

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 districts 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 those (e.g., the United Provinces which exports to us *haji* and *javari* 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.

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THE MONTH IN BRIEF

Employment

THE COTTON INDUSTRY—BOMBAY

DURING the month ended 12th January 1924, the supply of labour in the Presidency was plentiful. In Bombay City and Island, 5 mills only out of a total of 37 reporting mills reported a slight deficiency in the supply of labour. The average absenteeism in 37 representative mills in Bombay, for which reports have been received, showed a decrease as compared with the figures of the previous month. The figures of average absenteeism for the last six months are as follows:—

July—August	.. 12·71 per cent.
August—September	.. 12·53 "
September—October	.. 14·53 "
October—November	.. 15·31 "
November—December	.. 11·09 "
December—January	.. 10·6 "

Twenty-three out of the total reporting mills reported a decrease of absenteeism. Absenteeism was reported to be highest in spinning departments and lowest in weaving departments, during the month under review. After the monthly pay day, absenteeism rose from 8·6 per cent. to 14·5 per cent.

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 5·4 per cent. during the month as compared with 6·45 per cent. last month.

SHOLAPUR

In Sholapur, the supply of labour was adequate and absenteeism in the month under review showed a decline. The average absenteeism was 13·7 per cent. in the present month

as compared with 15·43 per cent. last month and 15·33 per cent. two months ago. Absenteeism rose from 13·4 per cent. before the pay day to 14·6 per cent. after the last pay day which was on the 19th of December 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 7·3 per cent. in the present month as compared with 7·79 per cent. last month and 8·1 per cent. two months ago.

SURAT

In Surat, the supply of labour was normal in the month under review. Absenteeism, however, showed a very slight increase as compared with last month, the figures being 11·6 per cent. in the present month as compared with 11·08 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 three large workshops) showed an improvement, the figures being 13·53 per cent. in the month under review as compared with 15·16 per cent. last month and 15·03 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 *chaals* (tenements) at Naigsum and DeLisle Road, absenteeism remained on the same level (3 per cent.) as in the previous month. On the construction of *chaals* at Worli, absenteeism showed a decrease to 9 per cent. as compared

with 10 per cent. last month. 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 17.3 in the month under review, as compared with 18.05 last month and 18.5 two months ago. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply of labour was plentiful, and a considerable improvement in absenteeism was recorded. The percentage of absenteeism was 8.4, as compared with 11.59 last month and 10.76 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 10.8 per cent. as compared with 9.9 per cent. in the preceding month.

The Cost of Living

In December 1923, the cost of living, as described elsewhere in the *Labour Gazette*, rose by nearly 3 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 157 for all articles and 152 for food articles only. There was a fall of more than 2 per cent. as compared with this time last year and a fall of 19 per cent. below the high water mark (October 1920). The rise in the percentage during December was mainly due to increases in the prices of rice and jowari.

The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living, because an index number purporting to combine movements in prices with movements in consumption would present great difficulties in construction, interpretation and application. Moreover, such an index would not be materially different from a simple index of the general movement of prices in the case of the working classes. A further reference

to the cost of living index will be found on page 9.

The Wholesale Index Number

In December 1923, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay rose by nearly 1 per cent. as compared with the previous month. The general level is now 88 per cent. above the pre-war level. 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.				
	August 1923.	September 1923.	October 1923.	November 1923.	December 1923.
Foods ..	76	82	85	89	94
Non-foods ..	76	78	79	85	85
All articles ..	76	79	81	86	88

Securities Index Number

In December 1923, the general average of the prices of 100 shares and securities was 154 showing a fall of more than one per cent. as compared with the previous month. Industrial Securities registered a fall of nearly 2 per cent. owing to a fall of 4 per cent. in Miscellaneous Companies. Government and Corporation Securities and Bank shares remained stationary during the month. Railway Companies have now reached the level of that of July 1914. Detailed information will be found on page 18 of this issue.

Cotton Mill Production

Cotton mill production in November and in the eight months ended November 1923, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two previous years, is shown in the two tables below. The salient features are that, during November, 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 an increase in the production both in Bombay and in Ahmedabad, as compared with the two preceding years.

In the eight months ended November 1923, the production of yarn showed a considerable

decline both in Bombay and in Ahmedabad as compared with the corresponding period of the previous years, while in woven goods an improvement is noticeable in Bombay Island.

(1) Month of November

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun.			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced.		
	November			November		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Bombay Island ..	24	31	25	14	19	21
Ahmedabad ..	7	7	8	6	7	9
Other centres ..	5	5	4	2	3	5
Total, Presidency ..	36	43	37	22	29	35

(2) Eight months ending November

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun.			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced.		
	Eight months ended November			Eight months ended November		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Bombay Island ..	229	232	213	142	135	147
Ahmedabad ..	57	61	45	56	53	48
Other centres ..	40	39	35	23	21	22
Total, Presidency ..	326	332	293	221	209	217

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

	Net rate per lb. in annas.		
	December 1922	November 1923	December 1923
	Longcloth ..	21½	24	22
T. Cloths ..	20½	21½	20½
Chudders ..	20½	21½	20

Industrial Disputes

There were 9 industrial disputes in progress during December 1923, as compared with 7 in the preceding month. All the disputes began in the month, and the number of workpeople involved was 12,415 as compared

with 487 in the preceding month and 5,016 in December 1922. The aggregate duration of all disputes during December 1923 was about 120,903 working days as compared with 712 in November 1923 and 22,806 in December 1922.

The Outlook

His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Leslie Wilson's replies to the deputation from the Bombay Provincial Trade Union Conference and to the representation made by the G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union in connexion with the strike at the Railway Workshops at Matunga are published elsewhere in this issue.

COTTON MILL INDUSTRY

The high price of cotton coupled with the depression in the textile trade is threatening to create a serious situation in Bombay. The price of cotton, though it decreased by more than 5 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, was still higher by more than 54 per cent. than that in the corresponding month last year. The firmness of the money market and the high bank rates added to the difficulties. In consequence, some mills in Bombay City and Island closed down during the month; and some others are expected to close down or work short time. The questions of short time and a wage-cut were fully discussed at a meeting of the Bombay Millowners' Association on 7th January; and it was decided that no reduction in wages should take place immediately but that the question of organised short time should be considered again in two months' time. The improvement in the situation of the cotton mill industry noted in the December issue of the *Labour Gazette* has not been maintained. While it is understood that the stocks (sold and unsold) on the whole have slightly decreased, there has been a significant increase in the unsold stocks of yarn and cloth. This would appear to indicate that the Agents cannot afford to sell newly made stocks at the present day prices. Nor is the position in Ahmedabad better. Some of the departments in several mills are expected to close; and the question of a wage-cut is under the consideration of some millowners.



It is understood, however, that the proposed reduction of wages will not meet with the approval of the Millowners' Association. The Representatives of the Throstle Department have lately passed a resolution that they should request the management of the mills to reduce or dismiss married women instead of men, wherever the necessity arises to reduce the number of workpeople in a mill employing women labourers. The new weekly organ of the Labour Union, "Majur Sandesh" (Labour Message) dated the 12th January appeals to the labourers to borrow small loans, whenever necessary, from the Union itself instead of from private money-lenders.

The Collector and the Assistant Collector having found the Ahmedabad Cotton Mill (known as "Bagich Mill") working at night, the Agent of the mill was prosecuted and fined by the City Magistrate Rs. 1,200 for employing three women at night and the Manager fined Rs. 300 for similarly employing three children. Seventeen cases have, however, been withdrawn, as the Agent undertook not to repeat the offence.

EFFECT OF INDIA'S LARGE EXPORT TRADE

Considerable activity has, of late, developed in India's export trade; hence the persistent rise in the rupee exchange. The strength of the rupee is attributed principally to the demand from Japan of Indian raw cotton at very high prices and the demand from the United States of America for such commodities as jute, gunnies, shellac and hides. The higher sterling value of the rupee has, in turn, increased the Indian demand for British manufactures, particularly, textile goods.

In Great Britain, there was a decided improvement in trade during the last three months. There was more demand, and prices were substantially raised without interfering with the flow of orders. The Ministry of Labour's unemployment figures showed a small, but continuous, fall. In the cotton trade, the tendency to improvement was checked by the violent movement in the price of raw material, which introduced an element of uncertainty and caused buyers to hold back. There was a better demand for the cheaper grades of woollens and worsteds.

In the iron and steel industry, further signs of improvement were visible, owing partly to the settlement of the protracted boiler-makers' dispute and partly to the greater demand for home and foreign railway requirements. The recent railway strike in Great Britain will, however, have an adverse effect on trade generally.

In the United States, conditions in general were firm, and there was no necessity for the accumulation of large stocks. Prices of iron were steady in spite of a fall in its production and there was a general expectation of an early and substantial recovery in demand. The railroads are becoming increasingly important purchasers of equipment and material and employers of labour. The price of cotton has gone above 37 cents per pound and is only about 7 cents less than the peak price of 1920. The mills are operating only upon cotton bought at lower prices and will not manufacture for stocks at present costs. There has been a steady rise in the average price of all crops.

Russia is reappearing as an exporter of grain, and there is activity in the chartering of tonnage to load grain in the Black Sea and Danube ports.

The Balance of Trade

During December 1923, the visible balance of trade including securities *in favour of* India amounted to Rs. 12,27 lakhs. The corresponding figure for 1922 was a favourable balance of Rs. 5,62 lakhs. The trade figures for the last six months for India, Bombay and Karachi are given below:—

India

	In lakhs of rupees					
	July 1923	August 1923	September 1923	October 1923	November 1923	December 1923
Exports (private merchandise) ..	26,12	23,42	23,44	25,55	27,63	30,94
Imports do. ..	16,38	16,96	18,72	20,60	21,09	15,42
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 9,74	+ 6,46	+ 4,72	+ 4,95	+ 6,54	+ 15,52
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	- 3,85	- 3,20	- 3,10	- 4,72	- 3,75	- 57
Visible balance of trade including securities ..	+ 5,89	+ 3,26	+ 1,62	+ 2,23	+ 2,79	+ 15,45

Bombay

	In lakhs of rupees					
	July 1923	August 1923	September 1923	October 1923	November 1923	December 1923
Exports (private merchandise) ..	7,61	4,38	3,95	6,44	7,21	8,81
Imports do. ..	6,23	6,49	6,68	8,17	8,06	6,12
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 1,38	- 2,11	- 2,73	- 1,73	- 85	+ 2,69
Imports of treasure ..	3,52	3,07	3,42	4,61	3,52	2,00
Exports of treasure ..	13	12	39	10	1	1,50
Balance of transactions in treasure ..	- 1,39	- 2,95	- 3,03	- 4,51	- 3,51	- 50

Karachi

	In lakhs of rupees					
	July 1923	August 1923	September 1923	October 1923	November 1923	December 1923
Exports (private merchandise) ..	3,49	1,49	1,42	86	2,23	2,85
Imports do. ..	1,72	2,26	2,41	2,00	1,98	1,12
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 1,77	- 77	- 99	- 1,14	+ 25	+ 1,73
Imports of treasure ..	7	2	1	12	..	3
Exports of treasure ..	..	..	11	11	..	..
Balance of transactions in treasure ..	- 7	- 2	+ 10	- 1	..	- 3

Note.—Plus (+) signifies net exports and minus (-) signifies net imports.

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.
February 1923	..	1	4 $\frac{15}{32}$	August 1923	..	1	4 $\frac{1}{32}$
March ..	..	1	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	September ..	..	1	4 $\frac{1}{32}$
April ..	..	1	4 $\frac{1}{16}$	October ..	..	1	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
May ..	..	1	4 $\frac{5}{32}$	November ..	..	1	4 $\frac{11}{16}$
June ..	..	1	4 $\frac{1}{16}$	December ..	..	1	5 $\frac{1}{32}$
July ..	..	1	4 $\frac{3}{32}$	January 1924	..	1	5 $\frac{3}{16}$

These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 25th January exchange on London was s. 1 d. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$.

There was an increase of 338 crores of rupees in Bank clearings in Bombay in December as compared with the preceding month. In Calcutta the Bank clearings increased by Rs. 11 crores, while the clearings in Karachi and Rangoon decreased by Rs. 1 crore and 3 crores respectively. The figures for the last three months are as follows:—

In crores of rupees *

	October 1923	November 1923	December 1923	Total January to December 1923
Bombay ..	53	79	417	919
Karachi ..	4	4	3	39
Calcutta ..	62	99	80	867
Rangoon ..	6	10	7	107
Total (four ports) ..	125	162	507	1,932

* 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 December 1923 was 59.39 as against 66.08 in November and 68.21 in October 1923.

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

Month	1923	Rs.	1924
January	..	1,255	
February	..	1,216	
March	..	1,125	
April	..	1,193	
May	..	1,215	
June	..	1,042	
July	..	1,123	
August	..	1,007	
September	..	995	
October	..	983	
November	..	996	
December	..	1,005	

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



Cost of living index numbers for India and foreign countries

Name of country.	India (Bombay).	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Australia.	New Zealand.	Italy (Rome) (c).	Belgium.	Norway.	Switzerland.	South Africa.	France (Paris).	Germany.	U. S. of America.
Items included in the index.	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent.	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, etc.	Food, fuel, light, household utensils and furnishing.	Food and Rent.	Food, fuel, and rent.	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous.	Food, clothing, light, fuel, and household utensils.	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, tax, etc.	Food, heating and lighting.	Food, fuel, light, and rent.	(g)	Food, heating and lighting, clothing and rent.	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent, and miscellaneous items.
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	(b) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	(f) 100	100	100	100	(h) 100
1915 ..	125	125	97	119	107	99	116	117	119	103	100	100	100
1916 ..	148	148	102	115	113	116	116	146	140	106	100	100	118
1917 ..	180	180	130	116	119	146	119	190	180	114	100	100	142
1918 ..	203	203	146	118	128	197	128	253	229	118	238	100	174
1919 ..	208	208	155	132	133	205	205	275	261	126	238	100	177
1920 ..	189	252	190	149	149	313	453	253	253	155	100	100	417
1921 ..	177	219	152	157	157	387	379	209	209	133	100	100	100
1922 February	165	188	149	150	150	426	380	177	177	120	291	100	167
.. March	165	186	148	137	148	415	371	167	167	120	291	100	167
.. April	162	182	146	146	146	420	367	167	167	122	291	100	167
.. May	163	181	145	146	146	427	365	167	167	122	291	100	167
.. June	163	180	145	140	145	425	366	249	158	121	302	100	167
.. July	165	184	146	144	144	429	366	249	158	120	302	100	166
.. August	164	181	147	143	144	431	366	249	158	120	289	100	166
.. September	165	179	148	144	144	437	376	249	157	120	289	100	166
.. October	162	178	147	143	143	444	376	249	160	121	289	100	166
.. November	160	180	147	143	143	439	384	249	160	122	289	100	166
.. December	161	180	148	142	143	438	384	238	161	121	300	100	170
1923 January	156	178	150	142	142	412	383	240	160	120	300	100	170
.. February	155	177	150	143	143	413	397	240	160	120	300	100	170
.. March	154	176	152	136	143	441	408	240	161	119	324	100	169
.. April	155	174	149	143	143	441	409	240	160	120	324	100	169
.. May	153	170	147	144	144	449	413	240	163	120	324	100	170
.. June	151	169	146	151	145	452	419	239	166	120	324	100	170
.. July	153	169	146	146	146	452	419	239	166	120	324	100	170
.. August	154	171	149	146	146	453	419	239	166	119	324	100	172
.. September	154	173	148	146	146	453	419	239	166	118	331	100	172
.. October	152	175	149	146	146	458	419	239	167	121	331	100	172
.. November	153	175	150	146	146	463	419	239	167	121	331	100	172
.. December	157	177	150	146	146	463	419	239	167	121	331	100	172

(a) From 1914 to 1919 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) Unofficial. (d) April 1914. (e) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (f) June 1914 = 100. (g) Expenditure of a family of four persons. (h) Average 1913 is the base.

NOTE.—The maxima for the different countries are indicated in heavier type.

Retail food index for India and foreign countries

Name of country.	India	United Kingdom.	Canada.	South Africa.	Australia.	New Zealand.	United States of America.	France (b).	Italy (c).	Belgium.	Finland.	Germany.	Holland (e).	Norway.	Sweden (d).	Denmark.	Switzerland.
No. of articles.	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	22	37	..	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations.	Bombay.	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris.	Rome.	1,028 budgets.	20	47	Amsterdam.	30	44	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(d) 100	(e) 100	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100
1915 ..	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	120	111	..	..	..	114	117	124	128	119
1916 ..	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	129	137	..	..	..	146	161	142	146	141
1917 ..	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	111	..	..	..	146	214	181	166	179
1918 ..	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	111	..	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ..	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	111	..	..	..	204	289	310	212	250
1920 ..	258	227	197	194	167	186	261	206	111	..	..	..	204	289	310	212	250
1921 ..	174	220	148	139	161	164	215	373	318	459	982	1,156	210	319	297	253	239
1922 February	160	179	143	119	140	145	306	402	410	1,278	1,491	1,800	180	295	232	236	207
.. March	161	177	142	119	141	141	336	294	446	1,115	1,115	3,020	150	245	189	..	173
.. April	157	173	138	121	143	144	336	304	455	378	1,124	4,356	137	234	182	..	162
.. May	158	172	138	120	147	145	336	317	455	379	1,092	4,680	136	230	178	..	152
.. June	158	170	137	118	146	144	337	307	454	384	..	5,119	137	227	179	..	153
.. July	160	180	138	116	148	144	339	297	459	381	1,105	6,836	144	233	179	164	153
.. August	159	175	141	116	149	141	337	289	463	377	1,127	9,746	144	232	181	..	152
.. September	161	172	139	117	149	139	337	291	472	386	1,129	15,417	145	228	180	..	151
.. October	158	172	138	119	146	139	340	290	482	466	1,121	26,623	148	220	178	..	155
.. November	155	176	139	120	145	139	342	297	477	432	1,108	54,982	141	216	170	..	155
.. December	140	178	140	118	146	138	340	305	476	429	1,092	86,700	142	215	168	160	155
1923 January	150	173	142	117	144	140	341	309	480	426	1,080	136,600	145	214	166	160	155
.. February	149	171	145	117	145	141	339	316	478	439	1,090	318,300	145	214	166	..	154
.. March	149	171	145	117	145	141	339	321	480	439	1,066	331,500	145	214	166	..	156
.. April	150	168	142	117	152	142	340	323	481	417	1,012	350,400	143	212	164	..	159
.. May	148	162	140	118	156	143	340	325	491	414	..	462,600	139	214	161	..	161
.. June	146	160	138	118	162	143	340	325	491	414	..	462,600	139	214	161	..	161
.. July	148	162	137	116	164	142	341	331	491	414	..	462,600	139	214	161	..	161
.. August	149	165	142	115	165	143	341	321	491	414	..	462,600	139	214	161	..	165
.. September	149	168	141	115	161	145	341	328	491	414	..	462,600	139	214	161	..	162
.. October	147	172	143	117	157	147	341	328	491	414	..	462,600	139	214	161	..	163
.. November	147	173	144	117	157	147	341	328	491	414	..	462,600	139	214	161	..	166
.. December	152	176	144	117	157	147	341	328	491	414	..	462,600	139	214	161	..	166

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) Unofficial. (d) January to June 1914. (e) 15th April 1914. (f) Figures from 1914 to 1916 are annual averages. NOTE.—The maxima for the different countries are indicated in heavier type.



THE COST OF LIVING INDEX FOR DECEMBER 1923

A rise of nearly three per cent.

All articles .. 57 per cent.

Food only .. 52 per cent.

In December 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 four points above the level of the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the index was 153 in November and 157 in December 1923. The general index is 19 per cent. below the high-water mark reached in October 1920, 9 per cent. below the twelve-monthly average of 1921 and 4 per cent. below the twelve-monthly average of 1922. The twelve-monthly average for 1923 is 6 per cent. less than the average for 1922 and is at the level of 1918.

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 November and December 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	November 1923	December 1923	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in December 1923 over or below November 1923
Rice	100	124	135	+ 11
Wheat	100	126	126	..
Jowari	100	121	131	+ 10
Bajri	100	135	132	- 3
Gram	100	114	114	..
Turdal	100	119	119	..
Sugar (refined)	100	250	266	+ 16
Sugar (raw)	100	167	167	..
Tea	100	182	195	+ 13
Salt	100	199	199	..
Beef	100	148	158	+ 10
Mutton	100	215	215	

BOMBAY COST OF LIVING INDEX

A

Articles.	Unit of quantity.	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores).	Price.			Total Expenditure.		
			July 1914.	November 1923.	December 1923.	July 1914.	November 1923.	December 1923.
Cereals—								
Rice	Mound	70	Rs. 5-294	Rs. 6-912	Rs. 7-495	Rs. 391-58	Rs. 482-64	Rs. 517-16
Wheat	"	21	5-594	7-047	7-047	117-47	147-98	147-98
Jowari	"	11	4-354	5-281	5-682	47-89	58-58	62-36
Bajri	"	6	4-313	5-818	5-693	25-98	34-91	34-91
Total and Average—Cereals		100		124	132	562-82	724-93	769-16
Pulses—								
Green	Mound	10	4-302	4-922	4-922	43-02	49-22	49-22
Yardli	"	3	5-844	6-924	6-924	17-33	20-92	20-92
Total and Average—Pulses		100		116	116	60-35	70-14	70-14
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Mound	2	7-620	19-047	20-255	15-24	38-09	40-10
Sugar (raw)	"	2	8-552	14-287	14-287	17-41	19-10	19-10
Tea	"	4	40-000	72-729	78-042	160-01	160-01	160-01
Salt	"	5	2-130	4-234	4-234	10-65	1-92	1-92
Mustard	"	28	0-323	0-479	0-479	9-04	13-41	13-41
Milk	Mound	35	0-417	0-896	0-896	14-28	29-23	29-23
Ghee	"	14	9-198	17-583	17-583	128-77	246-16	246-16
Peasants	"	11	50-792	94-120	94-120	49-27	84-62	84-62
Onions	"	3	4-429	7-693	7-693	14-18	14-18	14-18
Cocunut Oil	"	3	1-552	7-141	7-141	4-66	21-42	21-42
Total and Average—Other food articles		100		187	189	381-18	711-73	719-26
Total and Average—All food articles		100		147	152	1,024-55	1,506-70	1,509-70
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4-373	6-969	6-969	21-88	34-85	34-85
Firewood	Mound	40	0-792	1-281	1-281	38-02	61-49	61-49
Coal	"	1	0-542	0-986	0-986	0-54	0-89	0-89
Total and Average—Fuel and lighting		100		161	161	60-44	97-23	97-23
Clothing—								
Shirts	Lb.	27	0-594	1-313	1-250	16-04	35-45	33-75
Shirtings	"	25	0-641	1-464	1-453	16-03	36-60	36-70
T. Cloth	"	36	0-583	1-313	1-281	20-99	47-27	46-11
Total and Average—Clothing		100		225	219	53-06	119-32	116-20
House rent	Per month	10	11-302	18-700	18-700	113-02	167-00	167-00
Grand Total and General Average		180		153	157	1,251-07	1,910-25	1,909-13

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 December 1923 at December price levels was Rs. 1,509-15, i.e., an increase of 57 per cent. (Rs. 1,251-07 = 100; Rs. 1,509-15 = 157).

BOMBAY COST OF LIVING INDEX

B

Illustrative method of presentation.

Articles.	Approximate percentage weight assigned to each article in the base period (July 1914).	Index Number.		Weight x Index Number.	
		November 1923.	December 1923.	November 1923.	December 1923.
Cereals—					
Rice	37.4	128	132	4,796.8	5,171.6
Wheat	8.4	124	132	1,022.4	1,084.8
Jowari	1.6	116	116	185.6	185.6
Bajri	2.1	116	116	243.6	243.6
Total and Average Index No.	46.7	125	132	6,249.4	6,785.6
Pulses—					
Green	7.1	114	116	809.4	814.4
Yardli	1.3	119	119	154.7	154.7
Total and Average Index No.	8.4	113	115	964.1	969.1
Other food articles—					
Sugar (refined)	1.2	250	260	300.0	312.0
Sugar (raw)	4.9	162	162	801.6	811.2
Tea	17.5	199	199	3,482.5	3,482.5
Salt	0.7	148	148	103.6	103.6
Mustard	1.1	158	158	173.8	173.8
Milk	2.3	151	151	347.3	347.3
Ghee	10.3	191	191	1,969.5	1,969.5
Peasants	6.1	172	172	1,049.2	1,049.2
Onions	4.9	152	152	744.8	744.8
Cocunut oil	7.4	160	160	1,184.0	1,184.0
Total and Average Index No.	30.6	167	169	5,779.4	5,779.4
Fuel and lighting—					
Kerosene oil	1.8	160	160	288.0	288.0
Firewood	3.0	162	162	486.0	486.0
Coal	0.1	163	163	16.3	16.3
Total and Average Index No.	4.9	161	161	790.3	790.3
Clothing—					
Shirts	1.3	221	219	287.3	271.0
Shirtings	1.3	225	222	296.4	295.1
T. Cloth	1.7	225	225	382.5	344.9
Total and Average Index No.	4.3	225	219	966.2	911.0
House rent	9.1	165	165	1,501.5	1,501.5
Grand total of weights	100				
General Average of Cost of Living Index (July 1914 = 100)		123	127	15,306.4	15,718.3



COST OF LIVING IN INDIA (BOMBAY), 1923

The cost of living index remained fairly steady during the year 1923 in the same manner as it did in 1922. There were no violent fluctuations as in the three preceding years 1919, 1920, 1921. The index varied between 151 and 157 during the year, the minimum being reached in June and the maximum in December. The average of the twelve months in 1923 was 154 which showed a fall of 6 per cent. from the twelve-monthly average of 1922 and a fall of 20 per cent. from the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920. The index is now at the level of that of 1918. The monthly figures in each of the last six years will be found on page 9 of this issue.

The yearly averages are as follows:—

Year	Index
July 1914=100	
1918	154
1919	175
1920	183
1921	173
1922	164
1923	154

Food prices also remained steady during the year under review, the average index for food varying between 146 and 152. Cereals stood at the same level (124) in November as in January but rose suddenly by 8 points in December (132) owing to a marked fall in the imports of Rangoon or Burma rice during October and November as compared with the previous months. The index for 'pulses' fell appreciably by 42 points from 158 in January to 116 in June and was steady at 116 to the end of the year. Other articles of food remained at the same level at the end of the year as at the beginning. There was a fall of 5 points in the 'fuel and lighting' group and a fall of 6 points in the 'clothing' group. Thus, the cost of living index stands at about the same level at the end of the year as it did at the beginning.

Owing to the housing difficulty there was no fall in the rents during the year—recent investigations showing a tendency for rents even to rise to the extent permitted under the Rent Act, a reference to which will be found on page 4 of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1922.

COMPARISON WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

The rise or fall in the cost of living in India and other countries as compared with the corresponding date of last year is as follows:—

Country	Month	(+) rise per cent. (-) fall
India	December	- 2.5
Great Britain	.. ..	- 1.7
Canada	.. ..	+ 2.0
Australia	2nd quarter	+ 7.9
New Zealand	.. ..	+ 1.4
South Africa	.. ..	No change
France	3rd quarter	+ 14.6
Belgium	.. ..	+ 20.6
Italy	.. ..	+ 6.4
Switzerland	.. ..	+ 4.4
United States	.. ..	+ 3.6

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING OF ESTATE LABOURERS IN CEYLON, APRIL—MAY 1923

The Labour Office has received a copy of the Report on an Inquiry into the Relation between the Wages and Cost of Living of estate labourers, April—May 1923, issued by the Government of Ceylon.* The document contains interesting and valuable information on the present condition of labour in Ceylon. The following is an analysis of the report:—

WAGES

The usual system of payment on estates is that coolies for their ordinary tasks are paid at a fixed rate per day, the rates being different for men, women and children, or they may be paid at piecework rates. In either case, they are at liberty to work or not, as they like, in any day of the month, and a bonus is usually given to any cooly who works for more than a certain number of days in the month. There seems little uniformity on different estates in the system of payment of the bonus. In general it may be said to be about Re. 1 or Rs. 1.50 per mensem. On some estates it is variable, so that a cooly working 24 days in the month earns a larger bonus than one who works 21 days. In addition, coolies can supplement their ordinary pay by working overtime or doing contract work. Coolies are usually paid monthly, and an issue of rice is made to

* Report on an Inquiry into the Relation between Wages and the Cost of Living of Estate Labourers (XXXI—1923) (To be purchased at the Government Record Office, Colombo, Price 30 cents).



them (conditional on a certain number of days' work being done in the month) for which they pay by deduction from their pay. A deduction of about 25 cents is also usually made from the pay of each cooly for the dhoby, and though by no means on all estates, a deduction of 10 cents for the barber from the pay of each man. The usual amount of rice is a bushel for a man, three-quarters of a bushel for a woman and half or three-quarters of a bushel for a child. Rice is almost invariably issued to coolies at well below cost price, they being generally charged about Rs. 6 per bushel, when the cost to the estate is probably Rs. 7. Thus, if a cooly's gross earnings in a month amount to Rs. 15, when he comes to be paid he will have Rs. 6 deducted from his pay for his bushel of rice, and perhaps 10 cents for the barber and 25 cents for the dhoby. He will receive the balance in cash, that is, Rs. 8.65 and a bushel of rice.

The Report states that in addition to their pay coolies enjoy other advantages. They are housed free, and a reasonably high standard of sanitation and comfort is ensured by the provisions of Ordinances which make it compulsory for estate superintendents to reconstruct according to an approved plan any lines condemned as insanitary. Education is free, although the provisions of the Ordinance which makes it compulsory for estates to provide free education for children are not universally enforced. Coolies receive free medicine and medical attendance on almost all estates. On many estates crèches are provided with nurses in attendance for coolies' children, and one or two free meals a day are usually given to non-working children. Coolies can generally graze their cattle, if they have any, on pasture land provided free, and on many estates a watcher is paid by the estate to look after the cattle. Firewood is almost always obtainable free, and coolies are given small plots of land on the estate, on which they grow manioc, beans, chillies and other vegetables and even flowers. Some estates make a free issue of clothing and *cumbies* or blankets once or twice a year, and the gifts of money made to the labour force are stated to be considerable. Rs. 20 is often given to coolies on the occasion of a marriage or a birth and the festival of "Sami Kumbidu," and coolies usually receive some present in

money or in kind when they first arrive on an estate. A small pension of about Re. 1 or Rs. 2 per month is sometimes paid to coolies too old to work.

COST OF LIVING

The typical monthly budget of a male cooly living alone is as follows:—

	Rs. C.
1 Food (exclusive of rice which is usually supplied by the estates)	2 28
2 Betel	0 50
3 Clothing	1 12
4 Cooking utensils	0 17
5 Kerosene	0 81
Total	4 88

The monthly budget for a family of one man, one woman and two children under 14 is as follows:—

	Rs. C.
1 Food, betel and clothing for man (1, 2, and 3 of the preceding budget) ..	3 90
2 Food for woman (.83 of Rs. 2.28) ..	1 89
3 Betel for woman	0 25
4 Clothing for woman	1 12
5 Food for child over 10 (.83 of Rs. 2.28)	1 89
6 Clothing for child over 10 (for a girl)	0 55
7 Food for child under 6 (.5 of Rs. 2.28)	1 14
8 Clothing for child under 6 (for a girl) ..	0 55
9 Cooking utensils	0 33
10 Kerosene, coconut oil and matches ..	1 61
Total	13 33

In the above family budget the proportionate amount of foodstuffs required by the woman and the children is determined by using Lusk's coefficients shown above. A woman or a child between the ages of 10 and 14 according to that scale requires .83 of what a man requires, a child between the ages of 6 and 10, .7 of that amount, and a child under 6, half of it. The majority of children under 10 are fed by the estates so that the above budget is more theoretical than practical.

The surplus shown as available to the labour force after meeting its ordinary requirements (including a reasonable allowance for betel) is disposed of as follows:—

Miscellaneous expenditure on non-essentials (probably small and certainly not capable of being estimated).



Expenditure at festival and on other special occasions.
*Remittances to India.

*Purchase of jewellery.

Special occasions such as festivals only occur once or twice a year. At the rate of twice a year the expenditure on this account amounts to less than Rs. 4 per head per year. Remittances to India are calculated roughly at Rs. 5 per head. If money spent on jewellery is regarded as saved, coolies can and do save about Rs. 7 per head per year.

The Report refers to the figures of diets, etc., given in the Family Budget Report published by the Labour Office of the Government of Bombay and contains interesting data on the standard of living of the Ceylon estate labourer.

* The amounts disposed of under these two heads are not mutually exclusive; i.e., some of the money remitted to India may be used for the purchase of jewellery.

WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY PRICES RISING

In December 1923, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay rose by one per cent., as compared with the previous month. The rise in the price of food articles was more than 3 per cent., while that of non-food articles remained stationary at 185. In comparison with the corresponding month of last year, prices have risen by 8 per cent., the rise 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. 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 188 in December and it has fallen by 29 per cent. from the highest peak (263) reached in September 1918. The food index rose by nearly 3 per cent. during December owing to a rise of 3 per cent. in the average for other food and of 7 per cent. in that of sugar.

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 December 1923 as compared with	
		the preceding month (November 1923).	the corresponding month of last year (December 1922).
1. Cereals	7	....	- 3
2. Pulses	2	+ 1	- 11
3. Sugar	3	+ 7	+ 13
4. Other food	3	+ 3	+ 41
Total food	15	+ 3	+ 14
5. Oilseeds	4	+ 2	+ 4
6. Raw cotton	2	+ 6	+ 55
7. Cotton manufactures	6	- 3	+ 4
8. Other textiles	2	....	- 3
9. Hides and skins	3	- 9	+ 28
10. Metals	5	- 4	- 10
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	+ 3	- 10
Total non-food	26	....	+ 4
General average	41	+ 1	+ 8

* Wholesale prices in Kanachi will be found on pages 44-45.

The subjoined table compares December 1923 prices with those of the preceding months and of the corresponding month of last year:—

100 = average of 1922

Groups.	Dec. 1922.	Mar. 1923.	June 1923.	Sept. 1923.	Nov. 1923.	Dec. 1923.
I. Cereals	78	77	78	75	76	76
II. Pulses	75	66	65	66	64	65
III. Sugar	106	112	108	96	105	102
IV. Other food	115	128	130	153	157	162
Total food	91	96	96	98	102	104
V. Oilseeds	96	99	96	97	99	100
VI. Raw cotton	102	118	117	117	167	158
VII. Cotton manufactures	91	93	87	88	97	95
VIII. Other textiles	101	97	97	103	101	101
IX. Hides and skins	96	94	101	105	113	103
X. Metals	100	100	99	95	93	89
XI. Other raw and manufactured articles	96	76	75	70	83	85
Total non-food	95	96	95	93	99	100
General average—all articles	94	96	95	95	100	100



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

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

The Construction of the Index

No.	Articles.	Index No.	July 1914.		Average.
			Total No. items.	Total No. items.	
1.	Cereals (Wheat, rice, green, barley and lentils).	7	700	878	125
2.	Pulses (Gram and mung).	2	300	381	91
3.	Sugar (Refined and raw).	3	300	730	240
4.	Other articles of food (Ghee, salt, etc.).	3	300	1,124	375
5.	Total, all food	15	1,500	2,013	194
6.	Oilseeds (Linseed, rapeseed, poppyseed and groundnuts).	4	400	562	141
7.	Raw cotton	2	300	571	286
8.	Cotton manufactures (Long cloth, shirtings, chaddars, etc.).	6	600	1,376	229
9.	Other textiles (Silk).	2	200	374	187
10.	Hides and skins	3	300	437	146
11.	Metals (Copper, brass, steel, iron, tinplate, etc.).	5	500	654	167
12.	Other raw and manufactured articles (Gum, wax and coal).	4	400	647	162
13.	Total, non-food	26	2,600	4,866	185
14.	General Average	41	4,100	7,279	188

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
" " " 1923	179	177	178

WHOLESALE PRICES IN 1923

A GENERAL RISE

(i) India

The movement in the wholesale index number showed a downward tendency up to August when it reached its lowest level (173) but thereafter a distinct rise was experienced in India as in most of the other countries of the world. The general index stood at 9 points higher in December 1923 than in January.

Although prices were rising at the close of the year, the average of the twelve months showed a fall of 3 per cent. from the annual average of 1922. The annual averages for the year 1923 (July 1914 = 100) in the preceding table show that foods and non-foods have fallen by 7 and 6 points respectively from the corresponding averages of 1922. A closer study of the detailed articles in these groups shows a fall of 24 per cent. in cereals, of 35 per cent. in pulses, and of 9 per cent. in cotton manufactures; and a rise of 23 per cent. in raw cotton, and of 5 per cent. in hides and skins, as compared with the respective averages of 1922.

An examination of the index numbers of wholesale prices in other countries shows an upward movement in most countries of the world. These countries may be divided into two groups. The first group includes Germany, Russia and Poland in which the movement is the result of the general economic situation and of the depreciation in the currency, as a result of which prices have been steadily rising for several months. The second group includes Spain, the United States, India, Norway, the Netherlands and New Zealand, where the situation is improving or stationary, prices tending rather to fluctuate.

(ii) Other Countries

The increase per cent. in 1923 over that of 1922 is as follows. In each case the latest available corresponding month is taken.



Increase per cent. in 1923

Germany	..	96.495	(Nov.)
France	..	25	(Oct.)
Australia	..	9	(Sep.)
Switzerland	..	8	(Nov.)
Bombay	..	8	(Dec.)
Great Britain	..	1	(Nov.)
New Zealand	..	1	(Sep.)
Canada	..	No change	(Nov.)
Decrease per cent. in 1923			
United States	..	1	(Oct.)
South Africa	..	3	(Oct.)
Japan	..	4	(July)
Italy	..	5	(Oct.)
Holland	..	6	(Oct.)

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 November and December 1923 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the retail price levels in all the centres are below the level of Bombay in December 1923.

Bombay prices in November 1923 = 100

Articles.	Bombay, Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Poona.
Cereals—				
Rice	.. 100	100	131	110
Wheat	.. 100	67	103	88
Jowari	.. 100	68	71	69
Bajri	.. 100	65	106	67
Average—Cereals..	100	75	103	84
Pulses—				
Gram	.. 100	74	116	79
Turdal	.. 100	90	96	91
Average—Pulses..	100	82	106	85
Other articles of food—				
Sugar (refined)	.. 100	95	113	103
Jagri (Gul)	.. 100	70	102	71
Tea	.. 100	100	145	96
Salt	.. 100	73	125	118
Beef	.. 100	131	104	78
Mutton	.. 100	84	112	75
Milk	.. 100	57	57	76
Ghee	.. 100	80	85	91
Potatoes	.. 100	93	138	120
Onions	.. 100	76	84	75
Coconut oil	.. 100	101	141	93
Average—Other articles of food	.. 100	87	110	90
Average—All food articles	.. 100	90	108	88

Bombay prices in December 1923 = 100

Articles.	Bombay, Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Poona.
Cereals—				
Rice	.. 100	89	119	101
Wheat	.. 100	64	103	83
Jowari	.. 100	64	67	80
Bajri	.. 100	68	94	75
Average—Cereals..	100	71	96	85
Pulses—				
Gram	.. 100	76	116	79
Turdal	.. 100	101	96	98
Average—Pulses..	100	89	106	89
Other articles of food—				
Sugar (refined)	.. 100	98	105	96
Jagri (Gul)	.. 100	75	102	81
Tea	.. 100	91	137	103
Salt	.. 100	73	79	118
Beef	.. 100	123	98	74
Mutton	.. 100	84	112	70
Milk	.. 100	56	56	74
Ghee	.. 100	81	85	91
Potatoes	.. 100	84	127	102
Onions	.. 100	107	86	81
Coconut oil	.. 100	92	109	103
Average—Other articles of food	.. 100	88	100	90
Average—All food articles	.. 100	84	99	89

On page 48 will be found statistics of food prices in November and December 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,

ASIAN PRICE LEVELS: JAVA AND SHANGHAI

WHOLESALE PRICES IN JAVA

The statistical bulletins published by the Labour Office, Batavia, Java, contain interesting information regarding the construction of the indexes of wholesale prices, retail prices and the cost of living in Java. The number of articles included in the general wholesale index is 51 out of which 35 are imports and 16 exports. Imports are divided into three groups: (1) Textiles (22), (2) Metals (8), and (3) Miscellaneous (window glass, gunnies, kerosene and matches). Exports include sugar, hides, coffee, cocoa and seeds. The averages of 1913 are taken as the base in calculating the indexes of wholesale prices and the cost of living. The general wholesale index is an unweighted arithmetic average of the price relatives for the articles



taken for each month. The following table shows the fluctuation in wholesale prices during recent months in Java as compared with the movement of wholesale prices in Bombay:—

Period	Java (1913=100)	Bombay (July 1914=100)
1920 March	.. 326	210
1922 June	.. 253	180
1923 July	.. 194	178
August	.. 191	176
September	.. 193	179
October	.. 194	181

The comparative steadiness of both the indexes since July 1923 is noticeable.

COST OF LIVING IN JAVA

The number of articles included in the cost of living index is 29. The list was restricted to articles of food and household necessities for which prices could be obtained for previous years. The weights used in the construction of the index are the percentages of the distribution of the income of normal families on the articles selected.

Period	Java (1913=100)	Bombay (July 1914=100)
1920 December	.. 223	181
1922 December	.. 187	161
1923 September	.. 175	154
October	.. 179	152
November	.. 180	153

The cost of living in Java has been slowly rising in recent months, but as compared with December 1922 there is a fall of seven points in November 1923.

WHOLESALE PRICES IN SHANGHAI

The Labour Office has received a pamphlet showing the method of compilation of the wholesale index number in Shanghai from the Treasury Department's Bureau of Markets, Shanghai. The prices ruling in February 1913 are taken as the base. 147 articles are included which are divided into 8 groups as follows:—

(February 1913 = 100)

	Number of articles.	Rise per cent. in November 1923 over the base.
1 Cereals	.. 14	42
2 Other Food Products	.. 26	57
3 Textiles	.. 27	66
4 Metals	.. 11	58
5 Fuel	.. 12	66
6 Building materials	.. 14	67
7 Industrial materials	.. 21	93
8 Sundries	.. 22	30
Final average increase (February 1913=100).	..	57

The general index is an arithmetical average of the index numbers of the five groups, cereals, other food products, textiles, metals and miscellaneous. It is weighted by taking quotations for different qualities of the same commodity for the important articles. The quotations taken are the market prices ruling on the last Wednesday in every month. The index numbers of wholesale prices are incorporated in the table on page 49 of this issue, and the group increases are given in the table above.

GOLD AND PRICES

THE FALL IN THE VALUE OF GOLD

Since pre-war days there has been a fall in the value of gold of between 40 and 45 per cent. The calculations of the Labour Office show that the fall at the end of December 1923 as compared with the pre-war month July 1914 is 44.6 per cent. The Federal Reserve Board of America estimates the fall at 40 per cent. This is due to the discarding of the metal for currency in almost all countries. The price of gold has, in other words, not advanced with the general level of prices. Had it done so the price would have been Rs. $\frac{24.10 \times 188}{100}$ (188 being the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay on the 31st of December 1923 and Rs. 24.10.0 the price of gold in July 1914), i.e., Rs. 46.4.9 instead of which the market rate on the 11th of January was Rs. 25.12.0, i.e., a fall of nearly 44.4 per cent. below its pre-war value. The price of gold for Bombay has been calculated because the real value of gold is very nearly the same throughout the world. The result does not differ very greatly from that arrived at by calculation from the American index number.

INFLATION

There has been a fall in the value of currency brought about by inflation or the overissue of non-convertible currency; this in the roughest possible way may be measured by the increase of the index numbers of wholesale prices in the various countries beyond the increase in the United States. The fall in the value of currency owing to the fall in the purchasing power of gold is limited so long as

important countries, like the United States, keep to a gold basis; the fall in the value of currency owing to the multiplication of credit instruments is unlimited except in so far as printing presses are unable to print or to supply fresh currency. The fall in the value of currency in Germany, especially since the Ruhr occupation, is amazingly great and is due almost wholly to the uncontrolled issue of currency notes, the fall in the value of gold being altogether an insignificant factor.

The following table shows the increase (+) or decrease (—) per cent. over the Federal Reserve Board index number (United States) in the last quarter of 1923:—

Country.	Index Number used.	Increase or decrease per cent.
Italy ..	Bachi ..	+ 245 per cent.
France ..	Official ..	+ 158 " "
Java ..	Labour Office, Batavia ..	+ 19 " "
Switzerland ..	Neue Zürcher Zeitung ..	+ 12 " "
Bombay ..	Labour Office ..	+ 10 " "
Australia ..	Official ..	+ 10 " "
New Zealand..	Official ..	+ 9 " "
Canada ..	Department of Labour ..	No change.
Great Britain..	Board of Trade ..	— 3 per cent.
Japan ..	Bank of Japan ..	— 4 " "
Holland ..	Official ..	— 10 " "
South Africa..	Official ..	— 23 " "

The position of Bombay, the self-governing Dominions, Japan, Holland, as well as of Great Britain is of much interest. The chief cause of currency depreciation has been the failure to balance the budget, i.e., the failure to balance revenue with expenditure.

SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

A FALL OF 2 POINTS

In December 1923, the general average of the prices of 100 shares and securities taken in the Labour Office Securities Index Number fell by more than one per cent. as compared with the previous month. The general index number now stands at 154. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) Securities are at the same level as that of November 1923 but Industrial Securities have fallen by nearly 2 per cent. The shares of Miscellaneous Companies register a fall of 4 per cent. The index for Cotton Mill Shares is now nearly at the same

level as that of July 1919. It is interesting to note that the only securities which show stability are Government and Corporation securities and Bank shares.

A full explanation of the scope and method of compilation of the securities index is published in the "Labour Gazette" for December 1923. The construction of the index is shown in the following table:—

The Construction of the Index

No.	—	—	July 1914.		December 1923.
			Total numbers.	Total numbers.	
1	Government and Corporation Securities ..	7 Index Nos. ..	700	498	71
2	Banks ..	6 " " " " ..	600	824	137
3	Railway Companies ..	10 " " " " ..	1,000	998	100
4	Cotton Mills ..	42 " " " " ..	4,200	9,028	215
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies ..	8 " " " " ..	800	978	122
6	Cement and Manganese Companies ..	5 " " " " ..	500	653	131
7	Electric Undertakings ..	2 " " " " ..	200	262	131
8	Miscellaneous Companies. 22 ..	" " " " " " ..	2,200	2,510	114
9	Industrial Securities ..	95* " " " " ..	9,500	15,250	160
10	General average ..	102* " " " " ..	10,200	15,748	154

* Ordinary and Deferred shares are taken as one in counting the number of securities.

The following table shows the annual movement for the important groups for July in each year and the monthly movement from July 1923:—

—	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
" December ..	71	160	215	154

* Also included in the previous column "Industrial Securities".

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN THE PRESIDENCY

Disputes in December .. 9

On page 56 will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during December 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 December 1923.

I.—Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

Trade.	Number of disputes in progress in December 1923.			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in December 1923.*	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in December 1923.*
	Started before 1st December.	Started in December.	Total.		
Textile	7	7	6,692	26,087
Engineering	1	1	5,500	93,500
Miscellaneous..	..	1	1	223	1,316
Total, December 1923	9	9	12,415	120,903
Total, November 1923	7	7	487	712

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

There were 9 industrial disputes in December 1923, seven of which occurred in cotton mills, one in a railway workshop, and one on a railway line. The number of workpeople

Workpeople involved .. 12,415

affected was 12,415 and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced) 120,903 which is a large increase on the November 1923 statistics.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results August to December 1923

	August 1923.	September 1923.	October 1923.	November 1923.	December 1923.
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	15	8	8	7	9
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	3	3	..	..	..
Fresh disputes begun ..	12	5	8	7	9
Disputes ended ..	12	8	8	7	9
Disputes in progress at end ..	3	..	..	..	..
Number of workpeople involved ..	6,160	9,112	9,481	487	12,415
Aggregate duration in working days ..	25,244	55,934	36,178	712	120,903
Demands—					
Pay ..	10	4	6	1	6
Bonus ..	..	..	..	1	..
Personal ..	4	3	2	3	1
Leave and hours ..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	1	1	..	2	2
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	1	..	..	2	1
Compromised ..	3	3	1	..	..
In favour of employers ..	8	5	7	5	8

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 favour of employ-ers. (Per cent.)	In favour of employ-ees. (Per cent.)	Con-stituted. (Per cent.)	In pro-gram. (Per cent.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
August 1923 ..	14	192,380	36	36	7	21
September 1923 ..	23	24,698	36	10	..	10
October 1923 ..	15	29,394	22	13	23	32
November 1923 ..	31	62,389	25	42	19	10
December 1923 ..	9	26,323	28	11	11	..
January 1924 ..	17	35,200	65	18	..	17
February 1924 ..	12	32,380	61	8	17	8
March 1924 ..	8	30,250	75	..	2	..
April 1924 ..	15	18,752	54	15	20	12
May 1924 ..	15	54,355	36	..	7	13
June 1924 ..	10	4,226	76	20	10	..
July 1924 ..	14	24,899	35	..	..	7
August 1924 ..	13	32,352	62	15	8	15
September 1924 ..	7	24,290	71	..	..	20
October 1924 ..	24	62,372	26	25	13	32
November 1924 ..	21	46,283	51	14	10	9
December 1924 ..	10	22,886	36	..	10	10
January 1925 ..	6	14,988	56	17	..	22
February 1925 ..	22	64,295	54	32	4	..
March 1925 ..	9	31,298	72	61	16	..
April 1925 ..	14	1,001,395	46	7	12	46
May 1925 ..	11	1,000,376	82	9	..	9
June 1925 ..	7	99,257	53	..	20	14
July 1925 ..	9	35,295	61	..	..	20
August 1925 ..	15	75,264	55	7	26	26
September 1925 ..	8	54,954	65	..	30	..
October 1925 ..	8	36,178	65	..	15	..
November 1925 ..	7	712	71	25	..	..
December 1925 ..	9	120,995	70	11	..	10
Total or (subject to 7) 41 months	301	6,361,672	55	14	15	19

A General Review of Disputes

During December 1923, there were nine industrial disputes in the Presidency as compared with seven in the preceding month. Seven of these disputes occurred in the cotton mill industry, one in a railway workshop and one on a railway line. Six were due to the question of pay and the remaining three to personal and other grievances. Out of the 9 disputes only one was settled in favour of the employees while the others were settled in favour of the employers.

BOMBAY

In the City and Island of Bombay, there were, in December, seven industrial disputes the majority of which were of short duration. On the 5th of December 1923, 195 operatives in the Presses Department of the Cotton Mill struck work demanding the reinstatement of a Head Jobber whose services were dispensed with for want of control over his men and for poor output. The majority of the strikers resumed work unconditionally while others were replaced by new hands. The strike ended on 8th December. On 12th December 5,000 workmen of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Workshops at Matunga struck work against the alleged ill-treatment by the Railway Medical Officer and the dismissal of operatives found to be unfit by this officer, and demanded his removal. The workshops were closed until 2nd January 1924, when the lock-out was removed and the strikers resumed work unconditionally. A detailed description of this strike will be found on page 22 of this issue of the Labour Gazette. On 17th December the weavers in the Jacob Sassoon Mill, the Matheran Mill, the Bombay Industrial Mill and the Bradbury Mills and the covers in the Premier Mills stopped work alleging that they were paid less than in the previous month and demanding better wages. The strike in the Bombay Industrial Mill ended on the 21st of December when the strikers resumed work, small increases in wages having been given. The strike in the Matheran Mill and in the Premier Mills continued for four days and ended on the 21st of December, the strikers, with a few exceptions, having resumed work unconditionally.

The Weaving Department of the Bradbury Mills was stopped for four days from 21st to 2nd December, and the weavers were paid off and discharged on the 2nd. The strike ended on 24th December when the strikers were replaced by new hands. The strike in the Jacob Sassoon Mill continued till 26th December. Owing to the strike the mill was closed for 3 days from the 18th but was reopened on the 21st except the Weaving Shed. At a meeting of the strikers held on 24th December at the Workmen's Institute, the following resolutions were passed:—(1) That this meeting of the employees of the Jacob Sassoon Mill forms an Employees' Union, (2) that the following resolutions, viz., Messrs. Joseph Baptista, H. M. Joshi, P. J. Corneille, S. H. Jadhavani, Krishna Ganpat and three other workmen of the Weaving Shed do approach the employers to decide the question of the present lock-out of the Weaving Shed. On an examination of the account books of the Mill Mr. Jadhavani found that no reduction in the rates had been made. He advised the strikers to resume work when the Weaving Shed reopened and with some men interviewed the Manager. At their request the Manager removed the lock-out of the Weaving Shed on the 26th December, but the strikers instead of resuming work demanded increased rates which were refused. The strikers were paid off and discharged on the 27th of December. The management decided to stop work in the Weaving Shed for a few days more.

AHMEDABAD

During December 1923, there was in Ahmedabad only one industrial dispute. On the 19th of December 425 operatives in the Throat Department in the Ahmedabad Locomotive Cotton Mills struck work against the alleged ill-treatment by the Manager, but on being advised by the Assistant Secretary, Labour Union, they resumed work the next morning.

OTHER CENTRES

About 225 workmen and boys employed in the portion of the B.B. & C.I. Railway line between Daman Road and Behinora stations struck work on the 16th of December, complaining against a reduction in the rates

of grain compensation allowances and demanding an increase in wages. The strike ended on the 22nd, when the strikers resumed work unconditionally. According to the Agent, B.B. & C.I. Railway, this is a case of resignation and not a strike.

TWELVE MONTHS OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN THE PRESIDENCY

ANALYSIS OF DISPUTES

From 1st January 1923 to 31st December 1923

During the period under review there were in all 109 disputes with 109,917 workpeople involved in them as against 143 disputes with 181,725 workpeople involved in the corresponding period of the previous year. The noticeable features of the year were the general strike in the Cotton Mills in Ahmedabad, in which more than 43,000 workpeople were involved and which took place on 1st April 1923 and continued for more than two months, and the strike in the C. I. P. Railway Workshops at Matunga affecting more than 5,000 workers. The former was fully dealt with in previous issues of the Labour Gazette, and a full description of the latter will be found on page 22 of this issue. The table below shows the number of workpeople involved in each month of the years 1922 and 1923:

Month	Number of work-people involved	
	1922	1923
January	15,055	1,280
February	9,999	10,200
March	22,097	5,572
April	5,801	21,607
May	15,605	97
June	7,739	5,700
July	13,246	2,220
August	61,071	4,757
September	2,578	6,704
October	2,817	13,001
November	15,244	97
December	5,016	12,015
Total	181,725	109,917

Note.—In the case of a strike continuing more than one month the number of workpeople involved in that strike has been shown against the month in which it occurred and has not been included in the subsequent months or months in which it continued.

The total number of working days lost in the year under review was approximately more than 2,841,000 and showed an increase of about 275 per cent. above the previous year's figures. This increase was due mainly to the protracted strike in the Ahmedabad Cotton Mills referred to above. The following table shows the number of working days lost in each month:—

Month	Days lost	
	1922	1923
January	35,369	14,948
February	52,087	68,590
March	268,629	37,498
April	18,352	1,116,149
May	54,591	1,269,770
June	4,251	159,857
July	56,869	35,567
August	6,502	25,244
September	26,746	55,954
October	62,572	36,776
November	46,282	712
December	22,866	129,965
Total	756,246	2,841,000

CAUSES OF THE DISPUTES

An analysis of the disputes shows that 51 per cent. of these was due to the question of pay, 5 per cent. to bonus, 27 per cent. to personal causes which include dismissals, reinstatements or similar causes, one per cent. to leave and hours and 16 per cent. to other causes.

INDUSTRIES AFFECTED

As the cotton mill industry is the premier industry of the Presidency, the number of disputes in the textile industry was, as is to be expected, by far the largest. During the year under review 77 per cent. of the disputes occurred in this industry. The percentages of disputes in the other main industries were:—Transport 2 per cent.; Engineering 6 per cent.; and Miscellaneous 15 per cent.

RESULTS OF THE DISPUTES

The record shows that, of all the disputes settled during the year, 71 per cent. was in favour of the employers, 17 per cent. in favour of the employees and 12 per cent. was compromised.

RAILWAY WORKMEN'S STRIKE

G. I. P. RAILWAY WORKSHOPS AT MATUNGA

On the 12th of December 1923 about 5,000 workmen employed in the Carriage and Wagon Department of the G. I. P. Railway Workshops at Matunga laid down their tools after the mid-day recess.

THE MEN'S GRIEVANCE

The grievance of the men was with regard to the system of medical examination recently instituted by the Railway Company, according to which those found unfit were to be discharged from service, and also with regard to the manner in which the Medical Officer conducted the examination. It was also alleged that the examination was unduly severe, that out of about 59 men examined 8 were declared unfit for further service and that such disqualification not only deprived them of service in the workshop but also ruined their prospects of future employment elsewhere.

DAMAGE CAUSED

The Superintendent of the Workshops asked the strikers to submit their grievances through a deputation. This they refused to do. They then threw stones and other missiles at the glass windows and doors causing considerable damage.

LOCK-OUT

A notice was put up that the workshops would remain closed until further orders. On the 13th December Mr. S. H. Jhalwala, Secretary of the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union, discussed the situation with the strikers. The strikers signified their willingness to return to work if the Medical Officer was asked to make the medical examination less severe. Thereupon, Mr. Jhalwala saw the Superintendent of the Carriage and Wagon Department, who expressed his intention to forward a statement of the strikers' grievances to the Agent. With the object of drawing up a statement of grievances, a meeting was held at the Workmen's Institute, where resolutions were passed expressing regret for the damage done to the Company's property, requesting the Workshop Authorities to re-open the workshops as soon as possible and demanding the removal of the Medical Officer. On the 14th Mr. Jhalwala

saw the Superintendent with a deputation of 6 strikers who referred the deputation to the Agent. Mr. Jhalwala subsequently forwarded a letter to the Agent asking him to receive a deputation.

REPRESENTATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR

Mr. F. J. Ginwalla, President of the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union, addressed a letter to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, requesting His Excellency to intercede on behalf of the men of the G. I. P. Railway Carriage and Wagon Workshop at Matunga and to bring about a speedy end of the lock-out. The Private Secretary replied that His Excellency was not inclined to interfere, seeing that the Agent of the Railway was not unwilling to meet a deputation of the workmen and hear their grievances, and that His Excellency had, however, seen the Agent and learnt from him that he was considering the question of reopening the workshops.

On 27th December about 2,000 persons including about 1,700 of the strikers met at the Marwadi Vidyalyaya and passed the following resolutions:—

(1) That the public meeting of the citizens of Bombay prays His Excellency the Governor of Bombay to intercede early on behalf of the striking workmen who have been thrown out of employment from the G. I. P. Railway Workshops at Matunga as a result of the lock-out declared by the authorities, taking into consideration the splendid service given by the workmen at the time of the late war by manufacturing war material.

(2) That the public meeting also requests the citizens of Bombay to sympathize with the letter-locked workmen of the G. I. P. Railway Workshops who are suffering owing to the absence of the G. I. P. Railway administration who failed to consider the grievances regarding the method of medical examination, although protests against this grievance were made in the G. I. P. Union Herald.

(3) That the public meeting requests the Agent to re-open the Union, so that the strikers and the mill may sit together to remedy the grievances in time before they grow.

The Agent put up a notice on 29th December to the effect that the workshops would be opened on 2nd January 1924. At a meeting of the strikers held again on 31st December at the Workmen's Institute,

the following resolutions were passed:—

(1) That the meeting of the Matunga workmen now conveyed its thanks to His Excellency the Governor for the help he gave to humanity in bringing about a speedy end of the lock-out.

(2) That the meeting also thanks the Agent of the Company for speedily opening the workshops to allow the grievances of the men.

(3) That the meeting also thanks Mr. Farley Shreeve, the Director, Labour Office of the Government of Bombay, Mr. A. M. Bell, the Superintendent, Carriage and Wagon Department, and all other officials for assisting in the early termination of the lock-out.

The lock-out came to an end on the 2nd January.

AGENT'S VIEWS

As to the causes which led to the lock-out, there has subsequently been a difference of opinion in the press between the Agent and Mr. S. M. Joshi, M.L.A. According to the Agent, the lock-out was due not to the medical examination as alleged but to the men receiving without preparation a "legislative" strike accompanied by acts of violence and generally to their not doing a fair day's work for a fair day's wage which in 1923 was raised by 111 per cent. over the previous rates. The medical examination was, according to him, based on the Railway administration by the Workmen's Compensation Act which laid on employers a statutory liability. Further, the men permitted their actions to be influenced or controlled by outside people. Mr. S. M. Joshi, on the other hand, considers that the Workmen's Compensation Act does not render periodical examinations compulsory in other industries or in other occupations in which it applies equally. He thinks that the present administration of the G. I. P. Ry. is unsympathetic to the Labour Unions of its employees and points out that in India the guidance of outsiders in the management of Trade Unions is admirably necessary. As to the attitude towards the Unions, the Agent refers to the steps taken by the administration to associate its staff with the employees through Staff Councils made up of strikers and representatives of employees in equal numbers. To this scheme the Agent said the Railway Board had signified its agreement, and this will be published and launched in the near future.

is obviously a matter for the Bombay Port Trust, and being a question of internal administration it is not possible for Government to interfere in a matter of this kind. The 17th and 18th resolutions, dealing with the Posts and Telegraphs Departments, are likewise matters for the Government of India; which remarks apply also to the 19th resolution concerning the nomination of Mr. K. C. Roy Chaudhari. The 20th and 21st resolutions are matters which concern the Union alone.

I will now deal with the remaining resolutions, in which more or less directly my Government is concerned.

INDIAN LABOUR REPRESENTATIVES

With reference to the first resolution requesting the nomination of Indian labour representatives in the Assembly, in the local Legislative Council and on local bodies, Government has, of course, nothing to do with the constitution of the Legislative Assembly, and nominations to it are matters for the orders of the Governor-General and the Government of India. With regard to representation of labour in the Presidency, I should welcome such representations, and, with the present franchise, it would still seem to me that it would be possible in the near future for candidates representing labour to come forward for election either to the Council or to the Corporation. I am informed that, at the last general election, no purely labour candidate came forward; but I feel sure that in the future this will not be the case. As you remind me, under the Bombay Electoral Rules at least one of the non-officials nominated to the Legislative Council must be a representative of labour. Government would be prepared, if it is found that labour is not represented on the Municipality at the next election, to nominate at least one representative of labour; and recognising, as I do, that the work of the Improvement Trust is a matter in which labour is greatly interested, I should be prepared to consider very favourably the nomination of a representative of labour to that body at the next opportunity.

DRINK AND DRUG

I now come to the fifth resolution, dealing with the prohibition of the production and sale of intoxicant liquors. In accordance with a resolution adopted at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 3rd August 1921 and accepted by Government, a Committee has been appointed to consider and report in all their aspects upon the questions of drink and drug traffic in this Presidency and its total prohibition. The report of this Committee has not yet been received, but on its receipt the questions referred to in your resolution will be considered by Government.

HOUSING SCHEME

The eighth resolution concerns the question of the Housing Scheme. I have already had an opportu-

nity of very carefully inspecting the housing schemes in Bombay, and one of the first questions which I asked was whether there was any representation of labour on the Advisory Committee. I am informed that the Advisory Committee for Bombay City at present consists of eight members and that the present representative of the working classes is Mr. S. K. Bole. I cannot agree, as at present advised, to add any more members to the Committee which, I consider, is already sufficiently large, but any suggestions which the working classes may have to make can be placed before the Advisory Committee through their representative on it, and you may rest assured that such suggestions will be duly considered by the Committee, which, if necessary, will refer them to Government for orders. Recently considerable improvements have been made, as the result of consultation, throughout all the *chawls* in the scheme, and for the information of the deputation I may point out that the following recommendations have been approved which will certainly meet some other criticism offered in the past:—

(a) That *nahanis* should be provided in each room in all the Directorate *chawls* under construction and to be constructed in future;

(b) That in each room in the *chawls* under construction, in which the present standard type of windows has already been built, the loft connected with the chimney and other improvements (including a *nahani*), should be provided;

(c) That in the *chawls* under construction, in which windows of the present standard pattern have not yet been built, as well as in the *chawls* to be constructed in future, a shuttered type of window, without sunshade, should be adopted, and the loft and chimney should be done away with, the other improvements (including a *nahani*) referred to in (b) above being retained. With regard to the second portion of the resolution, in any action which Government has taken it is fully agreed that it is desirable that provision should be made for the housing of workmen employed in industry, and legislation already provides that the Improvement Trust may assist employers of the poorer classes to provide dwellings for their employees.

BONUS TO MILL EMPLOYEES

I now come to resolution No. 9 which deals with the question of non-payment of bonus by Millowners, and on this matter I can only point out what has been the policy of Government in the past in a matter such as this—a policy of which I cordially approve. It is undoubtedly the duty of Government to abstain, as far as possible, from direct interference in purely economic disputes, except in so far as such interference may be called for by actual or probable breaches of the public peace or by interference with public utility services. I am quite convinced that, in the first

place, a full, frank and temperate discussion in public on the points of difference between the employers and the employed will lead the way to some settlement by consent, which will be of more lasting benefit than any settlement imposed from without by Government.

RENT ACT

The tenth resolution, dealing with the extension of the Rent Act, will be considered when this matter comes for discussion again, but the deputation is aware that in the case of Bombay and other places (excluding Karachi) the Rent Act will be in operation up to the 31st December 1925 in respect of any premises used as a dwelling house, and up to the 31st August 1924 in respect of any other premises.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND HOURS OF WORK

With reference to resolutions Nos. 11 and 12 and the various sub-heads of resolution 12 dealing in the main, as they do, with unemployment and hours of work, I am afraid that it is quite impossible for me in the course of a reply to a deputation to deal in any way adequately with matters involving questions of policy and of legislation which for years past have been the subject of the keenest controversy. I can only assure the deputation that it is the obvious duty of Government to do everything that lies in its power to assist employment and to promote the welfare of those engaged in industry, and Government is fully aware of the necessity of taking every possible step to this end.

EUROPEANS IN PRIVATE SERVICE

With reference to resolution No. 13, I presume that this resolution is referring to the case of Europeans in private service, where there are differentiations between workmen. I am heartily in agreement with the rule that equal work shall receive equal pay, but I do not see how it would be possible for Government to intervene if my interpretation of the resolution is correct.

NATIONAL, CENTRAL AND LOCAL JOINT COUNCILS

I now come to resolution No. 14 dealing with the question of the formation of National, Central and Local Joint Councils. The resolution to establish the bodies referred to will certainly be kept in mind by Government, but I feel bound to say that I feel very strongly the necessity of proceeding cautiously with the construction of any artificial organisation of the relations between capital and labour. The basis of any such construction must be a full and an accurate knowledge of the facts, and Government have under consideration at the present time a bill for improving the machinery for collecting those statistics which are

necessary for any useful intervention in an economic dispute.

LABOUR OFFICE STATISTICS

The last resolution which was brought to my notice has reference to the statistics prepared by the Labour Office, but I understand that Mr. Baptista has been to the Labour Office to discuss this matter with the head of the Labour Bureau and is quite convinced with the explanation which has been given to him as to the fall in the cost of living index. I am glad to notice that Mr. Baptista in his Presidential address realises how essential it is, in any industrial dispute such as Bombay unfortunately experienced to the full in 1919 and 1920, that both sides should have full and accurate statistics of the cost of living, wages, the causes of strikes and similar information, and I feel quite sure that the work which is being done by the Labour Bureau will be of greatest value to those engaged in industry, but I shall be glad at any time to consider any suggestions which might be made in this matter.

TRADES UNIONISM

I have not yet had sufficient time in Bombay to study, as I should desire to study, the industrial situations; but it is obvious to me, from the remarks made by Mr. Baptista in his Presidential address, that trades unionism in Bombay is in its infancy, for he has himself said that out of 350,000 workers in Bombay not even 35,000 are organised, and that the mill workers numbering 146,000 have only a couple of moribund unions of negligible membership. I have had a considerable experience of trades unionism, and frankly I am a friend of trades unions, but of course it must be realised that the right to bargain on behalf of trades unions must rest on the representation of the great majority of those for whom trades unions have authority to speak. I should hesitate at the present moment to compare in any way this movement in the East with any similar movement in the West, for there are apparent difficulties here such as illiteracy and the migratory character of labour, which do not obtain in Europe. I am quite convinced, however, that you realise, as I do, the vital importance in industry of capital and labour working together, and it is not possible for me to emphasise too strongly the difference which exists between a great trades union movement and the organisation of bodies of workers who might be used merely as Strike Committees; for trades unionism is, and ought to be, the medium by which genuine grievances can be redressed and by means of which employers and employees work together for the benefit of each other.

Gentlemen, I can only repeat that it has been a pleasure to me to have seen you here to-day, and I am grateful to you for having given me the opportunity of meeting you."

TRADE UNION CONGRESS

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

On page 35 of the December 1923 issue of the *Labour Gazette* it was said that the Fourth Annual Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress would be held in Calcutta sometime in February. The General Secretary of the Congress recently issued a bulletin stating that the question of fixing the exact date would be taken up in a meeting of the Executive Council to be held at Lucknow on the 9th January and that the agenda would include the nomination of delegates for the Geneva Conference. The Honorary Secretary of the Labour Unions of Bombay, however, communicated by wire to Mr. C. R. Das and the Railway Unions of Bengal his protest against the action of the General Secretary of the Congress in calling meetings of the Executive Council without due notice except by putting them in the papers. The Bombay Unions dissociate themselves from the method which the Congress Secretary has been pursuing. The Reception Committee have nominated Mr. N. M. Joshi of Bombay for the Presidentship of the next session of the Congress, and several Unions have also recommended his name for that office.

ALL-INDIA LIBERAL FEDERATION

TRADE UNIONS AND PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIES

The National Liberal Federation of India concluded its sixth session at Poona on 28th December last, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru presiding. The following, among other, resolutions passed by the Federation are noteworthy:—

(1) This meeting of the All-India Liberals desires to press on Government and Liberal Organisations the need of encouraging the establishment of Trade Unions in the country and of labour being adequately represented in the Provincial and Central Legislatures by direct election instead of by nomination as at present.

(2) This meeting of the All-India Liberals is of opinion that protection of industries of national importance should be given, the period, form and degree of protection depending upon the condition and prospects of each industry.

ACCIDENTS AND PROSECUTIONS
STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER 1923

The monthly statistics of the accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published on pages 51 and 52 of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of December in Bombay City and Island, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency.

During December, in Bombay City and Island, there were in all 130 factory accidents of which seven were serious and the remainder, 123 minor accidents. Of the total number of accidents 52 or 40 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and 78 or 60 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 58 per cent. in workshops, 36 per cent. in textile mills and 6 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad, there were in all six accidents all of which occurred in cotton mills. Of these six, one was fatal, three serious and the remaining two were minor accidents. Four of these accidents were due to machinery in motion and the remaining two to other causes.

In Karachi, there were in all five accidents three of which occurred in railway workshops, and two in other factories. Four of these were minor accidents and one was serious. Of the five accidents two were due to machinery in motion and three to other causes.

In other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 32 of which 9 were in textile mills, 18 in workshops and 5 in other industries. Thirteen accidents were due to machinery in motion and 19 to other causes. Of these 32 accidents, 1 was fatal, 2 were serious and the rest minor.

PROSECUTIONS

There were two prosecution cases in Bombay against the cotton mills. One was under Section 41 (f) for breach of Rule 33 (ii). The carding master was fined Rs. 100 and the full amount of the fine was given to the injured person as compensation. The second was under Section 41 (f) for breach of Rule 34. The Spinning Master was fined Rs. 25.

* FACTORY INSPECTION IN BOMBAY

The Factory Inspection Staff has been separated from the Boiler Inspection Staff and consists now of—

- 1 Chief Inspector of Factories.
- 1 Inspector of Factories, Bombay.
- 1 Do. Ahmedabad.
- 3 Assistant Inspectors of Factories.
- 1 Certifying Surgeon, Bombay.
- 1 Do. Ahmedabad.

The appointment of Lady Inspectors is under consideration.

* Vide p. 27 of the *Labour Gazette* for August 1923.

LABOUR IN BIHAR AND ORISSA

FACTORY REPORT FOR 1922

The Labour Office has received a copy, recently published, of the Annual Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act in the province of Bihar and Orissa for the year ending 31st December 1922. The number of registered factories in the province increased during the year under review from 85 to 215. Of these 215, 71 were indigo factories and 20 rice mills. In 1921, there were only 7 rice mills and no indigo factories. The increase in the number of factories is chiefly due to the amended Factory Act which came into operation on 1st July 1922.

OPERATIVES EMPLOYED

The table below shows the number of persons employed in indigo factories, in rice mills and in all industries during the years 1921 and 1922:—

	Number of persons employed in	
	1921	1922
Indigo .. .. .	..	5,719
Rice	3,812	4,737
All factories	57,999	68,752

There was an increase of over 18 per cent. in the number of persons employed in all factories; but this increase was not proportionate to the increase of 153 per cent. in the number of factories themselves. This was due to the fact that many of the factories of 1922 were smaller in size than those of

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1921 and that a considerable number of persons employed in 1921 on building operations in connexion with factories was excluded from the 1922 figures. The employment of women and children increased in a slightly greater ratio than the increase of total employed persons. It is to be noted that during the year several managers entirely abolished the employment of children and that the persistent employment of women during illegal hours was completely discontinued without resort to prosecution.

WAGES

The following table gives the average daily rates of wages paid to factory employees in the province:—

Occupation.	Average daily wages.
	Ra. a. p.
<i>Supervision of labour.</i>	
Factory engineer	5 8 0
Chargeman of skilled workers	2 4 0
Chargeman of unskilled workers	1 0 0
<i>Skilled labour.</i>	
Engine driver	0 11 0
Fireman	0 10 0
Oilman	0 7 0
Fitter	1 4 0
Turner	1 2 0
Blacksmith	0 5 0
Moulder	0 11 0
Carpenter	0 14 0
Bricklayer	1 2 0
Compositor	0 10 0
Machinist	1 4 0
<i>Unskilled labour.</i>	
Male cooly	0 6 0
Female cooly	0 4 9
Child cooly	0 4 6

SAFETY

The Report states that, during the year, there was a substantial improvement in the fencing of machinery, in the use of safety devices and in the application of safety rules. A very important class of fencing was that provided to give protection from railway traffic in factories. The total length of railway running within factory precincts was nearly 100 miles; and the portions of the line fenced in 1922 (mostly at awkward curves and congested points in big factories) amounted to a length of about 3,000 yards. Railway gates

for crossings were either erected or under erection at about a dozen places.

ACCIDENTS AND PROSECUTIONS

The total number of accidents was 1,273 in 1922 as against 1,456 in 1921. There was thus a decrease of about 12 per cent. in the total number of accidents in spite of an increase of over 18 per cent. in the total number of persons employed; which, in other words, meant a reduction in the accident rate (*i.e.*, number of accidents per 100 persons employed) from 2.51 to 1.85 or about 26 per cent. In the case of fatal accidents the rate fell from 0.07 to 0.0232 or about 66 per cent., the actual number of cases being 17 in 1922 as against 41 in 1921. The perceptible mitigation of the accident rate was mainly due to the improvement in fencing. In all industries, the accidents caused by rolling stock alone decreased from 78 in 1921 to 45 in 1922, the fatal cases out of them numbering 4 in 1922 as against 13 in 1921. The prosecutions instituted during the year were in the case of certain evasions of the law regarding the fencing of machinery. Convictions were secured in 7 cases under one or other of the sub-sections (b), (f), (g), (i) of Section 41 of the Factories Act.

SANITATION

The Report states that there was satisfactory improvement during the year in the sanitation of the factories already on the register, that there was no reason to suspect any serious defect in the quantity or quality of the drinking water, that inadequate ventilation was a rarity and that in a few cases better lighting was necessary. It is interesting to note that in one large factory a number of spray fittings were installed so that, in the hot weather, the water might agreeably be cooled by evaporation and that this was much appreciated by the operatives.

HOUSING

The only development, says the Report, in the provision of living accommodation by employers consisted in the addition of more quarters to meet increased requirements at factories, where quarters had already been provided, and at newly built factories.

The Report contains an interesting zinco-graphed chart showing factory statistics for 1916-1922.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE ORGANISATION OF FACTORY INSPECTION

QUESTIONNAIRE

The Questionnaire on the General Principles for the Organisation of Factory Inspection addressed to the Governments of the several States Members of the Organisation was published *in extenso* on page 27 of the *Labour Gazette* for October 1923. The Questionnaire was drawn up by the International Labour Office in the light of the discussion at the Governing Body. It began with a preliminary question the object of which was to define precisely the subject to be dealt with by the Conference. The rest of the Questionnaire was divided into three parts dealing successively with (1) the scope of inspection, *i.e.*, the nature of the work which inspection should carry out and the character of the provisions of the laws and regulations which it should supervise, (2) the functions and powers of inspectors, *i.e.*, the general conception of the inspector's functions and the rights with which he should be invested in order to carry out these functions, and (3) the administrative organisation of inspection.

The object of this only subject on the agenda of the Fifth International Labour Conference was to indicate how inspection should be organised in practice in order to ensure proper and effective enforcement of the laws for the protection of the workers. The replies received were from the Governments of large industrial States which have long had inspection services as well as States newly constituted or reconstituted since the Treaties of Peace and extra-European countries whose labour legislation is still of recent date. All these States were unanimously of opinion that the Conference might usefully indicate in a Recommendation general principles for properly organising supervision of the enforcement of labour laws.

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

The Report submitted by the International Labour Office on receipt of replies to the Questionnaire consists of three Chapters.

The first Chapter reproduces the replies of the Governments, arranged by countries in alphabetical order under each heading of the Questionnaire. The second Chapter contains a general survey of the question in the light of these replies. The third and final Chapter gives the conclusions formulated by the Office on the basis of the replies and the text of a draft Recommendation submitted as a basis for discussion at the Conference. The Report analyses the replies of the Governments according as they relate to the following subjects under the several main sections of the Questionnaire:—

Preliminary Question

I.—Sphere of Inspection.

- (a) Principal work of the inspectorate.
- (b) Additional duties of the inspectorate.
- (c) Nature of additional duties.

II.—Functions and Powers of Inspectors.

- (a) Right of entry.
- (b) Judicial powers.
- (c) Administrative powers.
- (d) Moral and social aspect of inspectors' duties.
- (e) Annual reports.

III.—Organisation of Inspection.

- (a) One or more inspection services.
- (b) Supervision of special technical provisions.
- (c) Administrative organisation.
- (d) Recruitment and training of inspectors.
- (e) Participation of women in inspection.
- (f) Collaboration of the workers in inspection.
- (g) Co-operation of the police and local authorities.

The Report states:

"On a large number of points, however, there is considerable unanimity in the opinions expressed by the Governments, and it has appeared possible to draw some general principles from the different replies. On the other hand, the variety in administrative practice, judicial procedure, industrial development and even customs in the different countries seemed to make it difficult to deal with some questions in the rigid form of a definite proposal."

RECOMMENDATION

The Recommendation begins with the statement of certain considerations, which help to bring out the importance of a Recommendation on inspection in connexion with the general development of international labour legislation and to define its limits. The first three Parts of it (*Sphere of inspection; Nature of the functions and powers of inspectors; and*

Organisation of inspection) correspond with the three sections of the Questionnaire and follow the sub-divisions of each section as faithfully as possible. Sub-division E of the second section of the Questionnaire has alone been detached and embodied in a distinct Part of the Recommendation. This fourth Part (*Inspectors' reports*) contains a final paragraph which deals with the possibility of treating each year in the reports of a subject of hygiene or safety selected in advance by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office. The principles selected for inclusion in the draft are nearly always based on the opinions of the majority of the Governments. An endeavour has been made to indicate briefly the spirit which it is considered in the light of the experience of the most industrialised countries should inspire the work of inspection—abandonment of the police and repressive spirit, confidence of employers in inspectors who keep pace with the times, and a growing understanding on the part of the persons directly concerned of the real utility of the work of protection.

In concluding the Report, the Office suggested the following procedure, *viz.*, that a general discussion might be opened, to begin with, to last for a day or two, in order to settle the preliminary question, to decide by vote whether the draft Recommendation was to be adopted or not as a basis of discussion and to define the general form which the Recommendation was to take. Immediately after this general discussion, four Commissions might be appointed to deal with the four groups of questions contained in the Recommendation. The general discussion might again be opened, as usual, at a plenary sitting of the Conference. The Drafting Committee would follow up the different parts of the Recommendation as they were adopted, and a final vote on the complete text might be taken on the last day of the Conference. In addition to the four commissions suggested by the Office, the Conference adopted a separate commission to deal with the special question of safety.

RESOLUTIONS

The Conference held ten plenary sittings between 22nd and 29th October 1923 and adopted the Recommendation and also

approved or adopted the following, among other, resolutions:—

1. That in view of the importance of safety work, the Committee recommends that the International Labour Office be instructed to proceed to a survey of measures already in force in certain countries which, through the reduction of insurance premiums for accident compensation and other means, tend to encourage improvement of health conditions and the reduction of the number of accidents.

2. The Conference invites the International Labour Office to publish each year on the basis of the annual inspection reports issued in the different countries a general report summarising the results obtained in the different States and to endeavour to secure the largest measure of uniformity possible in the presentation of the reports of the different countries and especially in the compilation of statistical tables, in order to allow of more exact comparison.

3. The Fifth Session of the International Labour Conference, considering the importance for the safety of railway workers of questions relating to automatic couplings, requests the Governing Body to obtain information from Governments and from international, technical and industrial organisations upon the question of automatic couplings, in order to decide whether an international agreement in the matter is desirable in the interests of the workers.

4. The Conference requests the Governing Body to consider the possibility of inscribing on the Agenda of a forthcoming Session of the Conference the institution of a special inspection system for the mercantile marine distinct from the industrial inspection system.

The full text of the Recommendation as adopted by the Conference will be published in a later issue of this Journal. Some of the clauses of the Recommendation were published on page 26 of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1923.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

In connexion with the discussion of the Fifth International Labour Conference on the general principles for the organisation of factory inspection, the International Labour Office has published in proof a comparative study of the organisation and work of the medical inspection service in various countries. The report is based on information received in reply to a questionnaire dealing with the most important functions which are or might be entrusted to the service. The questionnaire was sent to those States Members of the Organisa-

tion which actually possess a medical inspection service or have taken steps to provide for medical collaboration in their factory inspection service. The replies from which the information contained in the report is derived were received from the following countries: South Africa, Germany, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Czecho-Slovakia, Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom, Sweden and Switzerland. Unofficial information on medical factory inspection in Soviet Russia was also obtained. The principal part of the report is devoted to an account of the organisation of the public medical factory inspection services in the various countries, administrative position and organisation, appointment and functions of medical inspectors, advisory medical officers, local inspection services, and advisory boards and councils. There is, however, a separate chapter dealing with one of the functions of the medical inspectors: the prevention, diagnosis and notification of industrial diseases. There is a table showing the industrial diseases which are compulsorily notifiable. The report concludes with an account of the technical training of medical inspectors and the modifications proposed in the existing systems of medical factory inspection.

INDIAN STUDENT-APPRENTICES IN ENGLAND

At a meeting of the East India Association a speaker who is engaged in supervising rolling-stock works in the North of England declared that Indian student-apprentices who came to that part of the country were most satisfactory and worthy of encouragement. He said that if India is to progress industrially, she must have competent men to supervise her industries, and young Indians cannot become capable of this work unless they receive thorough training. It is hoped that more Indians of the right stamp will fit themselves for carrying on industries in their own country.

LABOUR IN BRITISH GUIANA

For want of labour, the acreage in sugar-canes in British Guiana has been reduced from 78,000 in 1918 to 54,000. The Planters

Association has invited the Governor, Sir Graeme Thomson, to endeavour to introduce at least 1,500 families from India.

Sir Graeme Thomson has taken up the matter with the British Government, and, through the British Government, with the Government of India; but he believes that further delay in the negotiations for settlers will occur, as the report of a deputation which visited the Colony from India some time ago to go into the question of Indians settling in British Guiana has not yet been discussed by the Indian Legislature.

LABOUR CONDITIONS AT SEA

A joint international commission of ship-owners, seamen, and representatives of the International Labour Office of the League of Nations met at the Ministry of Labour on 17th December 1923 to consider questions affecting the conditions of life and labour of seafarers. The proceedings were private. A report surveying the work and progress in various countries in connexion with the notification and application of Draft Conventions and Recommendations of the International Labour Conferences of 1920 and 1921, affecting juvenile employment, unemployment indemnity for shipwrecked sailors and hours of work in the fishing industry, was submitted by M. Albert Thomas, Director of the International Labour Office.

WELFARE WORK IN MILLS

THE TATA GROUP OF MILLS

The following table gives the details of the diseases and the number of female operatives treated by the Lady Doctor at the mills controlled by Messrs. Tata Sons, Ltd., during the months of October and November 1923:—

Diseases.	Number of cases treated during	
	October.	November.
1. The Alimentary System (Stomatitis, Dyspepsia, Diarrhoea, Constipation, Dysentery, Intestinal Worms and Piles)	53	69
2. The Urinary System (Cystitis)	1	3
3. Muscular and Articular Systems (Myalgia and Arthritis)	27	21
4. The Nervous System (Headache and Neuralgia)	13	20

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Diseases.	Number of cases treated during	
	October.	November.
5. The Respiratory System (Bronchitis and Asthma)	21	15
6. The Blood, lymphatic and ductless glands	16	25
7. Eye, Ear, Throat and Skin	43	37
8. Infectious nature (Malaria, Dengue and Mumps)	38	45
9. Gynaecological	3	7
10. Injuries	4	4
Total	219	246

COLABA AND NEW GREAT EASTERN FREE DISPENSARIES

According to the Medical Officer's Report of the operatives treated during December 1923 at the Free Dispensaries controlled by Messrs. W. H. Brady & Co., Ltd., 1,012 fresh cases were admitted during the month into the Colaba Dispensary in addition to 327 repetition cases making a total in all of 1,339. Of the 1,355 cases treated at the New Great Eastern Free Dispensary, 558 were fresh admissions and 797 repetition cases. The following statistics show in detail the cases treated in the two dispensaries:—

Diseases.	Number of cases treated during December 1923.	
	The Colaba Land and Mill Co., Ltd. (a)	The New Great Eastern Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.
Dysentery	33	24
Malaria	181	222
Other fevers	2	132
Rheumatism and Rheumatic pains	43	28
Eyes and ears	80	38
Respiratory system	77	166
Diarrhoea	41	41
Dyspepsia	45	153
Liver	1	7
Digestive system	130	106
Skin	77	245
Ulcers	11	25
All other diseases	218	71
Injuries	73	97
Total	1,012	1,355

(a) The numbers represent fresh cases.

HOUSING IN BOMBAY

DEVELOPMENT CHAWLS

Since the appearance of the last report on the subject in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for May 1923, appreciable progress has been made in the industrial housing programme undertaken by the Bombay Government. Out of a total number of 2,720 rooms now ready for occupation, a block of 80 rooms has been let to the City of Bombay Improvement Trust at full economic rent for accommodating the inhabitants of the Tulsirampada, who were dishoused by its operations in that area, and 2,328 rooms were occupied on the 19th November 1923, as shown below :—

Occupation.	Number of tenants.	Percentage to total.
Mill-hands	1,455	62.5
Police	133	5.7
Railway employees	166	7.2
Municipal employees	6	0.2
Clerks	78	3.4
Artisans	35	1.6
Bombay Development Directorate employees	10	0.5
Bombay Improvement Trust employees	5	0.2
Other daily labourers	214	9.1
Port Trust employees	21	1.0
Dockyard employees	12	0.5
Tramway Company employees	40	1.7
Infant Welfare Society	15	0.6
Time-keepers	3	0.1
Contractors	2	0.1
Ticket-collectors and examiners	7	0.3
School-masters	7	0.3
Shoe-makers	96	4.1
Motor-drivers	20	0.8
Telegraph Department employees	3	0.1
	2,328*	100.0

* This includes 26 rooms so far actually occupied in the block allotted to the City of Bombay Improvement Trust.

It will be seen from this statement that, after excluding 133 rooms let to the Police and 15 rooms to the Infant Welfare Society, only 78 rooms are occupied by clerical classes and 135 rooms by other classes, such as time-keepers, contractors, ticket-collectors and examiners, shoe-makers, motor-drivers and school-masters. The remaining 1,967 rooms are let to the working classes, that is to manual workers in industry and transport, including ordinary wage-earners in the employ of the Bombay Municipality, the City of Bombay Improvement Trust, the Bombay Develop-

ment Directorate, the Bombay Port Trust and the Royal Indian Marine. Thus, out of 2,328 tenants, 84.49 per cent. belong to the working classes, and if the rooms occupied by the Police and the Infant Welfare Society are excluded, the percentage of tenants who belong to the working classes generally is over 90.

The following table shows the allocation of rooms to each class of worker in the chawls in different areas :—

Particulars of rooms.	Situation of Chawls.			Total.
	Nairnum.	De-Lisle Road.	Worli.	
Total number of rooms	1,360	560	800	2,720
Number of rooms let to working classes	1,198	240	529	1,967
Number of rooms let to clerks	67	7	4	78
Number of rooms let to other classes	24	192	67	283
	Out of which 5 are let to the Infant Welfare Society.	Out of which 133 are let to the Police and 5 to the Infant Welfare Society.	Out of which 5 are let to the Infant Welfare Society.	
Total number of rooms let	1,289	439	600	2,328

* Excluding 34 rooms vacant in the block allotted to the Bombay Improvement Trust.

It has been recently decided to make the following improvements in the Directorate chawls :—

(a) that *nahanis* should be provided in each room in all the chawls under construction and to be constructed in future ;

(b) that in each room in the chawls under construction, in which the present standard type of windows has already been built, a loft connected with the chimney and other improvements (including a *nahani*) should be provided ;

(c) that in the chawls under construction, in which windows of the present standard pattern have not yet been built, as well as in the chawls to be constructed in future, a shuttered type of window without sunshade should be adopted, and the loft and chimney should be done away with, the other improvements (including the *nahani*), referred to in (b) above being retained.

Rents for rooms in such of the chawls as are not provided with these improvements remain

unaltered, but rents for rooms in those chawls which are fitted with these improvements have been increased by Re. 1 per room to cover the extra cost involved thereby. The rents at which rooms in the latter class of chawls are let are as follows :—

	Rs.	a.	p.	per room.
Ground floor	10	8	0	
1st floor	11	0	0	
2nd and 3rd floors	11	8	0	

An extra charge of Re. 1 per room is also made for corner rooms.

Sixteen chawls, containing 1,280 tenements, are being erected on the Sewri-Mazgaon Reclamation for housing labour near the new Cotton Depot at Sewri.

CONSUMPTION OF LIQUOR IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

DECREASE IN LICIT CONSUMPTION

The Government of Bombay have now issued their Reports on the administration of the Excise Department in the Bombay Presidency, Sind and Aden for the financial year 1922-23. This is a question of much interest and importance in view of the consumption by the industrial worker especially in Bombay*. The most striking feature of these Reports is that the total licit consumption of country liquor in the Presidency Proper decreased by 3,09,000 gallons, i.e., fifteen per cent. The consumption of licit liquor was as follows :—

Year ended 31st March.	Gallons (London proof) (000).
1914 (pre-war year)	2,457
1915	2,341
1916	2,187
1917	2,517
1918	2,656
1919	2,472
1920	2,641
1921	2,615
1922	2,101
1923	1,792

The per capita consumption of country spirit and toddy in the same period in Bombay City was as follows :—

* Vide Report on an Enquiry into Working Class Budgets, Bombay—G. Findlay Shirras, Bombay, Government Central Press, 1923, paras. 42-43.

Bombay city

Year ended 31st March.	Per capita consumption of	
	Country spirit.	Toddy.*
	Drums (London Proof).	Drums.
1914 (pre-war year)	22.7	11.4
1915	22.6	10.8
1916	22.9	14.7
1917	26.5	15.9
1918	29.2	18.8
1919	29.9	19.3
1920	33.3	18.3
1921	34.2	17.1
1922	30.0	14.4
1923	25.4	12.6

* Fermented juice of palm trees.
† Figures not available.

The decrease is most noticeable in the case of Bombay City and Thana District where a large labouring population has been gathered on the various development schemes. The decrease in the consumption of liquor is attributed to certain changes, some of them of the most far-reaching character, such as the rationing of all country shops, which were introduced during the year of the Reports with a view to impose a direct check on the consumption of liquor. The Reports show that the decrease in the consumption of licit liquor was not accompanied by a larger consumption of more deleterious intoxicants ; nor has it been replaced by more expensive foreign liquor except, to a small extent, by the cheaper kind of Indian-made brandies and whiskies. So far as toddy has been substituted for country liquor, the change, the Government of Bombay consider, is for the better, as toddy, when not stale, is an innocuous beverage in comparison with country liquor.

ILLICIT CONSUMPTION

There is one feature of the Reports which is deemed by the Government of Bombay as a cause of great anxiety. There has occurred a large increase in the number of offences



relating to liquor. The number of such offences in the Presidency Proper is as follows:—

Year ended 31st March.	Number of offences.
1918	3,482
1919	1,290
1920	1,957
1921	2,629
1922	1,999
1923	3,468

Cases of illicit importation, sale and distillation rose in the year ended 31st March 1923 from 1,905 to 2,884 or by 51 per cent. So great an increase in the number of offences has prompted the question in some quarters whether the real consumption of liquor has been appreciably reduced. How far this increase in crime is the result of the policy of Government and in what respects that policy requires modification is a question which is to receive the serious consideration of Government.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN SINGAPORE

There is much middle class unemployment in Singapore, the main reason for which appears to be the post-war "slump" in local businesses. A Committee appointed by the Governor to inquire into the matter has recently sent in its report from which it appears that "during the years immediately following the close of the war, the Colony obtained a great reputation for prosperity which undoubtedly attracted many persons from India and Ceylon to compete with the Straits-born Chinese, Eurasian and Malay in employment for which a moderate knowledge of English was a requirement. That these years of prosperity have been followed by a slump of unprecedented magnitude has been brought home to all of us, and the consequences of the dissolution of many newly established business houses and the contraction of the activities of others have been disastrous to many of their employees". There is a degree of resemblance between this state of things and that experienced elsewhere which is borne out by the frank, but despairing admission of the Singapore Committee that "for the relief of the unemployed or unemployable clerk we regret we can offer no satisfactory remedy". Technical education might,

perhaps, be suggested as a palliative, but "the great majority of the youth of the country have no desire for such training". They all wish to be clerks.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN

MINISTER OF LABOUR'S VIEWS

Sir Montague Barlow, Minister of Labour, speaking at Shrewsbury on 23rd November 1923, referred to the growth of unemployment which, he said, was eating like a sore at the heart of the nation. The figures of unemployment remained in the region of one and a quarter millions for many months. They, however, dropped by about 20 thousand in the second week of November and were practically stationary during the week following. Further, the percentages were showing a steady, if slow, reduction and came down to a little over 11 per cent. That compared, in his opinion, very favourably with the figures of 17 and 18 per cent. a year or more ago, but the evil remained terrible and pressing.

The Prime Minister's programme, he said, did at least promise the hope and prospect of a real remedy. The programme put in the forefront the protection of the standard of life among the masses and included the promotion of European peace and the co-ordination of the three great insurance systems—old age, sickness and unemployment. Sir Montague Barlow dealt at length with the main advantages which the Government hoped to gain from the re-arrangement of the fiscal system as proposed by the Prime Minister. One of the advantages was the creation of opportunities for employment in developing the great States of the Empire abroad.

Referring to the programmes of the Liberal and Labour Parties he said that the capital levy could only have the result of depleting the savings of the people and of industry and, so far from helping unemployment, was only likely to increase it. So far as the Liberal Party was concerned, he found it difficult to appreciate what exactly was their policy.

In regard to free trade, he was of opinion that it gave no adequate remedy against unemployment, although it had been in vogue in Great Britain for the past many years.



WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1923

GREAT BRITAIN

The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, received the Royal Assent on 16th November 1923 and came into operation on 1st January 1924. An outline of the Bill, as introduced into the House of Commons, was given on pp. 21-24 of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1923, and some of the amendments passed by the House during the third reading on pp. 34-35 of the *Gazette* for December 1923. The following are other provisions of the new Act worthy of note:—

(1) The term "workman" includes a person employed otherwise than by way of manual labour whose remuneration does not exceed £350 a year, instead of £250 as under the principal Act.

(2) The maximum amount of compensation payable to the dependants of a deceased workman is fixed at £600 (instead of £300 as under the old Act and £500 as in the Bill as introduced); while the percentage basis on which the children allowance is arrived at has been increased from 10 to 15.

(3) The amount of compensation under the new Act, in fatal cases, if the workman leaves any dependants wholly dependant upon his earnings, shall be a sum equal to his earnings during the three preceding years or £200 (instead of £150 as under the old Act), whichever is the larger.

(4) Compensation will be payable also for the first three days of disablement (the waiting period), if the incapacity lasts for four weeks or upwards.

(5) The discretion of the Court which, under the old Act, was to determine the weekly payment to which a workman is entitled in the event of his being partially disabled by accident (within certain limits), is now excluded, and the weekly payment is fixed mathematically. Such amounts can, therefore, be ascertained by simple calculation.

(6) The section requiring the posting up of a summary of Acts, so far as they relate to notices of accidents and other matters, is made to apply to ships, mines, quarries, factories and workshops. An accident book is also required to be kept, in which may be entered particulars of accidents by the injured workman or by some one acting on his behalf; and an entry in this book is sufficient notice of the accident for purposes of the Act.

(7) The maximum payment in case of fatal accident, where the workman has left no dependants, is £15, instead of £10 as under the principal Act. The provisions as to lump-sum payments (in redemption of weekly payments) are amended in respect of workmen under 21 years of age.

■ 965-10

(8) The Home Secretary is given power, as regards any factory or class of factories, where he considers it necessary in view of the number and nature of the accidents occurring therein, to require the occupier to make special provision to secure the safety of the employees.

OTHER SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS

The following amendments which were either withdrawn by the movers in the House of Commons or rejected by the House are of interest:—

(1) The principal Act shall be applied to miners' restaurants or its verques (*clauses*);

(2) The principal Act shall be applied to disease or affliction of the eye;

(3) Addition shall be made to the ordinary compensation awarded to a widow of the actual loss of such children as were attending a secondary school, college or other advanced educational institution at the time when his father was killed;

(4) A workman who is absent from work, owing to injury, for 14 days shall receive compensation both for the first three days of his disablement and for the remainder of the period; and

(5) Clause 6 (dealing with the inclusion of certain accidents arising outside the scope of employment) shall contain the provision that the act which led to the accident was "done bona fide by the workman in some exceptional circumstances".

INSURANCE

The new Act has considerably improved the position of the "workman". Consequently it has increased the responsibility of the employer, and, hence, also the obligations assumed by Insurance Companies transacting employers' liability business. An added interest is, therefore, acquired by the arrangement entered into in May last between the Home Office and the Accident Offices Association for the purpose of limiting the charges to employers in respect of employers' liability insurance.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS IN THE UNITED STATES

THE MEDICAL ASPECT

The Labour Office has received from the National Industrial Conference Board, New York, a copy of its Research Report No. 61 on Workmen's Compensation. Workmen's compensation laws in the United States date from 1911. These laws are now in effect in forty-two states. The passage of these laws

nullified the provisions of the employer's liability laws which had previously been upon the statute books of many states. It was felt that these older laws, including rights to action under the common law, did not adequately safeguard the interests of an employee who suffered an industrial accident, and the compensation laws which displaced them were intended to place definitely upon the employer the responsibility for the care of those injured in his employ, and also to provide a definite measure of the employer's liability for injuries suffered while in his employ. The enactment of these laws, while in the nature of an experiment in social legislation, has undoubtedly produced results of value both to employers and workers, and the principle embodied in the legislation, viz., charging one group with the major responsibility for injuries occurring to another group, has been accepted by both interested parties, in the main, as a just one. In the majority of states special boards or commissions were created to administer these laws, while in a few states the courts are charged directly with this responsibility.

Every case arising under these laws involves medical questions, either immediately or ultimately. Regardless of the legal or administrative problems that may be involved in a compensation case, the medical problem is one of the first to be considered and one of the most important to settle in a manner satisfactory to all. In many cases, however, they have been given but scant consideration. Even to-day after the experience of a decade in the operation of these laws, only fifteen of the forty-two states with workmen's compensation laws have physicians attached to the administering board in any special capacity other than that of examining or impartial physicians who render opinions on the physical condition of the claimant. Such physicians have no authority to consider other questions relating to the case. In half of the states having medical departments the medical adviser serves only a portion of his time to this work. In only one state is a physician a member of the administrative board. From a medical point of view (the Report states) much remains to be done to administer these laws so as to realize their full social and economic value.

EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS

The names of the present office bearers, i.e., for the year 1924-25 of the Chamber of Commerce and the Bombay and the Indian Millowners' Associations are as follows:

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Canton Buildings, Pardi Bazaar Street, 1st, Bombay.)

Chairman.—Mr. L. S. Hudson (of Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.)

Secretary.—Mr. C. B. Sayer.

Assistant Secretary.—Mr. R. Finlayson.

BOOMBAY MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

(Canton Buildings, Pardi Bazaar Street, 1st, Bombay.)

Chairman.—Mr. S. D. Saldavala (of Messrs. Tata Sons, Ltd.)

Vice Chairman.—Mr. A. Cobden (of Messrs. James Finlay & Co.)

Secretary.—Mr. C. B. Sayer.

Assistant Secretary.—Mr. T. Mahony.

AMERINDIAN MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

President.—Seth Margaldas Gadhada.

Vice President.—Mr. Kasurthani Lalita, M.L.A.

Honorary Joint Secretaries.—Mr. Gadhada I. Patel, B.A., M.L.C.; Mr. Potankhal Vakil, M.A., M.B.E.

THE EFFECT OF INCREASED OIL-TOMS DUTIES ON THE WHOLESALE INDEX

On page 13 of the Labour Gazette for December 1923 certain increases in duty are given in para. 1. The increases are from March 1921. Thus, the duty on oil has increased from Re. 1-4-1 since March 1921 to Re. 2-8-1 per maund, on Kerosene from Re. 9-1-6 to Re. 9-2-6 per imperial gallon, and from 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. and on sugar from 15 per cent. to 25 per cent. The duty on copper braziers has increased from 7½ per cent. to 15 per cent., on tin plates, steel boxes, galvanised sheets and iron bars from 2½ per cent. to 10 per cent., on hides and skins from 7½ per cent. to 15 per cent. and on cotton piece-goods from 7½ per cent. to 11 per cent.

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

The half-yearly Ordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Bengal Coal Co., Ltd., was held at Calcutta on 17th December 1923. Sir T. S. Catto, Bt., Chairman, presiding. In the course of his address to the shareholders, the President touched upon some subjects of active interest to the commercial community in general and to the coal trade in particular. His remarks about India's Industrial Expansion are specially noteworthy.

COAL TRADE

Reviewing the state of coal trade, Sir Thomas Catto said:—

"Owing partially to reduced industrial activity and partially to increased competition from foreign coal, especially on the Bombay side, the demand for certain classes of Indian coal has considerably fallen off. In small, fine-burning coals, the demand has been mainly a coal of inferior grades and is being severely hit by the small collieries.... It is no country in the world to have a great and essential industry suffering such hardships as in India.... Since Government almost themselves to be stampeded by a few shrewd and unscrupulous speculators, practically no Indian coal has gone to foreign markets. The production was around a year ago, but as far as we have been unable to capture even a small share of the lost markets."

The cause of this was the high price of Indian coal as against the cheap foreign coal, which in turn was due to (1) the high cost of transport from the coal fields to Calcutta and to (2) the antiquated character of the facilities for dealing with export coal by the Railways and the Port. The re-introduction of the new rates of Railway freight on export coal which was to have come into force on 1st January and the probable reduction, to some degree, of the Port Commissioners' charges would amount to a real beginning to export trade. Special facilities, he said, should be provided for the allotment of open wagons to collieries with mechanical loading plants, in addition to special cutting to the Calcutta docks and direct loading to steamers. In his opinion, this, as in other countries, was not impossible in Calcutta, especially in view of the estimated extra coal traffic of one to two million tons per year.

INDIA'S INDUSTRIES

In dealing with the development of India's industries, Sir Thomas Catto said: "One of

the contributing causes to the falling off in the domestic consumption of coal has been the collapse of so many industries which had been started in the early years of independence. These industries were started for the growth of industries in the case of the United States and the United Kingdom and the United States and the United Kingdom, which gave them a certain impetus but by degrees. In relation to the industries that Government policy had tended to create industrial expansion, he said, as examples, the case of iron, cotton and coal industries. The number of iron in the United States had increased from less than 1000 in 1875 to over 4000 in 1922 and to nearly 5000 in 1923. In the case of cotton, the number of cotton spindles in India from less than 20 in 1900 with about 5 million spindles and 4000 looms to nearly 30 a present with about 5 million spindles and 10000 looms and the total quantity of coal produced in India from little over 1 million tons per year in 1880 to the neighbourhood of 20 million tons to-day.

"India has been building her industries in a most haphazard and unsteady way. She has not done this through natural causes and the solution and the remedy is for Government to take action. These figures are something to be proud of in India and to be proud of in Europe. It is something of which Government may be justly proud. It has been possible only by the grace and security under which Indian industry has been able to develop in the last century. That wealth has passed into India in the period through the great industries that have grown up under a Government which, whatever its faults and shortcomings, has given peace and security to a people that any Government in the history of the world has not given India in not only a poor country. There are many more in it. But we have seen in all India and under all systems of Government, it is something for which we can be justly proud to have a coal country."

INDIA'S INDUSTRIES AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Sir Thomas Catto said that the common criticism about the large import of machinery for India's industry was "simply trying to fight hairs!" Continuing, he said:

"The manufacture in India of machinery for her industries has been growing for years. It is developing



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fast. But it takes time and a great deal of capital! Would the theorists have had India wait to capture her Cotton and Jute trades until the machinery could be made here? The cost of a machine usually bears little ratio to the wealth it produces. This is especially so in textile machinery. What wealth the English-made Cotton and Jute machinery has created in India and for India! From this very wealth, capital will come for the development of the manufacture of machinery in India. What trade these very looms have taken from Manchester and from Dundee! How few people stop to think that it is cheap and good machinery, largely from home, that has made modern Indian industry!

INDIANISATION

In regard to Indianisation he observed:

"I am in complete sympathy with it in its broad sense of an awakening of Indian ideals for the future government and development of their country. But I do not conceive it to mean—as some Extremists twist it to mean—that Europeans should not play a part, and an important part, in that future as they have done in the past. The Extremist view is very harmful to India and to her credit all over the world. India needs capital from home. Capital, wherever it comes from, helps to develop a country. Let me give you an instance. The great Pennsylvania Railroad Company in the United States was originally built by British capital and largely by British engineers. It was for many years mainly owned in England, but the people whom the railway helped to make rich by the development of the country gradually bought back the shares of the Company until to-day I doubt if 5 per cent. of the railway is owned in England. That is what is happening in India to-day. Look at your Railways, look at the Cotton Mills and Jute Mills! Take even the Bengal Coal Company. It was originally started and entirely owned by Europeans; to-day it has many happy and satisfied Indian shareholders, and they are increasing all the time."

INDIA'S NEED FOR FOREIGNERS

Sir Thomas Catto emphasised the need of India, as of the other Dominions, for the young Englishman, Scotsman, Irishman and Welshman, and met the criticism that they do not settle in India by saying:

"That surely is a poor reproach! The toll of British dead in India is a long and glorious one of men who have worked and died in India and for India. Those who eventually retire do so only after giving the best years of their lives to India. Surely it matters little where a man goes to lay his bones! What does matter is that the work he did lives on in India!"

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

SIXTH SESSION

The Government of India have been informed that the sixth Session of the International Labour Conference will open at Geneva on June 16th, 1924. The agenda of the Conference was published on page 26 of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1923.

In addition to the items stated therein, the Conference will also deal with the question of the institution of a procedure for the amendment of conventions. Each State should be represented by four delegates, of whom two will be Government representatives, one a representative of the employers and one a representative of labour. The right of nominating all delegates rests with the Government of India, but, in selecting delegates for employers and labour, the Government of India will attach due importance to the recommendations made by organised representative associations of employers and employed. All suggestions as to the nomination of non-Government delegates should reach the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour, at the earliest possible date, and, in any case, not later than 15th February 1924, in order to enable the Government to make selections, to report them to the International Labour Office and to make adequate arrangements for the journey of the delegates. The Government of India will pay travelling expenses for all delegates finally nominated, whether they represent Government or not.

STATISTICS OF MIGRATION

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The following table shows the number of arrivals into, and departures from, the Union of South Africa of Non-Europeans during October 1923 and the period January to October 1923:—

Period.	Non-Europeans.	
	British.	Others.
October 1923—		
New Arrivals	69	....
Permanent Departures	647	....
All Arrivals	370	....
All Departures	1,967	7
January—October 1923—		
New Arrivals	415	43
Permanent Departures	2,759	38

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Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	December 1922.	November 1923.	December 1923.
			Rs. & p.	Rs. & p.	Rs. & p.	Rs. & p.
Cereals—						
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	5 9 6	6 6 10	6 6 10
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	7 2 0	6 10 0	7 4 0
Do.	Khandwa Sonni	Candy	45 0 0	75 0 0	65 0 0	45 0 0
Do.	Jubbulpore	..	40 0 0	70 0 0	45 0 0	45 0 0
Do.	Rangoon	Md.	3 2 6	3 2 10	4 7 1	4 2 0
Jowari	—	..	3 4 6	3 6 2	3 2 10	3 1 1
Barley	Ghatsi	..	3 4 6	3 6 2	4 2 0	4 3 5
Beans	Punjab yellow (Zad sort)	..	4 3 9	4 8 10	3 9 7	3 11 3
Pulses—	Cawnpore	..	5 10 5	5 11 5	5 4 8	5 4 8
Gram						
Turdal	Mauritius No. 1	Cwt.	9 3 0	22 0 0	26 12 0	28 8 0
Sugar—	Java white	..	10 3 0	23 4 0	26 2 0	27 13 0
Do.	Sangli	Md.	7 14 3	14 4 7	10 14 2	10 9 0
Raw (Gul)						
Other food—	Rajapuri	..	5 9 3	25 2 7	38 12 5	39 11 8
Turmeric	Deshi	..	45 11 5	82 13 9	85 11 5	91 6 10
Ghee	Bombay (black)	..	1 7 6	2 7 0	3 2 0	3 2 0
Salt						

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Cereals—						
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	..	100	119	137	137
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	..	100	134	118	130
Do.	Khandwa Sonni	..	100	167	144	144
Do.	Jubbulpore	..	100	175	113	113
Do.	Rangoon	..	100	101	141	131
Jowari	—	..	100	105	97	94
Barley	Ghatsi	..	100	105	126	129
Average—Cereals			100	129	125	125
Pulses—						
Gram	Punjab yellow (Zad sort)	..	100	106	95	97
Turdal	Cawnpore	..	100	101	94	94
Average—Pulses			100	105	96	91
Sugar—						
Sugar	Mauritius No. 1	..	100	239	291	310
Do.	Java white	..	100	228	256	275
Raw (Gul)	Sangli	..	100	181	138	147
Average—Sugar			100	216	228	245
Other food—						
Turmeric	Rajapuri	..	100	451	695	712
Ghee	Deshi	..	100	181	188	200
Salt	Bombay (black)	..	100	166	212	212
Average—Other food			100	264	365	375
Average—All food			100	170	189	194

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	December	November	December
			Rs. a. p.	1922.	1923.	1923.
Oilseeds—						
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	13 4 0	13 15 0	14 4 0
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	"	8 0 0	11 0 0	10 7 0	10 12 0
Poppyseed	Do.	"	10 14 0	14 2 0	13 10 0	13 12 0
Gingelly	White	"	11 4 0	13 14 0	15 12 0	16 0 0
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton—raw—						
Broach	Good	Candy	251 0 0	428 0 0	.....	.....
Oomra	Fully good	"	222 0 0	.....	.....	640 0 0
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Khandesh	Machine ginned	"	205 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0	350 0 0	600 0 0	560 0 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 7 6	1 13 9	1 13 6
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	13 0 0	13 6 0	13 6 0
White mulls	6,600	"	4 3 0	9 6 0	9 4 0	9 4 0
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	25 12 0	26 4 0	26 12 0
Long cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 5 9	1 8 0	1 6 0
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	1 4 9	1 5 6	1 4 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Oilseeds—			100	149	157	160
Linseed	Bold	.....	100	138	130	134
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	.....	100	130	125	126
Poppyseed	Do.	.....	100	123	140	142
Gingelly	White	.....	100	135	138	141
Average—Oilseeds	.....	.....	100	135	138	141
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton—raw—						
Broach	Good	.....	100	.....	.....	.....
Oomra	Fully good	.....	100	193	.....	288
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	.....	100	.....	.....	.....
Khandesh	Machine ginned	.....	100	.....	.....	.....
Bengal	Do.	.....	100	177	303	283
Average—Cotton—raw	.....	.....	100	185	303	286
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Twist	40S	.....	100	184	233	231
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	.....	100	219	225	231
White mulls	6,600	.....	100	224	221	225
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	.....	100	248	253	221
Long cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	.....	100	229	253	258
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.	.....	100	218	226	231
Average—Cotton manufactures	.....	.....	100	220	235	229
Average—Textiles—Cotton	.....	.....	100	212	245	243

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods) continued

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	December	November	December
			Rs. a. p.	1922.	1923.	1923.
Other textiles—						
Silk	Manchow	Pucca seer	5 2 6	9 12 0	9 4 0	9 4 0
Do.	Mathow Lari	"	2 15 1	5 12 0	5 12 0	5 12 0
Hides and Skins—						
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 9 9	1 12 10	1 10 6
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	0 11 8	1 2 10	1 1 10
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	1 15 9	2 11 9	2 6 3
Metals—						
Copper braziers	—	Cwt.	60 8 0	77 0 0	70 0 0	71 8 0
Iron bars	—	"	4 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	7 0 0
Steel hoops	—	"	7 12 0	14 4 0	12 12 0	12 4 0
Galvanized sheets	—	"	9 0 0	18 0 0	16 0 0	15 10 0
Tin plates	—	Box	8 12 0	19 0 0	18 4 0	18 4 0
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	Bengal	Ton	14 12 0	25 8 0	24 10 0	24 10 0
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	34 8 3	23 7 11	26 14 8
Do.	Elephant brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 10 6	6 15 6	6 15 6
Kerosene	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—			100	189	179	179
Silk	Manchow	.....	100	195	195	195
Do.	Mathow Lari	.....	100	192	187	187
Average—Other textiles	.....	.....	100	192	187	187
Hides and Skins—						
Hides, Cow	Tanned	.....	100	139	156	143
Do. Buffalo	Do.	.....	100	68	109	103
Skins, Goat	Do.	.....	100	159	219	191
Average—Hides and Skins	.....	.....	100	122	161	146
Metals—						
Copper braziers	.....	.....	100	127	116	118
Iron bars	.....	.....	100	200	200	175
Steel hoops	.....	.....	100	184	165	158
Galvanized sheets	.....	.....	100	200	178	174
Tin plates	.....	.....	100	217	209	209
Average—Metals	.....	.....	100	186	174	167
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	Bengal	.....	100	173	167	167
Do.	Imported	.....	100	175	119	136
Do.	Elephant brand	.....	100	175	159	159
Kerosene	Chester brand	.....	100	199	185	185
Do.	.....	.....	100	182	158	172
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles	.....	.....	100	170	189	194
Total—Food	100	178	185	185
Total—Non-food	100	175	187	188
General Average	100	175	187	188



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Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	December 1922.	November 1923.	December 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	R. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—						
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	52 0 0	52 0 0	
Wheat, white	5% barley 3% dirt. 30% red.	..	31 8 0	42 4 0	35 12 0	49 0 0
.. red	5% barley 3% dirt. 92% red.	..	31 4 0	41 8 0	35 0 0	35 8 0
.. white	2% barley 1 1/2% dirt.	..	32 8 0	43 8 0	36 12 0	34 12 0
.. red	2% barley 1 1/2% dirt.	..	32 4 0	42 12 0	36 0 0	36 8 0
Jowari	Export Quality	..	25 8 0	24 0 0	30 0 0	35 12 0
Barley	3% dirt	..	26 8 0	28 0 0	26 8 0	31 8 0
Pulses—						
Gram	1% dirt	..	29 8 0	31 4 0	27 8 0	28 0 0
Sugar—						
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	22 7 0	25 4 0	25 15 0
Do.	.. brown	..	8 1 6	20 8 0	....	....
Other food—						
Salt		Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 6	2 14 0	2 14 3

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Cereals—					
Rice	Larkana No. 3	..	100	133	133
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt 30% red.	..	100	134	113
.. red	5% barley, 3% dirt 92% red.	..	100	133	112
.. white	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	..	100	134	113
.. red	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	..	100	133	112
Jowari	Export Quality	..	100	94	118
Barley	3% dirt	..	100	106	100
Averages—Cereals		..	100	124	114
Pulses—					
Gram	1% dirt	..	100	106	93
Sugar—					
Sugar	Java white	..	100	246	277
..	.. brown	..	100	253	....
Average—Sugar		..	100	250	277
Other food—Salt		..	100	78	135



Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	December 1922.	November 1923.	December 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	3% admixture	Maund	2 11 3	3 11 0	4 4 0	4 2 0
Rapeseed	Black, 9% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	61 8 0	63 4 0	64 8 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 8 0	53 8 0	53 8 0
Textile—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	38 0 0	49 10 0	....
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill	Piece	10 3 6	21 12 0	27 0 0	28 2 0
Shirtings	Liepmann's	..	10 2 0	24 8 0	26 8 0	27 0 0
Yarns	40s. Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2	....	....	....
Other Textiles—						
Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	23 8 0	40 0 0	40 0 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Price in July 1914 = 100

Oilseeds—					
Cotton seed	3% admixture	..	100	136	157
Rapeseed	Black, 9% admixture	..	100	121	124
Gingelly	..	..	100	123	135
Average—Oilseeds		..	100	127	139
Textiles—					
Jute bags	Twills	..	100	132	140
Textiles—Cotton—					
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	..	100	188	245
(b) Cotton manufactures—					
Drills	Pepperill	..	100	213	264
Shirtings	Liepmann's	..	100	242	262
Yarns	40s. Grey (Plough)	..	100	....	....
Average—Cotton manufactures		..	100	228	263
Average—Textiles—Cotton		..	100	214	257
Other Textiles—Wool		..	100	84	143



JAN., 1924

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-Foods)—continued

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	December 1922.	November 1923.	December 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Hides—						
Hides dry	Sind	Maund	21 4 0	15 0 0	14 8 0	14 8 0
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	15 0 0	14 8 0	14 8 0
Metals—						
Copper Braziers	....	Cwt.	60 8 0	78 0 0	74 0 0	73 12 0
Steel Bars	....	"	3 14 0	7 4 0	7 0 0	7 0 0
" Plates	....	"	4 6 0	8 8 0	8 2 0	7 14 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

Article.	Grade.	July 1914.	December 1922.	November 1923.	December 1923.
Hides—					
Hides dry	Sind	100	71	68	68
" "	Punjab	100	71	68	68
Average—Hides	....	100	71	68	68
Metals—					
Copper Braziers	....	100	129	122	122
Steel Bars	....	100	187	181	181
" Plates	....	100	194	186	180
Average—Metals	....	100	170	163	161
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	141	131	131
Total—Non-food	....	100	155	166	163
General Average	....	100	149	152	150



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														
December 1921	154	160	255	141	173	148	122	284	191	175	239	204	203	192
December 1922	188	180	200	185	189	136	198	259	185	136	200	198	191	190
1923														
January	182	175	210	190	188	132	166	258	187	167	199	196	190	190
February	179	168	203	211	189	136	156	244	187	148	192	208	185	186
March	177	166	224	241	198	140	174	251	188	168	192	196	189	192
April	179	160	228	212	193	144	179	254	191	137	187	190	185	188
May	180	160	218	220	193	149	190	250	191	139	186	192	187	189
June	169	129	220	231	187	152	202	256	192	136	191	192	191	190
July	170	134	220	228	188	151	196	255	192	142	177	188	188	188
August	166	132	227	238	188	138	197	248	191	139	183	186	184	186
September	163	127	212	241	185	135	191	229	191	142	182	181	179	181
October	145	119	210	249	178	138	165	226	191	112	183	180	172	174
November	137	111	213	260	176	133	173	224	191	146	185	188	177	176
December	129	105	216	266	170	135	185	220	191	122	186	182	174	173
1923														
January	125	102	202	305	173	130	200	227	191	165	194	178	182	179
February	125	95	210	268	167	132	210	225	191	132	195	174	178	174
March	127	93	242	296	179	139	213	227	195	134	187	176	179	179
April	128	92	242	269	174	134	204	217	195	167	185	176	180	178
May	124	88	248	284	176	131	205	217	195	161	185	172	178	177
June	128	91	234	302	179	134	211	212	195	144	186	166	176	177
July	127	90	215	317	178	132	217	211	196	139	182	169	173	175
August	120	85	202	343	176	131	210	209	195	138	178	168	171	173
September	124	85	209	354	182	136	211	215	196	149	177	162	174	177
October	122	85	214	368	185	133	211	217	192	153	178	169	175	179
November	125	90	228	365	189	138	203	235	187	161	174	158	181	184
December	125	91	243	375	194	141	286	229	187	146	167	162	185	188

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, November and December 1923
The prices quoted are for local weights and measures

Articles.	Grade.	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas.	July 1914.	November 1923.	December 1923.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in December 1923 over or below	
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	July 1914.	November 1923.
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	216	5 10	7 6	8 1	+2 3	+0 7
Wheat	Punjab Pissi	"	212	5 10	7 6	7 6	+1 8	+0 5
lowari	Sholapuri	"	208	4 3	5 6	5 11	+1 8	+0 5
Bajri	Ghati	"	200	4 7	5 10	5 8	+1 1	-0 2
Gram	Punjab red	"	208	4 4	5 1	5 1	+0 9	....
Turdai	Cawnpore	"	204	5 11	7 1	7 1	+1 2	....
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer by weight	28	1 1	2 7	2 10	+1 9	+0 3
Sugar (raw)	Sangli, middle quality	"	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+0 10	....
Tea	Ceylon, middle quality	Lb.	39	7 10	14 2	15 3	+7 5	+1 1
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	188	1 9	4 0	4 0	+2 3	....
Beef	Crawford Market	Lb.	39	2 6	3 9	4 0	+1 6	+0 3
Mutton	Average for sheep and goat	"	39	3 0	7 0	7 0	+4 0	....
Milk	Medium	Seer by measure	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	....
Chee	Belgaum, Deshi	" by weight	28	7 1	13 2	13 2	+6 1	....
Potatoes	Mettupalayam	"	28	0 8	1 1	1 1	+0 5	....
Onions	Nasik	"	28	0 3	1 0	1 0	+0 9	....
Cocunut oil	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	4 0	4 7	+1 0	+0 7



Retail prices of Articles of food in November and December 1923

Articles.	Price per	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Poona.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Poona.
		November 1923.	November 1923.	November 1923.	November 1923.	November 1923.	December 1923.	December 1923.	December 1923.	December 1923.	December 1923.				
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maud ..	6 14 7	6 12 11	8 14 3	7 6 10	9 8 10	7 7 11	6 10 8	8 14 3	7 9 4	9 8 10
Wheat	" ..	7 0 9	4 11 4	7 4 4	6 2 11	6 5 5	7 0 9	4 8 4	7 4 4	5 13 11	6 5 5
Jowari	" ..	5 4 6	3 10 2	3 12 11	3 10 11	3 10 1	5 10 11	3 10 2	3 12 11	4 8 9	4 7 5
Bajri	" ..	5 13 1	3 12 7	6 2 6	3 14 9	5 1 3	5 11 1	3 14 1	5 5 4	4 3 11	5 1 3
Pulses—											
Gram	" ..	4 14 9	3 10 2	5 11 5	3 13 10	4 1 4	4 14 9	3 11 11	5 11 5	3 13 10	4 1 4
Turdal	" ..	6 15 7	6 4 5	6 10 8	6 6 0	8 14 3	6 15 7	7 0 6	6 10 8	6 13 2	8 14 3
Other articles of food—											
Sugar (refined)	" ..	19 0 9	16 13 6	20 0 0	18 4 7	17 12 5	20 4 1	19 12 1	21 5 4	19 6 4	17 12 5
Jagri (gul)	" ..	14 4 7	10 0 0	14 8 9	10 0 0	10 8 5	14 4 7	10 10 8	14 8 9	11 10 2	10 8 5
Tea	Lb. ..	0 14 2	0 13 10	1 4 1	0 13 3	0 14 6	0 15 3	0 13 10	1 4 9	0 15 7	0 14 6
Salt	Maud ..	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	Seer ..	0 7 8	0 10 0	0 8 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 8 2	0 10 0	0 8 0	0 6 0	0 6 0
Mutton	" ..	0 14 4	0 12 0	1 0 0	0 10 6	0 11 0	0 14 4	0 12 0	1 0 0	0 10 0	0 11 0
Milk	Maud ..	17 9 4	10 0 0	10 0 0	13 5 4	13 5 4	17 9 4	10 0 0	10 0 0	13 5 4	13 5 4
Ghee	" ..	94 1 11	75 4 10	80 0 0	85 5 4	84 3 4	94 1 11	76 3 1	80 0 0	85 5 4	74 6 8
Potatoes	" ..	7 11 1	7 12 1	11 6 10	10 0 0	6 2 1	7 14 1	6 9 7	10 0 0	8 0 0	6 11 9
Onions	" ..	7 2 3	5 6 9	5 15 8	5 5 4	4 9 11	7 2 3	7 10 7	6 2 6	5 13 1	4 3 4
Cocunut oil	" ..	28 9 1	28 13 3	32 0 0	26 10 8	28 1 1	32 10 5	30 3 0	35 8 11	33 10 11	28 1 1

NOTE.—1 lb. = 39 tolas; 1 maund = 82½ lbs.; 1 seer = 2⅔ lbs.; 80 tolas = 1 seer; 40 seers = 1 Indian maund.

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

Articles.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Poona.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Poona.
Cereals—										
Rice	124	102	144	140	166	135	100	144	143	166
Wheat	126	112	154	120	118	126	107	154	114	118
Jowari	121	100	130	128	106	121	100	158	130	130
Bajri	135	90	131	112	124	132	92	113	121	124
Average—cereals	127	101	132	125	129	129	100	128	134	135
Pulses—										
Gram	114	95	143	90	84	114	98	143	90	84
Turdal	419	94	108	109	135	119	105	108	117	135
Average—pulses	117	95	126	100	110	117	102	126	104	110
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined)	250	232	222	183	190	266	272	237	194	190
Jagri (gul)	182	144	164	129	150	167	153	164	150	150
Tea	199	234	221	128	177	195	200	267	150	177
Salt	148	200	221	225	224	199	234	221	225	224
Beef	148	200	133	240	141	191	225	267	140	141
Mutton	215	200	267	175	183	158	200	133	167	183
Milk	191	225	200	183	133	215	200	200	183	133
Ghee	185	176	180	152	163	185	179	180	152	144
Potatoes	172	143	300	250	182	176	122	263	200	200
Onions	460	298	299	213	230	460	421	308	233	210
Cocunut oil	113	117	160	100	100	129	123	178	126	100
Average—other articles	207	197	219	180	170	213	212	220	184	168
Average—all food articles (unweighted)	178	162	187	157	153	182	172	187	163	153



Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in India and Foreign Countries

Country.	India	Japan.	China	Australia.	New	Egypt	South	United Kingdom.				France.	Italy.
	(Bombay)		(Shan-		Zealand.	(Cairo).	Africa.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		(a)
No. of articles.	43	56	151	92	140	24	188	45	44	150	60	45	107
1913 Average	100	100	100 (e)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	100	95	106	106	104	100	97	100	99	100	100	102	95
1915	97	97	147	123	102	107	127	123	123	127	123	140	133
1916	117	117	138	134	124	123	160	160	160	160	160	188	201
1917	148	148	153	151	169	141	206	204	204	204	204	262	299
1918	235	196	178	175	207	153	226	225	225	225	225	339	409
1919	221	239	189	178	226	165	242	235	235	235	235	356	366
1920	214	260	150	228	212	299	295	283	283	283	283	510	624
1921 December	190	210	149	155	189	170	157	162	162	162	162	326	595
1922 February	187	204	150	154	181	169	156	158	162	156	156	307	563
March	192	201	152	153	180	153	157	160	160	156	156	307	533
April	188	198	148	155	180	148	159	159	160	158	158	314	527
May	191	195	146	162	177	141	159	162	160	158	158	317	524
June	192	198	144	163	175	139	160	163	160	159	159	326	537
July	190	202	144	164	177	138	158	163	160	159	159	325	558
August	188	196	142	163	177	139	153	158	156	156	156	331	571
September	184	193	140	165	175	138	151	156	154	156	156	329	582
October	177	190	142	167	174	140	153	158	155	159	159	337	601
November	179	188	143	170	175	144	154	159	157	161	161	353	596
December	175	183	149	168	172	147	152	158	156	159	159	362	580
1923 January	181	184	153	171	171	141	153	161	157	160	160	387	575
February	177	192	158	169	173	137	155	163	158	162	162	422	582
March	182	196	159	171	174	136	156	163	160	164	164	424	587
April	180	196	158	174	174	133	158	165	161	165	165	415	588
May	180	199	158	178	176	134	156	164	160	163	163	401	580
June	180	198	155	187	177	128	150	160	159	159	159	409	568
July	178	192	155	189	176	123	147	155	157	156	156	407	566
August	176	192	153	184	175	120	147	156	155	157	157	413	567
September	179	192	157	180	177	123	150	160	158	160	160	424	563
October	181	192	156	180	176	125	150	160	158	161	161	420	571
November	186	192	157	180	176	125	156	169	161	168	168	420	571
December	188	192	157	180	176	125	156	169	161	168	168	420	571

Country.	Switzer-	Belgium.	Germany.	Nether-	Norway.	Sweden.	Denmark.	Canada.	United States of America.		
	land.		(b)	lands (b)					(5)	(6)	(7)
No. of articles.	71	209	77	48	93	47	33	272	96	325	88
1913 Average	100	100	100	100	(e)	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	100	100	105	105	100	116	100	100	98	98	98
1915	100	100	142	145	(d) 159	145	138	109	101	101	101
1916	100	100	153	222	(d) 233	185	164	134	127	127	127
1917	100	100	179	286	341	244	228	175	177	177	177
1918	100	100	217	392	345	339	293	205	194	194	194
1919	100	100	415	297	322	330	294	216	206	206	206
1920	100	100	1,486	281	377	347	248	216	226	226	226
1921 December	176	369	3,487	165	269	172	188	1			

Securities Index

	Government and Corporation securities (fixed interest). (7)	Banks. (6)	Railway companies. (10)	Cotton mills. (42)	Cotton ginning and pressing 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	123	114	102	245	122	147	101	100
1916 "	87	112	102	138	118	404	128	190	130	100
1917 "	73	126	97	212	131	456	139	185	158	127
1918 "	74	126	97	212	126	627	237	194	194	151
1919 "	77	191	107	216	135	610	234	210	216	184
1919 August	76	199	108	230	135	582	229	220	224	206
1919 September	71	189	107	227	133	569	228	224	221	213
1919 October	70	182	100	252	143	572	235	232	221	211
1919 November	70	183	98	282	141	572	235	233	247	221
1919 December	68	178	95	317	145	585	249	241	265	235
1920 January	66	185	95	389	145	632	330	250	304	288
1920 February	65	167	92	368	170	588	295	244	291	275
1920 March	63	168	91	415	170	594	268	243	311	275
1920 April	63	167	90	476	168	582	304	245	338	294
1920 May	63	171	89	403	167	536	285	234	301	319
1920 June	65	172	89	388	167	534	299	222	292	284
1920 July	65	174	91	438	168	505	263	229	313	276
1920 August	65	165	92	434	167	467	246	224	307	296
1920 September	64	163	91	417	166	440	227	218	296	291
1920 October	60	156	90	380	186	413	198	208	277	281
1920 November	59	153	89	383	183	400	198	205	276	262
1920 December	58	152	87	376	163	395	183	200	270	261
1921 January	61	162	88	388	163	448	190	193	277	262
1921 February	61	160	87	390	167	425	193	196	273	259
1921 March	62	153	88	340	163	416	164	187	251	238
1921 April	62	149	88	365	158	492	169	186	266	252
1921 May	63	150	89	375	159	481	179	189	271	256
1921 June	64	157	91	383	158	471	184	192	275	261
1921 July	65	162	92	450	158	529	212	203	311	295
1921 August	65	163	89	445	158	498	207	197	306	289
1921 September	65	161	88	462	158	508	194	191	312	289
1921 October	65	162	88	461	158	484	193	182	308	295
1921 November	66	163	86	448	158	473	186	174	300	292
1921 December	67	157	87	433	158	472	181	169	292	284
1922 January	66	158	85	409	157	438	164	167	278	263
1922 February	63	152	86	384	160	413	159	159	265	251
1922 March	63	152	85	391	160	407	157	161	267	253
1922 April	62	151	85	379	158	387	160	156	259	246
1922 May	64	156	88	381	158	433	169	160	265	251
1922 June	64	158	91	401	163	465	188	165	277	264
1922 July	63	157	94	406	163	413	175	163	267	253
1922 August	63	153	94	388	163	404	168	160	267	253
1922 September	64	150	92	373	163	385	160	157	257	253
1922 October	64	147	92	344	163	367	154	153	243	231
1922 November	65	147	92	298	163	363	144	147	221	210
1922 December	65	145	91	283	163	313	142	144	210	201
1923 January	65	144	91	292	163	318	149	150	216	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	122	131	135	119	163	156
1923 December	71	137	100	215	122	131	131	114	160	154

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 December 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 December 1923.	December 1923.		
	January to December 1923.	December 1923.												
I Textile Mills—														
Cotton Mills	396	33	155	14	6	..	43	6	502	41	551	47		
Woolen Mills	15	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	18	..	18	..	
Others	6	..	5	..	..	..	1	..	10	..	11	..	
Total	417	33	163	14	6	..	44	6	530	41	580	47		
II Workshops—														
Engineering	19	2	117	3	1	..	3	..	132	5	136	5		
Railways	129	11	842	56	3	..	31	..	957	67	971	67		
Mint	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	..	
Others	20	1	19	2	1	..	8	..	30	3	39	3		
Total	168	14	982	61	5	..	42	..	1,103	75	1,150	75		
III Miscellaneous—														
Chemical Works	..	..	7	1	..	..	1	..	6	1	7	1	
Flour Mills	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	4	..	
Printing Presses	12	..	2	1	..	..	2	1	12	..	14	1	
Others	25	5	20	1	..	..	10	..	35	6	45	6	
Total	39	5	31	3	..	..	14	1	56	7	70	8	
Total, All Factories	624	52	1,176	78	11	..	100	7	1,689	123	1,800	130		

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 December 1923.	December 1923.		
	January to December 1923.	December 1923.												
I Textile Mills—														
Cotton	54	4	11	2	3	1	22	3	40	2	65	6		
Total	54	4	11	2	3	1	22	3	40	2	65	6		
Miscellaneous—														
Match Factory	1	1	..	1	..		
Total	1	1	..	1	..		
Total, All Factories	55	4	11	2	3	1	22	3	41	2	66	6		

* 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 December 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 December 1923.	December 1923.		
	January to December 1923.	December 1923.												
I Workshops—														
Railway and Port Trust..	5	..	37	3	7	..	35	3	42	3		
Engineering ..	1	..	4	1	..	4	..	5	..		
Total ..	6	..	41	3	8	..	39	3	47	3		
II Miscellaneous—														
Total ..	3	2	1	2	1	2	1	4	2		
Total, All Factories ..	9	2	42	3	10	1	41	4	51	5		

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 December 1923.	December 1923.		
	January to December 1923.	December 1923.												
I Textile Mills—														
Cotton Mills ..	47	7	27	2	2	..	15	1	57	8	74	9		
Others ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..		
Total ..	48	7	28	2	2	..	15	1	59	8	76	9		
II Workshops—														
Railway ..	28	1	199	16	..	..	6	1	221	16	227	17		
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	4	..	6	..	1	..	2	..	7	..	10	..		
Others ..	6	1	14	..	3	..	1	..	16	1	20	1		
Total ..	38	2	219	16	4	..	9	1	244	17	257	18		
III Miscellaneous—														
Canning and Pressing Factories ..	8	1	7	1	2	..	3	..	10	2	15	2		
Paint Works ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..		
Others ..	9	3	3	..	2	1	1	..	9	2	12	3		
Total ..	18	4	10	1	5	1	4	..	19	4	28	5		
Total, All Factories ..	104	13	257	19	11	1	28	2	322	29	361	32		

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

Count or Number.	Month of November—			Eight months ended November.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds ..	5,460	7,114	6,410	51,447	52,618	49,326
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	17,944	21,056	17,483	139,381	138,938	137,451
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	11,353	13,655	11,607	104,561	110,201	95,445
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	827	931	1,567	8,406	8,842	8,887
Above 40 ..	150	158	319	1,339	1,346	1,200
Waste, etc. ..	9	8	58	225	73	141
Total ..	35,743	42,922	37,439	325,799	332,018	295,000

Bombay Island

Count or Number.	Month of November.			Eight months ended November.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds ..	4,697	6,496	5,684	46,406	48,297	44,769
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	12,280	15,558	11,654	115,311	112,114	98,426
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	6,347	8,294	7,079	62,924	66,707	63,339
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	383	456	744	3,965	4,037	5,043
Above 40 ..	70	95	159	671	760	890
Waste, etc. ..	1	3	51	167	16	68
Total ..	23,778	30,902	25,371	229,464	231,931	212,585

Ahmedabad

Count or Number.	Month of November.			Eight months ended November.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds ..	261	184	260	1,670	1,130	1,070
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	2,730	2,497	3,188	21,140	22,741	19,082
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	3,636	4,035	3,478	30,344	32,282	21,191
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	356	411	652	3,524	3,981	2,821
Above 40 ..	61	39	125	472	415	602
Waste, etc. ..	..	..	..	3	..	1
Total ..	7,044	7,166	7,703	57,153	60,549	44,767

JAN., 1924

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

Description.	Month of November.			Eight months ended November.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chudders	1,131	1,656	1,848	12,016	10,992	11,263
Dhotis	4,672	5,285	7,239	51,945	47,192	43,194
Drills and jeans	642	717	788	6,479	5,084	6,405
Cambrics and lawns	39	36	68	626	480	254
Printers	348	405	610	2,655	3,394	2,902
Shirtings and long cloth	6,655	9,317	9,607	66,175	63,847	61,193
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	904	1,032	1,172	10,231	8,123	8,222
Tent cloth	99	122	137	936	692	622
Other sorts	1,326	2,254	2,949	8,453	12,392	16,567
Total	15,816	20,824	24,418	159,516	152,101	151,220
Coloured piece-goods	6,129	7,832	10,304	59,592	53,981	63,336
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	151	174	150	1,322	1,573	1,326
Hosiery	24	22	25	137	121	129
Miscellaneous	88	137	119	745	842	789
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	7	7	11	39	60	100
Grand Total	22,215	28,996	35,027	221,351	208,678	216,900

Bombay Island

Description.	Month of November.			Eight months ended November.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chudders	630	877	955	7,744	5,892	7,377
Dhotis	1,342	1,473	1,786	15,613	14,126	14,356
Drills and jeans	629	655	731	6,115	4,785	6,022
Cambrics and lawns	30	18	44	477	253	173
Printers	8	21	2	99	305	60
Shirtings and long cloth	4,203	6,291	6,846	45,906	45,416	46,220
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	695	835	822	8,282	6,654	6,802
Tent cloth	82	102	57	788	595	592
Other sorts	695	1,474	1,720	4,598	8,541	11,440
Total	8,314	11,746	12,963	89,622	86,567	92,842

JAN., 1924

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

Description.	Month of November.			Eight months ended November.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Coloured piece-goods	4,956	6,571	8,199	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	144	167	141	50,554	45,564	52,300
Hosiery	16	14	16	81	1,518	1,203
Miscellaneous	88	135	115	744	70	72
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	6	5	9	35	51	92
Grand Total	13,524	18,638	21,443	142,305	134,605	147,321

Ahmedabad

Description.	Month of November.			Eight months ended November.		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chudders	372	624	699	3,236	4,064	3,609
Dhotis	2,319	2,664	4,218	28,486	25,468	21,692
Drills and jeans	4	50	24	207	173	182
Cambrics and lawns	3	17	7	80	171	54
Printers	237	299	373	1,852	2,061	1,685
Shirtings and long cloth	1,800	2,177	1,948	14,827	14,122	10,651
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	184	188	328	1,261	1,286	1,316
Tent cloth	2	2	52	22	11	138
Other sorts	319	547	829	2,079	2,177	3,040
Total	5,240	6,588	8,478	52,550	49,533	42,257
Coloured piece-goods	336	545	993	3,443	3,407	5,175
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods	4	.....	1	17	6	4
Hosiery	7	9	9	56	52	57
Miscellaneous	.....	2	4	.....	6	26
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	1	2	2	3	9	5
Grand Total	5,588	7,146	9,487	56,069	53,013	47,524



Principal Trade Disputes in progress in December 1923

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved.		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
Textile Trade.						
1. The Concord Mill, Ferguson Road, Bombay.	199	....	1923. 5 December	1923. 8 December	Demand for the reinstatement of the Head Jolker.	Work resumed occasionally by the majority of the strikers and new hands engaged in place of the remainder.
2. The Jacob Sassoon Mill, Sagarling Road, Parel, Bombay.	1,000	4,000	17 December	28 December	Demand for better wages.	The strikers were paid off and discharged.
3. The Mathradas Mill, DeLade Road, Parel, Bombay.	491	....	17 December	21 December	Do. do.	Work resumed occasionally.
4. The Bombay Industrial Mill, Ferguson Road, Bombay.	287	....	17 December	20 December	Do. do.	Work resumed, small increases being offered.
5. The Premier Mills, Ferguson Road, Bombay.	35	....	17 December	21 December	Do. do.	Work resumed occasionally and new men engaged.
6. The Bradbury Mills, Ripon Road, Jacob Circle, Bombay.	300	....	17 December	24 December	Do. do.	The strikers were paid off and discharged.
7. The Alamedabad Latex Cotton Mills, Rasipur Gate, Alamedabad.	425	....	19 December	20 December	Against the alleged ill-treatment by the Manager.	Work resumed occasionally.
Engineering Trade.						
8. The Great Indian Peninsula Railway Workshops, Matunga.	5,000	500	12 December	2 January	1. Against the alleged ill-treatment by the Railway Medical Officer. 2. Demand for his removal. 3. Against the dismissal of operations found to be unfit by the Medical Officer.	Work resumed occasionally.
Transport Trade.						
9. * The Bombay Baroda and Central India Railway, between Dahanu Road and Bilsona Stations.	223	....	16 December	22 December	1. Demand for an increase in wages. 2. Against a reduction in the rates of grain compensation allowance.	Work resumed occasionally.

* According to the Agent, B.E. & C.I. Railway, this is a case of resignation and not a strike.

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.)

Czecho-Slovakia—A Bill is being drafted in the Czecho-Slovakian Ministry of Justice to provide for the extension of the powers of

existing Industrial Courts. In future, these will be known as Labour Courts, and will deal with disputes of all kinds between employers and workers arising out of employment. They will consist of a Chairman and a substitute who are judges by profession, together with a certain number of assessors, one-half of whom would be employers and one-half workers.



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.)

Month	1918		1919		1920		1921		1922		1923	
	Per cent.											
January	85	90	120	125	105	92	78	—	—	—	—	—
February	90	120	130	151	86	77	—	—	—	—	—	—
March	90	115	130	141	86	76	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	90-95	110	132	131	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	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	100	105	155	122	81	71	—	—	—	—	—	—
September	100	105	161	120	79	73	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	105-120	120	164	110	78	75	—	—	—	—	—	—
November	120-125	125	176	100	80	75	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	120	125	160	99	80	77	—	—	—	—	—	—

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

Trade Union Unemployment Percentages

End of—	1913		1917		1918		1919		1920		1921		1922		1923	
	Per cent.															
January	2.2	0.3	1.0	2.4	2.9	6.9	16.8	15.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February	2.0	0.3	0.9	2.8	1.6	8.5	16.3	15.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March	1.9	0.3	1.2	2.9	1.1	10.8	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	23.7*	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	14.8	11.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	2.2	1.1	0.4	2.4	5.2*	15.6	14.0	10.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November	2.0	1.1	0.5	2.9	3.7	15.9	14.2	10.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	2.6	1.4	1.2	3.2	8.0	16.5	14.0	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Excluding coal miners.

The table below gives particulars of the numbers of passengers who travelled between the United Kingdom and India (including Ceylon) during the 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarters of 1922 and 1923:—

Passenger movement, nine months ended September 1922 and 1923

(Exclusive of passengers travelling indirectly via Continental Ports.)

1st quarter	1922		1923	
	1st quarter	2nd quarter	1st quarter	2nd quarter
1. General.	1922	1923	1922	1923
64 British Subjects	2,219	2,053	1,043	1,246
64 Total	2,281	2,116	1,048	1,246
2. Indian.	1922	1923	1922	1923
64 British Subjects	2,092	2,207	6,093	6,671
64 Total	2,164	2,302	6,934	7,440
3. Balance.	1922	1923	1922	1923
64 British Subjects	127	168	5,640	5,423
64 Total	127	170	5,732	5,619

Note.—(1) Indicated figures are inward balances.
(2) The figures for the 2nd and 3rd quarters of 1923 include passengers who departed from, or arrived at, ports in the Indian Free Zone.

Italy.—At a meeting of the representatives of the General Confederation of Industries and of the General Federation of Fascist Syndicates held on 19th December 1923 it was decided to appoint a Permanent Commission of five employers and five workers, which, in consultation with the Government, should lay down the proper laws of industrial co-operation and meet whenever industrial peace was threatened. Signor Mussolini who presided declared that the necessity of class warfare upon which all Socialist theories are founded is quite a fallacy. He said: "Italy has need of a long period of social peace. The Government will not tolerate the disturbance of public order for any reason whatever. Without social peace and without the formation of a united Italian economic front towards the outside world, we shall be beaten in the field of international competition. Moreover, the employers must meet frankly those whom they employ. No employers must think that because this is the era of Fascism they can do what suits them. Certainly not. They must give as well as take." Signor Mussolini claimed that the work he had done to increase Italian productivity, which was his sole aim, gave him the right to be listened to by both employers and employed.

Germany.—Important information with regard to the results of the operation of works



councils in Germany, based on factory inspectors' reports, is contained in the November 1923 issue of the *International Labour Review*. It appears that the councils are gradually becoming used to the tasks imposed upon them by law. The employers have become accustomed to the councils, and many of them speak warmly of their work. The number of works councils has, however, decreased, as it was impossible in many cases to find workers to stand for election. Works councils have been able to do little to promote the efficiency of the undertakings, sometimes because they were not able to induce the workers to adopt the measures which they themselves recognised as justifiable, and sometimes because they failed to realise the necessity of the measures. They were often placed in a difficult position when they were called upon to give their consent to proposals to work overtime, or to notifications of the intention to close down the undertaking. Works councils were regularly invited to take part in factory inspection. It was noted by factory inspectors that individual workers expressed their feelings freely in the presence of the works council and the employer.

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Labour in India by J. H. Kelman. (Messrs. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd.)

Miss Kelman during a visit of sixteen months to India from December 1920 took the opportunity of studying factory conditions, and this book is the result. It is a publication that will be invaluable to members of the Legislatures, Provincial and Central, in this country.

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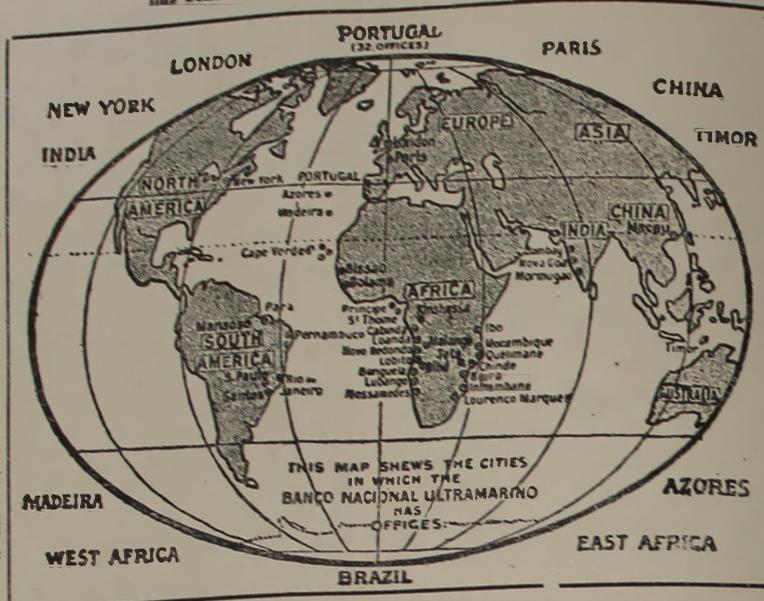
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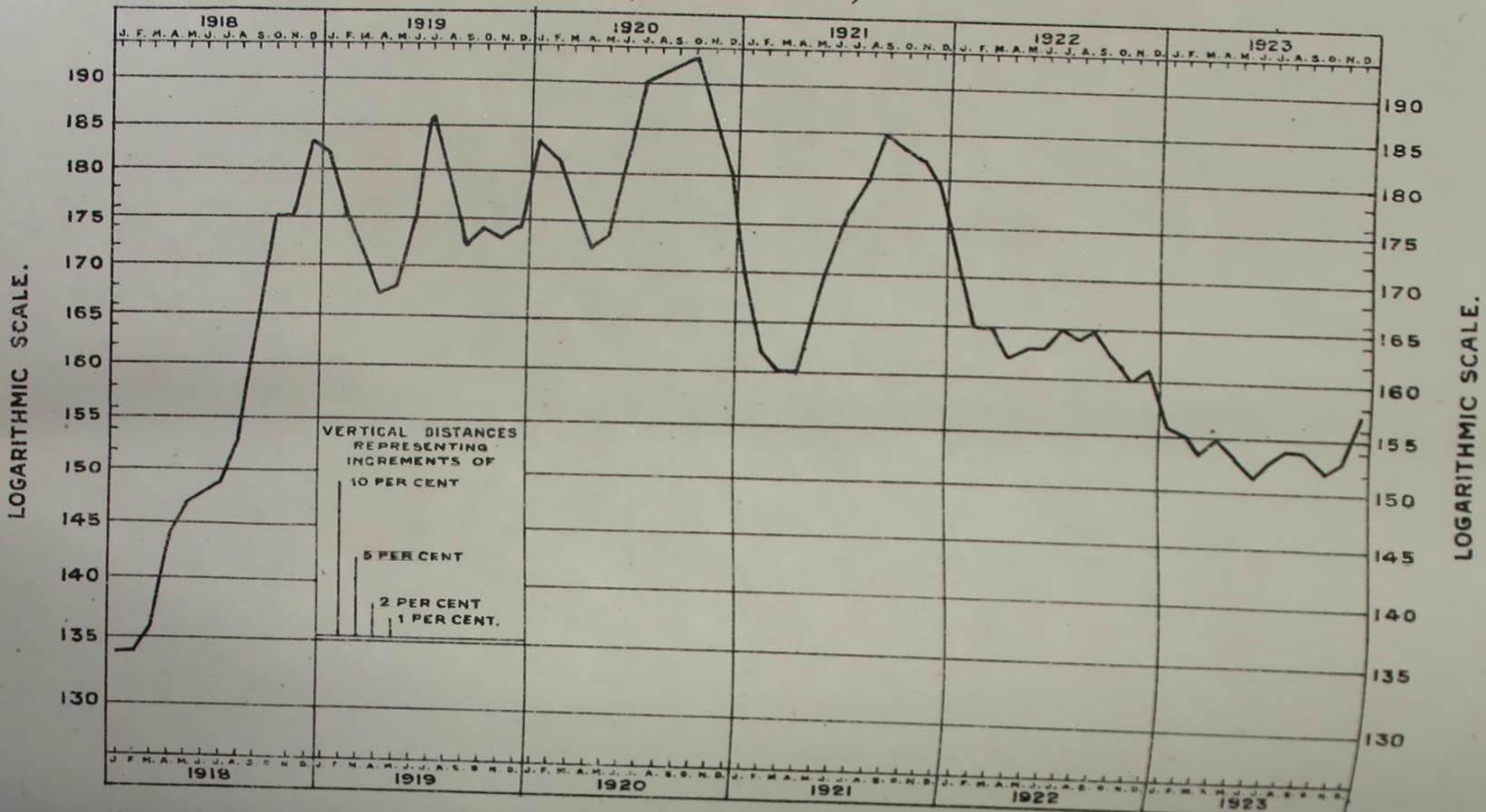
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CHARTS

1. Cost of Living in Bombay.
2. Progress of the Monsoon, 1923.
3. Securities Index.
4. Rainfall for the period June to November 1922.
5. Index numbers of Wholesale Prices in India and Foreign Countries.
6. Retail Prices of Rice, Pulses, Cereals and Other Articles of food in Bombay.
7. Cost of Living Indexes in India and Foreign Countries.
8. Imports and Exports of Merchandise—India.
9. Rate of Exchange in Bombay.
10. Wholesale Prices in Bombay, Foods and Non-foods.
- 11 & 12. Strikes in the Bombay Presidency.

COST OF LIVING IN BOMBAY RATIO OR LOGARITHMIC CHART (JULY 1914 - 100)

CHART No 1.



NOTE:- This chart is intended to show the proportional increase in the cost of living. It will be seen that the rate of increase is inversely proportional to the index number. Thus, an increase of 5 points over 200 is half the increase of the same 5 points over 100. Equal vertical distances in this chart represent equal ratios. Note the steadiness of the curve in 1922.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON 1923.

CHART No 2.

Abbreviations: S - Scarvy, F - Fair, N - Normal, EX - Excess.

PROVINCE OR STATE	JUNE		JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER	
	1st	15th	1st	15th	1st	15th	1st	15th	1st	15th
ISROBATY PRESIDENCY										
1. SIND (RAINFALL)	F	N	N	N	F	F	F	F	F	F
2. GUJARAT	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
3. DECCAN	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
4. KONKAN	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
EMADNAD PRESIDENCY										
1. MALABAR	S	N	N	N	F	F	F	F	F	F
2. DECCAN	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
3. COST NORTH	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
4. SOUTH EAST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
MAYSORE										
HYDERABAD										
1. NORTH	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. SOUTH	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
CENTRAL PROVINCES										
1. BERAR	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. WEST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
3. EAST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
CENTRAL INDIA										
1. WEST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. EAST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
BENGAL PRESIDENCY										
1. WEST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. EAST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
ASSAM										
SIMHAR & ORISSA										
1. BIHAR	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. ORISSA	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
UNITED PROVINCES										
1. EAST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. WEST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
PUNJAB										
1. EAST & NORTH	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. SOUTH & WEST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
RAJPUTANA										
1. WEST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. EAST	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
BURMA										
1. LOWER	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2. UPPER	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

NOTES

1. Within the wet season, the winter (the latter the season) Red areas indicate deficient and black areas excessive rains.
2. Excess: More than 120 per cent of the normal.
3. Normal: 80-120 per cent of the normal.
4. Scarvy: Less than 80 per cent of the normal.
5. The zigzag lines give the complete list of stations.
6. The green lines are based on information supplied by the Director-General of Observations. Lettering outside the green lines is omitted as rainfall in these places is less important.
7. Within the green lines the "S" squares are hatched.
8. Successive and following "S" squares are hatched.
9. For the Monsoon a of little or no importance in Sind north the rise in the index above the for triggering level and the rainfall are shown. The date of the normal rise is in the first week of June one of the normal fall, the last week of September.

SECURITIES INDEX
RATIO ON LOGARITHMIC CHART
(JULY 1919 = 100)

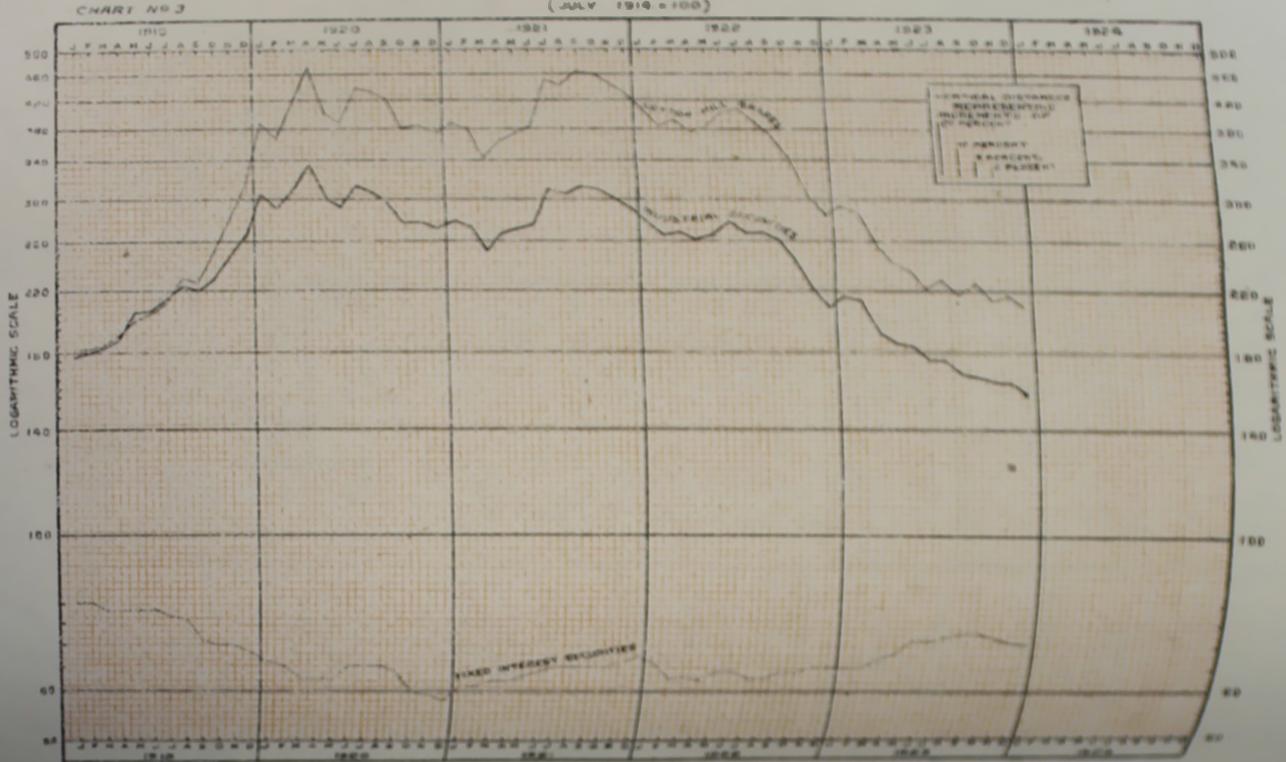
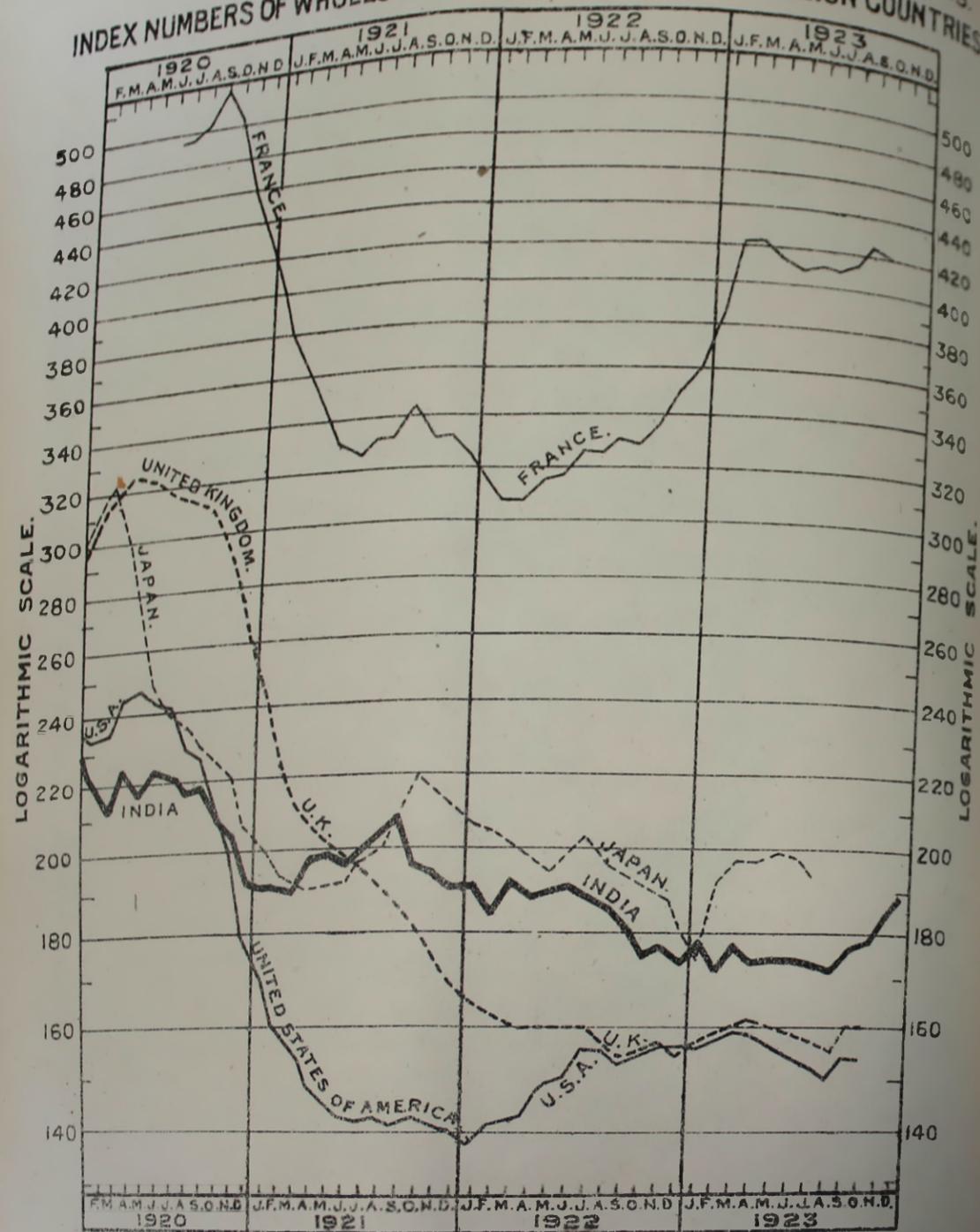


CHART No 4

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

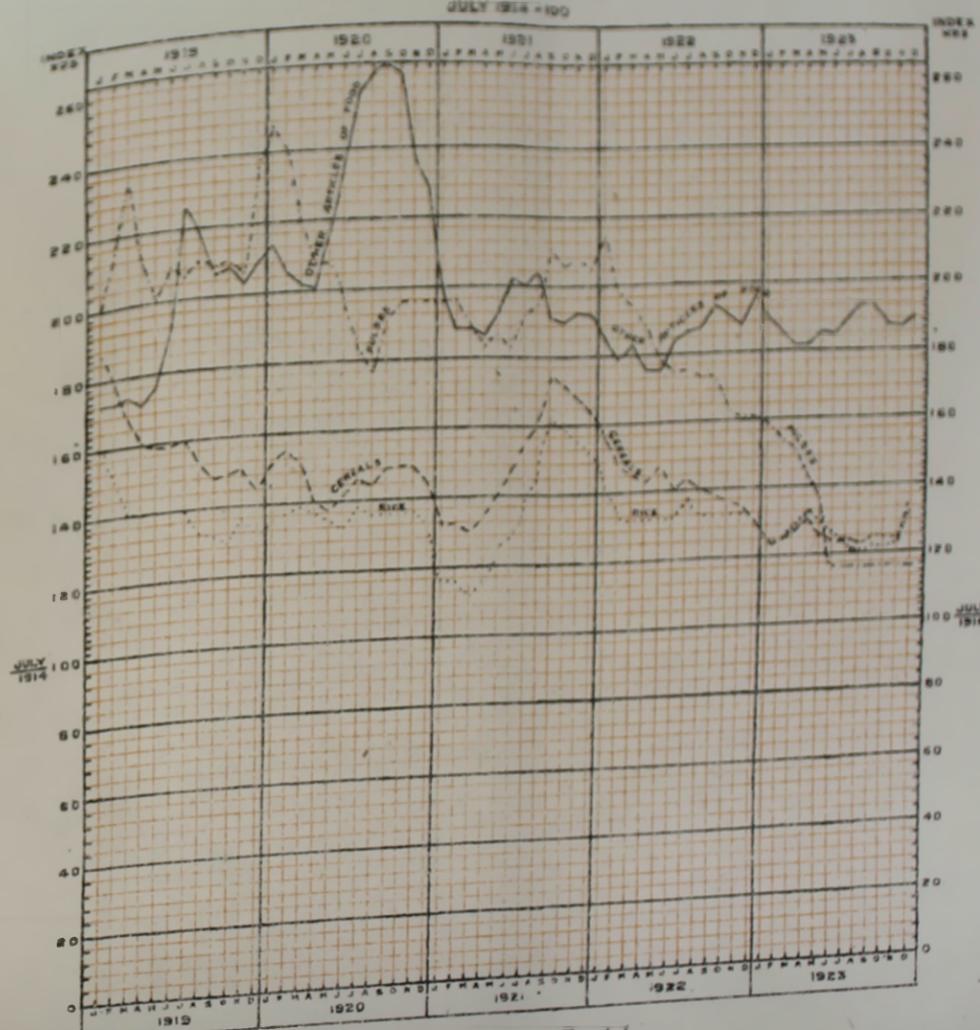
CHART NO. 5



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

RETAIL PRICES OF RICE, PULSES, CEREALS AND OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

CHART NO. 6



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 NP 7
 COST OF LIVING INDEXES IN INDIA
 AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.
 JULY 1914 = 100

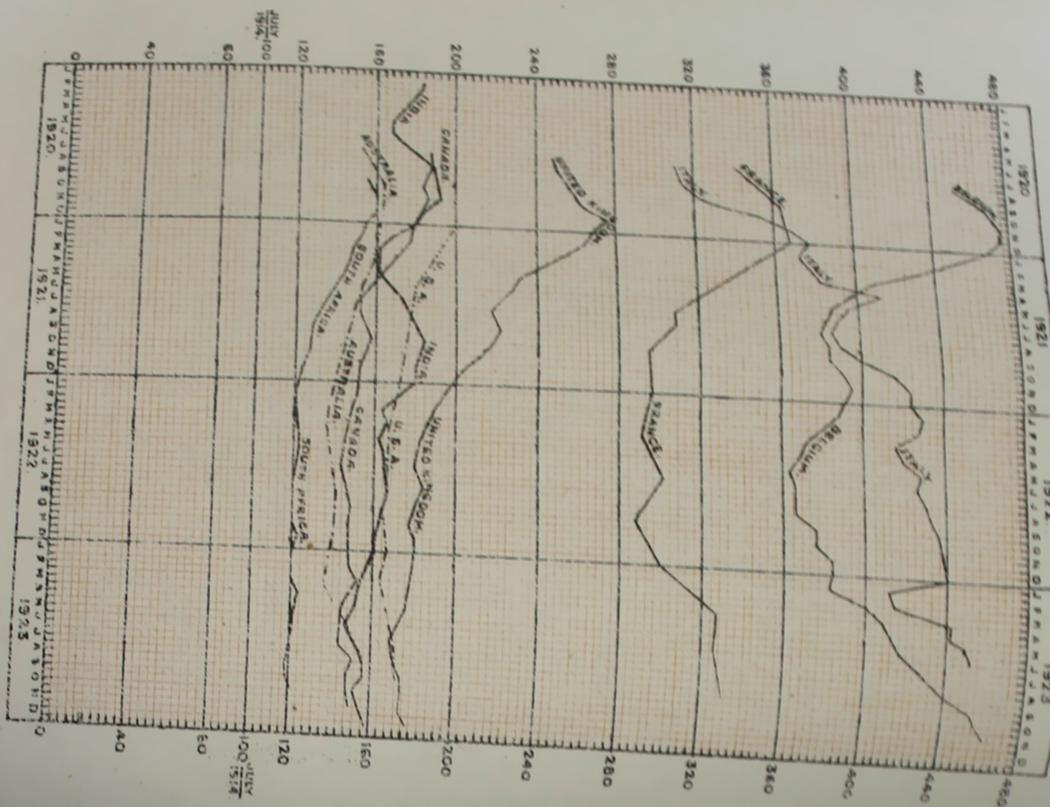
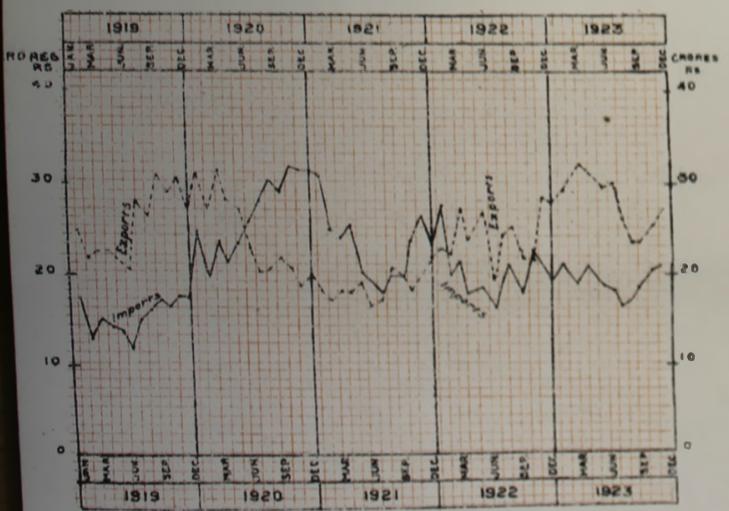


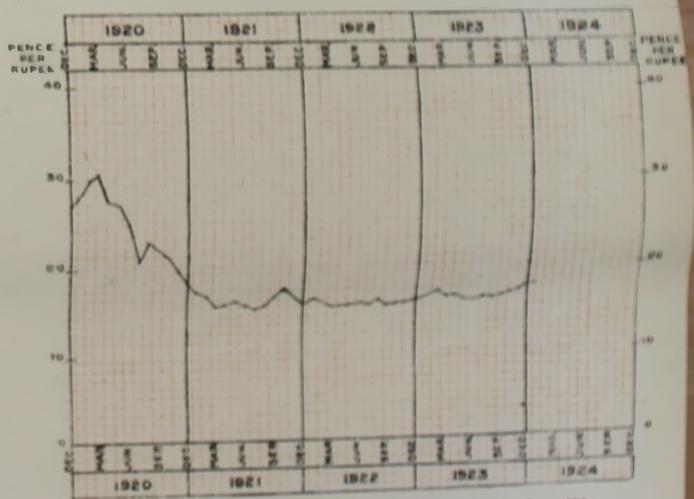
CHART NP 8
 IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE - INDIA



Note: Each Square = 1 crore (10 millions) of Rupees.

CHART NP 9

RATE OF EXCHANGE IN BOMBAY



Note (1) The reason for the fall of Exchange will be evident from the preceding chart. When the balance of trade is adverse (imports greater than exports) Exchange also tends to be adverse from India's point of view. This is the Telegraphic Transfer rate on London.
 (2) Each square equals 1 penny.

