

Sugar Industry of India (1934-35).*

UNLIKE in the previous year the world sugar consumption in 1934-35 exceeded the total sugar production by about 730,000 tons. This curtailment of sugar production is mainly attributed to the measures adopted by the U.S.A. Government in introducing the quota system of production. Java has again suffered heavily. Conditions in India during this year were however satisfactory and the industry kept up its progress. Unfavourable weather conditions and diseases affected the crop in the U.P. and the Punjab but for all-India there was an increase of about 40,000 acres in the land under cane cultivation and a 4 per cent. increase in the raw sugar output.

Of the total 142 sugar factories built for operation, 130 worked in 1934-35 while in the previous year only 112 factories operated. As a result of this there was an increase of 124,150 tons in the total sugar produced direct from cane. We, therefore, find an increase of 30 per cent. in the number of factories and a 16 per cent. increase in the sugar output over the previous year's figures.

The highest recovery for all-India during 1934-35 was 11.10 as against 10.98 in the previous year but there was a decline in the average recovery from 8.80 in 1933-34 to 8.66 in 1934-35.

Technical and agricultural work continued its progress in the experimental stations at Coimbatore and Pusa and also in the different provinces. This work was chiefly confined to cane breeding technique and varietal experiments. Experiments on the open pan system and trials of small plants were carried out in Bihar and Orissa and Bengal while in Bombay sugar was made by this process in eight places on the Deccan Canals. Cultural

experiments on five varieties of beet in the N.W.F. Province showed German (22) to be the heaviest yielder.

The total value of sugar machinery imported into India during 1934-35 was about one crore of rupees while in the previous year it was 3.36 crores.

It should be noted that the total 'gur' production in this year was 3,692,000 tons and was the highest figure for the last ten years.

In the year under review the total sugar produced from cane, from 'gur' refining and by the indigenous processes amounted to 768,115 tons. The imports of sugar declined at the same time and were less by 38,000 tons than in the previous year. This decline in the imports from Java alone was 18,000 tons.

Java has suffered seriously by the loss of her Indian and Japanese markets and as a result had to effect drastic reductions in her sugar industry. The number of factories that operated, the acreage under cane cultivation and the quantity of cane harvested in the year 1934-35 were less than 50 per cent. of the previous year's figures.

Because of her preferred position in the American market Cuba did not suffer much. Cuban sugar industry was chiefly influenced by the reduction of tariffs and the introduction of quota system of production by the U.S.A. Government.

The future of Indian sugar industry continues to be bright. In the next year (1935-36) it is expected that the production will be 106,000 tons of sugar more than in 1934-35. There has not been any damage to the U.P. crop as in 1934-35. The time seems to be opportune to achieve a more settled market by finding out a uniform basis for grading sugars and adopting sale contracts more equitable between the manufacturer and the merchant.

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* Review by R. C. Srivastava, Supplement to the *Indian Trade Journal*, May 21, 1936, published by the Manager of Publications, Delhi.

Lady Tata Memorial Trust.

THE Trustees of the Lady Tata Memorial Trust have announced the award of the following scholarships and grants for 1936-37. The international awards have been made mainly for the promotion of researches on the diseases of the blood with special reference to Leucemias. Dr. Charles Oberling, Paris; Dr. Julius Engelbreth Holm, Copenhagen; Dr. Lucy Wills, London; Dr. Max Otto Kaalund-Jorgensen, Copenhagen; Prof. Eugene L. Opie of the Cornell University; Dr. Phil Karl Hinsberg, Berlin and Prof. J. McIntosh, London, are the recipients.

Indian Scholarships for the investigation of problems having a bearing on the alleviation of human suffering have been awarded to the following:—(1) Mr. M. C. Nath, M.Sc., to conti-

nue the chemical and biological analysis of proteins of Indian Foodstuffs, (2) Mr. R. Chakraborty, M.Sc., to continue the investigation of nutritional problems of Indian Foodstuffs with special reference to Vitamin C, (3) Mr. N. B. Das, B.Sc., to continue the work on the oxytoic hormone and on oxidation and reduction of systems in the body, (4) Mr. T. N. Ghosh, M.Sc., for research on the preparation of New Anti-malarials, (5) Dr. B. K. Nandi, M.Sc., Ph.D., A.I.C., for work on the synthesis of antimalarials of the plasmochin and atebrian types, and (6) Mr. H. S. Mahal, M.Sc., to investigate the rôle of "Choline Esterase" and to continue the work on anthelmintic drugs.