

No. S. 12.—Returns of the Average Amount of BANK NOTES in Circulation and of Specie in Reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st December, 1918, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks :—

BANKS.	AVERAGE AMOUNT.	SPECIE IN RESERVE.
	\$	\$
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China,	8,718,777	5,000,000*
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,	22,401,355	17,000,000
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited,	1,098,380	550,000†
TOTAL,\$	32,218,512	22,550,000

* Sterling Securities deposited with the Crown Agents valued at £150,000.

† Securities with the Crown Agents £125,000.

No. S. 13.—The following statement of the securities lodged with the Crown Agents by the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, against their notes in circulation, is published for general information under Section 5 of the Mercantile Bank Note Issue Ordinance, 1911, (Ordinance No. 65 of 1911) :—

Security.	Amount.	Nominal Value.	Price when deposited.	Latest market price.
5% War Loan,	£125,000	94 $\frac{3}{8}$

A. M. G. FLETCHER,
Colonial Secretary.

10th January, 1919.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

No. S. 14.—Return of samples examined under “The Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance, 1896,” for the quarter ended 31st December, 1918 :—

Description.	Number of samples.	Number found genuine.	Number found adulterated.
Brandy,	7	7	0
Ice,	1	1	0
Milk,	13	6	7
Rum,	5	5	0
Whisky,	2	0	2

4 samples of Milk proved to be of very poor quality and the Dealer was warned.