TABLE IV

Date	G. M. T. of Beginning	G. M. T. of End	Ranges D	Ranges H	Ranges Z	Intensity G=Great V. G.=Very Great
	H. M.	D. H.	/	r	r	
1939, Feb. 24	02 42	25 22	8·5	>335	37	G.
Apr. 17	01 57	18 00	8·2	345	83	G.
„ 24	17 37	25 23·5	8·0	370	43	G.
June 13	16 47	14 18·5	7·3	217	71	G.
Aug. 12	01 42	14 15	9·0	261	73	G.
„ 22	00 42	23 19·5	10·2	315	58	G.
Oct. 13	02 03	14 00	10·0	294	62	G.
1940, Mar. 24	13 50	25 18·5	17·1	>785	>100	V.G.
„ 29	16 02	31 02·5	7·9	266	74	G.
Mar. 31	09 42	Apr. 02 22·5	5·9	242	41	G.
June 25	02 54	26 07	13·9	340	96	G.

IDENTIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL TIMBERS

THERE are now more than 500 Indian timbers that are known to commerce. Of these only a few can be recognised by their look. Carpenters, timber contractors and others who handle timbers are often quite good at recognising them by their superficial colour and grain, but experience has shown that colour is a variable factor and that superficial grain depends considerably on the method of conversion. The most accurate way of identifying a timber is by its anatomical structure that can be seen in the cross-section. The colour of teak timber may vary, depending on the locality in which the tree grows and its superficial grain may be different in differently converted timbers, but its anatomical structure in the cross-section will seldom vary. This fact is well utilized by the Wood Anatomists or Wood Technologists, who make a thorough study of various timbers and collect data on their anatomy. Their method of study is often slow and laborious and the data collected by them may have to pass the critical eyes of the statistician and yet some practical results are achieved. Samples of timber are daily received by the Wood Technology Department of the Forest Research Institute from people who want to know whether they have obtained the correct timbers for certain specific uses. It is becoming more and more evident that a great number of people now realise that the use of a wrong timber often results in considerable financial loss. Help of this kind is being continuously given by the Wood Technology Section of the Forest Research Institute to the various Provincial Governments, the Railways, the Defence Department, the Supply Department, the Royal Air Force, the Civil Aviation, the Public Works and Industries Departments, and to Corporations, business concerns and private individuals. Every year some 400 to 2,000 samples of wood are received for examination and report.

K. AHMAD CHOWDHURY.

Forest Research Institute,
Dehra Dun.