

Securities Index Numbers

| | Fixed interest Securities. | Cotton Mill shares.* | Cotton ginning and pressing companies.* | Electric undertakings.* | All Industrial Securities. | General average (102 Securities). | | Fixed interest Securities. | Cotton Mill shares.* | Cotton ginning and pressing companies.* | Electric undertakings.* | All Industrial Securities. | General average (102 Securities). |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1914 July.. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 1923 Feb. | 65 | 288 | 166 | 152 | 214 | 204 |
| 1915 | 96 | 97 | 94 | 90 | 101 | 100 | .. Mar. | 67 | 255 | 142 | 140 | 193 | 185 |
| 1916 | 87 | 114 | 102 | 122 | 130 | 127 | .. Apr. | 68 | 241 | 142 | 133 | 186 | 178 |
| 1917 | 73 | 138 | 118 | 128 | 158 | 151 | .. May | 71 | 235 | 142 | 133 | 183 | 176 |
| 1918 | 74 | 212 | 131 | 139 | 194 | 184 | .. June | 71 | 222 | 145 | 126 | 176 | 168 |
| 1919 | 77 | 216 | 126 | 237 | 216 | 206 | .. July | 72 | 229 | 147 | 136 | 176 | 169 |
| 1920 | 65 | 438 | 168 | 246 | 313 | 296 | .. Aug. | 73 | 216 | 153 | 138 | 168 | 161 |
| 1921 | 65 | 450 | 158 | 212 | 311 | 295 | .. Sep. | 73 | 225 | 133 | 133 | 166 | 159 |
| 1922 Jan . | 66 | 409 | 157 | 164 | 278 | 263 | .. Oct. | 72 | 213 | 133 | 131 | 163 | 157 |
| .. Feb . | 63 | 384 | 160 | 159 | 265 | 251 | .. Nov. | 71 | 216 | 122 | 135 | 163 | 156 |
| .. Mar . | 63 | 391 | 160 | 157 | 267 | 253 | .. Dec. | 71 | 215 | 122 | 131 | 160 | 154 |
| .. Apr . | 62 | 379 | 158 | 160 | 259 | 246 | 1924 Jan. | 71 | 196 | 122 | 126 | 151 | 146 |
| .. May . | 64 | 381 | 158 | 169 | 265 | 251 | .. Feb. | 73 | 192 | 122 | 127 | 148 | 143 |
| .. June . | 64 | 401 | 163 | 188 | 277 | 264 | .. Mar. | 74 | 189 | 122 | 128 | 146 | 141 |
| .. July . | 63 | 406 | 163 | 175 | 267 | 253 | .. Apr. | 74 | 188 | 119 | 130 | 145 | 140 |
| .. Aug . | 63 | 388 | 163 | 168 | 267 | 253 | .. May | 74 | 179 | 120 | 137 | 143 | 138 |
| .. Sep . | 64 | 373 | 163 | 160 | 257 | 244 | .. June | 74 | 180 | 121 | 137 | 143 | 138 |
| .. Oct . | 64 | 344 | 163 | 154 | 243 | 231 | .. July | 74 | 176 | 121 | 133 | 140 | 135 |
| .. Nov . | 65 | 298 | 163 | 144 | 221 | 210 | .. Aug. | 74 | 192 | 124 | 130 | 148 | 143 |
| .. Dec . | 65 | 283 | 163 | 142 | 210 | 201 | .. Sep. | 72 | 203 | 124 | 131 | 153 | 147 |
| 1923 Jan . | 65 | 292 | 163 | 149 | 216 | 206 | .. Oct. | 72 | 197 | 127 | 127 | 148 | 143 |

* Also included in "Industrial Securities".

LABOUR GAZETTE

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VOL. IV]

The Month in Brief

EMPLOYMENT—THE COTTON INDUSTRY

The supply of labour was not equal to the demand in the City of Bombay. The statistics regarding employment for the month ended 12th December 1924 showed an average absenteeism of 14·9 per cent. as compared with 16·9 per cent. in the month ended 12th November. Absenteeism was reported to be highest in Spinning Departments and lowest in Weaving Departments.

In AHMEDABAD, the supply of labour was reported to be plentiful during the month under review except in one case. Detailed reports of absenteeism received from representative mills in this centre showed an average of 3·7 per cent. during the month as compared with 6·1 per cent. last month and 4·4 per cent. two months ago.

In SHOLAPUR, the supply of labour was adequate, but absenteeism showed an increase. The average was 14·1 per cent. as compared with 12·6 per cent. last month and 10·3 per cent. two months ago.

In BROACH, absenteeism was on the level of the last month, *i.e.*, 8·1 per cent. as compared with 7·7 per cent. two months ago. The supply of labour in this centre was plentiful.

On the whole, therefore, during the month in the principal centres of the industry the supply of labour was plentiful and absenteeism decreased both in Bombay and in Ahmedabad.

THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average of absenteeism in representative engineering workshops (based on the returns from three large workshops) showed a decrease, the figure being 15·7 per cent. as compared with 16·3 per cent. last month and 15·2 per cent. two months ago.

On the Marine Lines and Colaba Reclamations of the Development Directorate the average absenteeism was on the level of the preceding five months (4 per cent.) as compared with 3·75 per cent. six months ago.

On the construction of *chauls* (tenements) at Naigaum, DeLisle Road and Sewree, absence from work decreased to 4 per cent. from 14 per cent. in October. On the construction of *chauls* at Worli the average was 12 per cent. as compared with 10 per cent. in the last month. The supply of unskilled labour employed for loading, removing, storing and unloading cargo in the docks by the Bombay Port Trust was plentiful. The percentage absenteeism was 15.44 as compared with 24.9 in the preceding month and 17.51 two months ago. The decrease was probably due to less illness. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply of labour was plentiful, but a fall in the attendance was recorded. The average absenteeism increased from 8.87 per cent. in the last month to 9.92 per cent. in the month under review. The percentage of absenteeism based on the attendance of monthly paid workers employed in the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust recorded an increase, the figure being 10.5 per cent. as compared with 7.5 per cent. in the preceding month and 11.8 per cent. two months ago.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING

In December 1924, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 160, the same as that in each of the three months ended October 1924 and one point less than in November 1924. The average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the Cost of Living Index for Bombay City (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 160 for all articles and 156 for food articles only. There was a rise of three points as compared with this time last year and a fall of 33 points from the high water mark (October 1920) in the general cost of living index. The fall in both the food and the general index is due to a fall of 1 and 3 points in cereals and pulses respectively. Other food, clothing and the fuel and lighting groups remained the same during the month under review.

The average level of the cost of living index during 1924 was two points higher than in 1923.

Each commodity has been given a relative importance roughly corresponding with the estimated aggregate annual consumption of that article in the whole of India in the quinquennium 1909-10 to 1913-14. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living, because an index number for any given community purporting to combine movements in prices with movements in standards of living would present great difficulties in construction and interpretation. It has been decided to reconstruct the Index on the basis of the Working Class Budgets already obtained for Bombay City. This change, which has been under contemplation for some time, will be effected as soon as possible. In the meantime the present system will continue.

THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER

In November 1924, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay was 176 showing a fall of five points as compared with the previous month. There was a rise of one point in the food and a fall of seven points in the

non-food group. The index number for food grains only was 129 as compared with 131 during the previous month. The general index of all the articles is a mean of the price relatives of all the articles included in the index and is obtained by dividing the sum of the index numbers by the number of articles for which quotations are available and not by finding the mean of the group index numbers for food and non-food articles. The fluctuations in the prices of foods, non-foods and all articles will be seen in the following table :—

| | Number of items | Increase per cent. over July 1914 | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | July 1924 | August 1924 | September 1924 | October 1924 | November 1924 |
| Foods | 15 | 74 | 73 | 68 | 70 | 71 |
| Non-foods | 26 | 89 | 90 | 88 | 86 | 79 |
| All articles | 41 | 84 | 84 | 81 | 81 | 76 |

Steps are being taken to revise the list of articles and reconstruct the index.

SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

In November 1924, the general level of quotations of 102 shares and securities was 143, the same as in the previous month. As compared with the previous month Government and Corporation (Fixed interest) securities, Electric undertakings and Miscellaneous companies were stationary, Cement and Manganese Companies declined by 9 points and all others advanced by one point each during the month under review. The diagram elsewhere shows the movement of security prices since 1919.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were six industrial disputes in progress during November 1924. The number of workpeople involved was 2,185 and the number of working days lost 4,201.

COTTON MILL PRODUCTION

Cotton mill production in October and in the seven months ended October 1924, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two preceding years, is shown in the two following tables. In Bombay City, a decline is recorded in the month under review in the production of both yarn and woven goods as compared with the preceding year while, in Ahmedabad, the production of yarn was the same and that of woven goods showed a decline as compared with October 1923.

(1) Month of October

| | Millions of lbs. of yarn spun | | | Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|------|------|---|------|------|
| | October | | | October | | |
| | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 |
| Bombay City .. | 29 | 28 | 25 | 16 | 25 | 19 |
| Ahmedabad .. | 7 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| Other centres .. | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Total, Presidency.. | 41 | 40 | 38 | 26 | 36 | 28 |

(2) Seven months ending October

| | Millions of lbs. of yarn spun | | | Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|------|------|---|------|------|
| | Seven months ending October | | | Seven months ending October | | |
| | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 |
| Bombay City .. | 201 | 188 | 182 | 116 | 126 | 127 |
| Ahmedabad .. | 53 | 37 | 53 | 46 | 38 | 51 |
| Other centres .. | 35 | 31 | 31 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| Total, Presidency.. | 289 | 256 | 266 | 180 | 182 | 196 |

The Bombay Millowners' Association quotations at the end of November 1923 and October and November 1924 are as follows :—

| | Net rate per lb. in annas | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | November 1923 | October 1924 | November 1924 |
| Longcloth | 24 | 22 | 21½ |
| T. Cloths | 21½ | 20½ | 20 |
| Chudders | 21½ | 20½ | 20 |

THE OUTLOOK

During the month, the fluctuations in the price of raw cotton were within very large limits. The tone of the market was firm during the first half of the month but during the latter half, price showed a tendency

to fall. Japanese firms purchased large quantities of cotton during the first half of the month but subsequently they bought very sparingly.

Business in Manchester piece-goods was cautious. Prices were steady and importers were awaiting lower prices. With the improvement in the value of the rupee, however, large orders for Manchester goods began to be placed. The demand for English yarns was not very brisk.

Though there was little demand in the market for local goods direct buying from consuming centres was considerable. There was a fair demand for local yarns.

The financial situation was not very easy. Call money was available at a low rate of interest but the bank rate continued high. The Imperial Bank cash balances showed a continual increase for the first three weeks, but during the last week, there was a decrease of 201 lakhs of rupees.

The outflow of money to the cotton districts has already begun and large amounts of money will be needed to finance the coming cotton season.

The working class cost of living index declined by one point in December. The wholesale price index for November declined by five points. Industrial securities and cotton mill shares rose by one point each.

The Bank rate continued at 6 per cent. from the 16th October. The rate of exchange in Bombay on London on 1st December 1924 was 1s. 6d. as against 1s. 5¾d. on 1st November.

THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 15th DECEMBER

The following summary of conditions in this Presidency on 15th December was received from the Director of Agriculture.

"The Crop Reports received from various officers upto now go to show that the agricultural outlook has been generally satisfactory during the period under review except in the East Deccan and Karnatak where the late crops are suffering for want of sufficient moisture. The *kharif* crops like rice, *bajri*, *kharif jowar*, sesame, groundnut, etc., are being harvested and in many cases the harvesting is now complete and threshing operations are in progress. The rice crop is estimated to yield about the normal outturn throughout the Konkan, South Gujarat and the Western portion of the Deccan and Karnatak, though in North Gujarat and Kathiawar and in the East Deccan and Karnatak the yield may be much lower owing to deficiency of water. Similarly the crops of *kharif jowar* and *bajri* may return nearly a normal yield in South Gujarat and in the Central belt of the Deccan and Karnatak but in North Gujarat and Kathiawar as also in the more eastern parts of the Deccan and Karnatak the yield is likely to be much below the average. The cotton crop in South Gujarat, *i.e.*, in the Broach Cotton tract has been excellent and may give a full normal but in other places especially in the East Deccan and Karnatak the high anticipations entertained some time back for the bumper harvest of the crop are not likely to be realised as a result of the deficiency or total absence of rain since early October. In Khandesh, on the other hand the rains in October have been both heavy and unseasonable and are responsible for a considerable damage to the cotton crop both as regards quality and quantity. These rains have also discoloured the *jowar* crop

and reduced it in yield. Sugarcane and irrigated groundnut have done quite well and the yield of both the crops is likely to be quite equal to the average.

The crops in Sind are reported to be doing well though the cotton crop seems to be rather hard hit in places owing to an attack of bollworm."

OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

There was an upward tendency in the movement of wholesale prices in England, the Board of Trade Index number of wholesale prices for October being 170.2 as against 166.9 for September. The average level of retail prices at 1st November was approximately 80 per cent. above the level of July 1914. A further reduction in unemployment was reported, the number of unemployed registered on November 17, being 1,209,000, or, 9,392 less than on November 10. There were 37 trade disputes at the beginning of October and 37 more which began before October were still in progress. The number of workpeople involved was approximately 36,000 and the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes was about 377,000 working days.

There was a good deal of confidence concerning the revival of the cotton industry among the Lancashire manufacturers. But as the *Manchester Guardian Commercial* says, "We cannot at this juncture fix any immediate date for that revival of trade so confidently expected in Lancashire." The decision, however, to extend the working week and to do away with short-time, together with the increasing confidence regarding the adequate supply of raw material, point to a revival in the near future.

The outlook in the Engineering industry was better than it has been since the beginning of the trade depression. The improving tone of the industry was having a good influence on the metal markets. Iron and brass foundries were brisker. It is also very likely that there will be, in the near future, an improvement in the textile machinery trade.

On the financial side, there has been a marked renewal of confidence, prices of securities have risen, bankers' advances have increased and money is still cheap.

On the European continent, business was still hampered by the financial position. Poland, Norway and Germany were finding it hard to balance their budgets. In Germany, money is very tight. Business conditions were very bad in the Ruhr collieries and many million tons of coal, coke, etc., were lying unsold at the pit-heads. The trade outlook was, however, much better in Belgium, where the revival in the textile industries was at its height.

In the United States of America, there was very considerable business activity. The production of pig iron, steel and non-ferrous metals increased considerably during October. The textile mills maintained the improvement shown during September. The money market was easy, agricultural conditions were favourable and the manufacturing output was expanding.

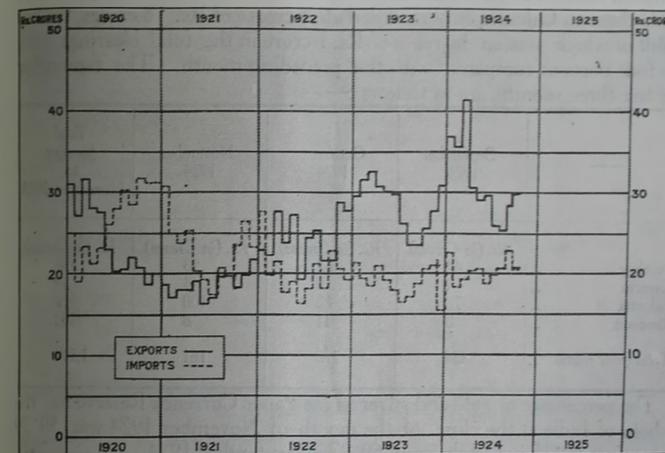
THE BALANCE OF TRADE

During November 1924 the visible balance of trade including securities against India amounted to Rs. 43 lakhs.

The trade figures for the last two months for India, Bombay and Karachi are given below :—

| | India | | Bombay | | Karachi | |
|--|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | October 1924 | November 1924 | October 1924 | November 1924 | October 1924 | November 1924 |
| | (In lakhs of rupees) | | (In lakhs of rupees) | | (In lakhs of rupees) | |
| Exports (private merchandise) .. | 29.83 | 33.64 | 4.84 | 5.28 | 3.65 | 4.31 |
| Imports do. .. | 20.84 | 22.54 | 7.72 | 8.98 | 2.74 | 2.02 |
| Balance of Trade in merchandise .. | + 8.99 | + 11.10 | - 2.88 | - 3.70 | + .91 | + 2.29 |
| Imports of treasure (private) .. | .... | .... | 8.55 | 8.70 | .... | 5 |
| Exports of treasure (private) .. | .... | .... | 66 | 24 | .... | 1 |
| Balance of transactions in treasure (private) .. | - 7.80 | - 8.78 | - 7.89 | - 8.46 | .... | - 4 |
| Visible balance of trade including securities .. | - 12.55 | - 43 | .... | .... | .... | .... |

The movements of actual figures of Imports and Exports of private merchandise for British India since 1920 are shown in the annexed diagram

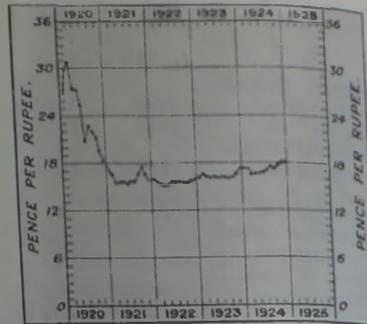


If the curve of exchange rates on the next page is consulted it will be seen that in 1920 and 1921 the exchange rate closely followed the movements of the balance of trade. At the end of 1922, when exports again jumped up and imports fell, it was expected that the value of the rupee would respond to the change. It will be seen from the exchange curve that such response has actually taken place, but that the resulting fluctuations in the rupee value have been much slighter than during the disturbed years following the war. The general long-term movement of the curve of exchange values since 1922 has been a gradual rise.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

The rates for telegraphic transfers in Bombay on London in the first week of the last twelve months are shown below, and also the curve of the movement of the exchange since January 1920.

| | | s. | d. |
|--------------|----|----|---------|
| January 1924 | .. | 1 | 5 3/16 |
| February | .. | 1 | 5 1/8 |
| March | .. | 1 | 4 15/32 |
| April | .. | 1 | 4 5/8 |
| May | .. | 1 | 4 11/16 |
| June | .. | 1 | 4 27/32 |
| July | .. | 1 | 5 |
| August | .. | 1 | 5 7/16 |
| September | .. | 1 | 5 7/32 |
| October | .. | 1 | 5 3/4 |
| November | .. | 1 | 5 31/32 |
| December | .. | 1 | 6 |



These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 19th December exchange on London was 1s. 5³¹/₃₂d.

During November 1924 the bank clearings in Bombay, Karachi and Rangoon showed a fall of Rs. 12 crores, 2 crores and 3 crores respectively, while those in Calcutta only recorded an increase of Rs. 18 crores, the net result of which was an increase of Rs. 1 crore in the total clearings in all the four ports as compared with the preceding month. The figures for the last three months are as follows:—

| | September 1924 | October 1924 | November 1924 | Total January to November 1924 |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| | Rs. (in Crores) | Rs. (in Crores) | Rs. (in Crores) | Rs. (in Crores) |
| Bombay | 44 | 62 | 50 | 574 |
| Karachi | 4 | 5 | 3 | 39 |
| Calcutta | 78 | 82 | 100 | 819 |
| Rangoon | 8 | 11 | 8 | 102 |
| Total (four ports) | 134 | 160 | 161 | 1,534 |

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of November 1924 was 59.39 as against 60.15 in October and 60.22 in September 1924.

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

| | Rs. | June 1924 | Rs. |
|---------------|-------|-----------|-----|
| December 1923 | 1,005 | .. | 821 |
| January 1924 | 924 | .. | 817 |
| February | 908 | .. | 834 |
| March | 896 | .. | 904 |
| April | 881 | .. | 872 |
| May | 841 | .. | 885 |

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

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—DECEMBER

| Articles | Unit of quantities | Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores) | Price per Unit of Quantity | | | Price × Mass Unit | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| | | | July 1914 | Nov 1924 | Dec 1924 | July 1914 | Nov 1924 | Dec 1924 |
| Cereals— | | | | | | | | |
| Rice | Maund | 70 | Rs. 5.594 | Rs. 7.620 | Rs. 7.542 | Rs. 391.58 | Rs. 533.40 | Rs. 527.94 |
| Wheat | .. | 21 | 5.594 | 7.094 | 7.177 | 117.47 | 148.97 | 150.72 |
| Jowari | .. | 11 | 4.354 | 6.229 | 5.891 | 47.89 | 68.52 | 64.80 |
| Bajri | .. | 6 | 4.313 | 6.083 | 5.833 | 25.88 | 36.50 | 35.00 |
| Total—Cereals | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 532.82 | 787.39 | 778.46 |
| Index Numbers—Cereals | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 135 | 134 |
| Pulses— | | | | | | | | |
| Gram | Maund | 10 | 4.302 | 5.583 | 5.417 | 43.02 | 55.83 | 54.17 |
| Turdal | .. | 3 | 5.844 | 6.781 | 6.698 | 17.53 | 20.34 | 20.09 |
| Total—Pulses | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 60.55 | 76.17 | 74.26 |
| Index Numbers—Pulses | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 126 | 123 |
| Other food articles— | | | | | | | | |
| Sugar (refined) | Maund | 2 | 7.620 | 15.474 | 14.880 | 15.24 | 30.95 | 29.76 |
| Raw Sugar (Gul) | .. | 7 | 8.557 | 17.260 | 17.260 | 59.90 | 120.82 | 120.82 |
| Tea | .. | 30 | 40.000 | 80.344 | 79.490 | 1.00 | 2.01 | 1.99 |
| Salt | .. | 5 | 2.130 | 3.474 | 3.474 | 10.65 | 17.37 | 17.37 |
| Beef | Seer | 28 | 0.323 | 0.510 | 0.526 | 9.04 | 14.28 | 14.73 |
| Mutton | .. | 33 | 0.417 | 0.833 | 0.833 | 13.76 | 27.49 | 27.49 |
| Milk | Maund | 14 | 9.198 | 17.583 | 17.583 | 128.77 | 246.16 | 246.16 |
| Ghee | .. | 14 | 50.792 | 101.193 | 101.193 | 76.19 | 151.79 | 151.79 |
| Potatoes | .. | 11 | 4.479 | 9.526 | 9.526 | 49.27 | 104.79 | 104.79 |
| Onions | .. | 3 | 1.552 | 5.359 | 5.359 | 4.66 | 16.08 | 16.08 |
| Cocconut Oil | .. | 4 | 25.396 | 30.359 | 30.953 | 12.70 | 15.18 | 15.48 |
| Total—Other food articles | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 381.18 | 746.92 | 746.46 |
| Index Numbers—Other food articles | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 196 | 196 |
| Total—All food articles | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,024.55 | 1,610.48 | 1,599.18 |
| Index Numbers—All food articles | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 157 | 156 |
| Fuel and lighting— | | | | | | | | |
| Kerosene oil | Case | 5 | 4.375 | 7.656 | 7.656 | 21.88 | 38.28 | 38.28 |
| Firewood | Maund | 48 | 0.792 | 1.281 | 1.281 | 38.02 | 61.49 | 61.49 |
| Coal | .. | 1 | 0.542 | 0.906 | 0.870 | 0.54 | 0.91 | 0.87 |
| Total—Fuel and lighting | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 60.44 | 100.68 | 100.64 |
| Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 167 | 167 |
| Clothing— | | | | | | | | |
| Chudders | Lb. | 27 | 0.594 | 1.250 | 1.250 | 16.04 | 33.75 | 33.75 |
| Shirts | .. | 25 | 0.641 | 1.396 | 1.396 | 16.03 | 34.90 | 34.90 |
| T. Cloth | .. | 36 | 0.583 | 1.250 | 1.250 | 20.99 | 45.00 | 45.00 |
| Total—Clothing | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 53.06 | 113.65 | 113.65 |
| Index Numbers—Clothing | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 214 | 214 |
| House-rent | Per month. | 10 | 11.302 | 18.700 | 18.700 | 113.02 | 187.00 | 187.00 |
| Index Numbers—House-rent | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 165 | 165 |
| Grand Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,251.07 | 2,011.81 | 2,000.47 |
| Cost of Living Index Numbers. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 161 | 160 |

The Cost of Living Index for December 1924

A FALL OF ONE POINT

All articles .. 60 per cent. Food only .. 56 per cent.

In December 1924 the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay was one point below the level of the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 161 in November and 160 in December 1924. This is 33 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920, and 4 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1922, but it is 6 points above the twelve-monthly average of 1923, and three points above the highest level reached in that year (157 in December). It has now reverted to the level of the three months ending October 1924, and is the same as that for November 1922.

The food and general index numbers declined by one point each, thus reaching the same level as that between August and October 1924. Cereals declined by one point and pulses by 3 points but other food articles remained stationary. Of the food articles gul, salt, mutton, milk, ghee, potatoes and onions showed no change. Sugar (refined) and jowari showed a fall of eight points each while beef increased by 5 points. The other changes were of a minor character, bajri, gram and tea declining by 6, 4 and 2 points respectively and rice and turdal by one point each. Coconut-oil rose by two points and wheat by one point. Potatoes and onions which generally fluctuate to a large extent showed no variation during the month under review. There was no change in the fuel and lighting group although the price of coal fell by six points. The clothing group remained stationary thus maintaining the lowest level in 1924.

All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914

| | 1918 | 1919 | 1920 | 1921 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| January .. | 34 | 82 | 83 | 69 | 73 | 56 | 58 |
| February .. | 34 | 76 | 81 | 62 | 65 | 55 | 56 |
| March .. | 36 | 72 | 77 | 60 | 65 | 54 | 53 |
| April .. | 44 | 67 | 72 | 60 | 62 | 55 | 50 |
| May .. | 47 | 68 | 73 | 67 | 63 | 53 | 50 |
| June .. | 48 | 74 | 81 | 73 | 63 | 51 | 53 |
| July .. | 49 | 86 | 90 | 77 | 65 | 53 | 56 |
| August .. | 53 | 79 | 91 | 80 | 64 | 54 | 60 |
| September .. | 65 | 72 | 92 | 85 | 65 | 54 | 60 |
| October .. | 75 | 74 | 93 | 83 | 62 | 52 | 60 |
| November .. | 75 | 73 | 86 | 82 | 60 | 53 | 61 |
| December .. | 83 | 74 | 81 | 79 | 61 | 57 | 60 |
| Yearly average .. | 54 | 75 | 83 | 73 | 64 | 54 | 56 |

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 all-India 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 1924 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.

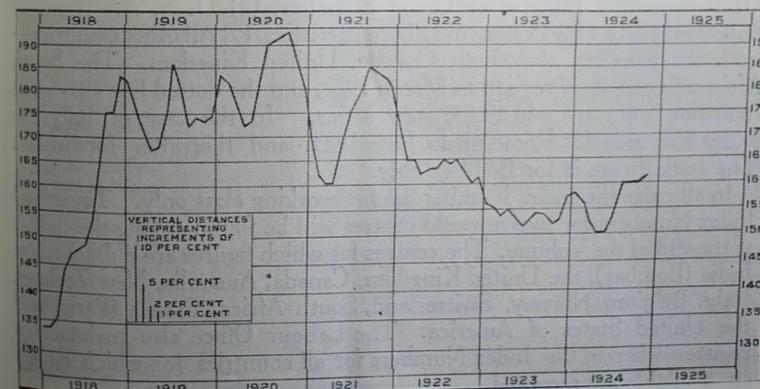
| Articles | July 1914 | Nov 1924 | Dec 1924 | Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Dec 1924 over or below Nov 1924 | Articles | July 1914 | Nov. 1924 | Dec 1924 | Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Dec 1924 over or below Nov 1924 |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---|---|-----------|-----------|----------|---|
| Rice .. | 100 | 136 | 135 | - 1 | Salt .. | 100 | 163 | 163 | .. |
| Wheat .. | 100 | 127 | 128 | + 1 | Beef .. | 100 | 158 | 163 | + 5 |
| Jowari .. | 100 | 143 | 135 | - 8 | Mutton .. | 100 | 200 | 200 | .. |
| Bajri .. | 100 | 141 | 135 | - 6 | Milk .. | 100 | 191 | 191 | .. |
| Gram .. | 100 | 130 | 126 | - 4 | Ghee .. | 100 | 199 | 199 | .. |
| Turdal .. | 100 | 116 | 115 | - 1 | Potatoes .. | 100 | 213 | 213 | .. |
| Sugar (refined) .. | 100 | 203 | 195 | - 8 | Onions .. | 100 | 345 | 345 | .. |
| Raw sugar (gul) .. | 100 | 202 | 202 | .. | Cocoanut oil .. | 100 | 120 | 122 | + 2 |
| Tea .. | 100 | 201 | 199 | - 2 | All food articles (weighted average) .. | 100 | 157 | 156 | - 1 |

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 26, Wheat 22, Jowari 26, Bajri 26, Gram 21, Turdal 13, Sugar (refined) 49, Raw Sugar (gul) 50, Tea 50, Salt 39, Beef 39, Mutton 50, Milk 48, Ghee 50, Potatoes 53, Onions 71, Cocoanut Oil 18.

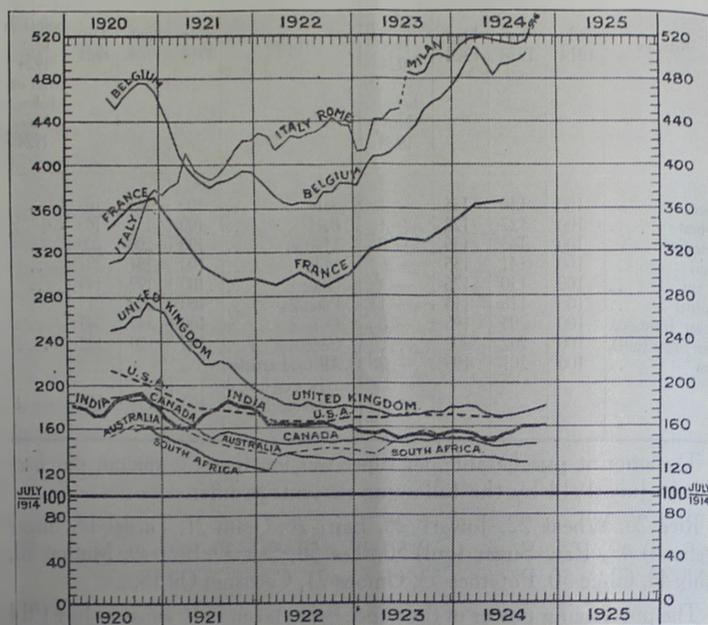
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas for all items and 10 annas 3 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres. The diagram is on the arithmetic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following is the source of the Index Nos. : (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) Canada—Labour Gazette, (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labour Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. The South African figures were revised in March 1922, and the dotted line shows the transition from the old to the new series. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working class only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the Volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada; Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY—A FALL OF FIVE POINTS

In November 1924 the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay was 76 per cent. above the level in July 1914. The level of prices was 5 points below the previous month and the same as in August 1923. The general index has fallen by 87 points from the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918.

The index number for food grains fell by two points from 131 in October to 129 in November 1924. The price of barley fell considerably—by 29 points.

The food index increased by one point largely owing to a heavy rise in the price of turmeric—no less than 53 points. Ghee sold at a higher price. Both gul and imported sugar fell during the month.

The index number for non-food articles registered a fall of 7 points, all the groups except Metals and Hides and skins contributing towards this end. Raw cotton and silk fell heavily—the former by 26 points and the latter by 18 points. Oilseeds decreased by 7 points, Cotton manufactures by two and Other raw and manufactured articles by one. The price of foreign imported coal was less but Bengal coal remained stationary.

During November 1924 Cotton manufactures stood at the average level for 1923. Cereals, Pulses, Oilseeds, Raw cotton and Hides and skins were above the 1923 level. The other groups including the food, non-food and general index numbers were below the average 1923 level.

The subjoined table compares November 1924 prices with those of the preceding months and of the corresponding month last year.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay*

100 = average of 1923

| Groups | No. of items | + or - % compared with Oct 1924 | + or - % compared with Nov 1923 | Groups. | Nov 1923 | Feb 1924 | May 1924 | Aug 1924 | Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 |
|--|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. Cereals .. | 7 | - 2 | + 10 | 1. Cereals .. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 117 | 113 | 110 |
| 2. Pulses .. | 2 | .. | + 6 | 2. Pulses .. | 99 | 97 | 97 | 107 | 104 | 104 |
| 3. Sugar .. | 3 | - 5 | - 18 | 3. Sugar .. | 102 | 105 | 95 | 88 | 88 | 83 |
| 4. Other food .. | 3 | + 8 | - 22 | 4. Other food .. | 114 | 108 | 91 | 82 | 82 | 88 |
| All food .. | 15 | + 1 | - 10 | All food .. | 106 | 104 | 96 | 97 | 95 | 96 |
| 5. Oilseeds .. | 4 | - 5 | + 7 | 5. Oilseeds .. | 103 | 102 | 98 | 109 | 115 | 110 |
| 6. Raw cotton .. | 2 | - 10 | - 23 | 6. Raw cotton .. | 135 | 111 | 115 | 116 | 116 | 104 |
| 7. Cotton manufactures .. | 6 | - 1 | - 6 | 7. Cotton manufactures .. | 107 | 106 | 107 | 107 | 101 | 100 |
| 8. Other textiles. | 2 | - 10 | - 14 | 8. Other textiles. | 97 | 90 | 99 | 105 | 92 | 83 |
| 9. Hides and skins | 3 | + 1 | - 2 | 9. Hides & skins. | 108 | 106 | 100 | 101 | 105 | 105 |
| 10. Metals .. | 5 | .. | - 4 | 10. Metals .. | 96 | 96 | 92 | 93 | 92 | 92 |
| 11. Other raw and manufactured articles .. | 4 | - 1 | + 1 | 11. Other raw and manufactured articles.. | 94 | 95 | 98 | 95 | 95 | 95 |
| All non-food .. | 26 | - 4 | - 3 | All non-food .. | 102 | 103 | 103 | 104 | 102 | 98 |
| General Index No. . | 41 | - 3 | - 5 | General Index No. | 103 | 104 | 100 | 102 | 100 | 97 |

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 440.

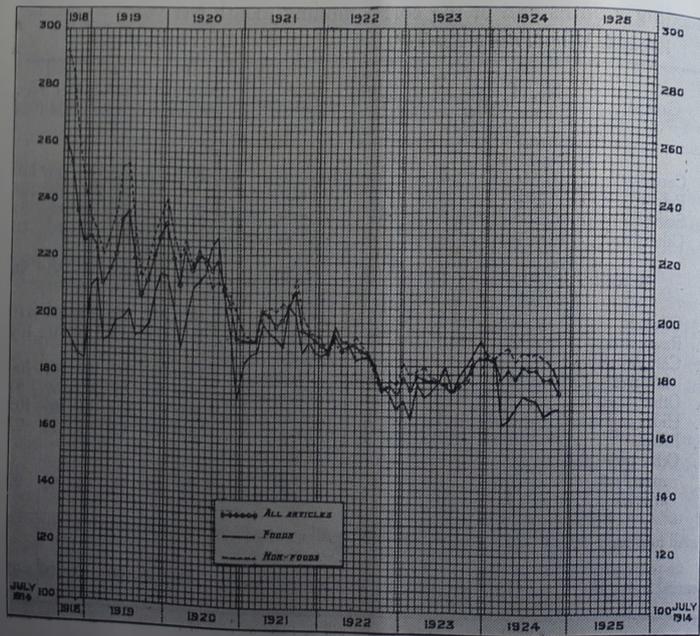
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

| — | | Food | Non-food | All articles |
|------------------------|------------|------|----------|--------------|
| Twelve-monthly average | 1918 | 171 | 269 | 236 |
| " " | 1919 | 202 | 233 | 222 |
| " " | 1920 | 206 | 219 | 216 |
| " " | 1921 | 193 | 201 | 199 |
| " " | 1922 | 186 | 187 | 187 |
| " " | 1923 | 179 | 182 | 181 |
| Eleven-monthly | 1924 | 174 | 188 | 183 |

The diagram below shows from September 1918, which was the month in which the great failure of the rains affected food-grain prices in India, the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

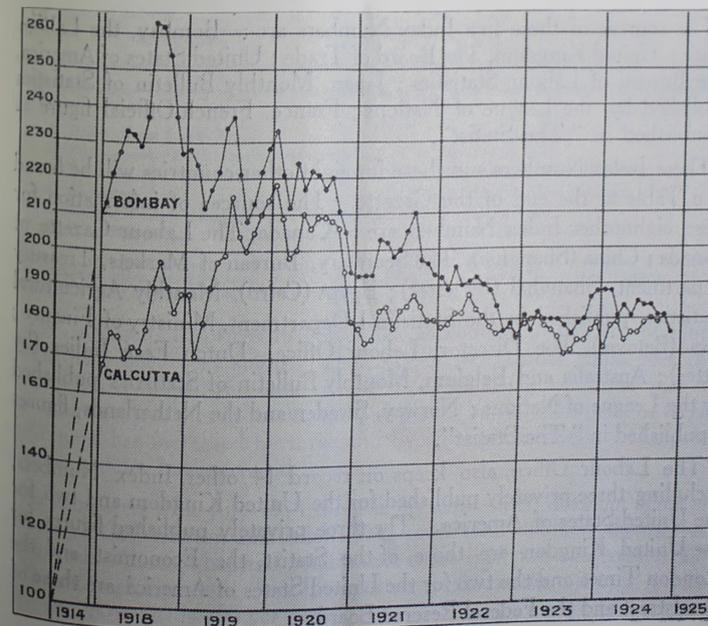


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

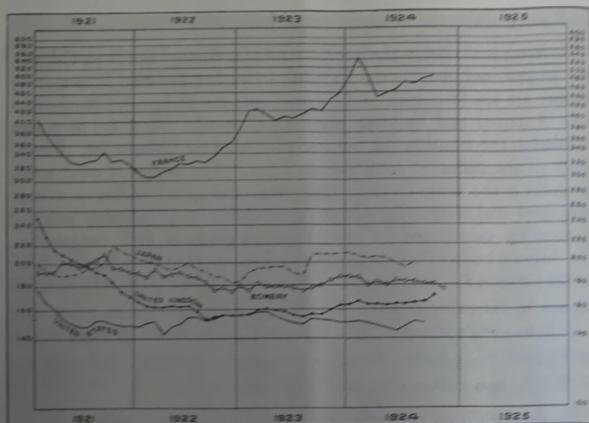
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. On the whole the increase in prices over July 1914 seems to be definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there is a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1922 the two curves temporarily crossed.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale.



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are:—Bombay, the Labour Office; United Kingdom, The Board of Trade; United States of America, The Bureau of Labour Statistics; Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations; France, French Official figure as republished in "The Statist".

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a Table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are:—Canada, The Labour Gazette of Canada; China (Shanghai), The Secretary, Bureau of Markets, Treasury Department, Shanghai (by letter); Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance; Java (Batavia), The Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter); Australia and Belgium, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations; Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands, figures republished in "The Statist".

The Labour Office also keeps on record 14 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and two for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the Statist, the Economist and the London Times and the two for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet and the Federal Reserve Board.

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

| Article | Grade | Rate per | Equivalent in | 1924 | | | Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Nov 1924 over or below | |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------|---------------|-------------|------------|------------|--|----------|
| | | | | July 1914 | Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | July 1914 | Oct 1924 |
| Rice | Bangson Small-mill | Paylon | 210 | As. p. 5 10 | As. p. 8 0 | As. p. 8 0 | +2 2 | .... |
| Wheat | First Sonni | .. | 202 | 5 16 | 6 11 | 7 2 | +1 4 | +0 3 |
| Jowari | Best Sholapuri | .. | 198 | 4 5 | 6 4 | 6 2 | +1 11 | -0 2 |
| Bajri | Ghati | .. | 200 | 4 7 | 6 2 | 6 1 | +1 6 | -0 1 |
| Green | Delhi | .. | 260 | 4 4 | 5 6 | 5 7 | +1 3 | +0 1 |
| Turdal | Canapore | .. | 204 | 5 11 | 6 11 | 6 11 | +1 0 | .... |
| Sugar (refined) | Java, white | Seer | 28 | 1 1 | 2 5 | 2 2 | +1 1 | -0 3 |
| Raw Sugar (Gul) | Sangli, middle quality | .. | 28 | 1 2 | 2 4 | 2 5 | +1 3 | +0 1 |
| Tea | Loose Ceylon, powder | Lib. | 39 | 7 10 | 15 7 | 15 8 | +7 10 | +0 1 |
| Salt | Bombay, black | Paylon | 168 | 1 9 | 2 10 | 2 11 | +1 2 | +0 1 |
| Beef | .... | Lib. | 39 | 2 6 | 4 0 | 4 0 | +1 6 | .... |
| Mutton | .... | .. | 39 | 3 0 | 6 6 | 6 6 | +3 6 | .... |
| Milk | Medium | Seer | 56 | 2 9 | 4 11 | 4 11 | +2 2 | .... |
| Ghee | Belgaum, Superior | .. | 28 | 7 1 | 14 1 | 14 2 | +7 1 | +0 1 |
| Peanuts | Ordinary | .. | 28 | 0 8 | 1 3 | 1 4 | +0 8 | +0 1 |
| Onions | Nank | .. | 28 | 6 5 | 5 7 | 0 9 | +0 6 | +0 2 |
| Cocunut oil | Middle quality | .. | 28 | 5 7 | 4 2 | 4 3 | +0 8 | +0 1 |

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butchery's meat:—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Clavela.
6. Pardi—Folawadi.
7. Ferguson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparling—Suparling Road.
10. Chinchpoldi—Pardi Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nial Bazaar—Sandhurst Rd.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are for actual transactions and are usually collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices in November as compared with the previous month have been very slight. The price of rice, turdal, milk, beef and mutton has remained the same while there is a fall of three pies in refined sugar, two pies in jowari and one pie in bajri. The price of wheat and onions has increased by three and two pies respectively. The price of other articles has increased by a pie.

As compared with July 1914 there is no item which does not show an increase. Gul, mutton and onions have more than doubled themselves. Sugar (refined), tea, ghee and potatoes are twice their pre-war level. Salt, milk and beef are more than fifty per cent. above the pre-war prices. The rise in onions is 200 per cent.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in October and November 1924 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres are below the level of Bombay in October and November 1924 :-

Bombay prices in October 1924 = 100 Bombay prices in November 1924 = 100

| Articles. | Bombay. | Karachi. | Ahmedabad. | Sholapur. | Poona. | Articles. | Bombay. | Karachi. | Ahmedabad. | Sholapur. | Poona. |
|----------------|---------|----------|------------|-----------|--------|----------------|---------|----------|------------|-----------|--------|
| Cereals— | | | | | | Cereals— | | | | | |
| Rice .. | 100 | 105 | 117 | 102 | 117 | Rice .. | 100 | 101 | 117 | 102 | 125 |
| Wheat .. | 100 | 91 | 90 | 93 | 93 | Wheat .. | 100 | 88 | 92 | 89 | 91 |
| Jowari .. | 100 | 72 | 74 | 82 | 84 | Jowari .. | 100 | 70 | 76 | 76 | 94 |
| Bajri .. | 100 | 78 | 86 | 95 | 88 | Bajri .. | 100 | 82 | 88 | 81 | 89 |
| Average— | | | | | | Average— | | | | | |
| Cereals .. | 100 | 87 | 92 | 93 | 96 | Cereals .. | 100 | 85 | 93 | 87 | 100 |
| Pulses— | | | | | | Pulses— | | | | | |
| Gram .. | 100 | 82 | 121 | 80 | 80 | Gram .. | 100 | 80 | 120 | 76 | 77 |
| Turdal .. | 100 | 96 | 107 | 102 | 126 | Turdal .. | 100 | 98 | 107 | 102 | 125 |
| Average— | | | | | | Average— | | | | | |
| Pulses .. | 100 | 89 | 114 | 91 | 103 | Pulses .. | 100 | 89 | 114 | 89 | 101 |
| Other articles | | | | | | Other articles | | | | | |
| of food— | | | | | | of food— | | | | | |
| Sugar (re- | | | | | | Sugar (re- | | | | | |
| fined) .. | 100 | 84 | 93 | 98 | 95 | fined) .. | 100 | 94 | 103 | 103 | 97 |
| Jagri (Gul). | 100 | 69 | 80 | 82 | 86 | Jagri (Gul). | 100 | 66 | 77 | 84 | 89 |
| Tea .. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 114 | 105 | Tea .. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 114 | 105 |
| Salt .. | 100 | 58 | 68 | 101 | 89 | Salt .. | 100 | 56 | 66 | 98 | 86 |
| Beef .. | 100 | 123 | 123 | 74 | 74 | Beef .. | 100 | 123 | 123 | 74 | 74 |
| Mutton .. | 100 | 90 | 90 | 75 | 68 | Mutton .. | 100 | 90 | 90 | 75 | 68 |
| Milk .. | 100 | 55 | 57 | 76 | 91 | Milk .. | 100 | 57 | 57 | 76 | 81 |
| Ghee .. | 100 | 81 | 80 | 91 | 84 | Ghee .. | 100 | 82 | 79 | 79 | 83 |
| Potatoes .. | 100 | 98 | 112 | 100 | 75 | Potatoes .. | 100 | 102 | 105 | 88 | 80 |
| Onions .. | 100 | 76 | 74 | 96 | 60 | Onions .. | 100 | 63 | 62 | 75 | 49 |
| Cocoa nut | | | | | | Cocoa nut | | | | | |
| oil. | 100 | 108 | 119 | 113 | 103 | oil | 100 | 105 | 132 | 111 | 100 |
| Average— | | | | | | Average— | | | | | |
| Other articles | | | | | | Other articles | | | | | |
| of food .. | 100 | 86 | 91 | 93 | 85 | of food .. | 100 | 85 | 90 | 89 | 83 |
| Average— | | | | | | Average— | | | | | |
| All food | | | | | | All food | | | | | |
| articles .. | 100 | 86 | 94 | 93 | 89 | articles .. | 100 | 86 | 94 | 89 | 89 |

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The differences of relative prices at the different centres are considerable. Referring back to November 1923, it is found that in relation to Bombay, the Ahmedabad, Karachi and Poona averages are 14, 4 and 1 points lower respectively while the Sholapur average is one point higher than in that month. Of individual articles the relative prices of salt in all the centres are quite changed. Reading from left to right the relative prices in November 1923 were 100, 73, 125, 118, 99 which bear no resemblance to the current relative prices. Tea at Ahmedabad stood at 145 and is now 100. The relative prices of jowari are higher at all the four mofussil centres but of sugar (refined) and onions are lower except at Sholapur. Both the differences between different centres at any given date, and the fluctuations of those differences are surprisingly high, and it is not at the moment apparent why an article not locally produced (like tea and refined sugar) should sometimes be dearer and sometimes cheaper at any mofussil centre than at Bombay.

Securities Index Number

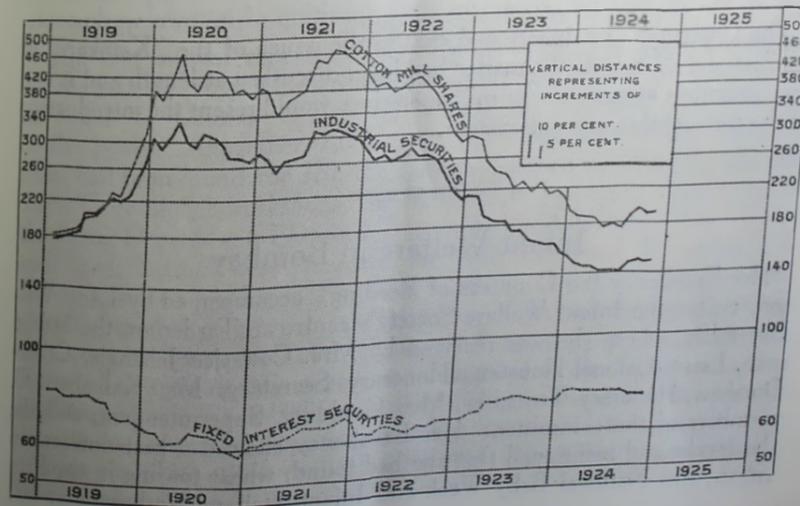
PRICES STATIONARY

In November 1924 the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the labour Office Securities Index Number was the same as in the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities have remained steady since September 1924. Electric Undertakings and Miscellaneous Companies showed no change from the previous month. Cement and Manganese Companies fell by 9 points and the rest rose by 1 point each. The index number for Industrial Securities was 149 and the general index number stood at 143.

The Construction of the Index

| No. | — | — | July 1914 | | November 1924 | |
|-----|--|-----------------|---------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| | | | Total numbers | Average | Total numbers | Average |
| 1 | Government and Corporation Securities .. | 7 Index Nos. .. | 700 | 72 | 507 | 72 |
| 2 | Banks .. | 6 " " " " .. | 600 | 133 | 799 | 133 |
| 3 | Railway Companies .. | 10 " " " " .. | 1,000 | 103 | 1,033 | 103 |
| 4 | Cotton Mills .. | 42 " " " " .. | 4,200 | 198 | 8,334 | 198 |
| 5 | Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies .. | 8 " " " " .. | 800 | 128 | 1,024 | 128 |
| 6 | Cement and Manganese Companies .. | 5 " " " " .. | 500 | 119 | 595 | 119 |
| 7 | Electric Undertakings .. | 2 " " " " .. | 200 | 127 | 253 | 127 |
| 8 | Miscellaneous Companies .. | 22 " " " " .. | 2,200 | 94 | 2,070 | 94 |
| 9 | Industrial Securities .. | 95 " " " " .. | 9,500 | 149 | 14,108 | 149 |
| 10 | General average .. | 102 " " " " .. | 10,200 | 143 | 14,615 | 143 |

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Fortnightly Payment of Wages

We are authorised to say that, as a result of a reference from His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, the Chairman of the Bombay Mill-owners' Association on the 24th of September last addressed a letter to His Excellency on the subject of the proposed fortnightly payment of wages to millhands.

The Chairman reported that replies had been received from practically all the Mills in the City of Bombay and that fortnightly payments were desired by the operatives of only two mills. The operatives of all the other mills had expressed themselves in favour of the continuance of the present system of monthly payments. The Chairman summarised for His Excellency's information the principal reasons advanced by the operatives against the proposed change as follows:—

(i) It is customary in Bombay to make payments of house-rent and credits of grain and food, etc., monthly and thus the present system of making payment of wages monthly is quite suitable to the Mill Labour.

(ii) Fortnightly payment, if introduced, will in no way benefit good salary earners, say Rs. 50 and over per month, as they can meet their ordinary obligations without running into debt, and whether they get Rs. 25 fortnightly, or Rs. 50 monthly, would be immaterial to them. At the end of the month they would have always something to spare. But it would adversely affect the small wage earner, who would not be able to withstand the temptation to fritter away the first half of his petty earnings which would fall due in the middle of the month. When the second half came into his hands, he would find himself stranded with a sum insufficient to meet his monthly obligations on account of rent, food, etc. He would then be obliged to run into debt. While, therefore, fortnightly payments would in no way benefit the higher wage earners of the labouring community, it would be greatly to the disadvantage of the vast majority of workmen.

(iii) There would be a greater percentage of absenteeism throughout the month owing to the habit of taking one or two days off immediately after pay-day.

(iv) This dislocation of work prevalent on pay-days would occur twice a month instead of once and would cause a correspondingly greater loss in the earnings of piece workers.

The Chairman also recalled that in 1912 one of the Bombay Mill groups had experimented in the matter of fortnightly payments but had had to give up the attempt on account of the opposition of its own workpeople.

The Chairman also mentioned that in the issues of the 'Kamkari' of the 21st and 28th June the matter had been discussed at length and it had been definitely stated that the mill operatives would resent the introduction of the fortnightly payment system.

Infant Welfare in Bombay

Her Excellency the Countess of Reading, accompanied by Lady Wilson, visited the Infant Welfare Society's centre at Tardeo on the 3rd of December, where she was received by Mrs. Cowasjee Jehangir, Chairman, Lieut.-Colonel Houston, Honorary Secretary, Mr. Kaikobad C. Dinshaw, Honorary Treasurer, Miss Goulding, Superintendent, and the members of the committee. Her Excellency showed a keen interest in the creche and mentioned that she had found, whilst touring in the Provinces, that National Baby Week and Infant Welfare Work were at last

coming into their own. Lady Reading spent almost an hour at the centre, and during that time saw the elder children at their midday meal.

It was pointed out to Her Excellency that the Infant Welfare Society in Bombay conducted nine centres in different parts of the industrial quarter of the city. There were three lady doctors in attendance, who paid daily visits and held clinics. The Tardeo centre is, however, particularly interesting inasmuch as it has a creche where there is accommodation for twenty-four babies in addition to a considerable number of older children. There is also an arrangement, similar to the out-patients department of a hospital, whereby the children are given milk at purely nominal prices and the mothers listen to clinics.

The management of the creche is in the capable hands of Miss Goulding, who is assisted by a staff of trained nurses. Almost all the children at this centre belong to workers at the Maneckji Petit Mill, whose management have enabled the Society to rent the premises for a very nominal sum. The little ones are brought to the creche—more than forty were present when Her Excellency paid her visit—at seven o'clock in the morning and remain there until the mills close down at night, and during that time they receive three meals, have excellent opportunities for play, and are taught clean habits. In this way the Society is steadily building up an appreciation, in mothers and children alike, of the value of healthy surroundings and pure food. This work costs, in all, something like a lakh of rupees per year in Bombay alone.

At the conclusion of her visit, Lady Reading expressed her appreciation of what she had seen, and distributed sweets to the "Kiddies". Before Her Excellency's departure, Mrs. Cowasjee Jehangir presented her and Lady Wilson with beautiful baskets of flowers. (*From the Times of India, 4th December 1924.*)

Unemployment among Anglo-Indians

The first annual report of the Calcutta Business-men's Committee for the relief of Anglo-Indian unemployment states that the position was no better on October 15 than on January 1. Over 800 men were still on the books. Altogether 2,000 cases have been dealt with. Employment had been found for 270, the various occupations including the railways, Government workshops, the Mechanical Transport, grass farms of the Army Department, Post and Telegraphs and Customs. The Viceroy and Lord Lytton were thanked for their interest. In addition to money relief amounting to Rs. 2,700 monthly, the committee had been specially careful to provide the children of the unemployed. Sixty children had been placed in schools, and many others supplied with books. The total donations received amounted to Rs. 26,331, of which a balance of over Rs. 6,000 was still available. The committee appeals strongly for continued support especially in view of the fact that the children placed in schools cannot be deserted. (*From the Times of India, 3rd December 1924.*)

Workmen's Compensation Act

WHAT IS WILFUL DISOBEDIENCE OF A RULE?

In the Court of the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation
at Bombay.

Shankar Babaji Petitioner

versus

Finlay Mills, Ltd., Bombay Opponent

Claim—Rs. 2,500.

The Petitioner prays for compensation being awarded to him from the Finlay Mills, Ltd., for a personal injury due to an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment in the Finlay Mills. The applicant was a loom-jobber in the said mills at the time of the accident. The accident took place on the 7th of August last at about 11-45 a.m., while the applicant was mounting a belt on a pulley in the Weaving Shed. As a loom-jobber it is a part of his duty to attend to a belt when it gives way. This is done while the machinery is in motion. This belt, it appears from the evidence, got wound round a shaft. The applicant got a ladder, went up on it and started removing the belt from the shaft when his hand (right hand) got caught between it and the shaft and this caused a severe injury to the hand. It had to be amputated above the elbow. He was getting about Rs. 125 as monthly wages and therefore he claims Rs. 2,500 by way of compensation for this partial permanent disablement.

Although various contentions were raised by the opposite party by their written statement, the only one that was strenuously fought out was that in trying to remove the belt from the shaft while the machinery was in motion the workman wilfully disobeyed a rule expressly framed for the purpose of securing the safety of the workman.

In support of this contention Mr. Mantri, Counsel for the Finlay Mills, relies (first) on Rules 39, 40, 41 framed by the Governor in Council in exercise of the powers conferred by section 37 of the Indian Factories Act (XII of 1911) as amended by Act II of 1922. I have appended a copy of the rules hereto.

As this was a case requiring special knowledge with reference to these rules, I invited Mr. Johnstone, Chief Inspector of Factories, Bombay, to assist me in this enquiry. His valuable help brought out certain answers from Mr. Shaw, the Weaving Manager of the Finlay Mills, which make it perfectly clear that neither of the Rules 39, 40 apply to this case for the simple reason that this was neither a main belt nor a fast running belt. Rule 41 has no bearing on the facts of this case.

Mr. Mantri however contended that although these rules did not apply there still was another rule deposed to by Mr. Shaw of which there was disobedience. Going through the deposition of Mr. Shaw the effect of it as far as the existence of any such rule is concerned, is to my mind only this. There is no express rule or to use the words of the witness "written rule". But that every loom-jobber understands that there is an unwritten rule to the effect that when a belt gets wound round a shaft the motor setting the pullings in motion is to be stopped till the belt is removed.

I can't lose sight of the important fact that this is remedial act and that when a case is sought to be brought within one of the exceptions, facts establishing the application of the exception must be clearly set out in the pleadings and borne out by evidence in support of it. The existence of such an unwritten rule was never pleaded. Be this as it may I don't want to shut out the defence on that ground. But does the evidence of Mr. Shaw establish the existence of such an express rule? One has only to read the evidence of Mr. Shaw to come to the conclusion that what at best could be said to be a practice was to stop the motor when the belt got wound round the shaft. But one must not forget what Mr. Shaw says in the earlier part of the evidence, *viz.*, when a belt gives way the replacing is done while the machinery is in motion. Therefore although the replacing could be done while the machinery is in motion the removal of it from the shaft could only be done when the motor is stopped. This is much too fine for workmen to follow. From the whole evidence therefore I find that the existence of an express rule is not established.

Assuming however that I am not correct in reading Mr. Shaw's evidence in this way and that the existence of rule could be spelt out from Mr. Shaw's evidence which would apply to the facts of the present case, the question still remains was the disobedience wilful.

On this point the opposite party led no evidence in support of their contention. But Mr. Mantri's contention is that a responsible workman like a jobber must be held to have disobeyed the rule wilfully if he does in fact disobey the rule. In other words when you find disobedience without more in the case of a workman whose duty it is to supervise the work of other weavers in the portion of the shed in his charge he is expected not only to see that others don't commit breaches of rules but that he also does not commit any such breach; if he does, it must be assumed to be wilful. I am not at all prepared to accede to this contention. Here is a supervising workman in charge of a number of looms. Mr. Shaw says "I never found him wanting in care in doing his work". Later on he says "Belt replacing was an essential part of his duty" and that he was specially trained for mounting belt. In another place Mr. Shaw says that jobber should see "that within reasonable limits there should be as few impediments to production as possible".

What appears to me to have happened in this instance is that as usual he tried to remove the belt while the machinery was in motion expecting to do it without harm to himself and thus causing no impediment to production. He may have been rash in this. But negligence, rashness, etc., are quite different from wilfulness. It implies deliberation. Wilful disobedience of a rule means deliberately disobeying the rule; not merely disregarding it on the spur of the moment. I find therefore that there is nothing in the evidence to impute such wilful conduct to the applicant.

I accordingly find on the three issues raised by Mr. Mantri as follows:—

- (1) Whether any statutory or other rule applied to the kind of work done by the petitioner? In the negative.
- (2) Whether there was disobedience of such a rule? In the negative.
- (3) If there was such disobedience, was the same wilful? In the negative.

(4) What order should be made? Rs. 2,450 + costs.

The applicant is entitled to the maximum compensation as his wages were Rs. 125 a month. According to the scale in Set I as the arm was amputated above the elbow the workman is entitled to 70 per cent. of Rs. 3,500, i.e., Rs. 2,450. Through wrong calculation he claims Rs. 2,500. I order that the opposite party do pay the petitioner Shankar Babaji Rs. 2,450 and costs. I award Rs. 10 for professional costs.

(Signed) N. M. PATWARDHAN,

14th October 1924. Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation.

APPLICATION No. 14—C-1 OF 1924

ACCOMPANIMENT TO THE JUDGMENT

Copy of the Rules 39, 40 and 41 framed by the Governor in Council under the Indian Factories (Amendment) Act, 1922

39. As far as possible all important pulleys shall be provided with belt hangers:

Provided that when the main belts of any machinery have to be adjusted the machinery shall be stopped and shall not be set in motion again, until such belts have been completely adjusted.

40. Replacing or adjusting of fast running belts shall be done only by an experienced and specially trained person.

41. All ladders used in replacing belts shall be specially made and reserved for that work and provided with hooks or an effective nonskid device.

(Signed) N. M. PATWARDHAN,

Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation.

Purity Campaign among the Masses

The Central Labour Board, Bombay, is making efforts to carry on a purity campaign among the masses. On the 23rd of November, a party of purity workers, started from the office of the Central Labour Board under the leadership of Mr. Jhabvala with a musical instrument and a board on which it was written that drink should be avoided, money should not be wasted over vices and gambling should be avoided. The whole party moved along DeLisle Road and halted at the corner of an open maidan where a large crowd had assembled. A musical performance was at first given and then Mr. Jhabvala and others addressed the crowd on the necessity of leading pure lives and of economising both physical and economic strength.

It is understood that next week another party will undertake the same propaganda in other areas. (Abstracted from the "Voice of India", Bombay, 20th November 1924.)

The Indian Cotton-Mill Industry

In the October 1924 number of the Indian Journal of Economics, Dr. P. P. Pillai has written a long and thoughtful article on the Indian Cotton-mill Industry, 1853—1922. The standpoint from which the subject is treated is the usual standpoint of showing the growth of the industry by means of figures of looms and spindles and of production, import and export. The study is more descriptive than analytical and though abundant use is made of statistical tables, not much trouble seems to have been taken in the proper presentation of the figures.

While admitting the value of Dr. Pillai's article, there are various points both of fact and of opinion, which cannot be accepted. For instance, Dr. Pillai tells us that the first attempt at starting a cotton mill was made at Calcutta in 1838. As a matter of fact, the first attempt, though it came to an abortive end, was made in 1818. Again, there is preponderating evidence to show that the first mill in Bombay was not established in 1853 as Dr. Pillai has shown, but in 1851. Dr. Pillai is definitely wrong in saying that the high prices of raw-cotton during the American Civil War caused a 'suspension of mill-activity' in India.

In his reference to Lord Lytton's notification granting exemptions to yarns below 30's Dr. Pillai has fallen into the same error as Professor Shah and Professor Vakil and has given the date of the notification as 13th March 1879. A reference to the Parliamentary papers shows that the date was 18th March 1878.

There are other minor omissions and inaccuracies in the article. The resolution of the House of Commons of 1877 regarding the cotton import duties has been mentioned, but no reference is made to the resolution of the House of Commons of 1879. The figures quoted from the statistics of British India on p. 129 are not correctly quoted.

Apart from these minor inaccuracies there are questions of opinion on which it is not easy to agree with Dr. Pillai. On p. 134, he says, "It may therefore be confidently expected that the next few years will witness not only an increase in the total output (of yarns) but also an increased output in the finer counts". Dr. Pillai has given no reasons for his belief. The output of finer counts can only increase if the supply of long-staple cotton increases. In 1920-21, India could spin finer yarns because she could import large quantities of Uganda cotton at reasonable rates. With better facilities for carrying cotton from Uganda to England, it is hardly likely that India will get much of the Uganda cotton. And the growth of long staple cotton in India itself cannot much increase till the area which will be commanded by the Sukkur Barrage comes under cultivation, for which we have many years to wait. It is very unlikely therefore that within a few years there will be any increase in the production of finer counts of yarn in India.

On p. 142, speaking about Japanese competition in the Indian market, Dr. Pillai makes the statement that the figures of the imports of Japanese cloth are increasing so rapidly as to cause anxiety to Indian industrialists. Japanese competition is one of those heresies which must be swiftly slain. If only one takes the proportion of Japanese imports of piece-goods to home production (in 1921-22 the home production was 11 times as much

as the imports from Japan) one would find that Japanese competition is after all not such a dreadful thing. Dr. Pillai seems to be under the impression that Japan imports the cheap short-staple Indian cotton. Curious, as it may seem, the best cotton that India produces usually goes to Japan.

Another statement made by Dr. Pillai is equally unwarranted and seems to emanate from an imperfect study of the subject. He has repeated the popular belief that "The Indian export of yarn to China is less than half of what it was a decade ago because of its displacement by Japanese yarn". Now, the fact is that, though both India and Japan send yarns to China, the varieties of yarns sent are different. Japan does not send to China any yarn below 16's while India specialises in counts 14 and lower in her exports to China. How then does the question of displacement arise? The real causes of the diminution in India's exports to China are (1) the growth of the cotton industry in China itself and (2) the additional consumption of Indian made yarn in India itself.

It is very much to be regretted that Dr. Pillai should have made no reference to the question of raw material which is so vital to the growth of the Indian cotton industry. And an attempt on his part at giving an analysis of the industry by discussing questions of organization of markets in particular and the organization of the industry in general would have considerably enhanced the value of his article.

Unemployment Distress in Bombay

Mr. Jhabwala who is conducting a Unemployment Bureau under the Central Labour Board writes to say that the Bureau is started mainly with the object of helping the unemployed of Bombay and only a nominal fee of Rs. 3 is charged to any applicant who through the Agency of the Bureau gets a job congenial to him. If an applicant fails to get it no money is taken from him. The nominal fee is charged merely to defray the expenses of correspondence, typing, stationery, etc. In the case of the utterly destitute no charge is made at all. The object being thus purely unselfish an earnest appeal is made to employers of the following classes of workers to communicate with Mr. Jhabwala at Shete Building, near Damodhar Hall, Elphinstone Road, Parel, so that the large number of applicants whose names are still on the files may find employment early. Many of them have large families to support and the condition of others is precarious. No large salaries are expected, but a living wage is earnestly sought for by them. Mr. Jhabwala does not entertain any application from the unemployed who are unreliable. Moreover it is requested that those who are staying out of Bombay should not apply for securing a job in Bombay. The Bureau is intended for the unemployed of Bombay only. The following classes of applicants are sorely in need of jobs:—Clerks, Commission Agents, Bill Collectors, Typists and Petty Canvassers. (From the Voice of India, November 12, 1924.)

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER 1924

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories.)

The monthly statistics of the accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of November in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency. During November, there were in all 182 factory accidents in Bombay City, of which one was fatal, 3 serious and the remainder 178 minor accidents. Of the total number, 39 or 21·4 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 143 or 78·6 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion in different classes of factories being 64·8 per cent. in workshops, 31·9 per cent. in textile mills and 3·3 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad, there were nineteen accidents, eighteen of which occurred in cotton mills and one in a match factory. Of these, five were serious and the remaining fourteen minor. Twelve accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes.

In Karachi, there were in all five accidents, two of which occurred in Engineering workshops and three in miscellaneous concerns. Out of these five, two were serious and three minor and while three were due to machinery in motion the remaining two were due to other causes.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 40, of which thirteen were in textile mills, fifteen in workshops and twelve in miscellaneous concerns. Fourteen of these accidents were due to machinery in motion and twenty-six to other causes. All the accidents, with the exception of two, one of which was fatal and the other serious, were minor.

PROSECUTIONS

During November 1924, there were four prosecutions in Bombay City under the Indian Factories Act. (1) The Manager of one flour mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (h) for breach of Section 35 for not keeping the register of workers. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20. (2) One cotton mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (f) for breach of Section 18 (1) (c) and Rule 33 (ii) for not satisfactorily maintaining the locking motion on a scutcher whereby an operative was injured. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 150 out of which the injured person was awarded Rs. 75 as compensation. (3) The prosecution of one metal factory under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (a) for employing 3 children without certificates resulted in the conviction of the Manager who was fined Rs. 15 for each of the three cases. (4) The same factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (h) for breach of Section 35 for not maintaining the register of workers. For this, the Manager was fined Rs. 10.

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in November .. 6 Workpeople involved .. 2,185

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during November 1924, 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, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in November 1924.

I.—Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

| Trade | Number of disputes in progress in November 1924 | | | Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in November 1924 | Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in November 1924* |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|-------|--|--|
| | Started before 1st November | Started in November | Total | | |
| Textile .. | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1,620 | 3,140 |
| Engineering .. | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Miscellaneous .. | .... | 2 | 2 | 565 | 1,061 |
| Total, November 1924 .. | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2,185 | 4,201 |
| Total, October 1924 .. | .... | 5 | 5 | 4,817 | 19,567 |

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

There were six industrial disputes in progress in November 1924, four of which occurred in cotton mills and two in miscellaneous concerns. The number of workpeople involved was 2,185 and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced) 4,201 which, it will be seen, is a decrease on the October 1924 statistics.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results July to November 1924

| | July 1924 | August 1924 | September 1924 | October 1924 | November 1924 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Number of strikes and lock-outs .. | 4 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Disputes in progress at beginning .. | .... | .... | 1 | .... | 1 |
| Fresh disputes begun .. | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| Disputes ended .. | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Disputes in progress at end .. | .... | 1 | .... | 1 | 1 |
| Number of workpeople involved .. | 2,104 | 1,612 | 959 | 4,817 | 2,185 |
| Aggregate duration in working days .. | 3,661 | 3,270 | 1,496 | 19,567 | 4,201 |
| Demands— | | | | | |
| Pay .. | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Bonus .. | .... | 1 | .... | 1 | 1 |
| Personal .. | .... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Leave and hours .. | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Others .. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Results— | | | | | |
| In favour of employees .. | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | .... |
| Compromised .. | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| In favour of employers .. | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 |

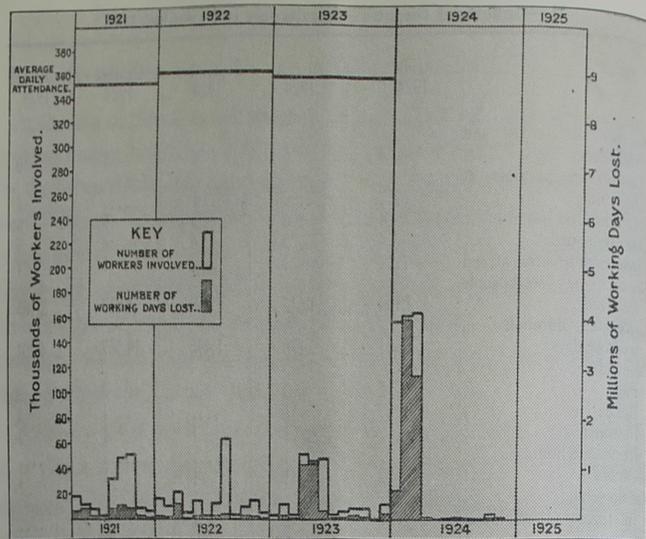
The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

III.—Industrial Disputes

| Month | Number of strikes and lock-outs | Aggregate duration in working days | Proportion settled | | | In progress. (Per cent.) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | In favour of employers. (Per cent.) | In favour of employees. (Per cent.) | Compromised. (Per cent.) | |
| November 1923 .. | 7 | 712 | 71 | 29 | .. | .. |
| December 1923 .. | 9 | 120,903 | 78 | 11 | .. | 11 |
| January 1924 .. | 7 | 565,238 | 72 | .. | 14 | 14 |
| February 1924 .. | 3 | 4,062,870 | .. | 67 | .. | 33 |
| March 1924 .. | 4 | 2,893,881 | 50 | 25 | .. | 25 |
| April 1924 .. | 4 | 2,717 | 25 | 75 | .. | .. |
| May 1924 .. | 2 | 390 | 50 | .. | 50 | .. |
| June 1924 .. | 5 | 1,169 | 100 | .. | .. | .. |
| July 1924 .. | 4 | 3,661 | 75 | 25 | .. | .. |
| August 1924 .. | 6 | 3,270 | 50 | 33 | .. | 17 |
| September 1924 .. | 4 | 1,496 | 75 | 25 | .. | .. |
| October 1924 .. | 5 | 19,567 | 40 | 40 | .. | 20 |
| November 1924 .. | 6 | 4,201 | 67 | .. | 16 | 17 |
| Totals or (cols. 4 to 7) Average .. | 66 | 7,680,075 | 58 | 25 | 6 | 11 |

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

During November 1924 there were six industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency as compared with five in the preceding month. Three of these were on account of the question of pay, one on account of bonus and the other two on account of personal and other grievances. Of the six disputes four were settled in favour of the employers, one was compromised and one was in progress at the close of the month.

BOMBAY CITY

In Bombay City there were three industrial disputes in the month under review, two of which occurred in the Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills and one in an Oil Company. The dispute in the Simplex Mill arose over the question of pay. Pay tickets for October were issued on the 14th November. 120 operatives of the Frame Department out of 2,885, the total strength of the mill, struck work on the same day, alleging reduction in the rates of wages. The Manager of the mill explained to the operatives that October was a short working month owing to the Divali holidays and that no cut was made in the rates, but the explanation did not appear to the men to be satisfactory and they went on strike. The strike continued for three days and on the 17th sixty-two strikers resumed work unconditionally while the management engaged new hands in place of those who did not return to work. The strike thus ended unfavourably to the operatives.

The cause of the strike in the Kastoorchand Mill was also the same, *viz.*, alleged reduction in the rates of wages, and the attending circumstances were also exactly similar to those of the strike in the Simplex Mills. The amounts of wages in the pay tickets for October appeared to be smaller as compared with those for September, and the weavers numbering about

400 struck work on the 19th demanding increased rates. Although the Superintendent of the Weaving Department explained to the strikers that the smallness of the amounts was due not to any reduction in the rates but to short working in the month on account of the Divali holidays, the strikers were not satisfied and left the mill. The strike continued for three days and as a result of the payment of outstanding wages on the 21st November, about one-fifth of the total number of strikers resumed work unconditionally on the 22nd. In re-employing the men who went on strike, the management selected only efficient and peaceful workers and engaged new men in place of others. The strike thus ended on the 22nd.

The third dispute occurred in the Asiatic Petroleum and Tank Storage Company's Works at Sewree on the 26th November. Consequent on the reduction of overtime work from one hour to half an hour, introduced since the 25th November, about 70 workers refused to work and demanded a continuance of the old system. This was refused and a hundred more men joined the strikers. The Manager tried to persuade them to return to work but was unsuccessful and the Works had to be closed down on the 26th on account of the violent attitude of the strikers. The Manager put up a notice to the effect that those of the men who would fail to resume work on the 27th would be dismissed, but this had no effect on the strikers. The rest of the men worked as usual. A fresh notice was, therefore, put up on the 27th saying that the strikers were dismissed and that their outstanding wages would be paid off on the 28th. As a result of this about one hundred more workpeople absented themselves in sympathy with the strikers alleging ill-treatment at the hands of the Manager and want of privy and water arrangements in the Works. A third notice was put up on the 29th allowing the men who had to join the strike against their will to resume work on the 1st of December. Thereupon 120 strikers resumed work unconditionally. The management also engaged about 142 new hands. Thus the work is proceeding normally with the help of these men, but as the strikers who did not return to work did not turn up in accordance with the notice of the 6th December to accept their outstanding, the Manager proposes to pay off the dues of the strikers on the 10th in case they come at the workshops to take them. No settlement has as yet (9th December) been reported.

AHMEDABAD

In Ahmedabad there was only one strike which occurred in the Gujarat Ginning and Manufacturing Company's Mill during the month of November 1924. The services of one Jehangirji, the men's leader, were dispensed with on account of unsatisfactory work. Thereupon forty operatives in the Frame Department struck work on the 1st November demanding his re-instatement. On the next day, however, they resumed work unconditionally.

SHOLAPUR

The dispute in the Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mills, which occurred on the 30th October over the question of bonus terminated on the 3rd November. A description of this dispute was published in the October issue of this journal.

POONA

115 Railway Hamals working in the Tranship Shed at Poona Railway station struck work on the 22nd November. The cause of the strike was that 2 Hamals were caught pilfering dry fish from a wagon by men of the Railway Watch and Ward Department. The Hamals demanded the immediate release of the culprits. As this was not done they struck work. Subsequently however, they advanced that the reason for striking work was that their pay of Rs. 25 per month was insufficient and that it should be raised. Efforts were made by the Divisional Traffic Manager, Poona, to make the men return to duty. On their refusal to do so the strikers were discharged on the 24th and new men were engaged in place of them.

Industrial Disputes in Madras

According to the Labour Commissioner, Madras, 767 scavengers of the Madura Municipality struck work on the 10th of September 1924, demanding an increase of pay. The Chairman Municipal Council interviewed them and promised to consider their grievances after they had resumed work. Accordingly they returned to work on the next day. On the 14th September the Chairman again met them and allowed them an increase of pay of 8 annas a month.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

There were two industrial disputes during the month under review. On the 1st, 39 men in the Frame Department of the Gujarat Ginning Mills struck work because their head was dismissed by the management for unsatisfactory work. The total strength of the establishment was reported to be 2,864. The strikers were not members of the Labour Union. The other strike occurred in the Astodia Mills where 200 men of the Throstle Department struck work on the 6th against bad treatment. The total strength of the establishment was reported to be 472. The strikers resumed work unconditionally the same day at the interference of the Labour Union. Both strikes were small and had very little economic significance.

It will be remembered that the Ahmedabad Labour Union had made a demand for a bonus for the current year and the Millowners' Association had refused to accede to the demand. (*Vide* page 255 of the last issue of the *Labour Gazette*). Shortly after this, the Honorary Secretary of the Millowners' Association was reported to have made a statement to the effect that if certain concessions were not granted by the Government and the Railways to the Cotton Industry in Ahmedabad, the mills would be obliged, on account of trade depression to make a wage cut in order to reduce the overhead costs. It is believed, however, that no immediate action in this direction is at present contemplated.

The Sanitary Association of this city arranged a Second Sanitary Round on the 30th. It covered a part of the Dariapur locality. The report points out among other things the general necessity of a complete drainage scheme for the city. It is understood that this is under contemplation.

Negotiation of Issues between Masters and Men

STAFF COUNCILS ON THE G. I. P. RAILWAY

In view of the fact that the Government of India have under consideration a Bill to make provision for enabling the investigation and settlement of trade disputes, it would be of considerable interest to ascertain what different employers in this country are doing to promote harmonious relations between themselves and their workmen. The Labour Office will be glad to publish, from time to time, in the *Labour Gazette*, accounts of the work done to promote goodwill and fellowship between employers and employees in different industries in India. The object of the present article is to describe the working and the functions of what are known as "Staff Councils" on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

With the approval of the Board of Directors and the Railway Board, the administration of the G. I. P. Railway decided, in January 1924, to introduce, on the Railway "Staff Councils" to consider questions governing the conditions of employment and the welfare of the staff generally, and also to provide a regular method of negotiation for issues arising between the Company and its employees. These Councils have been introduced as an experimental measure and will be subject to alteration or abolition at the discretion of the Administration, or in the event of overriding legislation on the subject by Government. Staff Councils include three different types of bodies: (1) District Committees; (2) the Railway Council; and (3) Station Committees at selected stations.

Functions

District Committees.—The functions of District Committees are (a) to provide a recognised means of communication between the employees and the Company; (b) to give the employees a wider interest in the conditions under which their work is performed; (c) to consider any matters of interest to their districts and to make recommendations to Divisional or District Officers with regard to those that affect them, subject to the right of the Railway Council to veto any recommendation if it be found to involve the interests of other Districts, or be, in the opinion of the Railway Council, objectionable; (d) to consider any matters sent from the Station Committees, or from the Railway Council; and (e) to make recommendations to the Railway Council. The more specific functions falling under (c) include (1) suggestions for the satisfactory arrangement of working hours, duties, breaks, time recording, etc.; (2) matters in which the Company and their employees have a common interest such as co-operation to secure greater efficiency and economy, increased business, the well-being of the staff, such as sanitary and municipal matters, co-operative stores, recreation, institutes, etc.; (3) the local application and interpretation of any agreement relating to general rules issued by the Company in regard to salaries, wages, hours of duty, conditions of service, etc.; (4) suggestions as to improvements in organisation of work, labour-saving appliances, inventions, etc.; (5) investigations of circumstances tending to reduce efficiency; and (6) correct working of stations, loading of traffic to insure safe transit

and reduction of claims. District Committees have no executive powers but it is open to a District or Divisional Officer to take such action on a recommendation of a Committee as may be within the powers delegated to him by the Administration. In cases where a Divisional or District Officer does not see fit to apply the power which he is authorised to exercise, he is obliged to report the reason to his Head of Department. In cases where District Committees make recommendations involving action which is not within the power of a Divisional or District Officer, such recommendations are to be referred to the Railway Council.

Railway Council.—The functions of the Railway Council are (a) to consider questions and recommendations which may be referred to it by District Committees, or be raised by its own members; (b) to refer to District Committees any subjects for consideration and report; and (c) to make recommendations to the Agent.

Station Committees.—The functions of Station Committees are almost similar to those of the District Committees but of course in relation to matters affecting particular stations and the staffs at those stations.

Reserved Matters

The various kinds of Staff Councils mentioned above are not allowed to deal with any matters they please. Questions of discipline and matters in connexion with the treatment of any single individual are outside the scope of the Railway Council and of District and Station Committees. Similarly no recommendation involving expenditure can be put into force, except under administrative sanction by the officer duly authorised by the Administration to sanction such expenditure. It is also not open to Station or District Committees or the Railway Council to alter the rules framed for the working of the Staff Councils without the sanction of the Administration. If any question arises regarding the interpretation of any particular rule during the progress of a sitting of any Committee, the Chairman is allowed to make a decision which holds good until altered by himself or by a higher authority. When the majority of a Committee or Railway Council desire that an interpretation shall be reviewed it shall be submitted to the Administration.

Constitution of Different Committees

District Committees.—District Committees have been formed, for the present, at Bombay, Bhusawal, Itarsi and Jhansi. The District Committee at Bombay consists of 12 members, 6 nominated by the Agent and 6 representing the employees. Two out of the six employees' representatives are elected from the Transportation Department (one each from the Loco Staff and the Traffic Staffs); and the other four from the Engineering, Commercial and Audit Departments, and other employees. The Bhusawal and the Jhansi Committees have 10 members each, 5 nominated by the Agent and 5 representing the employees. The Engineering and Commercial Departments elect one each, other employees one and the Transportation Department two—one for the Loco Staff and one for the Traffic Staff. The Itarsi Committee has only 8 members constituted in the same proportion as the others but the Transportation Department only elects one employees' representative instead of two. The Chairman

and Secretary of each District Committee are nominated from among the members of the Committee either by the Agent or by any officer nominated by him in this behalf. The Chairman has a vote but not a casting vote, and, in case he is unable to attend a meeting of the Committee, he has the right to nominate an officer to act as the Chairman for that particular meeting. The first representatives of the employees on all the District Committees have been nominated by the Agent or by such officers as authorised by him in this behalf. These first representatives are to hold office for a period of one year. Thereafter, election of the employees' representatives is to be by ballot and the tenure of office is prescribed under rules framed for the retirement of members.

Regarding election of employees' representatives, all employees of the Company with not less than one year's service are entitled to vote in the election of their departmental representatives. The qualification required for election to a committee is a minimum of three years' service. In Bombay two employees' representatives are to retire at the end of each year and those to retire are to be selected by lot, but the retiring members are eligible for re-election. The tenure of office of the Agent's nominees is three years.

The ordinary meetings of the District Committees are held in February, May, August and November in each year but special meetings can be held at any time the Chairman considers necessary. Fourteen days' notice has to be given in respect of each meeting. All the members of each Committee holding office for the time being are to form the quorum in respect of each meeting. Therefore, in cases where an Agent's nominee cannot attend any meeting he is allowed to send someone in his place to represent him. If an employees' representative is unable to attend any meeting the other employees' representatives may co-opt other Company's employees to fill the vacant place.

Matters for consideration by the District Committees are (a) those referred to them by Station Committees, and (b) those brought forward by members of District Committees. Matters for the agenda are to be sent to the Secretary one week before the date of each meeting. A copy of the agenda for each meeting is to be sent for consideration to each member of a Committee three days before a meeting. The chairman has absolute right to exclude any subject from the agenda and to remove any subject therefrom provided he reports his action in this behalf to the Agent, forthwith, giving his reasons. No subject on the agenda can be discussed unless agreed to by the Chairman and he has also the right to decide that a Station Committee's opinions shall be obtained before the District Committee comes to a decision on matters brought forward by the members of a Committee for discussion.

Railway Council.—There is only one Railway Council and this is stationed at Bombay. It consists of four members nominated by the Agent and four representatives of the employees, each elected by the employees' representatives nominated or elected to each of the District Committees. The first employees' representatives on the Railway Council were nominated by the Agent but future representatives will be elected, as stated, by ballot.

The ordinary meetings of the Railway Council are held in the months of March, June, September and December in each year. It will be noticed that the meetings of the Railway Council are held one month after the meetings of the various District Committees. This is in order to facilitate early discussion of matters referred to the Railway Council by the District Committees.

The Rules regarding the quorum, the powers of nominating and co-opting representatives and the regulation of business at the meetings are similar or almost similar to those already described in connexion with District Committees.

Among the several matters hitherto discussed by the Railway Council are, (1) proposals regarding improved leave rules for the Indian Subordinate Staff; (2) proposals to provide staff quarters at all stations for coaching clerks of the Commercial Department; (3) question of increased intermediate class accommodation on passenger trains for the convenience of free pass holders, and the permission for such pass holders to travel by the Intermediate Class on Mail trains; (4) recommendations to start training classes; and (5) the grant of compensatory allowance to members of the subordinate staff employed in Bombay.

Station Committees.—While the District Committee is the basis on which the scheme is set up, Station Committees are set up at stations selected by the Administration to deal with such of the functions of the District Committees as the Administration may deem it desirable to refer to them. Station Committees report on all matters to the District Committees. For the present, such Committees have been, or are, in the process of being set up at Victoria Terminus, Kalyan, Sholapur, Bhusawal, Nagpur, Jabulpore and Jhansi. Each Committee consists of two members nominated by the Agent and eight employees' representatives, two for each of the Engineering, Transportation and Commercial Department and two for all other employees. The employees' representatives on the Station Committees are to be nominated by the District Committee concerned. The rules regarding the retirement of members, officers, quorum, powers of nominating representatives and co-opting, minutes, etc., are substantially similar to the rules framed in respect of the District Committees and the Railway Council. The ordinary meetings of Station Committees are held in January, April, July and October of each year and precede the meetings of the District Committees.

Employees attending Station or District Committees or the Railway Council are treated, for all purposes, as being on duty.

In a notice published in the *G. I. P. Railway Weekly Notices* on the 9th May 1924, Mr. R. McLean, the Agent of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, said:

"I wish in conclusion to remind the staff of the main object of these Committees. They are to provide means by which the staff and officers may have opportunities of conferring together on matters affecting the staff and area generally. Certain restrictions on the subjects which may be discussed have had, perforce, to be laid down; and for the first year it has been considered desirable to launch these Committees by nominating to them, as representatives of the staff, men of substantial service and

experience. I would ask the Members of the Committees to bear in mind that the usefulness of these Committees in the future will depend in a large measure on the manner in which they, in the first year, lay the foundations. It is possible for them to become a bureau for complaints and nothing more. On the other hand it is possible that with good will on both sides they will become a regular means of mutual discussion of matters of interest between the staff of all departments and the officers who have the control of Railway operations. If the first named is the only result which emerges they will have failed in their object; for they are designed advisedly to be of mutual benefit to the Railway Administration and to its employees. All of us on the G. I. P. Railway are doing our best to bring the line into a position of first rate efficiency both economic and technical. There have been large improvements in our working results in the last year or two and I hope and expect that these new Committees will become a valuable instrument for even greater efficiency. We have made big losses in the last few years and are still in a state of financial stability. Even unimportant factors may turn a profit into a loss, so we have much constructive work still ahead of us."

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for January will be published an article dealing with "Advisory Boards" in the Postal Department. The Labour Office will welcome facts and particulars in connexion with similar organisations established by different employers in this country.

The All-India (including Burma) Postal and Royal Mail Service Conference

5th SESSIONS HELD AT BOMBAY

The All-India (including Burma) Postal and Royal Mail Service Union held the 5th Sessions of their Conference at Bombay from the 22nd to the 24th November 1924. Mr. Y. G. Talpade was the Chairman of the Reception Committee and Mr. M. A. Jinnah, Barrister-at-Law, M.L.A., was President. This Union is the best organised Union in the whole of India. It is a federation of nine Provincial Postal and R.M.S. Associations with a total of nearly 30,000 members. The Provincial Associations themselves are federations of District Postal and R.M.S. Unions and no person is allowed to be a member of any Provincial Association or All-India Union unless he is a member of a District Union. In the Bombay Presidency there are 15 District Unions with a total membership of 3,764 members as at 31st August 1924.

The Central Union obtains its revenue from the District Unions through the Provincial Associations by means of a levy of four annas per year for each member of the clerical classes and one anna per year for members of other classes. "Other Classes" include postmen, runners, mail peons, van peons, packers and extra departmental agents. In addition to the annual subscription payable to the All-India Union on behalf of each of its members, each District Union is under the obligation of maintaining a Reserve Fund for the All-India Union. This Reserve Fund is maintained by a general levy of two per cent. of the pay of each member of the Union payable only once. These funds are under the management and the

control of each District Union but the interest obtained at six per cent. is remitted every year through the Provincial Associations to the All-India Union. The All-India Postal and R.M.S. Union is not, however, a complete federation of all kinds and classes of postal Unions in India. In addition to the All-India Union with its affiliated Provincial and District Unions, there exist (1) Separate Postmen's Unions, in some cases affiliated to their own Provincial Union or working as free lances; (2) All-India (including Burma) Postmasters' Union; (3) Circle Offices' Associations in embryo and (4) the intended separate Union of R.M.S. employees.

Mr. Y. G. Talpade in his address of welcome to the 2,000 delegates and visitors who attended the conference at Bombay pointed out that all these divergent bodies cannot act efficiently and that they must necessarily collide. He pressed for a merging of the separate Unions into one strong and solid Central Union and pointed out that this could be attained if all members of the Postal service, including Postmasters, became members of the District Unions and did not attempt to form separate unions or associations of their own. In pointing out the advantages of such an amalgamation, he said:—

"If we succeed in the formation of our Unions in the above fashion we shall have included in our fold all Executive Officials from Presidency Postmasters and 1st Class Postmasters down to a Runner; and such a Union will be too formidable a body to be trifled with by Government. Our demands which will then be tested and weighed by experienced and well trained executive officers before submission to Government, will always have the backing up of the whole Executive, and it will not be easy for the powers-that-be to whittle them down".

In the course of his Presidential Address Mr. Jinnah said:—

"With these objects no one can quarrel; and I entirely associate myself with your demand for a fair treatment and just wages in return for the services you render in positions involving great strain and responsibility. It is only by sound and thorough organisation can you take a successful corporate action. Discipline, feeling of fellowship, *esprit de corps* and self-sacrifice will surely secure the redress of your grievances at the hands of the Government. You have gained the first step. I am glad that your Union has been recognised now by the Government. The grievances of the postal employees are too many and I have noticed that you urge a fresh Inquiry Committee. You will therefore not expect me at present to discuss those various grievances in the matter of pay, prospects and other conditions of services. I also see that you feel that there is a differentiation in the treatment meted out to the Postal and Telegraph branches by Government. I firmly believe in the principle of fair wage; and I maintain that it is the duty of the employer, be it Government or private individual, to encourage and help more sanitary life and surroundings of the toilers and promote the welfare and education of the children of those who labour. It is only by providing a fair wage and decent habitation and securing fair prospects, that it is possible to get well-contented and efficient workmen in any department of life.

"I believe, a resolution asking the Government to give you a fresh Inquiry Committee has already been tabled before the Legislative Assembly and it is likely to come up for discussion in the next Sessions at Delhi, and I hope that those who are in charge of that resolution will be able to make out a strong case to induce the Legislative Assembly to recommend the Governor-General in Council to undertake fresh inquiry.

"I have no doubt that resolutions regarding the more prominent and urgent matters will be placed before this Conference and will be discussed with ability and reason and in a manner which will carry conviction and involve approval and support of the people and the Government alike. These resolutions will focus the attention of the authorities and must be carefully considered.

"In conclusion, let me thank you for the honour you have done in asking me to preside over your deliberations. This is the first time I have been called upon to preside over a gathering of the workers; and I assure you that I am very pleased and feel proud to associate myself with you; and I hope, that by your efficient organisation, thoroughly disciplined, well-conducted and directed, you will secure success in realizing all your legitimate demands. And now I wish your Union godspeed.

"Of the many vital questions that affect India the organisation of Labour on sound and correct principles is not the least important. I understand that in 1908 there were scarcely any Unions of the Postal Service except in the presidency towns of Bombay and Calcutta, and at that time the staff displayed an amount of discontent due to economic and other causes. You, rightly following the successful method of the Labouring classes in England and on the Continent, adopted a course of forming Unions and carrying on your work through and by means of these Unions. Like all other pioneers you had to meet opposition and obstruction; but you secured a decision from the Imperial Council and a Committee was appointed to inquire into the economic conditions of the Postal employees. I know that the personnel of that Committee did not inspire your confidence and the result of its inquiry has not satisfied you. Then followed Provincial Conferences of postal subordinates and this resulted in the creation of Unions growing up throughout India and you were able to hold your first Conference of your representatives at Delhi in October 1920. This was the first All-India (including Burma) Postal and R.M.S. Conference. Since then you have been holding the sessions of the Union in different centres every year; and to-day, I gather, your membership of the various Unions is somewhere about 30,000, and you are well supplied with the sinews of war and you have at your command a fund amounting very nearly a lakh of rupees. It is an achievement you may well be proud of.

"The aims and objects of your Union are to organise the Postal and R.M.S. workers with a view to secure a voice in the administration of the postal business, to promote and safeguard the interest, rights and privileges of the postal employees and to get redressed such grievances as may be brought to its notice by all constitutional means and on recognised methods of similar Labour organisations, to secure recognition of the principle of arbitration in settling all postal labour disputes, to co-ordinate the working of the different Provincial postal unions, to secure full civic rights for the postal employees, to promote the welfare of the members of the Union and to improve the efficiency of the service."

Annual Report of the Union

In the annual report which was read out to the Conference it was stated that the total number of members had increased from 25,869 as at the 31st August 1923 to 29,127 as at 31st August 1924. This total was made up as follows:—

| Name of Provincial Association | Number of Members on the 31st August 1924 | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------|--------|
| | Clerks. | Below Clerks. | Total. |
| Bengal and Assam | 3,486 | 6,738 | 10,224 |
| Bihar and Orissa | 1,118 | 2,087 | 3,205 |
| Bombay | 2,939 | 825 | 3,764 |
| Burma | 993 | 875 | 1,868 |
| Central Circle | 720 | 292 | 1,012 |
| Delhi | 200 | 100 | 300 |
| Madras | 2,681 | 1,214 | 3,895 |
| Punjab and N. W. Frontier | 1,350 | 1,209 | 2,559 |
| United Provinces | 1,020 | 1,280 | 2,300 |
| Total | 14,507 | 14,620 | 29,127 |

The approximate number of officials of different cadres in the Post Office Department in the whole of India (including Burma) was reported as follows:—

| | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Postmasters (including Sub and Branch Inspectors, Clerks and Sorters) | 27,000 |
| 2. Postmen and Mailguards | 29,800 |
| 3. Menials including road and river staff | 32,400 |
| 4. Extra Departmental Agents | 12,670 |
| Total | 1,01,870 |

It will be seen that nearly 54 per cent. of the superior staff in the Post Office Department in India are members of District Postal Unions and that 19 per cent. of the other three classes taken together are members of the central organisation. These percentages do not represent the actual proportion of union members, because, as pointed out above, there are various other union organisations of postal workers.

Financial Position.

On the 1st September 1923, the All-India Union had a credit balance of Rs. 2,476-3-0. The total collections during the year ending 31st August 1924 amounted to Rs. 9,640-10-2 and the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,116-5-3 leaving a balance of Rs. 9,000-7-11, but as only Rs. 250 was realised out of an amount of Rs. 500 placed in deposit in the Savings Bank of the Delhi Branch of the Alliance Bank of Simla (under liquidation) the actual balance on hand amounted to Rs. 8,750-7-11. The financial position of each of the Provincial Associations may be judged from the figures given below showing the cash balances in hand at each of the provincial offices as at 31st August 1924.

| | Rs. | a. | p. |
|---|--------|----|----|
| Bengal and Assam | 33,968 | 1 | 2 |
| Bihar and Orissa | 3,110 | 8 | 3 |
| Bombay | 21,940 | 0 | 0 |
| Burma | 18 | 8 | 9 |
| Central Circle | 3,126 | 4 | 4 |
| Delhi | 2,600 | 6 | 1 |
| Madras | 7,464 | 13 | 5 |
| Punjab and North Western Frontier | 9,082 | 3 | 5 |
| United Provinces | 921 | 8 | 10 |

It will thus be seen that the total funds of the various Provincial Associations and of the All-India Union amounted to nearly one lakh of rupees.

Rent of Improvement Trust Buildings

At a meeting of the Trustees for the improvement of the City of Bombay held on 25th November, a letter from the Land Manager regarding the revision of rents of rooms used as shops and for other business purposes at Agripada was considered. The Land Manager had stated in his letter that the rents of shops in the Board's Agripada *chawls*, although increased to the extent permitted by the Rent Act, were much below the rents prevailing in the adjoining buildings belonging to the Board's lessees. It was therefore suggested to increase the rents of shops by 50 per cent. and rents of rooms other than those used for living or school purposes by only 10 per cent.

The Board ultimately resolved to increase the rent for municipal schools and shops by 50 per cent. (Abstracted from the "Times of India", 26th November 1924.)

International Labour Organization

Mr. Joseph Baptista, the Indian Workers' representative at the International Labour Conference of 1924, has given in two articles which he contributed to the *Bombay Chronicle* of 20th and 28th November respectively, a summary of the organization of the International Labour Office and his own experiences at the conference.

The International Labour Organization came into existence under the Treaty of Versailles. According to the Treaty, every member of the League of Nations automatically becomes a member of the International Labour Office. The members now number 57. The constitution provides for the holding of a general conference of Representatives at least once in every year. According to article 389 of the Treaty, the General Conference shall be composed of four representatives of each of the members, of whom two shall be Government delegates and the two others shall be delegates representing respectively the employers and the workpeople of each of the members. The members can nominate non-Government delegates and advisers chosen in agreement with industrial organizations in their respective countries. Each delegate cannot be accompanied by more than two advisers for each item on the agenda of the meeting. At the last conference, there were 127 representatives from 40 members who were accompanied by 167 advisers for six items on the agenda inclusive of Anthrax.

Mr. Baptista is of opinion that the Government of India are following a wrong policy by declining to give labour representatives the benefit of advisers. Advisers were refused at first on the ground of economy and afterwards on the ground that no suitable person was available. Mr. Baptista thinks that Government's refusal is extraordinary in view of the fact that "The absence of advisers impairs the usefulness of the delegates from India, and constitutes a serious handicap".

The Governing Body of the International Labour Office is constituted as follows:—Twelve represent Governments, six Employers and six Employees. Of the sixteen representing Governments, eight are nominated by members of chief industrial importance, India being one. Mr. Baptista however regrets that India's representative on the Governing Body is not an Indian. The appointment of a non-Indian, he thinks, gives a false impression of the capacity of Indians to represent India, and it impairs the efficiency of the Body so far as Indian questions are concerned.

The Labour Office under a Director who is the Chief Executive Officer is the executive of the Organization. The Director is appointed by the Governing Body. The Director appoints the staff but he is obliged "to select persons of different nationalities". The functions of the Labour Office include "the collection and distribution of information on all subjects relating to the international adjustment of conditions of industrial life and labour and particularly the examination of subjects which it is proposed to bring before the Conference with a view to the conclusion of international conventions, and the conduct of such special investigations as may be ordered by the Conference" (article 369). To do this work efficiently, it is necessary, Mr. Baptista thinks, that there should be more Indians on the staff of the office than there are at present, namely, 2. It is

urged that the Government of India should insist on appointing more Indians. Furthermore, the absence of a "Correspondence Office" in India such as exists in London, Paris and other large cities is a defect which needs to be remedied. The Conference of 1922 adopted a resolution requesting the Governing Body "to consider the expediency of instituting the services of national correspondents in Eastern countries, and especially in Japan and India". Japan gave effect to this resolution in 1923 at considerable expense, but in India nothing was done. And Mr. Baptista accuses the Government of India of a cynical disregard of the resolutions and conventions of the Conference.

In the second article Mr. Baptista deals briefly with the aims and the objects of the International Labour Organization. The following principles were enunciated for the guidance of the League of Nations by the High Contracting Parties:—(1) The right of association; (2) not to regard labour as a commodity; (3) securing a reasonable standard of life; (4) an eight-hours' day or forty-eight hours' week; (5) a weekly rest of at least 24 hours; (6) the abolition of child labour and the imposition of such limitations on the labour of young persons as shall permit the continuation of their education and assure their proper physical development; (7) equal remuneration for work of equal value to men and women; (8) equitable economic treatment of all workers who are lawful residents, in each country and (9) a system of inspection in which women should take part to enforce laws and regulations for the protection of the employed.

The Organization gives effect to these methods and principles by the Draft Conventions or Recommendations of the Conference. The adoption of the Draft Rules or Recommendations requires (1) a majority of two-thirds of votes cast by the delegates present, and (2) the total number of votes actually cast for and against must not be less than half the number of delegates officially inscribed for the session of the Conference and having the right to vote. Each member (state) is to communicate the Convention or Recommendation to a competent authority for action within one year or a maximum of 18 months. There is no compulsion on any member to ratify a convention or to legislate to give effect to a Recommendation. But if action is taken it is incumbent on the member to enforce effective observance.

Since the Washington Conference, 17 Conventions and 20 Recommendations have been adopted by the Conference. Upto now there have been only 126 ratifications of these Conventions. One of the most important Conventions, namely, the Convention about eight-hours' day has been ratified by 5 members, authorised by one and recommended for ratification by 10 according to the Director's Report for 1924.

At the last Conference which Mr. Baptista attended, forty states were represented by 127 delegates accompanied by 179 advisers, substitutes, secretaries and attaches making a total of 306. Of these seven were women.

Mr. Baptista has given a description of the proceedings of the Conference together with his impressions of the proceedings. He complains that owing to the time-limit of 5 minutes imposed on speakers, it was impossible to do any justice to the subjects under discussion; and that, he was not allowed to say many things he would have liked to say, merely on technical grounds.

The Work of the New York State Labour Department

The Department of Labour is one of the most important agencies of the State Government and "*the Industrial Bulletin*", Albany, N. Y., September 1924 contains a full account of its activities. Upwards of 900 persons are employed by the Department which has an annual budget of about \$2,050,000 for personal service and for maintenance and operation. At the head of the Department is the Industrial Commissioner. He has charge of all matters of administration, of the enforcement of all the laws coming under the jurisdiction of the Department, of all investigations made pursuant to law, of the preparation of the budget and of all appointments and removals. He has also the power of hearing and determining compensation cases.

The Industrial Board which forms a part of the department does not concern itself with matters of administration but discharges the quasi-judicial and quasi-legislative functions of the department, such as reviewing decisions in compensation cases and adopting the Industrial Codes submitted to it by the Industrial Commissioner.

The main Office of the Department is in the capital at Albany although the bulk of the work is done in the New York office. There are also branch offices in three cities of the State, each of which is in charge of an assistant to the Commissioner. The department also maintains employment offices in several cities.

There are six bureaux under the department, namely, the Bureau of Inspection, the Bureau of Workmen's Compensation, the Bureau of Research and Codes, the Bureau of Statistics, the Bureau of Women in Industry and the Bureau of Industrial Research.

Bureau of Inspection.—This is one of the most important bureaux of the department and has charge of the inspection of factories, mercantile establishments, mines, tunnels and quarries, etc. Among the important provisions of law enforced by this bureau, are those relating to the fire hazard, to safety, sanitation, accident prevention, illegal employment of women and children and one day of rest in seven. The bureau has a staff of 195 inspectors to do this work. For inspection purposes the state is divided into nine districts, each in charge of a Supervising Inspector. There are four kinds of Inspectors.—(1) Factory Inspectors, (2) Mercantile Inspectors, (3) Mine and Tunnel Inspectors and (4) Boiler Inspectors, most of the inspectors falling in the first two classes.

Bureau of Workmen's Compensation.—This is one of the most important and difficult bureaux to administer in the department and is entrusted with the administration of the Workmen's Compensation Law of the State. About one-third of the entire appropriation for the department is devoted to the work of this bureau. All this money, however, is charged against insurance carriers as part of the expense of administering the Workmen's Compensation Law and repaid by them to the State. An idea of the volume of business done by this bureau may be derived from the total compensation payments which for the calendar year 1923 amounted to \$19,679,945.

There are three divisions attached to this bureau, the (1) Medical Division, (2) Division of After Care Service and (3) Division of Self-Insurance.

In the Medical Division there are eight medical examiners whose sole duty is to examine claimants when their cases are heard in order to report to the department the character and extent of the disability. These medical examiners have plenty of work to do and the total number of examinations in New York city run in the neighbourhood of 3,500 a month.

The Division of After Care Service maintains a contact with the families of injured claimants. It assists disabled claimants and their dependents. The investigators of this division investigate such cases and if a claimant or his family is found in need they refer such cases to the appropriate agencies for relief.

The Division of Self-Insurance passes on applications of employers to be self-insurers under the Workmen's Compensation Law. It determines the financial responsibility of the applicants, the initial deposit of securities required to guarantee the payment of any compensation awards that may be made and all further deposits of securities to meet outstanding claims.

Bureau of Research and Codes.—This bureau consists of three divisions, (1) the Division of Industrial Hygiene, (2) the Division of Codes and (3) the Division of Engineering. In the first of these are centred the educational and research activities of the department. It is continuously engaged in a study of individual accidents and diseases and of the measures to be taken by employers and employees to reduce their number. It has a section of expert inspectors and maintains lecturers who tour the state with safety exhibits and give talks on the hygiene of industry and the prevention of accidents, in schools, town halls and industrial plants.

The Division of Codes is concerned with the preparation of Codes containing detailed rules and regulations for specific industries or industrial processes. These rules are prepared in co-operation of advisory committees of employers, employees and of the public appointed by the Commissioner.

The Division of Engineering passes plans for the construction and alteration of industrial buildings and mercantile establishments all over the State excepting New York city.

Bureau of Statistics.—This bureau does all the statistical work of the department. It prepares monthly statements of employment, wages, conditions of labour, etc., and annual analyses of accidents and compensation statistics. The value of the Bureau is summed up in the following words:—"This is one of the most important activities of the department but one which has been rather neglected in the past. There is a great demand today for the actual facts concerning industrial conditions and the Department of Labour should be in a position to furnish this information to the public in an impartial and comprehensive manner. Many mistakes could be avoided, unwise legislation prevented and needed laws passed if the facts and figures were available, instead of our being obliged to grope around in the dark and to act on conjecture and surmise."

Bureau of Women in Industry.—This Bureau deals with the problems presented by the employment of women and children in factories. It does a good deal of research work and conducts many investigations. At the present time, the Bureau is making the following investigations: the effect of the employment on children 14 and 15 years of age; an analysis of permanent injuries sustained by women employees and their consequences; the trend of child labour in New York State; the health hazards of the rubber industry.

Bureau of Industrial Relations.—There are three divisions in this Bureau: (1) mediation, (2) public employment offices and (3) aliens. In the first division there are five mediators whose business it is to keep in close touch with industrial disputes, to endeavour to prevent strikes and to do everything to settle strikes after they occur. The public employment offices are specially concerned with providing suitable jobs to young men. The division of aliens deals with the licensing and inspection of lodging houses and with all matters involving the exploitation of aliens, such as, stock frauds and the withholding of wages.

In addition to these bureaus, the Department itself undertakes many other activities. It publishes a monthly *Industrial Bulletin* as also separate bulletins setting forth results of investigations made by different bureaus of the department. It keeps an officer called the Attorney General who looks to the legal work of the department. In cases of violation of the Labour Law instead of prosecuting an employer in the courts, he is asked to appear before the Department to show cause why he should not be prosecuted.

Industrial Disputes in the U. S. A., 1916—1923

The June issue of the *Monthly Labour Review*, Washington (which is the official periodical publication of the Bureau of Labour Statistics under the U.S.A. Department of Labour), contains a statistical discussion on "Strikes and Lock-outs in the United States, 1916—1923".

The discussion commences by noting that the Bureau has no legal authority to require reports relative to industrial disputes from any person and is therefore obliged to obtain its information in any way possible, but mainly from the newspapers, from the conciliation branch of the Department, and from the Labour Boards of the different States. When a strike is known to have occurred a questionnaire is sent out. Out of 2,629 circulars of enquiry sent out in 1923 only 1,131 were returned with answers in whole or in part. The statistics are therefore not complete, especially as regards less important disputes, and approximations had often to be adopted where exact figures were lacking or reports from different sources were conflicting. No distinction is drawn between strikes and lock-outs, because the two conditions frequently overlapped.

Studied by month of commencement it is found that disputes commence more frequently in April and May than in other months. This is attributed partly to the increased trade activity which usually occurs in

the Spring and partly to the fact that trade agreements usually terminate in April, giving rise to fresh controversies over wages, etc.

The number of disputes by year of commencement shows:—

| | | | | | |
|------|----|-------|------|----|-------|
| 1916 | .. | 3,789 | 1920 | .. | 3,299 |
| 1917 | .. | 4,450 | 1921 | .. | 2,382 |
| 1918 | .. | 3,353 | 1922 | .. | 1,080 |
| 1919 | .. | 3,577 | 1923 | .. | 1,491 |

The causes of disputes are tabulated under a very elaborate system of classification. Demand for increase of wages is by far the largest item. Demand for decrease of hours of labour was not very important, except in 1921. But a separate head for disputes in which these two demands were combined contains a good proportion of the disputes in each year. Demand for recognition of unions is also the cause of many disputes. Some of the causes are obscure, for instance "Unfair products" "sympathy" "jurisdiction", and their meaning can only be guessed. There is also a big residue each year of causes "not reported".

For those disputes for which information was available the number of employees affected was 4 million in 1919, and between 1 and 2 million in all other years except 1923, when it was only 743,569.

Classified by industries the large majority of the disputes are included in Building, Clothing, Metal, Mining, and Textiles.

By results the number of disputes comes out as follows for the 8 years together:—

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|-------|
| In favour of employers | .. | .. | .. | 4,237 |
| Compromised | .. | .. | .. | 3,995 |
| In favour of employees | .. | .. | .. | 3,844 |
| Uncertain and not reported | .. | .. | .. | 1,900 |

This distribution shows a considerably larger proportion ending favourably to the workers than is the case in most other countries.

The duration of the disputes is considerable. The average duration was as follows:—

| | | | | | |
|------|----|----|----|----|---------|
| 1916 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23 days |
| 1917 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 19 " |
| 1918 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 17 " |
| 1919 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 34 " |
| 1920 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 39 " |
| 1921 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 51 " |
| 1922 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 38 " |
| 1923 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23 " |

Averages in such a case are, of course, of little importance, since one or two very protracted disputes will send the average up. But the detailed table given in the article under review shows that disputes are distributed evenly over durations from one day up to 200 days and over.

Welfare Work on an English Railway

In its issue of October 1924 "Industrial Welfare", which is the official organ of the "Industrial Welfare Society", 51 Palace Street, Westminster, London S. W. 1, summarizes the address which was delivered at the Society's recent conference at Balliol College, Oxford, by Mr. G. S. Rider, General Welfare Superintendent of the London Midland and Scottish Railway.

After enumerating the very varied work which is covered by the total body of employees on a big modern Railway system Mr. Rider described the various phases of welfare work under different categories.

(1) *Conditions under which the Staff works.*—This includes the supervision of offices, workshops and generally all places where employees work, with special reference to lighting, heating and ventilation, and the work consists in advising the administrative branch of the Railway.

(2) *Accident prevention.*—This is chiefly secured by propaganda. Of a pamphlet entitled "Prevention is better than cure" 160,000 copies were distributed.

(3) *Ambulance Work.*—This involves standardizing the ambulance equipment and ambulance organization, the establishment and conduct of classes, examinations and competitions, and the grant of awards, concessions, etc., to trained men.

(4) *Medical Work.*—The Company employs full-time medical officers for examining employees, etc., and these officers are placed under the general direction of the Welfare Section. Large central hospitals are provided at two junctions.

(5) *Education.*—This covers both the testing of new applicants, and the education of existing employees. Classes of a vocational nature are provided for the clerical staff and lectures also given at 65 different centres. All successes at examinations whether the Company's own vocational examinations or those of outside bodies are entered on the employees' staff records, and considered when questions of promotion arise. A library is maintained at one centre.

(6) *Women's Sections.*—The employment of women in the clerical branches of the Railway is now an established feature. The Welfare Section employs a Chief Woman Supervisor and four divisional Women Supervisors for female welfare work. Their activities cover office cleaning, health of the women workers, women ambulance rooms and rest rooms, first aid and home nursing classes, investigation of causes of sickness, lost time, etc., messing facilities and dining clubs, social clubs and accommodation for women employees.

(7) *External Welfare.*—In a large number of centres the Company has built institutes and organised athletic clubs. Mr. Rider issues a warning against thrusting on the workers recreations and other forms of activity which they do not want.

(8) *Magazine.*—The L. M. & S. Railway Magazine has a circulation of 160 to 170 thousand with a total staff of 270 thousand.

(9) *Miscellaneous functions.*—Under this head is mentioned the building and house purchase scheme. The Company is prepared to advance up to 90 per cent. of the Company surveyor's valuation of a house, under a mortgage scheme at 4 per cent.

TABLE II.—DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF ONE DELIVERY AND SURVIVAL OF CHILDREN

| | Delivery in Bombay | Delivery in Mofussil | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----|
| Child alive in Bombay | 355 | 205 | 560 |
| Child alive in Mofussil | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Child dead | 64 | 49 | 113 |
| | 420 | 258 | 678 |

Summary—Children alive .. 565 Percentage of children deceased 18·1 per cent.
 Children dead .. 113

TABLE III.—DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF TWO DELIVERIES AND SURVIVAL OF CHILDREN

| | Both deliveries in Bombay | Both deliveries in Mofussil | First delivery in Bombay, second in Mofussil | First delivery in Mofussil, second in Bombay | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|-----|
| Both alive in Bombay | 78 | 39 | 10 | 26 | 153 |
| Both alive in Mofussil .. .. . | .... | .... | .... | .... | .. |
| One alive in Bombay, one in Mofussil | 1 | 1 | 1 | .... | 3 |
| One alive in Bombay, one deceased | 39 | 15 | 8 | 32 | 94 |
| One alive in Mofussil, one deceased .. .. . | .... | 1 | .... | .... | 1 |
| Both deceased | 21 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 34 |
| | 139 | 65 | 20 | 61 | 285 |

Summary—Children alive .. 404 Percentage of children deceased 29·1 per cent.
 Children deceased .. 166

TABLE IV.—DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF THREE DELIVERIES AND SURVIVAL OF CHILDREN

| | Three deliveries in Bombay | Three deliveries in Mofussil | Two deliveries in Bombay, one in Mofussil | Two deliveries in Mofussil, one in Bombay | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|----|
| Three alive in Bombay | 6 | .... | .... | 1 | 7 |
| Two alive in Bombay, one dead | 7 | .... | .... | .... | 7 |
| One alive in Bombay, two dead | 14 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 22 |
| Three dead .. .. . | .... | .... | .... | 1 | 1 |
| | 27 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 37 |

Summary.—Children alive .. 57 Percentage of children deceased .. 48·6 per cent.
 Children dead .. 54

TABLE V.—DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF FOUR DELIVERIES AND SURVIVAL OF CHILDREN

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|---|
| Four dead | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|---|

TABLE VI.—GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVIVAL OF CHILDREN

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Total number of deliveries | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,363 |
| Children alive in Bombay | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,020 |
| Children alive in Mofussil | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Children deceased | .. | .. | .. | .. | 334 |
| | | | | | 1,363 |

Percentage of children deceased to children born in last four years ..24·5 per cent.

Specimen of Enquiry Form

Serial No.....
 Age of woman.....Years.
 How many times confined during the last four years ..times.
 Whether confined in Bombay or mofussil

| | Bombay | Mofussil |
|------------------|--------|----------|
| 1st time | | |
| 2nd time | | |
| 3rd time | | |
| 4th time | | |

Of the children born in above confinements during the last four years how many alive and where living.

| | Bombay | Mofussil |
|---|--------|----------|
| Surviving children { 1st child living | | |
| 2nd " " | | |
| 3rd " " | | |
| 4th " " | | |
| 5th " " | | |

Number of children deceased

SECOND ENQUIRY

For this enquiry the Lady Investigators were provided with the form reprinted below. The results can be analysed as follows:—

The age distribution of 1,176 women operatives sampled is shown in Table VII. The averages of the recorded ages are:—arithmetic mean 31·295 years; median 29·331 years. It is impossible, of course, with a very erratic age distribution like this to state the mode. And the other two averages are nominal averages deduced from incorrect data.

By constructing a curve from the data, smoothing the curve, and reducing to per 1,000 values we get a tentative age distribution as follows for 1,000 mill women aged 15 and upwards.

| Age in years | Number | Age in years | Number |
|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|
| 15 | 4 | 34 | 39 |
| 16 | 5 | 35 | 36 |
| 17 | 7 | 36 | 33 |
| 18 | 10 | 37 | 30 |
| 19 | 16 | 38 | 28 |
| 20 | 24 | 39 | 25 |
| 21 | 35 | 40 | 22 |
| 22 | 39 | 41 | 19 |
| 23 | 44 | 42 | 17 |
| 24 | 48 | 43 | 13 |
| 25 | 50 | 44 | 11 |
| 26 | 52 | 45 | 9 |
| 27 | 54 | 46 | 7 |
| 28 | 55 | 47 | 6 |
| 29 | 53 | 48 | 5 |
| 30 | 49 | 49 | 4 |
| 31 | 46 | 50 | 3 |
| 32 | 42 | 51 & over | 6 |
| 33 | | | 1,000 |

But this is again only a tentative approximation. In constructing the above distribution it has been assumed that the ages of those between 15 and 20 had been over-stated in the returns, and that the number of those who are just over the border line between "children" and "women" (Factory Act interpretation) had therefore come out too few.

The same table shows that 1,176 women operatives had 382 children of ages below 4 years living in Bombay. (In this enquiry as in the other the number of children recorded as living in the mofussil was negligible.) This gives 32.49 children aged 0-4 per 100 women operatives. This is markedly higher than the corresponding ratio for the general population, and is not above suspicion. It was found that front chawls have more children than back chawls, that chawls near the mills have more children than distant chawls, and that certain castes have more children than other castes. Errors due to inadvertent selection of chawls and castes therefore creep in, in addition to an unfortunate tendency again noted for the Lady Investigators to select for questioning women whom they could see possessed children. The samples taken on different days showed different ratios ranging from 18 children to 62 children per 100 women. Forms collected personally by the Senior (Male) Investigator showed lower ratios than forms collected by the Lady Investigators, with or without supervision. On the whole there is no reason to offer an estimate below the estimate already arrived at from data then available, viz.: 25 children aged 0-4 per 1,000 women operatives aged 15 and upwards. But this is the estimate of the number of such children living in Bombay (*potential* inmates of crèches). What proportion of the 25 will be brought to the mills (*actual* inmates of crèches) depends on the attractions offered. Unless the attractions are very strong the mothers of children in chawls adjoining the mills, or mothers who have a female relative at their chawls, will leave their children at home.

Excluding 7 cases of doubtful age the ages of 375 children were found to be:—

| Age in years | Number | Per cent. |
|--------------|--------|-----------|
| 0-1 | 115 | 30.6 |
| 1-2 | 89 | 23.8 |
| 2-3 | 78 | 20.8 |
| 3-4 | 93 | 24.8 |
| | 375 | 100.0 |

In the general Census the corresponding percentages for the Hindu Population of Bombay City were 24.6, 15.2, 28.5 and 31.7. It is quite likely that in the general Hindu population of Bombay City the proportions in ages 3 and upwards are kept up by the tendency for women to migrate to the city more freely with a child able to walk than with an infant.

Table VIII shows 1,087 women classified by their length of service in the Bombay mills and the number of times confined during that service. By service is meant continuous service in the mills of Bombay, whether in one mill or in several, and the word "continuous" was liberally interpreted so as to cover cases of occasional holidays and visits to the mofussil. In the classification by length of service all cases below 6 months were excluded. "One year" means 6 months to 1 year 5 months; "two years" means 1 year 6 months to 2 years 5 months, and so on up to 7 years. After that 5-year groups were adopted. "10 years" meaning 7 years 6 months up to 12 years 5 months, and so on.

Reducing this table to woman-year units (one year worked by one woman) we get 8,656 such units and 1,068 deliveries. This gives a ratio of 12.34 delivery cases per 100 women operatives per annum. This figure is again apparently higher than the corresponding ratio for the general population, and the selection referred to in discussing Table VII may have operated to raise the result. Mrs. Barnes' enquiry in 1922 showed almost 10 cases per 100 "potential mothers". The present enquiry shows 12 per 100 women operatives, including those past child-bearing age, and is almost certainly too high. But one should probably not go below 8—the original estimate submitted by the Labour Office to the General Department—and, since it is undesirable to under-forecast the liabilities of the employer, it would certainly be safer to take 10 per 100 women operatives (all ages). This is assuming that the employers do not reduce their liabilities by rejecting married women or women of the inner child-bearing period (20 to 30 years). Whether we accept Mrs. Barnes' figure (almost 10), the figure arrived at in the present enquiry (just over 12), or the estimate previously offered by the Labour Office (8) we have a figure higher than that of the general population, which shows that fecundity among the mill-women is above the average.

By analysing the data in 449 returns it was found, as in the previous enquiry, that children born in small families have a much better chance of surviving than children born in big families. The percentages worked out as follows* :—

| Number of deliveries during service in the mills | Number of cases examined | Percentage to total children born | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| | | Alive | Deceased |
| One | 241 | 71.5 | 28.5 |
| Two | 79 | 70.9 | 29.1 |
| Three | 54 | 60.5 | 39.5 |
| Four | 30 | 53.3 | 46.7 |
| Five | 17 | 44.7 | 55.3 |
| Six | 17 | 55.9 | 44.1 |
| Seven and over | 11 | 32.3 | 67.7 |

The break in the continuity of the figures at "six deliveries" is no doubt due to deficient observations ("errors of sampling" in the statistical sense). With a higher number of readings the sequence would be continuous. Of course the sequence *must* show an increasing percentage in the last column because the average age of the children must necessarily increase as the families get larger, and the opportunity for decease is therefore increased. But the increase is far steeper than could be accounted for by the time factor.

TABLE VII.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF MILL WOMEN (i. e., FEMALE OPERATIVES AGED 15 AND OVER).

According to number of living children aged 0—4 only in Bombay

| Age in years | No such children in Bombay | One such child | Two such children | Three such children | Total |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------|
| 15 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 16 | .. | 3 | .. | .. | 3 |
| 17 | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | 3 |
| 18 | .. | 30 | 2 | .. | 32 |
| 19 | .. | 13 | .. | .. | 13 |
| 20 | .. | 35 | 10 | 1 | 46 |
| 21 | .. | 21 | 8 | .. | 29 |
| 22 | .. | 43 | 19 | .. | 62 |
| 23 | .. | 11 | 3 | .. | 14 |
| 24 | .. | 27 | 12 | 1 | 40 |
| 25 | .. | 87 | 53 | 6 | 147 |
| 26 | .. | 14 | 17 | 1 | 32 |
| 27 | .. | 13 | 12 | .. | 25 |
| 28 | .. | 35 | 23 | 1 | 59 |
| 29 | .. | 20 | 8 | 2 | 30 |

(Continued on next page.)

* Care has to be taken in comparing these percentages with the similar percentages obtained in the first enquiry. The data are not of the same kind and exact comparison cannot therefore be made. In the first enquiry the material examined was cases of deliveries during the last four years, whether during mill service or before it. In the second enquiry the data is for deliveries during the period of mill service of all lengths from 6 months or 40 years. A similar direction in the movement of the percentages is of course to be expected, but not identical or parallel values.

TABLE VII—(Continued.)

| Age in years | No such children in Bombay | One such child | Two such children | Three such children | Total |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------|
| 30 | 103 | 48 | 8 | 1 | 160 |
| 31 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| 32 | 23 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 36 |
| 33 | 4 | 5 | .. | .. | 10 |
| 34 | 10 | 2 | .. | .. | 12 |
| 35 | 78 | 33 | 8 | .. | 119 |
| 36 | 30 | 7 | 1 | .. | 38 |
| 37 | 5 | 1 | .. | .. | 6 |
| 38 | 21 | 11 | 1 | .. | 33 |
| 39 | 10 | 2 | .. | .. | 12 |
| 40 | 60 | 10 | 1 | .. | 71 |
| 41 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 42 | 14 | 2 | .. | .. | 16 |
| 43 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 |
| 44 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| 45 | 31 | 3 | 1 | .. | 35 |
| 46 | 5 | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| 47 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| 48 | 13 | .. | .. | .. | 13 |
| 49 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| 50 | 33 | 1 | .. | .. | 34 |
| 51 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 52 | 5 | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| 53 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| 54 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| 55 | 9 | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| 56 | 9 | 1 | .. | .. | 10 |
| 57 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| 58 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| 59 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 60 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Totals | 833 | 307 | 33 | 3 | 1,176 |

TABLE VIII.—LENGTH OF SERVICE IN MILLS AND NUMBER OF TIMES DELIVERED DURING THAT PERIOD

| Length of Service | Number of times delivered during service in mills | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total | |
|-------------------|---|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|-------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | | 13 |
| One year | 138 | 12 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 150 |
| Two years | 90 | 33 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 127 |
| Three | 74 | 47 | 3 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 125 |
| Four | 39 | 32 | 10 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 81 |
| Five | 28 | 19 | 7 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 55 |
| Six | 44 | 31 | 13 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 90 |
| Seven | 11 | 18 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 34 |
| Ten | 85 | 37 | 26 | 25 | 18 | 4 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 199 |
| Fifteen | 27 | 26 | 8 | 15 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 95 |
| Twenty | 24 | 16 | 12 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 79 |
| Twenty-five years | 8 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 24 |
| Thirty years | 7 | 4 | .. | 1 | 4 | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 19 |
| Thirty-five years | .. | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Forty years | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 4 |
| Totals | 576 | 281 | 91 | 60 | 34 | 16 | 17 | 4 | 3 | 2 | .. | .. | 2 | 1 | 1,087 |

Specimen of Enquiry Form

Serial No.....
 Age of Woman.....years
 How long working continuously in Bombay Mills.....years
months.
 How many times confined during that period.....times.
 Of the children born how many living.....
 Of the children born how many dead.....

LIVING CHILDREN

| Age | In Bombay | In Mahasil |
|-----|-----------|------------|
| 0-1 | .. | |
| 1-2 | .. | |
| 2-3 | .. | |
| 3-4 | .. | |

THIRD ENQUIRY

It was desirable to ascertain for how long before and after delivery women do, on the average, absent themselves. Mr. Joshi's Bill leaves it optional with a woman to work up to the day of her confinement or to absent herself six weeks in advance, and obligatory that she should be absent for six weeks after. The Governor in Council's scheme (Letter No. 1066-D, dated 3rd November 1924 from the Deputy Secretary, General Department) provides for light work for two months before delivery, with special intervals of rest during the last month, and for optional absence on full pay for one month after, subject to the woman undertaking to return at the end of a month to the same mill.

The Lady Investigators questioned a number of mill-women to ascertain the average absence before and after delivery. Out of 183 cases the absence before delivery was as follows :-

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----|---|--------------|----|-----|
| Not even one day | .. | 8 | One month | .. | 61 |
| One day | .. | 7 | Two months | .. | 62 |
| Two days | .. | 2 | Three months | .. | 20 |
| Six days | .. | 2 | Four months | .. | 10 |
| Eight days | .. | 3 | Five months | .. | 2 |
| Fifteen days | .. | 6 | | | |
| | | | | | 183 |

And the absence after delivery was as follows :-

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|--------------------------|----|-----|
| 12 to 15 days | .. | 8 | Four months | .. | 14 |
| 20 days | .. | 1 | Five months | .. | 7 |
| One month | .. | 8 | Six months | .. | 38 |
| Two months | .. | 35 | Seven months to one year | .. | 28 |
| Three months | .. | 19 | More than one year | .. | 25 |
| | | | | | 183 |

These figures are very important. It will be seen that more than half the women leave work two months before delivery. But still more significant is the fact that only 17 out of 183 returned to work within one month of delivery. In the 25 cases of "more than one year" the woman may be said to have, for the time being, abandoned mill-work. There are no doubt many cases of women who have never returned, but these of course did not come under the view of our Investigators.

It certainly looks as if the arrangement of coming back to work one month after delivery in order to secure one month's maternity benefit will not attract very many women. If they can now afford to give up wage-earning for two months or two years, or even permanently, the offer of a free gift of one month's pay will not often be accepted.

The above results can also be shown with both factors combined :-

Absence after delivery

| | Less than 15 days | 15 days to one month | Months | | | | | | | | Above one year | Total | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------|----|----|----|----|----|---------|----|----------------|-------|----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 to 12 | | | | |
| Less than 15 days | 4 | .. | .. | 6 | 4 | 2 | .. | 2 | 2 | 2 | 22 | | |
| 15 days to one month | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | 6 | | |
| Months | One | .. | 2 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 17 | 8 | 3 | 61 |
| | Two | .. | 1 | .. | 3 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 12 | 9 | 10 | 62 |
| | Three | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 20 |
| | Four | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 4 | 3 | 10 |
| | Five | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | .. | 2 |
| Total | 7 | 2 | 8 | 35 | 19 | 14 | 7 | 38 | 28 | 25 | 183 | | |

There is no marked correlation between length of absence before and length of absence after delivery. It might have been supposed that women who continue to work till almost the date of delivery would be very poor women, who could not remain absent long after the event. Such is evidently not the case. Out of the 22 women who worked till within a fortnight of their time only four returned quickly, and the other 18 remained away for periods varying from two months to several years. It can hardly be said that more than 17 of the 183 women show any sign of having been in serious need of money.

Standard of Living of the Indian Middle Classes in Bombay City

In 1923 the Labour Office published in the form of a special report the results of its enquiries into Working Class budgets in Bombay. It was decided to follow this up by a similar enquiry into the Family Budgets of the Middle Class. This has now been completed. It is proposed to publish in the *Labour Gazette* a short summary of the results, leaving a more detailed discussion and the full tables to appear in the form of a special report as before.

Method of Enquiry.—The Lady Investigators of the Labour Office, the number of whom has varied during the progress of the work from 3 to 5*, were provided with Family Budget forms, and proceeded to call at typical middle class tenements. Refusals were more numerous than acceptances. Even where a budget form is accepted and a promise to assist given, there is no certainty that it will be filled up by the time the Lady Investigator calls again, nor, even if the form is handed back filled up, is there any likelihood of its having been filled correctly. Usually several calls are necessary before a budget is secured, and then every item has to be gone over, and much interrogation resorted to, before the budget is corrected and completed. The budgets when ready were returned to the office by the Lady Investigators and there scrutinized, such as seemed *a priori* unsatisfactory being rejected. The number ultimately passed for tabulation was 1,748, which it is hoped is a sufficiently large sample for the middle classes in the rather restricted sense of the term explained below. In addition to these 1,748 Family Budgets 125 Budgets were collected for single men, and will be made the subject of a separate and independent analysis.

Meaning of the term "Middle Class".—Such terms as these are in all countries incapable of exact definition. Classes have no fixed boundary lines. "A" considers himself Upper Class; but "B" turns up his nose and dubs him distinctly "Lower Middle". In England an approximate differentiant between the Lower and the Middle Classes is afforded by the children's education—whether paid for by the State or by the parents. In India the private school is hardly developed at all, and the demand for free and compulsory education is always liable to be prostituted into a demand for free education for those classes only who do not need compulsion. The large majority of Indian children are sent to Municipal or Local Fund Schools where they pay only nominal fees. There are virtually no expensive day or boarding schools charging crippling fees to parents, who shoulder the unwelcome burden as a badge of respectability.†

* One or two Male Investigators were tried, but they worked for a few days only and did not procure a single acceptable budget.

† These remarks are not to be interpreted as a commendation or condemnation of any particular educational system, but simply as a statement of facts.

On the other hand in India "Caste" introduces a potent differentiant unknown in Western Countries. Caste largely determines occupation, and thereby income, and the number of individuals who in any generation rise to an income markedly above the normal for their caste are few. Hence it may be said that in India class strata are determined by caste, modified by income. This applies primarily to Hindus and with rather less force to Musalmans, among whom the caste system, though present, is less rigid and immobile. In the case of Indian Christians and Indian Jews income is almost the only differentiant, though the caste system lingers on in these communities to some extent. Parsees and Anglo-Indians are normally of the Upper and Middle Classes only, income being the only differentiant.

It must here be explained that the Labour Office enquiry was restricted to middle class persons on fixed and ascertainable incomes. It would have been useless to attempt to obtain Family Budgets for persons of unknown and fluctuating incomes, since fear of taxation would have resulted in understatements almost as great as are believed to occur in income tax returns. On the other hand there is no objection to this limitation of the scope of the enquiry. In all the desultory discussion on the subject of Indian poverty which has gone on for half a century or more, no one, either English or Indian, has put up a case for considering the great Indian trading and money lending community poor. This class, which, on the basis of the 1921 Census figures, may be roughly estimated at 20 millions in the whole of India, forms a definite and special world of its own. As a class it is intensely conservative, and educates its sons (often at home) only so far as education is necessary to carry on the business. It has always succeeded in keeping out of economic difficulties, fattening rather than growing lean on famines and wars and rumours of wars. However interesting a study of the standard of living in this class might be, it could scarcely be claimed to be a justifiable object for expenditure of public time and public money. On the other hand there is continuous and growing unrest among the clerical classes on fixed salaries, and, if reports speak true, an alarming growth of unemployment. Both the State and the commercial employer, therefore, may find some assistance in a close study of the standard of living prevailing among their servants.

As regards the range of monthly incomes to be taken for the enquiry it was not really possible to fix a minimum limit, but the upper limit was fixed at Rs. 750. For this there is evidential justification, since Government's classification for purposes of Travelling allowance fixes Rs. 200 to Rs. 750 as the limits for 2nd class Indian Officers. As a matter of fact the highest individual monthly income in any of the 1,748 budgets was Rs. 688. Really speaking there cannot be a lower limit in this matter because a Brahman clerk out of work and therefore having no income is nevertheless middle class. And even where he is employed and draws an income he often continues to live according to middle class standards

however low his salary may be.* Here both caste and occupation come to our aid. A weaver in the Mills must be considered as "working class" even though he may be drawing more than Rs. 100 per mensem, and the same is usually true of "jobbers" and "mucadams". On the other hand many clerks get less than Rs. 50. Actually the lowest income in any of the budgets was Rs. 60.* The range is therefore between Rs. 60 and Rs. 688. The distribution of monthly incomes is discussed in more detail below. If there is any use in suggesting a boundary line between the doubtful terms "Upper Middle" and "Lower Middle" in relation to the middle classes the limit might be arbitrarily placed at Rs. 200.

Classification of Budgets by Religion and Caste.—The 1,748 budgets represented the following numbers from the different communities :—

| | | | |
|------------------------|----|--------------|----------|
| Hindu— | | | |
| <i>Brahmans</i> | .. | .. | 855 |
| <i>Kayasth Prabhus</i> | .. | .. | 170 |
| <i>Marathas</i> | .. | .. | 63 |
| <i>Vanis (Banias)</i> | .. | .. | 90 |
| <i>Others</i> | .. | .. | 214 |
| | | Total Hindus | .. 1,392 |
| Musalmans | .. | .. | 45 |
| Parsees | .. | .. | 181 |
| Jews | .. | .. | 52 |
| Christians | .. | .. | 78 |
| | | Total | .. 1,748 |

It is impossible to say how far these figures are satisfactorily representative of the distribution of the communities in the clerical classes of Bombay. The Kayasth Prabhu community is a small one, but it is of course by tradition devoted to clerical work. It is probable that the number of Jews is proportionately rather too high. But, in the case of the smaller communities, it was necessary to collect a good many budgets in order to get a satisfactory sample of the community as such. The Musalman community does not take readily to clerical work in offices, and the number of budgets collected is sufficiently high.

Classification of budgets by region of origin.—One of the difficulties attending any enquiry into the standard of living in a cosmopolitan Indian city like Bombay is the variety in habits of the denizens of different parts of the country. Owing to climatic differences the staple food grain varies tract by tract, the peoples of heavy rainfall areas eating rice, of the central plateau millets and of North-West India wheat. Moreover the consumption of flesh food is determined as much by region as by caste, the Brahmans of the Bengal side, for instance, living regularly on fish. Nor are these differences in dietary abandoned on arrival in Bombay, but

* This matter is discussed again below in the section—Earnings of the middle class families.

persist for many generations. It was therefore necessary to classify the budgets by region of origin, the results being as follows :—

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Bombay City | .. | .. | .. | 354 |
| Konkan (excluding Bombay) | .. | .. | .. | 710 |
| Deccan | .. | .. | .. | 188 |
| Gujarat | .. | .. | .. | 256 |
| Karnatak | .. | .. | .. | 82 |
| North India (including Sind and the Punjab) | .. | .. | .. | 26 |
| South India | .. | .. | .. | 132 |

The terms here adopted are used in a geographical sense, and not in relation to administrative boundaries.

There is no reason to suppose that this distribution is not a fair sample of the distribution of the whole of the clerical middle class in the city. The percentage of those hailing from Bombay City, namely 20, is slightly higher than the percentage of those recording Bombay as their birth place at the Census, namely 16. But this is probably justifiable since the clerical class would be slightly better established than the average of the general population, and certain entire immigrant communities, such as the Military, the European community and others, do not enter into the composition of the material studied.

Classification of Budgets by Occupation.—The occupations of the heads of families showed the following distribution :—

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|-------|
| Superior Office and Technical staff | .. | .. | .. | 138 |
| Ordinary Clerical | .. | .. | .. | 1,265 |
| Ordinary Mechanical and Technical | .. | .. | .. | 208 |
| Teaching | .. | .. | .. | 85 |
| Professions | .. | .. | .. | 52 |

In the final report a schedule will be included showing every term recorded and to which head classified. In passing it may be explained that "Ordinary Clerical" includes Stenographers and Accountants otherwise unspecified; "Professions" includes Commercial Agents, Doctors and Solicitors on fixed salaries; and "Mechanical and Technical" includes, besides Fitters and the like, all non-clerical occupations in the Public Utility services. It will be seen that ordinary clerks predominate in the enquiry to such an extent that it may be considered as an enquiry into the standard of living of office clerks.

Classification of Budgets by Monthly Income of the family.—It has already been stated that the range of the whole material is from Rs. 60 to Rs. 688. Broadly distributed into classes the results are as follows :—

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Below Rs. 100 | .. | .. | .. | 248 |
| Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 | .. | .. | .. | 994 |
| Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 | .. | .. | .. | 354 |
| Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 | .. | .. | .. | 112 |
| Above Rs. 400 | .. | .. | .. | 40 |

These are the Income groups which it is proposed to adopt for the main tables. A distribution of the budgets with smaller class intervals is given

and discussed below under the Section—"Earnings of the middle class families".

Size of the Family.—The average of all budgets gives 1·65 males over 14 years, 1·55 females over 14 years, and 1·73 children below 14 years, or 4·93 persons in all. This approximates very closely to the average obtained for class "Clerks of all kinds, schoolmasters and postmasters in cities and large towns" in an analysis of the composition of families carried out at the 1921 Census from the Census schedules,* which, excluding families of 1 person, shows 4·90. The average for working class families in the Labour Office's Report on Working Class Budgets was 1·1 adult males, 1·1 adult females, and 2·0 children aged below 14 years, total 4·2 persons. And this again approximated closely to the average obtained for Class "Unskilled operatives in spinning and weaving mills, ginning factories, cotton pressing factories, oil mills in cities and large towns" in the 1921 Census analysis, which, excluding families of 1 person, showed 4·35.† It is clear therefore that the average middle class clerical family in towns and cities runs larger than the average working class family.

The difference, however, so far as Bombay City is concerned, is shown by this enquiry to consist in a larger number of adults, and not in a larger number of children.‡ The figures demonstrating this point have been given in the last paragraph. The exact significance of this phenomenon is not immediately discernible. It may be the result of any one or all of several causes, of which the most obvious are the following:—(1) The middle classes in this, as in most countries, may have proportionately fewer children than the manual workers; (2) the Bombay clerical classes, being in better circumstances, may be more frequently able to leave their children at their ancestral villages; (3) the middle classes may be more addicted to supporting adult relatives; (4) the joint family system may be more prevalent among the middle than among the lowest classes. As a matter of fact all these causes probably operate. The third and fourth causes are, as a matter of empirical experience, known to be true; and the others are probably correct.

In the United Kingdom 104 budgets of clerks, collected by the Sumner Committee of Enquiry into the Working Class Cost of Living in 1918§ showed the average family to consist of 4·63 persons, which is not very far below the average obtained for the Bombay clerical classes in this enquiry. The composition of this average family was:—1·29 adult males, 1·68 adult females and 1·66 children below 14 years.

* Census of India, 1921, Vol. VIII, Bombay Presidency, Part I, Report, Appendix V, p. xciii. The average is arrived at from column D2 in Table II on the page cited after excluding the 68 cases of families of only one person.

† *Op. cit.*, *loc. cit.*, Col. J of Table II.

‡ It is not possible to compare the distribution of adults and children in the Census enquiry, because females were there taken as adult at 12 years, and in the Labour Office Enquiry at 14 years.

§ Cd.8980 of 1918. H. M. Stationery Office, London.

But the average for all budgets so far discussed will be seen from the Table at the end of this article to be composed of material of very different types. The averages of the different income groups rise from 3·70 to 8·59,—a very remarkable range. This point will be made the subject of further investigation and discussion in the final report. At the moment it may be suggested that two causes are at work—(1) the higher income groups consist of families of older persons, who have had time to propagate more children, and (2) the higher the income the greater the opportunity for maintaining dependent adult relatives. It will be seen that the average number of dependants increases somewhat more rapidly than the number of actual workers, which is explicable on the above two assumptions.

In this, as in all statistical analyses, it is necessary to point out that the average, in the sense of the arithmetic mean, does not represent the normal. The numbers of families of different size is as follows:—

| Persons in family | | Number of instances | Persons in family | | Number of instances |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|---------------------|
| 2 | .. .. | 104 | 12 | .. .. | 8 |
| 3 | .. .. | 389 | 13 | .. .. | 7 |
| 4 | .. .. | 405 | 14 | .. .. | 4 |
| 5 | .. .. | 315 | 15 | .. .. | 3 |
| 6 | .. .. | 194 | 16 | .. .. | 2 |
| 7 | .. .. | 142 | 17 | .. .. | .... |
| 8 | .. .. | 94 | 18 | .. .. | 1 |
| 9 | .. .. | 38 | 19 | .. .. | .... |
| 10 | .. .. | 27 | 20 | .. .. | .... |
| 11 | .. .. | 14 | 21 | .. .. | 1 |
| | | | | Total | 1,748 |

The normal family is 4, and families of 3 are commoner than families of 5*. The average already given (4·93) is raised by the few cases of very large families. Further examination of the distribution in the different communities is reserved for the final report.

To return to a consideration of the average, the average family in this enquiry includes a few boarders and resident servants, the averages for whom are 0·04 boarders and 0·03 servants, which are of course low, and do not indicate any regular habit of taking boarders or keeping servants. As a matter of fact most middle class families employ a part-time non-resident servant, whom they share with one or more other families. This will be discussed in more detail in the final report.

The proportion of females to males in the budgets is 895 per 1,000. This is of course very markedly higher than the proportion in the general population of the city at the 1921 Census, which was only 524. But there is no valid comparison here, as the two ratios are not *in pari materia*,

* This is in accordance with the results obtained in the Analysis of Families in the Census of 1921, *op. cit.*, both for the general population and for the class "clerks, etc., in cities and large towns."

the present analysis being for families only,—single men, who are numerous in the clerical classes, being deliberately excluded, and made the subject of a separate study. We can however get an almost exact comparison from the analysis of families at the 1921 Census. Class "Clerks of all kinds, schoolmasters, postmasters in cities and large towns" in that analysis showed, including resident servants, 4,316 males and 3,538 females.* Assuming that the 86 families of only one person were all males, and deducting these, we get for families of 2 and upwards a ratio of 836 females per 1,000 males. The difference is not very large considering the smallness of the samples.

The food requirements of individuals of different age and sex being different it is customary to reduce the average family to a theoretical figure of "equivalent adult males". For this operation various correction factors are in use. The Labour Office has followed the scale used by the Inter-Allied Scientific Food Commission, known as "Lusk's coefficients" as was done in the enquiry into Working Class Budgets.† The scale is as follows:—

| | | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|------|------------|
| Male over 14 .. | .. | .. | 1·00 | Adult Male |
| Female over 14 .. | .. | .. | 0·83 | .. .. |
| Child 10—14 .. | .. | .. | 0·83 | .. .. |
| Child 6—10 .. | .. | .. | 0·70 | .. .. |
| Child under 6 .. | .. | .. | 0·50 | .. .. |

In the case of the enquiry into working class budgets, as the ages of children were not stated, ages had to be assumed by proportions based on the 1921 Census Tables. In the present enquiry the Lady Investigators recorded ages, and although these are (as always in India) very inaccurate, they are probably more near the truth than ages arrived at by proportions from the Census tables which are based on material subject to similar errors. It was found that the average family in this enquiry was the equivalent of 4·04 adult males as against 3·40 in the working class enquiry, and 3·7 in the 104 clerical budgets of the Sumner Committee in the United Kingdom.‡

Analysed by occupation the average family shows 1·23 actual workers, 3·63 dependants, 0·04 boarders, and 0·03 resident servants. "Actual worker" and "Dependant" are here used in the Census sense. These ratios can be compared almost exactly with the results of the analysis of families in the 1921 Census, where, excluding the 86 families of only one person both from the total number of families and from the

* *Op. cit., loc. cit.*, Table I, p. lxxxviii, and Table II, p. xciii.

† Report on an Enquiry into Working Class Budgets in Bombay Government Central Press, Bombay, 1923, p. 18 and footnote.

‡ *Op. cit.*, p. 14.

figures for actual workers, we get for Class "Clerks of all kinds, schoolmasters, postmasters in cities and large towns" a ratio of 1·38 actual workers, 3·49 dependants, and 0·03 resident servants.* Here again, considering the smallness of the samples, the results are reasonably close. In the Working Classes the ratios were 1·54 actual workers, and 2·66 dependants. The smaller proportion of dependants in spite of a higher proportion of children is here due to the extent to which women work in the mills, female actual workers in the case of the middle classes being very few. In the Sumner Committee enquiry the distribution in the case of 104 clerical budgets was 192 "Earners" and 271 "non-earners". This gives a very different result from ours, the percentage of actual workers and dependants respectively in the two enquiries being:—Labour Office, Bombay, 25·4, 74·6; Sumner Committee 41·5, 58·5. And this is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that, as pointed out above, the average family in the Sumner Committee contained proportionately fewer adult males than the average family in this enquiry.

More detailed examination of the extent to which boarders and servants are kept is reserved for the final report. But it may be said in passing that the taking in of boarders is commoner among Parsees and Christians and not recorded for families below the Rs. 100 *per mensem* income line, and that resident servants are naturally more frequent in the higher than in the lower income groups.

Earnings of the middle class families.—The average per mensem income per family examined works out at Rs. 169, or three and a quarter times as much as the average earnings of the working class, which was Rs. 52. The annual *per capita* income is Rs. 448, as against Rs. 149 for the working class. In presenting these averages it is necessary to observe that the Labour Office is not prepared to say that in the case of income values the sample taken was a fair sample for the *entire* Bombay clerical community. The number of persons engaged on clerical work on incomes below Rs. 100 is probably higher than as shown in the frequency table in this enquiry. But there are many clerical hands whose ways of life approximate towards those of the working classes. The present sample is a sample of middle class clerks, *i.e.*, clerks who wish to maintain the social standards usually associated with their caste and traditions. And it is for that reason that the lower limit of the range comes out at Rs. 60, as already explained, though there are certainly clerks on salaries below that figure. Accepting this explanation these averages may be considered approximately correct for clerks and others living according to middle class social standards.

But the simple arithmetic average is not the only thing to be considered. We have to "think in terms of a frequency distribution".†

* *Op. cit., loc. cit.*, Tables I and II.

† G. Udny Yule in a lecture before the University of Leeds in June 1923, reprinted as Report No. 28 of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board.

The frequency distribution with class intervals of Rs. 25, for all communities together is :—

| Monthly Income group | | Number of instances | Monthly Income group | | Number of instances |
|----------------------|-----|---------------------|----------------------|-----|---------------------|
| Rs. | Rs. | | Rs. | Rs. | |
| 50 to | 75 | 60 | 350 to | 375 | 19 |
| 75 to | 100 | 188 | 375 to | 400 | 16 |
| 100 to | 125 | 339 | 400 to | 425 | 8 |
| 125 to | 150 | 257 | 425 to | 450 | 8 |
| 150 to | 175 | 249 | 450 to | 475 | 3 |
| 175 to | 200 | 150 | 475 to | 500 | 1 |
| 200 to | 225 | 142 | 500 to | 525 | 16 |
| 225 to | 250 | 73 | 525 to | 550 | .... |
| 250 to | 275 | 97 | 550 to | 575 | 3 |
| 275 to | 300 | 41 | 575 to | 600 | .... |
| 300 to | 325 | 56 | 600 to | 625 | .... |
| 325 to | 350 | 21 | 625 to | 650 | .... |
| | | | 650 to | 675 | .... |
| | | | 675 to | 700 | 1 |
| | | | | | 1,748 |

This table does not show a wholly smooth distribution, which may suggest either inadequate sampling, or incorrect returns, or the existence of some factor tending to irregularize the distribution. The second cause may be present. Thus a man with 488 rupees a month may have returned 500. On the other hand clerical salaries do not proceed by smooth steps, but by definite jumps from one class of clerical employee to another. It is probably a fact in the case of salary earners that there are very many more workers on a salary of Rs. 500 than on salaries between Rs. 475 and Rs. 500. The Labour Office is conducting an enquiry into wages of clerical labour in Bombay by means of a questionnaire sent out to heads of establishments, and the results of that enquiry will, it is hoped justify the irregularities of the above table.

The income of the family is the combined income of the head of the family and any other actual workers of the household. But the income of boarders is not included, nor is their expenditure included in the discussion of expenditure. Income derived by the head of the family from boarders is of course included in the family income.

Expenditure of the family.—The total and group expenditure figures are given in the Table at the end of this article. "Bedding and household necessities" has been kept as a separate group in this enquiry because of the comparative importance of this item in the case of the middle classes, and the interest which will result from a comparison between the percentage expenditure on these heads in India and in Europe. In the Working Class Enquiry bedding was included with "clothing", and household necessities with "miscellaneous". When it is remembered that "bedding and household necessities" includes everything that would be included in Europe under furniture in the case of, for instance, a fully furnished house, it is believed that the percentage expenditure 2.48, is surprisingly low, and is sufficient evidence of the low

standard of comfort demanded, or at any rate obtained, by the clerical classes in Bombay.

The actual rental figures obtained in this enquiry approximate sufficiently closely to the figures obtained in the Labour Office's special rental enquiry, and published in the *Labour Gazette* for October 1924, when the totally different methods are taken into consideration. The budget figures are rentals of those families who were willing to state them. The rental enquiry figures were obtained from the Ward ledgers of the Bombay Municipality, and can be said to relate to comparable data within certain prescribed limits. The two sets of figures are as follows :—

Rental Enquiry—Municipal data

| | Old Buildings 1923 | | New Buildings 1923 | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------|
| | Rs. | a. p. | Rs. | a. p. |
| One-roomed tenements | .. | 16 13 10 | 26 | 10 11 |
| Two-roomed tenements | .. | 26 8 1 | 65 | 10 1 |

Family Budget data

| Income group :— | 1922—24 | |
|------------------|---------|---------|
| | Rs. | a. p. |
| Below Rs. 100 | .. | 14 12 4 |
| Rs. 400 and over | .. | 56 1 2 |
| All Incomes | .. | 23 15 5 |

The question of group percentage expenditure will be discussed in detail in the final report. For the present the results of the two Labour Office enquiries can be compared :—

| | Food | Fuel and lighting | Clothing | Bedding and household necessities | House Rent | Miscellaneous |
|---|-------|-------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Bombay Working Class Budgets (1921-22) .. | 54.81 | 7.09 | 8.17 | 2.20 | 7.47 | 20.26 |
| Bombay Middle Class Budgets (1922-24) .. | 41.55 | 5.15 | 10.46 | 2.48 | 14.30 | 26.06 |

The lower percentage expenditure on food and higher percentage expenditure on miscellaneous are as was to be expected. The variation in the case of clothing is small. As for house-rent and fuel and lighting these, according to Engel's law should have been more or less constant for the two classes. The much higher percentage expenditure on rental in the case of the middle classes is sufficient indication of the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the matter of housing in Bombay, while the lower expenditure on fuel and lighting is probably due to the comparatively poor standard of living and absence of the tastes for reading among the middle classes.

SUMMARY TABLE SHOWING THE COMPOSITION, EARNINGS AND MONTHLY EXPENDITURE OF MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES IN BOMBAY

| | Monthly Family Income | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Below Rs. 100 | Rs. 100 and below Rs. 200 | Rs. 200 and below Rs. 300 | Rs. 300 and below Rs. 400 | Rs. 400 and over | All incomes |
| No. of budgets collected .. | 248 | 994 | 354 | 112 | 40 | 1,748 |
| Composition of the family (averages) | | | | | | |
| No. of males .. | 1.26 | 1.50 | 1.99 | 2.21 | 3.35 | 1.65 |
| .. Females .. | 1.24 | 1.44 | 1.80 | 2.02 | 2.43 | 1.55 |
| .. male children .. | 0.77 | 0.87 | 1.22 | 1.27 | 1.43 | 0.96 |
| .. Female children .. | 0.43 | 0.74 | 0.93 | 1.08 | 1.38 | 0.77 |
| .. Total No. in family .. | 3.70 | 4.55 | 5.94 | 6.58 | 8.59 | 4.93 |
| Equivalent 'men' per family .. | 3.02 | 3.72 | 4.86 | 5.41 | 7.27 | 4.04 |
| Average no. of actual workers .. | 1.03 | 1.15 | 1.43 | 1.52 | 2.18 | 1.23 |
| .. dependants .. | 2.67 | 3.35 | 4.37 | 4.92 | 6.26 | 3.63 |
| .. boarders .. | .. | 0.04 | 0.07 | 0.05 | .. | 0.04 |
| .. servants .. | .. | 0.01 | 0.07 | 0.09 | 0.15 | 0.03 |
| Average monthly family income .. Rs. | 81.32 | 137.30 | 234.65 | 329.67 | 471.57 | 169.05 |
| Average per capita annual income .. Rs. | 303.50 | 396.40 | 565.50 | 713.80 | 848.50 | 448.20 |
| | AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENDITURE | | | | | |
| Food .. Rs. | 38 15 6 45.45 | 60 1 5 43.74 | 92 5 1 39.96 | 120 4 4 37.53 | 153 11 4 35.39 | 69 9 10 41.55 |
| Fuel and lighting .. Rs. | 5 9 11 6.56 | 7 11 3 5.61 | 10 14 7 4.72 | 13 2 3 4.10 | 17 9 10 4.06 | 8 10 1 5.15 |
| Clothing .. Rs. | 8 15 3 10.44 | 13 15 11 10.18 | 24 10 11 10.68 | 36 13 6 11.50 | 40 6 6 9.30 | 17 8 3 10.46 |
| Bedding and household necessities .. Rs. | 2 1 4 2.43 | 3 5 6 2.43 | 5 14 3 2.55 | 9 2 9 2.86 | 7 12 0 1.78 | 4 2 6 2.48 |
| Rent .. Rs. | 14 12 4 17.23 | 20 5 4 14.80 | 32 1 0 13.88 | 39 7 6 12.32 | 56 1 2 12.91 | 23 15 5 14.30 |
| Miscellaneous .. Rs. | 15 5 5 17.89 | 31 14 7 23.23 | 65 2 10 28.21 | 101 9 2 31.69 | 158 13 4 36.56 | 43 10 8 26.06 |
| Total monthly expenditure .. Rs. | 85 11 9 100.00 | 137 6 0 100.00 | 231 0 8 100.00 | 320 7 6 100.00 | 434 6 2 100.00 | 167 8 9 100.00 |
| Balance of income over Expenditure .. Rs. | -4 6 7 | -0 1 0 | +3 9 8 | +9 3 2 | +37 2 11 | +1 8 1 |
| Balance expressed as percentage of family income. | -5.43 | -0.05 | +1.54 | +2.79 | +7.88 | +0.89 |

Trade Unions in the Presidency

QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 1924—AN INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Presidency was published in the September 1924 issue of the Labour Gazette. The latest information for the fourth quarter of the present year is summarised in tables at the end of this issue and shows in Table I that, when compared with the last quarter the number of persons recorded as members has increased from 47,242 to 52,277, or by 10.7 per cent. This increase is due (1) to an increase of 1,250 members in the unions reported upon on the last occasion, and (2) to the inclusion of 15 additional unions of the Postal and Railway Mail Services which were formerly excluded, owing to the fact that these Unions were not reported to the Labour Office as Trade Unions but as Postal Clubs. From enquiries made from the office of the Bombay Presidency Postal and Railway Mail Service Association it has now been ascertained that this Association is not a Quasi-Union as it was hitherto believed to be but that it is a Federation of several Divisional Unions in the same way as the Central Labour Board is a Federation of several other unions.

Information in connexion with Trade Unions is collected through the Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District officers in the Presidency, including Sind. Table I shows that at the moment there are 9 trade unions with a membership of 22,851 in Bombay City, 8 unions with a membership of 18,686 in Ahmedabad and 19 unions with a membership of 10,740 in the rest of the Presidency. The Postal and R.M.S. Unions in the States of Baroda, Bhavnagar and Rajkot are included in the Bombay Presidency because the postal administration in these States is under the Government of India and also because these States are under similar control to that of other postal areas in the British Districts of the Bombay Presidency. The total number of unions and members given, as in previous issues, include only those unions actually known to be in existence.

Increase or Decrease in Membership of Individual Unions

In Bombay City, the Indian Seamen's Union (a Union of the Goanese Saloon Staff of Steamship Companies) shows an increase of 60 members and the membership of the Union now stands at 11,299. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union shows an increase of 12 members. The Bombay Postal Clerks Club, which is not a club but a *bona fide* union of clerks in the Postal Service and which has adopted its present name simply in order to distinguish it from the Postmen's Union reports a membership of 1,120. The memberships returned for the B.B.&C.I. Railwaymen's Union, the G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union, the Port Trust Workshop Union, the Clerks' Union, the G.I.P. Railway Staff Union, and the Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union, remain unchanged.

In Ahmedabad, the Secretary of the Labour Union reports an increase of 800 members in the Throstle Union and 400 members in the Card

Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union. The number of members reported in the Ahmedabad Postal and R.M.S. Union is 286. The other unions in Ahmedabad do not report any change in membership.

In Sholapur, the Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union reports a decrease of 22 members. There is no change in the membership of the rest of the Unions in the Presidency. On account of the inclusion of 15 new Postal and R.M.S. Unions in different parts of the Presidency new figures regarding membership have been given for the first time, and it is not possible therefore, to deal with the changes in membership of these unions during the past.

The position with reference to the G.I.P. Railway Staff Union which has its Head Office in Bombay and members scattered at various key stations shows no change on the figures published in the issue of the Labour Gazette for September 1924. The membership of the Union stands as follows:—

| Station | No. of Members | Station | No. of Members |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Wadi Bunder (Bombay) .. | 434 | Shahabad .. | 150 |
| Administrative Office (Bombay) .. | 542 | Bhopal .. | 222 |
| Kalyan .. | 500 | Dhond .. | 129 |
| Bhusawal .. | 672 | Ahmednagar .. | 126 |
| Lonavla .. | 250 | Itarsi .. | 150 |
| Poona .. | 150 | Jhansi .. | 1,000 |
| Manmad .. | 738 | Jabulpore .. | 75 |
| | | Total members .. | 5,138 |

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

Summary table showing the membership of the Unions

| Quarter ended | Number of Unions | Membership at end of quarter | Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter | Quarter ended | Number of Unions | Membership at end of quarter | Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------|------------------|------------------------------|---|
| June 1922 .. | 22 | 57,914 | .. | Dec 1923 .. | 19 | 46,037 | +10.54 |
| Sept 1922 .. | 23 | 52,776 | —8.87 | Mar 1924 .. | 21 | 48,502 | +5.4 |
| Dec 1922 .. | 22 | 51,472 | —2.47 | June 1924 .. | 21 | 49,729 | +2.5 |
| Mar 1923 .. | 22 | 48,669 | —5.45 | Sept 1924 .. | 21 | 47,242 | —5.0 |
| June 1923 .. | 21 | 51,276 | +5.08 | Dec 1924 .. | 36 | 52,277 | +10.7 |
| Sept 1923 .. | 19 | 41,646 | —18.77 | | | | |

The figures for March and June 1924 have been adjusted in view of the exclusion of the Victoria Owners and Drivers' Union and the Saloon, Hamamkhana Owners and Barbers' Association which were ultimately classified, not as Unions, but as Trade Guilds.

The Bombay Unions

The important unions in Bombay are:—

- (1) The Indian Seamen's Union,
- (2) The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union,
- (3) The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union,
- (4) The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union,
- (5) The Port Trust Workshop Union,
- (6) The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union, and
- (7) The Bombay Postal Clerks' Club.

The Indian Seamen's Union.—This Union held their Annual General Meeting on the 4th October 1924 under the chairmanship of their President Mr. J. J. Athaide. In the Report presented to the meeting it was stated that great difficulty was experienced during the year ending 31st March 1924 in attempting to solve the problem of unemployment which had become acute in view of the slackness of shipping all over the world. The Union was partly successful in grappling with the problem by inducing several of its members to sign off after one year's service so as to give those who were unemployed a chance of service. By instituting this policy the Union was able to secure more jobs for its members during the year under report than in any other year since the war. The Directors endeavoured to secure a plot of ground from Government for the building of a memorial for the Goan Seamen who gave their lives in the great European War. The membership of the Union was reported to have increased from 10,813 to 11,063 during the year, but it was stated that several members were hopelessly in arrears with regard to the payment of their contributions. The Union was compelled to employ two extra cashiers during the year in order to recover subscriptions by visiting the ships. It was pointed out that only one-fourth of the present members pay their subscriptions regularly and that over Rs. 80,000 are outstanding in subscriptions not paid. An appeal was made to the members for greater regularity in payment and it was pointed out that if the Directors were to undertake to make a success of the various schemes instituted for the benefit of the members they should have the necessary financial support to enable them to do so. The Board of Directors of the Union was compelled to refuse several applications for the grant of death benefits owing to the fact that in all cases where such benefits were refused subscriptions were in arrears. The number of death benefits paid during the year amounted to 14. The Union also did useful work during the year in imparting instruction to its members in boat drill according to the requirements of the Board of Trade.

The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.—The President and the Secretaries of this Union report that the workers of the Union are falling into arrears with their subscriptions and that most of the members are beginning to get exceedingly discouraged as a result of the fact that the Union has not succeeded in getting any hearing from the Railway Administration for the grievances of its members. It is also stated that several members are afraid of being victimised in case the Administration came to know of their activities. Moreover, the introduction of Staff Councils on the

G. I. P. Railway system (described separately in this issue) is believed to aim at the destruction of Trade Unionism on the Railway. The Labour Office must, however, admit that there is nothing in the motive and the constitution of these Councils to give any impartial observer such an impression. On the contrary, the system of Staff Councils ought to encourage and strengthen the growth of Unions in so far as considered proposals coming from Unions speaking with a unanimous voice would have better chances of being discussed in the District Committees and in the Railway Council.

The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union, and the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union.—There is nothing of interest to report regarding the activities of these Unions during the quarter under review. The Secretary of these Unions reports that the Railwaymen are beginning to become rather sceptical regarding the advantages of trade unionism in view of the non-recognition of their Unions by their respective employers. Subscriptions are falling into arrears and it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep the Unions going. Great things are expected, however, from the proposed legislation for the registration of Trade Unions, and it is the intention of the organisers of these Unions to give entire control of the Unions to the members themselves as soon as possible.

The Port Trust Workshop Union.—The members of this Union take a greater interest in the advantages and benefits of combination than their fellow workmen on the Railways. The payment of the subscriptions is reported to be regular and the Union is doing good social work from the welfare point of view for its members.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.—This Union has been very active during the quarter under report. It has developed its library so that it now contains 500 books, and it has organised a special Death Benefit and Retirement Scheme owing to which it is able to secure regular payment of subscriptions by its members. Under this scheme every member who pays a special levy subscription of Rs. 3 per year is entitled, if his yearly subscriptions are regularly paid, to receive on retirement from the service a sum equal to twice the total amount of subscriptions paid. In the event of the death of such a member this amount is paid as a Death Benefit to the person nominated by the member to receive the advantage of such benefit. The Union is organising a special Provincial Postmen's Conference at Poona for the 20th and 21st December.

The Bombay Postal Clerks' Club.—As stated above, the several Unions of postal clerks in this Presidency were not considered for the purposes of this review as Unions but as Clubs and were therefore not included in the tables published with each quarterly review of Trade Unions in the Presidency. It is only the Postal Clerks' Union in Bombay which is called a 'Club,' and all other similar bodies in the rest of the Presidency are properly designated as Unions. The office of this Union is housed in spacious premises at Soman Building at Girgaum and all its affairs are controlled and conducted mostly by its own members.

The Central Labour Board.—The Central Labour Board with Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad as President, Mr. F. J. Ginwalla as Vice

President and Mr. S. H. Jhabvala as Honorary General Secretary is a federation comprised of the following Unions and Trade Guilds.

- (1) G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union.
- (2) Port Trust Workshop Union.
- (3) B.B.&C.I. Railwaymen's Union.
- (4) The Presidency Postmen's Union.
- (5) The Bombay Telegraph Men's Union.
- (6) The Victoria Drivers and Owners' Association.
- (7) Saloon Keepers and Hamamkhana Keepers' Association.

The Board obtains its revenue by donations from the different Unions and Guilds which are affiliated to it and spends a part of the income so derived on propaganda work. The Balance Sheet of the Central Labour Board made up to end of June 1924 is as follows:—

| Total Income received from different Unions as Donations | | Total Expenditure incurred over propaganda Work | |
|---|------------|---|------------|
| | Rs. as. p. | | Rs. as. p. |
| By G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union .. | 600 0 0 | Relief expenses to Mill Employees during their strike | 94 0 6 |
| „ B.B.&C.I. Railway- men's Union .. | 700 0 0 | Printing and Typing charges. .. | 182 2 0 |
| „ Port Trust do. .. | 300 0 0 | Postage and Tele- grams .. | 5 12 0 |
| „ Saloon Keepers' Association .. | 31 0 0 | General expenses .. | 10 5 0 |
| | | | 292 3 6 |
| | | With the Hon. Trea- surer .. | 1,338 12 6 |
| Total Rs. .. | 1,631 0 0 | Total Rs. .. | 1,631 0 0 |

The Board has directed its activities during the quarter under review to the formation of an Employment Bureau for the purpose of finding jobs for all clerks and labourers out of employment. It was successful in securing employment for 60 persons during the last three months. The Board has also started a "Purity Campaign". The Honorary Secretary and a few workers parade the industrial areas in Bombay with placards on which are posted in big lettering phrases such as "Don't Drink", "Don't be Immoral", "Don't Gamble", etc. As soon as they are able to engage the attention of a few people by the beating of drums the party makes a halt and the Honorary Secretary delivers a lecture on morality and purity.

The Bombay Presidency Postal Association

This Association was reported, in former issues of the *Labour Gazette*, as a *Quasi Union*. It is a proper federation of 15 District Unions of

workers in the Postal and Railway Mail Services. The Government of India accorded official recognition to this Association in a letter No. G.M. 139, dated Bombay the 21st September from the Postmaster General, Bombay, addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Association. This letter reads as follows :—

"I have the honour to inform you that the Director General has been pleased to accord official recognition to your Association which should submit representations through me."

The President of the Association is Professor V. G. Kale, Member of the Tariff Board and Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, is the Honorary Secretary. The manner in which the Bombay Association is affiliated to the All-India (including Burma) Postal and R.M.S. Union has been described in a separate article dealing with the All-India Postal and R.M.S. Conference. The Association obtains its revenue by subscriptions from each of the Divisional Unions affiliated to it, at the rate of Rs. 2 per year for each individual member of the clerical classes, and annas 8 per year for each member of classes subordinate to clerks. Out of the subscriptions received by the Provincial Association, the Association supplies to each and every member of each of the Divisional Unions affiliated to it one copy of the monthly general letter or magazine published by it, free of charge.

Ahmedabad Unions

In Ahmedabad there are five separate unions of cotton mill workers. These are :—

- (1) The Weavers' Union ;
- (2) The Winders' Union ;
- (3) The Throstle Union ;
- (4) The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union ;
- and
- (5) The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.

These various Unions, having a total membership of 13,200, are under the control and the management of the Labour Union Office at Ahmedabad. Miss Ansuya Sarabhai is the President of the various industrial unions, and Mr. Gulzari Lal Nanda is the Secretary of the Labour Union Office. The Labour Union Office is doing some useful work for the benefit of the members of the several unions under its control. Firstly, it has recently organised the grant of cheap loans to the members. The average amount thus given out is about Rs. 1,500 per month. The rate of interest charged on such loans is 4½ per cent. which must be considered as exceedingly reasonable. Secondly, the Labour Union Office organises schools for the benefit of the members of the various unions and their children. During the quarter under review it was successful in establishing a total of 20 schools out of which 8 are Day Schools and 12 are Night Schools. The average number of students studying in these schools amounted to 1,264. The average amount spent by the Union in maintaining these schools during the quarter under review was Rs. 1,750. Thirdly, the Union Office maintains a Hospital and a Dispensary at an average monthly expenditure of Rs. 900. Medical aid is given

to nearly 75 persons every day both at the Hospital and at the Dispensary and the average number of indoor patients in the Hospital is 13. Fourthly the Union Office regularly publishes, in addition to several pamphlets and leaflets dealing with matters of particular interest, a weekly paper called *Majur Sandesh*. Copies of this paper are distributed free of charge to labourers in general and to members of the various Unions in particular. The *Majur Sandesh* contains all the important labour news in Ahmedabad and attempts to educate the local labour world in sanitation and other useful matters. Fifthly, the Union has undertaken, since the introduction of the Workmen's Compensation Act, all work in connection with making representations, on behalf of injured workmen, to employers. It has also undertaken the work of trusteeship for the widows and orphans of deceased workmen, and has thus been able to safeguard the interests of such dependants against misappropriation by unscrupulous persons. In addition to the above activities, the Labour Union Office makes representations to the local Municipality in connection with various matters affecting labour in general, and it has been reported that the Union has in some cases been successful in convincing the Municipality.

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1924 it was pointed out that the members of the various unions under the control of the Labour Union Office were enrolled according to the residence of the members instead of according to mills. This change of method has been found to be exceedingly successful and large increase in membership is anticipated.

The *B.B.&C.I. Railway Union at Ahmedabad* which is reported to have a membership of approximately 5,000 members would not supply any information regarding its activities during the quarter under review.

Rest of the Presidency

Labour leaders confidently anticipate a rapid growth in the formation of new unions as a result of the decision of the Government of India to legislate for the registration of unions. The two unions at Broach, *viz.*, the Fine Counts Mill Labour Union and the Saraswati Mill Labour Union are organised on an industrial basis and not on a craft basis, which is the feature of the organisation in Ahmedabad. The total membership of the Unions in the rest of the presidency has increased during the quarter from 8,383 to 10,740 but this is due to the inclusion of 13 Postal and Railway Mail Service Unions as stated above.

Accounts of the Unions

Table II shows the financial position of the Unions so far as the monthly income and expenditure are concerned. The Indian Seamen's Union published statements of their accounts, duly audited by Messrs. Apaji Amin & Co., Government Certified Auditors, during the quarter under

review. The Balance Sheet of the Union as on 31st March 1924 was as follows :—

| Funds and Liabilities. | | Property and Assets. | |
|---|------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Rs. | as. p. | Rs. | as. p. |
| Management Fund as per M/F a/c .. | 195 7 4 | Cash and Bank Balance— | |
| Reserve Fund a/c as per R/F a/c .. | 16,076 4 8 | Cash on Hand .. | 2,601 2 0 |
| Other Funds :— | | 6 per cent. War Bonds, 1926, at cost | 18,382 8 0 |
| Asiatic Seamen's Union Fund and Portuguese Seamen's Union Fund .. | 2,300 10 0 | Furniture— | |
| Asiatic Seamen's Union Fund received from I. B. Torcato .. | 3,000 0 0 | Balance as per last Balance Sheet .. | 588 12 0 |
| | | | |
| Rs. .. | 21,572 6 0 | Rs. .. | 21,572 6 0 |

The Statements of Receipts and Disbursements (Management Fund Account) are presented in two separate statements : (1) for the period from 1st April 1923 to 15th September 1923 (under the old management) when the expenditure amounted to Rs. 8,706-12-0 as against an income of Rs. 7,323-5-8, resulting in a deficit of Rs. 1,383-6-4 which was written off against the Reserve Fund ; and (2) for the period from 16th September 1923 (when the present management took over control) to 31st March 1924. The receipts during the latter period amounted to Rs. 7,167-4-0 and the expenditure to Rs. 6,971-12-8. It is not possible, for want of space, to give these two separate statements here but they may be combined, for purposes of information, so as to show the receipts under different heads and the expenditure under the different heads during the year.

| Receipts | | Expenditure | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Rs. | as. p. | Rs. | as. p. |
| Fund on 1st April 1923 .. | 3,577 2 8 | Death Benefits .. | 992 0 0 |
| Annual Contributions .. | 10,110 0 0 | Establishment charges .. | 8,576 10 0 |
| Letters Registering Charges .. | 135 8 0 | Office Rent .. | 2,653 12 0 |
| | | Postage, Stationery and Printing .. | 463 11 8 |

| Receipts. | | Expenditure. | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Rs. | a. p. | Rs. | a. p. |
| Interest on War Bonds .. | 667 15 0 | Travelling Charges | 480 11 0 |
| | | General Charges .. | 355 12 0 |
| | | Audit Fees .. | 437 8 0 |
| | | Refunds .. | 15 8 0 |
| | | Interest on Purchase of War Bonds .. | 406 0 0 |
| | | Advances written off .. | 352 0 0 |
| | | Legal and Discharge Fees .. | 515 0 0 |
| | | Strike Expenses .. | 430 0 0 |
| Total .. | 14,490 9 8 | | 15,678 8 8 |

The expenditure on the year's working, according to the above figures, amounted to Rs. 1,187-15-0 more than the revenue, which, it must be pointed out, brought forward an amount of Rs. 3,577-2-8 from the previous year, which ought to have been transferred to the Reserve Fund. Admission or Entrance Fees and Donations are credited direct to the Reserve Fund. The Revenue of the Union during the year 1st April 1923 to 31st March 1924 under these heads amounted to Rs. 1,495-8-0. The actual excess expenditure, during the year, was, therefore, Rs. 1,187-15-0 plus Rs. 3,577-2-8 less Rs. 1,495-8-0 or Rs. 3,269-9-8, and this was due, as pointed out in the Annual General Report, to the defective management of the previous administration of the Union. The present management was able, as shown in the balance sheet given above, to save an amount of Rs. 195-7-4 from the Management Fund Account as a profit on the working of the Union from the 16th September 1923 to the 31st March 1924.

During the quarter under review the Union has been able to reduce its expenditure from an average of Rs. 1,809 per month to an average of Rs. 900 per month. But, on the other hand, the revenue of the Union has fallen from an average of Rs. 1,660 per month to Rs. 1,150 per month. The position is, however, on the right side.

The income of the Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers Union) has increased from an average of Rs. 512 per month during the previous quarter to Rs. 792 per month during the quarter under review. The average monthly expenditure has also risen from Rs. 305 to Rs. 608. The income of the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union has fallen from an average of Rs. 400 per month to an average of Rs. 200 per month and, as a result of this, it was necessary to reduce the expenditure to the same figure.

The total revenue of the five Unions of cotton mill workers under the control of the Labour Union office at Ahmedabad is estimated at Rs. 4,000 per month. This does not include interest on funds which amounts to about Rs. 1,000 per month but includes the grant of Rs. 1,250

per month paid by the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association out of the Tilak Swarajya Fund. The total monthly expenditure of these five unions, including the expenditure on the schools, is estimated at about Rs. 3,000.

The figures in connexion with the income and expenditure of the 15 Postal and Railway Mail Service Unions added in this issue are given in Table II in this issue. As these figures are presented for the first time no discussion on them is necessary.

Quasi Unions

The following Associations are excluded from the lists of Trade Unions, as these are regarded as Associations rather than Trade Unions:—

- (1) The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma.
- (2) The Kamgar Hitawardhak Sabha
- (3) The Girni Kamgar Sabha.
- (4) The Victoria Owners' and Drivers' Union.
- (5) The Saloon, Hamamkhana Owners' and Barbers' Association.

The first association is very active. The second is now reviving its activities by the organisation of an anti-liquor campaign, carried on principally with the aid of magic lantern lectures and wrestling matches, at which small prizes are given to the winners. The Girni Kamgar Sabha is usually active only at the time of a general strike, and is, therefore, at the moment in a state of hibernation. The Saloon, Hamamkhana Owners' and Barbers' Association reports a considerable decrease in membership which is due entirely to the failure of the association in convincing the Bombay Municipality against the licensing of all barbers in Bombay City. This association came into existence for one special purpose only, and is dying a natural death.

Summary

The outstanding features of the quarter under review are (1) an increase in trade union membership in the Presidency of 10·7 per cent. over previous quarter; (2) an increase of 1,200 members in the Unions of Cotton Mill operatives under the Labour Union in Ahmedabad; and (3) the continued complete absence of unions of cotton mill workers in Bombay.



Workmen's Compensation Act

FROM THE EMPLOYEE'S POINT OF VIEW

(Continued from page 306 of the November Labour Gazette.)

The necessity for serving a notice of an accident on an employer arises on account of the fact that no proceedings for the recovery of compensation shall be maintainable before a Commissioner unless notice of the accident has been served on the employer. Such notice should be served as soon as possible after the accident, and before the injured workman has voluntarily left the employment in which he was injured.

In the case where the 'accident' results from the contraction of anthrax by a workman employed in any employment involving the handling of wool, hair, bristles or skins, or suffers from lead or phosphorous poisoning in any process involving the use of lead or phosphorous and any of their preparations or compounds, after a continuous service of not less than six months with the employer from whom compensation is claimed, the accident shall be deemed to have occurred on the first of the days during which the workman was continuously absent from work in consequence of the disablement caused by the disease. In cases where a notice has not been served on an employer in due time, a Commissioner is entitled to admit and decide any claim to compensation if he is satisfied that the failure to give notice was due to sufficient cause.

In cases where an employer is readily available on the premises, the notice of an accident must be served on such employer and in the case of joint employers on any one of them. In cases where the employer is not readily available, as in the case of Limited Liability Companies, the notice must be served upon any person directly responsible to the employer for the management of any branch of the trade or business in which the injured workman was employed.

A notice may be considered as served if such notice is delivered at, or sent by registered post addressed to, the residence, office or place of business of the person on whom it is intended that it should be served. In the case of a notice delivered personally, the service of the notice may be considered to have been effected at the time at which an employer receives the notice. In the case of a notice sent by registered post, the delivery may be said to have been effected "at the time at which the letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post."* In the case of seamen elaborate special provisions are made in the act with regard to serving notice and it is proposed to deal with these, if possible, in a future article which will give the wages, conditions of service and the protection of various kinds afforded to different groups of workers whilst at sea.

Medical Examination.—As soon as notice of an accident has been served on an employer by a workman or by a workman's associates or friends in respect of injuries received as the result of an accident, the Act prescribes that the workman in respect of whom such notice has been served shall, before the expiry of three days after the service of a notice has been

* General Clauses Act, 1897—Section 27.

effected, submit himself for medical examination if the employer offers to have him examined free of charge by a qualified medical practitioner.

Where the workman is present on the premises of his employer and the employer volunteers to get him examined free of charge by a qualified medical practitioner who is present on the premises, the workman is required to present himself for examination at once. In cases where the workman has left the premises of his employer, the employer may (1) send a medical practitioner to the place where the workman is residing for the time being, or (2) send an offer in writing to the workman to have him so examined free of charge. In the first case the workman shall submit himself for medical examination on being requested to do so by the medical practitioner, and in the second case the workman shall submit himself for the necessary examination at the time appointed, either on the premises of his employer or at such other place in the vicinity as may be specified in the written offer. In no case should the time specified for the workman to present himself for medical examination outside his own residence, unless the workman expressly agrees, be between 7 in the evening and 6 in the morning. In cases where the condition of the workman is such as to make it impossible that he should leave the place where he is residing for the time being, an employer cannot compel him to submit himself for medical examination at any place save at the place where the workman is residing.

In the case of the medical examination of women the act lays down that a second woman shall be present at the examination, unless the woman who is to be examined consents to be examined by a male medical practitioner without the presence of such second woman. A woman may refuse to be medically examined by a male practitioner, but in such cases she must deposit with her employer a sum of money sufficient to cover the expenses of a medical examination by a female practitioner.

If a workman refuses to submit himself for medical examination by a qualified medical practitioner, or in any way obstructs such examination, the workman's right to compensation will be suspended during such refusal or obstruction unless he shows (in the case of a refusal) that he was prevented by any sufficient cause from submitting himself for such examination.

It has been stated above that the Act allows the employer three days after a notice of an accident has been served on him by a workman within which to avail himself of the right to have the injured employee, in respect of whom notice has been sent, examined medically. If the workman desires to afford every facility for the smooth passage of any claim which he or his dependants may subsequently submit to his employer—and every workman must have such a desire—the workman is enjoined under the Act to remain within the vicinity of the place where he was employed for a period of three days after the serving of his notice on his employer has been effected. If the workman voluntarily leaves the vicinity of the place where he was employed without having been so examined his right to compensation shall be suspended until he returns and offers himself for such examination. The term "vicinity" offers some scope for difficulties of interpretation. The residence from which

a workman used to come daily to work would be in the "vicinity" however far from the place of employment. But a workman who goes away to a mofussil village would be deemed to have left the vicinity. Thus a workman who came daily from Ghatkopar to Bombay would still be in the vicinity if he remains in his house at Ghatkopar. But if he moved to Elephanta island he would be deemed to have left the vicinity even though nearer as the crow flies to his original place of employment. In the same way the nearest, or ordinary hospital would be in the vicinity. But if the workman elected to go to some other hospital he might be deemed to have broken the condition required by the law.

In the case where a workman dies during the period of such suspension without having submitted himself for medical examination, a Commissioner is entitled to direct the payment of compensation to the dependants of the deceased workman, but it is possible that some technical difficulties may arise to set aside their claim. It is therefore advisable for all workmen to submit themselves as far as possible for any medical examination that is offered by an employer as soon as possible after such an offer has been made.

Moreover, in cases where a right to compensation is suspended, the Act lays down that the employer will not be liable to pay compensation for the period during which the suspension continued, and if the period of suspension commences before the expiry of the waiting period, this period will be increased by the period during which the suspension continues.

Medical Attendance.—If any workman (1) refuses the service of free medical attendance by a medical practitioner which is offered to him by an employer, or (2) deliberately disregards the instructions given to him by such medical practitioner after having accepted the offer of his attendance, such workman cannot hold his employer responsible for any aggravation of the injury originally caused, if it is proved that such aggravation has been caused as a result of the workman not having been regularly attended to by a qualified medical practitioner and that the refusal or failure on the part of the workman to be attended to, or his disregard of the instructions given to him was unreasonable. In all cases, therefore, where a workman refuses the assistance of free medical attendance which is offered to him, or disregards the instructions of the medical practitioner under whose charge he puts himself on the offer of his employer, the injury and resulting disablement shall be deemed to be of the same nature and duration as they might reasonably have been expected to be, if the workman had been regularly attended to by a qualified medical practitioner, and compensation will be paid accordingly.

Claim for Compensation.—After a workman has served a notice on his employer in respect of any injury received as the result of an accident, the next step is to make a claim to his employer for the compensation due to him. The Act lays down that no proceedings for the recovery of compensation shall be maintainable before a Commissioner unless the injured workman has formulated and submitted to his employer a claim in respect of the injury for which compensation is demanded and the employer has either refused or omitted to do anything in the matter.

(To be continued.)

Reviews of Books

Wealth and Taxable Capacity of India, by K. T. Shah and K. J. Khambhata, (D. B. Taraporevala Sons & Co., and P. S. King & Son, Ltd., Bombay and London), 1924

It is not possible to present a complete discussion of the contents of this important book, because the argument is derived all through from the examination of estimates of production all of which require very careful scrutiny, for instance their tenet that India derives no dividend from its 143 million cattle. The authors' object is to estimate the annual income or dividend of India, in the sense of the value of the production of tangible commodities. The gross value which Mr. Khambhata arrives at divided by the number of the population gives a *per capita* average annual figure of Rs. 74. He then deduces that in view of the unequal distribution of incomes the average income of "the poor" (the term is not defined) "may not be less than Rs. 60 per head per annum. This means Rs. 5 per month. Is this the wealth of India or its poverty? What can a poor ryot do with possibly less than Rs. 5 per month but starve himself gradually to death?" This, which seems to be the kernel of the whole book, is a pretty stiff statement. Many millions of Indians seem to survive successfully this unpleasant process of slow starvation. And the steady absorption of gold and silver by India is not a phenomenon which can easily be associated with such utter poverty—almost universal existence below the minimum subsistence level—as is suggested by the authors of this book.

But the really serious thing is that there is in the passage quoted a confusion of economic thought. The authors have deliberately excluded "services" from their estimate of "national dividend", and we have no dispute with them on that account. Their method of arriving at a total production value of tangible goods may be perfectly sound. But such a value is not convertible into terms of private incomes, since services there enter in. If money circulates from one hand to another during the year it counts twice in the estimate of *private* incomes. For instance a rich man pays from income Rs. 1,000 to a doctor for an operation. This sum is annual private income both to the rich man and to the doctor. The doctor pays Rs. 360 to a private servant in return for the satisfaction received for his services. Here again Rs. 360 must be counted to the incomes of both the doctor and the servant.

We believe that the best way of arriving at the values of annual private incomes, and the distribution of incomes ("distribution" is here used in the statistical and not in the economic sense), is by the collection of family budgets on a scale not so far attempted in this country. But that is another matter. For the moment we only say that it seems a pity that the authors of this valuable book have allowed this confusion of economic thought to obscure the minds of their readers. The man in the street does not consider what portion of the "national dividend" is by arithmetic average assignable (as a purely theoretical conception) to himself, but how much he has to spend. And these two measures are in no way identical or even homologous.

The Role of the State in the Provision of Railways, by H. M. Jagtiani, with an introduction by Sir William Acworth, K.S.C.I., London, P. S. King & Son, Ltd., 1924, pp 146, price 8/6 net.

This book is number 73 in the series of monographs by writers connected with the London School of Economics and Political Science. The author has given a critical account of the growth of railways in England, Prussia and India with a view to finding out which system is the best for the healthy development of railways in a country and to see to what extent the association of the State is necessary to secure this object. He has selected these three countries because, in each of them is found the highest development of the system of private ownership, state-ownership and the guarantee system respectively. On an examination of these systems, the author condemns the first as uneconomical and short-sighted, and says that the real choice is between absolute State-ownership and State control as typified by the guarantee system.

The guarantee system as it existed up till recently in India does not win the praise of the author. He thinks that a guarantee system without larger State control is likely to lead to inefficiency.

* * * * *

Unity in Industry, by James Kidd, London, John Murray, 1924, foolscap, 8vo, pp. 160.

This little book is written from the sane standpoint. The author condemns socialism, which he regards as identical with communism, upholds the individualistic economic structure and deplors the misuse of Trades Unions as political pawns. The main object of the book is to recommend an amendment to the English Company Law, making it obligatory on the promoters of a new company to send prospectuses to the Unions concerned and invite their investments. Unions so taking up capital would nominate a delegate to the Board of Directors. The failure of the investments held by Railway Unions to prevent industrial disputes on the Railways he regards as attributable to the monopolistic character of the Railway. In the open competitive industrial field he believes that his policy would eliminate the present tension between capital and labour.

* * * * *

Indian Railways, by K. V. Iyer, Oxford University Press, 1924, post 8vo, pp. 131, linen wrapper, price Rs. 2.

This pamphlet is Vol. VII in the series "India of Today" which is issuing under the general editorship of Prof. L. F. Rushbrook Williams, C.B.E., Director of Public Information to the Government of India. It is a plain statement of facts relating to the Indian Railways, and contains figures that might be of use at any time to public men.

Problems of Public Finance, by J. P. Jensen, Geo. G. Harrap & Co., Ltd., Crown 8vo., pp. 606

The author is on the staff of the Department of Economics in the University of Kansas, U.S.A., and his book is essentially an educational work. Divided into the main heads Public Expenditures, Public Revenues, Public Credit, and Fiscal Administration, it sums up all existing theories and principles on the subject, with administrative and statistical examples only where necessary to the argument, and these mainly American. It is therefore in no way a compilation of facts but of doctrines. As such it will be invaluable to the student and publicist alike. And the manner in which the text is presented with cross headings in capitals and paragraph headings in bold type renders it very easy to consult.

* * * * *

Organised Labour, by G. D. H. Cole, London, George Allen Unwin, Ltd., 1924, pp. 182, price 6-net

This book is not merely a reprint of the author's "An Introduction to Trade Unionism" published in 1918, but practically a new work in which certain sections of the earlier work are incorporated. The author while not setting out to give a history of Trade Unions in England, supplies a sufficient groundwork of fact and circumstance relating to them to enable the reader to follow the growth of the movement. He has taken a brief survey of the structure, the government, the internal problems and the relations with the employers and the state of the Trade Union movement in England.

The author, being a political philosopher as well as an economist of repute, has succeeded in giving an analysis of the various currents of thoughts that have swayed the minds of the English working classes. And this has added considerably to the interest and value of the narrative.

The value of the book is increased by the inclusion of statistical appendices and a bibliography.

* * * * *

The Wages of Labour, by William Graham, M. P., M.A., LL.B. London, Cassell and Company, Ltd., 1924 (revised edition), 8vo., pp. 163.

This is a revision of a work published in 1921. It presents a general summary of the wages system in economic theory and economic history. The author is a firm believer in the inevitable continuance of the individualistic wages system. His remedy for industrial unrest is to establish trade guilds, up to which the works committee, trade board, and industrial council in his opinion inevitably lead. These guilds will take over the tasks of adjusting wages, raising standards of living, and securing scientific management. The argument is discursive only, and not supported by actual, or theoretical, figures or examples.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

A so-called "International Congress of the Middle Classes" was held at Berne and at Interlaken from 2nd to 5th September last. It appears that the term "middle classes" is practically equivalent to skilled artisans. The conference discussed mainly the conditions of apprenticeship and technical education. (*From information in Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, 15th November 1924.*)

UNITED KINGDOM

In the returns made by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies and the Ministry of Labour a net reduction of 200,000 in the membership of trade unions during 1923 is shown. The total number of unions at the end of the year was 1,135, a reduction of 41 compared with the position in December 1922. Thirty-nine unions were dissolved, 24 were amalgamated, making their number 8, and 14 new unions, with a total membership of 7,100, were formed. At the end of 1923 the total membership was approximately 5,405,000 as compared with 5,610,000 at the end of 1922, the principal reductions being in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding unions, in which the membership dropped by 133,000. Other groups showing large reductions were builders' labourers 10,000, agriculture 13,000 and pottery and glass 6,000. Reductions in membership were least in bleaching, wood working and furnishing, banking, paper and printing groups, while the membership of unions connected with road transport, docks, boots and shoes showed a slight increase. (*From the Manchester Guardian Commercial, 6th November 1924.*)

* * * * *

In conjunction with the Universities of London, Cambridge, Nottingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds and Durham, and the various Scottish Universities, the London and North Eastern Railway has started a scheme of education for its staff. Lectures will be given at various centres throughout the L. N. E. R. system during the coming winter. The subjects comprise railway law, railway operating and the staff will be given every encouragement and facility. (*From the Times Educational Supplement, 1st November 1924.*)

* * * * *

The Master Cotton Spinners' Federation has announced that a ballot has resulted in the necessary four-fifths majority in favour of increasing the number of weekly hours of work in the mills spinning American cotton from 32 to 39 from the 1st December. (*From the Pioneer, Allahabad, 28th November 1924.*)

At 1st November the average level of retail prices taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 80 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 76 per cent. a month ago and 75 per cent. a year ago. The rise in the percentage between 1st October and 1st November was due to increases, partly seasonal, in the prices of food; for food alone the average increase in pre-war level was 79 per cent. at 1st November, as compared with 72 per cent. a month ago and 73 per cent. a year ago. (*From the Ministry of Labour Gazette, November 1924.*)

* * * * *

A proposal which, if adopted, will lead to a great alteration in the method of payment of operative cotton spinners is under consideration by a sub-committee of Oldham Operative Spinners' Association. The Hollinwood branch requested the Executive Council to consider the formulation of a scheme for submission to the employers under which spinners, or minders (*sic*), as they are commonly described, would be paid on the day-wage basis, with a bonus for all production above a certain level, according to the counts and quality of yarn spun. (*From the Manchester Guardian Commercial, 20th November 1924.*)

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The Austrian Chamber of Deputies has adopted a provision authorising the Government to increase by 33½ per cent. the import duties on industrial products from countries which do not apply the eight-hour day.

The text of the resolution voted by the Chamber of Deputies is as follows:—

“The Government is authorised to increase, by an amount not exceeding one-third, by means of Government Order and with the consent of the Chief Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, the import duties provided by the customs tariff, on industrial products exported from states which have not ratified the Washington Convention of 1919 on hours of labour and whose standard in regard to hours of work is considerably below that of the said convention.” (*Abstracted from the International Labour Office Weekly News Service.*)

* * * * *

According to the Bulletin of the Social Democratic Party of Russia, there were in 1922, 466 strikes affecting 192,000 persons, and 384 strikes affecting 165,000 persons in 1923. Only 11 of these were sanctioned by the unions which are Government organisations, the rest being either without their knowledge or against their will. The most frequent cause of strikes was unpunctuality in the payment of wages; this led to 60 per cent. of all the strikes in 1923. (*Abstracted from the Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.*)

Provisional results of the 1920 Census in Holland show the following distribution of the population by occupations:—

| Actual workers | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|----|-----------|
| Industry | .. | .. | 1,028,748 |
| Agriculture | .. | .. | 625,989 |
| Fishing and Hunting | .. | .. | 19,597 |
| Commerce | .. | .. | 271,718 |
| Transport | .. | .. | 262,152 |
| Credit and Banking | .. | .. | 29,695 |
| Insurance | .. | .. | 16,599 |
| Liberal Professions | .. | .. | 142,722 |
| Teaching | .. | .. | 68,407 |
| Domestic service | .. | .. | 221,135 |
| Other unclassified professions | .. | .. | 24,903 |
| Religion | .. | .. | 11,915 |
| Profession unknown | .. | .. | 3,546 |
| Total | .. | .. | 2,727,126 |
| Dependants | .. | .. | 4,138,020 |
| Grand Total | .. | .. | 6,865,146 |

(*From Maandschrift, The Hague, 31st October 1924.*)

* * * * *

The Social Policy Committee of the German Reichstag dealt at a recent meeting with the problem of equality of treatment of men and women in regard to unemployment allowance.

Referring to the unanimous decision of the Reichstag in July 1924 in favour of the abolition of all difference of treatment between men and women, the Committee expressed its regret that the Ministry of Labour had not seen its way to give effect to this resolution.

During the discussion several speakers described the distressing situation of certain women who, in the great towns received only 5'40 gold marks a week by way of unemployment allowance.

The Committee expressed its desire to see the earliest possible abolition of the present difference between the treatment of men and that of women in this connection, and requested the Ministry of Labour to modify on these lines the Order of 9th August 1924 on unemployment allowances. (*From the Industrial and Labour Information, 10th November 1924.*)

* * * * *

According to a despatch from the British Representative in Moscow, dated 22nd October, it has been decided to abolish the State employment exchanges throughout Soviet Russia. Their place is to be taken by

employment agencies to be formed for all classes of workers, the use of which will be voluntary. (From the Ministry of Labour Gazette, November 1924.)

UNITED STATES

The United States Supreme Court has issued an important decision in favour of Labour, which upholds the right of a striker to a trial by jury if he demands it in cases in which he is charged with contempt of court for disregarding an injunction to return to work. This decision does not lessen the power of judges to issue labour injunctions but gives more liberty to the workers. (Abstracted from the Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.)

OTHER COUNTRIES

The Trades and Labour Council of Vancouver has asked the City Council to provide means for the inspection and certification of all scaffolding in the city. The city building inspector, it is stated, already makes inspections of the scaffolding on buildings for which building permits have been taken out, but no general supervision is at present exercised by the city over scaffolding owing to the large staff that would be required for such work. In the Province of Quebec, municipalities are required by an Act passed in 1921 to employ an inspector of scaffolding, from whom builders must obtain a certificate of safety of any scaffolding they may erect over 15 feet in height. The Building Trades Protection Acts of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario provide for the appointment of municipal inspectors to enforce the provisions of these acts in regard to security of scaffolding. In Manitoba, scaffolding on buildings are supervised directly by inspectors connected with the Provincial Bureau of Labour. (From the Labour Gazette, Canada, October 1924.)

* * * * *

The National Congress of Cuba has sanctioned an Act, which came into force on 10th June 1924, setting up Arbitration Tribunals to settle all disputes which may arise between employers and workers in Cuban ports.

Each of these Courts or Commissions will be composed of employers and workers in equal numbers and presided over by a Judge. They will work in close contact with the police for the purpose of maintaining order during strikes, and it will be their duty to protect workers who are unwilling to take part in strikes. In the event of a general strike, the Courts will appoint 10 per cent. of the workers to continue urgent work in the ports, and these workers will be able to rely on the protection of the Courts.

The Cuban Chamber of Deputies has also had laid before it a Bill for the creation of an official body, to be called the National Conciliation and Arbitration Commission. The work of the Commission would be to settle all strikes which occur in the country. It would be composed of an equal number of employers and workers and would sit under the chairmanship of an impartial third person. (From the Industrial and Labour Information, 10th November 1924.)

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

| Name of District | Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation | Number of members | Name and address of | |
|------------------|---|-------------------|---|---|
| | | | President or Chairman | Secretary |
| 1. Bombay City.. | 1. The Indian Seamen's Union*—April 1921. | 11,299 | J. J. Athaide, Sobani Buildings, Graham Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay. Director—Dr. Theodore Fernandes | S. A. Rebello, Sobani Buildings, Graham Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay. |
| | 2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union—July 1920. | 1,200 | Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer. Vice-President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. | S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. C. Bhukandas, Chargeman, B.B. & C.I. Ry. Workshop, Parel. |
| | 3. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments)—May 1919. | 1,200 | Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer. Vice-President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. | S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. |
| | 4. The Port Trust Workshop Union—March 1920. | 1,000 | F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. | S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. |
| | 5. The Clerks' Union—April 1918. | 500 | B. M. Anandrao, B.A., Malabar Lumbering Company, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay. Vice-President—Nanalal Parbhuram, Laud & Co., Examiner Press Building, Bombay. | 1. Anant Padmanabh, 53, Meadows Street, Fort, Bombay. 2. S. Bhawani Rao, Ghelabhai Building, Chauthpati, Bombay. |
| | 6. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers) Union—April 1918. | 1,044 | F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. | S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. Assistant Secretary—Dhondur K. Tendulkar, 1, Kandewadi, Bombay. |
| | 7. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union—May 1921. | 5,138 | Motilal J. Mehta, Ag. Assistant Auditor, Audit Office, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay. | 1. Swami Adwaitanand, G. I. P. Railway Staff Union Office, Dadar, Bombay. 2. Narayan G. Kale, Operative Branch, C. T. S.'s Office, Bombay. |

* The name of this Union is misleading, as the Union is purely for the saloon staff and its members are of Goan nationality.

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—*contd.*

| Name of District | Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation | Number of members | Name and address of | |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|---|--|
| | | | President or Chairman | Secretary |
| 1. Bombay City— <i>contd.</i> | 8. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union—July 1922. | 350 | Not elected .. | S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. |
| | 9. Bombay Postal Clerks' Club—1907. | 1,120 | None .. | D. S. Joshi, Soman Buildings, Girgaum Road, Bombay. |
| | Total Members, Bombay City .. | 22,851 | | |
| 2. Ahmedabad .. | 1. The Weavers' Union—February 1920. | 3,500 | Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad. | Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad. <i>Assistant Secretary</i> —Khan d u b h a i Kasanbhai Desai, Raipur, Ahmedabad. |
| | 2. The Winders' Union—June 1920. | 200 | Do. .. | Do. |
| | 3. The Throstle Union—February 1920. | 6,800 | Do. .. | Do. |
| | 4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920. | 2,400 | Do. .. | Do. |
| | 5. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union—September 1920. | 300 | Do. .. | Do. |
| | 6. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association—February 1919. | 200 | V. J. Patel, Khamsa, Ahmedabad. | M. V. Kothari, Raipur, Ahmedabad. |
| | 7. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees Association—February 1920. | 5,000* | Do. .. | Do. <i>Assistant Secretary</i> —B. N. Sandil, Dolatkhana Sarangpur, Ahmedabad. |
| | 8. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923. | 286 | None .. | D. S. Patel, Post Office, Ahmedabad. |
| Total Members, Ahmedabad .. | 18,686 | | | |

*Approximate.

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—*contd.*

| Name of District | Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation | Number of members | Name and address of | |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|--|--|
| | | | President or Chairman | Secretary |
| 3. Sukkur .. | N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District)—September 1920. | 3,574 | Mr. Thakurdad, Head Clerk, District Loco Office, Sukkur. | Tirlokinath Kaul, Station Road (Caribabad), Sukkur. |
| 4. Karachi .. | N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District)—1920. | 3,500 | Thanwardas, Cashier, Goods Office, Karachi. | Kazi Khuda Baksh, 32, New Haroon Building, Bunder Road, Karachi. |
| 5. Sholapur .. | The Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union—March 1921. | 457 | G. G. Bhadbhade, Kurduwadi. | G. T. Malgi, Kurduwadi. |
| 6. Poona .. | 1. The Press Workers' Union—February 1921. | 110 | John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment. | 1. G. T. Sakpal, 879, Shukruwar Peth, Poona City. |
| | | | | 2. N. B. Purohit, Gourishankar Press, Poona City. |
| 7. Broach .. | 2. Poona Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919. | 300 | N. C. Kelkar, M. L. A., Editor, Kesari. | N. V. Bhonde, Poona. |
| | | | | 1. The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union—October 1923. |
| 8. Ahmednagar .. | 2. The Saraswati Mill Labour Union—October 1923. | 360 | Do. .. | Do. |
| | | | | 1. The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union—October 1923. |
| 9. Belgaum .. | Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920. | 311 | None .. | H. K. Patvardhan, B.A., LL.B., Ahmednagar. |
| 10. Dharwar .. | Belgaum Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920. | 80 | Y. V. Saundatgikar, Belgaum. | G. D. Limaye, Belgaum. |
| 11. East Khandesh. | Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920. | 170 | N. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar. | L. N. Kundgal, Dharwar. |
| | | | | Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920. |
| | | 101 | None .. | G. B. Kulkarni, Jalgaon. |

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—*concl.*

| Name of District | Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation | Number of members | Name and address of | |
|------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | President or Chairman | Secretary |
| 12. Nasik | Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920. | 288 | None | A. R. Rahalkar, Nasik. |
| 13. Ratnagiri | Ratnagiri Postal and R. M. S. Union—1922. | 228 | Do. | A. K. Murtaza, Ratnagiri. |
| 14. Satara | Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919. | 233 | Do. | S. D. Kulkarni, Satara. |
| 15. Surat | Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union—1921. | 150 | Do. | B. N. Mistry, Surat. |
| 16. Baroda | 1. Baroda Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920. | 150 | Do. | R. J. Shah, Baroda. |
| | 2. Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924. | 150 | Do. | M. K. Bhatt, Baroda. |
| 17. Bhavnagar | Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923. | 75 | Do. | T. J. Parekh, Bhavnagar. |
| 18. Rajkot | Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923. | 143 | Do. | H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot. |
| | Total, rest of Presidency .. | 10,740 | | |
| | Total Members, Presidency .. | 52,277 | | |

TABLE II—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

| Name of District | Name of Union or Federation | Income per month | Sum paid per member per month | Expenditure per month |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| | | Rs. | | Rs. |
| 1. Bombay City | 1. The Indian Seamen's Union. | 1,150 | Rs. 6 (per year) | 900 |
| | 2. The B.B. & C.I. Railwaymen's Union. | 175 | From Re. 1 to 4 annas according to pay. | 75 |
| | 3. The G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union. | 175 | Do. do. | 75 |
| | 4. The Port Trust Workshop Union. | 150 | As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50. | 45 |
| | 5. The Clerks' Union .. | 100 | As. 4 | 30 |
| | 6. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers) Union. | 792 | From Re. 1 to 4 annas .. | 608 |
| | 7. The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union. | 200 | One day's pay per year .. | 200 |
| | 8. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union. | 75 | As. 4 | 30 |
| | 9. Bombay Postal Clerks' Club. | 534 | As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk. | 359 |
| 2. Ahmedabad | 1. The Weavers' Union . | 875 | As. 4 | 175 |
| | 2. The Winders' Union . | 25 | As. 2 | 12 |
| | 3. The Throstle Union. | 1,425 | As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker. | 500 |
| | 4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union. | 600 | As. 4 | 226 |
| | 5. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union. | 125 | As. 6 per oilman; As. 8 per driver or fire-man. | 14 |
| | 6. *The Post and Railway Mail Service Association. | .. | .... | .. |
| | 7. The B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Association. | Exact amount not available. | Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards. | 300 |
| 3. Sukkur | 8. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 163 | As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk. | 33 |
| | The N.W. Railway Union (Sukkur District). | 540 | Subscription at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of monthly pay from all members. | 160 |
| 4. Karachi | The N.W. Railway Union (Karachi District). | 700 | Do. do. | 300 |
| 5. Sholapur | The Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union. | From 25 to 35. | An amount equal to one day's pay as drawn by a member on the 1st of January of each year. | From about 25 to 30. |

* The members are not paying fees at present.

TABLE II—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—*contd.*

| Name of District | Name of Union or Federation | Income per month | Sum paid per member per month | Expenditure per month |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Rs. | | Rs. |
| 6. Poona | 1. The Press Workers' Union. | 4 | As. 2 to As. 3 | .. About 2 |
| | 2. Poona Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 182 | As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk. | 196 |
| 7. Broach | 1. The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union. | 90 | As. 4 per member | .. Nil* |
| | 2. The Saraswati Mill Labour Union. | 90 | Do. | .. Nil* |
| 8. Ahmednagar | Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 53 | As. 8 per clerk: As. 2 below clerk. | 87½ |
| 9. Belgaum | Belgaum Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 34 | Do. | .. 35 |
| 10. Dharwar | Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 55 | Do. | .. 47 |
| 11. East Khandesh. | Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 106 | Do. | .. 25 |
| 12. Nasik | Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 61 | Do. | .. 66 |
| 13. Ratnagiri | Ratnagiri Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 46 | Do. | .. 14 |
| 14. Satara | Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 95 | Do. | .. 43 |
| 15. Surat | Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 23 | Do. | .. 52 |
| 16. Baroda | 1. Baroda Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 70 | Do. | .. 50 |
| | 2. Baroda R. M. S. Union. | 75 | Do. | .. (†) |
| 17. Bhavnagar | Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 34 | Do. | .. Not reported. |
| 18. Rajkot | Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union. | 12 | Do. | .. 33 |

* Except some casual printing charges. † Newly established.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN NOVEMBER 1924

| Name of concern and locality | Approximate number of work-people involved | | Date when dispute | | Cause | Result |
|---|--|------------|-------------------|---------|---|---|
| | Directly | Indirectly | Began | Ended | | |
| <i>Textile Trades.</i> | | | | | | |
| 1. The Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd., Barsi Town, Sholapur. | 1,060 | .. | 30 Oct. | 3 Nov. | Demand for one month's pay as bonus instead of half month's pay. | Settled amicably |
| 2. The Gujarat Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad. | 40 | .. | 1 Nov. | 2 Nov. | Demand for the reinstatement of one Jehangirji, the men's leader. | Work resumed unconditionally |
| 3. The Simplex Mills, Clerk Road, Bombay. | 120 | .. | 14 Nov. | 17 Nov. | Alleged reduction in the rates of wages for October 1924. | Work resumed unconditionally by some and new hands were engaged in place of others. |
| 4. The Kastoorchand Mill, Dadar, Bombay. | 400 | .. | 19 Nov. | 22 Nov. | Do. | Do. |
| <i>Miscellaneous.</i> | | | | | | |
| 5. The Great Indian Peninsula Railway Tranship Shed at Poona Station. | 115 | .. | 22 Nov. | 24 Nov. | Demand for (1) the immediate release of the men arrested for stealing and (2) an increase in pay. | New men engaged. |
| 6. The Asiatic Petroleum and Tank Storage Company, Bombay. | 270 | 180 | 26 Nov. | .. | Demand for the continuance of one hour overtime work. | |

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING NOVEMBER 1924

1. Bombay City

| Class of Factory. | No. of accidents due to | | | | Nature of injury | | | | | | Total No. of persons injured | |
|---|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|
| | Machinery in motion | | Other causes | | Fatal | | Serious | | Minor | | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 |
| | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | | |
| I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. | 293 | 34 | 148 | 24 | 16 | 1 | 21 | 3 | 405 | 54 | 442 | 58 |
| Woolen Mills .. | 3 | .. | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 | .. | 6 | .. |
| Others .. | 1 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | .. | 3 | .. |
| Total .. | 297 | 34 | 153 | 24 | 16 | 1 | 21 | 3 | 414 | 54 | 451 | 58 |
| Workshops— Engineering .. | 17 | .. | 106 | 9 | 3 | .. | 3 | .. | 117 | 9 | 123 | 9 |
| Railway .. | 61 | 1 | 950 | 100 | 2 | .. | 1 | .. | 1,008 | 101 | 1,011 | 101 |
| Min .. | 3 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | 2 | .. |
| Others .. | 3 | 4 | 15 | 4 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 19 | 8 | 20 | 8 |
| Total .. | 83 | 5 | 1,073 | 113 | 5 | .. | 5 | .. | 1,146 | 118 | 1,156 | 118 |
| III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works .. | .. | .. | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | .. | 4 | .. |
| Flour Mills .. | 2 | .. | 9 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 10 | 2 | 11 | 2 |
| Printing Presses .. | 3 | .. | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7 | .. | 7 | .. |
| Others .. | 14 | .. | 20 | 4 | 1 | .. | 2 | .. | 32 | 4 | 35 | 4 |
| Total .. | 19 | .. | 37 | 6 | 2 | .. | 2 | .. | 53 | 6 | 57 | 6 |
| Total, All Factories .. | 399 | 39 | 1,263 | 143 | 23 | 1 | 28 | 3 | 1,613 | 178 | 1,664 | 182 |

2. Ahmedabad

| Class of Factory. | No. of accidents due to | | | | Nature of injury | | | | | | Total No. of persons injured | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|
| | Machinery in motion | | Other causes | | Fatal | | Serious | | Minor | | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 |
| | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | | |
| I Textile Mills— Cotton .. | 87 | 11 | 23 | 7 | 30 | .. | 47 | 5 | 80 | 13 | 157 | 18 |
| Total .. | 87 | 11 | 23 | 7 | 30 | .. | 47 | 5 | 80 | 13 | 157 | 18 |
| II Miscellaneous— Match Factory .. | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Flour Mills .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. |
| Oil Mills .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. |
| Total .. | 3 | 1 | 3 | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 |
| Total, All Factories .. | 90 | 12 | 26 | 7 | 31 | .. | 48 | 5 | 84 | 14 | 163 | 19 |

Explanations:—1. The progressive figures do not always agree with the figures shown in the previous issue, but are corrected to date.
2. "Fatal" means causing the death of the injured persons without specification of period.
"Serious" means causing absence from work for more than 20 days.
"Minor" means causing absence from work for more than 48 hours and up to 20 days.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING NOVEMBER 1924—contd.

3. Karachi

| Class of Factory. | No. of accidents due to | | | | Nature of injury | | | | | | Total No. of persons injured | |
|---|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|
| | Machinery in motion | | Other causes | | Fatal | | Serious | | Minor | | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 |
| | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | | |
| I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust Engineering .. | 8 | .. | 30 | .. | .. | .. | 7 | .. | 31 | .. | 38 | .. |
| Total .. | 9 | .. | 31 | 2 | .. | .. | 8 | .. | 32 | 2 | 40 | 2 |
| II Miscellaneous .. | 6 | 3 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 3 |
| Total .. | 6 | 3 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 3 |
| Total, All Factories .. | 15 | 3 | 32 | 2 | .. | .. | 10 | 2 | 37 | 3 | 47 | 5 |

4. Other Centres

| Class of Factory. | No. of accidents due to | | | | Nature of injury | | | | | | Total No. of persons injured | |
|---|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|
| | Machinery in motion | | Other causes | | Fatal | | Serious | | Minor | | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 |
| | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | Jan to Oct 1924 | Nov 1924 | | |
| I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. | 42 | 7 | 28 | 6 | 2 | .. | 6 | 1 | 62 | 12 | 70 | 13 |
| Others .. | 4 | .. | 4 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 6 | .. | 8 | .. |
| Total .. | 46 | 7 | 32 | 6 | 4 | .. | 6 | 1 | 68 | 12 | 78 | 13 |
| II Workshops— Railway Arms and Ammu- nition Works .. | 17 | 1 | 116 | 14 | 1 | .. | 3 | .. | 129 | 15 | 143 | 15 |
| Others .. | 3 | .. | 9 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 11 | .. | 12 | .. |
| Total .. | 21 | 1 | 127 | 14 | 1 | .. | 4 | .. | 143 | 15 | 148 | 15 |
| III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pressing Factories .. | 11 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 5 | .. | 2 | .. | 11 | 2 | 18 | 2 |
| Paint Works .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. |
| Others .. | 5 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | .. | 10 | 8 | 13 | 9 |
| Total .. | 16 | 6 | 15 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 4 | .. | 21 | 11 | 31 | 12 |
| Total, All Factories .. | 83 | 14 | 174 | 26 | 11 | 1 | 14 | 1 | 232 | 38 | 257 | 40 |

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS
(OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

| Count or Number | Month of Oct. | | | Seven months ended Oct. | | |
|---------------------|---------------|--------|--------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 |
| | Pounds | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) |
| Nos. 1 to 10 | 6,617 | 6,723 | 5,780 | 45,504 | 42,916 | 37,828 |
| Nos. 11 to 20 | 20,111 | 17,955 | 17,450 | 137,882 | 119,968 | 123,693 |
| Nos. 21 to 30 | 13,560 | 13,279 | 12,434 | 96,546 | 83,838 | 92,558 |
| Nos. 31 to 40 | 964 | 1,506 | 1,120 | 7,911 | 7,325 | 8,838 |
| Above 40 | 147 | 241 | 501 | 1,188 | 1,441 | 2,929 |
| Waste, etc. | 8 | 12 | 10 | 65 | 83 | 77 |
| Total | 41,407 | 39,716 | 37,295 | 289,096 | 255,571 | 265,923 |

BOMBAY CITY

| | Pounds | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Nos. 1 to 10 | 6,068 | 6,068 | 4,927 | 41,801 | 39,085 | 33,348 |
| Nos. 11 to 20 | 14,216 | 12,222 | 11,586 | 96,556 | 86,772 | 84,589 |
| Nos. 21 to 30 | 8,394 | 8,400 | 7,319 | 58,413 | 56,310 | 57,175 |
| Nos. 31 to 40 | 500 | 902 | 682 | 3,581 | 4,299 | 4,882 |
| Above 40 | 90 | 105 | 317 | 665 | 731 | 1,672 |
| Waste, etc. | 1 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 17 | 20 |
| Total | 29,269 | 27,700 | 24,833 | 201,029 | 187,214 | 181,686 |

AHMEDABAD

| | Pounds | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) |
|---------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Nos. 1 to 10 | 174 | 194 | 233 | 946 | 810 | 1,395 |
| Nos. 11 to 20 | 2,843 | 3,570 | 3,004 | 20,244 | 15,894 | 21,388 |
| Nos. 21 to 30 | 3,821 | 3,269 | 3,581 | 28,247 | 17,713 | 26,416 |
| Nos. 31 to 40 | 386 | 449 | 346 | 3,570 | 2,169 | 2,932 |
| Above 40 | 38 | 103 | 127 | 376 | 477 | 946 |
| Waste, etc. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| Total | 7,262 | 7,585 | 7,291 | 53,383 | 37,064 | 53,077 |

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION
OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

| Description | Month of Oct. | | | Seven months ended Oct. | | |
|---|---------------|--------|--------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 |
| | Pounds | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) |
| Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) |
| Khadi (a) | .. | .. | 1,846 | .. | .. | 8,592 |
| Chudders | 1,610 | 2,431 | 2,148 | 9,241 | 10,015 | 9,235 |
| Dhotis | 4,676 | 6,165 | 5,158 | 41,907 | 35,955 | 40,190 |
| Drills and jeans | 533 | 852 | 746 | 4,367 | 5,615 | 6,674 |
| Cambrics and lawns | 24 | 56 | 25 | 444 | 186 | 437 |
| Printers | 457 | 477 | 359 | 2,989 | 2,292 | 2,178 |
| Shirtings and long cloth | 7,052 | 9,958 | 7,046 | 54,530 | 51,586 | 55,595 |
| T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings | 953 | 1,231 | 1,021 | 7,091 | 7,050 | 7,058 |
| Tent cloth | 107 | 80 | 141 | 570 | 485 | 1,201 |
| Other sorts | 1,847 | 2,898 | 443 | 10,138 | 13,618 | 3,496 |
| Total | 17,259 | 24,148 | 18,933 | 131,277 | 126,802 | 134,656 |
| Coloured piece-goods | 6,765 | 11,299 | 9,435 | 46,149 | 53,032 | 59,356 |
| Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods | 204 | 214 | 163 | 1,399 | 1,176 | 1,119 |
| Hosiery | 17 | 22 | 19 | 99 | 104 | 94 |
| Miscellaneous | 123 | 128 | 209 | 705 | 670 | 1,002 |
| Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool | 9 | 5 | 3 | 53 | 89 | 44 |
| Grand Total | 24,377 | 35,816 | 28,762 | 179,682 | 181,873 | 196,271 |

BOMBAY CITY

| | Pounds | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) |
|---|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) | (000) |
| Khadi (a) | .. | .. | 1,178 | .. | .. | 5,956 |
| Chudders | 824 | 1,652 | 1,550 | 5,015 | 6,422 | 5,820 |
| Dhotis | 1,321 | 2,135 | 1,421 | 12,653 | 12,570 | 12,372 |
| Drills and jeans | 499 | 803 | 649 | 4,130 | 5,291 | 5,980 |
| Cambrics and lawns | 16 | 42 | 18 | 235 | 129 | 371 |
| Printers | 29 | 4 | .. | 284 | 58 | 24 |
| Shirtings and long cloth | 4,644 | 7,729 | 5,058 | 39,125 | 39,374 | 39,899 |
| T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings | 783 | 1,012 | 851 | 5,819 | 5,980 | 5,737 |
| Tent cloth | 92 | 47 | 27 | 493 | 335 | 493 |
| Other sorts | 1,247 | 1,976 | 204 | 7,067 | 9,720 | 1,554 |
| Total | 9,455 | 15,400 | 10,956 | 74,821 | 79,879 | 78,206 |
| Coloured piece-goods | 5,791 | 9,428 | 7,483 | 38,993 | 44,101 | 46,812 |
| Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods | 195 | 210 | 154 | 1,351 | 1,112 | 1,078 |
| Hosiery | 7 | 12 | 9 | 56 | 56 | 45 |
| Miscellaneous | 122 | 124 | 106 | 700 | 647 | 823 |
| Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool | 6 | 4 | 3 | 46 | 83 | 30 |
| Grand Total | 15,576 | 25,178 | 18,711 | 115,967 | 125,878 | 126,994 |

(a) Included under 'other sorts' prior to April 1924.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

438

| Article | Grade | Rate per | Price | | | | Index numbers | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|
| | | | July 1914 | Nov. 1923 | Oct. 1924 | Nov. 1924 | July 1914 | Nov. 1923 | Oct. 1924 | Nov. 1924 | | |
| | | | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | | | | | | |
| Cereals— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rice | Rangoon Small-mill | Md. | 4 11 3 | 6 6 10 | 6 14 6 | 6 14 6 | 100 | 137 | 147 | 147 | | |
| Wheat | Delhi No. 1 | Cwt. | 5 9 6 | 6 10 0 | 8 4 0 | 8 4 0 | 100 | 118 | 147 | 147 | | |
| Do. | Khandwa Seoni | Candy | 45 0 0 | 65 0 0 | 70 0 0 | 70 0 0 | 100 | 144 | 156 | 156 | | |
| Do. | Jubbulpore | " | 40 0 0 | 45 0 0 | 52 8 0 | 53 0 0 | 100 | 113 | 131 | 133 | | |
| Jowari | Cawnpore | Maund | 3 2 6 | 4 7 1 | 3 12 11 | 3 12 11 | 100 | 141 | 121 | 121 | | |
| Barley | " | " | 3 4 6 | 3 2 10 | 4 12 2 | 3 12 11 | 100 | 97 | 145 | 116 | | |
| Bajri | Ghati | " | 3 4 6 | 4 2 0 | 4 8 10 | 4 13 11 | 100 | 126 | 139 | 149 | | |
| Index No.—Cereals | | | | | | | 100 | 125 | 141 | 138 | | |
| Pulses— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gram | Punjab yellow (2nd sort) | Maund | 4 3 9 | 3 9 7 | 4 0 4 | 4 0 4 | 100 | 85 | 95 | 95 | | |
| Turdal | Cawnpore | " | 5 10 5 | 5 4 8 | 5 4 8 | 5 4 8 | 100 | 94 | 94 | 94 | | |
| Index No.—Pulses | | | | | | | 100 | 90 | 95 | 95 | | |
| Index No.—Food grains | | | | | | | 100 | 117 | 131 | 129 | | |
| Sugar— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sugar | Mauritius | Cwt. | 9 3 0 | 26 12 0 | 18 15 0 | 18 7 0 | 100 | 291 | 206 | 201 | | |
| Do. | Java, white | Maund | 10 3 0 | 26 2 0 | 19 10 0 | 19 1 0 | 100 | 256 | 193 | 187 | | |
| Raw (Gul) | Sangli or Poona | " | 7 14 3 | 10 14 2 | 14 15 5 | 13 9 8 | 100 | 138 | 190 | 172 | | |
| Index No.—Sugar | | | | | | | 100 | 228 | 196 | 187 | | |
| Other Food— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Turmeric | Rajapuri | Maund | 5 9 3 | 38 12 5 | 25 4 11 | 28 4 9 | 100 | 695 | 454 | 507 | | |
| Ghee | Deshi | " | 45 11 5 | 85 11 5 | 82 13 9 | 85 11 5 | 100 | 188 | 181 | 188 | | |
| Salt | Bombay (black) | " | 1 7 6 | 3 2 0 | 2 4 0 | 2 4 0 | 100 | 212 | 153 | 153 | | |
| Index No.—Other food | | | | | | | 100 | 365 | 263 | 283 | | |
| Index No.—All Food | | | | | | | 100 | 189 | 170 | 171 | | |
| Oilseeds— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Linseed | Bold | Cwt. | 8 14 6 | 13 15 0 | 14 5 0 | 14 2 0 | 100 | 157 | 161 | 159 | | |
| Rapeseed | Cawnpore (brown) | " | 8 0 0 | 10 7 0 | 13 0 0 | 12 4 0 | 100 | 130 | 163 | 153 | | |
| Poppy seed | " | " | 10 14 0 | 13 10 0 | 14 12 0 | 14 10 0 | 100 | 125 | 136 | 134 | | |
| Gingelly | White | " | 11 4 0 | 15 12 0 | 17 6 0 | 16 2 0 | 100 | 140 | 154 | 143 | | |
| Index No.—Oilseeds | | | | | | | 100 | 138 | 154 | 147 | | |

LABOUR GAZETTE

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Textile—Cotton— | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Cotton, raw— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Broach | Good | Candy | 251 0 0 | | 551 0 0 | 505 0 0 | 100 | | 248 | 227 |
| Oomra | Fully good | " | 222 0 0 | | | | 100 | | | |
| Dharwar | Saw-ginned | " | 230 0 0 | | 546 0 0 | | 100 | | 266 | 240 |
| Khandesh | Machine-ginned | " | 205 0 0 | 600 0 0 | 528 0 0 | 475 0 0 | 100 | 303 | 267 | 240 |
| Bengal | Do. | " | 198 0 0 | | | | 100 | | 260 | 234 |
| Index No.—Cotton, raw | | | | | | | | | | |
| (b) Cotton manufactures— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Twist | 40S | Lb. | 0 12 9 | 1 13 9 | 1 13 0 | 1 13 0 | 100 | 233 | 227 | 227 |
| Grey shirtings | Fari 2,000 | Piece | 5 15 0 | 13 6 0 | 12 14 0 | 12 10 0 | 100 | 225 | 217 | 213 |
| White mulls | 6,600 | " | 4 3 0 | 9 4 0 | 8 10 0 | 8 12 0 | 100 | 221 | 206 | 209 |
| Shirtings | Liepmann's 1,500 | " | 10 6 0 | 26 4 0 | 25 0 0 | 25 4 0 | 100 | 253 | 241 | 243 |
| Long Cloth | Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds. | Lb. | 0 9 6 | 1 8 0 | 1 6 0 | 1 5 3 | 100 | 253 | 231 | 224 |
| Chudders | 54" x 6 yds. | " | 0 9 6 | 1 5 6 | 1 4 6 | 1 4 0 | 100 | 226 | 216 | 210 |
| Index No.—Cotton manufactures | | | | | | | 100 | 235 | 223 | 221 |
| Index No.—Textile—Cotton | | | | | | | 100 | 245 | 235 | 224 |
| Other Textiles— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Silk | Manchow | Lb. | 5 2 6 | 9 4 0 | 8 13 11 | 7 8 6 | 100 | 179 | 172 | 146 |
| Do. | Mathow Lari | " | 2 15 1 | 5 12 0 | 5 6 0 | 5 1 9 | 100 | 195 | 183 | 174 |
| Index No.—Other Textiles | | | | | | | 100 | 187 | 178 | 160 |
| Hides and Skins— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hides, Cow | Tanned | Lb. | 1 2 6 | 1 12 10 | 1 13 8 | 1 13 1 | 100 | 156 | 160 | 157 |
| Do. Buffalo | Do. | " | 1 1 3 | 1 2 10 | 1 1 10 | 1 5 1 | 100 | 109 | 103 | 122 |
| Skins, Goat | Do. | " | 1 4 0 | 2 11 9 | 2 9 1 | 2 6 3 | 100 | 219 | 205 | 191 |
| Index No.—Hides and Skins | | | | | | | 100 | 161 | 156 | 157 |
| Metals— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Copper braziers | | Cwt. | 60 8 0 | 70 0 0 | 64 0 0 | 64 8 0 | 100 | 116 | 106 | 107 |
| Iron bars | | " | 4 0 0 | 8 0 0 | 7 0 0 | 7 0 0 | 100 | 200 | 175 | 175 |
| Steel hoops | | " | 7 12 0 | 12 12 0 | 11 12 0 | 11 12 0 | 100 | 165 | 152 | 152 |
| Galvanised sheets | | " | 9 0 0 | 16 0 0 | 15 10 0 | 15 8 0 | 100 | 178 | 174 | 172 |
| Tin plates | | Box | 8 12 0 | 18 4 0 | 20 0 0 | 20 0 0 | 100 | 209 | 229 | 229 |
| Index No.—Metals | | | | | | | 100 | 174 | 167 | 167 |
| Other raw and manufactured articles— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coal | Bengal, 2nd Class Steam | Ton | 14 12 0 | 24 10 0 | 23 10 0 | 23 10 0 | 100 | 167 | 160 | 160 |
| Do. | Imported | " | 19 11 6 | 23 7 11 | 24 5 1 | 23 9 0 | 100 | 119 | 123 | 119 |
| Kerosene | Elephant Brand | 2 Tins | 4 6 0 | 5 15 6 | 7 10 6 | 7 10 6 | 100 | 159 | 175 | 175 |
| Do. | Chester Brand | Case | 5 2 0 | 9 8 0 | 9 8 0 | 9 8 0 | 100 | 185 | 185 | 185 |
| Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles | | | | | | | 100 | 158 | 161 | 160 |
| Index No.—Food | | | | | | | 100 | 189 | 170 | 171 |
| Index No.—Non-food | | | | | | | 100 | 185 | 186 | 179 |
| General Index No. | | | | | | | 100 | 186 | 181 | 176 |

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WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

40

| Article | Grade | Rate per | Prices | | | | Index Numbers | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | July 1914 | Nov. 1923 | Oct. 1924 | Nov. 1924 | July 1914 | Nov. 1923 | Oct. 1924 | Nov. 1924 |
| | | | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | | | | |
| <i>Cereals—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rice | Larkana No. 3 | Candy. | 39 0 0 | 52 0 0 | 61 4 0(1) | 61 12 0(1) | 100 | 133 | 157 | 158 |
| Wheat, white | 5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red. | " | 31 8 0 | 35 12 0 | 47 0 0 | 47 4 0 | 100 | 113 | 149 | 150 |
| " red | 5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red. | " | 31 4 0 | 35 0 0 | 46 0 0 | 46 4 0 | 100 | 112 | 147 | 148 |
| " white | 2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt | " | 32 8 0 | 36 12 0 | 48 6 0 | 48 10 0 | 100 | 113 | 149 | 150 |
| " red | 2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt | " | 32 4 0 | 36 0 0 | 47 6 0 | 47 10 0 | 100 | 112 | 147 | 148 |
| Jowari | Export quality | " | 25 8 0 | 30 0 0 | 37 0 0 | 34 0 0 | 100 | 118 | 145 | 133 |
| Barley | 3% dirt | " | 26 8 0 | 26 8 0 | 41 4 0 | 35 12 0 | 100 | 100 | 156 | 135 |
| Index No.—Cereals | .... | .... | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 114 | 150 | 146 |
| <i>Pulses—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gram | 1% dirt | Candy | 29 8 0 | 27 8 0 | 32 0 0(2) | 29 0 0(2) | 100 | 93 | 108 | 98 |
| <i>Sugar—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sugar | Java white | Cwt. | 9 2 0 | 25 4 0 | 19 3 0 | 18 12 0 | 100 | 277 | 210 | 205 |
| " | " brown | " | 8 1 6 | .. | .. | .. | 100 | .. | .. | .. |
| Index No.—Sugar | .... | .... | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 277 | 210 | 205 |
| <i>Other food—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Salt | .... | Bengal Maund. | 2 2 0 | 2 14 0 | 1 10 6 | 1 11 0 | 100 | 135 | 78 | 79 |
| <i>Oilseeds—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton seed | 3% admixture | Maund. | 2 11 3 | 4 4 0 | 4 7 0 | 4 0 0 0 | 100 | 157 | 164 | 148 |
| Rapeseed | Black 9% admixture | Candy. | 51 0 0 | 63 4 0 | 80 8 0 | 73 0 0 0 | 100 | 124 | 158 | 143 |
| Gingelly | .. | " | 62 0 0 | 84 0 0 | .. | 88 0 0 0 | 100 | 135 | .. | 142 |
| Index No.—Oilseeds | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 139 | 161 | 144 |
| <i>Textiles—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jute bags | B Twills | 100 bags | 38 4 0 | 53 8 0 | 75 4 0 | 68 8 0 | 100 | 140 | 197 | 179 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <i>Textiles—Cotton—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Cotton, raw | Sind | Maund. | 20 4 0 | 49 10 0 | 43 4 0 | 44 4 0 | 100 | 245 | 214 | 219 |
| (b) Cotton manufactures— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drills | Pepperill | Piecd. | 10 3 6 | 27 0 0 | 25 6 0 | 24 8 0 | 100 | 264 | 248 | 240 |
| Shirtings | Liepmann's | " | 10 2 0 | 26 8 0 | 28 0 0 | 27 0 0 | 100 | 262 | 277 | 267 |
| Yarns | 40s Grey (Plough) | Lb. | 0 12 2 | .. | .. | .. | 100 | .. | .. | .. |
| Index No.—Cotton manufactures | .... | .... | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 263 | 263 | 254 |
| Index No.—Textiles—Cotton | .... | .... | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 257 | 246 | 242 |
| <i>Other Textiles—Wool</i> | Kandahar | Maund. | 28 0 0 | 40 0 0 | 44 0 0 | 47 0 0 | 100 | 143 | 157 | 168 |
| <i>Hides—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hides, dry | Sind | Maund. | 21 4 0 | 14 8 0 | 20 0 0 | 21 0 0 | 100 | 68 | 94 | 99 |
| " " | Punjab | " | 21 4 0 | 14 8 0 | 20 0 0 | 21 0 0 | 100 | 68 | 94 | 99 |
| Index No.—Hides | .... | .... | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 68 | 94 | 99 |
| <i>Metals—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Copper Braziers | .... | Cwt. | 60 8 0 | 74 0 0 | 69 0 0 | 67 0 0 | 100 | 122 | 114 | 111 |
| Steel Bars | .... | " | 3 14 0 | 7 0 0 | 6 12 0 | 6 8 0 | 100 | 181 | 174 | 168 |
| " Plates | .... | " | 4 6 0 | 8 2 0 | 7 14 0 | 7 10 0 | 100 | 186 | 180 | 174 |
| Index No.—Metals | .... | .... | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 163 | 156 | 151 |
| <i>Other raw and manufactured articles—</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coal | 1st class Bengal | Ton. | 16 0 0 | 35 0 0 | 25 0 0 | 25 0 0 | 100 | 219 | 156 | 156 |
| Kerosene | Chester Brand | Case. | 5 2 0 | 9 6 0 | 9 6 0 | 9 6 0 | 100 | 183 | 183 | 183 |
| " | Elephant | 2 Tins. | 4 7 0 | 6 13 6 | 7 8 6 | 7 8 6 | 100 | 154 | 170 | 170 |
| Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles | .... | .... | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 185 | 170 | 170 |
| Index No.—Food | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 131 | 145 | 140 |
| Index No.—Non-food | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 166 | 172 | 167 |
| General Index No. | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 152 | 161 | 157 |

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LABOUR GAZETTE

41

(1) Larkana, white. 2) 3% Mutual New crop

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

| Months | Cereals | Pulses | Sugar | Other food | Index No., food | Oil-seeds | Raw cotton | Cotton manufactures | Other textiles | Hides and skins | Metals | Other raw and manufactured articles | Index No., non-food | General Index No. |
|--------------|---------|--------|-------|------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1921 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| November .. | 196 | 175 | 203 | 190 | 193 | 131 | 170 | 264 | 185 | 163 | 204 | 200 | 197 | 196 |
| 1922 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| November .. | 137 | 111 | 213 | 260 | 176 | 133 | 173 | 224 | 192 | 146 | 185 | 182 | 180 | 184 |
| December .. | 129 | 105 | 216 | 266 | 170 | 135 | 185 | 220 | 192 | 122 | 186 | 181 | 178 | 179 |
| 1923 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January .. | 125 | 102 | 202 | 305 | 173 | 130 | 200 | 227 | 191 | 165 | 194 | 178 | 186 | 181 |
| February .. | 125 | 95 | 210 | 268 | 167 | 132 | 210 | 225 | 191 | 132 | 195 | 174 | 182 | 177 |
| March .. | 127 | 93 | 242 | 296 | 179 | 139 | 213 | 227 | 195 | 134 | 187 | 176 | 183 | 182 |
| April .. | 128 | 92 | 242 | 269 | 174 | 134 | 204 | 217 | 195 | 167 | 185 | 176 | 182 | 180 |
| May .. | 124 | 88 | 248 | 284 | 176 | 131 | 205 | 217 | 195 | 161 | 185 | 172 | 180 | 182 |
| June .. | 128 | 91 | 234 | 302 | 179 | 134 | 211 | 212 | 195 | 144 | 186 | 166 | 180 | 180 |
| July .. | 127 | 90 | 215 | 317 | 178 | 132 | 217 | 211 | 196 | 139 | 182 | 169 | 176 | 176 |
| August .. | 120 | 85 | 202 | 343 | 176 | 131 | 210 | 209 | 195 | 138 | 178 | 168 | 178 | 178 |
| September .. | 124 | 85 | 209 | 354 | 182 | 136 | 211 | 215 | 196 | 149 | 177 | 162 | 178 | 179 |
| October .. | 122 | 85 | 214 | 368 | 185 | 133 | 211 | 217 | 192 | 153 | 178 | 169 | 179 | 181 |
| November .. | 125 | 90 | 228 | 365 | 189 | 138 | 203 | 235 | 187 | 161 | 174 | 158 | 185 | 186 |
| December .. | 125 | 91 | 243 | 375 | 194 | 141 | 286 | 229 | 187 | 146 | 167 | 162 | 185 | 186 |
| 1924 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January .. | 127 | 92 | 244 | 340 | 188 | 138 | 273 | 236 | 182 | 157 | 166 | 160 | 189 | 188 |
| February .. | 125 | 86 | 236 | 348 | 187 | 136 | 248 | 234 | 173 | 158 | 174 | 160 | 188 | 188 |
| March .. | 123 | 84 | 220 | 263 | 165 | 129 | 244 | 238 | 235 | 146 | 169 | 164 | 190 | 181 |
| April .. | 122 | 84 | 217 | 279 | 167 | 127 | 258 | 237 | 229 | 146 | 169 | 170 | 192 | 184 |
| May .. | 125 | 88 | 212 | 293 | 171 | 131 | 258 | 236 | 191 | 149 | 168 | 166 | 187 | 185 |
| June .. | 131 | 92 | 213 | 293 | 175 | 137 | 259 | 236 | 201 | 149 | 170 | 158 | 190 | 185 |
| July .. | 143 | 98 | 211 | 260 | 174 | 150 | 265 | 232 | 187 | 150 | 170 | 166 | 189 | 184 |
| August .. | 146 | 97 | 198 | 262 | 173 | 146 | 260 | 235 | 170 | 150 | 170 | 161 | 190 | 184 |
| September .. | 142 | 95 | 197 | 250 | 168 | 148 | 260 | 232 | 181 | 145 | 169 | 167 | 188 | 181 |
| October .. | 141 | 95 | 196 | 263 | 170 | 154 | 260 | 223 | 178 | 156 | 167 | 161 | 186 | 181 |
| November .. | 138 | 95 | 187 | 283 | 171 | 147 | 234 | 221 | 160 | 157 | 167 | 160 | 179 | 176 |

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

| Name of country | India (Bombay) | United Kingdom | Canada | Australia | New Zealand | Italy (Rome) | Belgium | Norway | Switzerland | South Africa | France (Paris) | U. S. of America |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---------------|----------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--|
| Items included in the index. | Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent | Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, etc. | Food, fuel, light, rent, household utensils and furnishing | Food and rent | Food, fuel, light 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 | (j) | Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items |
| 1914 July | 100 | 100 | 100 | (a) 100 | 100 | (b) 100 | (c) 100 | 100 | (e) 100 | 100 | 100 | (g) 100 |
| 1915 .. | 104 | 125 | 97 | 119 | 107 | 99 | .. | (d) 117 | 119 | 103 | .. | 105 |
| 1916 .. | 108 | 148 | 102 | 115 | 113 | 116 | .. | 146 | 140 | 106 | .. | 118 |
| 1917 .. | 118 | 180 | 130 | 116 | 119 | 146 | .. | 190 | 180 | 114 | .. | 142 |
| 1918 .. | 149 | 203 | 146 | 118 | 128 | 197 | .. | 253 | 229 | 118 | .. | 174 |
| 1919 .. | 186 | 208 | 155 | 132 | 133 | 205 | .. | 275 | 261 | 126 | 238 | 177 |
| 1920 .. | 190 | 252 | 190 | .. | 149 | 313 | 453 | 302 | 253 | 155 | .. | 217 |
| 1921 .. | 177 | 219 | 152 | .. | 157 | 387 | 379 | (d) 302 | 209 | 133 | .. | .. |
| 1922 December | 161 | 180 | 148 | 142 | 143 | 438 | 384 | 238 | 161 | (f) 132 | 300 | 170 |
| 1923 February | 155 | 177 | 150 | .. | 143 | 413 | 397 | .. | 158 | 131 | .. | .. |
| March .. | 154 | 176 | 152 | 136 | 143 | 441 | 408 | 240 | 161 | 131 | 324 | 169 |
| April .. | 155 | 174 | 149 | .. | 143 | 441 | 409 | .. | 160 | 131 | .. | .. |
| May .. | 153 | 170 | 147 | .. | 144 | 449 | 413 | .. | 163 | 131 | .. | .. |
| June .. | 151 | 169 | 146 | 151 | 145 | 452 | 419 | 239 | 166 | 131 | 324 | 170 |
| July .. | 153 | 169 | 146 | .. | 145 | (h) 487 | 429 | .. | 166 | 130 | .. | .. |
| August .. | 154 | 171 | 149 | .. | 146 | 483 | 439 | .. | 164 | 130 | .. | .. |
| September .. | 154 | 173 | 148 | 156 | 148 | 487 | 453 | 232 | 164 | 131 | 331 | 172 |
| October .. | 152 | 175 | 149 | .. | 148 | 502 | 458 | .. | 167 | 132 | .. | .. |
| November .. | 153 | 175 | 150 | .. | 148 | 502 | 463 | .. | 167 | 133 | .. | .. |
| December .. | 157 | 172 | 150 | 152 | 148 | 499 | 470 | 234 | 168 | 133 | 345 | 173 |
| 1924 January | 158 | 177 | 150 | .. | 150 | 510 | 480 | .. | 170 | 133 | .. | .. |
| February .. | 156 | 179 | 150 | .. | 151 | 517 | 495 | .. | 168 | 134 | .. | .. |
| March .. | 154 | 171 | 148 | .. | 152 | 521 | 510 | 249 | 168 | 134 | 365 | 170 |
| April .. | 150 | 173 | 145 | .. | .. | 522 | 498 | .. | 166 | 134 | .. | .. |
| May .. | 150 | 171 | 143 | .. | .. | 518 | 485 | .. | 166 | 134 | .. | .. |
| June .. | 153 | 169 | 143 | 149 | .. | 518 | 492 | 251 | 168 | 133 | 366 | 169 |
| July .. | 156 | 170 | 144 | .. | .. | 512 | 493 | .. | 169 | 132 | .. | .. |
| August .. | 160 | 171 | 145 | .. | .. | 511 | 498 | .. | 166 | 132 | .. | .. |
| September .. | 160 | 176 | 146 | .. | .. | 516 | 503 | 260 | 167 | 132 | 367 | 171 |
| October .. | 160 | 173 | 146 | .. | .. | 546 | .. | .. | 169 | .. | .. | .. |
| November .. | 161 | 180 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| December .. | 160 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |

(a) From 1914 to 1919 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1921 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Expenditure of a family of four persons. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

| Country | India (Bombay) (b) | Japan | China (Shanghai) | Java (Batavia) | Australia | Egypt (Cairo) | United Kingdom (1) | France | Netherlands (b) | Norway | Sweden | Canada | United States of America (2) |
|------------------|--------------------|-------|------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|--------|-----------------|---------|--------|--------|------------------------------|
| No. of articles. | 43 | 56 | 151 | 51 | 92 | 24 | 150 | 45 | 48 | 93 | 47 | 272 | 325 |
| 1913 Average .. | 100 | 100 | 100 (d) | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | (a) 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1914 .. | 95 | 97 | .. | .. | 106 | 102 | .. | 102 | 105 | 100 | 116 | 100 | 98 |
| 1915 .. | 117 | .. | .. | .. | 147 | 102 | .. | 140 | 145 | (c) 159 | 145 | 109 | 101 |
| 1916 .. | 148 | .. | .. | .. | 138 | 124 | .. | 188 | 222 | 233 | 185 | 134 | 127 |
| 1917 .. | 236 | .. | .. | .. | 169 | 169 | .. | 262 | 286 | 341 | 244 | 175 | 177 |
| 1918 .. | 222 | .. | .. | .. | 178 | 207 | .. | 339 | 392 | 345 | 339 | 205 | 194 |
| 1919 .. | 216 | .. | .. | .. | 228 | 299 | .. | 510 | 281 | (c) 377 | 347 | 216 | 206 |
| 1920 .. | 193 | .. | .. | .. | 155 | 170 | .. | 326 | 165 | 269 | 172 | 246 | 226 |
| 1921 December .. | 179 | 188 | 143 | .. | 170 | 144 | 157 | 353 | 158 | 221 | 154 | 164 | 156 |
| 1922 November .. | 175 | 183 | 149 | 196 | 168 | 147 | 156 | 362 | 155 | 220 | 155 | 165 | 156 |
| 1923 January .. | 181 | 184 | 153 | .. | 171 | 141 | 157 | 387 | 157 | 220 | 156 | 165 | 156 |
| February .. | 177 | 192 | 158 | .. | 169 | 137 | 158 | 422 | 155 | 224 | 158 | 166 | 157 |
| March .. | 182 | 196 | 159 | 203 | 171 | 136 | 160 | 424 | 156 | 229 | 162 | 167 | 159 |
| April .. | 180 | 196 | 158 | .. | 178 | 133 | 161 | 401 | 156 | 231 | 159 | 168 | 159 |
| May .. | 180 | 199 | 158 | .. | 178 | 134 | 160 | 415 | 156 | 233 | 158 | 169 | 156 |
| June .. | 180 | 198 | 155 | 200 | 187 | 128 | 159 | 409 | 149 | 230 | 160 | 167 | 153 |
| July .. | 178 | 192 | 155 | 194 | 189 | 123 | 157 | 407 | 145 | 235 | 160 | 167 | 151 |
| August .. | 176 | 190 | 153 | 191 | 180 | 123 | 158 | 420 | 148 | 242 | 157 | 164 | 150 |
| September .. | 179 | 210 | 157 | 193 | 180 | 123 | 158 | 413 | 142 | 231 | 160 | 164 | 147 |
| October .. | 181 | 212 | 156 | 194 | 179 | 129 | 158 | 424 | 145 | 234 | 155 | 163 | 154 |
| November .. | 186 | 210 | 157 | 197 | 181 | 134 | 161 | 446 | 153 | 242 | 151 | 164 | 152 |
| December .. | 188 | 211 | 158 | 207 | 182 | 137 | 164 | 458 | 154 | 244 | 150 | 164 | 151 |
| 1924 January .. | 188 | 211 | 157 | 205 | 182 | 133 | 165 | 494 | 156 | 250 | 152 | 164 | 151 |
| February .. | 188 | 208 | 160 | 205 | 180 | 135 | 167 | 544 | 156 | 260 | 153 | 166 | 152 |
| March .. | 181 | 206 | 158 | 204 | 175 | 136 | 165 | 499 | 155 | 266 | 154 | 166 | 150 |
| April .. | 184 | 207 | 154 | 205 | 174 | 134 | 165 | 450 | 154 | 267 | 156 | 166 | 148 |
| May .. | 181 | 205 | 154 | .. | 171 | 131 | 163 | 459 | 153 | 263 | 151 | 163 | 147 |
| June .. | 185 | 199 | 152 | .. | 171 | 132 | 163 | 465 | 151 | 264 | 149 | 164 | 145 |
| July .. | 184 | 195 | 152 | .. | 169 | 132 | 165 | 487 | 151 | 271 | 148 | 164 | 147 |
| August .. | 184 | 200 | 149 | .. | 170 | 148 | 167 | 477 | 151 | 274 | 152 | 165 | 150 |
| September .. | 181 | 206 | 149 | .. | 170 | 148 | 170 | 486 | 158 | 275 | 153 | 164 | 149 |
| October .. | 181 | .. | 153 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 497 | .. | 276 | 162 | 165 | .. |
| November .. | 176 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1915-1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Bureau of Labour.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

| Name of country | India | United Kingdom | Canada | South Africa | Australia | New Zealand | United States of America | France (b) | Italy | Belgium | Finland | Holland | Norway | Sweden (b) | 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 | Amsterdam | 30 | 44 | 100 | 2 |
| 1914 July .. | 100 | 100 | 100 | (a) 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | (c) 100 | (d) 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1915 .. | 105 | 132 | 105 | 107 | 131 | 112 | 98 | 120 | 95 | .. | 114 | .. | 114 | 124 | 128 | 119 |
| 1916 .. | 105 | 161 | 114 | 116 | 130 | 119 | 109 | 129 | 111 | .. | 117 | 160 | 142 | 142 | 146 | 141 |
| 1917 .. | 114 | 204 | 157 | 128 | 126 | 127 | 143 | 183 | 137 | .. | .. | 146 | 214 | 181 | 166 | 222 |
| 1918 .. | 142 | 210 | 175 | 134 | 131 | 139 | 164 | 206 | 203 | .. | .. | 175 | 279 | 268 | 187 | 179 |
| 1919 .. | 187 | 209 | 186 | 139 | 147 | 144 | 186 | 261 | 206 | .. | .. | 196 | 289 | 310 | 212 | 250 |
| 1920 .. | 188 | 258 | 227 | 197 | 194 | 167 | 215 | 373 | 318 | 459 | 982 | 210 | 319 | 297 | 253 | 239 |
| 1921 .. | 174 | 220 | 148 | 139 | 161 | 164 | 145 | 306 | 402 | 410 | 1,278 | 180(c) | 295 | 322 | 236 | 207 |
| 1922 December .. | 157 | 178 | 140 | 118 | 146 | 138 | 144 | 305 | 476 | 429 | 1,092 | 142 | 215 | 168 | 180 | 155 |
| 1923 February .. | 150 | 173 | 142 | 117 | 144 | 140 | 139 | 316 | 478 | 439 | 1,090 | 145 | 214 | 166 | .. | 154 |
| March .. | 149 | 171 | 145 | 117 | 145 | 141 | 139 | 321 | 480 | 439 | 1,066 | 145 | 214 | 166 | .. | 156 |
| April .. | 150 | 168 | 142 | 117 | 152 | 142 | 140 | 323 | 481 | 417 | 1,012 | 143 | 212 | 164 | .. | 159 |
| May .. | 148 | 162 | 140 | 118 | 156 | 143 | 140 | 325 | 491 | 414 | .. | 139 | 214 | 161 | .. | 161 |
| June .. | 146 | 160 | 138 | 118 | 162 | 143 | 142 | 331 | 496 | 426 | 1,004 | 141 | 213 | 161 | .. | 165 |
| July .. | 148 | 165 | 142 | 115 | 165 | 143 | 146 | 328 | 490 | 478 | 1,052 | 137 | 226 | 161 | .. | 164 |
| August .. | 149 | 168 | 141 | 115 | 161 | 145 | 146 | 339 | 496 | 506 | 1,067 | 143 | 218 | 165 | .. | 162 |
| September .. | 147 | 172 | 143 | 117 | 157 | 147 | 147 | 349 | 502 | .. | .. | 142 | 217 | 165 | .. | 166 |
| October .. | 147 | 173 | 144 | 120 | 157 | 147 | 148 | 355 | 503 | .. | .. | 142 | 221 | 164 | .. | 166 |
| November .. | 152 | 176 | 145 | 118 | 156 | 147 | 147 | 365 | 499 | .. | .. | 144 | 226 | 164 | .. | 166 |
| 1924 January .. | 154 | 175 | 146 | 122 | 152 | 149 | 141 | 392 | 524 | .. | .. | 144 | 230 | 163 | .. | 168 |
| February .. | 151 | 177 | 145 | 120 | 155 | 149 | 146 | 376 | 515 | .. | .. | 144 | 236 | 164 | .. | 166 |
| March .. | 147 | 176 | 143 | 122 | 153 | 149 | 144 | 384 | 516 | .. | .. | 144 | 234 | 162 | .. | 167 |
| April .. | 143 | 167 | 137 | 123 | 150 | 150 | 138 | 380 | 523 | .. | .. | 1,037 | 141 | 241 | .. | 167 |
| May .. | 143 | 163 | 133 | 122 | 151 | 150 | 138 | 378 | 519 | .. | .. | 1,000 | 140 | 240 | .. | 165 |
| June .. | 147 | 160 | 133 | 120 | 149 | 149 | 140 | 366 | 507 | .. | .. | 1,000 | 139 | 241 | .. | 168 |
| July .. | 151 | 162 | 134 | 117 | 147 | 147 | 145 | 370 | 518 | .. | .. | 1,004 | 136 | 240 | .. | 165 |
| August .. | 156 | 164 | 137 | 117 | 147 | 146 | 141 | 366 | 508 | .. | .. | 1,016 | 138 | 248 | .. | 168 |
| September .. | 156 | 166 | 139 | 117 | 146 | 145 | 144 | 374 | 514 | .. | .. | 1,088 | 146 | 257 | .. | 166 |
| October .. | 156 | 172 | 139 | .. | 146 | 146 | .. | 383 | 543 | .. | .. | 1,089 | .. | 261 | .. | 166 |
| November .. | 157 | 179 | .. | .. | .. | 148 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 264 | 172 | .. | 169 |
| December .. | 156 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) 15th April 1914. (e) Figures from 1914 to 1921 are annual averages. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1924

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

| Articles | Price per | Bombay | Karachi | Ahmedabad | Sholapur | Poona | Bombay | Karachi | Ahmedabad | Sholapur | Poona |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Oct. 1924 | Oct. 1924 | Oct. 1924 | Oct. 1924 | Oct. 1924 | Nov. 1924 | Nov. 1924 | Nov. 1924 | Nov. 1924 | Nov. 1924 |
| <i>Cereals—</i> | | 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. |
| Rice | Maund .. | 7 9 11 <i>136</i> | 8 0 0 <i>120</i> | 8 14 3 <i>144</i> | 7 12 11 <i>148</i> | 8 14 3 <i>154</i> | 7 9 11 <i>136</i> | 7 11 4 <i>116</i> | 8 14 3 <i>144</i> | 7 12 11 <i>148</i> | 9 8 10 <i>166</i> |
| Wheat .. .. | .. .. | 6 13 7 <i>122</i> | 6 3 5 <i>148</i> | 6 2 6 <i>131</i> | 6 5 7 <i>123</i> | 6 6 2 <i>119</i> | 7 1 6 <i>127</i> | 6 3 10 <i>148</i> | 6 8 6 <i>139</i> | 6 5 7 <i>123</i> | 6 7 5 <i>120</i> |
| Jowari .. .. | .. .. | 6 6 4 <i>147</i> | 4 10 2 <i>128</i> | 4 11 4 <i>124</i> | 5 3 8 <i>182</i> | 5 6 2 <i>157</i> | 6 3 8 <i>143</i> | 4 6 2 <i>121</i> | 4 11 4 <i>124</i> | 4 12 0 <i>166</i> | 5 13 11 <i>171</i> |
| Bajri .. .. | .. .. | 6 2 8 <i>143</i> | 4 13 0 <i>114</i> | 5 5 4 <i>113</i> | 5 13 3 <i>166</i> | 5 7 1 <i>133</i> | 6 1 4 <i>141</i> | 5 0 0 <i>119</i> | 5 5 4 <i>113</i> | 4 15 0 <i>140</i> | 5 7 1 <i>133</i> |
| <i>Index No.—Cereals</i> .. .. | .. .. | <i>137</i> | <i>128</i> | <i>128</i> | <i>155</i> | <i>141</i> | <i>137</i> | <i>126</i> | <i>130</i> | <i>144</i> | <i>148</i> |
| <i>Pulses—</i> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gram | Maund .. | 5 8 0 <i>128</i> | 4 8 7 <i>119</i> | 6 10 8 <i>167</i> | 4 6 9 <i>103</i> | 4 6 2 <i>90</i> | 5 9 4 <i>130</i> | 4 7 1 <i>117</i> | 6 10 8 <i>167</i> | 4 3 5 <i>98</i> | 4 4 11 <i>89</i> |
| Turdal | | 6 12 6 <i>116</i> | 6 8 6 <i>98</i> | 7 4 4 <i>118</i> | 6 14 10 <i>119</i> | 8 8 2 <i>129</i> | 6 12 6 <i>116</i> | 6 10 8 <i>100</i> | 7 4 4 <i>118</i> | 6 14 10 <i>119</i> | 8 8 2 <i>129</i> |
| <i>Index No.—Pulses</i> | | <i>122</i> | <i>109</i> | <i>143</i> | <i>111</i> | <i>110</i> | <i>123</i> | <i>109</i> | <i>143</i> | <i>109</i> | <i>109</i> |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Other articles of food—</i> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sugar (refined) | Maund .. | 17 4 2 <i>227</i> | 14 8 9 <i>200</i> | 16 0 0 <i>178</i> | 16 13 6 <i>168</i> | 16 6 7 <i>175</i> | 15 7 7 <i>203</i> | 14 8 9 <i>200</i> | 16 0 0 <i>178</i> | 16 0 0 <i>160</i> | 14 15 3 <i>160</i> |
| Jagri (gul) .. .. | .. .. | 16 10 8 <i>195</i> | 11 6 10 <i>164</i> | 13 5 4 <i>150</i> | 13 9 10 <i>175</i> | 14 5 7 <i>205</i> | 17 4 2 <i>202</i> | 11 6 10 <i>164</i> | 13 5 4 <i>150</i> | 14 8 9 <i>187</i> | 15 5 0 <i>218</i> |
| Tea | Lb. .. | 0 15 7 <i>200</i> | 0 15 7 <i>225</i> | 0 15 7 <i>200</i> | 1 1 9 <i>171</i> | 1 0 5 <i>200</i> | 0 15 8 <i>201</i> | 0 15 7 <i>225</i> | 0 15 7 <i>200</i> | 1 1 9 <i>171</i> | 1 0 5 <i>200</i> |
| Salt | Maund .. | 3 6 0 <i>158</i> | 1 15 7 <i>150</i> | 2 4 7 <i>151</i> | 3 6 7 <i>153</i> | 2 15 11 <i>159</i> | 3 7 7 <i>163</i> | 1 15 0 <i>148</i> | 2 4 7 <i>151</i> | 3 6 7 <i>153</i> | 2 15 11 <i>159</i> |
| Beef | Seer .. | 0 8 2 <i>158</i> | 0 10 0 <i>200</i> | 0 10 0 <i>167</i> | 0 6 0 <i>240</i> | 0 6 0 <i>141</i> | 0 8 2 <i>158</i> | 0 10 0 <i>200</i> | 0 10 0 <i>167</i> | 0 6 0 <i>240</i> | 0 6 0 <i>141</i> |
| Mutton .. .. | .. .. | 0 13 4 <i>200</i> | 0 12 0 <i>200</i> | 0 12 0 <i>200</i> | 0 10 0 <i>167</i> | 0 9 0 <i>150</i> | 0 13 4 <i>200</i> | 0 12 0 <i>200</i> | 0 12 0 <i>200</i> | 0 10 0 <i>167</i> | 0 9 0 <i>150</i> |
| Milk | Maund .. | 17 9 4 <i>191</i> | 9 11 2 <i>218</i> | 10 0 0 <i>200</i> | 13 5 4 <i>183</i> | 16 0 0 <i>160</i> | 17 9 4 <i>191</i> | 10 0 0 <i>225</i> | 10 0 0 <i>200</i> | 13 5 4 <i>183</i> | 14 3 7 <i>142</i> |
| Ghee .. .. | .. .. | 100 9 6 <i>198</i> | 81 8 6 <i>191</i> | 80 0 0 <i>180</i> | 91 6 10 <i>163</i> | 84 3 4 <i>163</i> | 101 3 1 <i>199</i> | 82 9 3 <i>194</i> | 80 0 0 <i>180</i> | 80 0 0 <i>143</i> | 84 3 4 <i>163</i> |
| Potatoes .. .. | .. .. | 8 14 10 <i>199</i> | 8 12 3 <i>162</i> | 10 0 0 <i>263</i> | 8 14 3 <i>222</i> | 6 11 9 <i>200</i> | 9 8 5 <i>213</i> | 9 11 2 <i>179</i> | 10 0 0 <i>263</i> | 8 6 9 <i>211</i> | 7 10 6 <i>227</i> |
| Onions .. .. | .. .. | 4 2 8 <i>268</i> | 3 2 8 <i>174</i> | 3 1 3 <i>154</i> | 4 0 0 <i>160</i> | 2 8 3 <i>125</i> | 5 5 9 <i>345</i> | 3 5 7 <i>184</i> | 3 5 4 <i>167</i> | 4 0 0 <i>160</i> | 2 10 1 <i>131</i> |
| Cocconut oil .. .. | .. .. | 29 12 2 <i>117</i> | 32 0 0 <i>130</i> | 35 8 11 <i>178</i> | 33 10 11 <i>126</i> | 30 12 4 <i>110</i> | 30 5 9 <i>120</i> | 32 0 0 <i>130</i> | 40 0 0 <i>200</i> | 33 10 11 <i>126</i> | 30 7 7 <i>109</i> |
| <i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i> .. .. | .. .. | <i>192</i> | <i>183</i> | <i>184</i> | <i>175</i> | <i>163</i> | <i>200</i> | <i>186</i> | <i>187</i> | <i>173</i> | <i>164</i> |
| <i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i> | | <i>171</i> | <i>161</i> | <i>166</i> | <i>163</i> | <i>151</i> | <i>176</i> | <i>163</i> | <i>168</i> | <i>159</i> | <i>153</i> |

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