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**The
Chamber of Commerce**

OF THE
**City of Georgetown,
Demerara,
British Guiana.**

**SEVENTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT**

December 31st, 1964

Printed by the "Daily Chronicle" Ltd.,
23, Main Street, Georgetown.

The Chamber of Commerce

OF THE

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Demerara,

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PRESIDENTS OF THE CHAMBER, 1889—1964

1889-90	Hon. A. Barr.
1890-91	Hon. A. Barr.
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1892-93	Hon. A. Barr.
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1894-95	Thomas H. Glennie, Esq.
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1896-97	Hon. A. Weber.
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1920-21	C. Farrar, Esq.
1921-22	C. Farrar, Esq.
1922-23	C. Farrar, Esq.
1923-24	T. H. Dalgliesh, Esq.
1924-25	Hon. A. P. Sherlock.
1925-26	{ C. Farrar, Esq.
	{ T. H. Dalgliesh, Esq.
1926-27	T. H. Dalgliesh, Esq.
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1931-32	F. A. Mackey, Esq.
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1933-34	H. G. Seaford, Esq.
1934-35	F. H. Martin-Sperry, Esq.
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1937	Hon. J. I. de Aguiar.
1938	{ Hon. J. I. de Aguiar. H. G. Seaford, Esq., O.B.E.
1939	{ H. G. Seaford, Esq., O.B.E. F. H. Martin-Sperry, Esq.
1940	F. H. Martin-Sperry, Esq.
1941	F. H. Martin-Sperry, Esq
1942	F. H. Martin Sperry, Esq.
1943	H. G. Seaford, Esq., O.B.E.
1944	H. G. Seaford, Esq., O.B.E.
1945	W. J. Raatgever, Esq.
1946	Hon. W. J. Raatgever.
1947	Hon. W. J. Raatgever.
1948	Hon. W. J. Raatgever.
1949	H. G. Seaford, Esq., O.B.E.
1950	H. G. Seaford, Esq., O.B.E.
1951	J. I. de Aguiar, Esq., C.B.E.
1952	{ Lt-Col. E. J. Haywood, M.B.E., T.D. A. E. Gonsalves, Esq.
1953	J. St. F. Dare, Esq.
1954	W. M. Green, Esq.
1955	W. M. Green, Esq.
1956	W. M. Green, Esq.
1957	W. M. Green, Esq.
1958	Lt-Col. C. M. Bernard, O.B.E., E.D.
1959	E. S. Stoby, Esq.
1960	E. S. Stoby, Esq.
1961	H. L. Steele, Esq.
1962	{ H. L. Steele, Esq. G. W. E. Cooper, Esq., O.B.E.
1963	John Jardim, Esq.
1964	John Jardim, Esq.

List of Members of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce.

1964

HONORARY MEMBERS.

- The Comptroller of Customs and Excise.
- The Conservator of Forests.
- The Chief Agricultural Officer
- The General Manager, Transport & Harbours Department.
- Director of Posts & Telecommunications.
- H. G. Seaford, Esq., O.B.E. Trade Commissioners—
- Principal British Trade Commissioner for Eastern Caribbean in Trinidad.
- Asst. British Trade Commissioner in British Guiana.
- The Commissioner for Canada in Trinidad.
- New Zealand Government Trade Commissioner for the Caribbean, British Guiana, British Honduras and Venezuela in Trinidad.
- The Commissioner for the Government of India in the British West Indies and British Guiana.
- Canadian Commissioner to British Guiana.
- The German Consul.
- Australian Government Trade Commissioner for the West Indies and British Guiana.
- U.S. Vice Consul in British Guiana (responsible for Trade Matters).
- The Foreign Trade Adviser to the Irish Export Promotion Board.
- The Venezuelan Consul-General.

SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS.

- Albion Distilleries Ltd.
- Amo Contracting Co.—H. A.
- Acme General Agencies.
- Ace Advertisers.
- Bagh Khan, Y.
- Baichandeen Ltd.—B.
- Bank Breweries Ltd.
- Barclays Bank D.C.O.
- Bayley's Limited
- Beharry & Co., Ltd.—Edward B.
- Bettencourt & Co., Ltd. G.
- B.G. Balata Ltd.
- B.G. Credit Corporation.
- B.G. Lithographic Co., Ltd.
- B.G. Pawnbroking & Trading Co., Ltd.
- British Guiana Electricity Corporation.
- British Guiana Rice Marketing Board.
- British Guiana United Broadcasting Co., Ltd.
- B.G. Soap & Oil Works, Ltd.
- B.G. Timbers Ltd
- B.G. & Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.
- Boothoo & Sons. Ltd.
- Bookers Manufacturing Drug Co., Ltd.
- Bookers Rum Co., Ltd.
- Bookers Shipping (Dem.) Ltd.
- Bookers Stores, Ltd.
- Brazao, Frank P.
- British Bata Shoe Co., Ltd.
- British West Indian Airways, Ltd.
- Brown Betty Dairies Ltd.
- Cable & Wireless (W.I.) Ltd.
- Camacho, Ltd. M. P.
- Caribbean Molasses Co., Ltd.
- Central Garage Ltd.
- Charlestown Saw Mills, Ltd.
- Chin & Co.
- Chin & Co., Joe.
- City Pharmacy.
- Clung & Sons, Ltd., Louis.
- Colgate-Palmolive (British Guiana) Ltd.
- Confectionery (B.G.) Ltd.
- Continental Biscuit Co., Ltd.
- D'Aguiar Bros. Ltd.
- "Daily Chronicle" Ltd., The
- Davsons Caribbean Agencies Ltd.
- De Caires Bros. Ltd.
- De Caires & Co. Ltd.—Francis.
- Demerara Bauxite Co., Ltd.

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Demerara Co., Ltd.
Demerara Foundry Co., Ltd.
Demerara Mutual Life Assurance Society, Ltd., The
Demerara Oil & Cake Mills Ltd.
Demerara Oxygen Co., Ltd.
Demerara Tobacco Co., Ltd.
Elias & Son, N.
Esso Standard Oil, S.A., Ltd.
Fernandes, Ltd., D. M.
Fernandes, Ltd., John
Fogarty Ltd., Wm.
Foster & Co., Ltd.
Garnett & Co., Ltd.
Gajraj, Ltd., H. B.
General Supplies Agency.
Georgetown Agencies, Ltd.
Gillette & Coy, E. S.
Gomes Ltd., V. C.
Grant, Ltd., T. Goddes
Green & Co., J. F.
Green, Oscar R.
Guiana Graphic Ltd.
Guiana Match Company, Ltd.
Guiana Merchants Ltd.
Guiana Times Publishing Co., Ltd.
Hand-in-Hand Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., The
Hotel Tower, Ltd.
Hotel Woodbine, Ltd.
Humphrey, R. G.
Jacob & Sons, Ltd., C. H.
Jaikaran & Sons, Ltd.
Kawall, Ltd., L.
Khouri, Ltd., S. S.
Kidman & Co., Ltd—D. V.
Kirpalani's Ltd.
Kissoon, A. H. & L.
Kwang Hing's Super Market.
Majeed & Sons Ltd., Abdool.
McCowan & Associates, Carl
Mekdeci & Co. New Store—
J. T.
Motor Transport Ltd.
Muneshwer's General Store.

Nasseer & Co., Sheik, M. V.
Nobrega & Co.—A. S.
Narain & Sons, Ltd., Robert
Pan American Standard Brands Inc.
Pan American World Airways, Inc.
Petroleum Marketing Agencies, Ltd.
Phillips Ltd., C. A.
Potter & Co., Ltd., J. W.
Rahaman's Soda Factory.
Rayman's Drug Store Ltd.
Resaul Maraj & Co., Ltd.
Reynolds Metals Company.
Rodrigues Ltd.
Royal Bank of Canada.
Rupunni Development Co., Ltd.
Russell & Co., Alec.
Sandbach, Parker & Co., Ltd.
Sankar Bros. Ltd.
Santos & Co., Ltd., J. P.
Signal Trading Co., Ltd.
Singer Sewing Machine Co.
Spellen's Electrical Service Station.
Sprostons, Ltd.
Sterling Products, Ltd.
Sue Ping & Co., B.
Swan Manufacturing Coy., Ltd.
Tang's Drug Store.
Texaco West Indies Ltd.
Thani & Son—D. A.
White & Co., Harold E.
Wieting & Richter, Ltd.
Wilson — Ricketts Construction Coy.
Willems Timber & Trading Co., Ltd.
Wiltshire & Sons Ltd., S. R.
Wong & Son, Ltd. Evan
Wong & Khan, Surveying & Contracting Coy.
Yong Hing — C.

The Chamber of Commerce

OF THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN
DEMERARA
BRITISH GUIANA

Founded 1889

Incorporated by Ordinance No. 3 of 1890

THE COUNCIL

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <i>President ;—</i> | John Jardim Esq. |
| <i>Senior Vice-President ;—</i> | A. R. Yhap, Esq. |
| <i>Junior Vice-President ;—</i> | J. St. F. Dare, Esq. |
| <i>Honorary Secretary ;—</i> | C. I. Figueira, Esq. |
| <i>Honorary Treasurer ;—</i> | S. M. V. Nasseer, Esq. |
| <i>Members ;</i> | |
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| D. A. Blackman, Esq. | D. Lilleyman, Esq. |
| C. F. Barnard, Esq. | M. C. E. Hemery, Esq. |
| C. L. de Freitas, Esq., O.B.E. | P. W. Tang, Esq. |
| John Fernandes, Esq. | P. E. Andersen, Esq. |
| G. D. Gilbert, Esq. | T. S. Wheating, Esq. |
| W. M. Green, Esq. | D. L. Wilson, Esq. |
| M. B. Gajraj, Esq. | L. I. C. Willems, Esq. |
| <i>Executive Officer ;—</i> | F. W. V. Green |
| <i>Assistant Secretary ;—</i> | Miss J. M. Smith. |
| <i>Honorary Auditor ;</i> | J. L. Sam, Esq, |
| <i>Commercial Review Editor ;</i> | C. D. Kirton, Esq. |
| <i>Bankers ;—</i> | Barelays Bank, D.C.O.
Royal Bank of Canada. |

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REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SEVENTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
MEMBERS TO BE HELD ON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26th, 1965.

1. MEETINGS

Eighteen Council, nine General, and Nineteen Committee meetings were held during the year.

2. MEMBERSHIP

The Membership at the end of the year under review as compared with 1963 was as follows:—

	1964	1963
Ordinary Members	119	129
Associate Members	9	10
Honorary Members	17	13
Total	<u>145</u>	<u>152</u>

During the year there were three new admissions as Ordinary Members. Ten Ordinary members resigned and four were struck off for non-payment of subscriptions. One Associate Member became an Ordinary Member.

3. FINANCE

Receipts from subscriptions during the year amounted to \$12,750.00 as compared with \$12,250.00 in 1963.

Total receipts under all heads amounted to \$15,767.57 while expenditure amounted to \$15,990.90.

The balances at Credit of the Chamber at 31st. December, 1964 as compared with 1963 were as follows:—

	1964	1963
Royal Bank of Canada Current Account	\$ 293.84	\$ 517.17
Royal Bank of Canada Savings Account	4,161.69	2,891.89
New Building Society Account No. C. 9206 ..	870.00	1,370.00
New Building Society Account No. C. 6333 ..	1,000.00	1,758.06
Cash on Hand	2.40	9.51
	<u>\$ 6,327.93</u>	<u>\$ 6,546.63</u>

4. COMMERCIAL REVIEW

The following statement shows the total receipts and expenditure in connection with this Journal during the year as compared with 1963:—

	1964	1963
Receipts	\$ 4,816.13	\$ 4,471.93
Expenditure	4,909.00	4,554.87
Deficit	<u>\$ 92.87</u>	<u>\$ 82.94</u>

The deficit for the year under review has been caused by the fact that the Chamber's Staff Salaries for October & November were paid from this account.

The balance at credit of this fund at 31st. December as compared with 1963 was as follows:—

	1964	1963
Barclay's Bank D.C.O. Current Account ..	\$ 191.94	\$ 214.81
Cash on Hand93	1.31
	<u>\$ 192.87</u>	<u>\$ 216.12</u>

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5. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL AND OFFICERS

At the Annual General Meeting held on 28th. February, 1964, twenty-five persons were nominated to fill the twenty one seats on the Council. In accordance with Rule 22, Messrs. John Mohamed, R. Alexander, and R. Beharry were appointed scrutineers of the ballot, and the meeting adjourned to 6th. March 1964. At the adjourned meeting the scrutineers presented their report and as a result the following were declared elected as members of the Council:—

Messrs. J. A. Adamson, D. A. Blackman, J. St. F. Dare, J. Fernandes, C. I. Figueira, G. D. Gilbert, W. M. Green, M. C. E. Hemery, John Jardim, D. Lilleyman, S. M. V. Nasseer, R. L. Sheppard, P. W. Tang, T. S. Wheating, L. I. C. Willems, A. R. Yhap, M. B. Gajraj, D. L. Wilson, D. S. Dunbar, C. F. Barnard and Lt. Col. C. L. De Freitas, O.B.E.

At a meeting of the Council held immediately after, the following were appointed as Officers:—

President	John Jardim, Esq.,
Senior Vice-President	A. R. Yhap, Esq.,
Junior Vice-President	J. St. F. Dare, Esq.,
Honorary Secretary	C. I. Figueira, Esq.,
Honorary Treasurer	S. M. V. Nasseer, Esq.,

During the year Mr. R. L. Sheppard resigned owing to his departure from the Colony and Mr. P. E. Andersen was appointed in his place.

6. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

The following persons were appointed Chairmen of the usual Standing Committees:—

Trade & Industrial Relations and Development	D. A. Blackman, Esq.
Legislative, Finance, Taxation & Customs	J. St. F. Dare, Esq.
Mining & Industry	D. F. Macorquodale, Esq.
Agriculture & Forestry	G. D. Gilbert, Esq.
Transport and Communications	C. I. Figueira, Esq.
Commercial Review	A. R. Yhap, Esq.
Oils & Fats	T. Persaud, Esq.
Distributive Trades	J. St. F. Dare, Esq.

7. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Again it is not possible to give any comparison of the 1964 and 1963 figures. The Statistical Bureau of the Government however is proceeding as expeditiously as possible to get the 1964 figures up to date, and will then proceed with those for 1963.

The latest figures available for 1964 are from January to August, and are as follows :—

Imports	\$99,982,254 :
Exports	\$88,160,049 :

8. THE RICE INDUSTRY

The 1963 Autumn and 1964 Spring Crops yielded 140,167 tons of paddy/87,000 tons of rice and 50,807 tons of paddy/31,349 tons of rice respectively, totalling 190,974 tons of paddy/118,349 tons of rice for the year.

The total availabilities for the year, including the carry-over of 34,210 tons from the previous Crop Year, thus amounted to 152,140 tons of rice which were disposed of as follows :

Disposals :

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Rice</u>
Exports	84,787	
Local Consumption	39,693	
Total Disposals	124,480	
Carry-over Stocks at Year End, including Rice in Mills :		27,660
TOTAL		<u><u>152,140</u></u>

EXPORT MARKETS

The main export markets remain the West Indian Islands and Cuba, and the prices obtained from these markets remain the same.

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The Board has been negotiating with the United Kingdom, Europe, and French and Dutch West Indies for the sale of rice, and every effort is being made to further promote sales of Packaged Rice, which had an excellent reception throughout the West Indies.

RICE CONFERENCES

Two Conferences were held with the little Eight Territories. The first was in February, 1964, in Barbados and the second in September, 1964, in Montserrat. At both of these Conferences, the Board did not secure an increase in existing prices but had the contracts extended for an additional year. The contracts with these territories shall now remain in force until 1969.

9. THE SUGAR INDUSTRY

(1)	<u>Acreege reaped in 1964</u> (estates only)	—	93,408	acres
(2)	<u>Total 1964 Sugar</u> <u>Production</u>	—	258,378	tons
(3)	<u>Average Yield per acre in</u> <u>1964 (estates only)</u>	—	2.71	tons
(4)	<u>1964 Quota Exports</u>	—	248,723	tons
(5)	<u>Local Consumption in 1964</u>	—	24,251	tons
(6)	<u>Sugar Prices</u>			

(i) Export

(a) Under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement

The 1964 guaranteed price for sugar sold to the U.K. under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement was £46 0. 10d. (\$221.00) per ton c.i.f. Of this amount the sum of £2. 15. 0d. (\$13.20) was allocated as in the past to Reserve Funds as follows :—

Price Stabilisation	—£0. 5.0d.	(\$1.20)
Rehabilitation	—£1. 10.0d.	(\$7.20)
Labour Welfare	—£1. 0.0d.	(\$4.80)

The rest of this export quota under the Agreement was sold to the U.K. and Canada at world market prices plus preference. The high world prices enjoyed in 1963 were not maintained and by December, 1964, the London Daily Price had fallen to £24.71. The Annual Average London Daily Price for 1964 was £51.114 as against £71.7 for 1963.

(b) Under the U.S. Sugar Act

In 1963 because of the high world prices the U.S. import fee was suspended. With the steep fall in values in 1964 the U.S. price was once again established at a premium over the world quotation and in August fees were re-enforced.

The U.S. Sugar Act provides that the premium paid by the U.S.A. should be 30% lower in 1964 than in 1961.

(ii) Local — No change.

(7) Weather Conditions

The complete failure of the 1963 Christmas rains was followed by the failure of the April/May, 1964, rains. The result was that the sugar industry in British Guiana experienced its longest dry spell on record. This drought — a purely natural phenomenon — did more damage to sugar production prospects in 1964 than all the man-made unrest, work stoppages and arson which occurred during the year.

Weather in the second half of the year was more normal, but the damage to juice quality brought on by the drought could not be overcome and final production was some 60,000 to 70,000 tons less than had been estimated at the beginning of the year.

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(8) Labour Conditions

In June, 1963, the Guiana Agricultural Workers' Union had applied to the B.G.S.P.A. for recognition as the sole bargaining agent for workers in categories then represented by the M.P.C.A., claiming that their membership comprised more than half of their workers. The Union failed to submit any evidence to support even a prima facie case for recognition and ultimately on 25th February, 1964, the SPA advised the G.A.W.U. that on the evidence available to them at the time they were unable to accord recognition to the Union.

In the meantime the Guiana Agricultural Workers' Union on 12th February, called a "strike" in support of their claim. There then followed a campaign of intimidation against workers who continued to work. This campaign, initially of threats, but soon involving violence, arson and murder, ultimately developed a racial bias and led to retaliation. Terrorism spread to areas outside the sugar estates, and ultimately on 22nd May the Governor, on the advice of the Council of Ministers, declared a State of Emergency. Later, on June 13th, acting under special powers granted by H.M. the Queen in Council, the Governor took charge of internal security in British Guiana without the necessity to act in accordance with the advice of the Council of Ministers. Among the special powers accorded the Governor was the power to restrict or detain any person in the country, a power which the Council of Ministers had declined to make available under the State of Emergency. Immediately after the assumption of these powers the Governor issued orders for the detention of a number of persons including the President and Secretary of the Guiana Agricultural Workers' Union and a number of that union's activists.

In addition to intimidation of workers, attacks were also made against sugar estate property. Cane fields were deliberately fired and more than 3,000 acres of cane were maliciously burnt.

The "strike" lasted from 12th February to 25th July, 1964, when it was called off by the Guiana Agricultural Workers' Union, and disturbed labour

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conditions prevailed on estates for the whole of the 1964 Spring crop, although some estates were less affected than others. This, coupled with the effects of the drought, resulted in production for the 1964 Spring crop of only 78,091 tons of sugar compared with normal Spring crop production of the order of 125,000 tons.

(9) Production Prospects for 1965

It is estimated that the 1965 crop will be in the region of 335,000 tons of sugar.

(10) Market Conditions

Trading continued within the framework of the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement and the U.S. Sugar Act.

As a result of the 1964 Commonwealth Sugar Talks the Agreement has been extended for another year to 31st December, 1972.

A review of the existing price formula under the Agreement was undertaken, but time did not permit completion of this and talks on this subject are to be resumed early in 1965. Without prejudice to the outcome of these talks it was agreed that the basis of the negotiated price for 1965 should be changed from a price for bagged sugar c.i.f. (but including freight and insurance at pre-war levels) to a price for sugar in bulk f.o.b. and stowed. The price agreed for 1965 is £42 a ton for bulk sugar f.o.b. and stowed for all territories, but for less developed territories an additional amount of £3. 5. 0d. a ton is to be paid, to which is to be added a further £1. 6. 6d. a ton representing benefits which had formerly accrued to colonial exporters by way of Colonial Preference Certificates. The special payment of £3. 5. 0d. per ton to developing countries is in recognition of the difficulties facing them as a result of the seriously depressed world price, and is a completely new feature of the Agreement.

Because of the change of basis a comparison with the 1964 negotiated price is impossible. However, the sum of the basic price and the special payment of £3. 5. 0d a ton is broadly equivalent to the 1964 price.

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Negotiated price quotas were also revised and consolidated quotas set which in future years will not be subject to any fluctuations arising from changes in sugar consumption in the U.K. This quota for the West Indies and British Guiana is 725,000 tons.

With the consent of the existing members Swaziland acceded to the Agreement. The existing members also agreed to the adherence of India and Rhodesia to the Agreement.

The foreign quota provisions of the U.S. Sugar Act expired at the end of 1964. While the matter of new provisions has not yet been brought before Congress, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture has taken administrative action to fix 1965 quotas of foreign suppliers.

10. COCONUT AND COCONUT PRODUCTS

The number of nuts produced during the year under review was 45,272,000, a decrease of 627,750 under the 1963 production. The production of Copra was 5,804 tons, a decrease of 95 tons, when compared with 1963.

The quantity of copra meal manufactured during the year was 4,358,469 lbs. This being 911,074 lbs. more than in 1963.

Other by-products of the coconut manufactured during the year as compared with 1963 were as follows :—

	1964	1963
Edible Oil	877,895 glns.	690,990 glns.
Crude Oil	44,420 glns.	45,750 glns.
Margarine	1,781,156 lbs.	1,560,787 lbs.
Lard		
Compound	174,521 lbs.	176,456 lbs.
Soap	4,959,446 lbs.	4,073,035 lbs.

11. BAUXITE

DEMERARA BAUXITE CO., LTD.

Despite serious social disturbances and some labour unrest, 1964 shipments of bauxite and alumina products by Demerara Bauxite Company, Limited, at

Mackenzie maintained fairly high levels, although production was below expectation.

Shipments of dried bauxite to metallurgical industries overseas totalled 533,000 long tons, compared with 678,000 tons in 1963. However, shipments of calcined bauxite to abrasive and refractory industries reached a new record level of 463,000 long tons, 98,500 tons greater than the previous year. Shipments of alumina also reached a new high, the 1964 figure being 292,000 long tons, as compared to 222,000 tons in 1963.

Demba products were shipped to 30 different countries during the year, with the greater part of the dried bauxite going to Canada; calcined bauxite largely was shipped to Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, and other European countries. Alumina was shipped to Canada, Norway and Switzerland. A total of 264 vessels called at Mackenzie during the year.

Some major additions to production capacity were made during 1964. A new mine was established at Kara Kara and an electrically powered 480-W walking dragline was acquired to strip overburden there. In addition, a small bucket wheel excavator was put into operation at Maria Elizabeth mine. In the bauxite plant new facilities were largely completed in 1964 to manufacture synthetic mullite, a high grade refractory material, and to recover additional quantities of bauxite from washer plant tailings. Eventual investment in these new plants will reach W.I. \$4½ million.

The Company's operations were affected in the latter part of May and early July by racial disturbances and 365 employees of East Indian origin were forced to flee the district. By year-end, nearly 30% had returned to their jobs with the Company.

Progress was made in the development of the Mackenzie community with the establishment of the Greater Mackenzie Development Trust, best described as a community bank, which has been provided with \$3 million in cash and property by Demba.

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Company-owned houses were sold to employees and other residential and commercial property was donated to the Trust. It is expected that the Local Authority for Mackenzie will be established early in 1965.

Production and sales forecasts for 1965 are favourable. The Company will be reinforcing its capacity to remove overburden in its mines with the purchase of additional large equipment during the year.

REYNOLDS METALS COMPANY

Bauxite shipments for 1964 totalled 305,600 Long Dry Tons. This is slightly more than 1963 but is below the average in the last four years which is 342,400 tons.

The General Strike in 1963, gave all bauxite operators in British Guiana a reputation for being unreliable sources of crude material. Because of this, we missed an opportunity to expand in 1963 and the detrimental effect carried over into 1964. This was further aggravated by a series of "WILD CAT" strikes in 1964 which kept a low production rate, even lower because of the strikes.

The experimental dredging of the Berbice Bar was somewhat a disappointment to this operation because we were not allowed to take advantage of the channel. We are still limited to 3 foot less than the Demerara Bar. Experimental cut however, did provide a means for determining the siltation rate which gives an indication of the cost of maintaining the Bar after it is completely dredged. This report appeared in December and was quite encouraging.

During 1964, there was no progress made in our efforts to obtain a long range contract with the government which would give us the stability required for any future expansion. This was another factor which contributed to our low tonnage level. By year end, the demand for bauxite had increased and had indications of continuing through 1965. In the latter quarter of the year the rate of chemical production had increased substantially, primarily because the larger producers had discontinued this type

of material. Another encouraging factor was the substantial reduction of violence throughout the country. This violence was reported in the International Press and tends to make some of our customers doubtful about the wisdom of placing orders with us.

The outlook for 1965 is very much brighter. We have hopes of completing a long range agreement with the government which will give us the stability we need for expansion. It is hoped that this agreement will also give the government something which will make it possible for them to have the Bar dredged. These two factors along with continued demand for bauxite should make it possible for us to double our capacity next year. At the moment, labour relations are good but the large number of "WILD CAT" strikes last year makes us somewhat skeptical of the future. We are nevertheless anticipating a tremendous change in our operations in 1965.

12. GOLD AND DIAMONDS

Gold production up to the 30th November, 1964 amounted to 1740 czs. on which royalty of \$871.75 has been collected. The main producing area is still in the North West District and mining is done by the hand method. There has been no spectacular finds and production has been steadily decreasing.

Diamond Production up to the 30th November, 1964 amounted to 96,638 carats on which royalty of \$47,176.90 has been collected. The recovery of diamonds by the use of suction pumping equipment continues. The Mazaruni remains the main producing area followed by Pctaro where production has been increasing.

13. THE BALATA INDUSTRY

As a result of the drought in the first few months of the year, the Short Season collection which is made during the short rainy season, was a failure.

Weather conditions during the main crop were much better, and as a result approximately 270 tons were collected.

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The demand remained fairly constant throughout the year, but towards the end of the year competition from synthetic balata which is being manufactured in Canada was becoming more noticeable.

14. INCORPORATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN.

The Tenth Annual General Meeting of the Company was held in Trinidad on 9th November, 1964. Mr. John Jardim, one of the Directors nominated by this Chamber, attended.

15. CHAMBER'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

At a Meeting of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society held on 20th December, 1888, a Commercial Committee was appointed under the presidency of Mr. J. Ernest Tinne, and a public meeting of merchants and others was held on 17th June 1889, when it was unanimously resolved to form a Chamber of Commerce for the City of Georgetown which should be incorporated by Law. A Provisional Committee to draft the Memorandum and Articles of Association etc., was appointed and these were submitted at a General Meeting held on 8th July, 1889, when the President, Vice-Presidents and Council were elected.

The following were the first officers and members of the Council :

President —	The Hon. Alec. Barr
Vice-Presidents —	Arthur Weber Esq., and W. H. Sherlock Esq.,
Secretary —	Gustav H. Richter Esq.,
Treasurer —	Jacob H. de Jonge Esq., A. Gordon Clarke Esq., Jacob Conrad Esq., William Cunningham Esq., J. S. Da Costa Esq., T. H. Glennie Esq., A. P. P. Mackey Esq., Jos. Tengeley Esq., E. T. White Esq.,

There were 74 members of the Chamber, the Annual Subscription being \$15 :

It had been hoped to celebrate our Diamond Jubilee in a fitting style, but owing to the unfortunate conditions prevailing in the Colony at the time, it was decided to mark the occasion by holding a Special General Meeting at the Hotel Woodbine on the actual date : 8th July, 1964, at which several valedictory speeches were made. Mr. J. A. Adamson, the oldest member (not in age) of the Council present in the Colony at the time, gave an amusing and interesting talk on his experiences during his long term of office.

It has also been decided to further mark the Chamber's 75th birthday by presenting a suitable piece of equipment to the Technical Institute for use in the industrial training of our youth.

16. 22ND CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATION OF COMMONWEALTH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The 22nd Congress of the Federation of Commonwealth Chambers of Commerce, was held in Trinidad on 24th April, 1964. Our President Mr. John Jardim represented us at this Congress. Eight delegates to the Congress afterwards visited British Guiana and attended a Special Council Meeting on 29th April. Suitable entertainments were arranged for them.

17. ARRIVAL OF THE NEW GOVERNOR

On Saturday March 7th, Sir Richard Edmonds Luyt, K.C.M.G., D.C.M. arrived in the Colony and was sworn in as Governor. On the 25th March, an address of welcome was presented to him by a delegation from the Council on behalf of all members of the Chamber. His Excellency gave the delegates present a very patient and sympathetic hearing and his reply was indeed encouraging. Unfortunately from the time of his arrival he was faced with the upsurge of violence in the Colony; however, by his tactful but firm handling of the situation, he has been able to guide the Colony back into what we hope will be an everlasting era of peace and prosperity.

18. MISCELLANEOUS

Among the matters which engaged the attention of the Chamber during the year were the following :—

National Development Savings Levy.

L.S. & D charges.

Copra Situation in the Pomeroon District.

Restrictions on importation of certain brands of Toilet Soap.

2% Turnover Tax.

Technical and Adult Education.

Minimum Wages Orders.

Customs Regulations for handling refrigeration cargo.

Importation of certain types of foodstuffs by Government through the Guyana Marketing Corporation.

Increased duties on Detergents and Brassieres.

19. VISITORS

The following persons attended Meetings of the Chamber on the dates mentioned :—

17th January — Mr. A. S. Payne, Assistant British Trade Commissioner resident in Trinidad.

24th March — Hon. Milton Gregg — Canadian Commissioner in British Guiana,

17th April — Mr. Conrad O'Brien — World President of Junior Chamber International.

Mr. H. Moore — President of Junior Chamber International, Trinidad.

Mr. M. Jordan — President of Junior Chamber International, Barbados.

29th April — Commander J. M. Aiton, Messrs. P. D. Priestman, B. Stringer, R. H. Hare, G. P. Brownie, V. R. B. Smallwood, and M. Wise, delegates from the 22nd Congress of the Federation of Commonwealth Chambers of Commerce.

30th July — Mr. A. Linsell — United Nations Correspondent.

11th August — Dr. I. Pflaum — Director of Inter-American University, Puerto Rico.

21st August — Mr. J. W. Evelyn — Acting General Manager, Transport & Harbours Department.

2nd October — Mr. Gordon Booth — Principal British Trade Commissioner resident in Trinidad.

The following persons also visited the Chamber :—

25th February — Mr. D. N. Hull—New Zealand Government Trade Commissioner resident in Trinidad.

23rd March — Mr. H. C. Thompson—Assistant Australian Trade Commissioner, resident in Trinidad.

8th September — Mr. Hans Hanselmann — German Vice-Consul.

6th October — Dr. M. Jovy—German Consul.

15th October — Mr. L. D. R. Dyke — Canadian Trade Commissioner resident in Trinidad.

Mr. S. W. Hubble — Office of the Commissioner for Canada.

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10th December— Mr. I. Wallace — Colonial
Office, London.

20. STAFF

There has been no change in the Staff which consists of :—

Mr. F. W. V. Green.. Executive Officer
Miss J. M. Smith ... Assistant Secretary.

21. OBITUARY

It is with regret that we have to record the deaths of Mr. W. A. D'Andrade, a former Assistant Secretary of the Chamber, Miss E. M. Turner who for many years was Librarian of the Chamber, and Mr. J. A. E. Young, General Manager of the Transport & Harbours Department.

22. ACCOUNTS

Statements of Income and Expenditure of the Chamber and the Commercial Review with Balance Sheet are submitted herewith. The thanks of the Chamber are once more due to Mr. J. L. Sam, for his services as Honorary Auditor.

F. W. V. GREEN,
Executive Officer.

JOHN JARDIM,
President.

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF THE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE CITY OF
GEORGETOWN, FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER, 1964**

EXPENDITURE	INCOME
To Subscriptions \$ 568.18	By Subscriptions—
.. Salaries 6,105.00	No. 1 Associates \$ 400.00
.. Stationery and Printing .. 536.09	No. 2 Members 12,350.00 \$12,750.00
.. General Expenses .. 1,188.58	.. Interest on Government
.. Rent 854.00	Bonds 11.00
.. Postages and Incidentals .. 342.62	.. Interest on Royal Bank
.. Annual Luncheon .. 1,235.07	Savings A/C 85.68
.. Lighting and Power .. 677.48	.. Interest on New Building
.. Messenger 1,196.00	Society Shares 131.67
.. Travelling Expenses to the	.. Interest on National
Incorporated Chamber's	Savings Levy 1.37
Meetings 553.60	.. Subscriptions to
.. Entertainments 942.28	Annual Luncheon .. 1,530.00
.. Depreciation on Furniture .. 88.14	.. Profit on Insurance
.. Depreciation on Air	Policies 324.00
Conditioning Unit .. 266.11	.. Subscriptions to
.. Balance on Typewriter	Entertainments 312.00
written off 270.00	
.. Excess of Income over	
Expenditure 322.57	
<u>\$15,145.72</u>	<u>\$15,145.72</u>

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