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TWENTY-THIRD ISSUE

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS, INDIA

For personal.

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19/3*

REPORT

ON THE

Production of Tea in India

IN THE

Calendar Year

1917

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Published by order of the Governor-General in Council

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CALCUTTA
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3. Annual Statement of the Foreign Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India—
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Only one copy of the
Report on the
Production of Tea in
India for 1917, needs

~~P.C.D.~~

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PRODUCTION, EXPORTS, AND AVERAGE

1. Production
(in million)



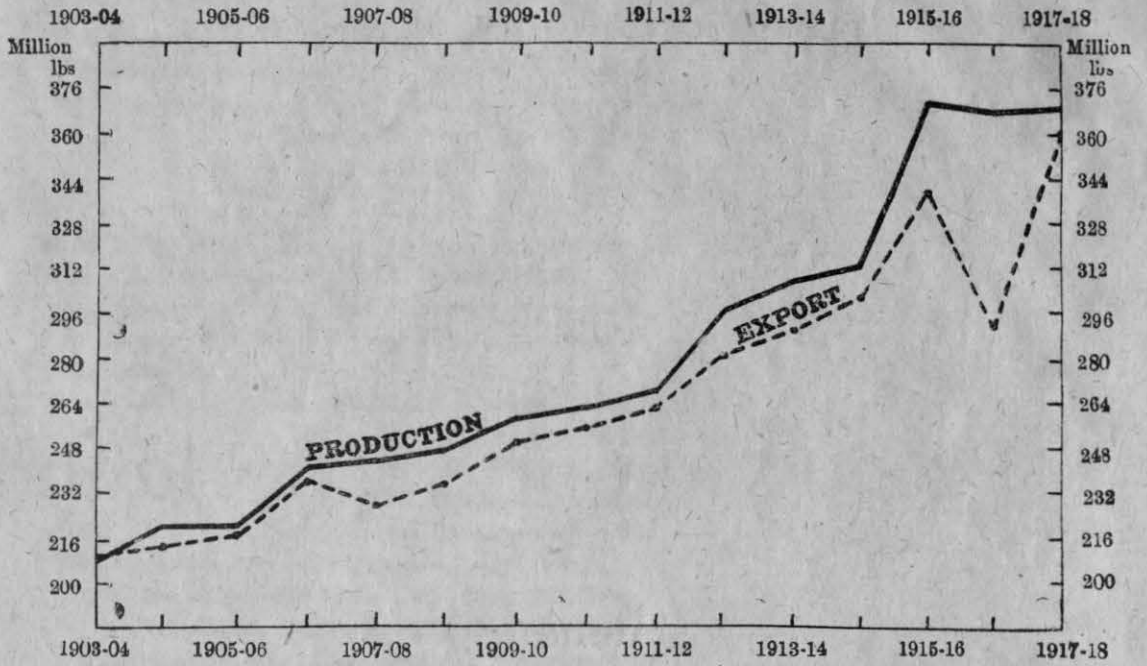
2. Average Price (Calcutta)



PRODUCTION, EXPORT, AND AVERAGE PRICE OF TEA IN INDIA

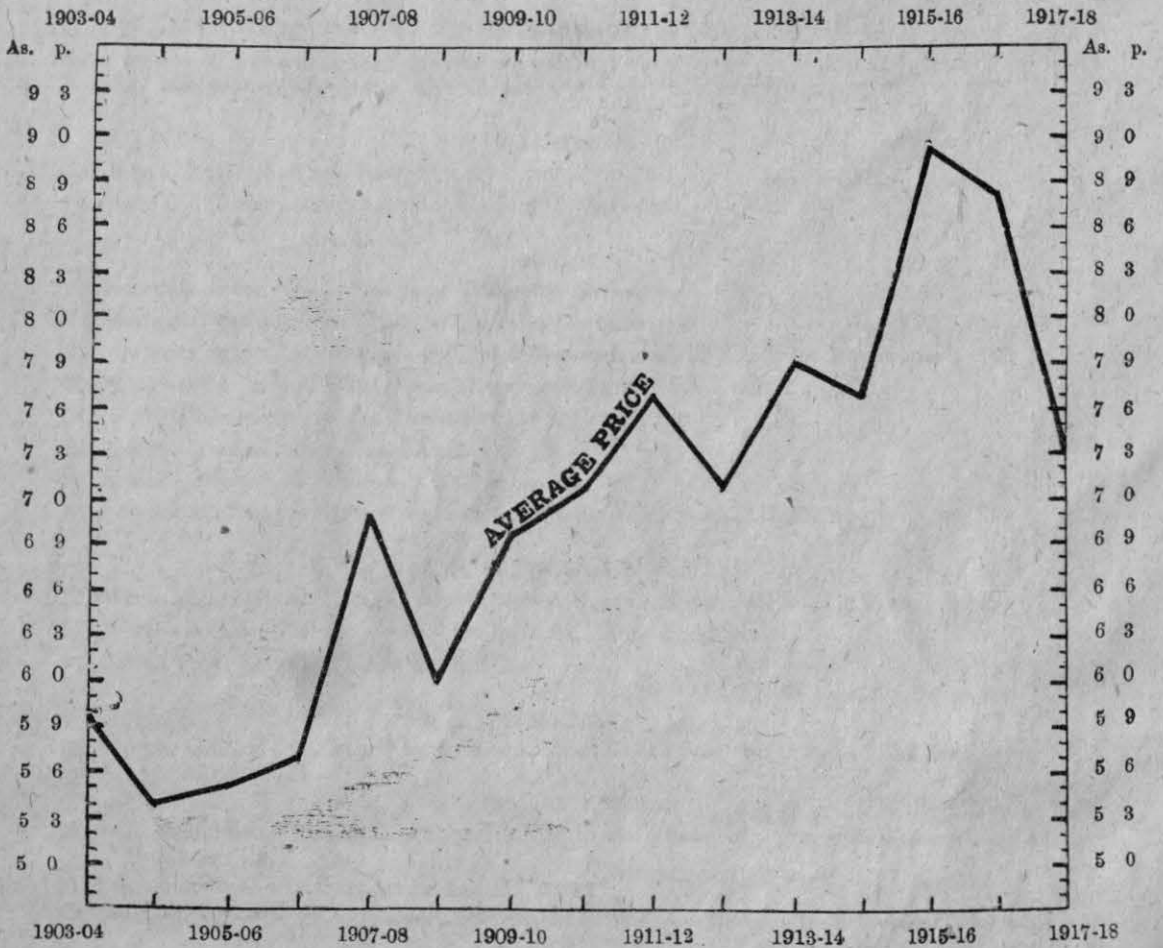
1. Production and Export

(In million lbs.)



2. Average Price (Calcutta Auction Sales)

(Per lb.)



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Report on the Production of Tea in India in the Calendar Year 1917

PART I.—REPORT

The twenty-third Report on the Production of Tea in India deals with the production in the calendar year 1917, and also as regards trade figures, with the fiscal year 1917-18. The reason for comparing the trade figures for the fiscal year with the production for the calendar year is that the export of the tea crop, produced in the calendar year, continues well into the next succeeding year. Part I gives the main features of the year, and Part II includes the statistical tables. A chart has also been added to illustrate the growth of the production and exports, and the variations in prices, of tea during the last fifteen years. The report has been somewhat delayed owing to the delay in obtaining complete data relating to production from Southern India, and to the report being held over pending my return from short leave.

The statistics of area are given in table No. 1 (pages 12 and 13). The total area under tea in 1917 was 664,300 acres, which is 2 per cent greater than that in the preceding year. The area abandoned in the year was 3,900 acres, while the new extensions (including replanting in areas abandoned in previous years) amounted to 19,300 acres. Thus the net increase during the year was 15,400 acres. The figures are for the most part those reported by planters. In the case of those plantations for which figures are not so reported, estimates have been prepared by local officers. Special efforts were,

however, made to procure returns direct from non-reporting gardens, and these efforts have so far been successful except in Southern India, as will be seen from the marginal figures. In the year under review estimates had to be made in respect of 38 gardens out of a total of 318 gardens in Southern India and of only one garden out of 305 in Bengal. Including the estimated area, the total area under tea in 1917 was shared among the different provinces as shown in the margin. The percentage increase or decrease as compared with the preceding year is also stated. The cultivation of tea in India has been mainly concentrated in tracts where a heavy rainfall and a humid and equable climate permit of repeated flushes and pluckings of the leaf. Eighty-five per cent of the total area under tea in India lies in Assam (in the Brahmaputra and Surma Valleys) and the two contiguous districts (Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri) of northern Bengal. The elevated region over the Malabar Coast in Southern India (including the State of Travancore and the districts of Malabar, Nilgiris, and Coimbatore) contains over 11 per cent of the total.

	Area acres.	Increase (+) or decrease (—) per cent.
Assam	399,700	+2.7
Bengal	167,800	+0.9
Southern India	76,300	+4.8
Northern India	15,500	...
Bihar and Orissa	2,200	...
Burma	2,800	...

Of the total area of 664,300 acres, for which either returns or complete estimates have been received, 614,800 acres were reported to have been plucked during the year, as against 601,400 acres in the preceding year. On the remaining 49,500 acres, the plants were either too young to be plucked or were not plucked at all. Details for each district are given in table No. 3.

The total number of plantations was 4,252 in 1917, as against 4,486 in the preceding year. The decrease is due to the fact that during the recent settlement operations in the Punjab several small plantations were in many cases treated as one. In Burma, where tea plants are grown scattered in the jungle, each village tract having tea plants has been taken to represent

one plantation. The plantations vary greatly in size in the different provinces. In Assam 796 plantations are reported to have a total area of 399,700 acres under tea in 1917, that is, an average of 502 acres per plantation. In Bengal the average size of 305 plantations is 550 acres, and in Travancore the average of 128 plantations is 339 acres. In Madras, the United Provinces, and Bihar and Orissa the average is much smaller, being about 174 acres, 129 acres, and 99 acres, respectively. In the Punjab, where tea cultivation is conducted on a small scale, the average area is about 3 acres. These figures, which refer to the year 1917, relate only to tea-bearing areas and do not include the area in the occupation of planters but not under tea cultivation. [For details for districts, see table No. 3.]

Production of tea
(both black and
green).

	1916	1917
	lbs	lbs
Assam	242,185,000	243,940,000
Bengal	92,645,000	91,853,000
Southern India	29,324,000	30,916,000
Northern India	3,883,000	3,340,000
Bihar and Orissa	246,000	309,000
Total	368,283,000	370,358,000

The statistics of production are given in tables Nos. 2 and 3. The total production of both black and green teas in 1917 is reported to have been 370,358,000 lbs (excluding Burma), divided between the different parts of India as shown in the margin. Black tea represents 368,123,000 lbs. The net increase as compared with the preceding year amounts to about 2 million lbs, or 0.6 per cent. It should, however, be borne in mind that these figures cannot be taken as entirely accurate, for, as already stated above under "Area" (page 1), estimates had to be made for as many as 39 gardens for which returns were not furnished by planters. It is noticeable that, while the area under cultivation has increased by 24 per cent in the decade, the increase in production has been one of 51 per cent. Burma is excluded from these calculations because the produce of the Burma tea gardens is almost wholly converted into *letpet* (wet pickled tea), which is eaten as a condiment. In 1917, 432,300 lbs of *letpet* were manufactured as against only 5,400 lbs of leaf tea (black). In tables Nos. 2 and 3, however, the reported figures of *letpet* have been converted into those of black tea in the ratio of four pounds of *letpet* being equal to a pound of black tea.

[Decennial average 1901-1910* = 100]

Production in
Burma.

	Variations in	
	Area	Production
1907	100	107
1908	102	108
1909	103	113
1910	105	115
1911	107	118
1912	110	130
1913	113	134
1914	116	137
1915	118	163
1916	121	161
1917	124	162

Average production
per acre.

	lbs per acre
Lakhimpur	745
Jalpaiguri	714
Darrang	687
Sibsagar	658
Nowgong	616
Sylhet	602
Cachar	591
Travancore	510
Madura	494
Malabar	453
Nilgiris	450
Coimbatore	413
Goalpara	410
Chittagong	408
Dehra Dun	408
Kamrup	375
Darjeeling	356
Chittagong Hill Tracts	201
Ranchi	148
Kangra	140
Tinnevely	110
Almora	83
Hazaribagh	79
Garhwal	42
Weighted Average†	604

* Decennial average 1901-1910 { Area 535,000 acres
Yield 228,404,000 lbs

† Based on figures in columns 11 and 13 of Table No. 3 on page 15

stated by a leading tea firm that, owing to the irregular way in which teas were offered during the season, it is somewhat difficult to give a clear idea as to quality. A noticeable and satisfactory feature generally was, however, "more careful manufacture with considerably less stalk." The quality of Assam teas was generally of a useful standard, and that of the Jalpaiguri crop fully up to the average. The Darjeeling crop was poor in quality, and owing to bad weather throughout the district no fine second flush teas were manufactured. Cachar and Sylhet produced good liquoring teas fully up to standard.*

Quality of tea manufactured.

The figures of production given above include both black and green teas. The difference between the two kinds of tea arises from the different methods of preparation. Briefly, the distinction is that the process of fermentation, which gives to black tea its colour, is avoided or arrested in the case of green tea. "While the object aimed at in preparing black tea is to change the materials in the leaf, by fermentation, the green colour becomes brown or black, the astringency is reduced, and the aroma altered in character; in manufacturing green tea, the aim is to prepare the leaf without any alteration taking place."

Green tea.

The total quantity of green tea reported to have been manufactured in the year under review is 2,235,000 lbs, as compared with 2,523,000 lbs in 1916 and 3,043,000 lbs in 1915. The quantity manufactured in each tract in the last two years is stated in the marginal table.

About two-fifths of the total quantity were manufactured in the Kangra Valley (Punjab) in the year under review. Bounties were paid on green tea from the Tea Cess Fund up to March 1909, but since that date no bounties have been paid and the production continues to decline.

Table No. 4 shows the quantity of Indian tea exported to each country during the last five years. The figures include the exports from the State of Travancore. The destinations given are the final destinations, either declared on export, or, in the case of shipments under optional bills of lading, reported subsequently to the Custom Houses. It may be noted that the declared destinations are not in all cases the final destinations; and the result is that the figures of exports from India do not in every case agree with the figures of imports into various countries, *e.g.*, the United Kingdom, Russia, Persia, and China. Even when the final destinations are given, the figures do not as a rule agree, owing partly to the quantity on board the ships in transit at the end of the year, and partly to the different periods for actual shipments and their arrivals. But the discrepancies tend to balance one another in a series of years.

Exports of Indian tea.

The total figures of exports by sea and by land in the last five years are given in the margin in thousands of pounds. Detailed figures of export to each country are given in table No. 4. It should be noted that tea consigned from British India to Ceylon is almost entirely transhipped at Colombo to other countries and does not appear in the Ceylon Customs Returns as imports into

Destinations of exports.

	By sea lbs (1,000)	By land lbs (1,000)
1913-14	289,519	2,196
1914-15	300,771	1,786
1915-16	338,490	1,943
1916-17	291,439	1,155
1917-18	359,182	1,440

Ceylon. The most striking features of the trade of 1917-18 are as follows: The total exports by sea increased by 68 million lbs, or 23 per cent, as compared with 1916-17 and constituted a record. Shipments to the United Kingdom† increased by 42,036,000 lbs or 19 per cent. Russia, which is the second best customer of Indian tea in Europe, took about 20 million lbs less than in 1916-17. France took 720,000 lbs, as against only 80,000 lbs in the previous year. The total exports to Europe, excluding the United Kingdom, showed a net decrease of 18,576,000 lbs, as compared with the year 1916-17. Of the African countries, shipments to almost all, especially to Egypt, Cape Colony, and Natal, increased. The total trade done with Africa increased by 9 million lbs, Egypt showing an increase of 5,145,000 lbs, Cape Colony of 2,623,000 lbs, and Natal of 964,000 lbs. Of the American countries, shipments to the United States increased from 3 million lbs to over 20 million lbs, and those to Canada from 8 million lbs to 21 million lbs. Exports to Chile were, however, slightly less, as compared with the preceding year (1916-17). The total exports to America

Record shipments.

* *Vide* Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.'s Annual Review, 1917-18.

† Ordinarily 73 per cent of the exports of Indian tea is directed to the United Kingdom

were over three times those of the preceding year, and amounted to nearly 44 million lbs. In Asia, the best customers of Indian tea are China, Ceylon, Persia, Arabia, and Asiatic Turkey (mainly Mesopotamia), and the exports to all of these, except China, increased. Arabia took 2 million lbs in the year under review, as against only 318,000 lbs in the preceding year. The trade with China, which consists almost entirely of tea dust exported to Hankow for the manufacture of brick tea for the Russian market, decreased from 9 million lbs to 3 million lbs. The total exports by sea to the Asiatic countries decreased by one million lbs. Australia, New Zealand, and the Fiji Islands took between them some 5,616,000 lbs more than in 1916-17. The stoppage of exports from the United Kingdom resulted in increased shipments direct from India to Canada, the United States of America, South Africa, and South America. Exports by land increased by 285,000 lbs or 25 per cent. The bulk of the exports by land goes to Afghanistan and other countries beyond the north-western frontier. If the exports both by sea and by land are taken together, the net increase in 1917-18 was nearly 68 million lbs or 23 per cent. The difficulties in obtaining tonnage were the controlling factor on the trade of the year. The Food Controller of His Majesty's Government formulated a scheme for purchasing and shipping Indian tea between November 1st, 1917, and May 31st, 1918, and this relieved the Indian market during the latter half of the season. The Food Controller originally contracted for 40 per cent of the Indian crop, but ultimately contracted for 25 million lbs in excess of this amount, and finally took all the tea that was offered in order to fill the available tonnage.

Re-exports of Indian tea from the United Kingdom.

The total quantity of Indian tea imported into the United Kingdom is not consumed there. A considerable portion of it is re-exported to other foreign countries. The re-exports of Indian tea from the United Kingdom to each foreign country in each of the last five calendar years are given in table No. 5. The total figures for the five years are stated in the margin. The total re-exports in 1917 decreased to only 3 million lbs from 25 million lbs in the preceding year. The largest quantity went to Canada, namely, 873,000 lbs as against 3,314,000 lbs in 1916. The United States of America took 542,000 lbs only, as against 4,701,000 lbs in the preceding year.

	lbs
1913	21,830,000
1914	30,399,000
1915	24,541,000
1916	25,320,000
1917	3,281,000

Indian and Ceylon tea exported direct together with that re-exported from the United Kingdom.

Table No. 6 shows the total of (a) Indian, and (b) Ceylon tea exported direct by sea together with that re-exported from the United Kingdom to each principal foreign country in each of the last four calendar years. The figures for 1917 are stated in the margin (in thousands of pounds). In the Canadian market Indian tea well maintained its position, and the total quantity that went there was more than double the quantity of the preceding year. The United States of America, which ordinarily prefers Ceylon to Indian tea, appears to have increased its demand for both, especially for the latter. Australia, which also prefers Ceylon to Indian tea, took both kinds in larger quantities than in 1916. In the Russian market Indian tea was ousted by Ceylon tea in the year of report.

	Indian tea.	Ceylon tea.
	lbs	lbs
	(1,000)	(1,000)
Russia	12,319	14,303
Other European Countries	1,875	5,041
United States	17,395	23,202
Canada	22,717	13,518
Australia	8,929	23,636
Other Countries	28,655	33,327
Total	91,890	113,027

Percentage share of the United Kingdom and Continents in exports of Indian tea.

The proportion (per cent) of exports of Indian tea consigned to the different parts of the world, to total exports from India by sea and by land, in the last two years is shown in the margin. The percentage of Indian tea sent to the United Kingdom, declined to some extent in 1917-18, while as regards exports to other countries in Europe, the percentage fell very low. The percentage also fell in the case of Asia, but it rose considerably in the case of other continents, especially America.

	1916-17	1917-18
	per cent	per cent
By Sea—		
To United Kingdom	76.9	74.0
„ rest of Europe	9.5	2.5
„ Asia	6.1	4.7
„ America	4.5	12.2
„ Australia	1.8	3.0
„ Africa	0.8	3.2
By land	0.4	0.4
	100	100

Share of Indian ports in the tea trade.

Table No. 7 shows the quantity of Indian tea shipped from Calcutta, Chittagong, South Indian ports, Bombay and Karachi, and Burma ports

in each of the last five years. The figures for 1917-18 are stated in the margin (in thousands of pounds). Compared with

	lbs (1,000)	1916-17	1917-18
From Calcutta	279,237		
Chittagong	45,591		
South Indian ports	24,903		
Bombay and Karachi	9,447		
Burma ports	3		

1916-17, the shipments from Calcutta in the year under report increased by over 77 million lbs or 38 per cent, while the exports from Chittagong fell by 15 million lbs or 25 per cent. The exports from Bombay and Karachi rose to a considerable extent and those from South Indian ports were practically the same as in the preceding year. Besides exporting direct by sea, Calcutta also sends a considerable quantity by rail to Bombay for shipment from the latter port. The supply of tea in Calcutta comes by rail from Assam, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and Northern India; Chittagong obtains its supply mainly from Assam; Bombay and Karachi mainly from Calcutta, and partly also from Northern India; and the South Indian ports mainly from Madras and the Travancore State.

It is interesting to compare the exports of tea from India, Ceylon, and China, the three rival tea-supplying countries in the world's market. Table No. 8 shows the total reported exports by sea and land from India and those from Ceylon and China in each of the last twenty-two years, with the ratio of increase or decrease in each year as compared with 1896-97, the figures for that year being taken as 100 in each case. The actual figures for the last

Exports of tea from India, compared with those from Ceylon and China.

	1916-17 lbs (1,000)	1917-18 lbs (1,000)
India	292,594	360,622
Ceylon	208,090	195,232
China—		
Black and green	126,261	89,115
Brick, tablet, and dust	79,260	60,937

two years are shown in the margin (in thousands of pounds). In the last twenty-two years the exports from India have increased by 140 per cent and those from Ceylon by 77 per cent, but the exports from China have declined by 38 per cent.

The total quantity of green tea exported from India to foreign countries, both by sea and by land, in 1917-18 amounted to 1,164,000 lbs, as compared with 1,080,000 lbs in 1916-17, and 1,745,000 lbs in 1915-16. Details for the last

Exports of green tea.

	1915-16 lbs	1917-18 lbs
From Calcutta and Chittagong	240,491	4,258
By land	839,552	1,159,536
TOTAL	1,080,043	1,163,794

two years are given in the margin. The bulk of the exports was, as usual, by land, and was directed to countries beyond the north-west frontier. The exports of green tea in the year under report showed a slight increase over the preceding year.

The trade in waste tea was considerable during the year, the exports rising from 3.6 million to 7.3 million lbs, mainly directed to the United States (6.9 millions) and the United Kingdom ($\frac{2}{3}$ million) for the manufacture of caffeine.

Exports of waste tea.

The quantities of teas entered for home consumption in the

	1915 lbs (1,000)	1916 lbs (1,000)	1917 lbs (1,000)
Total quantity entered—			
Indian tea	182,349	188,338	167,319
Ceylon tea	92,922	81,216	77,402
China tea	12,814	8,743	16,075
Tea of other countries.	29,836	24,591	16,869
TOTAL	317,921	302,888	277,665

United Kingdom in each of the last three years are stated in the marginal table (in thousands of pounds). In the year under review India supplied 60 per cent of the total quantity consumed in the United Kingdom, Ceylon supplied some 28 per cent, and China only about 6 per cent, of the total. The average annual consumption of tea per head of population in the United Kingdom is $6\frac{3}{4}$ lbs, and of this quantity Indian tea constitutes nearly 4 lbs. The quantity of each kind of tea, which remained in the bonded warehouses or entered to be warehoused in the United Kingdom on 31st December in each of the last three years, is also stated in the margin (in thousands of pounds) as far as data are available. The total quantity remaining on the 31st December, 1917, was about 93 million lbs less than that on the corresponding date of the preceding year.

Tea entered for home consumption in the United Kingdom.

	1915 lbs	1916 lbs	1917 lbs
Quantity in bonded warehouses—			
Indian tea	96,885	74,881	(a)
Ceylon tea	15,994	15,703	
China tea	17,432	14,453	
Tea of other countries.	17,885	24,835	
TOTAL	148,196	129,872	37,192

	per head—	lbs	lbs	lbs
All tea		6.84	6.56	6.04
Indian tea		3.93	4.08	3.64

(a) Details not yet available

Exports of tea from Java, Japan, and Formosa.

	1915	1916	1917
	lbs	lbs	lbs
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Java	101,603	98,006	80,236
Japan	44,864	50,613	66,225
Formosa	23,150	21,911	(a)

The tea-supplying countries of the United Kingdom, other than India, Ceylon, and China, are Java, Japan, and Formosa. The official figures of exports from these countries for the last three years, so far as available, are stated (in thousands of pounds) in the marginal table. In the last decade Java has increased her production, and she is now manufacturing tea of very good quality, which is becoming increasingly popular.

Foreign tea in India.

	lbs
	(1,000)
Imported from—	
Ceylon	5,113
China	4,182
Java	65
Shan States	5,068
Elsewhere	623
TOTAL	15,051
Re-exported	975
Balance left	14,076

Table No. 9 shows the imports into, and re-exports from, India of foreign tea (both black and green) by sea and land, and the balance left in the country for consumption, in the last five years. The figures for 1917-18 are stated in the margin (in thousands of pounds). The total imports in 1917-18 were 15,051,000 lbs, or 4,418,000 lbs more than in 1916-17. Of this total, the imports by land across the frontier amounted to 5,463,000 lbs, a figure which was 10 per cent below that of the preceding year. About a sixteenth of the total imports was re-exported as foreign tea, chiefly by sea from Bombay to Persia, Turkey in Asia, Maskat, and the Bahrein Islands, and by land to Afghanistan, leaving some 14,076,000 lbs for consumption in India. Foreign tea is blended under bond with Indian tea for re-exports abroad, and only 218,600 lbs were blended under special license in Calcutta during the year 1917-18.

Consumption of tea in India.

	lbs
	(1,000)
Production	37,472
Add stocks from previous year	61,000
Deduct net exports to foreign countries	346,546
" stocks left at end of year	43,560
Balance for consumption	41,426

As already explained, the reported figures of production are not strictly accurate, and consequently any estimate of the consumption *per capita* in India, as a whole, is slightly vitiated at the outset. In table No. 10, however, is shown the balance of leaf tea, green and black, left in the country for consumption in each of the last five years after deducting net exports (*i.e.*, exports *minus* imports) and stocks left at the end of the year, from the production *plus* stocks from the previous year. The figures for 1917-18 are stated in the margin (in thousands of pounds). The balance left in 1917-18 amounted to 41 million lbs as against 37 million lbs in 1916-17. The average for the last five years is about 31 million lbs. There can be no doubt that the consumption of tea in India is increasing. The method employed in encouraging the use of tea by the selling of prepared liquid tea in shops continues, and the enthusiasm which this has created is proved by the vast increase in the number of shops opened during the past year.* In Burma, in addition to leaf tea, about 18 million lbs of pickled tea (*letpet*), mostly imported from the North Shan States, are consumed annually. The consumption of pickled tea in Burma is estimated to be about 1.4 lbs per head of population.

Imports of tea chests and machinery.

The value of chests, mainly of wood, imported from foreign countries for packing tea, increased from R87 lakhs in 1916-17 to R94 lakhs in 1917-18, and of these imports, R90 lakhs were accounted for by Bengal. The United Kingdom supplied chests valued at nearly R41 lakhs, Russia R13 lakhs, and Japan over R34 lakhs. Imports of tea machinery were valued at R13 lakhs, as against R22 lakhs in 1916-17. The United Kingdom supplied tea machinery valued at R12 lakhs and Ceylon R70,000.

Tea sales and prices.

	Number of packages.	
	1916-17	1917-18
Assam Valley	327,124	309,098
Cachar	137,033	91,404
Sylhet	128,233	87,449
Doonars	272,244	134,782
Darjeeling	99,266	59,324
Other places	55,984	41,995
TOTAL	1,019,884	724,052

Table No. 11 shows the quantity (in packages) of tea of the different producing districts sold at the auction sales in Calcutta in each of the last ten years. The figures for the principal districts for the last two years are stated in the margin. The total number of packages sold in 1917-18 amounted to 724,000, as compared with 1,020,000 in 1916-17, and 979,000 in 1915-16.

* Cf. Appendix, page 23.

(a) Not yet available

Table No. 12 shows the number of packages of tea sold and the prices realised at the auction sales in Calcutta during the last six tea seasons, 1912-13 to 1917-18,

according to the principal producing areas in India, while table No. 13 illustrates the variations (expressed in index numbers) in the average prices of Indian tea sold in Calcutta and in the average declared values of exports of all descriptions of tea from 1888-89, the average of the ten years 1901-02 to 1910-11 being taken as 100 in each case. The figures for 1916-17 and 1917-18 are stated in the margin. It will be seen that the average price per lb realised for all teas sold during 1917-18 at public auctions was 7*as.* 3*p.*, against 8*as.* 8*p.* in 1916-17, and 8*as.* 11*p.* in 1915-16. Lack of freight seriously hampered trade during the year under review, while the entire cessation of buying for Russia throughout the year was a serious blow to the market.*

The Calcutta market opened on the 12th June, 1917, with common Pekoe Souchong at 6 *as.* 6*p.* per lb. The price dropped to 6 annas and remained almost steady for a month; it then continued again to decline until early in September, when the quotation reached the low level of 4 *as.* 6 *p.* At this point lowest leaf was almost unsaleable. Towards the end of September the Government contract brought about a gradual recovery to 5 *as.* 9 *p.* The advent of the Home Government scheme, referred to in the previous report, left very little common tea for distribution in the market. The quotation touched 7 *as.* in December due to further Government contracts, but this was followed by a smart drop and prices receded to 5 *as.* 6 *p.* in January 1918. A further large Army order, placed on the market at the end of the season, forced the price up to 7 *as.* 6 *p.* Throughout the year the price for Pekoes was fairly steady but that for Darjeelings was lower, owing to the withdrawal of Russian support, coupled with the indifferent quality produced.*

Table No. 15 shows the course of freight charged on tea from Calcutta to London during the last twenty years. The rates are the minimum rates (per ton of 50 cub. ft.) that obtained in August, the month in which the largest quantity of tea is ordinarily shipped. Up to 1907 the rates fluctuated considerably from year to year, the highest being £2 1*s.* 3*d.* in 1899 and the lowest £1 8*s.* 9*d.* in 1901. From 1908 to 1911 the rate remained stationary at £1 12*s.* 6*d.* From the 1st April, 1912, to the 6th August, 1914, the rate was £1 15*s.* per ton, subject to a rebate of 5*s.* At the beginning of the season 1915-16, the rate was increased to £2 7*s.* 6*d.* net per ton, freight being paid at Calcutta on London measurements. In February, 1917, the rate was fixed at £3 15*s.* for shipments *via* the Cape, and on the 1st October, 1917, it was further increased to £15 per ton less 10 per cent.

The number of persons employed in the tea industry in each district in the year under review is given in table No. 3. The figures for each of the provinces for 1917 are stated in the margin.

	Permanent.	Temporary.
Assam	471,270	47,117
Bengal	107,870	30,731
Bihar and Orissa	619	1,133
United Provinces	3,191	2,322
Punjab	4,062	6,163
Madras	22,787	4,093
Travancore	42,246	5,904
Burma	3,087	138
TOTAL	654,932	97,601

India, the work is sometimes done by contract, and in this case no record of the labour employed is available, and the figures are therefore not quite complete.

According to the Chairman of the Assam Labour Board, recruitment for the tea estates in Assam during the season 1917-18 was not satisfactory, the numbers of labourers and dependants obtained falling short of those sent forward during the previous season. Corps in the recruiting districts were generally good, and in all the areas from which Assam draws its tea garden labour force, recruitment for War Labour Corps was more or less brisk. But the chief cause for the poorer results seems to be the fact that garden sardars

* Vide Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.'s Annual Review, 1917-18

were deputed in much smaller numbers at the beginning of the 1917-18 recruiting season—indeed many concerns temporarily ceased to recruit. This was due partly to the uncertainty of the financial outlook for tea owing to the shortage of tonnage, and partly to the apprehension that garden sardars would be recruited for Labour Corps. The Food Controller's tea purchase scheme, however, allayed all apprehensions as to the financial position, and the Provincial War Boards readily agreed not to accept garden sardars for Labour Corps. Recruitment for tea estates was, therefore, resumed later in the season and has since then, on the whole, been fairly satisfactory. Very few cases of illegal recruitment have come to the notice of the Assam Labour Board, and there is every indication that the *arkatti* finds the present conditions more and more cramping to his undesirable activities.

The average monthly wages of labourers (Act and non-Act) employed in the tea gardens in Assam in the eight years 1910-11 to 1917-18 are given in table No. 16. The figures for 1917-18 are stated in the margin. The

		R	a.	p.
Act labourers	Men	8	1	6
	Women	7	9	5
Non-Act labourers	Men	6	4	3
	Women	5	1	2
	Children	2	13	5
Average		5	15	7

averages are calculated on the figures for September and March of monthly cash wages (including *ticca*, diet, rations, subsistence allowance, and bonus) per head of the total number on the books. It may be noted that the tea garden cooly is able to supplement his cash earn-

ings on the garden by private cultivation and obtains other privileges, such as free fuel and grazing, which add largely to the amount of his money income.

In 1903 an Act, known as the Indian Tea Cess Act, IX of 1903, was passed at the request of the tea trade for promoting its sale and manufacture. Under this Act a duty of $\frac{1}{4}$ pie per lb is levied on all Indian teas exported. The whole of the amount collected is made over to a fund, known as the Tea Cess Fund, which is placed in the hands of a Committee* appointed for the purpose, and Government merely acts as a revenue collecting agency. The total amount collected in 1917-18 was ₹4,67,000, as against ₹3,86,000 in 1916-17. The allotments for the season 1918-19 have been to India (₹3,45,000) and for the United States Army (₹75,000). In allotting the funds available, it was decided that for the present, as far as the United Kingdom and the United States of America were concerned, only sufficient funds should be paid to meet expenses for the maintenance of their respective office establishments.

In addition to the duty levied under the Indian Tea Cess Act, an export duty of ₹1 8 per 100 lbs (equivalent to about 3 pies per lb) has been imposed with effect from the 1st March, 1916. The amount of export duty collected during 1917-18 was ₹43,83,000.

Table No. 17 shows the rates of customs duties levied on tea in the different countries of the world. It will be seen that in Russia, which consumed until recently the largest quantity of Indian tea next to the United Kingdom (*vide* tables Nos. 4 and 5), the rates of duty are high as compared with those in other countries consuming Indian tea to any considerable extent.

According to the returns furnished to this Department by Registrars of Joint Stock Companies, the capital of Joint Stock Companies engaged in the production of tea during 1917 amounted to over ₹33 crores or about £22 millions, *viz.* :—

Companies incorporated in India	₹	5,40,28,140
„ „ „ the United Kingdom	£18,421,879 =	27,63,28,185
TOTAL		33,03,56,325

The position of 76 companies, for which data are available both for 1917 and for the prewar year, is as stated below :—

	Number of Companies	Ordinary paid up Capital R (lakhs)	Dividends R (lakhs)	Per cent	Index number (taking the dividends for 1913 as 100)
1913 (pre-war) year	76	223	41	18	100
1916	76	230	61	27	150
1917	76	231	49	21	118

* For an account of the work of the Committee, see Appendix (pages 23-28.)

Wages.

Tea Cess Fund.

Export duty.

Duty on tea in foreign countries.

Capital employed.

Particulars are available concerning the present position of 117 companies incorporated in India, which have an aggregate paid-up capital of Rs. 49 lakhs. Of these companies, 94 companies declared dividends for 1916, amounting to 24 per cent on their aggregate capital of Rs. 2,97 lakhs. 81 companies have up to now declared dividends for 1917, amounting to 20 per cent on their aggregate capital of Rs. 2,43 lakhs. The value per Rs. 100 of joint stock capital as calculated on the prices of the shares of 111 companies quoted in the Calcutta share market was Rs. 232.2 in March, 1917, and of 115 companies the value was Rs. 213.7 in March, 1918.

Dividends and value of shares.

The present position and prospects of the tea industry appear to be satisfactory, in spite of difficulties in obtaining tonnage, although it is difficult under existing conditions to forecast the future. The exports by sea from British India of Indian tea in the eight months, April to November, of the present year are 21 per cent above those in the corresponding period of 1917 and 11 per cent above those of 1914 (the pre-war period). The immediate future of the industry is largely a question of shipping. There is no doubt that a large demand will continue. Supplies are stated to be short in most of the consuming countries, and it seems doubtful whether production will be able to cope with the demand for several years to come.

Present position of tea industry.

The results of the Calcutta Auction Sales of the present season up to the end of November, 1918, compared with those of the corresponding period of the last four years, show that, although the number of packages sold is small, owing to the contracts made by the Food Controller for the requirements of the Home Government, referred to above, the price realised is higher than that in any previous year except 1915-16 and 1916-17.

	Packages sold.	Average price per lb.	
		A.	P.
Season 1914-15 (up to end of November 1914)	438,458	7	3
" 1915-16 (" " " " 1915)	709,022	9	3
" 1916-17 (" " " " 1916)	717,397	8	8
" 1917-18 (" " " " 1917)	483,418	6	11
" 1918-19 (" " " " 1918)	387,516	8	5

Imports of foreign tea into India are shown in table No. 9. The total imports in 1917-18 amounted to 15 million lbs. Excluding from this the 5 million lbs imported from the Shan States, which cannot strictly be treated as foreign tea as the States constitute a part of Burma, the quantity of real foreign tea amounts to 10 million lbs. This is less than 3 per cent of the total Indian production. It can, therefore, hardly be said that there is any competition of foreign tea with Indian tea in the Indian market.

In conclusion, I wish to place on record the debt of gratitude that the Department owes to the Indian Tea Association, the United Planters' Association of Southern India, the Tea Controller, the Indian Tea Cess Commissioner, the Planting Member of the Madras Legislative Council (Sir Fairless Barber), as well as to the Governments of Madras and Assam, and, above all, to His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, for great assistance, ungrudgingly rendered, in connexion with the collection and checking of the data. The Travancore Darbar is taking steps to secure on a scientific basis the collection of complete returns in future years. The Government of Madras discussed, at a conference in Ootacamund in July 1918, the question of collecting accurate and complete information for the trade. That local Government has decided that in future planters will forward their returns direct to the Collector of the district, who will ensure that individual returns are kept confidential, and are at the same time checked with the care that these returns deserve. It is intended to make these reports a complete survey of Indian tea production. Meantime amid many difficulties of staff engaged on other urgent work and the prevailing *vis inertiae*, the staff of the Department has struggled along towards the light, and the statistical data are, therefore, in many respects of greater value than in previous years.

G. FINDLAY SHIRRAS,
Director of Statistics.

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS, INDIA,
1, COUNCIL HOUSE STREET,
Calcutta, January 13, 1919.

The first part of the report is devoted to a general survey of the Indian population in the United States. It is based on the census of 1890, and shows that the total number of Indians was 247,000. This is a decrease of 100,000 since the census of 1850. The report also shows that the Indian population is distributed as follows: 100,000 in the Eastern States, 100,000 in the Middle States, and 147,000 in the Western States.

The second part of the report is devoted to a detailed description of the Indian population in each of the States. It shows that the Indian population is most numerous in the States of California, Texas, and Arizona. In California, there are 100,000 Indians; in Texas, 100,000; and in Arizona, 147,000. The report also shows that the Indian population is most numerous in the States of California, Texas, and Arizona. In California, there are 100,000 Indians; in Texas, 100,000; and in Arizona, 147,000.

The third part of the report is devoted to a description of the Indian population in each of the Territories. It shows that the Indian population is most numerous in the Territories of Colorado, New Mexico, and Nevada. In Colorado, there are 100,000 Indians; in New Mexico, 100,000; and in Nevada, 147,000. The report also shows that the Indian population is most numerous in the Territories of Colorado, New Mexico, and Nevada. In Colorado, there are 100,000 Indians; in New Mexico, 100,000; and in Nevada, 147,000.

The fourth part of the report is devoted to a description of the Indian population in each of the Indian Reservations. It shows that the Indian population is most numerous in the Reservations of California, Texas, and Arizona. In California, there are 100,000 Indians; in Texas, 100,000; and in Arizona, 147,000. The report also shows that the Indian population is most numerous in the Reservations of California, Texas, and Arizona. In California, there are 100,000 Indians; in Texas, 100,000; and in Arizona, 147,000.

The fifth part of the report is devoted to a description of the Indian population in each of the Indian Reservations. It shows that the Indian population is most numerous in the Reservations of California, Texas, and Arizona. In California, there are 100,000 Indians; in Texas, 100,000; and in Arizona, 147,000. The report also shows that the Indian population is most numerous in the Reservations of California, Texas, and Arizona. In California, there are 100,000 Indians; in Texas, 100,000; and in Arizona, 147,000.

PART II—TABLES.

No. 1—ABSTRACT STATEMENT OF AREA (IN ACRES) UNDER TEA

PROVINCES	Average 1885—1889	Average 1890—1894	Average 1895—1899	Average 1900—1904	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Burma	76	720	1,233	1,486	1,520	1,406	1,502	1,498	1,669	1,724
Assam { Brahmaputra Valley Cachar and Sylhet	115,890	141,458	177,880	205,679	204,702	205,999	207,276	206,698	208,575	210,704
	95,411	107,637	129,097	132,571	133,576	131,822	131,930	132,530	138,757	134,988
<i>Total, Assam</i>	<i>211,301</i>	<i>249,095</i>	<i>306,977</i>	<i>338,250</i>	<i>338,278</i>	<i>337,821</i>	<i>339,206</i>	<i>339,228</i>	<i>347,332</i>	<i>345,692</i>
Bengal	73,169	95,625	118,452	135,097	135,956	134,668	136,153	136,484	139,516	141,533
Bihar and Orissa (a) . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
United Provinces	8,345	8,621	8,036	8,083	8,083	7,953	7,934	7,949	7,961	8,066
Punjab	8,794	9,068	9,895	9,610	9,399	9,347	9,412	9,425	9,411	9,338
Madras	5,558	5,385	7,016	7,263	8,845	8,565	8,552	10,144	10,974	14,626
Travancore	(b)3,852	(b)7,186	(b)15,682	24,931	24,580	24,712	25,245	27,480	25,986	27,103
TOTAL, INDIA	310,595	375,700	467,291	524,720	526,611	524,472	528,004	532,208	537,849	548,127

No. 2—ABSTRACT STATEMENT OF THE PRODUCTION (IN POUNDS) OF TEA

PROVINCES	Average 1885—1889	Average 1890—1894	Average 1895—1899	Average 1900—1904	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Burma	1,884	25,584	67,661	62,986	69,173	67,426	107,308	112,589	129,642	118,438
Assam { Brahmaputra Valley Cachar and Sylhet	39,686,486	51,839,546	61,565,799	76,407,744	78,649,026	81,708,581	86,622,872	95,864,861	94,448,433	96,569,046
	26,990,887	37,318,196	49,287,320	64,698,005	66,550,075	70,488,824	65,281,934	66,603,173	69,745,889	69,887,813
<i>Total, Assam</i>	<i>66,677,373</i>	<i>89,157,742</i>	<i>110,853,119</i>	<i>141,105,749</i>	<i>145,199,101</i>	<i>152,197,405</i>	<i>151,904,806</i>	<i>162,468,034</i>	<i>164,194,322</i>	<i>166,456,859</i>
Bengal	19,376,597	29,186,317	39,213,983	48,707,794	50,888,084	53,885,829	53,570,740	60,688,193	60,216,558	59,971,647
Bihar and Orissa (a) . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
United Provinces	1,634,190	1,894,513	2,040,658	2,299,486	2,067,270	2,573,090	2,474,713	2,290,169	2,294,594	2,009,856
Punjab	1,634,074	1,799,603	2,154,685	1,933,931	1,914,821	1,916,739	1,432,308	1,237,694	1,237,545	1,437,509
Madras	935,369	1,095,590	538,762	1,171,594	1,460,059	1,652,622	1,762,738	3,094,498	3,470,551	4,436,365
Travancore	(b)342,718	(b)1,735,803	(b)3,505,938	6,107,429	7,241,638	9,073,880	10,147,584	11,186,294	12,749,355	12,593,846
TOTAL, INDIA	90,692,205	124,895,152	158,374,806	201,388,369	208,840,143	221,366,991	221,400,197	241,077,471	244,292,572	247,024,517

(a) Figures for the years 1885 to 1910
(b) Includes figures
(c) Revised

IN EACH PROVINCE IN INDIA FROM 1885 TO 1917.

1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	PROVINCES
1,693	1,695	1,700	1,715	3,000	2,998	2,886	2,841	2,505	Burma
212,457	214,543	218,178	222,428	226,012	231,900	236,489	242,636	249,764	Brahmaputra Valley
135,562	135,701	136,098	139,243	141,835	144,475	146,355	146,702	149,926	Cachar and Sylhet
348,019	350,244	354,276	361,671	367,847	376,375	382,824	389,338	399,690	Total, Assam
143,254	145,868	146,756	150,497	156,089	159,304	161,313	166,340	167,791	Bengal
...	...	2,249	2,282	2,160	2,160	2,153	2,178	2,178	Bihar and Orissa (a)
8,066	7,884	7,612	7,797	7,978	7,994	7,946	7,968	7,986	United Provinces
9,376	9,397	9,381	9,315	9,322	9,892	9,875	7,495	7,498	Punjab
15,723	18,099	20,593	24,396	26,278	26,965	27,103	30,362	32,988	Madras
29,174	30,367	32,008	34,160	37,430	38,809	40,890	42,415	43,348	Travancore
555,305	563,554	574,575	591,833	610,104	624,497	634,940	(c) 648,937	664,234	TOTAL, INDIA

IN EACH PROVINCE IN INDIA FROM 1885 TO 1917.

1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	PROVINCES
64,741	67,576	76,495	83,287	153,797	155,218	145,534	146,076	113,470	Burma
104,605,258	105,043,093	106,397,298	122,293,047	124,824,497	132,785,369	162,847,198	161,111,624	159,790,589	Brahmaputra Valley
70,245,944	70,051,976	72,655,719	76,505,236	74,897,453	75,441,735	82,538,722	81,072,947	84,148,898	Cachar and Sylhet
174,851,202	175,095,069	179,053,017	198,798,283	199,721,950	208,227,104	245,385,920	242,184,571	243,939,487	Total, Assam
60,920,725	64,674,243	64,653,923	70,524,169	80,108,705	75,873,201	89,526,057	92,644,990	91,852,856	Bengal
...	...	285,442	269,072	311,630	282,414	293,207	246,002	309,208	Bihar and Orissa (a)
2,206,630	2,045,275	2,534,708	2,656,805	2,579,072	2,379,164	2,905,945	2,352,732	2,290,057	United Provinces
1,413,701	1,418,854	1,489,163	1,930,985	2,129,835	1,941,300	1,969,638	1,530,101	1,050,219	Punjab
5,325,710	5,645,219	5,795,407	7,555,831	7,089,045	8,607,641	11,361,580	11,364,446	11,251,039	Madras
13,333,639	14,323,117	14,714,537	16,059,657	15,155,635	16,010,166	20,248,787	17,959,801	19,665,246	Travancore
253,136,403	263,269,353	268,602,692	297,878,089	307,249,669	312,976,208	371,336,668	(c) 368,423,719	370,471,582	TOTAL, INDIA

are included under Bengal
for the Cochin State
figure

No. 3—DETAILED STATEMENT OF AREA AND PRODUCTION OF TEA, NUMBER AND AREA OF

District	Number of plantations on the 31st December	Planted area as per previous year's statement	Area abandoned during the year	New extensions during the year (including re-planting in areas abandoned in previous years)	Total area under tea	Areas in the occupation of planters but not under tea cultivation	Total area of plantations
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
BURMA—							
Katha	32	334	37	8	305	...	305
Upper Chindwin	20	2,494	...	...	2,494	...	2,494
Myitkyina	38	13	7	...	6	...	6
TOTAL	90	2,841	44	8	2,805	...	2,805
ASSAM—							
Cachar	163	60,661	322	1,847	62,186	221,169	283,366
Sylhet	141	86,041	329	2,028	87,740	201,278	289,018
Goalpara	4	731	...	76	807	440	1,247
Kamrup	22	(a) 3,108	10	95	3,193	17,076	20,269
Darrang	97	49,211	250	2,050	51,011	130,805	181,816
Nowgong	42	12,734	189	306	12,851	34,176	47,027
Sibsagar	167	(a) 93,115	255	2,264	95,124	187,619	282,743
Lakhimpur	160	(a) 83,737	423	3,464	86,778	173,886	260,614
TOTAL	796	(a) 389,338	1,778	12,130	399,690	966,399	1,366,089
BENGAL—							
Darjeeling	157	54,559	669	756	54,646	74,935	129,581
Jalpaiguri	120	106,413	771	2,178	107,820	154,972	262,792
Chittagong	27	(a) 5,284	208	163	5,239	21,423	26,665
" Hill Tracts	1	84	...	2	86	816	902
TOTAL	305	(a) 166,340	1,648	3,099	167,791	252,149	419,940
BIHAR AND ORISSA—							
Hazaribagh	1	90	...	...	90	2,000	2,090
Ranchi	21	(a) 2,088	...	...	2,088	3,429	5,517
TOTAL	22	(a) 2,178	...	...	2,178	5,429	7,607
UNITED PROVINCES—							
Almora	23	1,827	5	5	1,827	10,563	12,389
Garhwal	6	922	...	...	922	4,801	5,723
Dehra Dun	33	(a) 5,219	...	18	5,237	6,032	11,269
TOTAL	62	(a) 7,968	5	23	7,986	21,395	29,381
PUNJAB—							
Kangra	2,659	(a) 7,495	...	3	7,498	2,230	9,728
MADRAS—							
Nilgiris	132	14,960	170	732	15,522	27,175	42,697
Malabar	46	9,346	90	660	9,916	27,738	37,654
Coimbatore	9	5,999	...	1,494	7,493	6,405	13,898
Tinnevely	2	20	...	...	20	127	147
Madura	1	37	...	...	37	499	536
TOTAL	190	(a) 30,362	260	2,886	32,988	61,944	94,932
<i>Total, British India</i>	4,124	(a) 606,522	3,735	18,149	620,936	1,309,546	1,930,492
TRAVANCORE	128	(a) 42,415	177	1,110	43,348	46,845	90,193
TOTAL, INDIA	4,252	(a) 648,937	3,912	19,259	664,284	1,356,391	2,020,675

(a) Revised since the publication of last year's report

PLANTATIONS, AND NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN EACH DISTRICT IN INDIA IN 1917.

PERSONS EMPLOYED (DAILY AVERAGE)		Area that has been plucked during the year	Area that has not been plucked during the year	Quantity (in lbs) of manufactured tea				District
Permanent	Temporary			1916		1917		
9	10	11	12	13				14
Number	Number	Acres	Acres	Black	Green	Black	Green	
709 2,378 ...	... 100 38	305 1,414 6	... 1,080 ...	8,663 133,693 3,720	... ... ...	9,264 100,360 3,846	... ... ...	BURMA— Katha Upper Chindwin Myitkyina
3,087	138	1,725	1,080	(b) 146,076	...	(b) 113,470	...	TOTAL
59,101 38,123 423 2,162 64,480 11,948 123,552 121,481	5,458 6,196 99 920 4,937 3,167 11,171 15,169	58,524 82,320 677 2,879 46,678 12,088 90,747 80,794	3,662 5,420 130 314 4,333 763 4,377 5,984	33,161,802 47,749,360 308,452 1,282,219 32,335,159 7,443,178 57,833,879 61,908,737	161,785	34,236,553 49,390,931 277,243 1,080,525 31,118,580 7,445,041 59,667,365 60,201,835	337,340 184,074	ASSAM— Cachar Sylhet Goalpara Kamrup Darrang Nowgong Sibsagar Lakhimpur
471,270	47,117	374,707	24,983	242,022,786	161,785	243,418,073	521,414	TOTAL
32,960 70,419 4,223 68	10,323 19,707 699 2	52,446 99,783 4,831 84	2,200 8,037 408 2	19,385,441 71,288,627 1,954,690 15,000	... ... 261 971	18,660,752 71,203,343 1,970,925 16,086	... ... 950 800	BENGAL— Darjeeling Jalpaiguri Chittagong " Hill Tracts
107,670	30,731	157,144	10,647	92,643,758	1,232	91,851,106	1,750	TOTAL
5 614	9 1,124	27 2,068	63 20	3,514 24,529	... (a) 217,959	2,126 20,674	... 286,408	BIHAR AND ORISSA— Hazariabagh Ranchi
619	1,133	2,095	83	28,043	217,959	22,800	286,408	TOTAL
902 270 2,019	307 35 1,980	1,734 922 5,165	93 ... 72	135,852 44,045 2,125,129	44,152 3,554 ...	90,849 36,010 2,106,795	53,401 3,002 ...	UNITED PROVINCES— Almora Garhwal Dehra Dun
3,191	2,322	7,821	165	2,305,026	47,706	2,233,654	56,403	TOTAL
4,062	6,163	7,495	3	315,940	1,214,161	155,286	894,933	PUNJAB— Kangra
10,135 6,730 5,878 4 40	1,948 1,388 757	12,442 8,629 4,188 10 37	3,080 1,287 3,305 10 ...	5,730,842 3,603,109 1,229,461 1,000 ...	791,994 8,040	(c) 5,141,564 3,901,312 1,728,578 1,100 18,279	455,026 5,180	MADRAS— Nilgiris Malabar Coimbatore Tinnevely Madura
22,787	4,093	25,306	7,682	10,564,412	800,034	10,790,833	460,206	TOTAL
612,686	91,697	576,293	44,643	348,026,041	2,442,877	348,585,222	2,221,114	Total, British India
42,246	5,904	38,547	4,801	17,879,801	80,000	19,651,246	14,000	TRAVANCORE
654,932	97,601	614,840	49,444	365,905,842	(a) 2,522,877	368,236,468	2,235,114	TOTAL, INDIA

(b) Includes 140,813 lbs in 1916 and 108,086 lbs in 1917, being the equivalents of 563,254 lbs and 432,344 lbs respectively of wet pickled tea (*latpet*) reported by Burma

(c) Figures are subject to revision

NO. 4—QUANTITY OF INDIAN TEA EXPORTED BY SEA* (DISTINGUISHED ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES OF FINAL DESTINATION) AND BY LAND, IN THE YEARS 1913-14 TO 1917-18

	1913-14	1914-15	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18 †
<i>By Sea—</i>	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
United Kingdom	209,073,152	237,303,792	250,290,291	224,927,894	266,963,516
Austria-Hungary	158,734	45,606	...	...	...
Belgium	2,376	1,547	...	...	...
Denmark	13,330	20	...	...	...
France	33,945	561,558	183,171	80,078	719,696
Germany	701,140	187,958	...	...	...
Greece	260	...	...	...	111
Holland	30,090	...	...	...	...
Italy	1,395	74,017	6,980	348	45
Malta and Gozo . . . . .	...	...	16,749	...	229,962
Norway	4,275	850	1,044	4,408	35,600
Roumania	475	...	...	...	...
Russia	33,398,209	19,636,087	36,590,118	27,603,884	8,122,196
Sweden	2,928	100	2,376	...	...
Turkey, European	271,999	7,726	...	...	...
Other countries in Europe	22,861	37,647	21,270	37,894	42,755
TOTAL, EUROPE, EXCLUDING UNITED KINGDOM.	34,642,017	20,553,116	36,821,708	27,726,612	9,150,365
Egypt	1,593,680	686,062	994,973	1,081,273	6,226,321
East African Protectorate	280,900	273,467	364,729	311,517	559,598
Africa, East (Italian)	88,498	86,420	178,263	32,609	6,257
Africa, East (other ports)	163,405	95,464	89,331	61,737	140,931
Cape Colony	113,659	33,779	384,443	605,973	3,229,163
Madagascar	10,860	2,799	7,388	10,735	10,610
Mauritius	57,675	47,128	50,593	48,983	16,632
Natal	84,929	126,130	185,229	118,000	1,081,548
Zanzibar and Pemba	93,471	54,457	105,174	121,135	148,327
Other countries in Africa	115	7,811	...	1,901	12,040
TOTAL, AFRICA	2,487,192	1,412,517	2,360,123	2,393,863	11,431,427
Canada	11,564,565	10,950,615	8,842,135	8,443,092	21,152,917
United States	1,942,237	2,737,534	3,442,968	3,031,648	20,665,481
Argentine Republic . . . . .	...	...	...	...	352,673
Chile	80,000	217,660	942,180	1,736,093	1,596,578
West Indies . . . . .	...	55	...	...	71,617
Other countries in America	2,500	10,916	11,570	5,525	72,043
TOTAL, AMERICA	13,589,302	13,916,780	13,238,853	13,216,358	43,911,312

* Including shipments from the State of Travancore

† Figures for 1917-18 are subject to revision

No. 4—QUANTITY OF INDIAN TEA EXPORTED BY SEA (DISTINGUISHED ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES OF FINAL DESTINATION) AND BY LAND, IN THE YEARS 1913-14 TO 1917-18—contd.

	1913-14	1914-15	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18 (b)
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
<i>By Sea—contd.</i>					
Aden	178,548	188,963	536,428	439,521	204,403
Arabia	304,580	390,776	760,045	318,479	2,047,673
Bahrein Islands	550,530	501,906	802,655	126,562	581,791
Ceylon (a)	3,899,677	3,292,620	4,306,962	3,647,157	4,484,234
China—Hongkong	56,448	20,272	98,903	75,478	50
China (exclusive of Hongkong and Macao)	10,950,205	8,288,630	9,765,693	9,229,260	3,244,632
Japan	1,466	1,160	15,289	6,460	13,789
Persia	246,205	2,049,234	6,875,565	1,262,899	3,486,360
Siam	10,565	7,505	11,561	12,925	17,546
Straits Settlements	663,824	596,324	663,955	494,513	361,375
Sumatra	23,331	23,086	11,831	2,660	164
Turkey, Asiatic	2,829,625	1,229,826	2,327,156	1,482,977	1,976,540
Turkistan (Russian)	302,650	...	...	912,995	510,268
Other countries in Asia	4,764	3,969	12,497	2,070	20,485
TOTAL, ASIA	20,022,418	16,594,271	26,188,540	18,013,956	16,949,310
Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji Islands	9,704,752	10,990,605	9,590,672	5,160,399	10,776,375
TOTAL BY SEA	289,518,833	300,771,081	338,490,187	291,439,082	359,132,305
<i>By Land—</i>					
Khelat	224	1,232	672	112	448
Persia	172,816	249,872	431,200	57,232	138,096
Afghanistan—					
Northern and Eastern	1,024,352	510,048	445,424	500,976	550,592
Southern and Western	300,944	172,816	110,208	98,000	217,728
Tirah . . . . .	...	...	152,992	...	112
Dir, Swat, and Bajaur	339,136	535,024	437,696	122,192	222,320
Waziristan	4,928	5,712	2,464	...	...
Kurram Valley	49,168	46,480	68,768	43,224	29,120
Badakhshan	1,792	2,576	2,240	1,008	1,680
Ishkoman . . . . .	...	224	...	...	...
Kashgarh-Yarkhand	560	896	2,240	224	1,232
Chinese Turkistan	448	63,728	53,984	88,144	31,024
Pamir . . . . .	...	...	...	224	...
Central Asia	238,224	118,160	107,968	132,160	138,208
Tibet	10,528	28,224	59,696	46,480	22,176
Nepal	784	2,352	1,232	2,240	1,232
Sikkim	34,043	27,328	30,240	32,032	35,840
Bhutan . . . . .	...	...	8,176	...	...
Towang . . . . .	...	...	...	112	...
Nágá and Mishmi Hills	1,456	6,944	5,824	8,512	27,164
North Siam	112	112	...	112	...
North Shan States	16,688	13,888	21,952	22,848	22,624
TOTAL BY LAND	2,196,208	1,785,616	1,942,976	1,154,832	1,439,536
GRAND TOTAL	291,715,041	302,556,697	340,433,163	292,593,914	360,621,841

(a) Tea consigned from British India to Ceylon is almost entirely transhipped at Colombo to other countries and does not therefore appear in the Ceylon Customs Returns as imports into Ceylon.

(b) The figures for 1917-18 are subject to revision

No. 5—QUANTITY OF INDIAN TEA RE-EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO PRINCIPAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES, IN THE YEARS 1913 TO 1917.

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Re-exported to—	6,979,883	1,777,630	2,211,099	3,822,377	166,589
Russia	269,372	2,014,303	4,753,450	1,666,260	75,060
Denmark	764,954	476,073	...	...	...
Germany	2,026,331	12,325,173	3,425,862	849,024	26,840
Holland	115,575	89,108	54	69	499
Belgium	124,649	670,775	985,260	611,861	264,415
France	259,119	156,585	...	...	...
Austria-Hungary	81,954	39,170	...	...	...
Turkey, European	170,992	96,190	...	...	...
" Asiatic	184,743	187,363	87,692	51,767	10,092
Portuguese East Africa	2,175,972	8,015,805	2,655,876	4,700,742	541,740
United States of America	2,262,313	4,279,394	4,431,973	3,313,622	873,221
Canada	1,393,651	880,125	839,997	1,993,813	265,251
Chile	955,949	725,917	883,540	1,141,024	133,891
Argentine Republic	792,082	690,946	828,444	870,903	434,968
Channel Islands	1,593,440	1,387,246	1,338,694	712,713	10,559
Union of South Africa	71,330	44,397	49,352	78,514	11,036
Newfoundland	1,607,665	1,562,036	2,049,473	5,507,255	466,443
Other countries					
TOTAL RE-EXPORTED	21,829,974	30,399,236	24,540,766	25,819,944	3,280,604

No. 6—QUANTITY OF (a) INDIAN, AND (b) CEYLON, TEA EXPORTED DIRECT BY SEA, TOGETHER WITH THAT RE-EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, TO EACH PRINCIPAL FOREIGN COUNTRY IN THE YEARS 1914 TO 1917.

	INDIAN TEA				CEYLON TEA			
	1914	1915	1916	1917†	1914	1915	1916	1917
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Russia	12,944,641	40,441,856	38,161,190	12,318,843	14,863,870	25,738,737	26,259,397	14,303,430
Other European countries	18,088,665	11,423,926	8,298,422	1,875,160	7,639,248	7,659,655	7,278,302	5,040,535
United States of America	5,704,922	5,523,359	7,108,956	17,394,828	15,839,885	15,308,186	14,544,152	23,201,656
Canada	15,699,850	13,761,441	10,258,743	22,716,852	14,508,675	11,175,077	9,203,950	13,518,101
Australia	10,076,728*	9,315,448*	5,374,437*	8,929,287*	22,536,737	21,944,461	20,626,510	23,636,071
New Zealand	412,914*	490,225*	350,873*	787,360*	6,679,761*	6,170,492*	5,039,998*	6,419,126*
Other Foreign countries	22,491,735	30,101,998	31,677,169	27,867,888	18,153,740	23,252,816	23,633,135	26,908,481
TOTAL	85,419,455	111,058,253	101,229,790	91,890,218	100,221,916	111,249,424	111,585,444	113,027,430

* Direct exports only
† Subject to revision

No. 7—QUANTITY OF INDIAN TEA SHIPPED FROM THE DIFFERENT PORTS IN INDIA, IN THE YEARS 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

	1913-14	1914-15	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
From Calcutta	209,163,850	226,732,365	248,294,885	201,796,684	279,237,382
" Chittagong	56,246,642	47,924,783	53,107,747	60,896,193	45,591,136
" South Indian ports, including Travancore	21,474,288	22,033,109	25,859,691	24,944,470	24,903,116
" Bombay and Karachi	2,625,195	4,077,467	11,221,804	3,767,409	9,447,385*
" Burma ports	8,858	3,357	6,060	34,323	3,378

* Subject to revision

No. 8—QUANTITY OF TEA EXPORTED BY SEA AND BY LAND TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES FROM INDIA, CEYLON, AND CHINA, IN THE YEARS 1896-97 TO 1917-18, WITH VARIATIONS IN INDEX NUMBERS, TAKING THE FIGURE FOR 1896-97 AS 100.

	India		Ceylon*		CHINA †			
					Black and green		Brick, tablet, and dust	
	lbs.		lbs.		lbs.		lbs.	
1896-97	150,421,245	[100]	110,095,194	[100]	161,538,933	[100]	78,567,333	[100]
1897-98	152,344,905	[101]	114,460,318	[104]	137,097,600	[85]	75,781,867	[98]
1898-99	158,539,488	[105]	122,395,518	[111]	147,967,200	[92]	68,017,067	[87]
1899-1900	177,163,999	[118]	129,661,908	[118]	153,669,067	[95]	71,205,067	[91]
1900-01	192,300,658	[128]	149,264,603	[136]	144,270,933	[90]	52,190,667	[66]
1901-02	182,594,356	[121]	144,275,608	[131]	119,390,000	[74]	42,740,533	[54]
1902-03	183,710,931	[122]	150,829,707	[137]	128,226,933	[79]	78,513,400	[100]
1903-04	209,552,150	[139]	149,227,236	[135]	140,607,867	[88]	82,813,600	[107]
1904-05	214,300,325	[142]	157,929,333	[143]	132,366,933	[83]	61,493,733	[78]
1905-06	216,770,366	[144]	171,256,703	[156]	112,152,533	[69]	70,784,267	[91]
1906-07	236,090,328	[157]	171,558,110	[156]	108,864,534	[67]	79,506,133	[101]
1907-08	228,187,826	[151]	181,126,298	[164]	130,022,266	[80]	84,940,000	[108]
1908-09	235,089,126	[156]	181,436,718	[165]	129,265,733	[80]	80,885,733	[103]
1909-10	250,521,064	[167]	189,585,924	[172]	120,174,800	[74]	79,617,600	[101]
1910-11	256,438,614	[170]	186,925,117	[170]	123,947,734	[77]	84,158,943	[107]
1911-12	263,515,774	[175]	184,720,534	[168]	137,788,933	[85]	57,251,467	[73]
1912-13	281,815,329	[187]	186,632,380	[169]	127,826,800	[79]	69,793,200	[89]
1913-14	291,715,041	[194]	197,419,430	[179]	109,259,733	[68]	82,274,400	[105]
1914-15	302,556,697	[201]	191,838,946	[174]	117,337,867	[73]	81,125,333	[103]
1915-16	340,433,163	[226]	214,900,383	[195]	143,662,000	[89]	93,776,667	[119]
1916-17	292,593,914	[194]	208,090,279	[189]	126,260,800	[78]	79,259,733	[101]
1917-18	360,621,811	[240]	195,231,592	[177]	89,115,333	[55]	60,936,666	[78]

* The figures for years previous to 1905-06 and also for 1917-18 relate to the calendar year, as it has been found impossible to procure complete data for the official year

† For calendar year

No. 9—QUANTITY OF FOREIGN TEA IMPORTED INTO, AND RE-EXPORTED FROM, INDIA BY SEA AND BY LAND, IN THE YEARS 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

	IMPORTED FROM					Total imported	RE-EXPORTED TO					Total re-exported	Balance left in India
	Ceylon	China*	Java	Siam States †	Else-where †		Persia	Maskat	Turkey (Asiatic)	Afghanistan	Else-where		
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.		
1913-14	1,517,300	2,598,292	89,031	3,563,380	771,082	8,538,980	92,278	94,163	134,754	680,176	275,473	1,276,914	7,262,136
1914-15	1,745,084	3,067,082	68,361	4,203,024	706,919	9,790,470	110,777	51,118	20,448	395,300	333,459	1,110,163	8,871,309
1915-16	2,431,566	2,783,914	288,965	5,497,632	887,429	11,889,506	988,682	172,293	93,318	330,248	387,682	1,981,223	9,908,283
1916-17	1,985,835	1,972,619	74,562	5,855,696	744,055	10,632,767	421,975	117,769	27,005	521,696	276,250	1,364,695	9,268,072
1917-18	5,112,794	4,182,715	65,273	5,068,112	622,527	15,051,423	83,048	81,386	51,710	486,080	273,163	(a) 975,387	14,076,036

* Principally green tea

† Principally from the Straits

‡ The Siam States are treated, for the purposes of the transfrontier trade, as foreign territory, although they constitute, politically, a part of Burma

(a) Subject to revision

No. 10—QUANTITY OF TEA, GREEN AND BLACK, AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION IN INDIA, DURING THE YEARS 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

	Production	Deduct net exports to foreign countries	Add stocks from previous year	Deduct stocks left at end of year	Balance available for consumption
1	2	3	4	5	6
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1913-14	307,249,669	284,452,905	†1,884,500	†2,418,109	22,263,164
1914-15	312,976,208	293,685,389	†2,418,100	†2,423,100	19,285,819
1915-16	371,836,668	330,524,880	†2,423,100	†13,000,000	30,734,888
1916-17	368,428,719	283,325,842	†13,000,000	\$61,000,000	37,102,877
1917-18	370,471,582	346,545,805	\$61,000,000	*43,500,000	41,425,777

† Estimated stocks at Calcutta (normal elsewhere)

‡ Estimated stocks at Calcutta (Kidderpore) and Chittagong (normal elsewhere)

§ Estimated stocks at Calcutta (Kidderpore), Chittagong, Madras, and Bombay and also the amount held up at the gardens

* Estimated stocks at Calcutta (Kidderpore) and Chittagong, (Bombay and Madras being normal) and also the amount held up at the gardens

NOTE.—(1) Columns 4 and 5 have been obtained through the courtesy and assistance of Mr. H. W. Newby, Indian Tea Cess Commissioner

(2) The stocks at the end of 1916-17 and 1917-18 were abnormally high owing to lack of freight

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No. 11—QUANTITY OF TEA (IN PACKAGES) SOLD AT THE AUCTION SALES IN CALCUTTA, IN THE YEARS 1908-09 TO 1917-18.

Principal districts	Number of packages sold in									
	1908-09	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18
Assam	184,161	176,262	188,030	191,572	226,881	209,686	192,031	285,771	327,124	309,098
Cachar	141,409	161,618	146,718	150,118	150,920	133,540	106,863	137,061	137,033	91,404
Sylhet	112,686	115,074	103,855	119,845	123,039	116,197	95,835	122,880	128,233	87,449
Dooars	185,766	192,305	202,357	205,350	229,688	240,169	163,951	269,670	272,244	134,782
Darjeeling	62,919	61,747	69,070	71,742	82,613	85,877	71,574	103,237	99,266	59,324
Chittagong	7,878	7,964	8,860	8,411	8,563	9,647	5,839	9,792	8,428	5,215
Terai	25,006	17,980	23,298	23,435	31,614	36,709	33,327	39,006	41,935	31,006
Chota Nagpur	1,904	1,901	1,613	1,719	1,636	1,387	900	1,725	210	7
Kumaon and Kangra	2,396	3,318	4,336	3,807	1,621	2,089	1,513	2,586	788	140
Dehra Dun	...	356	...	399	...	9,217	5,485	...	2,633	244
Madras	185	110	43	40	...	518	232	124	1,090	4,855
Nepal	1,003	928	910	780	533	1,069	...	872	900	437
Other places	...	76	76	162	60	974	250	...	...	91
Total	725,313	739,639	749,166	777,380	859,168	847,079	677,800	978,545	1,019,884	724,052

NOTE.—The figures from 1916-17 are those furnished by Messrs. J. Thomas & Co. for publication in the *Indian Trade Journal* and they do not include second-hand tea, damaged tea, and dust from those concerns which sell only such teas on this market. The figures for the preceding years (1908-09 to 1915-16) were compiled from the *Indian Planters' Gazette*.

No. 12—QUANTITY OF TEA (IN PACKAGES) SOLD, AND THE AVERAGE PRICE PER POUND REALISED AT THE AUCTION SALES IN CALCUTTA, DURING THE LAST SIX TEA SEASONS, 1912-13 TO 1917-18.

SEASON	ASSAM		CACHAR		SYLHET		DARJEELING		DOOARS		TERAI		ALL OTHER PLACES		TOTAL	
	Pack-ages	Price	Pack-ages	Price	Pack-ages	Price	Pack-ages	Price	Pack-ages	Price	Pack-ages	Price	Pack-ages	Price	Pack-ages	Price
		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		A. P.
1912-13	228,881	7 6	150,920	6 1	123,039	6 2	82,613	9 7	229,688	7 0	31,614	6 6	12,413	6 1	859,168	7 1
1913-14	209,686	8 2	133,540	6 11	116,197	6 11	85,877	10 3	240,169	7 7	36,709	7 3	24,901	6 10	847,079	7 9
1914-15	192,031	7 10	106,863	6 10	95,835	7 1	71,574	9 7	163,951	7 3	33,327	7 0	14,219	6 11	677,800	7 7
1915-16	285,771	9 5	137,061	8 1	122,880	8 0	103,237	10 9	269,670	8 7	39,006	8 7	20,920	8 2	978,545	8 11
1916-17	327,124	9 0	137,033	7 10	128,233	7 9	99,266	10 9	272,244	8 4	41,935	8 0	14,049	7 6	1,019,884	8 8
1917-18	309,098	8 2	91,404	6 3	87,449	6 4	59,324	7 11	134,782	6 5	31,006	6 1	10,989	6 8	724,052	7 3

NOTE.—The figures in this table are taken from the Annual Review of the Calcutta Tea Market published by Messrs. J. Thomas and Co.

No. 13—AVERAGE PRICES OF INDIAN TEA SOLD AT AUCTION SALES IN CALCUTTA, AND AVERAGE DECLARED VALUES OF EXPORTS FROM 1888-89 TO 1917-18, WITH VARIATIONS EXPRESSED IN INDEX NUMBERS, AVERAGE OF 1901-02 TO 1910-11 BEING TAKEN AS 100 IN EACH CASE.

Season	Average price of Indian tea		Average declared value of exports by sea		Season	Average price of Indian tea		Average declared value of exports by sea	
	Price per lb.	Variation	Value per lb.	Variation		Price per lb.	Variation	Value per lb.	Variation
	As. p.		As. p.			As. p.	As. p.		
1888-89	8 2	136	8 8	124	1903-04	5 10	6 7	97	94
1889-90	7 7	126	8 2	117	1904-05	5 4	6 5	89	92
1890-91	7 3	121	7 10	112	1905-06	5 5	6 7	90	94
1891-92	7 0	117	7 11	113	1906-07	5 7	6 9	93	96
1892-93	8 10	147	8 9	125	1907-08	6 11	7 3	115	104
1893-94	7 4	122	8 4	119	1908-09	6 0	7 1	100	101
1894-95	9 5	157	9 4	133	1909-10	6 10	7 5	114	106
1895-96	7 5	124	8 11	127	1910-11	7 1	7 10	118	112
1896-97	7 0	117	8 9	125	1911-12	7 7	7 11	126	113
1897-98	6 2	103	8 6	121	1912-13	7 1	7 8	118	110
1898-99	5 9	96	8 2	117	1913-14	7 9	8 3	129	118
1899-1900	5 11	99	8 4	119	1914-15	7 7	8 3	126	118
1900-01	5 1	85	8 0	114	1915-16	8 11	9 5	149	135
1901-02	5 5	90	7 3	104	1916-17	8 8	9 2	144	131
1902-03	5 3	87	6 6	93	1917-18	7 3	7 10	121	112

NOTE.—Figures of price from 1888-89 to 1900-01 relate to the mean of the average prices of the three principal grades, Broken Pekoe, Pekoe, and Pekoe Souchong, published in the preceding years' Reports, and those from 1901-02 are the average prices of all grades of tea as published by Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.

No. 14—QUANTITY (IN PACKAGES), AND AVERAGE PRICE PER POUND, OF INDIAN TEA SOLD IN LONDON IN 1915-16 AND 1916-17, AS REPORTED BY MESSRS. GOW, WILSON, AND STANTON.

Producing District	1915-16 (a)		1916-17 (a)	
	Number of Packages	Average price per lb.	Number of Packages	Average price per lb.
Assam (Brahmaputra) Valley	926,926	10·91	732,043	13·19
Cachar and Sylhet (Surma Valley)	280,437	9·72	247,886	11·59
Chittagong	7,593	9·57	7,700	11·70
Darjeeling	92,609	11·87	64,894	13·83
Dooars (Jalpaiguri)	261,864	10·47	215,138	11·94
Terai (Dehra Dun, Kangra, etc.)	18,341	10·33	13,814	11·43
Nilgiris and Wynaad (Malabar)	29,597	10·12	32,618	12·65
Travancore	94,071	10·09	77,182	11·71
TOTAL	1,710,938	10·62	1,391,275	12·57

(a) Figures relate to the period from 1st July to 20th April of each season. Later quotations are not available.

No. 15—RATES OF FREIGHT CHARGED ON TEA FROM CALCUTTA TO LONDON, IN THE YEARS 1898 TO 1917.

Year	Rate			Year	Rate		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1898	1	18	9	1908	1	12	6
1899	2	1	3	1909	1	12	6
1900	1	15	0	1910	1	12	6
1901	1	8	9	1911	1	12	6
1902	1	11	3	1912	1	15	0
1903	1	13	9	1913	1	15	0
1904	1	15	0	1914	1	15	0
1905	1	11	3	1915	2	7	6
1906	1	11	3	1916	2	7	6
1907	1	16	3	1917	3	15	0†

Note—The rates are the minimum rates per ton (50 cub. ft.) obtaining in August of each year.

* Subject to a rebate of 5s.

† From October 1917 the rate has been increased to £15-0-0.

No. 16—AVERAGE MONTHLY WAGES OF LABOURERS EMPLOYED IN TEA GARDENS IN ASSAM, DURING 1910-11 TO 1917-18.

	ACT LABOURERS				NON-ACT LABOURERS										
	Men			Women	Men		Women		Children						
	R	a.	p.	R	a.	p.	R	a.	p.						
1910-11	5	11	0	5	1	6	5	11	6	4	6	7	2	11	11
1911-12	5	8	4	4	15	11	5	15	11	4	7	9	2	11	0
1912-13	5	11	2	5	1	6	5	15	0	4	9	5	2	13	1
1913-14	5	11	5	5	5	9	6	1	3	4	11	5	2	13	7
1914-15	6	0	8	5	12	9	6	0	5	4	10	3	2	13	3
1915-16	5	12	1	5	9	11	6	0	4	5	2	6	2	14	5
1916-17	6	2	11	6	6	5	6	1	0	5	3	8	3	0	7
1917-18	8	1	6	7	9	5	6	4	3	5	1	2	2	13	5

Note.—These averages are not the mean of district averages, but are calculated independently by dividing the total earnings of two typical months (September and March) by the total number of coolies on the books.

No. 17.—RATES OF CUSTOMS DUTIES LEVIED ON TEA IN PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

	Pre-war figures		Latest figures after the outbreak of war			Pre-war figures		Latest figures after the outbreak of war	
	Per lb.		Per lb.			Per lb.		Per lb.	
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.		Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
Russia—					Union of South Africa—				
(1) Imported by the European Frontier:—					In packets or tins, not exceeding 10 lbs each in weight	0 6 0		0 7 0	
<i>Brick tea, black or green</i>	0 8 0		0 8 8		In larger packets or in bulk	0 4 0		0 5 0	
<i>All other kinds</i>	1 6 3		1 11 8		Canada—				
(2) Imported by the European Frontier or the Black Sea:—					Imported direct from the country of growth and production, also tea purchased in bond in the United Kingdom	Free		Free	
<i>Tea of Ceylon or Indian origin</i>	1 6 3		1 6 3		All other tea <i>ad valorem</i>	10 per cent		10 per cent	
(3) Imported across the frontier of the Semiryechensk Province of the Steppes, Irkutsk, or the Amur:—					Australia—				
<i>Black bohea, flower green and yellow</i>	1 2 0		1 7 5		In packets not exceeding 20 lbs in weight	0 1 0		0 1 0	
(4) Imported into the Amur and the Trans-Baikal region of Irkutsk:—					All other tea	Free		Free	
<i>Brick tea</i>	Free		Free		New Zealand—				
<i>All other tea</i>	1 2 0		1 2 0		In packages of 5 lbs or over (net weight of tea):				
(5) Imported through the Customs House of Irkutsk or westward across the frontier of Siberia or of the Steppes or the Semiryechensk:—					If the produce of some part of the British Dominions	Free		Free	
<i>Tea in bricks</i>	0 2 7		0 3 4		Otherwise	0 2 0		0 2 0	
<i>Tea in tablets of the Russian manufacture</i>	0 10 7		0 13 4		In packages of less than 5 lbs.:				
Germany—					If the produce of some part of the British Dominions	0 2 0		0 2 0	
For consumption as tea	0 5 4		(a)		Otherwise	0 2 5		0 2 5	
For the manufacture of theine	Free		(a)		Chile—				
France—					In bulk			0 7 4	
Imported directly from a country out of Europe	0 9 1		(a)		In paper or card-board packets	0 8 2		0 8 2	
Imported from European entrepôts	0 11 8		(a)		In packets of tin plate or other material			0 9 0	
Spain—					United Kingdom	0 5 0		0 12 0	
Tea, and imitations thereof, and "yerba maté" (Paraguay tea)	0 7 0		(a)		Sweden	0 3 0		(a)	
Tea transhipped in a European port	0 7 5		(a)		Norway	0 6 0		(a)	
Austria-Hungary—					Denmark	0 4 3		(a)	
Imported by sea	0 9 9		(a)		Holland	0 2 3		(a)	
Imported by land	0 11 0		(a)		Belgium	Free		(a)	
Japan—					Portugal	1 8 6		(a)	
Black tea	0 4 2		(a)		Italy	0 10 11		(a)	
Black tea dust	0 1 3		(a)		Greece	1 4 0		(a)	
Other tea	0 1 1		(a)		Turkey <i>ad valorem</i>	11 per cent		(a)	
Persia—					Egypt <i>ad valorem</i>	8 per cent		8 per cent	
White tea	0 7 0		(a)		East African Protectorate <i>ad valorem</i>	10 per cent		10 per cent	
All other tea	0 4 6		(a)		United States	Free		(a)	
					Argentine Republic	0 4 7		(a)	
					Ceylon	0 4 0		0 4 0	
					China <i>ad valorem</i>	5 per cent		(a)	
					Straits Settlements	Free		Free	

(a) No information available regarding any change of the pre-war rate

Appendix.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Half-yearly Meeting of the Indian Tea Cess Committee held on the 6th March, 1918.

INDIAN TEA IN INDIA.

MR. HAROLD W. NEWBY addressed the meeting as follows :—

I am now able to give you some results to the end of a second year's work, the chief features of which are the opening of shops and the encouragement of tea-drinking in the largest towns in India, in the lines of the Indian troops, on lines of communication, and at the mines; and demonstrations at large gatherings, cattle fairs, *melas*, exhibitions, conferences, etc. At the last meeting, less than four months ago, I gave you details of how the work was carried out and I do not, therefore, propose to repeat any of those details now, but simply to give you a few facts in connection with each of the departments.

Firstly, then, with regard to the shops in large towns, you may remember that I expatiated in my last address on Calcutta as an example. I have now obtained actual figures of the tea-selling shops in Calcutta and district which read as follows :—

November, 1915	444
November, 1916	1,124
December, 1917	1,420

It must be borne in mind too that the shops previously were practically all small, smoky, and badly patronised, and whereas at present many shops are large and airy, and some selling hundreds of cups *per diem*. I will explain also that the figures prove my contention that, when once the habit of tea-drinking gets a hold, it increases in a natural way in large cities. I call tell you that the work of persuading people to start tea shops was at first a matter of extreme difficulty, but when, through the instrumentality of these shops, tea-drinking became increasingly popular, the difficulty proportionately decreased. About ten months ago, I decided that there were sufficient shops to supply what was then the demand in Calcutta and I withdrew all my canvassers, yet tea every day became more popular and consequently shops continued to open and I found myself compelled to again employ men in Calcutta simply to assist those who came to us for advice and help. For ten months then we did not ask a single person to open a shop in Calcutta and yet we continued to assist persons to open at an average rate of more than one a day, and I have no doubt at all in my own mind that the popularity of tea will now continue to grow, and the number of shops will continue to increase independently. I shall, however, be compelled to continue work with the shops in Calcutta, because I have noticed that some shopkeepers have again developed some bad habits, such as using enamel kettles, of which I disapprove, and of over-infusing the tea leaf. This is important because the large cities influence other cities and bad habits would, therefore, not be confined to Calcutta. Shopkeepers in large towns find that by going further afield they have less competition and they or their relatives start shops in other less large towns. The men who start shops are usually the servants of shopkeepers and, therefore, carry on the business in the way they learnt it, or else if they have no previous knowledge they watch the existing shopkeepers carry on their business and by similar utensils and imitate their methods. I have before mentioned how well the men in Bombay prepare tea and how careful they are with regard to these things. As a consequence all those towns which are served from Bombay are equally well managed. We have now come to the time when results in Calcutta begin to overflow into other towns and we must eradicate the bad habits or they will also overflow. While speaking of overflow the town of Bhatpara is interesting. This town is situated a few miles out of Calcutta with a population of over 50,000, and a large section of the bread-winners are babus employed in Calcutta offices who, being Hindus, prepare their meals in their own houses. I found, on instituting a house-to-house enquiry, that probably more than three-quarters of them now drink tea, though the habit has mostly only lately been acquired, and I attribute it entirely to the Calcutta tea shops.

Now coming to the other large cities in which we are working, I have made a table to show the names of towns in which we have done any length of work, together with the number of shops selling liquid tea before starting work, with the number of months during which we have been working, followed by the number of shops at present selling tea :—

List of towns where work has been started, giving number of shops before starting work and number of shops at present.

Name of Towns.	Work started.	Number of shops before starting work.	Number of shops at present selling tea.
Benares	May, 1916	5	58
Madras	Sept., 1916	230	356
Cawnpore	Sept., 1916	17	96
Trichinopoly	Oct., 1916	13	91
Lucknow	Oct., 1916	11	118
Delhi	Dec., 1916	55	129
Agra	Jan., 1917	14	37
Bangalore	Feb., 1917	118	170
Gwalior	Feb., 1917	2	38
Tanjore	March, 1917	7	28
Hyderabad	April, 1917	22	87
Bankpore	July, 1917	57	91
Barisal	Sept., 1917	5	25

I am sure you will agree that the increases are most satisfactory and that we can say in all these large towns the seeds have been sown and the habit will rapidly spread as it has done in Calcutta. I have already started work in the following towns in addition :—

Amritsar	Hooghly	Mymensingh
Allahabad	Jullundur	Mysore
Barrackpore	Khulna	Narangunge
Bally	Khardaha	Negapatam
Bareilly	Kumbakonam	Serampore
Chandpur	Lahore	Secunderabad
Dacca	Madura	Shamnugger
Goalundo	Meerut	

and I can say, without doubt, that all these towns, and every other town with populations of 20,000 and over, and indeed smaller towns as well, can be worked up with equal certainty so long as we have the funds and ordinarily favourable conditions. Indeed, every succeeding town is easier to work than the last because my assistants are becoming more expert, and what is more important is that our campaign and the attendant good that it does becomes every day better known. For instance, I have lately moved my Trichinopoly, Tanjore, and Bangalore representatives to Madura, Kumbakonam, and Mysore, respectively, and they find their work is already well known and new shops have already been opened by friends and relatives of shopkeepers in the adjacent towns, and would-be shopkeepers, knowing the help that we give, come voluntarily to my representatives for advice and assistance.

I have just returned from a tour in the United Provinces and find that our ultimate object is being attained. Those shopkeepers who complain of a decrease in sales usually explain that it is because the people now drink tea at home instead of in their shops. Investigating the Indian bazaars confirms this. In all the towns that I have visited, good stocks of tea are to be seen in the shops which sell to Indians only, and the shopkeepers confirm that they sell this tea only to Indians and that their sales are rapidly increasing.

And now with regard to the mills in and round Calcutta, I find it impossible to give you very reliable figures because the shopkeepers almost invariably under-state the returns of their sales, and when my Inspectors check actual sales they find that they are larger than the returns which are being given by the shopkeepers. All I have been able to do is to pick out from the mills which were working in 1916 those of which I believe the returns to be fairly accurate, and to compare their sales in 1916 with their sales during the corresponding period of 1917. I find that I have been able to take the figures of 19 mills, and these show an increase in sales of 40 per cent., and this is in spite of the fact that the mills were only working five days a week against six days last year. I have just glanced at my Returns Book and find that since the mills have been working six days the sales have responded. I am certain sales would continue to increase independently without help from us, but in fairness to the Managers who have helped us so much. I must continue the inspections and assistance for at least another year, especially as some of the mills have only recently opened tea shops. I am glad to say that all but five mills have been able to give special rooms and grant us special facilities, and I am very grateful to the Managers who have assisted us so greatly. But the most encouraging feature with regard to the work at the mills is the large number of tea shops that are now opening outside the mills. Owing to the large number of mill-hands who have learnt to drink tea in the mills there is ample scope for plenty of shops near the lines for the sale of tea in the evenings. I am now including in my work the encouragement and assistance of such shops. I have taken a census and find that there are 211 shops selling tea round about the mills, only 47 of which were open before we started our work.

Then with regard to the Regimental Institutes in Native Units, I am taking up this work Division by Division. I cannot give you any figures or names because all military movements and arrangements are now unpublished. But probably most of you know the number of Divisions there are in the Indian army, and I can tell you that I have completed work in one Division and that two other Divisions are in a very fair way towards completion, that we are receiving no refusals from any Officers Commanding in either Divisions and indeed are receiving invitations to assist from Officers all over India. I can also tell you that we have opened 59 Regimental Institutes for the supply of tea in various units. Some of them sell over 100 gallons of tea a day and many of the Institutes are run by the regiments themselves and in that case the profits on the sales are all applied to the benefit of the soldiers. Their success encourages the adoption by others on an ever-increasing scale. I will read you a speech made in the vernacular by a Commanding Officer at the opening ceremony of one of the Institutes:—

“I am here this afternoon to tell you that the new tea rooms are open. I hope all ranks will use it as much as possible. Government is very anxious to make everyone comfortable and has sent this Sabib to help us to start these tea rooms and with his advise we have now got everything ready. The tea room will be opened every day from 6 A.M. to 9 A.M. and from 1 P.M. to 9 P.M., except on Sundays, when it will be opened all day. You will get much better food and tea here than in the bazaar and cheaper, i.e.,—

Tea per large cup	•••••	½ anna
Biscuits per 2	•••••	½ anna
Secones each	•••••	½ anna

All profits will be spent on yourselves so that instead of profiting tradesmen in the bazaar you will be profiting yourselves. There is a separate cookhouse for Hindus and Mahomedans so that there is no fear of anyone breaking his caste. There will also be music to listen to and papers and books to read, also games to play. All these have been given by the Sircar (I. T. C. Committee). We are taking all this trouble to make you more comfortable and we expect in return that you will do your very best to defeat the enemies of the Sircar, and the only way to do it is for everyone to work his utmost to make things ready as quickly and thoroughly as possible. There is no doubt that the enemies of the Sircar will be badly defeated, but the harder you all work the quicker this will be accomplished. I want you all to remember that this is your own tea-room and that anyone taking anything away is defrauding himself and his friend. If this sort of thing occurs we shall have to close the rooms which will be to the loss of everyone. I hope you will all join me in thanking Mr. Clifford for all the trouble he has taken and Mr. Pye also for having worked so hard to get things ready. I now declare the rooms open.”

This branch of our work is most gratifying because it is so well thought of by the Officers and so popular with the men, and also the ultimate results are unbounded because men only serve the Colours for a certain number of years and when they return to their homes to all parts of India, even to the smallest villages, they will certainly carry the habit with them.

The work in the collieries is the most difficult of any that I have undertaken, partly because the miners' cottages are spread about in little groups near the various pit-mouths and it means, therefore, much more individual persuasion and partly because the habit of drinking fermented liquors is so deep-rooted that to obtain reform requires a very great amount of perseverance, and partly because the miners are so completely uneducated. But still I am satisfied that our money is well spent and I shall persevere. The Superintendents and Managers of collieries have been absolutely splendid in their co-operation and already tea-drinking has taken sufficient hold in some collieries to ensure a continuance and spread of the habit. I am certain that if we withdrew our support tea-drinking would not stop our support until the increase becomes more rapid, and also to institute shops in a larger number of collieries. Twenty-four shops have already been opened at the collieries, and many Managers have promised to erect shops as soon as we are ready to assist and support the shopkeepers. What makes it more difficult to make large sales at the tea shops at the collieries is that the miners, living as they do in small groups, utilise bazaars only once a week, and because the miners, on acquiring the taste for tea, prepare it at their *dhauras* and whilst it is unsatisfactory from the shopkeeper's point of view, it is highly satisfactory to me, and is, of course, my ultimate aim at the collieries. To prove this, I have had a census taken at three collieries and have found that about 44 per cent. of the families now make tea in their own *dhauras* and the habit thus far established will certainly spread.

I have continued work on lines of communication. I am sure close observers cannot have failed to notice an improvement in the arrangements for the supply of tea to 3rd class passengers on some of the large Indian Railway systems. Two additional lines have now given me permission to assist and advise and a large steamship service has allowed us to arrange supplies of tea on 19 of their boats.

Now, before leaving the subject of these tea shops, whether in large towns, in the mills, in the army, on lines of communication, or at the mines, I want to again impress you with the fact that these shops are not relying for their support on the Indian Tea Cess Committee. Every shop has been opened by private enterprise and is self-supporting and if we stopped our work in India to-day, practically every shop would continue, the exceptions being only perhaps a very few who have just opened and have not yet received sufficient advice and help. I can assure

you that the money you have spent will continue, unless checked, to bear fruit in increasing weight in future years. Wherever we have done work a sufficient number of persons are patronising the shops to make them pay. The customers have been taught to recognise a good cup of tea and will see that the shopkeeper supplies it. If the shopkeeper gives up there will be plenty of people to take up the shop. While the shops are in existence an increasing number of persons will, through their instrumentality, learn to drink tea and the number of shops will, therefore, always be increasing. Now, although I have taken pains to show you that even if you spent no more money, the results would still be good, I do not advocate any reduction in expenditure. On the contrary, our spending a larger amount of money in a shorter space of time will give better results than spending a smaller amount of money over a longer period. A large amount of work can be done with very little more overhead charges than a small amount of work, and besides, as above mentioned, every part of the work is some assistance and advertisement to every other part of the work.

Another important item that I must touch upon before leaving the subject of the shops is the introduction of the pice packet. Ever since the most incipient ideas of promoting the sale of tea in India the pice packet has always seemed to be the best means of reaching the masses, but although many attempts have been made to introduce them successfully, the pice packet has never really become established. For a pice packet the packing must be of the very cheapest kind and in such packing tea will not keep fresh for more than a day or two, and seeing that as a rule in the majority of cases it takes some weeks (and in some cases some months) from the time of packing for the tea to reach the consumer, the system of packing in Calcutta was altogether impracticable. So my first step was to obtain a circulation all over the country of a good, thick, strong, wholesome tea at reasonably low prices. The old method of supplying in tins became impossible for impecunious consumers owing to the enormous price to which tin plates have risen. Besides, shopkeepers selling liquid tea to hundreds of persons a day were able to buy larger quantities than the ordinary householder, and I considered that they needed, therefore, special facilities. The distributors supported me well in this and very good reliable blends of tea in lead-lined cases are now available in all the towns in which I am working. The consequence is that liquid tea sellers are now able to obtain their tea at prices ranging from 0-6-6 to 10 annas per lb., the prices being regulated according to the distance from Calcutta or Madras, Octroi duty, and the quantity that the shopkeeper is able to buy at a time. The next step was to get the dry leaf tea distributed to the masses. Now although there will always be a need for these liquid tea shops where a cup of tea can be obtained immediately and without trouble, yet the tea-drinkers will find additional opportunities for drinking tea in their homes and our work will still be far from complete until we know their women-folk and children also drink tea. So I decided upon issuing, free of charge, little envelopes made to hold enough tea to make six cups of tea and also a measure. All that the shopkeeper has to do is to put a measureful of tea into the envelope and pass it along to the buyer in exchange for a pice. On the envelope are the following instructions in four languages:—

Empty the contents of this packet into an earthenware tea-pot and pour on enough well boiling water for six cups of tea. Leave for 8 minutes and pour out.

Add milk and sugar to taste.

The advantage of the system is that the packet being filled at the time of purchase the tea will be perfectly fresh and the directions for preparation are simplicity itself. I do not issue envelopes unless I am satisfied that the shopkeeper is selling only a good reliable blend which has been passed by me. This system has only been started about two months, but the pice packet promises to be the link between the liquid tea shops and the masses, and is certain to accelerate the success of the work enormously.

And, lastly before leaving the subject of shops, I want to point out that the opening up of these shops, which now amount to some thousands, has been no light task. The shops require strict supervision and strict supervision can only be accomplished by reliable inspectors. I am sure that it would be against your wish that I should employ young and active men of military age, and all of you know how difficult it has been to obtain assistants. I want you to realise that it would be impossible to prevent every contractor or shopkeeper, many of whom are ignorant and illiterate, from departing from my rules and instructions. Any new Inspectors, too, must be proved before I can rely on them, so it would be an enormous help to me if people would report to me if ever they see shops that are displaying my advertising matter and at the same time making bad tea, or not keeping their shops or utensils in clean condition. I hope the committee will assist me in making it known that I shall consider it a favour if people will report to me whenever they find these tea shops not up to the mark or improvements can be effected so that I can investigate. Everyone can help in this way.

The demonstrations and distributions of tea at large gatherings and cattle fairs, *melas*, exhibitions, conferences, etc., have been vigorously carried on and we have had special arrangements at the following places:—

List of places at which Demonstrations have been held.

Amritsar (2)	Cuddalore	Jherria (4)	Roorkee
Abmedgarh	Chittagong	Jullundur	Serampore
Abbotabad	Dhanbaid	Kumbakonam	Shillong
Allahabad	Etawah	Ludhiana	Sialkote
Bangalore	Gondalpara	Madras (2)	Trichinopoly
Baidyabati	Gujranwalla	Madura	Tiruvellore
Barisal (2)	Jellasore	Negapatam (3)	Tirupaliyer
Calcutta			

I think the results have been valuable and will be more valuable still now that the pice packets system has been introduced.

I also exhibited tea, tea plants, tea seed, and photographs at the Bombay Industrial Exhibition and we were awarded a silver medal and other awards.

Now with regard to figures to show that sales of Indian tea have increased in India, I am sorry to say that the unusual congestion of stocks makes anything better than a rough estimate out of the question. You will remember that I put down the consumption of tea in India in the year 1916, at the lowest, 33 million lbs., and many people at the time expressed to me their surprise that the consumption of tea in India was so large. We now have the Director of Statistics' figures in the "Production of Tea in India" for the calendar year 1916, and I have set up a table of the figures from the years 1911-12 to 1916-17, and I have taken the liberty of adding the previous year's stocks at Kidderpore Docks to each, and subtracting the current year's stock at Kidderpore Docks from each. In normal years I think I can safely say, except at Kidderpore, there has never been a sufficient amount of stock anywhere in India to make a variation of more than a million lbs., that is to say, that at Bombay the stocks would not, as a rule, amount to even a million lbs., in Madras the stocks would certainly not vary more than a million lbs., as one never voluntarily holds up tea in India, and in Chittagong normally all tea had been shipped before the 31st March. The teas on the gardens in Northern India would normally be away long before the 31st March, and in Southern India the quantity would not vary from year to year to any great extent. In normal years, therefore, I say, adding and subtracting the Kidderpore stocks as abovementioned, (if the figures of production and the figures of shipment are correct) should give us the actual amount of tea taken by India. But in the year 1915-16 the freight difficulties were becoming acute, and I have had to take into account stocks at Chittagong and in 1916-17 I have had to do the same thing and in addition a certain amount of tea still held up at the factories as there was no room for it in Kidderpore Docks. Fortunately the Indian Tea Association have been able to place at my disposal the exact figures of 1916 tea held up belonging to members of the Indian Tea Association on 31st March, 1917, from which I am able to give you a very fair estimate, probably within a million or two, of the amount held up in Calcutta and Chittagong and at the gardens on the 31st March, 1917. Estimating the stocks at Madras and Bombay as proportionately the same I think I can confidently say the estimate will be a fairly correct one, certainly within one or two million lbs. You will find that figures will show that my estimate

of last year, viz., at least 35 millions, was very close; as the total arrived at with the new figures now available shows the consumption as 37 millions, the consumption for the six years then will read as follows:—

Quantity of Tea, green and black, available for consumption in India during the years 1912-1913 to 1916-1917.

	Production.	Net exports to foreign countries.	Add stocks carried over from previous year.	Deduct stocks in India on 31st March.	Balance.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1912-13	297,878,089	276,148,023	941,800	1,884,500	20,787,366
1913-14	307,249,669	284,452,905	1,884,500	2,418,100	22,263,164
1914-15	312,976,208	293,685,389	2,418,100	2,423,100	19,325,819
1915-16	371,836,668	330,524,880	2,423,100	13,000,000*	30,734,888
1916-17	368,582,688	283,325,842	13,000,000*	61,000,000†	37,256,845

* Stocks at Kidderpore and Chittagong.

† Stocks at Kidderpore and Chittagong and Madras and Bombay.

To obtain actual consumption of all tea in India one must add some 4 million lbs. of imported tea (not including Shan States pickled tea) bringing the total to 41 million lbs. With regard to the year 1917, I anticipate that the consumption in India has appreciably increased and I hope next year to be able to give you reliable figures which will prove, without doubt, that this is so. By the 31st March this year, there will be much less congestion of stocks in India, most of the stocks will be at Kidderpore where we can obtain exact figures. This being the case I think I can show that if the Director of Statistics is backed up by the Planting Community all over India he will be able to give you not only very reliable figures, but more reliable figures for the consumption of Indian tea in India than for any other part of the world. In India there are only three premises to the conclusion:—export, stocks, and production. With regard to the first named, it is impossible for any mistake to occur; with regard to the second, figures in normal years would be so small as to render no appreciable difference; with regard to the third, the Planting Community have it in their own hands. The Director of Statistics has done his utmost to obtain the figures of production from every garden in India and I now give you a table showing the increased number of gardens who have reported their outturn:—

NUMBER ON NON-REPORTING GARDENS.

	1913	1916
Bengal	7 out of 300	None out of 301
Assam	29 " 799	" " 786
South India	44 " 268	57 " 289

Now you will see that in view of a special appeal by the Director of Statistics the whole of the 36 gardens in Northern India, which previously did not report, have now consented to give their returns; in Southern India, on the contrary, the number of gardens who were not reporting had increased from 44 to 57. I am told that the figures submitted by planters are treated in the strictest confidence and I, therefore, hope that this year every Southern India planter will see that his returns are submitted. Every garden has to pay cess and, as the bulk of the money is now being spent in India, it is only right that garden owners should be supplied with figures to show the results of the campaign. If the Southern India planters will give actual figures then the Director of Statistics can let them know actual consumption, but if they do not, then the consumption can only be estimated. I am glad to say that since the publication of the report many of the non-reporting gardens have given their returns, which practically confirm the estimate so skilfully prepared by the Director of Statistics and it is fair to suppose that if the whole of the figures were received the total result would also confirm the estimate. But I am sure we should all be much more pleased if we could get actual figures. The reason the figures of consumption were unreliable in former years was because the whole of the gardens did not give their returns, so that the estimate might have been quite a number of million lbs incorrect. When the consumption of tea in India was only 10-15 million lbs and the figures were likely to be incorrect by a few millions it was quite reasonable to say the figures were most unreliable, but if all gardens will give their actual production I fail to see how the figures can now be incorrect at all, and even if they are a million or two out it really does not make very material difference on a consumption of 37 millions and upwards. There is just one little uncertainty, and that is, that the returns from certain privately owned gardens might possibly be given as less than they actually are and this, for reasons best known to the proprietors, such as avoidance or reduction of taxation. The whole of this difference in figures must be tea consumed in India and for this reason I still think that the consumption of tea in India is more than 37 million lbs. Certainly, however, the figures of consumption are far more reliable than the figures of consumption in other countries. I will just give a single illustration:—Take for instance consumption in Russia. The tea used to enter by several ports and to reach the ports there was often transhipment, in some cases Ceylon, China, or Java tea might have been entered as Indian tea in error or *vice versa*; a certain amount of tea may have gone in blended; some tea might have been imported by land and the figures, therefore, not reported; some may have been exported by land and figures not reported; some may have been exported after blending; owing to the distance a large amount of tea might have been lost or damaged in transit; huge stocks may be held in the country and carried over from year to year. In fact there are countless chances of wrongly estimating the figures of other countries which do not occur in arriving at the figures for the consumption of tea in India.

To prove expanding trade I now give you figures in cwts., culled from "Inland Trade (Rail and River-borne) of India," issued by the Department of Statistics, Table III, leaving out sea-ports and provinces where tea is grown. As I observed last year, it is only reasonable to suppose that at the sea-ports and in provinces where tea is grown the increase is likely to be much greater:—

IMPORTS INTO CERTAIN AREAS FROM 1913-1914 TO 1916-1917.

	1913-14 cwts.	1914-15 cwts.	1915-16. cwts.	1916-17. cwts.
Punjab	13,656	13,073	11,939	13,339
Sind and British Baluchistan	3,034	4,415	6,377	4,145
Central Provinces and Berar	3,385	4,909	4,072	4,598
Bombay except Bombay Ports	6,483	9,117	13,312	15,728
Rajputana & Central India	2,462	2,757	2,428	2,856
Nizam's Territory	1,496	1,509	1,083	1,498
Mysore	1,942	1,622	1,693	2,117
Kashmir	2,030	2,232	2,210	1,519
Total	34,488	39,614	43,114	45,800

The expanding trade in India, however, has been in spite of the fact that prices for food and clothing have been very much dearer and also that transport for tea, both by steamer and by rail, has been very much restricted. Consumption in Burma, where we have done no work yet, will prove this. Here are the figures of imports of Indian tea in Burma for the last ten years (see Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India, Table 8) published by the Director of Statistics:—

IMPORTS INTO BURMA, FROM 1906-07 TO 1916-17.

	lbs.
1906-07	624,604
1907-08	744,820
1908-09	808,910
1909-10	746,536
1910-11	897,055
1911-12	943,266
1912-13	1,122,904
1913-14	1,275,907
1914-15	1,348,987
1915-16	1,161,836
1916-17	1,207,580

They show how transport difficulties have stopped an increase of consumption. I have been favoured with further figures from the same source which show that consumption of tea in Burma from other countries has also declined.

But the freight difficulty which last year acted as a deterrent now threatens to completely wreck the tea trade in India. It is for this reason that in spite of otherwise excellent prospects I have been compelled in earlier passages to insert saving clauses. Government stores are now almost monopolising the railway systems and distributors tell me that they are only able to rail a mere fraction of their customers' requirements. A few more weeks at this rate and tea will be unobtainable. I recently interviewed the Hon'ble Mr. A. H. Ley, Secretary to the Department of Commerce and Industry, in order to ascertain what chances there were of any improvement. He thought that things would be worse rather than better. He could not agree with me that tea was a necessity. I have just received an official letter from the Department, which reads as follows:—

“With reference to your recent interview with the Hon'ble Mr. A. H. Ley, Secretary in this Department, on the subject of the provision of railway facilities for the movement of tea required for internal consumption in India, I am directed to say that the Government of India have enquired into the matter and find that such tea is classed under the head of “Foodstuffs” and is 15th in order of priority in the list of commodities accorded preferential railway traffic. The Government of India regret that they are unable to press for any higher degree of priority for tea consumed in India, and they have no doubt that the Tea Cess Committee will recognise that its claims must at the present time give way to the movement by rail of essential requirements of urgent national importance.”

A few more weeks at this rate and tea will be unobtainable up-country. There is nothing more certain than that unless the Indian Government realise that tea is a necessity and take immediate action to ensure supplies, the huge sums of money and the time and work expended by private enterprise and by this Committee will be lost and the expense of converting the Indian to the use of tea will have to be started over again. The seriousness of the impending calamity is simply a bold fact that must be faced and, if possible, averted. Now the sustaining power of tea as a food has been fully recognised by the British Government who have arranged for supplies in Great Britain owing to representations on the part of consumers.

Full freightage is supplied and special arrangements for finance. Tens of thousands of people in India are earning their living by selling tea, a large proportion having been encouraged and taught by me. Millions now take tea as part of their diet and a cup of tea and bread are a substitute for heavier and less sustaining diet. I am certain that no member of the Tea Industry desires that an inch of freight should be utilised before war requirements except the barest necessities of life. But it should be the business of the tea bodies to make certain that nothing less necessary than tea is railed. Race horses were being transported quite lately and I hear that some gentlemen took their cars to Lucknow for the recent Lucknow races. The two chief necessities are warmth and food. Until next cold weather warmth need not be considered, and therefore all raiment is of secondary importance to food, including cotton goods, especially if imported. In the remaining item, food, the railings should be reduced to the necessities for sustaining life, such as grain, fats, sugar, salt, and as a sustaining food, more than any other, tea. It is false reasoning to suggest that tea by itself is not necessary to life. The same can be said individually of bread, meat, and vegetables, or any other single commodity. But in selecting which foods should be carried compass should be studied. Now every 100 lbs chest of tea that is stopped means that 30,000 people must do without a cup of tea. That means that 30,000 people have to find a substitute, a large percentage of which must assuredly be carried to the public by the railways. I opine, therefore, that tea should be placed on the top of the list on an equality with the barest necessities of food and that the Indian people who have been encouraged for years by the Government to make tea a part of their diet, that Temperance workers who have spent so much thought and labour in introducing tea as a counter-attraction to alcohol, and that the industry who have spent lacs of rupees and years of work in opening up the trade, will have just cause for righteous anger if a single non-necessity, a single case of luxuries, or a single bale of cloth is railed whilst there is any tea waiting for raiment. It would be interesting to see a list of a day's bookings. A car takes the space of one hundred chests of tea or 3,000,000 cups of tea, and a race horse of about half the number and though such glaring inequality may not be frequent, yet bookings should be carefully scrutinized and carriage of less-necessary articles than tea should be brought to the notice of the Indian Government.

One other matter I feel strongly about, I am told that the Commander-in-Chief in India is asking for tenders for the supply of coffee from the Coffee planters with the idea of giving a cup of coffee to the troops as a ration twice a day. It is to be done by way of assistance to the Coffee planters who have been agitating because shipments to the United Kingdom have been stopped. But to give assistance to one industry at the expense of another is intolerable. The Coffee industry in India is a comparatively small industry, not one-tenth the size of the Tea Industry, and only a small part of the Coffee Industry of the world. The Indian Tea Industry is a staple industry of India and exports far more tea than any other country in the world. The Coffee Industry have done nothing to make a market for their produce in India and the Tea Industry have been spending lacs. Besides the Coffee planters' troubles are not nearly so serious as those of the Tea Industry because only about a third of the former's crop was normally exported to the United Kingdom. Things with them seem to be improving too because shipments for coffee for the first ten months of the present financial year are very heavily in excess of the two previous years. Before the war coffee exports to the United Kingdom only amounted to about 10 million lbs. annually, which will probably be absorbed by other countries. Anyhow coffee will keep for years and 10 millions is a mere flea-bite of the world's consumption of coffee and far greater quantities should be easily absorbed when times become normal. The action is peculiarly arbitrary because one of the Tea Industry's principal activities has been to establish tea rooms for the troops and I have large numbers of letters showing how much they are appreciated. And now because Coffee planters have been restless while tea planters have been silent, through loyalty, the Government proposed to give two rations of coffee daily, which will be so much trade taken from tea. A cup of coffee is more expensive than a cup of tea and if coffee had been less bulky, more sustaining and cheaper than tea, we may be sure tea would not have been used in preference by all the belligerents in the fighting line.

I have only just returned from tour and these details have been hastily collected, so may not represent the case quite accurately in detail, but I have placed the details of the two above matters before the Calcutta Tea Traders' Association and the Indian Tea Association, and they will, no doubt, do whatever may be possible.

In my last year's report I mentioned that India was easily the third best customer for Indian tea, United Kingdom taking the first place, and Russia the second place. At the time I had great expectations that India would soon oust Russia from second place, partly owing to Russian unsettlement and partly owing to increased consumption in India, India now is a very easy second. In the year ending 31st December, 1917, according to figures supplied by tea brokers, Russia only took 16 million lbs. of Indian tea and there is not the slightest doubt in my own mind that India consumed more than 40 million lbs.

Last year I expressed the hope that more large tea firms in Calcutta would see the advisability of trying to obtain a portion of the large and increasing tea trade in India and I now take the opportunity of saying again that I am willing to give advice to any who want to participate in the trade. I also urge that Southern India planters should organize means of rendering their teas more easily available for consumption in India and I have already offered to advise and assist if I can be of any service. Meanwhile I am glad to say that it is noticeable that very many Indians have participated in the development of the tea trade and a reference to the Market Reports of last year will show the support given to the market by Indian buyers last year. I am certain you will all consider that this is very satisfactory, but still there is plenty of room for increased competition.

I again urge you to spend as much money as possible in India. I expect on the 31st March to have a balance in hand of some £3,000 of the money that you have voted me, but I have been gradually increasing organization and my expenditure is now at the rate of about £25,000 per annum. Unless, therefore, I receive as much money as last year, viz., £22,000 I shall have to commence curtailing my work. Scrupulous economy has again been exercised in the dispensation of the funds and proportionately show a decrease on last year and the whole of the organization has been carried out in an office at a rental of Rs. 150 per month and only seven clerks. Except, therefore, for this mere iota of expenditure the sum voted by you goes directly to the actual work of development.

It is with pleasure that I take the opportunity, at these half-yearly meetings, to record the valuable advice and assistance that has been given to me by the Chairman and the Executive Committee.

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ON THE
Production of Tea in India
IN THE
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