed conveyance allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem, a Cashier-Correspondence Clerk on Rs. 75 per mensem, two Assistants on Rs. 50 and Rs. 30 each per mensem and a Durwan on Rs. 18 per mensem. A Travelling Salesman was also appointed on Rs. 40 per mensem with a selling commission of 2 per cent., but little business was done outside Rangoon because the Burmese handloom weaver has still to be taught the value of standard colour and texture in the cloths he weaves. Designs also vary from time to time and no attempt is made either by the weavers to cater to the wishes of the general public in the matter of attractive designs and colours. The attempt to sell silk and cotton fabrics according to samples was a failure because of these shortcomings, and the results show that such sales for the present are not possible. Disappointment of the prospective buyer has often led to the loss of customs and future trade. The weavers' association at Amarapura were consulted with a view to the standardization of colour and texture, but little headway has so far been made in this respect. The only way in which standardization of colour and texture can be insisted on is to get the weavers to execute large orders for various fabrics according to a fixed standard ; but, for the present, this has not been possible and purchases have to be made in the open market from any stock of cloths produced by the weavers on their handlooms.

4. *Weaving Demonstrators.*—The number employed under the schemes for the improvement of the handloom weaving industry was three. The Saunders Weaving Institute, Amarapura, also sent two Demonstrators to tour in the districts. The total number of Demonstrators employed in teaching the people improved methods of weaving and dyeing was twelve, including seven men employed by District

Councils in five districts. As there are about thirty-eight civil districts in the Province, this number is totally inadequate. Handloom weaving is one of the most important of cottage industries and is carried on in almost every village. But the weaving appliances used by the villagers are in most cases crude and out of date, involving unnecessary labour and waste of time. But if these old implements should be replaced by modern and time-saving ones, there is large field for Demonstrators who can be sent to various districts to introduce the latest methods of weaving and dyeing.

5. During the year 1935-36, the three Demonstrators employed under the Provincial scheme toured in the five districts of Magwe, Pakokku, Meiktila, Hanthawaddy and Rangoon. A number of small weaving establishments were set up in the neighbourhood of Rangoon as a result of their efforts. During the year 1936-37, they were employed in the five districts of Meiktila, Toungoo, Insein, Sagaing and Lower Chindwin. The demand from other districts could not as yet be met, but it is hoped to send a Demonstrator to each of the other districts by turn. But until further funds for more Demonstrators are provided, not much progress can be expected.

6. These Demonstrators have done much useful work not only in introducing improved appliances in handloom weaving but also in teaching the weavers the latest methods of dyeing in fast colours. An attempt is also being made to introduce the jacquard looms amongst the weavers ; but, hitherto, the prohibitive cost of these machines has prevented the spread of their use. A cheaper type of jacquard machine is now undergoing trial and it is hoped to introduce its use more widely when the Demonstrators take the field in the following year. One piece of useful work done by one of the Demonstrators has been the introduction of lungi weaving with cotton yarn of the finer counts in the village of Hanza in the Meiktila district where over seven hundred looms had hitherto been producing coarse cotton blankets on a large scale.

7. The industry was dwindling in this place owing to the market being glutted with these blankets, but its replacement with lungi weaving will no doubt help to improve the industry. Until all the weavers are properly trained, it is proposed to send the same Demonstrator to Hanza during the forthcoming field season.

8. *Exhibitions.*—The Burma Handloom Textile Depot took part in the Exhibitions of the Arts and Crafts of Burma held in Rangoon in the years 1935 and 1936. On both occasions, the Depot attracted a great deal of attention and was instrumental in bringing before the buying public the various kinds of cotton and silk fabrics woven in different parts of the Province. The business done during the Exhibition of 1935 was Rs. 2,262-11-6 and in 1936 Rs. 3,267-13-6.

9. *Other activities of the Burma Handloom Textile Depot.*—The Sale Depot also stocks for the convenience of the weavers a small quantity of weaving accessories of the latest kinds, and it has also succeeded in importing foreign yarn of the finer counts for the use of the handloom weavers. Rayon yarn has also been tried and this yarn is now being stocked for sale. The general complaint of handloom weavers was that they were forced to buy yarn at high prices from the middlemen and that the prices varied according to the demand of weavers and the quantity of stock held by large importers of yarn in Rangoon.

10. An attempt was therefore made to supply yarn in small quantities to the weavers of Amarapura through the agency of the Saunders Weaving Institute and, for this purpose, several bales of yarn were imported direct from the manufacturers. This supply from the Depot, though on a small scale, helped considerably in keeping down prices and, if the demand continues, it is hoped to increase the activities of the Depot in this direction in the near future.

11. The expenditure incurred on the present scheme since its inception in 1934 is as follows :—

	1934-35.	1935-36.
	Rs.	Rs.
(2b) Pay of Establishment (Temporary) (Non-Contract)	412	4,925
(3a) Allowances, Honoraria, etc., Fixed .. .. .	..	133
(3b) Allowances, Honoraria, etc., Fluctuating	224	163
(4) Supplies and Services	2,500	6,229
(5) Contingencies	2,663	3,833
Total	6,799	16,283

The sanction of the Government of India for the development of the handloom industry was Rs. 7,500 in 1934-35, Rs. 17,000 in 1935-36, and Rs. 17,000 plus an additional allotment of Rs. 3,400 for the year 1936-37.

12. *General Remarks.*—The excessively keen competition set up by Japanese fabrics has been a real set back to the improvement of the handloom weaving industry which has not been able to overcome the general tendency of the people to buy only the cheap Japanese cloths in preference to the stronger but more expensive silks manufactured by handloom weavers. The silk weavers are now more or less dependent on men's wear, for the women of Burma have succumbed to the many attractive designs and colours produced with artificial silk at prices which defy competition. But the efforts of the Burma Handloom Textile Depot to popularize the use of hand-woven silks by advertisement and by propaganda at exhibitions seem to have produced

some results, because more Burmese silks are now seen amongst the Burmese ladies than has hitherto been the case. As regards cotton fabrics, the handloom weavers get only the wages of their labour, because the yarn is entirely imported yarn, mostly from Japan, and in many cases the hand-woven product is a more costly article than the importations into Burma from India and other foreign countries where labour is cheap.

North-West Frontier Province.

A Government Weaving and Dyeing Institute was opened on 1st October 1935 with six fly-shuttle handlooms, two pit looms and four pit looms with fly-shuttle arrangements. At the start there were about ten students but the number rose later to twenty-five educated students and seven weaver students.

One 200 hooks jacquard, two dobbies, one newar weaving loom, one puttu weaving loom, four fly-shuttle handlooms 60" reed space and seven fly-shuttle handlooms 36" reed space were further added to enlarge the scope of training.

To develop the local industry of lungi weaving so far on old country hand batten, the use of double fly-shuttle battens has been introduced for the first time and five local lungi weavers are now being trained. Fine counts yarn 80s—100s after sizing is being used on these new type battens with increased efficiency in the production. The advantages in the use of warping mills over the old tedious system of warping have also been made known to the local handloom weavers.

The Institute is equipped with bleaching, dyeing and finishing equipment, such as can be used in a cottage industry scale.

Students are trained in cotton, wool and silk weaving, dyeing, bleaching and finishing and one of the students after a short training has started his own weaving factory.

The students have woven so far about 2,000 yards (about 30 designs) of cloth (cotton, woollen and silken), bleached, dyed and finished a proportion of it. During this course some cloth and yarn were dyed, bleached and finished by the students for the market.

To lower the cost in hand-winding, hand machinery for bobbin and pirn winding has been ordered.

For the disposal of the cloth production at the Institute a Selling Agent has since been appointed but without a calender finish it is difficult to dispose of the out-put. The Government of India have, however, promised a grant of Rs. 10,000 for a five bowls calender provided this Province finds the balance, *viz.*, Rs. 12,000.

This will be of great assistance to the local industry as it will be possible to give a finish to their goods at moderate rates and thereby increase their value and market.

Sind.

Before the separation of Sind, the scheme for affording marketing facilities to handloom weavers of that Province out of the Government of India grant as sanctioned by the Government of Bombay, provided for the organization of an industrial association on co-operative basis in Hyderabad (Sind). The association was accordingly organized by the Marketing Officer, Bombay Department of Industries and registered by the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bombay Presidency, Poona, on 10th March 1936. Further work in this connection had, however, to be suspended on account of separation of Sind.

2. The Government of Sind submitted a revised scheme, which was approved by the Government of India in July 1936. The main feature of this revised scheme is to proceed with the organization of the Hyderabad Industrial Association referred to in the previous paragraph. The objects of this association are to supply raw materials to weavers as cheaply as possible, to advise them in regard to the production of attractive patterns, to market their finished products and to sell to them improved weaving appliances on hire-purchase system. The Assistant Director of Industries, Sind, will guide and look after the working of the association with the help of a Textile Designer whose appointment is provided for in the scheme. The association will open a shop at Hyderabad to fulfil the objects of the association. Expenses on account of the salary, travelling allowance, etc., of the Textile Designer amounting to Rs. 2,005 per year and those due to overhead charges of the association's shop including the salaries of staff, rental, contingencies, etc., amounting to Rs. 3,840 per year will be met from the Government of India grant. Other features of this revised scheme are as under :—

- (a) Payment of Rs. 7,000 to the association to constitute its reserve, on the security of which its working capital may be borrowed from Co-operative Banks.
- (b) Provision of Rs. 1,500 per year for subsidies payable on certain conditions to cloth dealers who deal in finished products of the association.
- (c) Provision of Rs. 1,055 per year for advertisement of the association's products.
- (d) A non-recurring provision of Rs. 500 for taking out new samples of cloth.
- (e) A non-recurring provision of Rs. 500 for supplying improved weaving appliances to weavers on hire-purchase system.

3. Steps will be taken to put the revised scheme into operation soon after the appointment of the Assistant Director of Industries, Sind, which is expected to be made shortly.

Orissa.

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF WORK DONE IN ORISSA FOR THE YEAR 1935-36 UNDER THE SCHEME FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN BIHAR AND ORISSA.

At the beginning, the local market for hand-woven goods was carefully studied, and as many as forty-eight different types of cotton fabrics, twenty-five varieties of silk goods and seven woollen fabrics were designed and standardized with necessary specifications, etc., for manufacture by the weavers of Bihar and Orissa. The organizer of weavers' societies after he had organized three societies in Darbhanga and one in Gaya, was deputed to Orissa in November 1935. A Weaving Supervisor was also appointed and posted there in January 1936. These officers devoted their time in organizing weavers' societies in Bhadrak and Cuttack areas, but due to some difficulty no society could be started in 1935-36. Four individual manufacturing agents of Orissa, however, continued to manufacture and supply goods to the marketing organization and their value amounted to Rs. 5,311 during the year 1935-36 as shown below :—

	Rs.
1. Babu Madhia Mehar, Sambalpur ..	4,534
2. Babu Bhimleshwar Mehar, Sambalpur ..	239
3. Shelter Industrial School, Cuttack ..	510
4. Babu Hado Sen, Cuttack ..	28
	5,311

In January 1936, the Textile Assistant of the marketing organization was deputed to Sambalpur to introduce some new designs. He successfully designed four samples of Sambalpur purdahs for which orders are being received. During the current year, Cuttack and Berhampur sarees were also purchased from a merchant of Cuttack and sent to all the depots for advertisement and sale. A few towels were also manufactured by Oriya weavers for the marketing organization.

Finishing.—The erection of the finishing plant purchased for the marketing organization was completed at the end of January 1936. But as the arrangements for water supply and the appointment of a finishing master were not complete, the finishing plant could not be worked in 1935-36.

Marketing.—The Bihar and Orissa goods continued to be sold through the two foreign and a few Indian agents, the central marketing warehouse at Gulzarbagh, and four sales depots started at Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Bhagalpur, Delhi-Simla and Patna in the course of November 1935 and January 1936. A sales depot at Cuttack could not be started in 1935-36 for various reasons.

Publicity.—The marketing organization participated in twelve exhibitions held in different parts of India and displayed therein Bihar and Orissa goods. Besides advertisement in newspapers, cinemas and posters, the Bihar and Orissa textiles were also exhibited in the British Industries Fair, London, Poznan International Industries Fair in Poland, Prague Fair in Austria, Leipzig International Spring Fair in Germany and the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto. In all these exhibitions Sambalpur purdahs and Orissa baskets received wide publicity. Special publicity was also given to the Orissa goods in the All-India Hand-weaving Exhibition held at Patna in February 1936.

MEMORANDUM EXPLAINING THE BROAD OUTLINES OF AN INDEPENDENT SCHEME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN ORISSA.

The Government of India have allotted to Orissa a sum of Rs. 9,400 for marketing the produce of handloom industry including Rs. 2,600 for the area transferred from Madras. Separate figures for the consumption of yarns not being available the grant was based on population. It is not known if the ex-Central Provinces area was included in the grant on population basis.

In the current year the marketing organization has been kept joint with Bihar ; the Co-operative Department has undertaken the manufacturing part of the organization and the Industries Department, Bihar, the marketing part at a cost of Rs. 5,825.

It is evident that Orissa should have a marketing organization independent of Bihar. To have an independent organization the following provisions are necessary :—

- (1) A central depot for supply of yarn and sale of finished goods.
- (2) A dyeing section—to dye yarn of various shades for pattern weaving.
- (3) Organization for manufacturing and finishing textile goods.

The Central Depot.

A Central Depot for the supply of yarn to weavers is essential. This depot will distribute the yarn and collect the finished products for sale and should be situated at Cuttack. There should be a branch depot in every district. It will have a section for dyeing yarn. A working capital of Ra. 50,000 for this purpose will have to be provided by the Local Government as an advance.

The main difficulty of the handloom weaver has been marketing which is the real crux of the whole problem of the handloom industry. But successful marketing pre-supposes efficient and organized production. The handloom weaver requires not only assistance in the marketing of his products, but also guidance in the efficient and economic production of goods which are marketable. The marketing organization which is proposed to be set up for Orissa, will therefore necessitate the organization of weavers' co-operative societies or the employment of master weavers in areas where societies cannot be formed or where there will be difficulty in working them. The marketing organization will thus consist of three sections, viz., (a) Manufacturing, (b) Finishing and (c) Marketing, as indicated above. The main function of the manufacturing section would be to prepare specifications of different varieties of textiles which will be required for marketing and for securing standardization as far as practicable. It will also supervise actual production which will be undertaken through weavers' co-operative societies or failing such societies, through qualified master weavers who should preferably be trained men. The aim will be to organize production as far as practicable through weavers' co-operative societies. Master weavers, if employed, will act as agents of the marketing organization.

The Business Manager, who will be in charge of the organization, after a careful study of the markets for cotton fabrics, will select a few samples of staple goods for manufacture. The samples with detailed instructions and specifications will be passed on to the weavers' societies or master weavers for the manufacture and supply of goods at rates previously agreed upon. With a view to standardize the quality of woven goods, the societies or master weavers will be required to buy their yarn either from the marketing organization or from approved cotton mills. The manufacturing section will therefore be required to maintain a yarn store at its headquarters attached to the Central Depot at Cuttack and to stock both grey and dyed yarn. The Store-keeper, subject to the general control of the Business Manager, will be in charge of this Store and will receive and inspect the goods woven by members of weavers' co-operative societies or master weavers. Proper accounts will be kept in the forms to be prescribed which will be subject to audit by the Examiner of Local Accounts, Orissa. Finished goods will be paid for at prices which

will allow reasonable wages to the weavers and profits to weavers' co-operative societies or master weavers. It will be the duty of the weaving supervisors of the demonstration parties of the Industries Department to see that the rates of wages fixed by the Business Manager are actually paid to the weavers. In special cases, with the sanction of the Director of Development, yarn and raw materials may be supplied on credit to the extent of one-third of the value of the goods ordered. All dues on account of such advances will, however, be deducted from the subsequent bills of the parties for goods supplied.

In order that weavers' co-operative societies may be sufficiently developed to handle the business of the marketing organization it is proposed to continue the employment of one organizer and four supervisors of co-operative societies who had been carrying on the work during the current year under the temporary scheme sanctioned for 1936-37. The annual cost of this staff will amount to Rs. 5,600, as detailed in the enclosed statement of cost.

The cloth will be received in an unfinished condition from the weavers, and to make it marketable finishing is necessary which will be done at the Central Depot with a finishing plant.

The sale organization will be a separate branch, and the work will consist of canvassing and supplying to the branch depots and agents in India and overseas.

The finishing plant owned by Bihar was purchased out of the joint grant for Bihar and Orissa. Orissa cannot get the full benefit of it. Without a plant the independent marketing organization for Orissa will not be complete. The marketing organization depot of Bihar will no longer be responsible for the sale of Orissa goods. Patna being at a great distance, freight payable on goods sent there for finishing and on their return to the Central Depot at Cuttack will be heavy and increase the cost price to an appreciable extent so that the goods will not be able to compete either in the local or in outside markets. The same remarks apply to the necessity for a dyeing plant. Moreover time lost in transit and while waiting for finishing or dyeing at Patna will be a loss from the business point of view. A finishing plant and a dyeing and printing section are therefore essential for the success of the scheme.

In the dyeing section, provision has been made for calico-printing. Orissa produces coarse varieties of handloom cloth and these can sell in competition with other cloths if they are printed in attractive designs. A wholetime printer is therefore necessary to devote attention to this side of industry. A non-recurring provision for Rs. 2,000 has been made for purchase of printing apparatus and blocks and stencils on the Assam model.

Grounds for special consideration.

(1) In the absence of any cotton mill in Orissa this Province gets its supply of cloth from local handloom weavers and cotton mills outside. There is a good deal of scope for the development of the industry.

(2) Orissa has not been much benefitted so far out of the joint grant for Bihar and Orissa.

(3) This Province has no well-equipped weaving institutions, such as other provinces possess, to carry on research for the benefit of the weaver population, as well as for the development of handloom industry.

(4) In spite of inadequate facilities for the improvement of hand-woven fabrics, there are good textiles in Orissa. The Sambalpur weavers in particular can turn out attractive goods ; but they need development and marketing.

(5) The handloom industry in Orissa is confined to backward castes ; the weavers are illiterate and without capital. The majority take yarn on credit from the neighbouring cloth dealer and sell the goods to him getting little more than a day labourer's wages for their skill. If the present system is supplanted by the proposed marketing organization scheme it is expected that the condition of the weaver class in Orissa will improve substantially.

The taste of the people is changing and the rough unfinished goods are fast losing even the local market.

The points mentioned above are for the consideration of the Government of India for a special non-recurring grant of Rs. 27,000 for the purchase of a finishing plant and an Aerograph Printing Set with wooden blocks and stencils for 1937-38, and a recurring grant of Rs. 17,600 in addition to the grant of Rs. 9,400 already allotted to Orissa, every year from 1937-38. The cost of the scheme outlined above has been detailed in the statement below.

The memorandum embodying a draft scheme has been prepared* in the hope that the Government of India will, in view of the Province's extreme poverty, allot more to Orissa than would be justified on a strictly population basis.

*Statement of costs.**Recurring.**I.—Establishment**(a) Office of the Central Depot*

	Rs.
Business Manager	300 per month + $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. commission on all sales above Rs. 50,000.
Commercial Traveller	80 per month + 5 per cent. commission on all sales effected by him.

	Rs.
Textile Designer	100 per month.
Accountant	50 "
Store-keeper	40 "
Clerk and Typist	30 "
Two peons	20 "
One orderly for Business Manager ..	10 "
One night watchman	10 "
	<hr/> 640 × 12 = Rs. 7,680.
(b) Finishing Section	
Finishing master	100 per month.
Two mistries—one for bleaching and the other for calendering and finishing	60 "
Engine-driver	30 "
	<hr/> 190 × 12 = Rs. 2,280
(c) Dyeing and Printing Section	
Dyeing Expert	75 per month.
One Calico-printing Expert	60 "
Two mistries for dyeing and printing ..	50 "
One mate	15 "
	<hr/> 200 × 12 = Rs. 2,400.
(d) Office of the Director of Industries	
One typist	35 per month.
	<hr/> 35 × 12 = Rs. 420
	<hr/> Rs. 12,780 <hr/>
II.—Travelling allowance	
Travelling allowance of the Business Manager	500
Travelling allowance of the Commercial Traveller	500
	<hr/> 1,000
III.—Contingencies	
Rent and taxes	1,500
Labour charges, fuel, stores and con- tingencies of Finishing Department	1,500
Chemicals and colours of the Dyeing and Printing Section	1,100
Miscellaneous contingencies of the above	500
Office contingencies of the Central Depot including packing, hot and cold weather charges etc.	500
	<hr/> 5,100

1937.]

Handloom Weaving.

65

	Rs.
IV.—Subsidies to branch depots for shop rent and furniture 15 × 6 × 12	1,080
V.—Grant to Co-operative Department for organizing and supervising weavers' societies	
One organizer at Rs. 100 per month ..	1,20
One orderly for the organizer at Rs. 10 per month	120
Four Supervisors at Rs. 60 a month 4 × 60 × 12	2,880
Travelling allowance of the organizer and his peon	600
Travelling allowance of Supervisors 4 × 10 × 12	480
Contingencies	320
	5,600
VI.—Advertisement, propaganda and participation in exhibitions and fairs	1,440
Total ..	27,000

Non-recurring.

(1) Finishing Plant	25,000
(2) Aerograph Printing Set	1,500
(3) Wooden blocks and stencils	500
(4) Furniture and fittings	3,000
	30,000

The cost of furniture and fittings are, however, expected to be met out of the savings from the current year's grant : so the net non-recurring expenditure is Rs. 27,000.

Delhi.

Delhi being a Centrally Administered Area has no provincial revenue of its own, and is dependant on the grant received from the Government of India. In view of the necessary funds having not been provided to give effect to the original proposals or the expansion of the limited scheme of work there was no alternative but to curtail activities to keep the expenditure within the limits of the sanctioned grant which is about one-third of that asked for by this Department.

2. In view of the special circumstances obtaining in Delhi, an altogether new scheme on the basis of the modified proposals for the organization and development of the handloom and textile industries generally was put into operation in the form of the establishment of the Government Cottage Industries Institute.

3. With the extension of the 2nd year class as well as addition to the curriculum of studies, larger accommodation has been provided for in a suitable central locality. The house in which the Institute was initially established was too small for corresponding expansion in hostel, class and other accommodation required for the purpose. In view of the considerable demand for admission in the Institute even this accommodation is inadequate and the number of students under training had to be limited to a capacity figure. Out of 344 applicants only 20 could be admitted and more than 300 had to be refused admission.

4. The Institute now has 20 students on roll in the 1st year and 19 in the 2nd year. In addition to the holding of regular classes, casual training has been provided to 47 candidates some of whom were already engaged in different sections of the industry. A dozen casual students have already set up small industries of their own. Three are engaged in weaving, four in dyeing and calico-printing, two in washing, dyeing and dry cleaning and three in the manufacture of tapes and durries.

5. With a view to partially meeting the immediate public demand for improved training in different directions of the textile industry, additional equipments were provided for with the appointment of a demonstrator in the printing section.

6. Industrial training is the back-bone of cottage industries and during the period of the establishment of the Institute considerable progress was made towards promoting technical training. The Institute which is the pioneer institution of its kind in Delhi has in it the potentialities of great utility and real service to the province as a centre for industrial training. The Institute imparts free training in spinning, weaving, including tapes and durries, gota making, manufacture of borders and carpets, dyeing and calico-printing and dry cleaning and washing.

7. The Government Cottage Industries Institute participated in the All-India Industrial Exhibition held at Delhi; the Delhi Province Rural Exhibition and the Silver Jubilee Exhibitions which were organized by this Department and gave practical extensive demonstrations in calico-printing by different methods carding and spinning, blanket weaving, newar making, warping, winding and reeling, towel and bath mats manufacture, durrie-weaving, gota making and manufacture of saree borders on improved types of semi-automatic hand-operated and inexpensive looms and appliances. The indigenous handloom products were also on display. Three silver medals, three bronze medals, three cash prizes and one certificate of merit were won by the students of the Institute at the competitions held in the handloom section of the All-India Industrial Exhibition, Delhi.

8. The Institute has organized a small show room in which the products of the students are on display. It was intended to maintain a representative collection of indigenous products for display with a view to promoting the local industrial enterprise and to establishing commercial contact between producers and consumers with the object of developing the handloom and textile industries in the province but the prescribed limit of grant and the lack of accommodation have prevented the offer of such facilities to this pioneer movement in this province. The students are also taught elementary lessons in salesmanship to enable them to dispose of their products without the help of the middlemen. The staff of the Institute with the help of the office of the Superintendent of Industries have continued to provide technical advice and assistance and commercial intelligence to industrial and manufacturing interests in matters relating to the availability of raw materials, markets for finished products, suitability of machinery and appliances, evolution of popular and attractive designs, processes of manufacture, etc.

9. The organization of a peripatetic demonstration party for the development of the handloom and allied industries was not possible in the absence of the provision of necessary funds by the Government of India. Periodic demonstrations were, however, given by the Institute, and the products of its students have received a wide appreciation. In order to encourage students under training, a rebate is allowed to them on their manufactures. With a view to acquiring actual works experience under commercial conditions by the students, and to supplementing the instruction imparted at the Institute by practical training in commercial operations, the necessary facilities have been secured for such training with the co-operation of industrial establishments equipped with modern machinery and appliances.

10. The Institute has established a close contact with the local interests who have been given the fullest co-operation in matters affecting them. It is felt that in the coming year the demand for training may be much greater and if adequate funds are not provided many more applicants may have to suffer disappointment.

Discussion.

Monday, December 7th, 1936.

The Chairman observed that the Conference were no longer concerned with the manner in which the grant should be allocated, and there was practically no money unallocated apart from the reserve. There were, however, three special claims to be considered, one from Orissa and two from Bihar.

Mr. Dhar (Bihar) called attention to the fact that some provinces had not spent their allotments and consequently had funds in hand while his province, owing partly to the separation of Orissa, was in some difficulties. He asked if it would not be possible to take this into account in considering the grants for next year.

The Chairman said that there was no question of altering the allocation. But representatives might indicate how they were getting on with their schemes and the reason for delay.

Mr. Green (Madras) explained the difficulties which had been experienced in developing the work of the Madras Central Provincial Co-operative Society. In February 1936, the Local Government considered it desirable to transfer the administrative control of the grant-in-aid to the handloom industry, and of the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, Ltd., in relation to it, from the Department of Industries to the Co-operative Department. Progress in the development of the co-operative organization had not been so rapid as was anticipated owing mainly to the lack of working capital. Rs. 30,000 had been recently sanctioned by the Government of India for this purpose, and this would be of great assistance to the Provincial Society in enabling it to meet the financial requirements of the affiliated societies. Difficulties had been experienced in connection with marketing, and experience went to show that if certain classes of hand-woven cloth were to compete with mill-made cloth and sales effected in bulk, the cloths would have to be finished and calendered. A scheme had been drawn up for the setting up of a power-driven finishing and calendering plant, and this was awaiting the sanction of the Local Government. Mr. Green referred to the finance of the scheme and stated that after allowing for the provision of Rs. 30,000 for working capital, and providing for the setting up of a finishing and calendering plant, the balance at the end of the year would be comparatively small, and could be utilized to advantage.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) gave particulars of the working of the scheme and said that Bombay had spent practically all it had received. Out of Rs. 96,000 allotted to the Presidency, about Rs. 85,000 had been allocated and the balance would probably be spent by the close of the year. There had been some delay in Sind owing to separation but they had now appointed an Assistant Director of Industries who will push on with the scheme. Both Bombay and Sind would need all the money they had and could spend more.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) said that his position was similar. If there was to be a competition in spending, they could do that easily, but that was undesirable. The Co-operative Department had been facing difficulties which had led to some delay, but these were being overcome. The Government of India had recently agreed that money

received under the five years' scheme would all be drawn by the 31st March 1940, but the plans for Bengal required that expenditure be allowed to continue up to 31st March 1941, and he was instructed by the Government of Bengal to press for this quite reasonable concession as there would be considerable difficulty unless the time were further extended. He anticipated that by the end of the year there would be a balance in Bengal of Rs. 1,16,000.

Khan Bahadur Arshad Ali (Bengal) explained that the expert staff of the Co-operative Department required for this scheme would cost Rs. 40,000 a year for three years. A further sum was required for non-recurring subsidies, and further claims would have to be met which would require all that was available. But it would not be possible to spend all the money by 31st March 1940.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) said that he was relieved that there was no question of altering the method of allocation of the grant. They were making progress but did not wish to enter into a competition in expenditure. The reasons why the United Provinces Government had not been able to spend the money fully had been set out in their memorandum. They were spending as fast as was consistent with getting the full benefit for the industry, which was more important than the Bihar industry. The main item on which expenditure had not been as anticipated was on finishing and calendering plant; they had had to revise their proposals, and have four centres instead of one. The United Provinces Government were spending also substantial sums from their own budget.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) gave particulars of the expenditure in the Punjab and observed that they had no substantial balance unspent. Hardly any other province could show better results. He stated that the marketing arrangements had improved immensely since the middle of 1935 when an Expert had been appointed. A well-known firm in the Punjab who were doing the finishing work had written to say that they were fully satisfied with the work done at the Hoshiarpur weaving centre. The weavers were already getting better wages owing to the improvement in quality.

The Chairman said that the Conference would be glad to hear from Mr. Dhar why the separation of Orissa from Bihar, unlike that of Sind from Bombay, should be made the basis of extra demands from both Bihar and Orissa.

Mr. Dhar (Bihar) said that he did not want that the basis of allocation should be altered. What he felt was that as some provinces did not actually need all the money they would be getting to enable them to proceed with their schemes next year, it might

be possible to give more to Bihar. They had a marketing organization which could not be cut down because Orissa was separated, and their finishing plant could not be divided. It could be used by Orissa, but he was not sure that Orissa wanted to do so. No reduction was possible either in the pay of the staff already appointed as a result of separation. If absolutely compelled, he would have to cut out some of the demonstration parties, but that would be a retrograde step which would considerably diminish the utility of the Bihar scheme. They had been able to carry on during this year only because a sum of about Rs. 10,000 had been brought forward from the previous year. They had already cut out a demonstration party and the weaving supervisors for Orissa.

Mr. Bhalja (Central Provinces) said that he had little to add to the printed memorandum from the Central Provinces. They had spent practically the whole of the grant which was so small that no question of not spending it could arise. Some modifications of their original scheme were found to be necessary in the light of the experience gained but on the whole they had made fair progress.

Mr. Mehta (Assam) said that if the scheme as originally formulated was equitable as between Bihar and Orissa, there should have been no need for a further grant. In Assam they would have very little left to carry over to next year and he was certain that the whole amount would be spent by March 1940.

Mr. Mozumdar (Orissa) said that Orissa had no separate organization of its own at present. But from next year they required a separate marketing organization. There were 35,000 looms in the older part of Orissa and 12,000 in the part transferred from Madras. It was not practicable to send goods from Orissa to Patna to be finished and they required a finishing plant of their own.

The Chairman observed that Orissa wanted a finishing plant on a very expensive scale. The North-West Frontier Province had asked for a less expensive plant.

Mr. Mozumdar stated that the scheme was based on the opinion of the Textile Expert for Bihar.

Mr. Rao (Bihar) explained that the Rs. 25,000 included the cost of a boiler. It was not possible to have a calendering machine of less than five bowls and the cost for that would be about £1,000.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) confirmed the view that a calendering machine would cost that sum but said that investment in such a plant could only be justified where the output of goods was very large. The United Provinces proposed to do without a calendering machine and the cost would then be

reduced to Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 for a finishing plant. He did not think there would be sufficient scope for a calendering machine in Orissa.

Mr. Bhalja (Central Provinces) observed that all provinces had not got finishing plants. The Central Provinces had none.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) pointed out that a case could also be made out for a finishing plant for Sind.

Mr. Mehta (Assam) said that the provinces were supposed to get certain amounts on the basis of definite criteria. The yarn consumption of Bihar and Orissa had not been increased by the separation of Orissa. In Assam, they had not been able to afford a finishing plant because the allotment Assam received on the basis of yarn consumption was very small.

The Chairman remarked that it was clear that if a finishing plant was agreed to in the case of Orissa, similar claims from the Central Provinces and Assam and possibly Sind should have to be met. These provinces should adopt the suggestion of Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava and see whether some less expensive finishing plant could not be usefully employed. In respect of recurring expenditure there would be Rs. 20,000 more owing to the dropping out of Burma from the scheme and the Government of India were prepared to allow this amount to go to other provinces. He suggested that Rs. 5,000 might be given to Bihar, Orissa, and Sind and the remainder added to the reserve of the Government of India.

He added that he could not hold out much hope at present of getting an extension of the time for expenditure beyond March, 1940.

Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Lal (Punjab) said that the North-West Frontier Province were paying a portion of the cost of their calendering plant and suggested something more might be given to them.

After some discussion it was agreed, on the proposal of the Chairman that from the money set free by the separation of Burma, five grants of Rs. 4,000 each should be made to Bihar, the Central Provinces, Assam, Sind and Orissa. A non-recurring grant of Rs. 5,000 might be made to the North-West Frontier Province out of the reserve in the hands of the Government of India.

The Chairman said that he noticed a complaint from the United Provinces of lack of designers. Some other provinces should be able to supply the deficiency. He asked the Conference to think over the question of how training could be given in designing in India. Mr. Brodie might also investigate the question of cheap finishing machines.

INTRODUCTION OF HAND-WEAVING INDUSTRY AMONG THE WOMEN WORKERS OF THE JHARIA COAL FIELDS.

MEMORANDUM.

Bihar.

Object of the scheme and the organization proposed.—As a result of the recent legislation, a large number of women workers will be excluded from underground work in the Jharia coal fields. The question of finding work for these women withdrawn from the coal mines deserves serious consideration. Hand-weaving has excellent possibilities of absorbing some of those affected by giving them an independent source of livelihood. Women trained in handloom work can easily manufacture the coarse cloth consumed by the miners. There is also a great demand for baskets in the coal mines which are at present largely imported from outside and which the women can produce with the necessary technical training. It is, therefore, proposed to establish three institutions to teach these industries to about fifty women at a time in each of them and also a central warehouse and office under the charge of a Superintendent. The Superintendent, who will be responsible for the entire organization, will purchase raw materials and stores required and also try to secure markets for the products of these women workers when they leave the institutions. The three training institutions will be located at Jharia, Kustore and Sijua, which are important centres, and the central warehouse and office of the Superintendent will be situated at Jharia.

Management.—The organization will be under the control of the Department of Industries, Bihar, and managed by a Board of Management with the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Dhanbad as Chairman and the Superintendent of the organization as Secretary. The members of the Board will be nominated by the Local Government in consultation with the Director of Industries and the Additional Deputy Commissioner and they will remain in office for a period of three years.

Staff and other details.—Each of the training institutions will have a teaching staff consisting of a weaving mistress, two mistries and one basketry instructor, besides two durwans and two female servants. The weaving mistress will be a passed student of the Serampore Weaving Institute in Bengal or some other similar institution of standing and will have practical experience of teaching weaving. The weaving mistries and the basketry instructor will be practical men of the professional class. Provision is made

for the appointment of two female servants, as the children accompanying the women under training will have to be looked after when their mothers are at work.

While these schools are expected to dispose of their manufactured goods locally, they will have to depend on the Superintendent of the central warehouse for economical purchase of raw materials and profitable marketing of the unsold stock of finished goods. The Superintendent will be a technically qualified man having some experience of business in cloth. For marketing the products and for maintaining the accounts of the entire organization, he will have a staff consisting of a salesman and store-keeper, an accountant and a typist-clerk.

Each of the women will be paid wages at four annas a day during the period of training and 25 per cent. of the same will be retained as deposit in her favour for the purpose of purchasing loom, yarn, etc., which she will require for setting up her business when she leaves the institution after training.

Cost.—The detailed cost of the organization is shown below :—

	Rs.
One Superintendent on Rs. 200 per month	2,400
One salesman and store-keeper on Rs. 60 per month	720
One accountant on Rs. 60 per month	720
One typist-clerk on Rs. 40 per month	480
Two durwans on Rs. 10 per month each	240
Three weaving mistresses on Rs. 50 per month each	1,500
Six weaving mistries on Rs. 20 per month each	1,440
Three basket instructors on Rs. 20 per month each	720
Six durwans on Rs. 10 per month each	720
Six female servants on Rs. 8 per month each	576
Stipends or wages for 150 women at Rs. 0 per month each	10,800
Rent of warehouse and central office at Rs. 40 per month	480
Rent of three school buildings at Rs. 50 per month each	1,500
Contingencies at Rs. 50 per month	600
Travelling allowance for Superintendent and salesman	200
Purchase of raw materials	10,000
Total	33,696
	or
	33,700

Non-recurring.

	Rs.
(a) Equipment of Schools	
60 fly-shuttle looms at Rs. 30 each (20 for each School)= Ra. 1,800.. .. .	} 2,400
12 warping sets at Rs. 10 each = Rs. 120	
36 charkhas at Rs. 5 each = Rs. 180	
Furniture, racks and miscellaneous appliances = Rs. 300 .. .	
(b) Superintendent's office and warehouse	
Furniture and racks for stores = Rs. 200	} 800
One iron safe = Rs. 50	
One typewriter = Rs. 350	
Total ..	3,000

Receipts from the sale of goods and grant required from the Government of India.—The total value of the output of these schools is estimated at Rs. 15,400 per annum. This is based on the presumption that it will be possible to get back from the sale of the finished goods the entire cost of the raw materials used and at least half the amount paid to the women workers as stipends or wages. Thus against a gross expenditure of Rs. 33,700, the net cost of the entire organization is estimated at about Rs. 18,000 per year. In the first year of the working of the scheme, the receipts from the sale of cloth and baskets will not be proportionate to the expenditure as a part of the money spent on the purchase of raw materials will be locked up in the form of stock in trade. The receipts for the first year are, therefore, expected to be not more than Rs. 5,000.

The grant from the Government of India for the first year should, therefore, be to the extent of the gross recurring expenditure of Rs. 33,700, in addition to the non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 3,000, and the same for the subsequent years can be reduced by the amount of the unspent balance and the receipts on account of the sale proceeds of the previous year.

Assistance to women workers after the training.—One of the important duties of the Superintendent and the staff will be to assist the women trained in the institutes in setting up the industries in their cottages, in obtaining raw materials and in marketing the goods manufactured by them. When that stage is reached, the grant for the purchase of raw materials will have to be increased from year to year as the number of trained women seeking assistance increases. Such expenditure will, however, be recouped by the sale of raw materials to the women workers.

Discussion.

Monday, December 7th, 1936.

The Chairman observed that it was an expensive scheme and that in any case basket making could not be included.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) considered that the scheme did not appear to come within the scope of the handloom grants. What was proposed was to teach handloom weaving to women who had been employed in the profession of mining. This was not really a scheme to benefit the handloom industry.

Mr. Bhalja (Central Provinces) entirely agreed with the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava and added that aid was proposed to be given to people whose traditional profession was not weaving.

Mr. Dhar (Bihar) pointed out that there was a substantial weaving industry in Bihar and that it was not entirely unknown among the women affected. Private persons had made some attempt to introduce it among women miners. He saw no objection to the use of the handloom grant to increase the number of handloom weavers.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) claimed that if Bihar got anything something should be also given to Bengal where women were also being excluded from mines.

Mr. Mehta (Assam) said that he was opposed to a grant for this scheme.

The Chairman said that although the Government of India had encouraged the Bihar Government to put forward a proposal of this nature, he recognised the force of the objections raised.

The conclusion of the Conference was that the scheme should not be proceeded with.

III.—STANDARDIZATION OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES THROUGHOUT INDIA.

MEMORANDUM.

Bombay.

Prior to the enforcement of the Bombay Weights and Measures Act from August 1935, there was considerable complexity and confusion in the systems of weights and measures which were employed in the Bombay Presidency. The weight of a seer varied not only from district to district but even in the same district and so also the weight of a maund. In the City of Bombay there used to be eleven different kinds of maunds, besides twelve different kinds of *khandis*. It is, therefore, easy to realize that confusion must have existed by the employment of different weights and measures with similar names. The main object of the standardization of weights and measures was to remove this confusion and thus promote trade on the basis of fixed standard weights and measures.

Furthermore, it was reported to be the practice in some districts that traders and money-lenders maintained two sets of weights and measures. One set of rather larger capacity or weight was used by them when they bought agricultural produce or received rent in kind from cultivators, and the other set of smaller capacity or weight was used by them to sell the products back to the agriculturists for food or seed grains.

The Bombay Government felt that the only way open to them to end this complexity and confusion in buying and selling in the Presidency and also the deception perpetrated on the poor and ignorant agriculturists was to standardize weights and measures in the whole Presidency.

2. Government, accordingly, appointed a Committee to consider this question and after careful consideration of the report of the Committee, a Bill was introduced in the Bombay Legislative Council which was passed into law as the Bombay Weights and Measures Act in October 1932. The Act was enforced in a few selected districts from 1st August 1935 and was extended over the whole Presidency on 1st March 1936.

The weights and measures laid down in the Act are given in Appendix I. Experience has shown that trade operations will be facilitated if some more weights and measures are also recognized under section 4 of the Act. Appendix II gives the additional units proposed to be recognized shortly.

3. It will be generally correct to say that the confusion which obtained in the Bombay Presidency in connection with the multiplicity of weights and measures in use prior to the enforcement of the Bombay Weights and Measures Act, at present obtains in at least some of the Provinces and States of India. It will facilitate greatly the internal trade of the various provinces, inter-provincial and foreign trade of India if weights and measures were standardized throughout the country. The preparation of reliable and accurate statistics of agricultural and industrial production, their value and similar other matters, which are so very important in the national economy of the country, will only be possible if weights and measures are so standardized. In this connection it is not only necessary that each province of India should standardize weights and measures within its borders but that all should standardize as far as possible the same weights and measures, so that throughout the country commercial transactions are undertaken on the basis of common weights and measures.

It will be noted from the Appendix I that the seer and maund adopted in the Bombay Weights and Measures Act are the same as those which are at present in use by the Railways all over India. The Bombay Act also recognizes the pound avoirdupois weights. This means that the weights recognized under the Bombay Act are those which have the largest measure of acceptance throughout the country. The Government of Bombay, as mentioned previously, have enforced the Act throughout the Presidency and so far no unusual difficulty has been experienced in the administration of the Act either by the officers responsible for it or by the trading public. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that the various provinces may standardize weights and measures and for this purpose adopt the same weights and measures which are recognised under the Bombay Weights and Measures Act.

4. It is not improbable that some of the Governments may be deterred from taking the necessary steps in the above direction on account of financial considerations. It may be mentioned that this matter was also considered by the Government of Bombay and they ultimately decided to charge fees for verification and stamping of weights and measures of the trading public at the rate of three annas to nine annas per unit of weight, etc. All trading establishments have to have their weights and measures and scales verified and stamped on payment of fees once in two years and all industrial establishments have to do the same once a year. Under this arrangement the enforcement of the Act has been found to be completely self-supporting both in the matter of recurring and non-recurring expenditure. Same procedure, if considered necessary, may be adopted in other provinces.

5. It is suggested that this Conference may recommend to the Government of India that they may be pleased to bring to the notice of the various Provincial and State Governments the desirability of standardization of weights and measures throughout the country and further recommend that in any legislation which may be passed, weights and measures recognized under the Bombay Weights and Measures Act of 1932 should be adopted.

APPENDIX I.

*Weights and measures laid down in the Bombay Weights and Measures Act, 1932**

Weights—

The Bombay tola of 180 grains.

The Bombay seer of 80 tolas.

The Bombay maund of 40 seers.

The sub-multiples $1/2$, $1/4$, $1/8$, $1/16$ and $1/32$ and the multiples 2, 4 and 8 of the tola, seer and maund.

The pound avoirdupois equal to 7,000 grains and the sub-multiples $1/8$, $1/4$, $1/2$, 1, 2, 4 and 8 ounces, the multiples 1, 2, 4, 7, 14, 28 lbs. (a quarter), 56 lbs., 112 lbs. (1 cwt.) and 2,240 lbs. (1 ton).

The grain is that unit of weight in vacuo which when multiplied by 1799·84585 is the weight of the iridio-platinum cylinder in the custody of the Mint Master, Bombay, the value of which is certified by the Standard Department of the British Board of Trade as 1799·84585 grains in vacuo.

Explanation 1.—The equivalent value of the above-mentioned iridio-platinum cylinder when weighed in Standard Indian Air against brass weights having a specific gravity of 8·143 is 1800·00394 grains, i.e., a brass weight whose value in vacuo is 1800·00394 grains will exactly equilibrate the above-mentioned iridio-platinum cylinder in Standard Indian Air.

Explanation 2.—Since the Bombay tola equals 180 grains in vacuo, its absolute value is equivalent to ·10000856 of the absolute value of the above-mentioned iridio-platinum cylinder. But in practice, all verifications against the above-mentioned iridio-platinum cylinder are carried out by weighments in air, and therefore the value 1800·00394 grains is always used for verifying weights.

Explanation 3.—Standard Indian Air is defined as follows:—

Temperature: 85 deg. Fahr.—29·44 deg. Cent. Pressure: A column of mercury at 0 deg. C., 29·8 inches or 756·919 mm. in height. Carbon dioxide gas: 0·0006 of the volume of air. Vapour tension: 0·75 inches = 19·05 mm. Latitude at Calcutta 22° 35' 6·6". Height above M. S. L. = 22·6 feet. 1 litre of Standard Indian Air at Calcutta weighs 1·14917 grm.

Dry measures—

The Bombay seer.

The sub-multiples $1/2$, $1/4$ and $1/8$ seer.

The Bombay chatak = $1/16$ seer.

The Adpao = $1/8$ seer.

The Adholi = 2 seers.

The Bombay payali of 4 seers.

The Bombay maund of 16 payalis.

The Bombay map of 2 maunds.

Liquid measure—

The Bombay seer.

The sub-multiples $1/2$, $1/4$, $1/8$ and $1/16$ seer.

The multiples 2, 4 and 8 seers.

The Imperial gallon.

The Pint = $1/8$ gallon.

Dry and Liquid measures—Explanations—

Explanation 1.—The unit of capacity called the Bombay seer is equivalent to the volume occupied by 80 tolas of air-free distilled water weighed in Standard Indian Air against brass weights having a specific gravity of 8.143.

Explanation 2.—The unit of capacity called the Imperial gallon contains ten British Standard pounds of water at 62° F. being in volume 277.274 cub. in., which contains each 252.724 grains of water in a vacuum at 62° or 252.453 grains of water weighed with the brass weights in air of 62° with the barometer at 30 in.

Length—**The Yard—**

The inch = $1/36$ th yard, and

The foot = $1/3$ rd yard.

The furlong of 220 yards.

The mile of 1,760 yards.

The yard is that unit of length which is exactly equal to the certified yard kept in the custody of the Mint Master, Bombay.

Area and volume—

The square yard, square foot and square inch.

The cubic yard, cubic foot and cubic inch and sub-multiples of a cubic inch.

The anna of $1/16$ th of the guntha.

The guntha of 121 square yards and the acre of 4,840 square yards for land measurement.

The square of 100 square feet.

The brass of 100 cubic feet.

APPENDIX II.

- (a) *Additional multiples and sub-multiples of weights and measures laid down in the Bombay Weights and Measures Act, 1932, (Appendix I), and other weights and measures and multiples and sub-multiples thereof to be standard weights and measures generally.*

Weights—

The dram equal to 1/16th part of an ounce or 1/256 part of a lb.

Sub-multiples 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and multiples 2, 4 and 8 drams.

The grain and sub-multiples .01, .02, .03, .05, .1, .2, .3, .5 and multiples 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 30, 50 and 100 grains.

Dry measures—

Sub-multiple 1/32 seer.

Sub-multiples 1/8, 1/4, 1/2, 3/4 of Bombay maund.

Liquid measures—

Sub-multiple 1/32 seer.

Sub-multiples 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and multiples 2, 4, 8, 20, 40, 50, 100 and 200 of Imperial gallon.

The gill = 1/4 pint.

Sub-multiples 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and multiples 2, 4, 8 of pint and gill.

Length—

Sub-multiple 1/2 of the yard.

Multiples 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 25, 33, 50, 66, 100 of the foot.

Multiples 6, 18, 30, 42, 56, 66 and 100 and all sub-multiples of the inch.

Area and Volume—

Sub-multiples 1/2 and 1/4 of brass.

- (b) *Weights and measures in addition to those laid down in the Bombay Weights and Measures Act, 1932, (Appendix I) and those mentioned in (a) above, to be standard weights and measures for use in the trades mentioned against them.*

- (i) for gold, silver and precious stones trade :—

The bullion tola of 180 grains.

Rati = 1/64 tola.

Multiples 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 100, 200, 300, 500, 1,000 and 2,000 of tola.

The sub-multiples 1/64, 1/32, 1/16, 1/8, 1/4 and 1/2 of tola and rati.

- (ii) for Liquor and Drug trade—

The liquor dram = 1/48 of Imperial gallon.

The peg = 2 fl. oz. or 1/80 Imperial gallon.

Sub-multiple 1/2 peg.

- (iii) for Apothecaries trade—

Weight, (Apothecaries)—

Apothecaries ounce equal to 8 drachm of 480 grains.

Apothecaries drachm equal to 60 grains.

Sub-multiples $1/16$, $1/8$, $1/4$, $1/2$ and multiples 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 of apothecaries oz.

The scruple equal to $1/3$ drachm or 20 grains.

Sub-multiple $1/2$ and multiple 2 of scruple.

NOTE.—Apothecaries weights from 10 oz. to 1 oz. should be marked "Apoth".

Liquid Measures (Apothecaries)—

Fluid oz. = $1/160$ of Imperial gallon.

Fluid drachm = $1/8$ fluid oz.

Minim = $1/60$ fluid oz.

All measures of capacity of 40 fluid ounces down to half a fluid ounce.

All measures of capacity of 16 fluid drachm down to half a fluid drachm.

All measures of capacity of 60 minims down to 1 minim.

Explanation.—One fluid ounce contains 437.5 grains of weight of distilled water at 62° Fahr.

Discussion

Monday, December 7th, 1936.

The Chairman said that this was a matter that had received prolonged consideration. There had been a Weights and Measures Committee in 1913-14. In 1922, the Government of India in their Resolution on the report of the Committee decided not to undertake legislation prescribing All-India standards but said they had no objection to Local Governments taking legislative action for provincial standardization should they consider it necessary to do so. In 1927, the Government of India decided not to take any action on the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture regarding the standardization of weights and measures, as enquiries showed that more substantial progress had been made by Local Governments in the matter than had been reported to the Royal Commission.

Some Local Governments had undertaken legislation in this respect while most others had taken executive action for the standardization of weights and measures on the basis of the Railway system.

Under the new Constitution, the Provincial Governments would be competent to undertake legislation regarding weights and measures; the Central Government would be responsible only for the establishment of standards of weight. The Government of India therefore felt that there was no need at present to reconsider the question of the standardization of weights and measures on an All-India basis.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) referred to the abuses formerly prevalent and explained the scope of the action taken in Bombay. The levy of fees ranging from three to nine annas for inspecting weights had overcome the financial difficulty of maintaining an inspectorate. The Act was self-supporting and had stopped the confusion in the Presidency, although there was still confusion between provinces. The scheme had been in operation for two years. The Central Government could under the Government of India Act, 1935, adopt legislation fixing standards while it was for the Local Governments to pass laws for enforcing them. They had about seventy inspectors at work and very little coercive action had had to be taken.

Mr. Tasker (Hyderabad) said that the Bombay Government's proposal would involve anticipating the laying down of standards of weight by the Federal Government under item 51 of the Federal Legislative List, and that until that was done it was hardly worth while for States or Provinces to proceed with the matter.

Mr. Advant (Bombay) said that Bombay had received enquiries from other provinces who appeared to be considering legislation. This and the provisions of the new Government of India Act made it desirable to secure uniform standards.

Mr. Madhava Rau (Mysore) said that apart from Federation, there was need for co-ordination. Mysore had legislation, but he was not sure that the Railway maund adopted by Bombay was suited to Mysore. They had no objection to examining the question.

Dr. Pagar (Baroda) said that in Baroda they had had standardization for some time but had been handicapped by the lack of it in Bombay. They were glad that Bombay had taken action. Their standard was not the same as that of Bombay. They felt that inter-provincial co-ordination was essential.

Lala Ramji Das Vaishya (Gwalior) said that Gwalior had successfully standardized weights and measures according to the Railway system.

Mr. Rahalkar (Indore) explained that in 1918 weights only were standardized on the basis of the Bengal maund. There were

no standards of cubical measure and legislation on this subject was under consideration.

Mr. Kumara Das (Travancore) said that there was considerable confusion in the State as different weights were used for different materials and different measures in different parts of the State. Some standardization appeared to be essential.

Mr. Green (Madras) said that the Government of Madras decided not to proceed with the question of weights and measures in 1921, in view of the disturbed political conditions then prevailing. In 1935, a private Bill was proposed to be introduced for the standardization of weights and measures in the Presidency, but as it was not a comprehensive measure and as it appeared likely to involve the Provincial Government in expenditure, the extent of which could not be anticipated, permission to introduce the Bill was refused. The Madras Government had recently decided to defer consideration of the question of standardizing weights and measures until after the inauguration of the new constitution.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) heartily supported the proposal. In the jute industry, the lack of standardization meant hardship to the cultivator. A member had proposed the kilogramme as the standard in a private Bill which had been rejected, but Government had promised to take up the question.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) stated that a local committee in the United Provinces had many years ago recommended standardization. Instructions had been issued in 1922 which had resulted inaction by sixty-four out of eighty-five Municipal Boards adopting the maund of 40 seers. In 1932, Government had drafted a Bill for the enforcement of standard weights which was circulated for opinion, but, after considering the opinions on it, Government decided to leave the matter over till the introduction of the new constitution. He was in entire agreement with the Bombay view regarding weights. The small ryots were being cheated out of the statutory price for sugar. Nothing has been done as regards measures and the standardization of measures was not so important.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) said that there could be no two opinions regarding the utility of the proposed measure. In the Punjab, the question was only recently referred to the Board of Economic Enquiry who had published a booklet on the subject after an inquiry involving the examination of more than thirteen thousand weights. The conclusion was that there was considerable confusion. A Conference under the Presidency of Mr. Darling, Financial Commissioner, suggested experiments in six colony areas before legislation was undertaken. Inquiries in the matter were being made from district officers and other provinces.

Mr. Dhar (Bihar) agreed that standardization was desirable but he was not in a position to say whether the Bombay standards were suitable for Bihar. The Bengal maund might be adopted with suitable variations.

Mr. Bhalja (Central Provinces) said that the Central Provinces Government attached the greatest importance to the standardization of both weights and measures, as grain was measured more by measure than weight. They had an Act of 1928 laying down the seer and *payali* but it had not been possible to enforce it. They had been in correspondence with Bombay over a working arrangement for checking measures. The Central Provinces Government would be quite willing to co-operate in standardization if the Central Government would maintain primary measures against which other measures could be checked.

Mr. Mehta (Assam) said that the Government of Assam would be willing to adopt the Railway seer of 80 tolas but financial implication involved was a serious matter for consideration of his Government. He did not agree with the recommendation of the Bombay Government that all weights and measures recognized under the Bombay Act should be adopted. Thus, for example, the Bombay "payali" would not be understood in Assam. Fundamental units alone need be adopted against which the local weights and measures can be standardized. The Weights and Measures Committee of 1913-14 also made a similar recommendation and observed that, it was not necessary to insist on the multiples and sub-multiples of fundamental units alone.

Mr. Mozumdar (Orissa) stated that the Orissa Government had not had time to examine the question.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) stated that the conclusion reached by expert legal opinion was that the establishment of standards of weights would be a Central subject, while all other matters relating to weights and measures would be Provincial subjects. Standards would therefore have to be laid down after April 1937 by the Central Government and legislation to enforce the standards would have to be undertaken by the Provinces.

The Chairman summarized the conclusions as follows :—

- (1) The Conference agreed that weights should be standardized throughout the country.
- (2) By a large majority the Conference considered that the weights should be those recognized under the Bombay Act of 1932, and
- (3) While it was desirable that measures should be standardized, the Conference was not in a position to recommend what the standard measures should be.

IV.—PUBLICATION OF FULLER TRADE STATISTICS REGARDING IMPORTANT MANUFACTURED AND SEMI-MANUFACTURED GOODS PRODUCED IN THE COUNTRY AND RAW MATERIALS CONSUMED THEREIN, ALONG WITH FIGURES OF INTER-PROVINCIAL MOVEMENTS OF THESE ARTICLES.

MEMORANDUM.

Punjab.

The value and necessity of statistics cannot be questioned. Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of India published by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics show figures of imports into and exports from India. This publication gives the figures of imports and exports through the five principal ports, *viz.*, Bengal, Bombay, Sind, Madras and Burma. It does not show the ultimate destination of the goods, nor does it throw any useful light on the internal trade of a province. Monthly reports entitled "Exports of Indian Artware and Sports Goods" show the value in rupees of exports of a certain limited number of articles to foreign countries, together with the figures of the share of various Indian ports in the exports. Monthly Summary of Business Conditions in India which was started in 1933 contains statistical tables and a general survey of some of the industries of the country. Monthly Accounts relating to the Inland (Rail and River-borne) Trade of India gives figures of thirty-two items, of which ten are manufactures, the others being raw materials, agricultural produce or animal produce. This last publication is an abridged substitute for Statistics relating to the Internal Trade of India which were discontinued after 1922 for reasons of economy.

The Punjab Government published yearly reports of the External and Internal Trades of the Punjab up to the year 1921-22. The discontinuance of these publications has been described by Trevaskis in "The Punjab of Today" as one of the "penny-wise economies which marked the unstatesmanlike character of that epoch". The Punjab Government has since been seriously considering the question of restarting the publication, but it appears that, apart from the demand by a department of the Central Government, *viz.*, the Railway, for a large sum of money for service to be rendered in the collection and supply of information for incorporation in the trade publications, the value of the statistics would be considerably diminished by the absence of similar statistics in respect of other units, *viz.*, other British Provinces and States of

India. Such information can best be collected and published by a department of the Central Government, *viz.*, the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, India, like his other similar publications. Information regarding movements of manufactured goods and manufacturable raw materials as between the various units of the country is as valuable for industrialists and prospective industrialists as for primary producers. There has been a considerable demand for such statistics which has been expressed both in the Punjab Legislative Council as well as outside by the commercial and industrial public. The commercial and industrial community is considerably handicapped for want of information on an All-India basis, on the lines of the information contained in the Reports of the Internal and External Trades of the Punjab, and yearly Inland Trade (Rail and River-borne) of India. As the matter is one of considerable importance to trade and industry, it is suggested that the Government of India be requested (i) to publish fuller trade statistics so as to include in their periodical statistical publications, statistics concerning important manufactured and semi-manufactured goods produced in the country, and raw materials consumed therein, along with figures of inter-provincial movements of these articles, and (ii) to appoint a small committee composed as below to draw up a list of the articles which can be suitably included in the fuller statistics to be published by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics in the light of the existing conditions—

Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics—
Chairman.

Director, Industrial Research Bureau.

Two nominees of the Government of India.

At least six Directors of Industries [including those interested in land-borne (trans-border) trade].

Members.

Discussion.

Tuesday, December 8th, 1936.

The Chairman said that the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics much regretted that he could not attend the Conference owing to his pre-occupation with trade negotiations arising out of the Ottawa Conference. The Punjab Government's suggestions related to two publications of the Government of India, *viz.*—

- (a) "Monthly Statistics of the Production of Certain Selected Industries of India", and
- (b) "Accounts relating to the Inland (Rail and River-borne) Trade of India."

The main suggestion apparently was that additional commodities should be included in these publications. There were practical difficulties in the way of expanding the scope of the publications. With regard to (a), the main difficulty was that industrialists were not always willing to give the information required by Government. Unless the production of statistics was made obligatory, it would be difficult materially to extend the scope of this publication. The industries included in it at present were either well-organized industries or industries which paid an excise duty. With regard to (b), the question was largely one of expenditure. The subsidies paid to railway companies for the collection of the materials required were already a substantial item of expenditure. If statistics were required for provincial purposes, it would be necessary for the provinces to pay for them. The constitutional position would also have to be considered. In each of the legislative lists the entry was limited to statistics required for the purpose of subjects in that list.

Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Lal (Punjab) referred to the publications at present issued by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics. Dealing with the Monthly Statistics relating to the Inland (Rail and River-borne) Trade of India he said that these had been revived in 1933 after discontinuance for about eleven years. But whereas the number of commodities dealt formerly by the Punjab Government was one hundred and twenty-seven it was now only thirty-two and the information supplied was not sufficient to answer the various enquiries received from the public. The Punjab Government had been considering the question of reviving the yearly Reports of the External and Internal Trade of the Punjab which had been discontinued in 1922. It was found that the North Western Railway alone required Rs. 29,000 a year for collecting the information, and the aggregate demand of all the Railways was about Rs. 44,000. The publication of statistics would be useful to all the provinces and to those who wish to start new enterprises. The problem could not be tackled by Provincial Governments separately and the Government of India should take the initiative by setting up a Committee. It was also desirable that statistics of trade along land routes should be published.

The Chairman said that there could be no question of collecting particulars of intra-provincial movements, *e.g.*, between blocks of the same province. He asked if the Punjab Government were prepared to meet the cost of such statistics.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) thought that that would be reasonable.

Mr. Green (Madras) supported the proposal that a Committee should be set up to consider the question. He thought that so far as the provincial statistical organizations were concerned, the essential

thing was to concentrate all statistical work at one place, and to employ one agency for the preparation, co-ordination, and dissemination of economic and statistical information of all kinds. In Madras, agricultural and industrial statistics had been concentrated in the Industries Department. The sea-borne trade publications issued by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics were satisfactory only from the All-India point of view and required amplification in the directions which he indicated to meet the needs of the Provinces. He suggested various commodities which could be usefully included in the statistics of inland trade. He also stressed the desirability of providing for a greater measure of co-ordination of the statistics presented in the sea-borne and land-borne statistics, and of amplifying the latter so as to show more accurately the movements of trade in the important blocks.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) said that he was not instructed in the matter by his Government but he had no doubt that fuller statistics would be valuable and he supported the proposal.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) said that he would welcome further statistics if the Government of India were prepared to collect them. But what he required as more important was statistical information of industrial development in the province particularly in the matter of small industries not affiliated to the large industrial organizations and Chambers of Commerce, whose products did not appear in export returns or statistics of Rail and Sea-borne traffic. It was thus essentially a provincial matter, but if anything could be done here to strengthen their hands he agreed.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) agreed with Mr. Weston. He was willing to leave to the Government of India the question of the constitution of the suggested Committee. He agreed that intra-provincial statistics would have to be paid for by provinces.

The Hon'ble M. Saiyid Abdul Aziz (Bihar) agreed with previous speakers regarding the utility of a Committee. Personally he concurred in the view taken by the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava regarding intra-provincial statistics.

Mr. Bhalja (Central Provinces) said that the present publications could be more useful at a small cost by the inclusion of certain heads. When the Government of India stopped the inland trade statistics in 1923, the Central Provinces Government started their own publication. This was maintained until the resumption of the collection of these statistics by the Government of India. But they found that certain very useful particulars were omitted and the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics had informed him that no expansion was possible as the publication was on a temporary basis. It was desirable that the Central Provinces

and Berar should have separate statistics. His personal view was that the expense on intra-provincial statistics would have to be borne by Provincial Governments. The Central Provinces Government used to pay Rs. 15,000 to Railways for publishing their own statistics but the combined scheme would probably cost the Governments concerned much less. A Committee to consider the question would be useful.

Mr. Mehta (Assam) said that Assam had no funds for the collection of statistics of either intra-provincial or inter-provincial trade. They would, however, welcome the Government of India taking up the question, but his Government could not agree to contribute towards the expense.

Mr. Mozumdar (Orissa) stated that Orissa was in the same position as Assam.

Mr. Tasker (Hyderabad) stated that they had an expanding Statistical Department in Hyderabad and that their Customs Department had been re-organized for the purpose of collecting inter-provincial statistics. They had also their own Railway. Hyderabad was thus in a position to co-operate in any scheme of inter-provincial co-ordination. He assumed that, if there was a Committee, provision would be made for the representation of States.

Mr. Madhava Rau (Mysore) stated that Mysore had not discontinued their own statistics of rail-borne trade and they were contemplating the addition of road-borne statistics. They had the necessary agencies, but if Provinces and States sent their own statistics to a central agency there would probably be scope for considerable improvement.

Dr. Pagar (Baroda) said that in Baroda they had their own system but they felt difficulty in distinguishing between Indian and foreign-made articles and were in consultation with the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics over the matter. They had recently re-organized their Statistical Department and would be glad to co-operate and have their statistics reviewed by the Government of India.

Lala Ramji Das Vaishya (Gwalior) stated that in Gwalior they had their own Statistics Department and would be ready to consider co-operation if the Government of India took up the matter.

Mr. Rahalkar (Indore) stated that they had their own customs system and had opened a special Statistical Department last year. If the Government of India wanted special statistics they would be in a position to co-operate.

Mr. Kumara Das (Travancore) said that Travancore published statistics of imports and exports from their customs returns. They

also found it difficult to distinguish between materials of foreign and indigenous make.

The Chairman said that the subject matter did not come under his Department but he would be glad to pass on the views of the Conference to the Commerce Department. It was largely a question of money and he would not promise any immediate action. But he suggested that a sub-committee might possibly meet in conjunction with the next Industries Conference. Provinces and States could then come with clearer ideas regarding commodities and the financial implications. He added that the States appeared to be setting the Provinces a good example.

The proposal secured general concurrence.

II.—HANDLOOM-WEAVING—*contd.*

ALL-INDIA HAND-WEAVING EXHIBITION AND COMPETITION TO BE HELD ALONG WITH THE UNITED PROVINCES INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION AT LUCKNOW FROM DECEMBER 1936 TO FEBRUARY 1937.

MEMORANDUM.

United Provinces.

Following the discussion on the subject of exhibitions at the Seventh Industries Conference held in October 1935, and the decision to consider favourably proposals from provinces for holding All-India Exhibitions, the Hon'ble Minister for Education and Industries, United Provinces, convened an informal conference of industrialists at Cawnpore to consider the suggestion for the holding of a large-scale exhibition. The proposal was unanimously welcomed ; and it was decided to hold an All-India Exhibition at Lucknow from 5th December 1936 to 4th February 1937.

2. A few facts may be mentioned to give an idea of the magnitude of the project. The budget of the Exhibition Committee exceeds six lakhs of rupees. The various departments of Government are spending a total of about two lakhs, which does not include the expenditure on salaries and travelling allowance of officers and staff who have been deputed at Government expense for exhibition work, which is estimated at over a lakh of rupees. To this should be added a capital of about five lakhs that the Exhibition contractors for entertainments are investing. an item of expenditure which is normally incurred out of Exhibition funds. In short, the aggregate investment on the Exhibition will be in the neighbourhood of fourteen lakhs. An attendance of about two million people is expected.

3. Textiles constitute by far the biggest industry of the United Provinces and the Textile Court naturally occupies a prominent place in the Exhibition. A number of large cotton mills are participating and interesting demonstrations of power textiles and dyeing and printing, will be given. But the most important section of the Textile Court will be the portion allotted for the handloom industry ; most of the Provinces and important States in India are taking part in this and extensive covered space has been allotted for the purpose, free of charge, including free lights and power.

4. The actual cost of the construction of stalls and pavilions for the handloom section is estimated at over Rs. 11,000 and the cost

of providing light and power is estimated at Rs. 3,000, making a total of Rs. 14,000. The Exhibition Committee have also sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 18,000 on arranging demonstrations and display of handloom products including dyeing and printing; this sum does not include the cost of staff for supervising the demonstrations and displays, which is being borne by the United Provinces Government.

5. These demonstrations have been organized with a view to enable every province to see what progress has been achieved in India, and to avail of the improvements effected by different provinces. The demonstrations will cover a varied range as will appear from the following list which is only illustrative :—

- (1) Manufacture of gold thread consisting of—
 - (a) Silver wire drawing,
 - (b) Wire flattening,
 - (c) Lanetta winding, and
 - (d) Electro-plating.
- (2) Demonstrations of improved preparatory processes and weaving appliances, *e.g.*—
 - (a) Winding and twisting machines,
 - (b) Self-leasing warping machines,
 - (c) Double box and Multiple box looms,
 - (d) Tappet and peg dobbies,
 - (e) Gota and Newar weaving looms,
 - (f) Pick and Pick loom,
 - (g) Jacquard machines,
 - (h) Multiple pugree looms, and
 - (i) Hand finishing appliances.
- (3) Demonstrations of weaving of fabrics of new designs, *e.g.*—
 - (a) Kamkhwab,
 - (b) Mulberry silk,
 - (c) Flower-bordered sarees,
 - (d) Furnishing fabrics from printed warps,
 - (e) Lace and saree borders,
 - (f) Plush fabrics, and
 - (g) Sarees of Shantipur (Bengal).
- (4) Demonstrations of special fabrics by weavers of the United Provinces and outside, *e.g.*—
 - (a) Jamdani and Sojni of Tanda,
 - (b) Dogibia and Crepe of Mau,

- (c) Tapti and Lungi of Bara Banki,
 - (d) Gulbadan and Daryai of Agra,
 - (e) Khandala and Saree border of Mau-Aima,
 - (f) Pugree and Muslin of Sikandrabad,
 - (g) Kharwa and Pugree of Ranipur,
 - (h) Mushroo and Satin of Mubarakpur Than,
 - (i) Pashminas of Kashmir, and
 - (j) Silks of Assam.
- (5) Dyeing and printing demonstrations with reference to handloom industry, *e.g.*—
- (a) Tie dyeing (Jaipur Style) and silk discharge printing,
 - (b) Yarn mercerising,
 - (c) Anti-crease and other finishes of cloth and yarn,
 - (d) Cloth printing by multi-colour spray and screen,
 - (e) Indigenous colour dyeing on cloth and yarn,
 - (f) Preparation of indigenous dyes,
 - (g) Testing of dyes, yarns and fabrics,
 - (h) Photo printing on cloth and yarn printing,
 - (i) Warp printing, and
 - (j) Miscellaneous demonstrations.

6. Lastly, All-India competitions in handloom weaving and appliances have been arranged for the benefit of weavers. A large number of prizes will be awarded and invitations have been sent out to all the Provinces and important States, offering full expenses of travelling, boarding and lodging of the competitors. It is hoped that the Provinces and States will depute five competitors each. A net budget of Rs. 10,000 for these handloom competitions is estimated, which does not include the cost of the buildings.

7. Thus a total net expenditure of about Rs. 42,000 will be incurred at the Exhibition for the sake of the handloom industry alone as per details given below. It is requested that the Government of India may be pleased to make a contribution of Rs. 30,000 towards this expenditure.

Details of expenditure.

	Rs.
1. Cost of construction of stalls and pavilions placed at the disposal of Provincial Governments and States for displays and demonstrations relating to the handloom industry	11,000
2. Cost of providing light and power for the above	3,000
3. Expenses on arranging demonstrations and displays relating to the handloom industry	18,000

	Rs.
4. Expenses on the All-India Handloom Weaving and Appliances Competitions as detailed below— ..	10,000
	Rs.
(1) Railway fare, expenses of lodging and boarding of competitors	3,500
(2) Purchase of looms, accessories and appliances	1,500
(3) Purchase of yarn, etc.	800
(4) Advertisement, printing, etc.	550
(5) Prizes, including medals and cash	2,500
(6) Fittings, furniture, decorations	350
(7) Contingencies	800
	10,000
Total	42,000

†Particulars of the Handloom Section of the United Provinces Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition, Lucknow.

	Lucknow Exhibition.	Patna Exhibition.
1. Total Area	160 Acres.	11 Acres.
2. Area devoted to Handloom Section..	24,940 sq. ft.*	18,800 sq. ft.
3. No. of persons visiting the Exhibition	2,000,000	145,000
4. Duration	9 weeks.	3 weeks.
5. Provinces and States participating ..	1. United Provinces*. 2. Bihar*. 3. Central Provinces*. 4. Mysore*. 5. Bombay*. 6. Madras*. 7. Hyderabad*. 8. Indore. 9. Assam. 10. Mayurbhanj. 11. Travancore. 12. Kashmir*. 13. Burma. 14. Jodhpur. 15. Shahpura. 16. Datis. 17. Rampur. 18. Benares. 19. Nepal. 20. Cochin.	1. United Provinces*. 2. Bihar*. 3. Central Provinces*. 4. Mysore*. 5. Bombay*. 6. Gwalior*. 7. Hyderabad. 8. Indore. 9. Assam. 10. Mayurbhanj. 11. Bharatpur.

†Circulated at the Conference.

*This does not include free space of 10,540 sq. ft. given to other Provinces and States free of charge for demonstration and display of industries other than handloom weaving, and other space given at concessional rates.

	Lucknow Exhibition.	Patna Exhibition.
6. Buildings	Brick walls and partitions with corrugated sheet roofs.	Corrugated sheet roof and walls with <i>chatai</i> partition.
7. Competitions	Four competitions in weaving and one in hand-printing.	Three competitions in weaving and one in preparatory process.
8. Prizes	Rs. 2,500 proposed to be given.	Rs. 1,136.
	The Prizes are more substantial and varied than at the Patna Exhibition. Suitable cash prizes will also be given for they will be much appreciated by the weavers.	
9. Daily allowance to weavers. ..	At Patna Exhibition every competitor was given 0-8-0 per diem. This was considered to be insufficient by the competitors, who showed some discontent and dissatisfaction. Therefore the rate has been increased to Re. 1 per head per diem.	
10. Special feature	The addition of hand printing competition is an improvement over the competitions of the previous years. This has been done to widen the range of the competitions and to create a lively interest in the work.	
11. Number of competitors attending the competitions.	60 for weaving and 6 for printing.	35 in all.

Details of Demonstrations.

	Lucknow Exhibition.	Patna Exhibition.
1. United Provinces—		
(a) Demonstration of improved appliances and methods.	Central Weaving Institute, Benares.	Central Weaving Institute, Benares.
(b) Weaving of—		
(i) Printed warps.	Weaving and Printing School, Bulandshahr.	
(ii) Plush weaving.		
(iii) Multiple pugree weaving.		
(c) Woollen durrie weaving	Weaving School, Khairabad.	
(d) Weaving of woollen articles	Bhotiya tribes.	
(e) Special fabrics, such as—		
(i) Jamdani and Sojni	Weavers of famous centres in U. P.	
(ii) Mushroo and Sangi.		
(iii) Khandala cloth and Saree border.		
(iv) Crope and Dogibia.		
(v) Muslin and Pugree.		
(vi) Gulbadan and Daryai.		
(vii) Kharwa and Kasbi.		

	Lucknow Exhibition.	Patna Exhibition.
(f) Namdah making	Party from Bahraich.	
(g) Manufacture of gold thread	From Benares.	
(A) Improved Dobbies	1. Weaving School, Mau. 2. Weaving School, Agra. 3. Weaving School, Sandila.	
2. Bihar—		
Complete demonstration of improved appliances and methods.	Weaving Institutions from Bihar.	Cottage Industries Institute Gulzarbagh.
3. Bengal—		
Fine silk and cotton weaving with jac- guards and dobbies	Five looms.	
Sericulture	Sericulture.	
Improved looms and appliances—		
4. Madras	Twenty-four looms and appliances.	Cottage Indus- tries Institute, Gulzarbagh.
5. Central Provinces	Five looms (out of which only two could be fixed up) and one warping machine.	One loom, one warping and one twisting machine.
6. Bombay	Five looms	Five looms.
7. Punjab	Five looms and three wool spinning wheels.	
8. Hyderabad	Himra weaving.	
9. Mysore	Saree border looms (not yet fitted up).	One loom and two appliances.
10. Baroda	Patola weaving.	
11. Kashmir	Silk weaving.	
12. Gwalior .. ..	.. ..	One loom for tuck cloth.
13. Demonstration by others	1. Carpet weaving 2. Ghosh's spinning plant.	1. Appliances by EMM and Orr of Bangalore. 2. Ghosh's spin- ning plant. 3. Shirman weav- ing factory.

Details of the cost of Handloom Section.

	Lucknow Exhibition. Rs.	Patna Exhibition. Rs.
Construction of stalls and pavilions 24,650 sq. ft. at 0-8-0 per sq. ft.	12,325	3,176
Contribution for water supply and sanitation, etc.	4,000	1,236
Lighting charges Rs. 3,000 for Handloom Section and Rs. 1,000 for stalls and pavilions at other places	4,000	1,240
Decorations etc.	500	(Included in lighting.)
<i>Charges exclusively debitable to Competition:—</i>		
Stationery, printing, advertisements, etc.	900	912
Cost of looms, fittings, etc.	1,500	649
Cost of yarn, etc.	800	
Establishment charges	350	210
Contingencies	500	775
House rent for competitions ..	150	
Prizes	2,500	1,136
Travelling allowances and Daily allowances to Weavers	3,000	1,363
		<hr/> 10,697 <hr/>
<i>Demonstrations and Displays:—</i>		
Expenses on Textile Museum	4,000	
Demonstrations by Weaving School, Bulandshahr	900	
Demonstrations by Central Weaving Institute, Benares	2,500	
Demonstrations of durrie weaving	275	
Manufacture of gold thread	1,150	
Namdah making	250	
Weaving of special fabrics by weavers ..	700	
Weaving of woollen articles by Bhojya tribes	400	
Patola weaving	200	
Accommodation charges	500	
Demonstration of Dyeing and Printing	6,500	
Miscellaneous contingencies	400	
Proportionate cost of advertisement ..	2,000	
	<hr/> 49,300 <hr/>	

Details of space devoted to Handloom Section.

At Lucknow Exhibition :—				Area.	
				sq. ft.	
1.	Textile Museum	..	..	One pavilion of 60' dia. ..	2,830
2.	Demonstrations by the United Provinces and All-India Competition Court	..	..	54 stalls of 12' × 15' ..	9,720
3.	Demonstrations and displays by other Provinces and States.—				
(i)	Central Provinces	..	..	4 stalls of 12' × 15' ..	720
(ii)	Bihar ..	..	..	5 stalls of 12' × 15' ..	900
(iii)	Punjab	..	..	1 stall of 40' × 20' ..	800
				2 stalls of 12' × 15' ..	360
(iv)	Kashmir	..	..	2 stalls of 12' × 15' ..	360
(v)	Bengal..	..	..	One pavilion of 80' dia. half of which is devoted to handloom weaving ..	2,530
(vi)	Bombay	..	..	2 stalls of 40' × 20' ..	1,600
(vii)	Madras	..	..	2 stalls of 40' × 20' ..	1,600
(viii)	Assam	..	..	1 stall of 12' × 15' ..	180
(ix)	Hyderabad	..	..	1 stall of 12' × 15' ..	180
(x)	Co-operative Department, United Provinces.			One pavilion of 80' dia. One ¼ of it is devoted to handloom products. 3 stalls of 12' × 15' for demonstrations ..	1,250 540
(xi)	Jails Department, United Provinces			One pavilion of 60' dia. half of it is devoted to demonstration and display of cotton goods. ..	1,400
					<hr/> 24,940 <hr/>

N.B.—The space of 10,540 sq. ft. given to other Provinces and States free of charge for their demonstrations and displays for industries other than handloom weaving and that given to Provinces and States including U. P. on payment of rent are not shown above.

At Patna Exhibition :—

For Provinces and States ..	..	..	7 Courts of 40 sq. ft ..	11,200
			6 Courts of 20' ..	2,400
			One General Textile Court of 80' × 20' ..	1,600
			One Competition Pavilion ..	3,600
				<hr/> 18,800 <hr/>

Discussion.

Monday, December 7th, 1936.

It was agreed that the question of a grant to the Lucknow Exhibition should be left over till the following day so that members could see the Exhibition before coming to a decision.

Tuesday, December 8th, 1936.

The Chairman said that the Conference would be glad to know from the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava why he wanted three times for the Lucknow Exhibition as Bihar and Orissa wanted for its Exhibition.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) in reply stated that the members had seen the Exhibition. The figures of expenditure would also show the scale of the Exhibition as a whole. Far more visitors would be attending the Lucknow Exhibition than at Patna. The much greater attendance expected at Lucknow was an important element as this meant that handloom products would get wider publicity. Further the Exhibition would last more than twice as long as the Patna Exhibition. Every major Province and fifteen States, including all the biggest ones, were participating. He had circulated a statement giving comparative particulars of the Patna and Lucknow Exhibitions. Their total expenditure on the handloom exhibition would be in the neighbourhood of half a lakh of rupees.

The Chairman enquired whether any recoveries were being made from the States and Provinces for the handloom section and whether there would be any income from it.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) stated that the answer to both the questions, so far as handloom exhibits were concerned, was in the negative.

Mr. Brodie stated that a comparison of the Patna and Lucknow Exhibitions was not altogether easy. At Patna there had been a separate enclosure with all handloom exhibits at one place although there were some handloom products in the general Exhibition also. At Lucknow there was no separate section. Dealing exclusively with stalls given to the cotton handloom industry, he estimated that the areas were roughly the same in both Exhibitions. The space devoted to competitions was smaller at Lucknow although the prize money offered was higher. His general conclusion was that the attention given to the handloom was approximately the same but the expenditure and duration at Lucknow were both greater than at Patna.

Mr. Dhar (Bihar) considered that the Handloom Exhibition at Patna was not smaller than the corresponding parts of the Lucknow Exhibition. The Provinces and States exhibiting were approximately the same. At Patna, Bihar did not get preferential treatment in the matter of space, as the United Provinces did at Lucknow.

The Chairman said that there were three main grounds for a larger grant to the Lucknow Exhibition than was given to Patna :—

- (1) At Lucknow the United Provinces Government were spending more than they were asking for, whereas the Patna grant met practically the whole cost.

- (2) The duration of the Exhibition was longer.
- (3) They were expecting a much larger number of visitors.

He suggested that the experience the Conference now had of Exhibitions pointed to four conclusions. The first was that any Province asking for similar grants in future should provide beforehand for the Conference and the Government of India full particulars for space, cost, etc., on the lines of the statement circulated by the United Provinces. The second was that if grants were demanded, Provinces should be given free space. The third conclusion was that only one exhibition should be assisted in a year. Finally, no Provinces should be precluded from selling exhibits, especially handloom products.

The Conference agreed to a grant of Rs. 30,000 to the Lucknow Exhibition.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) enquired whether a loss or deficit was expected on the Exhibition.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) stated that most of the items had been given on contract and would just meet the cost.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) stated that there was not proper housing for the assistants sent from Bengal to serve in the Exhibition.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) stated that the Punjab contemplated holding an Exhibition in Lahore next year and were providing over a lakh of rupees themselves. He enquired whether they could rely on a grant from the Government of India.

The Chairman stated that the fact that the Punjab was the first claimant was a point in their favour but that they would have to submit an application on the lines specified. An application next year would receive sympathetic consideration, but he was not in a position to bind the next Conference.

VENUE OF THE NEXT CONFERENCE.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) suggested Lahore for the venue of the next Conference.

The Chairman said that they should remember that there would be new Governments next year, but it would be useful to find out if anyone in the Conference took objection to Lahore. Lahore was as convenient to the Government of India as Lucknow but not so convenient as Lucknow or Delhi for most Provinces and States.

No member had any objection to the next Conference being held at Lahore.

V.—REMOVAL OF INTER-PROVINCIAL BARRIERS TO TRADE IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL AND DRUG INDUSTRY IN INDIA.

MEMORANDUM.

Mysore.

The biggest hindrance on the free movement of spirituous preparations from one province to another is the diversity of excise regulations in different provinces. The following extract from the recommendations of the Drugs Enquiry Committee, 1930-31, ably summarizes the great handicap to the manufactures of spirituous preparations in India.

“ When spirituous preparations are exported from Bengal to Bombay, the authorities of the latter province refuse to accept the certificate of duty passed by the Excise Officers of Bengal and insist upon the goods being submitted for re-analysis of spirit content and re-valuation of duty by their own officers before they are delivered to the consignee. In the inland towns of the Madras Presidency, the druggists are not allowed to import spirituous preparations from another province in India, unless they obtain an import permit from the Excise Commissioner, assess the duty payable on the goods and pay the same in advance. This seems to be a dilatory and vexatious procedure *which will hamper trade and cause needless embarrassment to the manufacturer.* The iniquity of the procedure becomes more obvious when contrasted with the regulations with regard to the import of spirituous preparations from foreign countries. In such a case, the duty having once been paid at the port of entry, no further restriction is imposed against transmission from one province to another. Notwithstanding the argument advanced by the Excise authorities concerned that the imported preparations bear a much higher duty than those manufactured in the country, we feel that this is a discrimination in favour of goods imported which is detrimental to the interests of the Indian manufacturers.”

The position has been further complicated since 1934. Prior to 1934, there was a uniform duty of Rs. 5 per proof gallon in all the provinces on all spirituous preparations. In 1934, some provinces raised the duty to Rs. 10 per proof gallon for all imported

spirituous preparations whereas the duty on local manufactures remained at Rs. 5 per proof gallon. In 1935 again, certain provinces raised the duty still further to Rs. 17-8-0 per proof gallon on some spirituous preparations whether imported or locally manufactured.

The Excise regulations now in force in different Provinces and States hamper the trade in spirituous preparations considerably. In the interest of the Pharmaceutical Industry in India it is very necessary that inter-provincial and inter-State and Provincial barriers should be removed by the introduction of a uniform method of Excise control all over India. A great facility can be afforded to the free movement of spirituous preparations from one Province to another and also from one State to another Province, if when once the duty—which should be uniform—is paid at the place of manufacture, they are allowed freedom of movement throughout India without further restrictions.

Discussion.

Tuesday, December 8th, 1936.

Mr. N. Madhava Rau (Mysore) stated that he had little to add to the printed memorandum already circulated. The Mysore State had within the past few years started the manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations mostly for use within the State. In attempting to export the small quantities available to other parts of India the difficulties under which the industry laboured owing to unduly stringent regulations in India became apparent. They had no desire to remove excise control but they felt that a simpler procedure might be evolved by series of mutual agreements between the Governments concerned and that the negotiations for the purpose would be facilitated if the nature of the adverse effect of excise restrictions on trade were better known in different parts of India. He suggested the desirability of simplifying the existing procedure as far as possible. Import licenses could be safely dispensed with in the case of respectable manufacturers and he would press for nothing more than that.

Mr. Pandya (Baroda) pleaded for uniformity of procedure in excise matters. He stated that the following points required special consideration :—

- (1) Excise should be collected at the source under the supervision of the local excise authorities and credited to the Province or the State where the goods are consumed.
- (2) Rates should be uniform to avoid smuggling.
- (3) Charitable hospitals and dispensaries supplied with drugs free of duty should have liberty to get their drugs from any part of India.

- (4) Restrictions on import and transit as well as on export should be removed.
- (5) The prevention of the tendency to introduce provincial protection by means of excise duties.

If a uniform policy fixed on certain principles were accepted, a considerable amount of unnecessary correspondence would be avoided.

Mr. Tasker (Hyderabad) said that anything in the nature of simplification would be welcome to Hyderabad.

Mr. Green (Madras) said that in the case of spirituous preparations manufactured in India, it was necessary for the province to which it was exported to take steps to see that the duty at the rate prevailing there was collected, although duty might already have been paid at the place of manufacture. The Commissioner of Excise thought that the adoption of uniform rules in respect of spirituous preparations throughout India could only be a remote possibility as the number of States and Provinces was very large. It would facilitate matters if a central agency could obtain the views and discuss the problem of co-ordination with the Provincial and States Governments. When the new constitution was introduced the rate of duty on spirituous preparations, whether manufactured in the province or elsewhere, would be the same.

The Chairman referred to section 297 (2) of the Government of India Act, 1935, which precluded discrimination in favour of localities. As Mr. Green had pointed out, no Province would be able to maintain differential duties after the introduction of the new constitution. This met one of the points raised.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) said that the Government of Bombay considered it essential to continue the existing procedure in respect of duty in the interests of their revenues but were considering the question of relaxing any unnecessary restrictions.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) said that the Government of Bengal were fully in sympathy with the proposals made.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) proposed that a uniform set of rules was desirable. These might be devised at a Conference of Excise Commissioners.

Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Lal (Punjab) said that the Punjab Government had not had sufficient time to consider the matter, but the recommendations of the Conference would be given due consideration by the Ministry.

The Hon'ble M. Saiyid Abdul Aziz (Bihar) said that the Government of Bihar had not examined the question fully. He agreed with the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava's proposal.

Mr. Bhalja (Central Provinces) stated that in the Central Provinces no tests were undertaken on consignments which had already been tested in the province of origin. Pre-payment of duty at the place of export had also been agreed to. He thought that a uniform set of rules was desirable and supported the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava's proposal.

Mr. Mehta (Assam) said that the Government of Assam were not opposed to uniformity so long as there was no departure from the principle that duty followed consumption, and that Assam got the whole of its share of the duties based on the consumption in the Province.

The Chairman put the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava's proposal to the Conference.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) said that it was desirable to include some Directors of Industries in the proposed meeting of Excise Commissioners.

Mr. Pandya (Baroda) supported the Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava's suggestion. He added that the question was not entirely one for Excise Commissioners but that Directors of Industries concerned should also be called. The Conference accepted the suggestion.

The Chairman said that the conclusion of the Conference was that a uniform set of rules was desirable and that the question should be referred to a meeting of Excise Commissioners who should be assisted by selected Directors of Industries.

VI.—MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL.

Discussion.

Tuesday, December 8th, 1936.

(A) INDUSTRIAL SURVEYS.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) said that an industrial survey could hardly be treated as a provincial question because the facilities open to the Central Government were not available to Provincial Governments. Officers of the Punjab would not have the same facilities in conducting surveys in other provinces as Officers of the Central Government would have. He emphasized the necessity of a central co-ordinating authority.

Mr. Clow said that the Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang was advocating much the same view as the Government of India took in opposing the proposals for decentralization in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report, but the constitutional position had to be faced and it was a function of the Provincial Governments to undertake industrial surveys. Research, however, could be undertaken by the Central Government and certain work of the kind desired could be regarded as research. The Industrial Research Bureau had already published a survey of the glass industry and surveys of the following industries had been taken up and entrusted to experts in different provinces :—

- (1) the soap industry,
- (2) the leather industry,
- (3) the heavy chemical industry, and
- (4) the rape seed and mustard oil industries.

If the Provinces might be willing to contribute to assist industrial surveys, progress could be expedited.

The Chairman said that the permanency of the Industrial Research Bureau itself was not certain. Progress must be slow, and it was for the Industrial Research Council to decide what industries should be taken up.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) asked what agency the Bureau had for collecting information.

Mr. Brodie explained that no specific agency existed exclusively for this work and that there was no necessity for such an agency. Each industry was dealt with according to its needs. Mr. Dixon had

to undertake touring in connection with the glass industry, while Mr. Sen Gupta did not have to tour in connection with the heavy chemical industry, but was able to do his work by correspondence.

Mr. Bhalja (Central Provinces) suggested that provinces might be approached to see if they would agree to contribute to industrial surveys carried out by a Central agency.

The Chairman thought that Mr. Bhalja was very optimistic. If the Conference desired that an enquiry should be made from Provincial Governments, there was no objection to that being done. But his own view was that Provincial Governments at the present juncture would be unwilling to bind their successors.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) said that he would welcome any proposal for industrial surveys by a Central agency if the Central Government paid for it. But in the United Provinces they had conducted a survey of their own.

The Chairman observed that it was certain that the Central Government could not find funds for any comprehensive survey in the near future.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) suggested—

- (1) that a survey of industries was desirable ;
- (2) that this was best effected by a Central agency ; and
- (3) that if the Central Government could not pay, they should ask Provincial Governments to contribute.

The Chairman asked whether it would be necessary for the surveys to be continued for ever.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) said that they would have to be kept up-to-date.

The Chairman enquired why it was not possible to follow the example of some Provinces, such as the United Provinces, and to undertake provincial surveys which could be co-ordinated by the Industrial Research Bureau.

Mr. Tasker (Hyderabad) said that the Hyderabad State would not agree to surveys being conducted within the State by Central officers. Hyderabad was not in favour of general surveys. The better method would be for States and Provincial authorities to conduct particular surveys, which could be co-ordinated subsequently by the Central Research Bureau.

The Chairman said that there was general agreement that a survey of industries was desirable. As regards the question of agency, there were two proposals before the Conference—

- (1) The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang's—that it should be undertaken by a Central agency, and

- (2) Mr. Tasker's—that it should be undertaken by the Provinces and co-ordinated by a Central agency.

The States unanimously, and the majority of the Provinces, were in favour of Mr. Tasker's proposal. The Conference also agreed that the question of cost should be the subject of correspondence with Provincial Governments.

(B) PRIZES.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) said that he thought it would be advantageous if in addition to prizes for outstanding work done by persons engaged in research, prizes were also offered for work on set subjects. It would not be obligatory to give such a prize every year. The amounts could be allowed to accumulate till a satisfactory solution was reached.

Mr. Brodie referred to the proceedings of the second session of the Industrial Research Council and said that the Sub-Committee appointed by it had come to an adverse conclusion by a majority. Further, the Bureau was on a temporary basis and could not undertake a scheme of prizes spread over several years.

Mr. Clow stated that he had supported the proposal for prizes on set subjects in Calcutta but found subsequently that expert opinion was against it.

Mr. Brodie pointed out the difficulty of selecting suitable subjects. He added that to offer a prize on a set subject would be to induce every young student to submit essays. Such funds as could be secured for work on set subjects would be more profitably spent in engaging a selected scientist for such work.

Mr. Advani (Bombay) said that he was a member of the Committee appointed by the Industrial Research Council to consider the question. He was disposed to set aside three or four of the prizes for specific subjects in future years but this could not be done for the present year because there was insufficient time for the subjects to be fixed, candidates to carry out investigation work and submit papers.

The Chairman suggested that if the Punjab or any other Province felt strongly on the subject, a memorandum could be drawn up and circulated with a note of the objections to it for discussion by the Industrial Research Council.

(C) GLASS INDUSTRY.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) enquired what action had been taken on the conclusions of the Council relating to a glass survey.

Mr. Brodie said that the Government of India had decided that the United Provinces would be the best place for locating a furnace and the best offer from a particular manufacturer was still under the consideration of the United Provinces Government. He had been in communication with the furnace manufacturers and had unfortunately been informed, since the Conference opened, that the furnace would cost about Rs. 22,000, a substantial rise on the previous estimate.

Mr. Shivdasani (United Provinces) said that the United Provinces reply would be sent as soon as possible.

Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Lal (Punjab) said that as he had not been informed of the Government of India's decision, he had been unable to give information to a Punjab manufacturer who was interested.

The Chairman observed that as the offer made to the United Provinces had not yet been accepted, no final decision had been taken.

VII.—MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL SERICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

Discussion.

Tuesday, December 8th, 1936.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) raised the question of the participation of the Punjab in the grant. He said that they had, as suggested by the Imperial Sericultural Committee, endeavoured to make an arrangement with Kashmir, but the supply of seed offered by Kashmir was quite inadequate and the price of Rs. 2 an ounce, was unduly high. They were therefore anxious to produce their own seed and believed that they could do this at a cheaper rate. The rate asked by Kashmir was much more than the cost of seed in Assam.

Mr. Weston (Bengal) observed that the Punjab silkworm was univoltine whereas other provinces used multivoltine strains.

Mr. Clow stated that the Punjab schemes had been considered by the Committee on two previous occasions. It had been turned down at the first meeting of the Imperial Sericultural Committee. It was discussed again at the second meeting where it failed to get the support of any member other than the representative of the Punjab. The small amount of money available was being devoted to keep the industry alive where the need was greatest. With a short term grant of this kind, and very limited funds it would be undesirable to devote money to a purpose like evolving a new race of worms, which was part of the Punjab proposals.

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Punjab) said that in view of the small amount of money unallotted and the limited tenure of the scheme, he did not wish to press the claim.

VIII.—MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE WOOLLEN INDUSTRY COMMITTEE.

Discussion.

Tuesday, December 8th, 1936.

The Chairman said that he understood that some members from States, for example Hyderabad, wished to attend the Woollen Industry Committee's meeting. He assured them that they would be welcome to do so.

Mr. Tasker (Hyderabad) and Mr. Madhava Rau (Mysore) welcomed the invitation. Mr. Tasker added that representatives of the States would be assisted if they could receive memoranda for these Conferences and Committees direct.

The Chairman said he understood this was already the practice in connection with the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and added that he would endeavour to meet the request.

The Chairman in concluding the proceedings stated that this would be the last occasion on which he would preside over these Conferences. He wished to thank all for the co-operation he had received throughout and expressed the hope and belief that the Conference had a long life before it. He added that he would follow its proceedings with interest after his retirement.

The Hon'ble Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava (United Provinces) in moving a vote of thanks to the Chair, referred to the Chairman's close association with industries for more than a decade and the important developments that he had been instrumental in securing in many directions during his term of office. Not the least of these was the successful revival of these Conferences.

Mr. Tasker (Hyderabad) at the request of the representatives of the States seconded the vote of thanks. He said that the existence of such bodies as the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and the All-India Industries Conference, where the Provinces and States meet round one board, had done much to foster the attitude of mind out of which the project of Federation itself had arisen.

The Chairman acknowledged the vote of thanks and expressed his gratitude to the United Provinces Government for their hospitality and the facilities they had afforded.