No. S. 2.—Returns of the Average Amount of Bank Notes in Circulation and of Specie in Reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st December, 1923, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks:—

Banks.	AVERAGE AMOUNT.	Specie in Reserve.
	\$	\$
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China,	12,837,330	5,000,000*
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,	44,681,129	30,600,000†
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited,	1,455,649	550,000§
Тотац,	58,974,108	36,150,000

<sup>\*</sup> Sterling Securities deposited with the Crown Agents valued at £912,700.

No. S. 3.—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.
5½ % Treasury Bonds repayable @ 100 in 1930,			•••	$103\frac{3}{4} - 104\frac{1}{4}$

CLAUD SEVERN,
Colonial Secretary.

4th January, 1924.

LAND OFFICE.

No. S. 4.—It is hereby notified that the following Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction will be held at the District Office, Tai Po, at 11.30 a.m., on Wednesday, the 9th day of January, 1924.

The Lots are sold for the term of Seventy-five years from the 1st day of July, 1893, with the right of renewal for a further term of 24 years less 3 days at a re-assessed Crown Rent. No. 1 as Building Lot, Nos. 2 to 8 as Agricultural Lots, subject to the General Conditions of Sale published in Government Notification No. 365 of 1906, and to the Special Condition No. 5 published in Government Notification No. 278 of 1911. No. 1 is further subject to the Special Condition No. 7 published in Government Notification No. 261 of 1921. Nos. 2 to 8 are further subject to Special Conditions Nos. 1, 2 and 3 published in Government Notification No. 697 of 1909.

The amount to be spent on the building Lot in rateable improvements under the General Condition No. 5 is \$4,000.

<sup>†</sup> Securities with the Crown Agents and Straits Government £1,800,000.

<sup>§</sup> Securities with the Crown Agents £130,000.