

Another important category comprises requests for technical information regarding the details of industrial processes, and particulars of the machinery involved therein; methods of tropical agriculture, and the processes adopted in the preparation of commercial products for the market; current conditions obtaining in the market as regards specific products; and related subjects. Other enquiries are concerned with the prospects for agricultural and other industries in the different countries of the Empire, chiefly in the tropics.

In order to supplement, when necessary, the resources of information available at the Imperial Institute, the Section is in communication with firms and trade and commercial associations who are in a position to supply special information, with official and other bodies concerned with technical questions, and also with agricultural and other Government departments throughout the Empire.

During the year 1926, the Intelligence Section dealt with 929 enquiries varying widely in scope and character, and emanating from, or relating to, many different parts of the Empire. The following selection of enquiries illustrates the character of the work:—

Citrus products. (*Director of Agriculture, Burma*). In connection with a proposal to consider the extended cultivation of limes and the development of an industry in citrus products in Burma, the Director of Agriculture desired to learn the present position of the trade in such products and to have particulars regarding the equipment required for their manufacture, together with information as to the best varieties of limes to plant, and the mode of marketing the products. These particulars were furnished, together with observations on the prospects of the industry in Burma.

Tapioca Flour. (*Director of Industries, Travancore*). Information regarding the manufacture of "pearl" and "flake" tapioca, and the grading of the product for the London market; required in connection with the production of tapioca in Travancore. Enquirer was furnished with the particulars desired, and with commercial samples of tapioca representing typical qualities in demand in London. Valuations were also furnished of Travancore tapioca flour and suggestions made for the marketing of trial shipments.

Papain. (*Director of Agriculture, Burma*). Information regarding the occurrence and cultivation of the papaya tree, the extraction of the juice, and the preparation and marketing of papain; with observations on the question of preparing