

THE PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1923

(See Chart No. 2.)

In the monsoon charts the green lines give the approximate dates of the normal annual setting in and withdrawal of the monsoon and are based on information supplied by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Excess means more than 120 per cent. of the normal. The normal for divisions is the mean of normals of reporting stations excluding hill stations.

'Normal' in the charts is a variation from 80 to 120 per cent. of the true normal, 'fair' 40 to 79 per cent. of this normal, and 'scanty' is less than 40 per cent. The whiter the statement, the more the satisfactory nature of the monsoon; the redder it is, the worse the monsoon. The rainfall in other provinces also has been shown, as these (e.g., the United Provinces which exports to us bajri and jowari for our millworkers) have an influence in the long run on future price levels of food.

In Sind, the monsoon scarcely counts; it is the level of the Indus that does. The rise of the river up till the end of September is shown in the charts; after this date the rise is of little material importance.



THE MONTH IN BRIEF

Employment

THE COTTON INDUSTRY—BOMBAY

DURING the month ended 12th December 1923, the supply of labour in the Presidency was generally plentiful. In Bombay City and Island, 5 mills only out of a total of 36 reporting mills reported a slight deficiency in the supply of labour. The average absenteeism in 36 representative mills in Bombay, for which reports have been received, showed a large decrease as compared with the figures of the previous month. The average absenteeism was 11·09 per cent. during the month ended 12th December as compared with 15·31 per cent. in the previous month, and 14·53 per cent. two months ago. Twenty-one out of the total reporting mills reported a decrease of absenteeism, and this was stated to be due to the employees' expectation of obtaining a bonus for this year. Absenteeism was reported to be highest in spinning departments and lowest in weaving departments, during the month under review. By the end of December three Bombay Mills will have closed down owing to the trade depression.

AHMEDABAD

In Ahmedabad, the supply of labour was, as in the last month, reported to be equal to the demand during the month under review. Detailed reports of absenteeism have been received from representative mills in this centre. These reports showed an average absenteeism of 6·45 per cent. during the month as compared with 7·58 per cent. last month. The highest absenteeism was reported to be in spinning departments.

SHOLAPUR

In Sholapur, the supply of labour was adequate and absenteeism in the month under review remained on the same level as in the

previous month. The average absenteeism was 15·43 per cent. in the present month as compared with 15·33 per cent. last month and 12·79 per cent. two months ago. Absenteeism rose from 13·93 per cent. before the pay day to 21·21 per cent. after the last pay day which was on the 18th of November in most mills.

BROACH

In Broach, the supply of labour was adequate in two of the reporting mills; in the remainder it was insufficient. Absenteeism showed a slight improvement as compared with the preceding month, the figures being 7·79 per cent. in the present month as compared with 8·1 per cent. last month and 9·18 per cent. two months ago.

SURAT

In Surat, the supply of labour was normal in the month under review. Absenteeism, however, showed a decrease as compared with last month, the figures being 11·08 per cent. in the present month as compared with 14·5 per cent. in the preceding month.

THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY—BOMBAY

In the engineering industry in Bombay the supply of labour was quite equal to the demand. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops (based on the returns from two large workshops) showed a slight increase, the figures being 15·16 per cent. in the month under review as compared with 15·03 per cent. last month and 15·73 per cent. two months ago.

On the Marine Lines and Colaba Reclamations of the Development Directorate, the average absenteeism was 5·0 per cent., the same as in the preceding month as well as two months ago. On the construction of *chawls* (tenements) at Naigaum and DeLisle Road, absenteeism declined to 3 per cent. as compared with 4 per cent. in the previous month. At Worli, on



the construction of *chawls* in connexion with the Development Directorate, absenteeism showed an increase to 10 per cent. as compared with 9 per cent. last month and 8 per cent. two months ago. The supply of unskilled labour employed for loading, removing, storing and unloading cargo in the docks by the Bombay Port Trust was more than equal to the demand. The percentage of absenteeism was 18.05 in the month under review, as compared with 18.5 last month and 11.49 two months ago. The increase in absenteeism in October and November was due probably to labourers returning to their villages. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply of labour was plentiful, but a slight increase in absenteeism was recorded. The percentage of absenteeism was 11.59, as compared with 10.76 last month and 10.65 two months ago.

KARACHI

In Karachi, the supply of all types of labour was plentiful. The average absenteeism, based on the attendance of monthly paid workers employed in the Engineering Workshop of the Karachi Port Trust, recorded an increase, the figure being 9.9 per cent. as compared with 5 per cent. in the preceding month.

The Cost of Living

In November 1923, the cost of living, as described elsewhere in the *Labour Gazette*, rose by nearly one per cent. as compared with the preceding month. The average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the cost of living index for the City and Island of Bombay (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 153 for all articles and 147 for food articles only. There was a fall of more than 4 per cent. as compared with this time last year and a fall of 21 per cent. below the high water mark (October 1920).

The Wholesale Index Number

In November 1923, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay rose by nearly 3 per cent. as compared with the previous month. The general level is now 84 per cent. above the pre-war level. A new item 'imported coal' has been added and the previous figures have been accordingly revised. The number of articles included in the index number is

now 41. The fluctuations in the prices of foods, non-foods and all articles will be seen in the following table:—

	Increase per cent. over July 1914.				
	July 1923.	August 1923.	September 1923.	October 1923.	November 1923.
Foods ..	78	76	82	85	89
Non-foods ..	73	71	74	75	80
All articles ..	75	73	77	79	84

Cotton Mill Production

Cotton mill production in October 1923, as compared with the corresponding month of the two previous years, is shown in the table below. The salient features are that, during October, production of yarn in Bombay declined as compared with the previous year, while in Ahmedabad there was a small improvement over the two preceding years. In regard to woven goods, there was a considerable increase in the production in Bombay and a small increase in Ahmedabad, as compared with the preceding year.

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun.			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced.		
	October			October		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Bombay Island ..	28	29	28	19	16	25
Ahmedabad ..	7	7	8	7	6	8
Other centres ..	5	5	4	4	2	3
Total Presidency ..	40	41	40	30	24	36

The Bombay Millowners' Association quotations at the end of November 1922 and October and November 1923 are as follows:—

	Net rate per lb. in annas.		
	November 1922	October 1923	November 1923
Longcloth ..	22½	21	24
T. Cloths ..	21	19½	21½
Chudders ..	22	19½	21½



Industrial Disputes

There were 7 industrial disputes in progress during November 1923, as compared with 8 in the preceding month. All the disputes began in the month, and the number of workpeople involved was 487 as compared with 9,481 in the preceding month and 15,206 in November 1922. The aggregate duration of all disputes during November 1923 was about 712 working days as compared with 36,178 in October 1923 and 60,287 in November 1922.

The Outlook

The outstanding feature of the past month has been the uncertainty prevailing in the cotton mill industry in regard to the bonus question. For the last three years the Bombay cotton mills have paid an annual bonus in January. In the early part of the present year the Millowners' Association announced their decision to pay no bonus for the present year owing to trade depression. A general strike in this industry was anticipated after the payment of wages for November on the 15th of this month. Several meetings of millhands were held at which the workers were urged by Mr. J. Baptista, Mr. N. M. Joshi and others not to strike. These meetings had the desired effect. On Monday, December 17th, only five strikes in mills in the City took place over the question of increased pay. These, however, were not of long duration, and the feeling of uncertainty has almost, if not entirely, passed away.

THE COTTON MILL INDUSTRY

The cotton mill industry, which has suffered so much of late, shows an improved outlook. Stocks of cloth held by the Bombay mills were 11 per cent. less in the first week of the present month as compared with the corresponding week of the preceding month. Stocks of yarn are reported to be normal. Thus the industry as a whole has shown a steady improvement during the last three months. There are, however, some mills which do not show such favourable returns. It is understood that certain mills are in favour of short time or a reduction in wages, but this opinion is not general in the industry.

His Excellency the Governor, in reply to an address presented by the Chamber of Commerce on the 11th instant, remarked on the relations

between Government and the commercial community. He said: "I should like at once to assure you that I am keenly convinced of the importance of any administration keeping closely in touch with the commercial interests and activities which are carried on in the area under its control; and that it will be among my chief endeavours to maintain the closest and most friendly relations between my Government and all commercial interests of Bombay."

In Great Britain there are signs of increased production particularly in the iron and steel industry and the engineering industry. Exports of cotton goods have shown an increase chiefly due to a better demand from India. Raw cotton prices, however, are again causing anxiety. The woollen industry is experiencing a good demand, and business in this industry is now the best since the early part of the present year. In the silk industry also an improvement is noticeable. The unemployment figures show practically no change when at this time of the year a seasonal increase in unemployment is usually looked for. The foreign trade figures for October also show an improvement in both imports and exports, though in certain trades the levels of September were not maintained.

In the United States, according to cable information received by the American Trade Commissioner, Calcutta, the financial situation is reported as excellent with funds abundant at low rates, while steel production is lower, the textile and automobile industries have increased their output and the rail road situation has materially improved. Thirty-one out of 43 industries show increased employment, while 40 show increased pay roll totals. Considering the industries by groups 11 out of 13 groups show increases in employment in the year, and 12 show very substantial increases in pay roll totals.

The staple products of South America and Canada are being marketed in satisfactory quantities; Australian industry is in a satisfactory state and there is a slight improvement in the situation in South Africa.

The Balance of Trade

During November 1923, the visible balance of trade including securities *in favour of India*

amounted to Rs. 1,53 lakhs. The corresponding figure for 1922 was a favourable balance of Rs. 5,96 lakhs. The trade figures for the last six months for India, Bombay and Karachi are given below :—

India						
In lakhs of rupees						
	June 1923	July 1923	August 1923	September 1923	October 1923	November 1923
Exports (private merchandise)	29,89	26,02	23,42	23,44	25,55	27,63
Imports do.	17,98	16,38	16,96	18,72	20,60	21,89
Balance of Trade in merchandise	+ 11,91	+ 9,64	+ 6,46	+ 4,72	+ 4,95	+ 6,54
Balance of transactions in treasure (private)	- 3,82	- 3,85	- 3,20	- 3,10	- 4,72	- 3,75
Visible balance of trade including securities	+ 7,94	+ 5,79	+ 3,26	+ 1,62	+ 0,23	+ 2,79

Bombay						
In lakhs of rupees						
	June 1923	July 1923	August 1923	September 1923	October 1923	November 1923
Exports (private merchandise)	8,79	7,61	4,38	3,95	6,44	7,21
Imports do.	7,05	6,23	6,49	6,68	8,17	8,06
Balance of Trade in merchandise	+ 1,74	+ 1,38	- 2,11	- 2,73	- 1,73	- 0,85
Imports of treasure	3,59	3,52	3,07	3,42	4,61	3,52
Exports of treasure	15	13	12	39	10	1
Balance of transactions in treasure	- 3,44	- 3,39	- 2,95	- 3,03	- 4,51	- 3,51

Karachi						
In lakhs of rupees						
	June 1923	July 1923	August 1923	September 1923	October 1923	November 1923
Exports (private merchandise)	5,26	3,49	1,49	1,42	86	2,23
Imports do.	1,92	1,72	2,26	2,41	2,00	1,98
Balance of Trade in merchandise	+ 3,34	+ 1,77	- 77	- 99	- 1,14	+ 25
Imports of treasure	1	7	2	1	12	..
Exports of treasure	2	..	..	11	11	..
Balance of transactions in treasure	+ 1	- 7	- 2	+ 10	- 1	..

Note.—Plus (+) signifies net export and minus (-) signifies net import.

Business conditions

The rates for telegraphic transfers in Bombay on London in the first week of the last twelve months are as follows :—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
January 1923	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆	July 1923	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆
February ..	.. 1	4 ¹⁵ / ₃₂	August ..	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆
March ..	.. 1	4 ⁸ / ₈	September ..	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆
April ..	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆	October ..	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆
May ..	.. 1	4 ⁵ / ₃₂	November ..	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆
June ..	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆	December ..	.. 1	4 ¹ / ₁₆

These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 27th December exchange on London was s. 1 d. 5 ¹/₂. There was an increase of 26 crores of rupees in Bank clearings in Bombay in November as compared with the preceding month. In Calcutta and Rangoon, the Bank clearings increased by Rs. 7 crores and Rs. 4 crores respectively, while the clearings in Karachi remained on the same level. The figures for the last three months are as follows :—

In crores of rupees*				
	September 1923	October 1923	November 1923	Total January to November 1923
Bombay	32	53	79	562
Karachi	3	4	4	36
Calcutta	82	62	69	787
Rangoon	8	6	10	109
Total (four ports)	125	125	162	1,425

* 1 Crore = 10 millions or 100 lakhs.

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of November 1923 was 66.08 as against 68.21 in October and 67.94 in September 1923.

The average market quotations of 65 cotton mill companies for which quotations are available are as follows :—

December 1922	.. Rs. 1,222	March 1923	.. Rs. 1,125
January 1923	.. .. 1,255	April ..	.. .. 1,195
February ..	.. .. 1,216	May ..	.. .. 1,215

June 1923 .. Rs. 1,042
July 1,125
August 1,007
September 1923 .. Rs. 995
October 983
November 998

The average amount paid up was Rs. 371 per share throughout the period.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION IN BOMBAY

FACTORY WORKERS

Replying to the welcome address presented to His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson by the Bombay Municipal Corporation on his arrival in Bombay on December 10th, His Excellency referred to the inadequacy of hospital accommodation in Bombay City and Island. It will be remembered that in the narrow compass of Bombay City and Island the number of factory workers is 206,000, of which 173,000 are men, 32,000 are women and the remainder children. Of these 151,000 are employed in the cotton mills (120,000 men, 30,000 women and the remainder children).

VIEWS OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

His Excellency's remarks in this connexion were as follows :—

"There are many important problems still confronting you, but you will not naturally expect me to-day to make particular reference to them. I should like, however, to say that I have been especially impressed with the urgency of the question of medical relief in this city. The figures which I have been studying show that the ratio of hospital accommodation to population is so low as to give ground for anxiety; and in a vast industrial city like Bombay, liable as it is to serious attacks of epidemic disease, I cannot but feel that such a defect is a serious menace to its health and prosperity. I hope to have an early opportunity of investigating this question thoroughly and seeing what measures can be devised to effect a steady improvement and in this task I feel sure that I may count upon your ungrudging support."

SETTLEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

GOVERNMENT'S LABOUR POLICY

On 4th December a deputation from the *Kamgar Hitwardak Sabha* (Workers' Welfare Society), Bombay, headed by the General Secretary, Mr. S. K. Bole, presented a farewell address to His Excellency Sir George Lloyd, the late Governor of Bombay. The address dealt, among other things, with the questions of strikes, Government's attitude towards

strikes, hours of work, bonus, the establishment of the Labour Office, the appointment of the Industrial Disputes Committee* and also with recent labour legislation such as the new Factory Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act. The Sabha thanked His Excellency for his personal influence and exertions on behalf of the labouring classes in Bombay and pointed out that the Development scheme providing 50,000 tenements, the closing of bucket shops and the Rent Restriction Act conferred a great boon on these classes. The Sabha hoped that, although labour in India is mainly unorganized and backward, the spread of education would be able to play its part in politics in the future. Until that time, however, labour should not be exploited for political purposes. In conclusion, the Sabha remarked that His Excellency's able administration had been marked by various broad-minded acts of statesmanship and that the labouring classes found in His Excellency a great friend and sympathiser.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY

In the course of his reply to the address His Excellency said :—

"Although many other vital and anxious problems have intervened since the year of my first arrival in Bombay, I still remember very vividly the critical situation which then confronted the industrial world; and the lessons I then learnt in regard to the conditions of life of the labouring classes in Bombay I have endeavoured since to turn to good account for the progress and prosperity of this city and Presidency.

Since that time I and my Government have recognised fully that the successful settlement of labour disputes must largely depend upon a correct appreciation of the facts of economic life, and we are, therefore, assiduously collecting statistics as to wages, prices and the standard of living generally, which we hope will serve as a sound basis for the amicable settlement, by machinery to be devised, of future industrial disputes. But, in particular, I was enabled, owing to the conditions then obtaining, to realise, far more clearly than I expect I should otherwise have had the opportunity to do, the vital importance to the progress of India of the education and enlightenment of those classes, which form an immense numerical majority of the population. It has been one of the principal cares of my Government first to improve, as far as possible, their conditions of life, because we recognise

* Vide p. 23 of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1922, where the Report is published and p. 23 of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1923 for the Honourable Sir Maurice Hayward's speech in the Legislative Council on this Report.



that the primary essential towards mental improvement is a sound and healthy physical environment: and second, to put within their reach the facilities for education, which are now provided for the first time, and can alone make it possible for them to exercise that preponderating political influence to which they, as forming the vast majority of the people of India, are fully entitled. I have always foreseen the danger to which the labouring and depressed classes were liable to be exposed in the political evolution of India. In the clash of opposed political interests, their true interests were in danger of remaining unheeded. Easy promises made to them at the hustings and never intended to be fulfilled might be taken at their face value by men rendered credulous by their lack of education. In fact, as you yourselves have remarked in your address, the labouring classes might be exploited for political purposes with disastrous results before they had learnt to protect themselves. I and my Government have felt, therefore, that while other classes were better qualified to help themselves and foster their own interests, it was our special duty to take up the cause of the backward and the labouring and depressed classes and to constitute ourselves as far as possible the guardian of their interests: and I am confident that my successor's Government will follow the same policy of sympathy towards your needs."

His Excellency the Governor, the Right Honourable Sir Leslie Wilson, visited the Labour Office on Friday, December 21st, and examined in detail the work of the office especially in regard to labour statistics and intelligence, labour legislation and the sphere of industrial disputes.

His Excellency the Governor will receive a deputation from the Bombay Provincial Trade Union Conference, of which Mr. J. Baptista is President and Mr. N. M. Joshi, Vice-President, at Government House on January 4th at 11 a.m.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

The foundation stone of the new building of the International Labour Office was laid on October 21st on the site presented by the Swiss Confederation to the League of Nations. The ceremony was attended by the representatives of the Swiss Federal Council and of the Geneva authorities, by the foreign Consuls in Geneva, by the delegates at the Customs Conference and of the Labour Conference,

and by the high officials and staff of the International Labour Office and of the League's Secretariat.

M. Albert Thomas, Director of the International Labour Office, reviewed the beginnings of the organisation and expressed his warm hope that it would prosper. He mentioned that many countries, among them Japan, Italy, Denmark, Holland and Lithuania, had decided to contribute in some way to the construction of the building. They were presenting either furniture made in their own workshops, or paintings and works of art.

The Vice-President of the Swiss Confederation spoke in the name of the Federal Council and confirmed the gift made by Switzerland to the League.

Sir Eric Drummond, Secretary-General of the League of Nations, thanked Switzerland for her generous present. Gratitude to Switzerland was also expressed by M. Carlier, Vice-President of the Governing Body and Representative of the employers' group, by M. Jules, Representative of the workers' group on the Governing Body, who insisted on the necessity of the organisation of work based on justice for all, and by M. Arthur Fontaine, who spoke on behalf of the Government group on the Governing Body.

Mr. Stanley Baldwin, Prime Minister of Great Britain, in the course of a speech at Swansea on 30th October, referred to the work of the League of Nations and the International Labour Office. The following passages of Mr. Baldwin's speech are of interest in this connexion:—

"There is one more thing I wish to say about the League of Nations. I have often felt that, even if such a League had not been developed politically, it would have been necessary for the world to have such a League in years to come for economic trade and labour purposes. The work of the International Labour Office has up to now still been somewhat tentative, but it is work that wants doing and work that ought to be done, and it is most important for us in this country to endeavour, so far as we can, to see that our standard of life is protected by helping to raise as far as possible the standard of life for working men in foreign countries. The economic situation may be too strong for us. The ideal is right and in time practical results will come from it, but again we must not expect too much or for things to move too fast."

THE COST OF LIVING INDEX FOR NOVEMBER 1923

A rise of one point

All articles .. 53 per cent.

Food only ... 47 per cent.

In November 1923 the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay was one point above the level of the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the index was 152 in October and 153 in November 1923. The general index is 21 per cent. below the high-water mark reached in October 1920, 12 per cent. below the twelve-monthly average of 1921 and 7 per cent. below the twelve-monthly average of 1922. The cost of living index is now at the level of August 1918.

In comparison with the previous month all food grains remained stationary except rice which rose by 3 points. The average for other food articles was the same, the rise in sugar and in tea being counterbalanced by a fall in potatoes. There was an increase in the clothing group owing to a rise in chudders and shirtings.

All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
January ..	34	82	83	69	73	56
February ..	34	76	61	62	65	55
March ..	36	72	77	60	65	54
April ..	44	67	72	60	62	55
May ..	47	68	73	67	63	53
June ..	48	74	81	73	63	51
July ..	49	86	90	77	65	53
August ..	53	79	91	80	64	54
September ..	65	72	92	85	65	54
October ..	75	74	93	83	62	52
November ..	75	73	86	82	60	53
December ..	83	74	81	79	61	
Yearly average ..	54	75	83	73	64	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have

been given the relative importance which each bears to the total aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in October and November 1923 as compared with that for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer on page 10.

Articles	July 1914	October 1923	November 1923	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in November 1923 over or below October 1923
Rice ..	100	121	124	+ 3
Wheat ..	100	126	126	..
Jowari ..	100	122	121	- 1
Bojri ..	100	135	135	..
Gram ..	100	114	114	..
Turdal ..	100	119	119	..
Sugar (refined) ..	100	233	250	+ 17
Sugar (raw) ..	100	167	167	..
Tea ..	100	178	182	+ 4
Salt ..	100	199	199	..
Beef ..	100	148	148	..
Mutton ..	100	215	215	..
Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Choc ..	100	185	185	..
Potatoes ..	100	186	172	- 14
Onions ..	100	460	460	..
Cocoonut oil ..	100	113	113	..
All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	147	147	..

NOTE.—A full explanation of the scope and method of compilation of the index number is published in the *Labour Gazette* for September 1923.

LABOUR GAZETTE
BOMBAY COST OF LIVING INDEX
A

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Base Units) (in crores)	Price			Total Expenditure		
			July 1914	October 1923	November 1923	July 1914	October 1923	November 1923
Cereals—								
Rice	Mound	20	Rs. 5.554	Rs. 6.781	Rs. 6.712	Rs. 391.58	Rs. 474.47	Rs. 467.12
Wheat	"	21	4.554	7.047	7.047	117.47	147.99	147.99
Jowari	"	11	4.313	5.818	5.818	25.88	58.66	58.66
Bajra	"	6	4.313	5.818	5.818	25.88	58.66	58.66
Total and Average—Cereals		100	100	123	124	582.82	716.25	716.25
Pulses—								
Gram	Mound	10	4.302	4.922	4.922	43.02	49.22	49.22
Tur dal	"	3	5.844	6.974	6.974	17.53	20.92	20.92
Total and Average—Pulses		100	100	116	116	60.55	70.14	70.14
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Mound	2	7.620	17.776	19.647	15.24	35.55	38.28
Sugar (raw)	"	7	8.557	14.287	14.287	59.96	109.01	109.01
Tea	"	40	40.000	71.099	72.729	1.00	1.78	1.78
Salt	"	5	2.130	4.234	4.234	10.65	21.17	21.17
Rice	"	28	0.325	0.429	0.429	9.04	13.41	13.41
Mutton	Seer	33	0.417	0.896	0.896	13.76	29.57	29.57
Milk	Mound	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Ghee	"	11	50.792	94.120	94.120	76.19	141.18	141.18
Potatoes	"	3	4.479	8.313	7.693	49.27	91.44	84.0
Onions	"	3	1.552	7.141	7.141	4.66	21.42	21.42
Coconut Oil	"	4	25.396	28.568	28.568	12.70	14.28	14.28
Total and Average—Other food articles		100	100	138	137	381.18	712.92	712.92
Total and Average—All food articles		100	100	147	147	1,024.55	1,502.34	1,502.34
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4.375	6.969	6.969	21.88	34.85	34.85
Firewood	Mound	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal	"	1	0.542	0.292	0.886	0.54	0.29	0.29
Total and Average—Fuel and lighting		100	100	160	161	60.44	96.63	97.2
Clothing—								
Chaudelara	Lb.	27	0.594	1.219	1.313	16.04	32.91	39.4
Shortings	"	25	0.641	1.396	1.464	16.03	34.90	36.8
T. Cloth	"	36	0.583	1.219	1.313	20.99	43.88	47.2
Total and Average—Clothing		100	100	211	225	53.06	111.69	119.2
House rent	Per month	10	11.302	18.700	18.700	113.02	187.00	187.0
Grand Total and General Average		100	100	152	153	1,251.07	1,897.66	1,897.6

NOTE.—If the aggregate expenditure in July 1914 at the prices ruling in that month was Rs. 1,251.07 crores, the aggregate expenditure in November 1923 at November price levels was Rs. 1,910.25, i.e., an increase of 53 per cent. (Rs. 1,251.07 = 100, Rs. 1,910.25 = 153).

LABOUR GAZETTE
BOMBAY COST OF LIVING INDEX
B

Alternative method of presentation.

Articles	Annual consumption (Base Units) (in crores)	Index Number		Weight x Index Number	
		October 1923	November 1923	October 1923	November 1923
Cereals—					
Rice	20	123	124	24.60	24.88
Wheat	21	100	100	21.00	21.00
Jowari	11	100	100	11.00	11.00
Bajra	6	100	100	6.00	6.00
Total and Average Index No.	100	100	100	67.60	67.60
Pulses—					
Gram	10	116	116	11.60	11.60
Tur dal	3	100	100	3.00	3.00
Total and Average Index No.	100	100	100	14.60	14.60
Other food articles—					
Sugar (refined)	2	138	137	2.76	2.74
Sugar (raw)	7	147	147	10.29	10.29
Tea	40	100	100	4.00	4.00
Salt	5	100	100	0.50	0.50
Rice	28	100	100	2.80	2.80
Mutton	33	138	137	4.52	4.47
Milk	14	100	100	1.40	1.40
Ghee	11	100	100	1.10	1.10
Potatoes	3	100	100	0.30	0.30
Onions	3	100	100	0.30	0.30
Coconut Oil	4	100	100	0.40	0.40
Total and Average Index No.	100	100	100	28.60	28.60
Total and Average Index No.	100	100	100	100.0	100.0
Fuel and lighting—					
Kerosene oil	5	160	161	8.00	8.06
Firewood	48	100	100	4.80	4.80
Coal	1	100	100	0.10	0.10
Total and Average Index No.	100	100	100	12.90	12.96
Clothing—					
Chaudelara	27	211	225	57.07	61.35
Shortings	25	100	100	2.50	2.50
T. Cloth	36	100	100	3.60	3.60
Total and Average Index No.	100	100	100	63.17	67.45
House rent	10	147	147	14.70	14.70
Grand total of weights	100	100	100	100.0	100.0
General Average or Cost of Living Index (July 1914 = 100)		152	153	15,378.3	15,286.4



WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

PRICES RISING

In November 1923, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay rose by 3 per cent., as compared with the previous month. The rise in the price of food articles was more than 2 per cent., while that of non-food articles more than 3 per cent. In comparison with the corresponding month of last year, prices have risen by 5 per cent., the fall from the twelve monthly average of 1922 being nearly one per cent. Long period fluctuations will be found in Chart 10 of this issue. It is of interest to compare the movement of these wholesale prices with those in Chart 5.

The present index number is based on carefully collected market prices and is indirectly weighted. Food articles number 15 and non-food 26. A new item "imported coal" has been added and previous figures have accordingly been revised. The number of articles included in the index number is now 41. The base is the pre-war month, July 1914. The index is published at the request of business firms in Bombay in such a way as to show the relative level of average wholesale prices, and the groups have been selected primarily with a view to suit the conditions of Bombay's trade.

The wholesale index number stood at 184 in November and it has fallen 30 per cent. from the highest peak (263) reached in September 1918. The noticeable feature in the movement of prices during the month was the appreciable rise in the prices of most of the articles included in the index especially in raw cotton and cotton piece-goods.

Wholesale prices in India stood at the same level in 1890 and 1873 and rose by 47 per cent. in 1914 as compared with these two years and by 113 per cent. in October 1923. The rise in Great Britain was greatest in May 1920, and the lowest point reached was in September 1922. The fall was 54 per cent. In the United States the highest point reached was in May 1920 and the lowest point reached was in June 1921. The fall in this case is nearly 47 per cent.

The net result of movements in the groups in Bombay is as follows:—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay**

Groups.	No. of items.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) per cent. in November 1923 as compared with	
		the preceding month (October 1923).	the corresponding month of last year (November 1922).
1. Cereals	7	+ 2	- 9
2. Pulses	2	+ 6	- 19
3. Sugar	3	+ 7	+ 7
4. Other food	3	- 1	+ 40
Total food	15	+ 2	+ 7
5. Oilseeds	4	+ 4	+ 8
6. Raw cotton	2	+ 44	+ 23
7. Cotton manufactures	6	+ 8	+ 5
8. Other textiles	2	....	+ 10
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 5	+ 10
10. Metals	5	- 2	- 6
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	+ 19	- 19
Total non-food	26	+ 3	+ 2
General average	41	+ 3	+ 5

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on pages 39-41.

The subjoined table compares November 1923 prices with those of the preceding months and of the corresponding month of last year.

100 = average of 1922

Groups.	Nov. 1922.	Feb. 1923.	May 1923.	Aug. 1923.	Oct. 1923.	Nov. 1923.
I. Cereals	63	76	75	73	74	74
II. Pulses	79	68	62	60	60	64
III. Sugar	58	97	114	93	99	105
IV. Other food	112	115	122	148	159	151
Total, food	95	90	95	95	99	102
V. Oilseeds	95	94	94	94	95	96
VI. Raw cotton	95	116	113	116	117	140
VII. Cotton manufactures	92	93	89	86	89	97
VIII. Other textiles	100	100	100	100	106	100
IX. Hides and Skins	103	93	110	97	118	110
X. Metals	99	104	99	95	95	91
XI. Other raw and manufactured articles	99	76	76	74	89	81
Total, non-food	97	95	96	92	96	99
General average—all articles	95	93	95	93	97	100



The main fact which emerges from this table is that the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay has now reached the average of 1922.

The construction of the wholesale index is shown in the following table:—

The Construction of the Index

No.	Articles.	July 1914.	November 1923.		
			Total Numbers.	Total Numbers. Average.	
1	Cereals (Rice, wheat, jowar, barley and lupin).	7	700	876	125
2	Pulses (Gram and turdal).	2	200	179	90
3	Sugar (Refined and raw).	3	300	685	228
4	Other articles of food (Ghee, salt, etc.)	3	300	1,095	365
5	Total, all food	15	1,500	2,835	189
6	Oilseeds (Linseed, rapeseed, poppyseed and gingelly)	4	400	552	138
7	Raw cotton	1	100	303	303
8	Cotton manufactures (Long cloth, shirtings, chaddars, etc.)	6	600	1,411	235
9	Other textiles (Silk)	2	200	277	139
10	Hides and skins	3	300	484	161
11	Metals (Copper braziers, steel bars, templates, etc.)	5	500	868	174
12	Other raw and manufactured articles (Kerosene and coal)	4	400	630	158
13	Total, non-food	25	2,500	4,525	181
14	General Average	40	4,000	7,360	184

The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food and non-food wholesale prices:—

Annual wholesale prices

July 1914 = 100

	Food.	Non-food.	All articles.
Twelve-monthly average 1918	170	270	237
" " 1919	202	233	222
" " 1920	206	221	215
" " 1921	193	198	196
" " 1922	186	183	184
Eleven-monthly .. 1923	178	177	177

THE EFFECT OF INCREASED CUSTOMS DUTIES ON THE WHOLESALE INDEX

RISING DUTIES

The Hon. Sir Basil Blackett, Finance Member of the Governor-General's Council,

asked an interesting question recently when in Bombay for the Associated Chambers of Commerce. The question was how far the Bombay Labour Office index of wholesale prices was approximately affected by the increase in customs duties in recent years. As is well known the index number includes 41 articles of which 19 are mainly imports and 13 mainly exports. The duties on the exports included in the Labour Office wholesale index and subject to duty are the same from March 1921, i.e., 3 annas per Indian maund on rice. The duties on imports on salt, kerosene-oil, silk and sugar have on the whole considerably increased. Thus the duty on salt has increased by 100 per cent. from March 1923, on kerosene by 67 per cent., on silk by 22.5 per cent. and on sugar by 15 per cent. The duty on copper braziers was increased by 8 per cent., on tin plates, steel hoops, galvanised sheets, iron bars and hides and skins by 7.5 per cent. and on cotton piece-goods by 3.5 per cent.

The Labour Office has worked out the general average excluding the additional customs duties on each article month by month from March 1921 and the percentage differences between the general average including additional duties and the general average excluding additional duties are shown in the following table:—

Month.	General average including additional duty on imports.	General average excluding additional duty on imports.	Percentage difference between general average including additional duty and general average excluding additional duty.
1921 March	190	186	2
" April	198	195	2
" May	199	195	2
" June	197	193	2
" July	199	195	2
" August	203	199	2
" September	208	204	2
" October	195	191	2
" November	193	190	2
" December	190	187	2
1922 January	190	187	2
" February	186	183	2
" March	192	187	3

Month.	General average including duty on imports.	General average excluding additional duty on imports.	Percentage difference between general average including additional duty and general average excluding additional duty.
1922 April	108	103	3
May	109	104	3
June	110	105	3
July	111	106	3
August	112	107	3
September	113	108	3
October	114	109	3
November	115	110	3
December	116	111	3
1923 January	117	112	3
February	118	113	3
March	119	114	3
April	120	115	3
May	121	116	3
June	122	117	3
July	123	118	3
August	124	119	3
September	125	120	3
October	126	121	3

The percentage increase for the average of the 12 months ending March 1922 was 2 per cent., for the 12 months ending March 1923, 3 per cent., for the six months ending March 1923, 3 per cent. and for the six months ending September 1923, 4 per cent. Owing, therefore, *ceteris paribus*, to increased customs duties in 1921-22 the index number is higher by 2 per cent. than if no increase in duties had taken place; in the following year this increased to 3 per cent.; and in the present year the percentage is still greater, *i.e.*, 4 per cent.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

BOMBAY, KARACHI, AHMEDABAD, SHOLAPUR AND POONA

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in October and November 1923 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the retail price levels in all the centres are below the level in Bombay except at Ahmedabad.

Bombay prices in October 1923 = 100

Articles.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Poona.
Cereals—					
Rice	100	101	123	105	141
Wheat	100	68	99	91	96
Jowari	100	68	70	66	74
Bajri	100	68	106	72	93
Average—Cereals	100	76	100	84	106
Pulses—					
Gram	100	79	116	86	83
Turdial	100	88	92	94	116
Average—Pulses	100	84	104	90	100
Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined)	100	90	113	103	100
Jagri (Gul)	100	70	102	70	74
Tea	100	100	129	99	105
Salt	100	72	79	118	99
Beef	100	162	130	78	70
Mutton	100	84	112	70	77
Milk	100	45	57	76	81
Ghee	100	75	88	91	89
Potatoes	100	108	138	107	61
Onions	100	75	80	70	81
Cocunut oil	100	75	112	93	98
Average—Other articles of food	100	89	104	88	86
Average—All food articles	100	85	103	87	91

Bombay prices in November 1923 = 100

Articles.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Poona.
Cereals—					
Rice	100	100	131	110	141
Wheat	100	67	103	88	96
Jowari	100	68	71	69	68
Bajri	100	65	106	67	87
Average—Cereals	100	75	103	84	97
Pulses—					
Gram	100	74	116	79	83
Turdial	100	90	96	9	128
Average—Pulses	100	82	106	85	106
Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined)	100	95	113	103	100
Jagri (Gul)	100	70	102	71	74
Tea	100	100	145	96	105
Salt	100	73	75	118	99
Beef	100	131	104	78	78
Mutton	100	84	112	73	77
Milk	100	57	57	76	76
Ghee	100	80	85	91	89
Potatoes	100	93	138	120	74
Onions	100	76	84	75	65
Cocunut oil	100	101	141	93	99
Average—Other articles of food	100	87	110	90	85
Average—All food articles	100	90	108	88	91

On page 43 will be found statistics of food prices in October and November 1923 for Bombay, Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona. These are official prices supplied through the Director of Agriculture to the Labour Office, and are averages of prices taken eight times a month from retail shop-keepers patronised by the labouring classes.

SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

Its Construction

With the object of ascertaining the monthly movement in the prices of securities as compared with the pre-war year, the Labour Office has prepared an index number showing the fluctuations in one hundred securities of which 93 are industrial shares and 7 fixed interest Government and Corporation Securities. It has not been found possible to include all the shares quoted on the Bombay Stock Exchange but only the more important of those which were quoted in July 1914. The quotations for each share in the last week of July have been taken for each year from 1914 to 1918 and the quotations in the last week of each month from July 1919 onwards.

GROUPS

The shares and securities selected are divided into 8 groups, (1) Government and Corporation Securities (7 securities), (2) Banks (6 shares), (3) Railway Companies (10 shares), (4) Cotton Mills (42 shares), (5) Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies (8 shares), (6) Cement and Manganese Companies (4 shares), (7) Electric Undertakings (2 shares) and (8) Miscellaneous Companies (21 shares). Averages are shown for (1) each group, (2) industrials and fixed interest securities separately and (3) all groups.*

IMPERIAL STATISTICAL CONFERENCE

The index number has been constructed in accordance with the following resolution passed by the Imperial Conference on Statistics which met in London in 1920:—

"The Conference is of opinion that financial statistics should be regarded as including variations in the prices of securities, and that there should be constructed index numbers for various classes of securities grouped in such manner as may bring out the full significance of each group."

COMPILATION OF DATA

The method adopted in the preparation of the index has been to take the quotation for the

last week of July 1914 to represent 100 and to calculate the index numbers for any other period as relatives of the quotations for July 1914. The averages for each group were obtained by adding the index numbers for all the shares in each group and by dividing the total by the number of shares included in the group. The general average for any particular month was obtained by adding the index numbers of all the shares for that month and dividing the total by 100. It was originally intended to calculate weighted averages for each group of securities and for the general average of all the groups by giving to each security or group an importance equal to the importance of the security or group according to the amount invested in that security or group. But, it was found that the preponderance of the amount of money invested in $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Government Paper amounting to 119.27 crores of rupees as compared with 168.96 crores of rupees invested in all the 100 securities and shares taken together would considerably reduce the general average owing to the general downward tendency of the "Government and Corporation" (fixed interest) group since 1914 as contrasted with the violent fluctuations which have characterised industrial shares especially during the last four years. It was, therefore, considered that a simple arithmetical average of index numbers for each share would give a better indication of the more important movements in the rise and fall of shares and securities in general. The quotations were obtained from the Weekly Reports of the *Times of India*, various issues of *Capital*, representative brokers in the city for 6 shares and in two cases from the "transfer" registers of companies. In cases where the face values of shares were increased or decreased, or, in other words, where shares were consolidated or split up between 1914 and the present day, the market quotations for such shares were adjusted to the paid up amounts of the face values of the respective shares in

* The groups are set out on page 44 of this issue.

July 1914. For example, each share of the Madhavjee Dharamsi Mills, whose face value and paid up value in July 1914 stood at Rs. 500 was converted into 5 shares of Rs. 100 each in December 1921. The market quotations for those shares after this date were multiplied by 5 before calculating the index numbers. The only quotations which offered any difficulty were the quotations for the shares of the Bank of Bombay and the Imperial Bank of India. The Bank of Bombay was amalgamated with the Banks of Bengal and Madras in April 1921 to form the Imperial Bank of India. Each holder of one Rs. 500 share in the Bank of Bombay was given one Rs. 500 share in the Imperial Bank of India plus a first bonus of Rs. 250 in cash or, alternatively, the right to invest this bonus in two quarter paid shares of the Imperial Bank of India of Rs. 500 each at par plus a second bonus of Rs. 506-10-6 in cash. The would-have-been value of the Bank of Bombay share after April 1921 was therefore calculated by adding to the market quotation of the share of the Imperial Bank of India (1) the market value of two quarter paid shares of the Imperial Bank of India, and (2) Rs. 506.

RESULTS

The highest figures reached by the index numbers of each of the group averages and the general average at any particular period are shown in bold type in the table on page 44. The index number for Government and Corporation Securities fell to 58 in December 1920 but has been steadily improving since that date, in contrast with the general depreciation in the value of industrial shares which set in about the middle of the same year, and now stands at 71. The index number for the cotton mill group reached its highest point in April 1920 when it stood at 476 but it has now fallen to 216. The index number for industrial shares also reached its highest level at the same time when it stood at 338. The largest increase in any one group was in the case of Cement and Manganese Companies, the index number for which stood at 632 in January 1920, but this has now fallen to the very low level of 131. The highest point reached by the general average of all shares and securities was in April

1920 when the index stood at 319 as compared with 156 to-day.

The following table is of interest :—

	Fixed interest Securities.	Industrial Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.*	General average (100 Securities).
1914 July	100	100	100	100
1915 "	96	101	97	100
1916 "	87	130	114	127
1917 "	73	158	138	151
1918 "	74	194	212	184
1919 "	77	216	216	206
1920 "	65	313	438	296
1921 "	65	311	450	295
1922 "	63	267	406	253
1923 "	72	176	229	169
" August	73	168	216	161
" September	73	166	225	159
" October	72	163	213	157
" November	71	163	216	156

Money seems to be accumulating in the hands of the investor and is being placed in fixed interest and not in industrial securities. With the growth of confidence, however, and better trade, money will again flow into industrial investment, as experience, especially in Great Britain and the United States, tends to show.

CURRENCY AND EXCHANGE

A Memorandum on the return to normal trade conditions in India has recently been published. The importance of the Memorandum lies chiefly in its analysis of prices in Great Britain, the United States, and India at the present time from the viewpoint of exchange. The charts and tables, especially the former, show the movement of prices—wholesale prices and securities, exchange, the movement of gold and silver, the movement of India's chief exports and imports and business indicators. It is not possible to give these charts and tables but the following is a convenient summary of the Memorandum.

SUMMARY OF MEMORANDUM

It is shown in the Memorandum that (1) prices in India have not risen nor have fallen as in the United Kingdom or in the United States. The fall in Great Britain was 54 per cent., in the United States, 47 per cent. and in India, 27 per cent. There are grounds for believing that prices

* Also included in the previous column " Industrial Securities "

in Great Britain have fallen to such an extent that a considerable rise in the price level is to be expected in the near future. If prices in Great Britain rise more rapidly than Indian prices, then it seems exchange is bound to continue to rise in favour of India. (2) In regard to securities there are signs that money is now going into fixed interest securities, but with the return of confidence and better trade, of which there are signs, money will again flow into industrial investment. (3) Processes are at work which are tending to bring trade back to normal at the present time. (4) Indian exchange would seem to be moving in a continuously, although slowly, upward direction. (3) It is unwise to attempt to stabilise exchange by any methods until some degree of stability has been attained in trade conditions.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CAPITAL CITIES

UNITED KINGDOM MINISTRY OF LABOUR'S ENQUIRY

The Ministry of Labour's *Labour Gazette* contains the results of an interesting enquiry conducted by the Ministry of Labour into the comparative real wages in London and in certain Capital Cities abroad in March 1923. The enquiry was conducted on the following lines :—Special information was gathered either from the authorities concerned in the various cities or from official publications regarding (1) the rates of wages payable to adult male workmen in each city taken on March 31st in 17 selected occupations, (2) the number of hours constituting a normal working day and week for the respective occupations and (3) the average retail prices of a number of articles of food usually consumed by urban working class families in most industrially developed countries. From these data were ascertained for each occupation in each city the quantities of bread, meat, flour, etc., which could be purchased separately with the wages of 48 hours' work. The corresponding quantities purchasable with the wages of the corresponding workers in London were taken as a basis (100) and a series of index numbers was worked out,

† July 1923.

which showed in respect of each article the relative purchasing power in the various cities of the earnings of 48 hours' work in each occupation. These separate index numbers were weighted according to their relative importance in the weekly food-bills of the working class families in the United Kingdom, and a weighted average was calculated to show the relative purchasing power in respect of all the items of food taken together of the earnings in each trade. The following table summarises the results arrived at.

Comparative real wages* in London and certain Capital Cities abroad in March 1923
London=100.

	London.	Berlin.	New York.	Ottawa.	Paris.
Building Trades :—					
Skilled—					
Masons	100	61	274	217	71
Brick layers	100	61	274	217	71
Carpenters	100	61	247	179	71
Unskilled—					
Labourers (General)	100	77	..	161	88
Engineering Trades :—					
Skilled—					
Iron Moulders (Hand)	100	58	215	197	59
Pattern Makers	100	53	197	210	54
Unskilled—					
Labourers	100	71	150	173	64
Compositors (Book & Job) Hand	100	45	242	167	63

* Real wages mean the increase in the effective wages in a particular country, as compared with the real wages in the basic period. A real wage index number is calculated as follows :—
Money wage index \times 100
Cost of living index.

The Ministry of Labour points out that the most that can be claimed for the figures is that they afford a rough indication of the differences that existed on or about the 1st March between the real wage levels in selected occupations in the principal cities.

CONFEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

DENMARK

The report of the Danish Confederation of Trade Unions for 1922 states that at the end of the year the number of national unions affiliated to the Confederation was 52, with a total membership of 232,574, including 38,056 women. The membership decreased during the year by 11,798.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN THE PRESIDENCY

Disputes in November .. 7

On page 53 will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during November 1923, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word "dispute" in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with "strike". A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in November 1923.

I.—Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

Trade.	Number of disputes in progress in November 1923.		Total.	Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in November 1923.	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in November 1923.*
	Started before 1st November.	Started in November.			
Textile	6	6	12	462	652
Engineering .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	1	1	2	25	60
Total, November 1923	7	7	14	487	712
Total, October 1923	8	8	16	9481	36,178

* i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, an allowance being made for workers reinstated by others.

There were 7 industrial disputes in November 1923, five of which occurred in cotton mills, one in a woollen mill, and one in a miscellaneous concern. The number of workpeople affected

Workpeople involved .. 487

was 487 and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced) 712 which is a large decrease on the October 1923 statistics.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results July to November 1923

	July 1923.	August 1923.	September 1923.	October 1923.	November 1923.
Number of strikes and lock-outs	9	15	8	8	7
Disputes in progress at beginning	1	3	3	..	..
Fresh disputes begun	8	12	5	8	7
Disputes ended	6	12	8	8	7
Disputes in progress at end	3	3	..	..	..
Number of workpeople involved	3,097	6,160	9,112	9,481	487
Aggregate duration in working days	35,363	25,244	55,934	36,178	712
Demands—					
Pay	5	10	4	6	1
Bonus .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1
Personal	3	4	3	2	3
Leave and hours .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Others	1	1	1	..	2
Results—					
In favour of employees .. .. .	..	1	..	..	2
Compromised .. .. .	..	3	3	1	..
In favour of employers	6	8	5	7	5

The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

III.—Industrial Disputes

Month.	Number of strikes and lock-outs.	Aggregate duration in working days.	Proportion settled			In progress.
			In favour of employers. (Per cent.)	In favour of employees. (Per cent.)	Compromised. (Per cent.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
July 1921	10	12,268	60	10	10	20
August 1921	14	192,001	36	36	7	21
September 1921	21	256,496	80	10	..	10
October 1921	15	231,896	27	13	27	33
November 1921	31	62,009	29	42	19	10
December 1921	9	26,321	78	11	11	..
January 1922	17	33,389	65	18	..	17
February 1922	12	32,087	67	8	17	8
March 1922	8	300,829	75	..	25	..
April 1922	15	18,352	54	13	20	13
May 1922	15	54,930	80	..	7	13
June 1922	10	4,250	70	20	10	..
July 1922	14	58,809	93	..	..	7
August 1922	13	87,927	62	15	8	15
September 1922	7	20,709	71	..	..	29
October 1922	24	62,372	29	25	13	33
November 1922	21	60,287	67	14	10	9
December 1922	10	22,806	80	..	10	10
January 1923	6	14,908	50	17	..	33
February 1923	22	68,590	64	32	4	..
March 1923	9	37,298	22	67	11	..
April 1923	14	1,111,103	40	7	13	40
May 1923	11	1,169,930	82	9	..	9
June 1923	7	159,837	57	..	29	14
July 1923	9	35,363	67	..	..	33
August 1923	15	25,244	53	7	20	20
September 1923	8	55,934	63	..	37	..
October 1923	8	36,178	87	..	13	..
November 1923	7	712	71	29	..	..
Totals or (cols. 4 to 7) Average	382	4,252,837	61	14	11	14

A General Review of Disputes

During November 1923, there were seven industrial disputes in the Presidency as compared with eight in the preceding month. Five of these disputes occurred in the cotton mill industry, one in a Woollen Mill and one in a Match Factory. One was due to the question of pay, one to bonus and the remaining five to minor personal and other grievances. Out of seven disputes only two were settled in favour of the employees, the remainder being settled in favour of the employers.

BOMBAY

In Bombay City and Island there were, in November, two industrial disputes of very short duration. On the 24th of November 1923, 175 operatives in the Roving Department of the Imperial Mill struck work demanding the reinstatement of a Jobber of the Fine Roving Department whose services were dispensed with on the 23rd November for poor output. The Manager put up a notice requiring the strikers to resume work at once failing which their wages would be forfeited. All the strikers resumed work unconditionally on the 26th. On the 27th of November 1923, 46 women workers in the Bombay Woollen Mill stopped work demanding the reinstatement of six women workers whose services were dispensed with for neglecting their work. All the strikers resumed work the next day, the Manager having reinstated the dismissed women operatives.

AHMEDABAD

During November 1923, there were in Ahmedabad five industrial disputes, four of which occurred in cotton mills and one in a Match Factory. On the 3rd November, 11 operatives in the Sizing Department of the Ahmedabad Cotton Manufacturing Company, Limited's Mill struck work against alleged ill-treatment by the Weaving Master. A notice was put up to the effect that as the sizing labourers stopped work without notice their places would be filled up by new hands and their pay would be forfeited unless they resumed work by the afternoon. The strike terminated on the 4th, new hands having been engaged in places of those who had not resumed



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work. The wages of the strikers were forfeited as declared in the notice. Another strike occurred in the same Mill on the 11th November. 145 weavers struck work against the late payment of wages and less wages. Work was resumed the next day, the Manager having promised early payment of wages and correct wages provided the strikers worked regularly. The third strike in the same Mill occurred on the 27th November when 50 weavers struck work against the dismissal of the Head Jobber. The strike terminated on the 30th of November when 20 of the strikers resumed work unconditionally and new hands were engaged in the places of the remainder. On 21st November 1923, 35 Reelers in the Ahmedabad Astodya Manufacturing Company, Limited's Mill struck work against the reproachment of the supervisor for their slackness in duty. The strike continued for six days during which the strikers resumed work by batches, and terminated on the 27th November. The strike in the Ahmedabad Sultan Match Factory, which occurred on the 13th November last, was caused by the Agents' refusal to grant a bonus for the current year. It lasted for three days and terminated on the 16th, all the 25 strikers having returned to work unconditionally.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN OTHER PROVINCES

MADRAS

According to the Labour Commissioner, Madras, 24 sweepers of the Madras General Hospital struck work on the 9th October, 1923, demanding the cancellation of a fine of Rs. 25 imposed on them for neglect of their duty. These sweepers were found to neglect their duty frequently and the services of the Corporation sweepers had to be called in, for which a bill of Rs. 25 for each occasion had to be paid to the Corporation. The strike terminated on the 11th October. It is reported that the sweepers returned to work of their own accord and no demand for settlement appeared to have been made save that they intend to refer the matter to the Surgeon-General in case of their failure to get the fine cancelled by the Superintendent.

On the 20th October, 1923, 30 printers in the Modern Printing Works, Madras, struck work against non-payment of their salaries for September on the usual date. The strike ended on the 6th November last when their salaries were paid.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN INDIA

Of the 42 industrial disputes occurring in India during the three months ended the 30th September, only six terminated in favour of the employees. Bombay experienced 23, Bengal 10, Madras and the United Provinces three each, and Burma, the Punjab and the Central Provinces one each. In Madras, two of the three disputes ended in favour of the employees. The cotton industry with twenty-seven disputes was, as usual, chiefly affected, the number of men involved being just over 11,000. Eighteen thousand seven hundred and fifty jute workers went on strike during the quarter, losing over 72,000 working days, but they failed to secure any of their demands. For the whole of India, the 42 strikes resulted in the loss of over 326,000 working days and involved nearly 36,000 men.

DISPUTES IN GREAT BRITAIN

THE BOILERMAKERS' STRIKE

The decision arrived at by the delegate conference of the Boiler Makers' Society at York at the end of October did not meet with the approval of the special Committee of the Trade Union Congress General Council. The special Committee advised the boilermakers to accept the overtime and night shift agreement negotiated by the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades. The boilermakers replied that the advice of the special Committee is at variance with the pronouncement of the General Council in June last to the effect that "the continued effort on the part of the Employers' Federation to compel the adherence of the boilermakers to the overtime agreement as the only condition on which they will withdraw the lock-out notices is indefensible."

The boilermakers therefore appealed against the recommendation of the special committee. A meeting of the General Council of the Trade



Union Congress was to be called, and the special committee, consisting of Miss Bonfield (chairman of the Council), Mr. E. L. Poulton and Mr. F. Bramley, was to ask the General Council for the endorsement of their opinion in regard to the settlement. The Secretary of the Boiler Makers' Society was to state the case for the members of his Society.

The point at issue in the dispute is the validity of a duly negotiated industrial agreement. The Employers' Federation and the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades (to which the boilermakers are affiliated) signed an agreement which the boilermakers have hitherto refused to accept.

TRADE UNION FUNDS

The detailed accounts of three of the Unions of Bombay were published on pp. 20-22 of the November 1923 issue of this Journal. The following are the accounts of another Union :-

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' UNION

Income and Expenditure Account from 1st April 1922 to 31st March 1923.

Dr.	Rs. a. p.	Cr.	Rs. a. p.
To Salaries and Wages ..	443 7 0	By Subscription received ..	3,269 15 0
.. Stationery and Printing ..	204 6 0	.. Interest on fixed Deposits ..	460 0 0
.. Office Rent ..	252 8 0		
.. Commission to Branch Secretaries ..	160 3 0		
.. Death Benefits ..	160 8 0		
.. Non-Employment Benefits ..	22 0 0		
.. Postages and Telegrams ..	42 7 6		
.. General Expenses (including train and tram fares) ..	1 3 6		
.. Conference Expenses ..	85 5 0		
.. Depreciation on Fixtures at 10 per cent. ..	13 6 5		
.. Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Capital Fund Account ..	2,364 8 7		
Total ..	3,749 15 0	Total ..	3,749 15 0

Balance Sheet as on 31st March 1923

Liabilities.	Rs. a. p.	Assets.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Capital Fund Account :-		Furniture and Fixtures	134 12 2	
Balance on 1st April 1922 ..	8,849 11 11	Less depreciation at 10 per cent. ..	13 6 5	121 5 9
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure this year ..	2,364 8 7	Stock of Stationery on hand ..		450 0 0
		Loans :-		
		To Sahaikaji Foundry ..	800 0 0	
		.. Jamsetji ..	400 0 0	
		Fixed Deposits with ..		1,200 0 0
		Central Bank ..	8,000 0 0	
		Current Account with ..		
		Central Bank ..	1,436 11 9	
		With the Honorary ..		
		Treasurer ..	6 3 0	
				9,442 14 9
Total ..	11,214 4 6	Total ..		11,214 4 6



TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Quarter ending December 1923—an increase in membership

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Presidency was published in the September issue of the *Labour Gazette*. The latest information available for the fourth quarter of the present year is summarised on pages 47—49 of this issue and shows in Table I on pages 47 and 48 that, while the number of Unions has remained the same as in the last quarter, the membership has increased by 10·54 per cent. The information is collected through the Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District Officers in the Presidency including Sind. Table I shows that at the moment there are nominally 8 trade unions with a membership of 25,013 in Bombay City and Island; 7 unions with a membership of 13,340 in Ahmedabad and 4 Unions with a membership of 7,684 in the rest of the Presidency. The totals for the Presidency are 19 Unions with 46,037 members as compared with 19 Unions with 41,646 members in the previous quarter. These numbers, as in previous reviews, include only those trade unions known actually to be in existence.

THE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

The increase in membership is summarised below. In Bombay, the Indian Seamen's Union shows an increase of 1,000 members and the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union reports the re-opening of a branch of about 100 members at Kurduwadi near Sholapur. In Ahmedabad, the Secretary of the Labour Union reports increases of 722 members in the Weavers' Union; 122 members in the Winders' Union; 605 members in the Throstle Union; 1,010 members in the Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union; and 332 members in the Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union. The total increase in the membership in the Ahmedabad Unions is 2,791 all of which was in the Unions under the Labour Unions. In the rest of the Presidency, an increase of 500 members is recorded in the Karachi Branch of the N. W. R. Union. No other changes took place in the membership of the remaining Unions. No Union reported

a decrease in membership. The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions of the Presidency since June 1922:—

Summary table showing the membership of the Unions

Quarter ended	Membership at end of quarter.	Percentage decrease (—) or increase (+) on previous quarter.
June 1922	57,914	.....
September 1922	52,776	— 8·97
December 1922	51,472	— 2·47
March 1923	48,669	— 5·46
June 1923	51,276	+ 5·08
September 1923	41,646	— 18·77
December 1923	46,037	+ 10·54

This shows that the membership of the Unions in the Presidency in the present quarter increased by no less than 10·54 per cent. as compared with the last quarter. This increase is mainly due to an increase of membership in the Ahmedabad Unions which, in the preceding quarter, recorded a decrease of 47 per cent. owing mainly to the effects of the general strike in Ahmedabad in April and May of this year.

THE BOMBAY UNIONS

The important Unions in Bombay remain unchanged as compared with the previous quarter. These are:—

- (1) The Indian Seamen's Union.
- (2) The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.
- (3) The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.
- (4) The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union.

The Indian Seamen's Union, which at the time of the last review appointed an entirely new Board of Directors, does not appear to be so strong as hitherto. Although the membership is nearly 11,000, the monthly subscriptions amount only to Rs. 500 in place of Rs. 5,500 to which they would amount were all the members paying regularly. In the present quarter the monthly expenditure exceeds the monthly income by Rs. 200. The chief activity of the Union, the Seamen's employment bureau, mention of which has been made in previous



reviews, is not well supported. Members are reported to be securing appointments to ships direct with the Companies concerned instead of through the Union. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union does not record many changes since the last review. The membership has increased by 100 as already stated, owing to the re-opening of the Branch at Kurduwadi. Another Branch has recently been started at Bina in the Central Provinces but details of membership of this Branch are not yet available. The President of the Union states that the members of the Union do not fully support the Union. The Union hopes that it will receive official recognition from the Railway Authorities when the proposed legislation for the registration and protection of Trade Unions comes into force, which will stimulate interest among the members. The total membership of the Union is made up as follows:—

Station.	Number of members.
Wadi Bunder (Bombay)	434
Administrative Office (Bombay)	542
Kalyan	500
Bhusawal	672
Lonavla	150
Poona	150
Manmad	738
Kurduwadi	100
Shahabad	150
Bhopal	222
Dhond	129
Ahmednagar	126
Itarsi	150
Jhansi	150
Total	4,213

The other two important Unions in Bombay Nos. (3) and (4) above, consist of employees in the workshops of these two Railways. At the moment (December 28th), the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union is engaged in connexion with the lock-out in the G. I. P. Railway Carriage and Wagon Workshop at Matunga. Since the beginning of this lock-out, the Union has added considerably to its membership, but the exact number of new members is not available. Both these Unions have a recorded membership of 2,000 but the General Secretary states that only 700 members in each Union pay subscriptions regularly.

There are no Unions of cotton mill workers in Bombay.

THE AHMEDABAD UNIONS

The Ahmedabad Cotton Mill Unions appear to be recovering from the effects of the general strike in Ahmedabad referred to above, as all the Unions under the Labour Union record increases in membership. The strongest Union, from the point of view of membership, is the Throstle Union which now has 5,105 members. Before the general strike the membership of the Unions under the Labour Union was 16,000 or about one-third of the total number of cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad. The membership is now roughly one-fifth of the total number employed. The Unions in this centre are, it will be remembered, organised on the Soviet system according to occupation, *i. e.*, they are craft Unions and not industrial Unions like most of the Unions in Bombay and the rest of the Presidency. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association at Ahmedabad is an important Union consisting of a number of branches at stations on the B. B. & C. I. Railway. The Secretary of the Union, Mr. V. Kothari, came to Bombay some months ago with the object of forming a Branch of the Union from among employees of this Railway stationed in Bombay. This Branch was not, however, successful.

THE REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

Apart from the increase of 500 members in the Karachi Branch of the N. W. R. Union, there have been no changes in the Unions at Sukkur, Sholapur and Poona. The Secretary of the Sukkur Branch of the N. W. Railway Union states that the traffic staff is very slow in realising the necessity of a Union, although they look for help from the Union when any difficulty arises. The Union is taking up the question of the provision of a Post Office at Adamshah for the convenience of a large number of its members as, according to the Union, the employees in the Locomotive and Carriage Workshops at Adamshah find considerable difficulty in remitting money orders since the Post Office was removed from Adamshah to Garibabad.

The remaining Unions in other parts of the Presidency are not important Unions.

ACCOUNTS OF THE UNIONS

Table II on page 49 shows the approximate monthly income and expenditure of the

Unions in the Presidency. Tried by the test of monthly income, the Throstle Union in Ahmedabad occupies the first place as regards financial strength. Next in order comes the Karachi Branch of the N. W. Railway Union. The monthly expenditure of both these Unions is less than half of the income, and it may therefore be presumed that these Unions have considerable reserve funds. It may be said that all the Unions in the Presidency experience very considerable difficulty in collecting regularly monthly or, in some cases, annual subscriptions from their members. This will be clear from an examination of the membership of the Unions and the rate of subscription per member. There is a very wide difference between the income received and what should be received according to the stated membership. In short, the members of the Unions are not regular dues-paying members. Detailed accounts of the Indian Seamen's, the Bombay Presidency Postmen's and the G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Unions were published on pages 20-22 of the November issue of this Journal and accounts of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union will be found on page 21 of this issue.

ORGANISATION OF THE UNIONS

It was mentioned in the last review that the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union and the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union were considering the question of amalgamation, thus bringing the two Unions of G. I. P. Railway Employees under a common management. This scheme has not been carried out, owing to certain financial difficulties. An alternative scheme has now been proposed for the formation of a Bombay Railway Board as a central co-ordinating body for all the Railway Unions in Bombay. The separate Railway Unions will still retain their present designations but they will be affiliated to the Board. The Board will consider and deal with matters of interest common to these Unions. It is anticipated that the amalgamated Society of Railway Servants will also become affiliated to this Board.

A Bombay Provincial Committee of Trade Unions has recently been formed. This organisation consists of representatives of all the trade unions in Bombay City and

Island. The President is Mr. J. Baptista and the Vice President Mr. N. M. Joshi. The object of the organisation is to take such steps as may be necessary in the interests of the working classes in the Province.

RECOGNITION OF THE UNIONS

So far as information is available, the number of Unions recognised by the authorities concerned is the same as that published in the previous review. These are as follows:—

- (1) The Indian Seamen's Union.
- (2) The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including packers) Union.
- (3) The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union.
- (4) All the Unions of the Cotton Mill Workers in Ahmedabad.

QUASI UNIONS

As in previous reviews the following Associations are excluded from the lists of Trade Unions, as these are regarded as Associations more than Trade Unions:—

- (1) The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma.
- (2) The Bombay Presidency Postal Association.
- (3) The Kamgar Hitwardak Sabha.
- (4) The Girmi Kamgar Sangh.

The first of these has a membership composed largely of Anglo-Indian guards, drivers, ticket collectors and station masters at stations mainly on the G. I. P. Railway. The main activities of the Society are the provision of sickness and other benefit funds to its members. The Kamgar Hitwardak Sabha has taken an active part in regard to the bonus question among mill hands in Bombay. An address presented by the Sabha to Sir George Lloyd, the late Governor of Bombay, on his departure from Bombay is referred to on page 7 of this issue.

CONCLUSION

The outstanding features of the quarter under review are (1) an increase in trade union membership in the Presidency of 10.54 per cent. over the previous quarter, (2) an increase of 2,791 members in the Unions of cotton mill operatives under the Labour Union in Ahmedabad and (3) the continued complete absence of Unions of cotton mill workers in Bombay.

BOMBAY TENANTS' ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of the Managing Committee of this Association was held at its registered office on the 16th of November when Mr. J. Addyman, M.L.C., presided. Funds amounting to about Rs. 500 available from the old Association were received by the Treasurer of the new Association. The President emphasized the importance of propaganda and the investigation of the complaints of aggrieved tenants. Two committees consisting of six members each were appointed for this work. The President, in conclusion, remarked that he could move for the extension of the Rent Act in the Legislative Council in February, next if there was strong support from the Association consisting of a large number of members. The registered office of the Association is at 65, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

ALL-INDIA SOCIAL WORKERS' CONFERENCE

The fourth session of the All-India Social Workers' Conference was held in Bombay on the 29th November and the three following days with the Honourable Mr. Lalubhai Samaldas as Chairman of the Executive Committee and Dr. Annie Beasant as President. Nearly 450 delegates representing various social and welfare institutions and societies in all parts of India were present in addition to a large number of visitors.

Mr. Lalubhai Samaldas, in the course of his welcome address, pointed out the pressing urgency of extending the scope and sphere of social work to the small towns and villages which contain 80 per cent. of the population of India. Speaking on the relation between capital and labour, Mr. Samaldas said, "We know that there is a feeling of mistrust, and even of hatred, existing between capital and labour in the West. Let us guard ourselves against this feeling spreading between our capitalists and manual workers. This evil can only be avoided if there is a personal and human contact between the employers and the employed, and it is the duty of the former to stretch out their hand of love and fellow-feeling towards those who by their manual labour make it possible for them to make profits. If they

do this not in a patronising spirit but in a spirit of equality as between man and man, the manual workers will, I am confident, be delighted to reciprocate their feelings of human brotherliness."

The President, in the course of her speech, pointed out the following as the main fields open to social reformers at the present day for useful work: (1) Penology and Prisons, (2) Marriage, (3) Motherhood, Baby Welfare and Factory Labour, (4) Education and (5) Untouchability.

MOTHERHOOD, BABY WELFARE AND FACTORY LABOUR

Dr. Beasant said that factory labour was incompatible with a woman's duties as a mother. The hurried and strenuous work in a factory was not in harmony with the leisurely and tender care of a nursing mother for her babe. She suggested that suitable legislation should be passed for the grant of maternity benefits to all women working in factories for a definite period before and after child-birth as in other civilised countries. Social reform should also be directed towards the adequate provision for the care of the babe which a working mother is forced, owing to the exigencies of circumstances, to bring to the factory in which she works.

On the conclusion of the Presidential address, the Conference appointed two Committees to draft resolutions and discuss papers submitted by eminent social workers on the following main subject heads:—

1. Charity Organisation,
2. Vigilance and Rescue Work,
3. Criminal Tribes Settlements,
4. Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis,
5. Training and Provision of Dais and Midwives,
6. Training of Social Workers,
7. Open spaces, play-grounds and directed games for children,
8. Co-ordination of Social Work in India and
9. Educational care of defective children.

Among the more important resolutions adopted by the Conference were the following:—

1. "As an aid to better citizenship and in order to give a broader point of view to the profession, this Conference strongly recommends that all Universities should organise general courses of lectures on community life and social work, in



arts colleges and in technical and in professional colleges and should provide in the curricula of arts degrees for optional courses in social studies with a view to affording opportunities of theoretical training to social workers."

2. "This Conference resolves that immediate steps be taken to urge upon all Municipalities the need for establishing and equipping two playgrounds in different parts of their cities to carry out experimental work in order to the full utilisation of their open spaces for the under privileged boys and girls of the city along the lines of organised play."
3. "This Conference being firmly of opinion that the so-called criminal tribes are capable of speedy reclamation under proper and humane treatment expresses great satisfaction with the results so far achieved by Government and non-official agencies like the Salvation Army and other missions in some provinces of India, and suggests that the scheme of agricultural and industrial settlement should be considerably expanded so as to bring under their influence all so-called criminal tribes, and that, where non-official agencies come forth to undertake such work, Government should encourage them by making adequate or liberal financial grants."
4. "This Conference views with great apprehension the frightful mortality among mothers and infants in India, particularly in big towns and cities, and, noting with satisfaction the strenuous efforts that are being made by various agencies to reduce it, urges upon the public and the Government further to extend such efforts in both rural and urban areas."
5. "It advocates that maternity benefits be made obligatory on all employers of labour in a manner suited to meet the requirements of women working in large industrial concerns, and recommends that the Convention of the Washington Conference be given effect to by the Government of India and further recommends the necessity of appointing women inspectors for factories."

WORK OF THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

The Fifth Session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 22nd to 29th October 1923. Forty-two States were represented, the Conference comprising altogether 192 delegates and technical advisers. Mr. Adetci, Japanese Government Delegate on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, was appointed President.

There was only one question on the agenda, i. e., General Principles for the Organisation of

Factory Inspection. On this question the Conference adopted unanimously a Recommendation relating to the system of inspection, the nature of the functions, powers of inspectors, the organisation of inspection and inspectors' reports. The Recommendation laid down that the function of the system of inspection was to secure the enforcement of the laws and regulations relating to the conditions of work and the protection of the workers while engaged in their work. It was further stipulated that inspectors provided with credentials should be empowered by law to visit and inspect at any hour of the day or night places where they might have reasonable cause to believe that persons under the protection of the law were employed, and to question without witnesses the staff belonging to the establishment.

Detailed provisions were laid down with regard to safety. Inspection should be increasingly directed towards securing the adoption of the most suitable safety methods for preventing accidents and diseases with a view to rendering work less dangerous, more healthy and even less exhausting. The following methods were therefor recommended:—

- (a) That all accidents should be notified to the competent authorities.
- (b) That inspectors should inform and advise employers respecting the best standards of health and safety.
- (c) That inspectors should encourage the collaboration of employers, managing staff and workers for the promotion of personal caution, safety methods and the perfecting of safety equipment.
- (d) That inspectors should endeavour to promote the improvement and perfecting of measures of health and safety.
- (e) That, in countries where it was considered preferable to have a special organisation for accident insurance and prevention completely independent of the inspectorate, the special officers of such organisations should be guided by the foregoing principles.

Principles were also laid down with regard to the organisation of the staff, the qualifications and training of inspectors, the standard and methods of inspection, the co-operation of employers and workers and the submission of annual inspectors' reports. A copy of the Report and Proceedings of the Conference may be consulted in the Labour Office Library.



ACCIDENTS AND PROSECUTIONS

STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER, 1923

The monthly statistics of the accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published on pages 45 and 46 of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of November in Bombay City and Island, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency.

During November, in Bombay City and Island, there were in all 155 factory accidents of which six were serious and the remainder, 149 minor accidents. Of the total number of accidents 54 or 35 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and 101 or 65 per cent. to other causes. As in previous months, by far the largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion of accidents in different classes of factories being 67 per cent. in workshops, 30 per cent. in textile mills and 3 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad, there were in all seven accidents all of which occurred in cotton mills. Of these seven, one was fatal, two serious and the remaining four were minor accidents. All of these accidents were due, with one exception which was due to other causes, to machinery in motion.

In Karachi, there were three accidents in railway workshops, all of which were minor accidents and were due to causes other than machinery in motion.

In other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 43 of which 10 were in textile mills, 31 in workshops and 2 in other industries. Ten accidents were due to machinery in motion and 33 to other causes. Of these 43 accidents, 2 were serious and the rest minor.

PROSECUTIONS

During November, there were no prosecutions in Bombay under the Indian Factories Act.

HUMIDITY IN BOMBAY COTTON MILLS

REPORT OF AN INVESTIGATION

In the last issue of this Journal (pages 27 and 28), Sections 1 to 4 of the Report on Humidification in Indian Cotton Mills, by Mr. T. Maloney, M.C., A.M.C.T., late Adviser on Humidifica-

tion to the Government of India, were dealt with. In this issue, the conditions in card, blow and spinning rooms in Bombay mills and weaving departments in Ahmedabad are examined.

CARD ROOMS, BOMBAY

The temperature conditions in card rooms of an average Bombay mill are shown in table 6 of the Report. The readings contained in this table were taken three times a day from November 1921 to October 1922. While the conditions indicated by the temperatures cannot be considered ideal, they are, except during the early mornings in the monsoon, better than those of the average weaving shed. The lower average relative humidity, as indicated by the greater difference between the wet and dry bulb readings, makes the higher dry bulb temperatures less trying than they otherwise would be. In the monsoon, the high natural humidity of the atmosphere has generally to be reduced to obtain efficient working of the machines, and this is usually done by heating the room by closed steam pipes, ventilation at the same time being reduced to a minimum. This causes extremely unpleasant conditions. These conditions, however, are not the result of excessive artificial humidification, for at this season the humidifiers are never worked in the card rooms. At other seasons of the year, conditions could, as a rule, be considerably improved by more generous ventilation.

The Report points out that there is little excuse for the very high temperatures from November to March. In January, the average daily temperature was 95.6 degrees dry bulb, and 81.8 degrees wet bulb in the departments, as compared with an average outside shade temperature of 79.1 degrees dry bulb and 69.6 degrees wet bulb. With more adequate ventilation, it would have been easily possible to keep the dry bulb temperature below 90 degrees (Fahr.) which would have represented a great gain in comfort for the operatives.

BLOW ROOMS, BOMBAY

Table 7 of the Report contains the temperature records of an average blow room in a Bombay mill. As in the case of card rooms, these readings are the actual readings of a typical blow room. The blow room of a mill, the Report states, is usually the most comfort-

able as regards temperature. Artificial humidity is seldom used and never to excess, and the temperatures existing can be kept to within a few degrees of the outside shade temperatures by efficient ventilation. The comfort of conditions is also considerably augmented by the air movement caused by the numerous beaters and fans incorporated in the machines themselves. The chief evil in this department is generally not excessive humidity or high temperatures but the dustiness of the atmosphere.

SPINNING ROOMS, BOMBAY

Conditions in spinning rooms in Bombay mills closely approximate to those of the average card room. The average temperatures recorded were 94.9 degrees dry bulb and 82 degrees wet bulb, which represents a relative humidity of about 50 per cent. Conditions in spinning rooms were most uncomfortable during the monsoon for reasons similar to those indicated in card room conditions, but no artificial humidity is introduced in this season. As compared with the weaving department, conditions are not so trying, owing to the greater differences between wet and dry bulb temperatures, but that there is certainly room for improvement by more adequate ventilation is indicated by a comparison of shade temperatures and departmental temperatures.

WEAVING DEPARTMENTS, AHMEDABAD

Section 5 of the Report deals with temperature records in Ahmedabad. Readings were taken for only 5 Weaving Departments in this centre. Considering that there are no less than 61 cotton mills in Ahmedabad, the number of mills for which these records were obtained appears very small. In view of the more unsatisfactory conditions in Ahmedabad mills, this number should have been increased in order to obtain a fair sample of conditions generally in Weaving Departments. The Report states "that in four mills out of the five ventilation is nominally by roof windows, but, as a matter of fact, for the greater part of the year ventilation is absolutely negligible". The windows are rarely, if ever, opened and these remarks apply to more than 90 per cent. of the weaving sheds in Ahmedabad. In all mills, live steam is used to a large extent to

assist in raising the degree of humidity, even during the hottest portions of the year, and the disastrous effects on temperatures and comfort are readily seen from the tables and graphs contained in the Report. These show that in Ahmedabad weaving sheds there is an excessive increase in relative humidity without any reduction in the dry bulb temperature, rendering departmental conditions most uncomfortable owing to the great reduction in cooling power. The conditions in these sheds appear therefore to require immediate attention. The writer of the Report is of opinion that, in order to improve working conditions to a reasonable level of comfort, the dry bulb temperatures of these sheds would have to be at least 5 degrees lower unless air movement was increased. Summing up the conditions in these weaving sheds, the Report gives a very clear picture of the conditions under which the operatives work. In the words of the Report, "It would be difficult indeed to exaggerate the discomfort of conditions in Ahmedabad weaving sheds as a whole for about eight months of the year, but a personal visit on any afternoon in April, May or June would adequately convince the most sceptical. Hard physical work under present conditions is an absolute impossibility. Even standing still and wearing the very lightest clothing, one becomes saturated with perspiration almost immediately, and, though workers may become acclimatised to conditions to some extent, the time which they 'waste' in the mill compound and their generally distressed and listless appearance afford convincing proof that years of usage do not make them entirely immune. The loss of production directly due to the discomfort of conditions in the hot weather cannot accurately be gauged, but upon the evidence of weaving managers in Ahmedabad, efficiency often decreases by as much as 20 per cent. In April, May and June, though judged by the percentage of humidity, atmospheric conditions are fairly satisfactory for weaving purposes. This points to the necessity for adopting all practicable measures for reducing temperatures to a minimum; but except in isolated instances very little is attempted in this direction. Some mills spray the weaving sheds' roofs with cold

water for some hours daily [during] the hot weather, but the effectiveness of this as a means of a temperature reduction is in many instances greatly diminished owing to the excessive use of live steam in the department, and in any case it is only used as a last extremity."

In the next issue of the *Labour Gazette* conditions in card rooms and spinning rooms in Ahmedabad mills, Sholapur temperature records, the effects on temperature of humidification by wet steam and the physique of mill workers will be referred to.

LABOUR IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR

FACTORY REPORT FOR 1922

The Labour Office has received a copy of the Annual Factory Report of the Central Provinces and Berar for 1922 which has recently been published.

The number of registered factories in the Central Provinces and Berar, subject to the control of the Factory Act, increased during the year under review by 72 to 544. Of these, 13 were cotton mills and 496 cotton ginning factories. In 1921, the number of cotton mills was 13 and the number of cotton ginning factories was 434. The increase in the number of factories is chiefly due to the amended Factory Act which came into operation with effect from 1st July 1922.

OPERATIVES EMPLOYED

The following table shows the number of persons employed in cotton spinning and weaving mills and in all industries in the years 1921 and 1922.

	Total in 1921.	1922.			Total.
		Men.	Women.	Children.	
Cotton ..	15,369	11,208	2,719	1,511	15,438
Other factories ..	37,933	25,015	18,428	195	43,638
All factories ..	53,302	36,223	21,147	1,706	59,076

The increase of 10.8 per cent. in the number of persons employed in all factories was due to a considerable increase in the number in "other factories", the number of persons engaged in cotton mills remaining the same as in the

last year. The increase in the number of men in cotton mills was counterbalanced by a decrease in the number of children. This decrease was apparently due to the raising of the age limit in the amended Factories Act.

ACCIDENTS

The number of accidents was greater in 1922 than in the previous year, the total number being 225 as against 207 in 1921. The number of fatal accidents was the largest recorded since 1914, there being 16 fatal accidents in the year under review as against 8 in the previous year. Of these 16 fatal cases, only 4 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes.

PROSECUTIONS

The number of prosecutions instituted during the year was 112, out of which 23 were pending at the close of the year. Convictions were secured in 71 cases. In 9 cases for not submitting the annual return the persons prosecuted were discharged with a warning and in 9 other cases they were acquitted.

HOUSING AND SANITATION

About 4,000 workers are housed in factory quarters. The factory quarters are, on the whole, far superior to those ordinarily occupied by labourers, and the sanitary and hygienic requirements are better observed and supervised. In many factories considerable improvement in sanitation is reported to have taken place since 1921. There is, however, yet much educating work to be done and influences to be used before the arrangements in all cases are satisfactory.

WELFARE WORK

Welfare work in the mills is reported to be progressing. Maternity benefits of two months' wages, with allowances, are granted at some mills to women who have worked for 11 months. The question of providing crèches in the factories where women are employed is receiving much attention.

LABOUR IN BURMA

FACTORY REPORT FOR 1922

The Government of Burma have published the Annual Report on the working of the Indian

Factories Act, 1911 in Burma for the year 1922, a copy of which may be seen in the Labour Office Library. The following table shows the number of registered factories in the Province during the years 1920, 1921 and 1922 :—

Factories.	1920.	1921.	1922.
Rice mills ..	353	429	482
Saw mills ..	123	135	141
Others ..	141	165	174
Total ..	617	729	797

There was a considerable increase in the number of factories in 1922. The increase in the number of rice mills, says the Report, was to be regretted, as this form of industry had reached the uneconomic stage, the mills having been put up regardless of the local supplies available and in a spirit of thoughtless competition detrimental to any profitable undertaking. The increase was particularly noticeable in the main rice tract of Lower Burma.

EMPLOYMENT

The number of persons employed in the factories during the last three years is shown below :—

—	1920.	1921.	1922.
Men ..	82,653	83,755	79,794
Women ..	7,434	7,713	8,126
Children ..	881	1,117	879
Total ..	90,968	92,585	88,799

In spite of the increase in the number of factories there was a drop of 3,786 or 4 per cent. in the number of persons employed, as compared with the previous year, and of 2,169 or 2 per cent. as compared with 1920. This is probably due, says the Report, to a tendency for paddy to be milled up-country rather than in Rangoon.

WAGES

It is reported that alterations in the rates of pay of manual workers were slight and that the wide differences of pay drawn by workers who were given the same descriptive name

render a comparison between one year and another a matter of extreme difficulty. The various classes of labour during the year were :—

	Per month.	
	Minimum Rs.	Maximum Rs.
<i>Rice mills and saw mills—</i>		
Engine drivers ..	65	85
Firemen and oilmen ..	24	30
Beltmen ..	25	33
Mill-hands (semi-skilled) ..	25	70
Stone dressers ..	25	30
Sawyers and planers ..	23	85
Coolies ..	25	35
<i>General Engineering—</i>		
Mechanics ..	20	180
Fitters and turners ..	55	100
Black-smiths ..	60	90
Moulders ..	35	90
Boiler platers ..	60	100
Electrical wiremen ..	30	75
Carpenters ..	60	75
<i>Miscellaneous—</i>		
Book-binders ..	17	88
Pressmen ..	18	100
Compositors ..	20	100
Painters ..	35	85
Tin-smiths ..	40	60
Polishers ..	25	40
Masons ..	25	85

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE

The Report states that there is no statutory obligation on a mill-owner to provide housing accommodation for his workpeople either on the mill premises or elsewhere. The improvement of the standard of residences provided for labour had to be left to the good will and generosity of employers, and the difficulty was further increased by the migratory nature of the floating population which supplied most of the labour in factories in Lower Burma. With the appointment of a Labour Officer attached to the office of the Development Commissioner it is hoped that general questions such as the housing of industrial labour, wages and the general conditions under which labourers work will be investigated with greater detail.

ACCIDENTS AND PROSECUTIONS

The total number of accidents fell from 610 in 1921 to 563 in the year under review. Of these 563 accidents, 26 were fatal, 55 serious and 482 minor as against 25, 107 and 478 respectively in the preceding year. There were in all 8 prosecutions compared with 3

in the previous year. The number of prosecutions, though greater than in the preceding year, was still low and was possibly due to the small number of inspections made. Of the 8 prosecutions, 4 were under section 41(f) and the remainder under section 41(j) of the Act. Convictions were secured in all the 8 cases and fines ranging from Rs. 20 to Rs. 50 were imposed. The Development Commissioner is inclined to think that the very small penalties inflicted may not have the effect of preventing carelessness and evasion of the Act.

WELFARE WORK IN MILLS

The following statistics showing the number of operatives treated during the month of November 1923 at the Free Dispensaries controlled by Messrs. W. H. Brady and Co., Ltd., are of interest. During the month 760 fresh cases were admitted into the Free Dispensary attached to the Colaba Land and Mill in addition to 147 repetition cases making a total of 907 cases in all. Of the 1,327 cases treated at the New Great Eastern Spinning and Weaving Mill's Dispensary, 527 were fresh admissions and 800 repetition cases.

Diseases.	Number of cases treated during November, 1923.	
	The Colaba Land and Mill Co., Ltd. (a)	The New Great Eastern Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.
Dysentery ..	7	11
Malaria ..	179	276
Other fevers ..	3	89
Rheumatism ..	48	30
Eyes and ears ..	58	35
Respiratory system ..	56	153
Diarrhoea ..	32	49
Dyspepsia ..	14	133
Liver ..	..	2
Digestive system ..	79	78
Skin ..	73	269
Ulcers ..	11	13
All other diseases ..	135	88
Injuries ..	65	101
Total ..	760	1,327

(a) The numbers show fresh cases.

DENSITY OF POPULATION IN BOMBAY AND LONDON

The table below shows the area and population of the City of Bombay and the County of London together with the number of persons per acre and square mile.

Density of population in Bombay and London

	Bombay City.	County of London.
Area in acres ..	15,066	74,816
Area in square miles ..	24	117
Population in 1921 ..	1,175,914	4,483,249
Number of persons—		
Per acre ..	78	60
Per square mile ..	49,920	38,400

A reference to the number of persons per room in Bombay and London will be found on page 15 of the October 1922 issue of the *Labour Gazette* and in paragraph 33 of the Report on an Enquiry into Working Class Budgets in Bombay.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MADRAS

WORK IN 1922-23

The Labour Office has received a copy of the Administration Report of the Labour Department of Madras for the year 1922-23 compiled by Mr. G. F. Paddison, C.S.I., I.C.S. The Report contains a full account of the activities of the Department during the year.

The Report states that employers during the year, with few exceptions, did all in their power to carry out in the spirit and in the letter the provisions of the new Act in regard to the period and hours of employment (the 11 hours day, the 60 hours week, the rest interval and the weekly holiday), fencing, guarding and repairing certain dangerous parts of factory premises and machinery in factories, the employment of child labour and the registration of new factories with reference to the widened definition of the term "factory".

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

The labour situation, says the Report, was, on the whole, very quiet during the year. 23 strikes occurred during the year but almost all

of them were of little importance. Of these 23, 4 were in cotton mills, 2 in jute mills and the rest in miscellaneous concerns. The demands in 13 cases related to pay, in 2 to leave and hours, in 4 to personal matters and in the remaining 4 to other causes. The strikers were successful in 6 cases, partially successful in 4 and unsuccessful in 10; in the remaining 3 cases the results were indefinite. The strikes lasted for periods varying from 2 hours to 89 days.

TRADE UNIONS

Only one union, the M. & S. M. Ry. Workshop Employees' Union, Perambur, showed signs of life by holding regular meetings, the others having been mostly dormant, in spite of the attempts of leaders to revive their activities. The Trade Union Registration Bill, when it becomes law, is expected to give an opportunity for the unions to be worked on regular lines.

WELFARE WORK

The management of many of the leading factories were taking steps to start welfare work such as welfare committee, workmen stores, recreation grounds, provident, sick and pension funds, crèches and free reading rooms for the benefit of their employees.

LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD

The following subjects were discussed in the three meetings of the Board held during the year :—

- (1) Questions connected with the machinery to prevent or settle labour disputes,
- (2) Draft conventions and recommendations of the Third International Labour Conference, Geneva, regarding the use of white lead in painting, and
- (3) The Workmen's Compensation Bill.

WAGE CENSUS*

The quinquennial Census of Wages taken in 1921 was tabulated and it was found that, on the whole, the wages of artisans, ploughmen, and other agricultural labourers had generally risen. One principal change introduced in the Census of 1921 was the division of the

* See p. 15 of the Labour Gazette for June 1923.

Presidency into homogeneous tracts instead of into district units.

EMIGRATION

Emigration to Ceylon, the Straits Settlements and Mauritius for unskilled work was declared lawful during the year on new conditions under the provisions of the new Emigration Act VII of 1922. A Protector of Emigrants was appointed for each of the three ports from which emigration is lawful, in addition to Madras.

DEPRESSED CLASSES

One noticeable feature of the Report is the work done by the Labour Department for the amelioration of the conditions of the depressed classes. The work consisted in the acquisition of land for house-sites, provision for communication, sanitation and water supply, assignment of land for cultivation, institution of co-operative societies and schools, etc. The total extent of land reserved in 24 districts for assignment to the depressed classes for purposes of cultivation was 566,832·81 acres, of which an extent of 67,778·27 acres was actually assigned to them up to the end of the year. The following table shows the representation of the depressed classes in the local bodies of the Presidency :—

Name of the local body.	Total number in the Presidency.	Number represented by one depressed class member.	Number represented by two depressed class members.
District Boards ..	25	19	2
Taluka Boards ..	125	79	4
Municipal Councils ..	81	49	4

The Report adds that, although there was a marked improvement in the representation of the depressed classes as compared with the preceding year, there were still several local bodies with no depressed classes on them. The local bodies which had no depressed classes on them numbered 78. The Government of Madras observe that the Report shows satisfactory progress in the work of the depressed classes but that there is much room for improvement in the condition of the *cheris* (quarters of the depressed classes) in the Madras City.

IMMIGRANT LABOUR IN ASSAM

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN THE TEA INDUSTRY

The Government of Assam have recently published a Report on Immigrant Labour in Assam for the year 1922-23. In the Government Resolution prefixed to the Report it is stated as follows :—

"Favourable conditions prevailed during the year under review. The Tea Industry, which employs most of the imported labour, was exceedingly prosperous, and the year was a healthy one. Nevertheless, owing to good harvests in the recruiting districts and to the competition of other industries, the number of immigrants was again small, and the year ended with a further reduction in the strength of the imported labour force settled in the province. The shortage of labour is one of the most serious problems with which the Industry is faced."

LABOUR FORCE

The number of immigrants increased from 20,961 in 1921-22 to 21,654 in 1922-23, while the total strength of the labour force, men, women and children, both workers and non-workers, in the tea gardens at the close of the year 1922-23 was 972,969 against 984,198 in the preceding year.

The nationality and sex of the adult labour force is as follows :—

Nationality.	Men.	Women.	Total.
	(000)	(000)	(000)
United Provinces, Bengal and Bihar ..	100	98	198
Chota Nagpur and the Santhal Parganas ..	98	99	197
Central Provinces ..	37	36	73
Madras ..	22	20	42
Assam ..	19	15	34
Others ..	2	1	3
Total for 1922-23 ..	278	269	547
Total for 1921-22 ..	279	274	553

VITAL STATISTICS

The deaths among adult labourers according to nationality were as follows :—

Nationality.	Mean annual strength.	Deaths.	Ratio per mille of the death to strength.
United Provinces, Bengal and Bihar ..	198,538	5,481	27·41
Chota Nagpur and the Santhal Parganas ..	201,807	5,286	26·19
Central Provinces ..	75,766	1,948	25·59
Madras ..	41,301	1,174	28·42
Assam ..	31,842	1,007	31·62
Others ..	3,217	95	29·53
Total for 1922-23 ..	549,970	14,991	27·26
Total for 1921-22 ..	552,442	16,811	29·89

The Government Resolution states that an indication of the healthiness of the year is to be found in the increase in the recorded birth-rate from 25·78 to 27·24 per mille and the fall in the recorded death-rate from 25·70 to 24·18 and that these figures compare favourably with the provincial figures. The year was, on the whole, healthy.

WAGES

The Report shows an increase all round the average wages paid to labourers. The Government are not sure whether the prevailing shortage of labour has any connection with the rate of cash wages which the Industry offers but state that "it seems to be established that, under existing conditions, it is only in years of scarcity in the recruiting districts that labourers are willing to come to Assam in large numbers." The earnings of the labourers consist, in addition to the cash wages, of certain other concessions granted to them. The labourers are generally supplied with paddy and rice below the market rates. They frequently cultivate rice on garden land and are allowed to attend to crops outside the gardens. They enjoy other privileges also such as free fuel and grazing, and cloth at cheap rates. In the statement appended to the Report showing the average wages of labourers, the figures used to include cash wages of the standard task, amounts earned as *teen* or overtime, diet and subsistence allowance, whether given in cash or in rice, and a portion of the bonus which is given annually to most adult labourers. The form of the statement



has now been revised so as to show cash earnings separately from the various concessions given to the labourers. The new form has, however, only been partially adopted for the year under review. The following statistics of the average wages of labourers in the Province are of interest:—

Monthly Cash Wages

	Monthly average calculated on					
	Total number on Books			Average daily working strength		
	Men.	Women.	Child- ren.	Men.	Women.	Child- ren.
1. Assam Valley Division	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
(a) Average for 1920-21	7 8 0	6 0 5	3 14	2 9 8	5 8 1	0 5 0 10
(b) " 1921-22	8 2 1	6 1 5	4 0 6	10 9 3	8 1 10	5 6 6
(c) " 1922-23	8 8 10	6 12 5	4 4 3	10 14 9	9 6 5	5 11 4
2. Surma Valley and Hill Division						
(a) Average for 1920-21	5 15 4	4 4 5	2 7 6	7 10 0	6 1 7	3 13 7
(b) " 1921-22	6 1 2	4 7 8	2 9 2	8 0 9	6 6 11	3 15 8
(c) " 1922-23	6 9 3	4 10 6	2 11 10	8 6 4	6 9 3	4 4 2

The above averages were calculated on the figures for September and March (i.e., the busy and the slack seasons respectively) of monthly cash wages including *ticca*, diet rations, subsistence allowance and bonus per head. In the case of Sylhet sub-divisions of the Surma Valley and Hill Division alone, the figures for 1922-23 exclude diet, rations and subsistence allowance.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

The Report states that there were very few disturbances on the tea-gardens during the year. There were three cases of rioting but these had no connection with any grievance, real or imaginary, against the management. They arose owing to a rumour that children were being kidnapped to be sacrificed at the building of a new bridge. The prevailing calm in Assam Valley after the disturbed conditions in 1921, says the Report, was partly due to the collapse of political agitation and to improvement in economic conditions.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN GREAT BRITAIN

An analysis of the new Workmen's Compensation Bill of Great Britain was published on

pages 21-24 of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1923. It was stated in this issue that the Bill was read a second time on the 30th May and was referred for consideration to a Standing Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir S. Roberts.

The Bill, as amended by the Committee, was again taken up by the House of Commons and discussed on the 13th and 14th November on the eve of the dissolution of the Parliament. The Bill seeks—

(1) to repeal the Workmen's Compensation (War Addition) Acts of 1917 and 1919 without affecting the payments made under those Acts for injuries suffered up to the end of the current year,

(2) to raise the maximum weekly payments which may be awarded in cases of total incapacity,

(3) to reduce, to three days, the waiting period during which a disabled workman is not eligible for compensation,

(4) to provide for the reference of appeals, on the application of either party, to a medical referee, and

(5) to define clearly the term "workman" and to extend the principal Act to certain share-fishermen.

AMENDMENTS

Numerous amendments were suggested and considerable discussion took place on them. The amendments passed before the Bill was read a third time were as under:—

(1) The consideration of variations in wages in respect of disablement, according to the "class of employment" in which the workman was employed at the time of the accident, shall be made possible;

(2) The judge shall order partial incapacity to be treated as total incapacity in certain cases;

(3) The right conferred by the principal Act shall be retained of review at the request of the employer or workman at any time;

(4) The minimum amount of compensation payable to a widow in fatal cases shall be increased from £150 to £200;

(5) A proportion of the compensation payable in cases of fatal accidents shall be paid to persons partially dependent on the deceased employee;

(6) A sum of 3sh. per week shall be fixed as the minimum amount payable in respect of each child whose father has met with a fatal accident in the course of his employment;



(7) The application of the Bill shall be extended to such members of the crew of a fishing vessel as are remunerated by shares in the profits or gross earnings of the vessel not only when they are *wholly* but also when they are *mainly* remunerated by such shares;

(8) The maximum remuneration of persons eligible for compensation under the principal Act shall be raised from £250 to £350 a year;

(9) The County Court Judge shall be given power to refer purely medical questions to a medical referee;

(10) The length of notice which an employer shall give of his intention to cease or diminish the weekly payments made by him to an injured workman shall be changed from one week to 10 days;

(11) The statutory amount of any weekly payments made under the principal Act shall not be reduced in such a way as to reduce the sum payable to the children of the workman or as to reduce the amount of compensation payable to the widow under the principal Act below £200;

(12) It shall be made possible—

(a) to modify, by Order in Council, the principal Act without altering the amount of compensation in cases arising out of conventions with foreign States (including Northern Ireland);

(b) to determine cases in which compensation is recoverable under the law of Great Britain and also of another country and

(c) to empower County Courts to admit evidence from abroad; and

(13) The Secretary of State shall be empowered, by order, to extend the provisions of the Act to workmen employed as a pilot, commander, navigator or member of the crew of air-craft when outside Great Britain.

DISTRIBUTION OF LONDON POPULATION BY WORKPLACE

The volume containing the Tables, Part III (Supplementary) of the Census of the County of London, 1921 contains some interesting details regarding the distribution of population by workplace. This is the first occasion on which enumeration by place of residence or place of birth has been supplemented by this additional information. The importance of this classification will be readily recognised. The increasing divorce between residence and workplace in Great Britain has called for the reconsideration of the areal basis of the Census statistics. It happens that in many parts of the country masses of population move in tides

of daily ebb and flow. These movements have a direct bearing on many difficult problems of traffic, transport and housing. Moreover, in regard to questions of environmental influence, it cannot be overlooked that a full half of the active life of the worker is spent in an entirely different environment which cannot fail to leave its mark upon him.

In spite of the shortcomings incident to such an enumeration the statistics are highly interesting. The outstanding example is, of course, the City of London itself which expands and contracts between an insignificant night population of 13,709 and the more than thirty times as large number of 416,150 during the day, a number which excludes visitors for shopping and other purposes and also traffic of all kinds in transit through the City. The night population of the City of London forms 20 persons per acre whereas the day population forms 614 persons per acre.

The following table gives a small scale picture of the daily pulsation of the population of the whole region of London and the five Home Counties.

Distribution of occupied population over 12 years of age (and students over 18)

Zone.	Distribution by zone of enumeration.		Distribution by zone of workplace.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
1 London (Administrative County) ..	2,173,601	49.1	2,618,392	59.1
2 Outside London (Administrative County) but within 10 miles of Charing Cross ..	1,190,000	26.9	786,779	17.8
3 Outside 10 miles but within 15 miles circle ..	144,396	3.3	135,271	3.1
4 Outside 15 miles circle but within Home Counties ..	919,337	20.7	820,926	18.5
5 Outside Home Counties ..	.....	..	66,603	1.5
Total ..	4,427,521	100.0	4,427,521	100.0

The five Home Counties are Essex, Hertford, Kent, Middlesex and Surrey.

TRADE UNION CONGRESS

FOURTH SESSION IN CALCUTTA

The Fourth Annual Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress will be held in Calcutta sometime in February next. A Reception Committee has already been formed with powers to add to their number for the organisation and management of the session.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1922.	October 1923.	November 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—						
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 1 2	5 15 3	
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	.....	6 8 0	6 6 10
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	73 8 0	63 8 0	6 10 0
Do.	Jubbulpore		40 0 0	70 0 0	46 8 0	65 0 0
Jowari	Rangoon	Md.	3 2 6	4 0 4	4 0 4	45 0 0
Barley			3 4 6	3 11 3	3 2 10	4 7 1
Bajri	Ghati		3 4 6	3 12 11	4 3 9	3 2 10
Pulses—						
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)		4 3 9	4 10 6	3 6 2	4 2 0
Turdal	Cawnpore		5 10 5	6 5 1	5 1 3	3 9 7
Sugar—						
Sugar	Mauritius No. 1	Cwt.	9 3 0	22 0 0	24 4 0	5 4 8
Do.	Java white		10 3 0	22 4 0	23 10 0	26 12 0
Raw (Gul)	Sangli	Md.	7 14 3	14 4 7	11 9 0	26 2 0
Other food—						
Turmeric	Rajapuri		5 9 3	23 12 11	38 12 5	10 14 2
Ghee	Deshi		45 11 5	85 11 5	85 11 5	38 12 5
Salt	Bombay (black)		1 7 6	2 7 0	3 4 0	85 11 5

Expressed as percentages of July 1914
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Cereals—						
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill		100	129	127	137
Wheat	Delhi No. 1		100	.....	116	130
Do.	Khandwa Seoni		100	163	141	144
Do.	Jubbulpore		100	175	116	144
Jowari	Rangoon		100	127	127	113
Barley			100	116	127	141
Bajri	Ghati		100	113	97	97
Average—Cereals			100	137	122	125
Pulses—						
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)		100	110	80	85
Turdal	Cawnpore		100	112	90	94
Average—Pulses			100	111	85	90
Sugar—						
Sugar	Mauritius No. 1		100	239	264	291
Do.	Java white		100	218	232	256
Raw (Gul)	Sangli		100	181	147	138
Average—Sugar			100	213	214	228
Other food—						
Turmeric	Rajapuri		100	427	695	695
Ghee	Deshi		100	188	188	188
Salt	Bombay (black)		100	166	221	212
Average—Other food			100	260	368	365
Average—All food			100	176	185	189

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1922.	October 1923.	November 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	13 2 0	13 6 0	13 15 0
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)		8 0 0	10 6 0	9 11 0	10 7 0
Poppyseed	Do.		10 14 0	14 0 0	13 8 0	13 10 0
Gingelly	White		11 4 0	14 0 0	15 8 0	15 12 0
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton—raw						
Beach	Good	Candy	251 0 0	435 0 0	480 0	.....
Omra	Fully good		222 0 0	385 0 0	.....	.....
Dharwar	Sew-ginned		230 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Khandesh	Machine ginned		205 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Bengal	Do.		198 0 0	345 0 0	455 0 0	600 0 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 7 6	1 11 0	1 13 9
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	13 2 0	12 15 0	13 6 0
White muslin	6,600		4 3 0	9 6 0	8 12 0	9 4 0
Shirtings	Liepman's 1,500		10 6 0	25 12 0	24 4 0	26 4 0
Long cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 6 6	1 5 0	1 8 0
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.		0 9 6	1 5 9	1 3 6	1 5 6

Expressed as percentages of July 1914
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Oilseeds—						
Linseed	Bold		100	147	150	157
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)		100	130	121	130
Poppyseed	Do.		100	129	124	125
Gingelly	White		100	124	138	140
Average—Oilseeds			100	133	133	138
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton—raw						
Beach	Good		100	173	191	.....
Omra	Fully good		100	173	.....	.....
Dharwar	Sew-ginned		100	.....	.....	.....
Khandesh	Machine ginned		100	.....	.....	.....
Bengal	Do.		100	174	230	303
Average—Cotton—raw			100	173	211	303
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Twist	40S		100	184	212	233
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000		100	221	218	225
White muslin	6,600		100	224	209	221
Shirtings	Liepman's 1,500		100	248	234	253
Long cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.		100	237	271	253
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.		100	229	205	226
Average—Cotton manufactures			100	224	217	235
Average—Textiles—Cotton			100	207	2	245

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods) continued

Article	Grade	Rate per	July 1914	November 1922	October 1923	November 1923
			Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.
Other textiles— Silk	Canton No. 5	Pacca seer	5 4 0	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 8 0
Do.	Nankin	"	17 12 0	30 8 0	30 8 0	30 8 0
Hides and Skins— Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 14 9	1 14 9	1 12 10
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	1 1 8	0 10 0	1 2 10
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 1 9	2 15 3	2 11 9
Metals— Copper braziers	"	Cwt.	60 8 0	77 8 0	75 0 0	70 0 0
Iron bars	"	"	4 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0
Steel hoops	"	"	7 12 0	14 4 0	13 10 0	12 12 0
Galvanized sheets	"	"	9 0 0	17 8 0	16 12 0	16 0 0
Tin plates	"	Box	8 12 0	19 0 0	18 0 0	18 4 0
Other raw and manufactured articles— Coal	Bengal	Ton	14 12 0	28 0 0	24 10 0	24 10 0
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	32 1 0	32 3 9	24 10 0
Kerosene	Elephant brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 10 6	6 15 6	6 15 6
Do.	Chester brand	Case	5 2 0	10 3 0	9 8 0	9 8 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Other textiles— Silk	Canton No. 5	100	105	105	105
Do.	Nankin	100	172	172	172
Average—Other textiles		100	139	139	139
Hides and Skins— Hides, Cow	Tanned	100	166	166	156
Do. Buffalo	Do.	100	102	58	109
Skins, Goat	Do.	100	169	236	219
Average—Hides and Skins		100	146	153	161
Metals— Copper braziers		100	128	124	116
Iron bars		100	200	200	200
Steel hoops		100	184	176	200
Galvanized sheets		100	194	186	178
Tin plates		100	217	206	209
Average—Metals		100	185	178	174
Other raw and manufactured articles— Coal	Bengal	100	190	167	167
Do.	Imported	100	139	163	119
Kerosene	Elephant brand	100	175	159	159
Do.	Chester brand	100	199	185	185
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles		100	176	169	158
Total—Food		100	176	185	189
Total—Non-food		100	175	175	181
General Average		100	176	179	184

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Foods)

Article	Grade	Rate per	July 1914	November 1922	October 1923	November 1923
			Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.
Cereals— Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	30 0 0	51 0 0	49 0 0	52 0 0
Wheat, white	5% barley	"	31 8 0	43 8 0	32 12 0	35 12 0
red	30% dirt	"	31 4 0	43 0 0	32 0 0	35 0 0
white	5% barley	"	32 8 0	44 12 0	33 12 0	36 12 0
red	92% dirt	"	32 4 0	44 4 0	33 0 0	36 0 0
Jowari	2% barley, 13% dirt	"	25 8 0	27 0 0	26 0 0	30 0 0
Barley	Export Quality	"	26 8 0	31 4 0	24 8 0	26 8 0
Pulses— Gram	5% dirt	"	29 8 0	35 8 0	28 8 0	27 8 0
Sugar— Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	21 12 0	22 3 0	25 4 0
Do.	" brown	"	8 1 6	20 8 0	.....	.....
Other food— Salt	Bengal Maund.	"	2 2 0	1 10 8	2 14 6	2 14 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Cereals— Rice	Larkana No. 3	100	151	126	135
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt	100	158	104	115
red	30% dirt	100	158	102	112
white	5% barley, 5% dirt	100	158	104	115
red	92% dirt	100	157	102	112
Jowari	2% barley, 13% dirt	100	106	102	118
Barley	Export Quality	100	118	92	100
Averages—Cereals	5% dirt	100	129	105	114
Pulses— Gram	1% dirt	100	120	86	93
Sugar— Sugar	Java white	100	258	245	277
"	" brown	100	255	.....	.....
Average—Sugar		100	246	245	277
Other food—Salt		100	78	137	135

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1922.	October 1923.	November 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	3% admixture	Maund ..	2 11 3	3 12 0	3 11 0	4 4 0
Rapeseed	Black, 9% admixture	Candy ..	51 0 0	61 8 0	58 8 0	63 4 0
Gingelly			62 0 0	76 0 0	84 0 0	84 0 0
Textiles—						
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags ..	38 4 0	50 0 0	51 0 0	53 8 0
Textile—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund ..	20 4 0	38 8 0	49 10 0	49 10 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill	Piece ..	10 3 6	21 8 0	26 4 0	27 0 0
Shirtings	Liepmann's	" ..	10 2 0	25 0 0	26 0 0	26 8 0
Yarns	40s. Grey (Plough)	Lb. ..	0 12 2	.....	.....	.....
Other Textiles—						
Wool	Kandahar	Maund ..	28 0 0	23 0 0	38 0 0	40 0 0

Expressed as percentage of July 1914

Price in July 1914 = 100

Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	3% admixture		100	139	136	157
Rapeseed	Black, 9% admixture		100	121	115	124
Gingelly			100	123	135	135
Average—Oilseeds			100	128	129	139
Textiles—						
Jute bags	Twills		100	131	133	140
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind		100	190	245	245
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill		100	210	257	264
Shirtings	Liepmann's		100	247	257	262
Yarns	40s. Grey (Plough)		100	.....	.....	.....
Average—Cotton manufactures			100	229	257	263
Average—Textiles—Cotton			100	216	253	257
Other Textiles—Wool			100	82	136	143

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-Foods) continued

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1922.	October 1923.	November 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Hides—						
Hides dry	Sind Punjab	Maund ..	21 4 0	13 8 0	14 0 0	14 8 0
"			21 4 0	13 8 0	14 0 0	14 8 0
Metals—						
Copper Braziers		Cwt. ..	60 8 0	78 0 0	76 0 0	74 0 0
Steel Bars		" ..	3 14 0	7 8 0	7 4 0	7 0 0
" Plates		" ..	4 6 0	8 8 0	8 4 0	8 2 0
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	1st Class Bengal	Ton ..	16 0 0	35 0 0	35 0 0	35 0 0
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case ..	5 2 0	10 1 0	9 6 0	9 6 0
"	Elephant	2 Tins ..	4 7 0	7 8 6	6 13 6	6 13 6

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Hides—						
Hides dry	Sind Punjab		100	64	66	68
"			100	64	66	68
Average—Hides			100	64	66	68
Metals—						
Copper Braziers			100	129	126	122
Steel Bars			100	194	187	181
" Plates			100	194	189	186
Average—Metals			100	172	167	163
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	1st Class Bengal		100	219	219	219
Kerosene	Chester Brand		100	196	183	183
"	Elephant		100	170	154	154
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles			100	195	185	185
Total—Food			100	145	120	131
Total—Non-food			100	155	163	166
General Average			100	151	146	152



Wholesale prices index numbers in Bombay by groups
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months.	Cereals.	Pulses.	Sugar.	Other food.	Total food.	Oil-seeds.	Raw cotton.	Cotton manufactures.	Other textiles.	Hides and skins.	Metals.	Other raw and manufactured articles.	Total non-food.	General average.
1920														
November	166	160	312	158	193	164	134	287	226	188	240	202	209	204
1921														
November	196	175	203	190	193	129	170	263	138	163	204	198	192	195
December	188	180	200	185	189	136	198	259	138	136	200	198	191	190
1922														
January	182	175	210	190	188	132	166	258	139	167	199	196	190	190
February	179	168	203	211	189	136	155	244	139	148	192	208	185	190
March	177	166	224	241	198	140	174	251	139	168	192	196	189	186
April	179	160	228	212	193	144	179	254	139	137	187	190	185	192
May	180	160	218	220	193	149	190	250	139	139	186	192	187	188
June	169	129	220	231	187	152	202	256	139	136	191	192	191	189
July	170	134	220	228	188	151	196	255	139	142	177	188	188	190
August	166	132	227	238	186	138	197	248	139	139	183	186	184	188
September	163	127	212	241	185	135	191	229	139	142	182	181	179	186
October	145	119	210	249	178	138	165	226	139	112	183	180	172	181
November	137	111	213	260	176	133	173	224	139	146	185	188	177	174
December	129	105	216	266	170	135	185	220	139	122	186	182	174	176
1923														
January	125	102	202	305	173	130	200	227	139	165	194	178	182	179
February	125	95	210	268	167	132	210	225	139	132	195	174	178	179
March	127	93	242	296	179	139	213	227	139	134	187	176	179	174
April	128	92	242	269	174	134	204	217	139	167	185	176	180	179
May	124	88	246	284	176	131	205	217	139	161	185	172	178	178
June	128	91	234	302	179	134	211	212	139	144	186	166	176	177
July	127	90	215	317	178	132	217	211	139	139	182	169	173	177
August	120	85	202	343	176	131	210	209	139	138	178	168	171	175
September	124	85	209	354	182	136	211	215	139	149	177	162	174	173
October	122	85	214	368	185	133	211	217	139	153	178	169	175	177
November	125	90	228	365	189	138	303	235	139	161	174	158	181	184

NOTE.—The figures of 1921, 1922 and 1923 in heavy type indicate the highest peak reached above the peak of 1920 which is also shown in heavy type.

Retail prices of articles of food in Bombay in July 1914, October and November 1923
The prices quoted are for local weights and measures

Articles.	Grade.	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in November 1923 over or below				
				July 1914.	October 1923.	November 1923.		
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.		
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	216	5 10.	7 4	7 6	+1 8	+0 2
Wheat	Punjab Fassi	"	212	5 10	7 6	7 6	+1 8	.....
Jowari	Madras	"	208	4 3	5 7	5 6	+1 3	-0 1
Bajri	Ghati	"	200	4 7	5 10	5 10	+1 3	.....
Gram	Punjab red	"	208	4 4	5 1	5 1	+0 9	.....
Turdal	Coarse	"	204	5 11	7 6	7 6	+1 7	.....
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Beer by weight	28	1 1	2 6	2 7	+1 6	+0 1
Sugar (raw)	Singhi, middle quality	"	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+0 10	.....
Tea	Ceylon, middle quality	Lb.	39	7 10	13 10	14 2	+6 4	+0 4
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	188	1 9	4 0	4 0	+2 3	.....
Beef	Crawford Market	Lb.	39	2 6	3 9	3 9	+1 3	.....
Mutton	Average for sheep and goat	"	39	3 0	7 0	7 0	+4 0	.....
Milk	Medana	Beer by measure	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 1	.....
Ghee	Belgaum, Desli	" by weight	28	7 1	13 2	13 2	+6 1	.....
Potatoes	Mettagalayam	"	28	0 8	1 2	1 1	+0 5	-0 1
Onions	Mandi	"	28	0 3	1 0	1 0	+0 9	.....
Coconut oil	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+0 5	.....



Retail prices of Articles of food in October and November 1923

Art. des.	Price per	October 1923.					November 1923.							
		Bombay.	Karachi.	Almotalah.	Shahpur.	Puna.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Almotalah.	Shahpur.	Puna.			
		October 1923.	November 1923.											
Cereals—														
Rice	Masud	6 12 6	6 14 1	6 6 9	7 1 9	9 8 10	6 14 7	6 12 11	6 14 3	7 6 10	9 3 10			
Wheat	"	7 0 9	4 13 0	6 15 4	6 6 5	6 5 5	7 0 9	4 11 4	7 4 4	6 2 11	6 5 5			
Jowari	"	5 5 4	3 10 2	3 11 6	3 0 2	3 15 4	5 4 6	3 10 2	3 12 11	3 10 11	3 10 1			
Bajri	"	5 13 1	3 15 2	6 2 6	4 3 1	5 6 2	5 13 1	3 12 7	6 2 6	3 14 9	5 1 3			
Pulses—														
Gram	"	4 14 9	3 14 1	5 11 5	4 3 5	4 1 4	4 14 9	3 10 2	5 11 3	3 13 10	4 1 4			
Turdal	"	6 15 7	6 2 6	6 6 5	6 9 4	8 1 11	6 15 7	6 4 5	6 10 8	6 6 0	8 14 3			
Other articles of food—														
Sugar (refined)	"	17 12 5	16 0 7	20 0 0	18 4 7	17 12 5	19 0 9	16 13 6	20 0 0	18 4 7	17 12 5			
Jawi (sp.)	"	14 4 7	10 0 0	14 8 9	10 0 0	10 8 5	14 4 7	10 0 0	14 8 9	10 0 0	10 8 5			
Tea	Lb.	0 13 10	0 13 10	1 1 9	0 12 4	0 14 6	0 14 2	0 13 10	1 4 1	0 13 3	0 14 6			
Salt	Masud	4 3 9	3 1 3	3 5 4	5 0 0	4 3 4	4 3 9	3 1 3	3 5 4	5 0 0	4 3 4			
Beef	Beer	0 7 8	0 10 0	0 8 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 7 8	0 10 0	0 8 0	0 6 0	0 6 0			
Mutton	"	0 14 4	0 12 0	1 0 0	0 10 0	0 11 0	0 14 4	0 12 0	1 0 0	0 10 0	0 11 0			
Milk	Masud	17 9 4	8 0 0	10 0 0	13 5 4	14 3 7	17 9 4	10 0 0	10 0 0	13 5 4	13 5 4			
Ghee	"	94 1 11	71 1 9	82 8 3	85 5 4	84 3 4	94 1 11	75 4 10	80 0 0	85 5 4	84 3 4			
Potatoes	"	8 5 0	9 0 3	11 6 10	8 14 3	5 0 6	7 11 1	7 12 1	11 6 10	10 0 0	6 2 1			
Onions	"	7 2 3	5 6 1	5 11 5	5 0 0	5 12 11	7 2 3	5 6 9	5 15 8	5 5 4	4 9 11			
Coconut oil	"	28 9 1	26 10 8	32 0 0	26 10 8	28 1 1	28 9 1	28 13 3	32 0 0	26 10 8	28 1 1			

NOTE.—1 lb. = 39 tolas; 1 masud = 82½ tolas; 1 seer = 2½ lbs.; 8½ tolas = 1 seer; 40 seers = 1 Indian maund.

Expressed as percentages of July 1914 Prices (July 1914 = 100)

Articles.	October 1923.					November 1923.				
	Bombay.	Karachi.	Almotalah.	Shahpur.	Puna.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Almotalah.	Shahpur.	Puna.
Cereals—										
Rice	121	103	137	134	166	124	102	144	140	166
Wheat	126	114	148	124	150	126	112	154	120	118
Jowari	122	100	98	122	115	121	100	100	128	106
Bajri	135	94	131	119	131	135	131	112	112	124
Average—cereals	126	103	129	125	153	127	101	132	125	129
Pulses—										
Gram	114	102	143	98	84	114	95	143	90	84
Turdal	119	92	164	113	123	119	94	158	109	130
Average—pulses	117	97	124	106	104	117	95	126	100	110
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined)	233	221	222	183	190	250	232	222	183	190
Jawi (sp.)	167	144	164	129	150	167	144	164	129	150
Tea	178	200	229	120	177	182	200	228	128	177
Salt	199	234	221	225	224	199	234	221	222	224
Beef	148	200	133	240	141	148	200	133	240	141
Mutton	215	200	267	167	183	215	200	267	167	183
Milk	191	180	200	183	142	191	180	200	183	142
Ghee	185	167	186	152	163	185	167	186	152	163
Potatoes	186	166	300	222	149	172	143	300	222	149
Onions	460	296	286	200	290	460	296	286	200	290
Coconut oil	113	108	160	100	100	113	108	160	100	100
Average—other articles of food	207	192	215	175	174	207	197	219	180	170
Average—all food articles (unweighted)	177	160	184	155	156	178	162	187	157	153

Securities Index

—	Government and Corporation securities (fixed interest). (7)	Banks. (6)	Railway companies. (10)	Cotton mills. (42)	Cotton ginning press companies. (8)	Cement and manganese companies. (4)	Electric undertakings. (2)	Miscellaneous companies. (21)	Industrial securities. (93)	General average. (100)
1914 July ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915 ..	96	95	113	97	94	98	90	105	101	100
1916 ..	87	112	123	114	102	245	122	147	130	127
1917 ..	73	126	102	138	118	404	128	190	158	184
1918 ..	74	126	97	212	131	456	139	185	194	151
1919 ..	77	191	107	216	126	627	237	210	216	206
1919 August ..	76	199	108	230	135	610	234	215	224	213
1919 September ..	71	189	107	227	133	582	229	220	221	211
1919 October ..	70	182	100	252	143	569	228	224	232	221
1919 November ..	70	183	98	282	141	572	235	233	247	221
1919 December ..	68	178	95	317	145	585	249	241	221	221
1920 January ..	66	185	95	389	145	632	330	250	235	252
1920 February ..	65	167	92	368	170	588	295	244	304	288
1920 March ..	63	168	91	415	170	594	268	291	291	275
1920 April ..	63	167	90	476	168	582	304	245	311	294
1920 May ..	63	171	89	403	167	536	285	234	338	294
1920 June ..	65	172	89	388	167	534	299	234	301	294
1920 July ..	65	174	91	438	168	505	263	222	292	284
1920 August ..	65	165	92	434	167	467	246	229	313	276
1920 September ..	64	163	91	417	166	440	227	224	307	296
1920 October ..	60	156	90	380	186	413	198	218	296	291
1920 November ..	59	153	89	383	183	400	198	208	277	281
1920 December ..	58	152	87	376	163	395	183	200	276	262
1921 January ..	61	162	88	388	163	448	190	193	277	255
1921 February ..	61	160	87	380	167	425	193	193	273	262
1921 March ..	62	153	88	340	163	416	164	187	273	259
1921 April ..	62	149	88	365	158	492	169	186	251	238
1921 May ..	63	150	89	375	159	481	179	189	266	252
1921 June ..	64	157	91	383	158	471	184	192	271	256
1921 July ..	65	162	92	450	158	529	212	203	275	261
1921 August ..	65	163	89	445	158	498	207	197	311	295
1921 September ..	65	161	88	462	158	508	194	191	306	289
1921 October ..	65	162	88	461	158	484	193	312	312	295
1921 November ..	66	163	86	448	158	473	186	182	308	292
1921 December ..	67	157	87	433	158	472	181	169	300	284
1922 January ..	66	158	85	409	157	438	164	167	278	276
1922 February ..	63	152	86	384	160	413	159	159	265	251
1922 March ..	63	152	85	391	160	407	157	161	267	251
1922 April ..	62	151	85	379	158	387	160	156	259	253
1922 May ..	64	156	88	381	158	433	169	160	259	246
1922 June ..	64	158	91	401	163	465	188	165	265	251
1922 July ..	63	157	94	406	163	413	175	163	277	264
1922 August ..	63	153	94	388	163	404	168	160	267	253
1922 September ..	64	150	92	373	163	385	160	157	267	253
1922 October ..	64	147	92	344	163	367	154	153	257	244
1922 November ..	65	147	92	298	163	363	144	144	243	231
1922 December ..	65	145	91	283	163	313	142	144	221	210
1923 January ..	65	144	91	292	163	318	149	150	210	206
1923 February ..	65	145	91	288	166	310	152	147	214	204
1923 March ..	67	145	92	255	142	264	140	141	193	185
1923 April ..	68	147	95	241	142	247	133	139	186	178
1923 May ..	71	147	100	235	142	256	133	136	183	176
1923 June ..	71	146	101	222	145	214	126	136	176	168
1923 July ..	72	145	102	229	147	196	136	126	176	169
1923 August ..	73	136	106	216	153	162	138	124	168	161
1923 September ..	73	140	106	225	133	171	133	121	166	159
1923 October ..	72	138	106	213	133	157	131	118	163	157
1923 November ..	71	137	104	216	123	131	135	119	163	156

NOTE.—The maxima for the different groups are indicated in heavier type. In the case of the fixed interest securities the lowest figure is in bold type.

Accidents in Factories during November 1923*
1. Bombay City and Island

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of accident.						Total No. of accidents.		Remarks.
	Machinery in motion.		Other causes.†		Fatal.		Serious.		Minor.		January to November 1923.	November 1923.	
	January to November 1923.	November 1923.											
I Textile Mills—													
Cotton Mills ..	363	28	141	15	6	..	37	2	461	41	504	43	
Woollen Mills ..	15	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	18	3	18	3	
Others ..	6	..	5	..	..	..	1	..	10	..	11	..	
Total ..	384	31	149	15	6	..	38	2	489	44	533	46	
II Workshops—													
Engineering ..	17	..	114	3	1	..	3	..	127	3	131	3	
Railway ..	118	18	786	83	3	..	31	4	870	97	967	101	
Mint ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	..	
Others ..	19	..	17	..	1	..	8	..	27	..	36	..	
Total ..	154	18	921	86	5	..	42	4	1,028	100	1,075	104	
III Miscellaneous—													
Chemical Works ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	1	..	5	..	6	..	
Flour Mills ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	4	..	
Printing Presses ..	12	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	12	1	13	1	
Others ..	20	4	19	..	..	..	10	..	29	4	39	4	
Total ..	34	5	28	..	..	..	13	..	49	5	62	5	
Total, All Factories ..	572	54	1,098	101	11	..	93	6	1,566	149	1,670	155	

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of accident.						Total No. of accidents.		Remarks.
	Machinery in motion.		Other causes.		Fatal.		Serious.		Minor.		January to November 1923.	November 1923.	
	January to November 1923.	November 1923.											
I Textile Mills—													
Cotton ..	50	6	9	1	2	1	19	2	38	4	59	7	
Total ..	50	6	9	1	2	1	19	2	38	4	59	7	
II Miscellaneous—													
Match Factory ..	1	1	..	1	..	
Total ..	1	1	..	1	..	
Total, All Factories ..	51	6	9	1	2	1	19	2	39	4	60	7	

* The progressive figure does not always represent the sum of the latest month's figure and of the progressive figure published in the preceding issue as corrections have to be made from month to month in these tables.
† Mainly burns, scalds, falls, cuts, shocks, flying pieces of metal, falling of heavy weights, etc.



Accidents in Factories during November 1923—contd.

3. Karachi

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of accident.						Total No. of accidents.		Remarks.	
	Machinery in motion.		Other causes.		Fatal.		Serious.		Minor.		January to November 1923.	November 1923.		
	January to November 1923.	November 1923.												
I Workshops—														
Railway and Port Trust ..	5	..	34	3	7	..	32	3	39	3		
Engineering ..	1	..	4	1	..	4	..	5	..		
Total ..	6	..	38	3	8	..	36	3	44	3		
I Miscellaneous ..	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	2	..		
Total ..	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	2	..		
Total, All Factories ..	7	..	39	3	9	..	37	3	46	3		

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of accident.						Total No. of accidents.		Remarks.	
	Machinery in motion.		Other causes.		Fatal.		Serious.		Minor.		January to November 1923.	November 1923.		
	January to November 1923.	November 1923.												
I Textile Mills—														
Cotton Mills ..	40	5	25	4	2	..	14	1	49	8	65	9		
Others ..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	2	1	
Total ..	41	6	26	4	2	..	14	1	51	9	67	10		
II Workshops—														
Railway ..	27	3	183	25	..	..	5	1	205	27	210	28	
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	4	..	6	1	1	..	2	..	7	1	10	1		
Others ..	5	1	14	1	3	..	1	..	15	2	19	2		
Total ..	36	4	203	27	4	..	8	1	227	30	239	31		
III Miscellaneous—														
Cleaning and Pressing Factories ..	7	..	6	2	2	..	3	..	8	2	13	2		
Paint Works ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	
Others ..	6	..	3	..	1	..	1	..	7	..	9	..		
Total ..	14	..	9	2	4	..	4	..	15	2	23	2		
Total, All Factories ..	91	10	238	33	10	..	26	2	293	41	329	43		



Table I—Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Date of formation.	Number of members.	Name and address of	
				President or Chairman.	Secretary.
1. Bombay City ..	1. The Indian Seamen's Union.	April 1921 ..	11,000	J. J. Athaide, Frere Road, Bombay.	S. A. Rebello, Frere Road, Bombay.
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.	July 1920 ..	2,000	Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Aimer.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
				<i>Vice-President</i> —F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	
	3. The C. I. P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments).	May 1919 ..	2,000	Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Aimer.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
				<i>Vice-President</i> —F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	
	4. The Port Trust Workshop Union.	March 1920 ..	3,500	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	5. The Clerks' Union ..	April 1918 ..	950	B. M. Anandrao, B.A., Malabar Lumbering Company, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay.	1. Anant Padmanabh, Patel and Mukerjee, 53, Meadows Street, Fort, Bombay. 2. S. Bhawani Rao, Ghelabhai Building, Chaupati, Bombay.
				<i>Vice-President</i> —Nanlal Parbhuram, Bombay.	
2. Ahmedabad ..	6. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers) Union.	April 1918 ..	1,000	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	7. The C. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	May 1921 ..	4,213	Motilal J. Mehta, Sub-Assistant Auditor, Audit Office, C. I. P. Railway, Bombay.	1. Swami Adwaitanand, G. I. P. Railway Staff Union Office, Dadar, Bombay. 2. Narayan G. Kale, Operative Branch, C. T. S.'s Office, Bombay.
	8. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union	July 1922 ..	350	Not elected ..	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
				Total Members, Bombay City ..	25,013
1. The Weavers' Union.	February 1920 ..	1,500	Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.	
				<i>Assistant Secretary</i> —Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.	
2. The Winders' Union.	June 1920 ..	300	Do. ..	Do.	

Table I—Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—continued.

Dec., 1923

Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Date of formation.	Number of members.	Name and address of		
				President or Chairman.	Secretary.	
2. Ahmedabad— contd.	3. The Throstle Union.	February 1920 ..	5,105	Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.	
	4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	August 1920 ..	2,350	Do.	Assistant Secretary—Khanbhai Kasanbhai Desai, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.	
	5. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.	September 1920 ..	400	Do.	Do.	
	6. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association.	February 1919 ..	200	V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	M. V. Kothari, Raipur, Ahmedabad.	
	7. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees Association.	February 1920 ..	3,485	Do.	M. V. Kothari, Raipur, Ahmedabad.	
				Total Members, Ahmedabad ..		Assistant Secretary—B. N. Sandil, Dolatkhana Sarangpur, Ahmedabad.
				13,340		
3. Sukkur	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	September 1920 ..	3,574	Shahzada Misri, Carriage and Wagon Shop, Sukkur.	Tirlok Nath Kaul, Station Road (Garibad), Sukkur.	
4. Karachi	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	1920 ..	3,500	Thanwardas, Cashier, Goods Office, Karachi.	Kazi Khuda Baksh, 32, New Haroon Building, Bunder Road, Karachi.	
5. Sholapur	The Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union.	March 1921 ..	500	G. G. Bhadbhade, Kurduwadi.	G. T. Malgi, Kurduwadi.	
6. Poona	The Press Workers' Union	February 1921 ..	110	John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	1. C. T. Sakpal, 879, Shukrawar Peth, Poona City.	
				Total, rest of Presidency ..	7,684	2. N. B. Purohit, Gourishankar Press, Poona City.
			Total Members, Presidency ..		46,037	

Dec., 1923

Table II—Income and Expenditure of Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency.

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Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Income per month.	Sum paid per member per month.		Expenditure per month.
			Rs.	Rs.	
1. Bombay City	1. The Indian Seaman's Union ..	500	Rs. 6 (per year)		Rs.
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.	312	From 1 to 5 annas according to pay		700
	3. The C. I. P. Railwaymen's Union ..	339	From 1 to 8 annas according to pay		113
	4. The Port Trust Workshop Union ..	250	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.		128
	5. The Clerks' Union ..	200	As. 4		60
	6. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union.	200	As. 8		75
	7. The C. I. P. Railway Staff Union ..	500	One day's pay per year		80
	8. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union.	157	As. 8		450
2. Ahmedabad	1. The Weavers' Union* ..	194	As. 8		15
	2. The Winders' Union* ..	22	As. 2		175
	3. The Throstle Union* ..	1,125	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per duffer; Anna 1 per half day worker (duffer).		500
	4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.*	335	As. 4		226
	5. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.*	30	As. 12 per oilman; Rs. 1 per driver or fireman.		14
	6. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association.	Not reported.	Rs. 1 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 2 per year for those earning above Rs. 50.		Not reported.
	7. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	682	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.		300
3. Sukkur	The N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	580	Subscription at the rate of 1/2 per cent. of monthly pay from all members.		160
4. Karachi	The N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	700	Do.		300
5. Sholapur	The Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union.	From 30 to 40	An amount equal to one day's pay as drawn by a member on the 1st of January of each year.		From Rs. 77 to Rs. 30.
6. Poona	The Press Workers' Union ..	4	As. 2 to As. 3		About 2.

* The details relate to quarter ended September 1923.

Detailed statement of the quantity (in pounds) and the counts (or numbers) of yarn spun
Bombay Presidency

Count or Number	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
1 to 10 Pounds	6,485	6,617	6,723	40,087	40,004	40,000
11 to 20 "	12,725	12,711	12,725	77,257	77,257	77,257
21 to 30 "	17,222	17,222	17,222	104,444	104,444	104,444
31 to 40 "	171	171	171	1,026	1,026	1,026
41 to 50 "	171	171	171	1,026	1,026	1,026
51 to 60 "	171	171	171	1,026	1,026	1,026
61 to 70 "	171	171	171	1,026	1,026	1,026
71 to 80 "	171	171	171	1,026	1,026	1,026
81 to 90 "	171	171	171	1,026	1,026	1,026
91 to 100 "	171	171	171	1,026	1,026	1,026
Waste, etc.	0	0	0	214	214	214
Total	40,240	41,807	39,716	289,216	289,686	289,686

Bombay Island

Count or Number	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
1 to 10 Pounds	6,277	6,508	6,958	41,299	41,494	41,494
11 to 20 "	14,723	14,723	14,723	101,711	101,711	101,711
21 to 30 "	7,129	7,129	7,129	46,557	46,557	46,557
31 to 40 "	474	474	474	2,847	2,847	2,847
41 to 50 "	85	85	85	510	510	510
51 to 60 "	85	85	85	510	510	510
61 to 70 "	85	85	85	510	510	510
71 to 80 "	85	85	85	510	510	510
81 to 90 "	85	85	85	510	510	510
91 to 100 "	85	85	85	510	510	510
Waste, etc.	2	7	5	156	156	156
Total	28,183	29,369	27,748	205,686	205,329	187,214

Ahmadabad

Count or Number	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
1 to 10 Pounds	210	174	194	1,409	946	810
11 to 20 "	2,487	2,643	2,575	16,412	20,244	11,894
21 to 30 "	3,000	3,211	3,222	20,716	26,247	17,713
31 to 40 "	573	562	573	3,438	3,379	3,379
41 to 50 "	59	58	59	361	376	376
51 to 60 "	59	58	59	361	376	376
61 to 70 "	59	58	59	361	376	376
71 to 80 "	59	58	59	361	376	376
81 to 90 "	59	58	59	361	376	376
91 to 100 "	59	58	59	361	376	376
Waste, etc.	111	111	111	5	1	1
Total	7,109	7,363	7,585	50,109	51,383	37,864

Detailed statement of the quantity (in pounds) and description of woven goods produced
Bombay Presidency

Description	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Coy and bleached piece-goods—						
Cotton	2,214	2,214	2,214	14,291	14,291	14,291
Wool	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Silk	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Linen	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Jute and hemp	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Other	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Total	20,400	17,200	24,140	140,900	139,200	138,800
Coloured piece-goods	9,100	6,200	11,200	55,800	40,100	55,800
Coy and bleached goods, other than	140	200	214	1,171	1,300	1,171
Wool	10	10	10	60	60	60
Silk	10	10	10	60	60	60
Other goods mixed with silk or wool	3	4	4	19	19	19
Grand Total	29,600	24,377	35,654	197,700	179,682	184,800

Bombay Island

Description	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Coy and bleached piece-goods—						
Cotton	1,494	874	1,494	9,714	5,000	6,472
Wool	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Silk	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Linen	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Jute and hemp	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Other	1,026	1,026	1,026	6,811	6,811	6,811
Total	5,607	4,624	7,720	41,200	39,720	39,720
Coloured and long cloth	410	280	1,081	2,500	2,500	2,500
Wool	10	10	10	60	60	60
Silk	10	10	10	60	60	60
Other goods mixed with silk or wool	3	4	4	19	19	19
Total	11,264	9,655	15,600	41,200	44,820	49,820

Detailed statement of the quantity (in pounds) and description of woven goods produced—continued
Bombay Island—continued

Description.	Month of October.			Seven months ended October.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Coloured piece-goods Pounds ..	7,833	5,791	9,428	45,598	38,993	44,101
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	156	195	210	1,125	1,351	1,112
Hosiery	12	7	12	65	56	56
Miscellaneous	102	122	124	656	700	647
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	2	6	4	29	46	83
Grand Total	19,369	15,576	25,178	128,781	115,967	125,828

Ahmedabad

Description.	Month of October.			Seven months ended October.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and bleached piece-goods—						
Chaddars Pounds ..	432	647	637	2,864	3,440	2,910
Dhotis	3,420	2,626	3,281	26,167	22,784	17,384
Drills and jeans	32	6	23	203	123	158
Cambrics and lawns	9	4	5	77	154	27
Printers	229	321	279	1,615	1,762	1,312
Shirtings and long cloth	1,944	1,851	1,541	13,027	11,945	8,705
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	269	159	211	1,577	1,098	986
Tent cloth	4	1	16	20	9	86
Other sorts	269	362	640	1,760	1,630	2,211
Total	6,608	5,977	6,633	47,310	42,945	33,779
Coloured piece-goods	464	405	855	3,107	2,862	4,182
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods	2	2	1	13	6	3
Hosiery	8	10	9	49	43	48
Miscellaneous .. ..	.....	1	3	.....	4	22
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	1	2	1	2	7	3
Grand Total	7,083	6,397	7,502	50,481	45,867	38,037

Principal Trade Disputes in progress in November 1923

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved.		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Date when dispute			
			Began.	Ended.		
<i>Textile Trade.</i>						
			1923	1923		
1. The Ahmedabad Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	11	.....	3 Nov. ..	4 Nov. ..	Alleged ill-treatment by the Weaving Master.	New men were engaged in places of those who did not resume work and their wages forfeited.
2. Do.	145	.....	11 Nov. ..	12 Nov. ..	Against late payment of wages and less wages.	Early payment and correct wages promised.
3. The Ahmedabad Astodya Manufacturing Company, Ltd., Astodya Road, Ahmedabad.	35	.....	21 Nov. ..	27 Nov. ..	Against the reappointment of the Supervisor for slackness in duty.	Work resumed unconditionally.
4. The Imperial Mill, Haines Road, Mahalaxmi, Bombay.	175	.....	24 Nov. ..	26 Nov. ..	Demand for the reinstatement of a dismissed jobber.	Work resumed unconditionally.
5. The Bombay Woollen Mill, Lady Jirahedji Road, Dader, Bombay.	46	.....	27 Nov. ..	28 Nov. ..	Demand for the reinstatement of six dismissed women workers.	Successful, the dismissed women operatives were reinstated.
6. The Ahmedabad Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	50	.....	27 Nov. ..	30 Nov. ..	Against the dismissal of a Head Jobber.	Work resumed unconditionally and new men engaged.
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>						
7. The Ahmedabad Sultan Match Factory, Cantipur Road, Ahmedabad.	25	.....	13 Nov. ..	16 Nov. ..	Demand for a bonus for the current year.	Work resumed unconditionally.

CURRENT NOTES FROM ABROAD

(These notes are drawn from numerous official and in some cases non-official sources. Special indebtedness is acknowledged to the International Labour Office, Geneva. Care is taken to examine and check as far as possible all statements, especially those from newspaper cuttings.)

United States of America.—The forty-third annual convention of the American Federation of Labor was held at Portland, Oregon, on 1st October 1923. The Report of President Samuel Gompers and his colleagues on the Executive Council touches upon almost every issue with which the American labour movement is concerning itself. The figures of the total paid-up membership of the American Federation of Labor for the year 1923 indicate another small decline from the record figure reached immediately after the end of the war. This

total is now 2,926,468 as compared with 3,195,635 in 1922, and 2,020,671 in 1914. No change of importance took place in the internal structure of the Federation in the course of the year.

Colombia.—In a message addressed on 17th July 1923 to the Liberal minorities in the Congress and the Senate, General Benjamin Herrero, leader of the Liberal Party, declares that Colombia should give attention to labour questions and to the endeavour to secure social justice. He demands, in particular, the establishment of a Bureau of Labour, the introduction of compulsory insurance in both public and private undertakings, the creation of vocational schools, legislation on industrial accidents, the adoption of the minimum wage, a compulsory weekly rest and the limitation of hours of work.

United Kingdom.—The following table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July 1914, for all items included in the statistics of the cost of living of a working class family since January 1918:—

*Average Percentage Increase since July 1914
All items (food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)*

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January 1st	85-90	120	125	165	92	78
February	90	120	130	151	88	77
March	90	115	130	141	86	76
April	90-95	110	132	133	82	74
May	95-100	105	141	128	81	70
June	100	105	150	119	80	69
July	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69
August	110	115	155	122	81	71
September	110	115	161	120	79	73
October	115-120	120	164	110	78	75
November	120-125	125	176	103	80	75
December	120	125	169	99	80	..

The following table shows the trade union percentage of unemployed month by month since the year 1913:—

Trade Union Unemployment Percentages

	1913	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
End of—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January	2.2	0.3	1.0	2.4	2.9	6.9	16.8	13.7
February	2.0	0.3	0.9	2.8	1.6	8.5	16.3	13.1
March	1.9	0.3	1.2	2.9	1.1	10.0	16.3	12.3
April	1.7	0.3	0.9	2.8	0.9	17.6*	17.0	11.3
May	1.9	0.4	0.9	2.1	1.1	22.2*	16.4	11.3
June	1.9	0.4	0.7	1.7	1.2	23.1*	15.7	11.1
July	1.9	0.4	0.6	2.0	1.4	16.7	16.6	11.1
August	2.0	0.5	0.5	2.2	1.6	16.3	14.4	11.4
September	2.3	1.3	0.5	1.6	2.2	14.8	14.6	11.3
October	2.2	1.1	0.4	2.4	5.3*	15.6	14.0	10.9
November	2.0	1.1	0.5	2.9	3.7	15.9	14.2	..
December	2.6	1.4	1.2	3.2	6.0	16.5	14.0	..

*Excluding coal miners.

Chile.—With a view to complying with the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles and facilitating collaboration with the Chilean Delegations to the Assembly of the League of Nations and the International Labour Conference, the Chilean Government has recently decided to set up a special committee the functions of

which will be to study the questions which come before the Assembly of the League of Nations and the International Labour Conference and to supply the Secretariat of the League and the Governing Body of the International Labour Office with all information which they may require from the Chilean Government. The committee will submit a detailed annual report on the work of the organisms of the League of Nations, and, in particular, on that of the International Labour Office. The committee will consist of present and past delegates of Chile to the Assembly and the International Labour Conference (members sitting in the capacity of former delegates will include Mr. Antonio Huneeus and Mr. Rivas Vicuna), the chairmen of the Foreign Affairs Committees of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies and the Directors of the Labour Office.

Brazil.—The National Labour Council set up by a Decree of 30th April 1923 was formally instituted on 22nd August. The Council consists of twelve members nominated by the President of the Republic, *viz.*, two workers' and two employers' representatives, two officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce and six specialists in labour questions. The questions to be dealt with by the Council will include hours of work, wages, collective agreements, conciliation and arbitration, protection of women and young persons, apprenticeship and technical education, industrial accidents, social insurance, pensions and agricultural credit. A secretariat will be attached to the Council for the collection of documentary material, for carrying out investigations and for certain special tasks such as the supervision of social insurance institutions and railway employees' pensions funds.

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QUEENSLAND

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SWITZERLAND

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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

Official Bulletin.—Vol. VIII, No. 12 of 1923.
Industrial and Labour Information.—Vol. VIII, No. 5 of 1923.

Unofficial

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UNITED KINGDOM

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Industrial Welfare.—Vol. V, No. 99, for November 1923. (Industrial Welfare Society, London).

Labour Magazine.—Vol. II, No. 7, for November 1923. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party).

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American Federation of Labor.—Vol. XIII, Nos. 31-34 of 1923.

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Books

The Builders' History (Trade Union) by R. W. Postgate. (Labour Publishing Co., Ltd., London).

Guide to Current Official Statistics. First issue, 1922. His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

This is the first publication that is evidence of the Permanent Committee on Official Statistics. In 1919 a petition was presented to His Majesty's Government, signed by the President and a number of members of the Royal Statistical Society and others asking for a public enquiry into the existing methods of the collection and presentation of public statistics. This Committee was organized with Sir Alfred Watson, the Government secretary as chairman.

SECURITIES INDEX
RATIO OR LOGARITHMIC CHART
(JULY 1914=100)

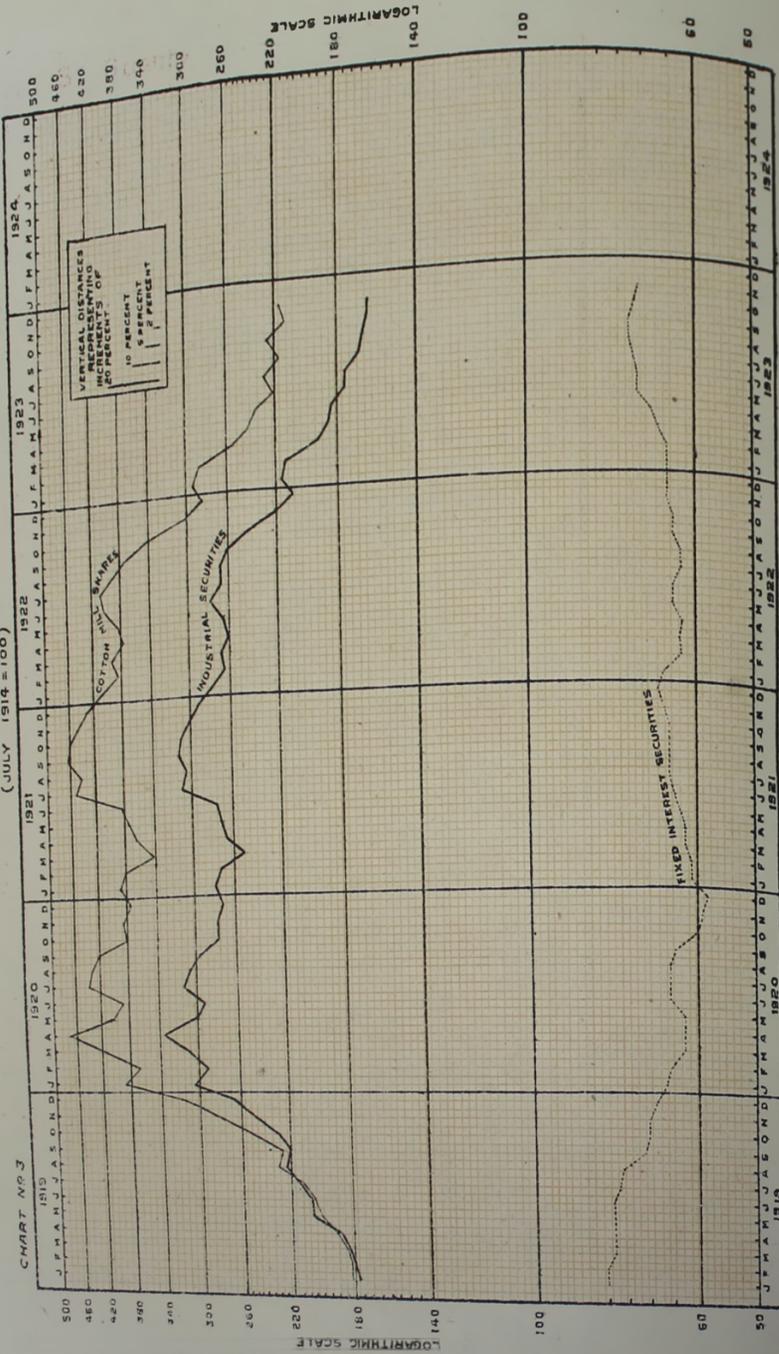


CHART No. 4

RAINFALL FOR THE PERIOD, JUNE TO NOVEMBER 1922.

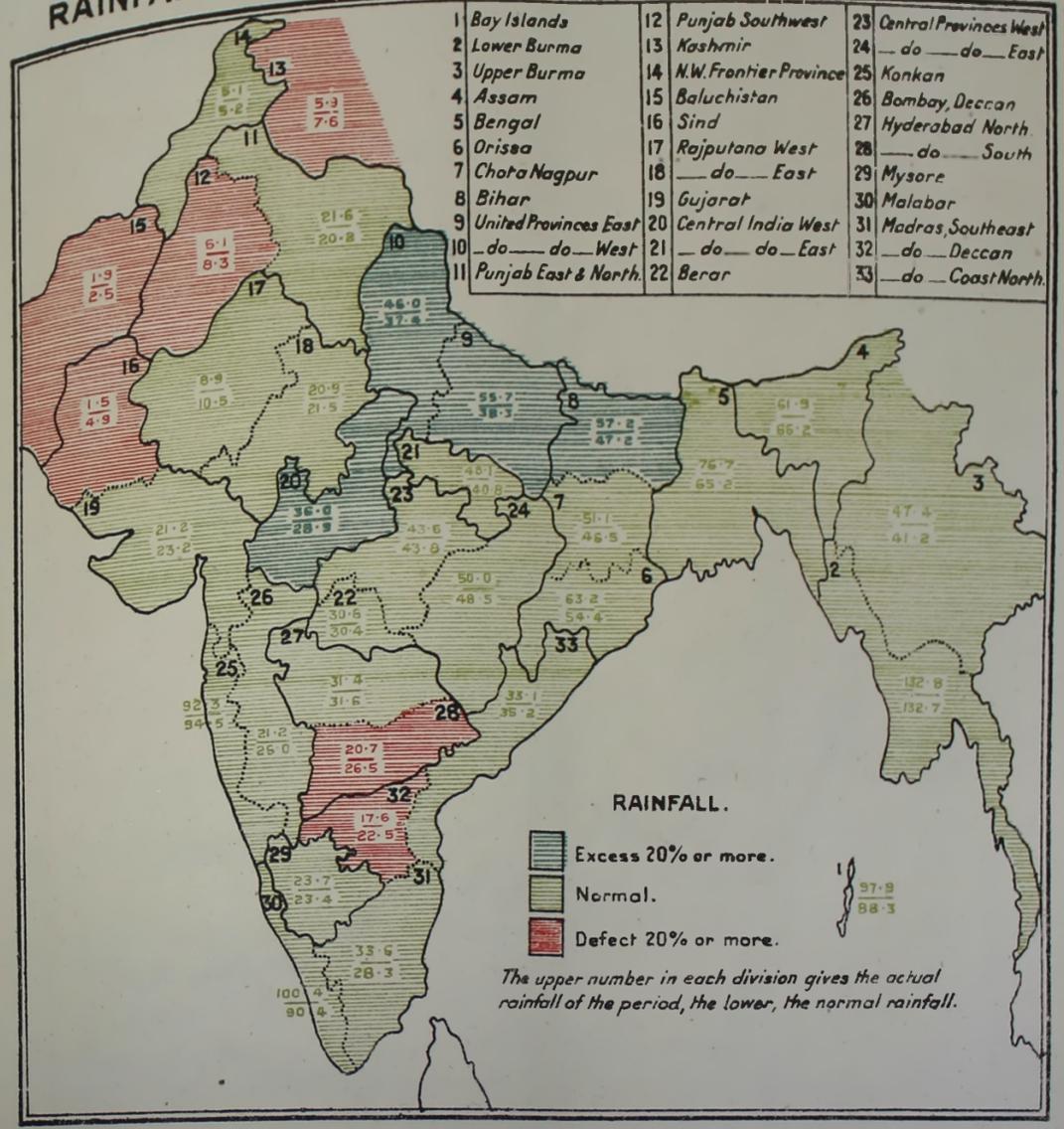
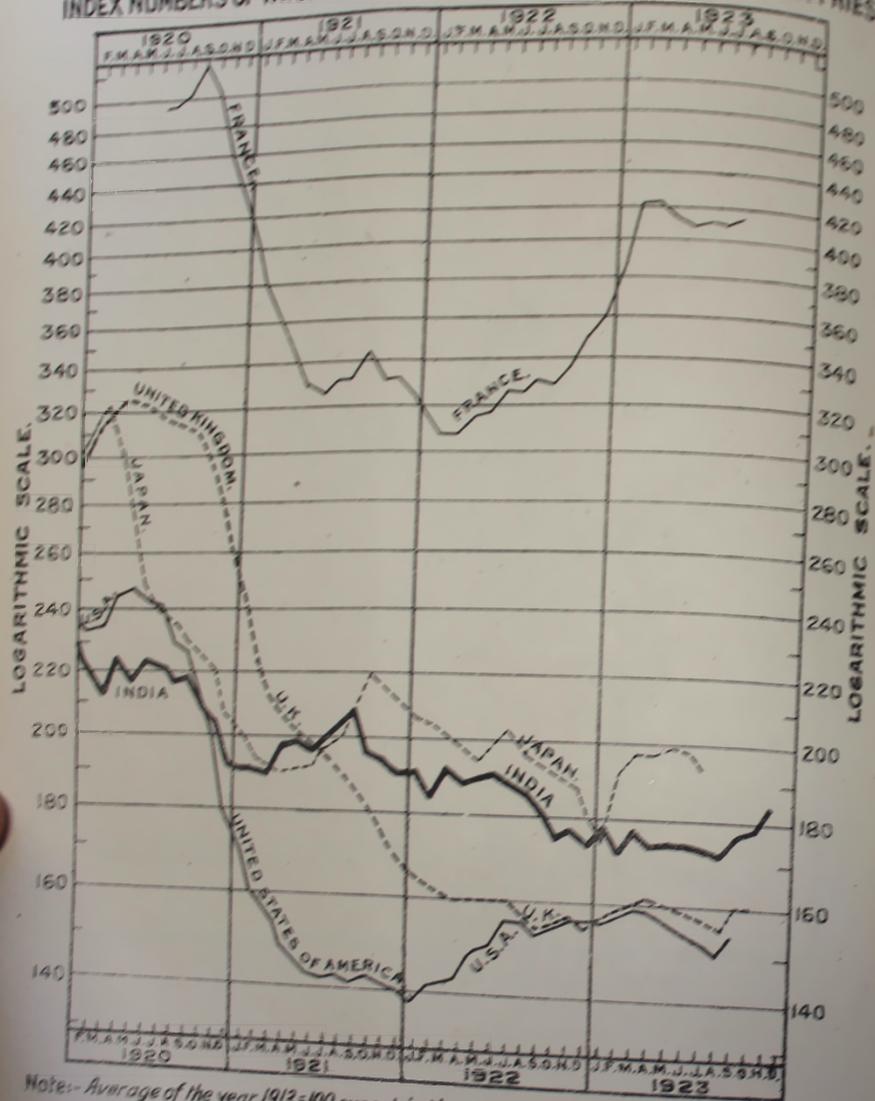


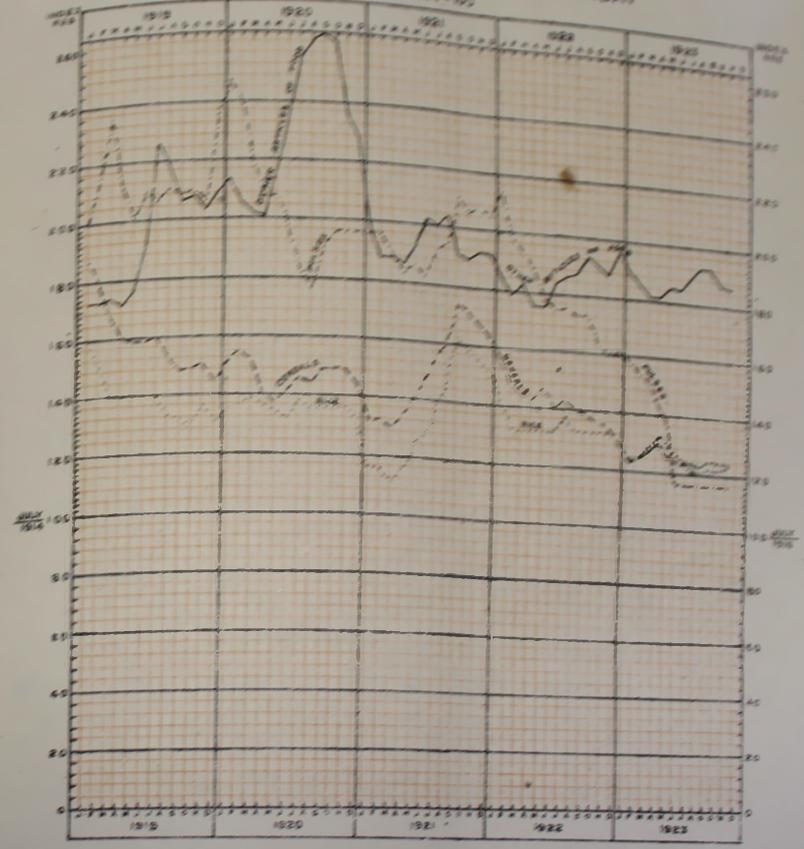
CHART No. 5.
INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.



Notes: - Average of the year 1913=100 except in the case of India where July 1914=100.

CHART No. 6

RETAIL PRICES OF RICE, PULSES, CEREALS AND OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY
JULY 1914=100



NOTE - Pulses Average Price of Gram & Turdal
"Rice" Clean
"Cereals" Average Price of Rice, Wheat, Jawar, & Bajri
"Other articles of food" Average Price of Sugar, Tea, Salt, Beef, Mutton, Ghee, Potatoes, Onions, Coconut oil &c.

CHART N° 7.

COST OF LIVING INDEXES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES. JULY 1914 = 100.

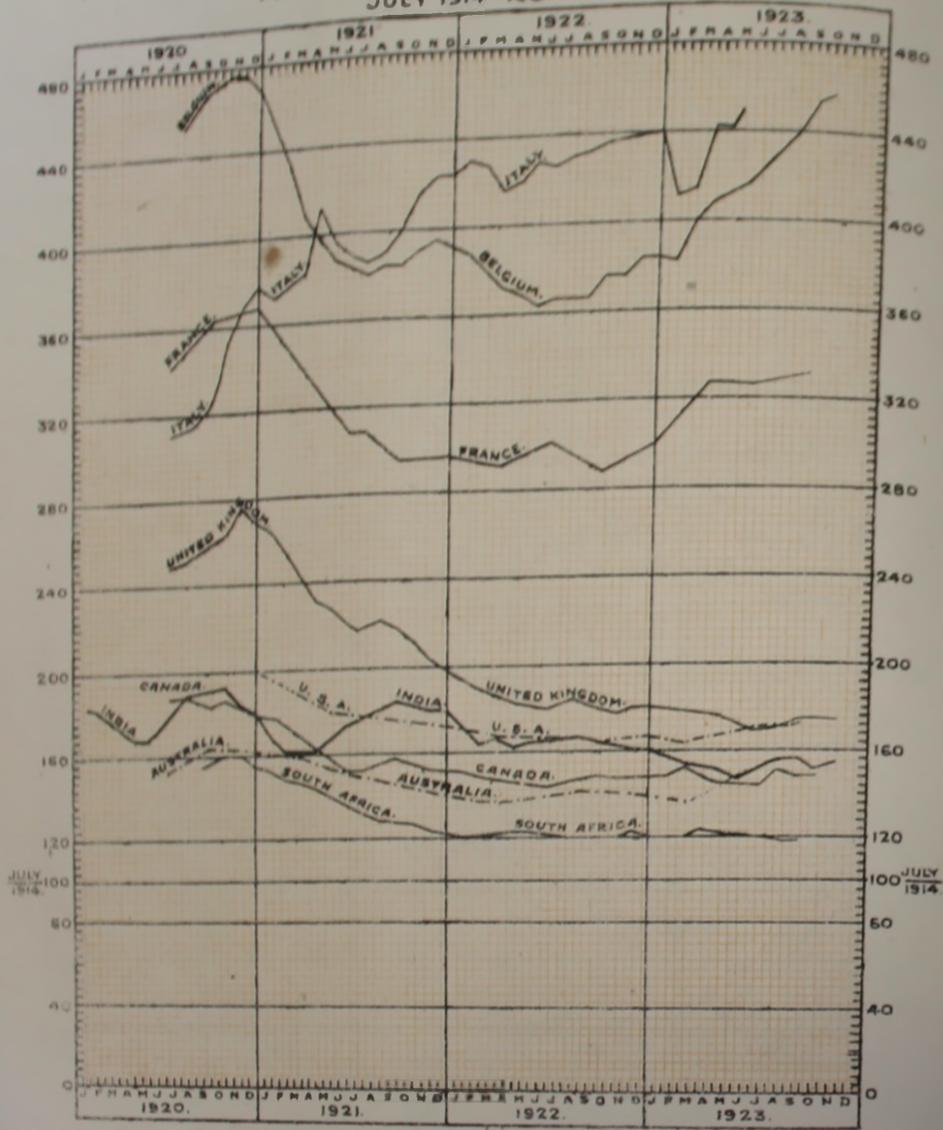
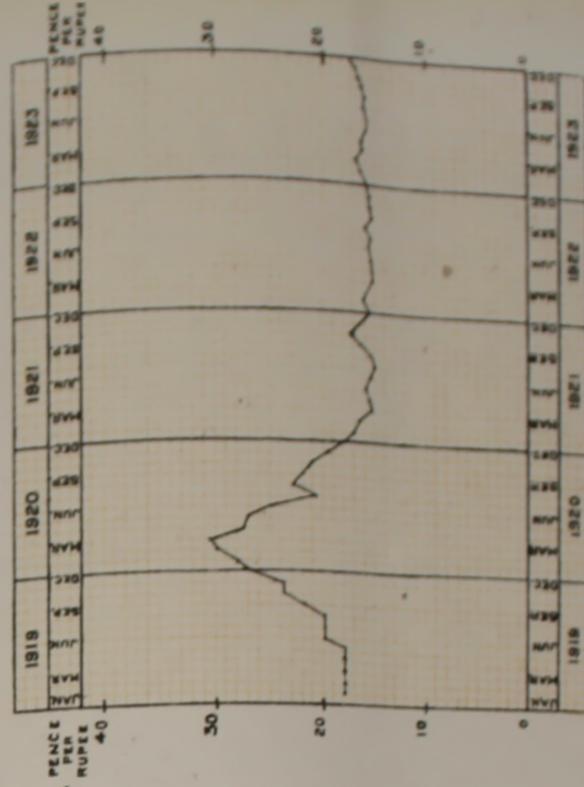


CHART N° 8.

RATE OF EXCHANGE IN BOMBAY.

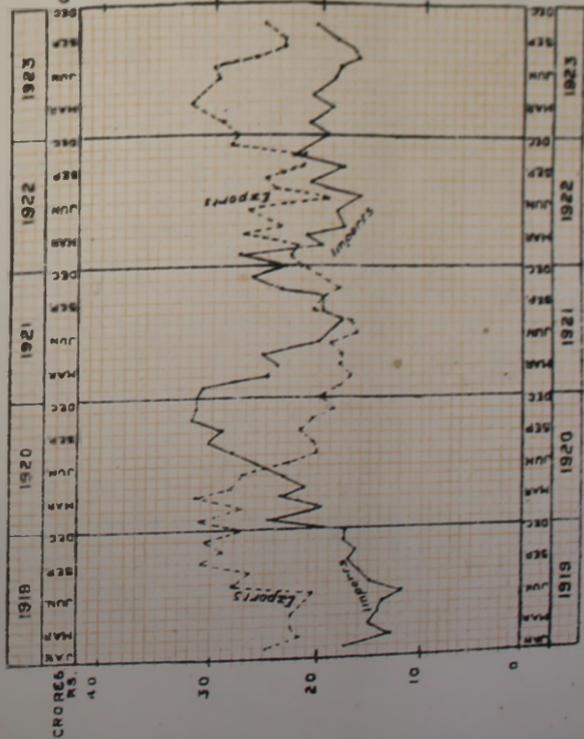


Note (1) The reason for the fall of Exchange will be seen from the preceding chart. When the balance of trade is adverse (import) greater than exports, Exchange rate tends to be adverse from Indian point of view. This is the Telegraph Transfer rate in London.

(2) Each square equals 1 penny.

CHART N° 9.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE - INDIA.



Note: Each Square = crores (10 millions) of Rupees.

WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY FOODS & NONFOODS

JULY 1914 = 100

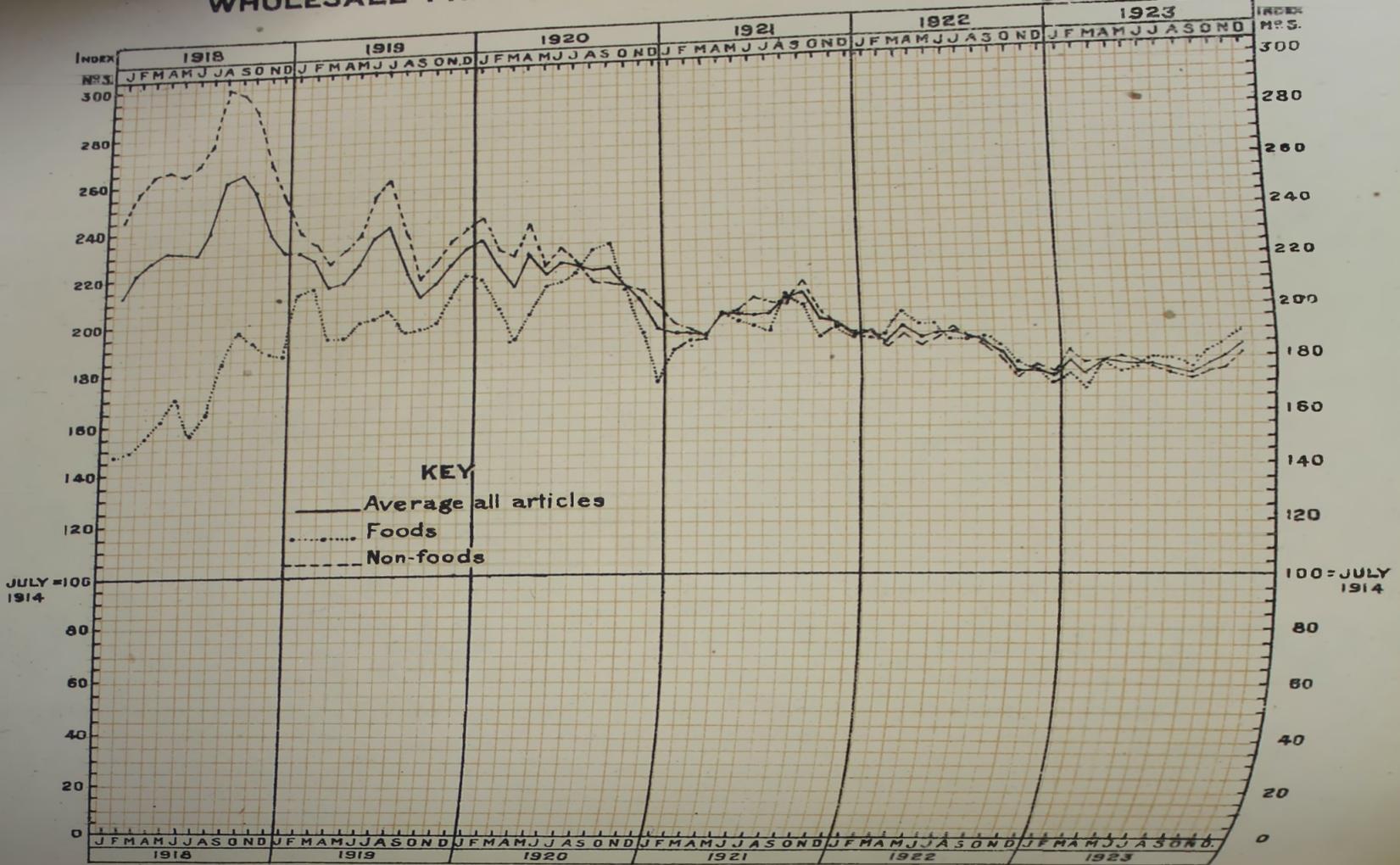
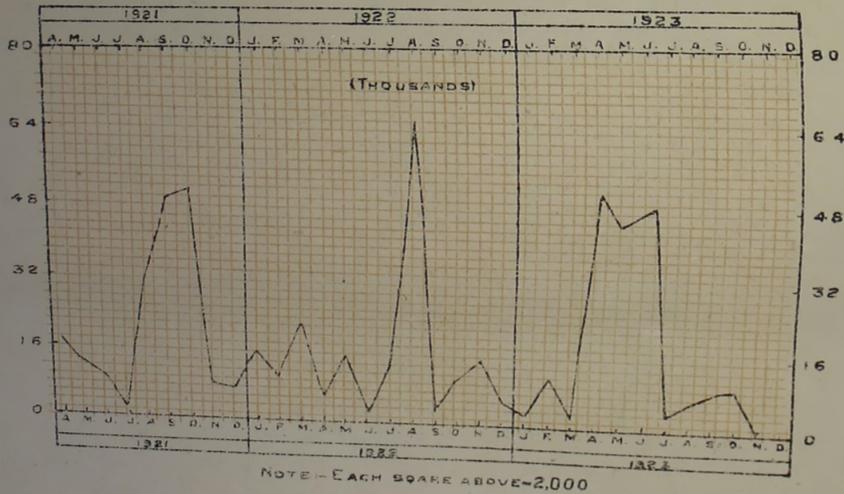
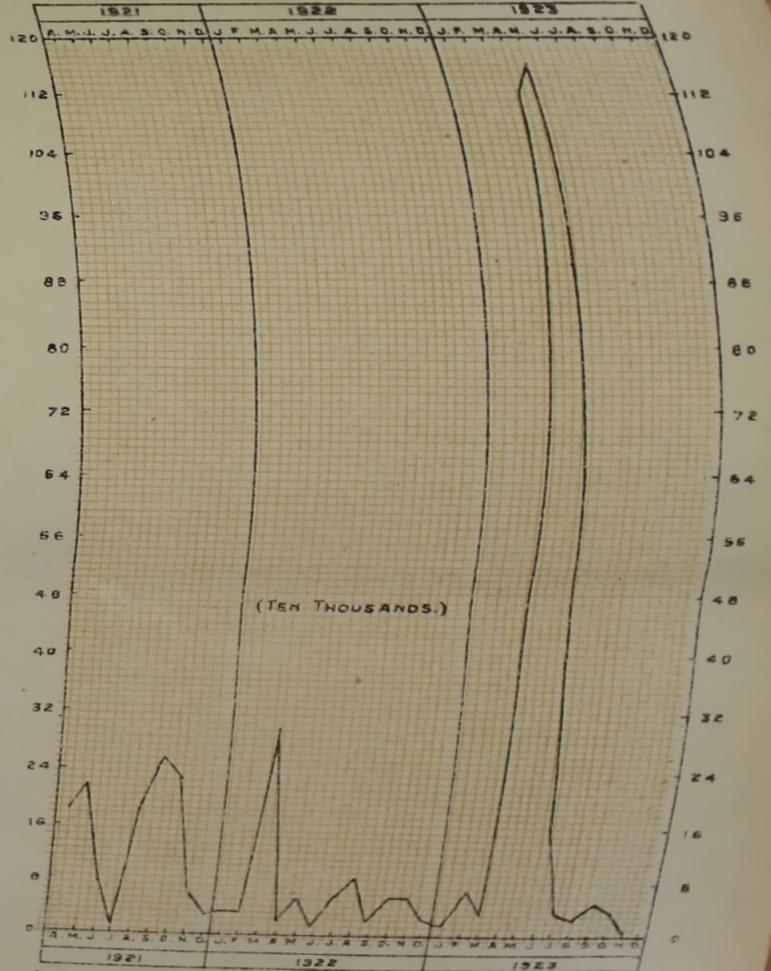


CHART N° 11

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED



NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST



NOTE - (1) THE SMALL NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST IN JULY 1921 & JUNE 1922 IS OWING TO THE SHORT DURATION OF STRIKES
 (2) THE LARGE NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST IN APRIL 1923 IS DUE TO THE BIG GENERAL STRIKE IN AHMEDABAD COTTON MILLS
 (3) EACH SQUARE ABOVE = 10,000