

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY
BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1925									
March ..	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April ..	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May ..	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June ..	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July ..	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August ..	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September ..	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October ..	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November ..	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December ..	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January ..	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February ..	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March ..	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April ..	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May ..	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June ..	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July ..	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August ..	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September ..	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October ..	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November ..	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December ..	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January ..	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February ..	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
March ..	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
April ..	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
May ..	133	154	134	176	150	166	147	172	152
June ..	134	156	136	177	151	166	147	172	154
July ..	136	153	138	181	154	166	149	172	156
August ..	136	157	138	184	155	166	152	172	157
September ..	132	151	134	180	151	166	163	172	154
October ..	127	151	129	180	148	156	163	172	151
November ..	125	151	127	180	147	156	157	172	150
December ..	129	155	131	178	149	156	154	172	151
1928									
January ..	132	160	135	180	151	156	152	172	154
February ..	127	152	129	174	146	144	153	172	148
March ..	123	145	126	171	142	144	151	172	145

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour

BOMBAY, APRIL, 1928

[No. 8

Vol. VII]

The Month in Brief

GENERAL STRIKE IN COTTON MILLS

As we go to press all the textile mills in Bombay City except one employing about 150,000 hands, are on strike. The grievances of the men include reductions in staff, introduction of new methods of work, reduction in piece rates and other changes introduced by some of the millowners in order to reduce production costs. In many of the mills affected no changes have been made, but the mills have been closed either because the workers went out in sympathy or because the owners feared damage to their premises by the strikers.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of March 1928. The average absenteeism was 8.92 per cent. for Bombay City, 4.53 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 1.72 per cent. for Viramgaum, 14.93 per cent. for Sholapur and 9.11 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 14.87 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 14.26 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 10.40 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 8.50.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBER

In April 1928, the Bombay Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 144 as against 145 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 140.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 140 for the month of March 1928.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were fourteen industrial disputes in the month of March 1928. The number of workpeople involved was 14,631 and the number of working days lost 72,239.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During March 1928, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 385 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for April 1928

APR., 1928

Increase over July 1914

A FALL OF ONE POINT
 All articles .. 44 per cent.
 Food only .. 40 per cent.

In April 1928,* 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 City was one point lower than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index is thus 49 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and 10 points less than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1927.

As compared with March 1928, the index number for food articles recorded a fall of 2 points. The index number for Cereals declined by 2 points owing to a decrease in the prices of all the four commodities included in that group. Pulses advanced by one point, due to a rise of 3 points in turdal. The combined average for "all foodgrains" stood at 124 as against 126 in the previous month. There was a fall of 3 points in the "other food" group due to a decline of 7 and 13 points in raw sugar (gul) and potatoes respectively. Sugar (refined) registered a rise of 8 points. The price of the remaining articles was practically stationary during the month under review. The index number for the "other food" group stood at 168.

The "fuel and lighting" index number advanced by one point to 145 due to a slight rise in the price of kerosene oil. The index number for "Clothing" rose by 2 points owing to an increase in the price of T. cloths.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

	1921		1922		1923		1924		1925		1926		1927		1928	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	69	73	56	59	57	55	56	57	55	56	55	56	55	54	48	45
February ..	62	65	55	56	57	55	56	57	55	56	55	56	55	54	48	45
March ..	60	65	54	56	57	55	56	57	55	56	55	56	55	54	48	45
April ..	60	62	56	54	59	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	54	48	45
May ..	67	63	53	50	58	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	54	48	45
June ..	73	63	52	53	56	53	53	52	55	54	54	54	54	54	44	44
July ..	77	65	53	57	54	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	54	44	44
August ..	80	64	54	61	52	55	57	57	55	56	56	56	56	54	44	44
September ..	85	65	54	61	52	55	57	57	55	56	56	56	56	54	44	44
October ..	83	62	52	61	51	55	57	57	55	56	56	56	56	54	44	44
November ..	82	60	53	61	53	55	57	57	55	56	56	56	56	54	44	44
December ..	79	61	57	60	55	55	56	56	55	56	56	56	56	54	44	44
Yearly average ..	73	64	54	57	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	54	44	44

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 prices on which the index is based are those collected between March 16 and April 15.

APR., 1928

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—APRIL

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	March 1928	April 1928	July 1914	March 1928	April 1928
Cereals—								
Rice ..	Maund	70	Rs. 5.594	6.969	6.891	391.58	487.83	482.37
Wheat ..	"	21	5.594	6.781	6.620	117.47	142.40	139.02
Jowari ..	"	11	4.354	5.443	5.104	47.89	59.87	56.14
Bajri ..	"	6	4.313	4.885	4.807	25.88	29.31	28.84
Total—Cereals								
Index Numbers—Cereals						100	145	144
Pulses—								
Gram ..	Maund	10				582.82	719.41	706.37
Turdal ..	"	3	4.302	6.297	6.297	100	123	121
Total—Pulses								
Index Numbers—Pulses						100	62.97	62.57
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	2				60.55	88.46	88.94
Raw Sugar (Gul) ..	"	7	7.620	11.906	12.500	100	146	147
Tea ..	"	7	8.557	12.500	11.906	15.24	23.81	25.00
Salt ..	"	5	40.000	79.490	79.057	59.90	87.50	83.34
Beef ..	Seer	28	2.130	3.313	3.313	1.00	1.99	1.98
Mutton ..	"	33	0.323	0.510	0.510	10.65	16.57	16.57
Milk ..	Maund	14	0.417	0.833	0.833	9.04	14.28	14.28
Ghee ..	"	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	13.76	27.49	27.49
Potatoes ..	"	11	50.792	94.641	94.641	128.77	246.16	246.16
Onions ..	"	3	4.479	5.953	5.359	76.19	141.96	141.96
Cocconut Oil ..	"	1	1.552	3.573	3.573	4.66	65.48	58.95
			25.396	27.974	27.974	12.70	10.72	10.72
Total—Other food articles								
Index Numbers—Other food articles						100	649.95	640.44
Total—All food articles								
Index Numbers—All food articles						1,024.55	1,457.82	1,435.75
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil ..	Case	5				60.44	87.26	87.89
Firewood ..	Maund	48	4.375	5.000	5.125	21.88	25.00	25.63
Coal ..	"	1	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
			0.542	0.771	0.771	0.54	0.77	0.77
Total—Fuel and lighting								
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						100	144	145
Clothing—								
Chudders ..	Lt.	27	0.594	0.891	0.891	16.04	24.06	24.05
Shirts ..	"	25	0.641	1.005	1.005	16.03	25.13	25.13
T. Cloths ..	"	36	0.583	0.859	0.891	20.99	30.92	32.08
Total—Clothing								
Index Numbers—Clothing						53.06	80.11	81.27
House-rent	Per month	10	11.302	19.440	19.440	113.02	194.40	194.40
Index Numbers—House-rent						100	172	172
Grand Total								
Cost of Living Index Numbers						100	145	144

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in March and April 1928 as compared with the price level for food in 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

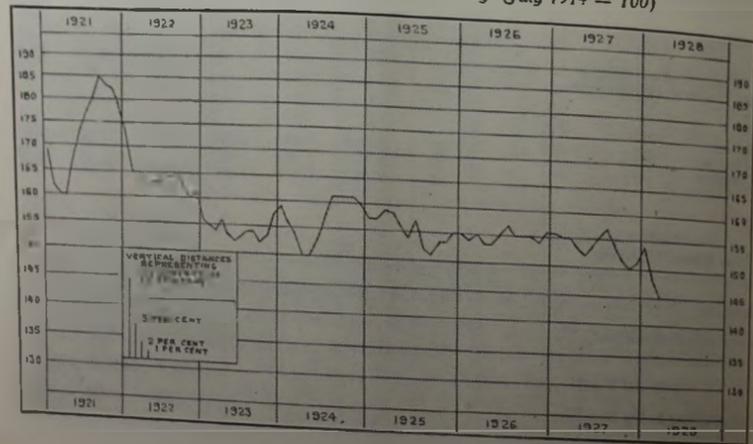
Articles	July 1914	March 1928	April 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in April 1928 over or below March 1928	Articles	July 1914	March 1928	April 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in April 1928 over or below March 1928
Rice	100	125	123	- 2	Salt	100	156	156	..
Wheat	100	121	118	- 3	Beef	100	158	158	..
Jowari	100	125	117	- 8	Mutton	100	200	200	..
Bajri	100	113	111	- 2	Milk	100	191	191	..
Gram	100	146	146	..	Ghee	100	186	186	..
Turdal	100	145	148	+ 3	Potatoes	100	133	120	-13
Sugar (refined) ..	100	156	164	+ 8	Onions	100	230	230	..
Raw sugar (gul) ..	100	146	139	- 7	Cocconut oil ..	100	110	110	..
Tea	100	199	198	- 1	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	142	140	- 2

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

Rice 19, Wheat 15, Jowari 15, Bajri 10, Gram 32, Turdal 32, Sugar (refined) 39, Raw Sugar (gul) 28, Tea 49, Salt 36, Beef 37, Mutton 50, Milk 48, Ghee 46, Potatoes 17, Onions 57 and Cocconut Oil 9.

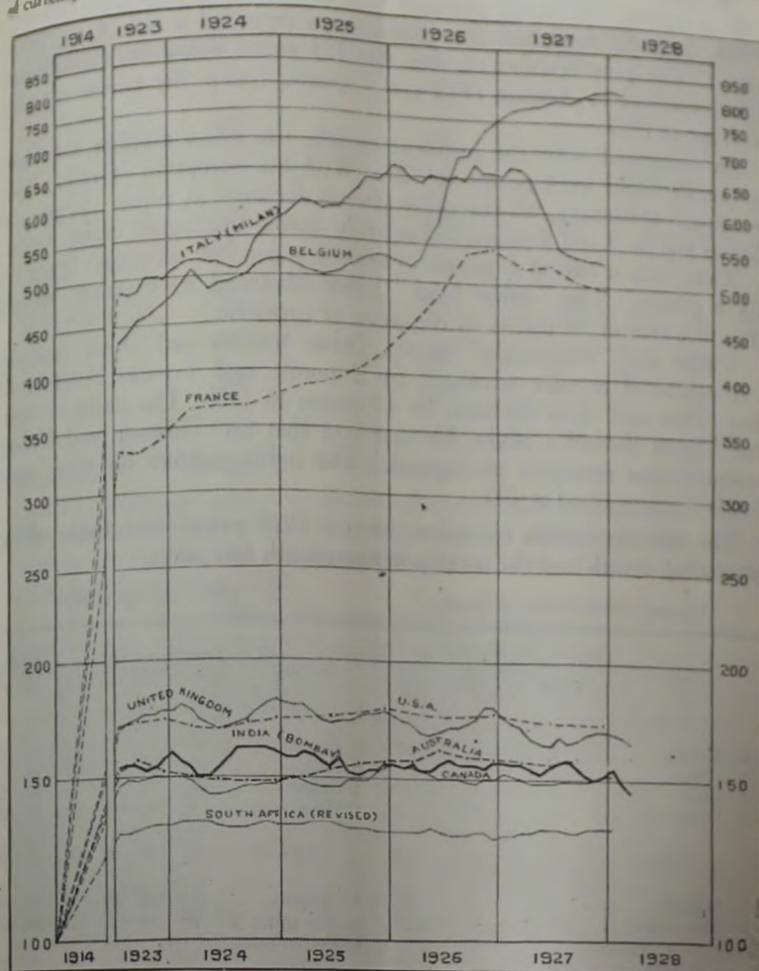
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914, its purchasing power in the month under review was 11 annas 1 pie for all items and 11 annas 5 pies for food articles only.

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 (1914 = 100) in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1923. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale, illustrating the position and movements of the various currencies since the depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos.: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) Canada—The Labour Gazette, published by the Department of Labour, Canada. (6) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. is for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes 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

APR. 1928

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

Increase over July 1914

In March 1928, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 140 as against 142 in the previous month. As compared with February 1928, both the food and non-food groups recorded a fall of one point each. The general index number was 123 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 7 points below the highest peak average of 1927.

As compared with the previous month, the index number for food-grains declined by 4 points to 129. With the exception of rice, which remained stationary, all the other cereals declined in price. Gram and tur dal fell by 9 and 4 points respectively during the month under review.

There was a rise of 8 points in refined sugar but raw sugar (gul) fell by 6 points. The "other food" index advanced by 6 points mainly due to a rise of 39 points in the price of turmeric.

Under the "non-foods" group, Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles advanced by 2 points and 1 point respectively but Hides and skins declined by 17 points to 140. The index number for Metals showed a slight decrease and that for Oilseeds and Cotton manufactures remained unchanged. The index number for the "non-foods" group stood at 143.

The subjoined table compares March 1928 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay *

100 = Average of 1927

Groups	No. of items	+ or - compared with 1927	+ or - % compared with Mar. 1927	Groups	Mar. 1927	June 1927	Sept. 1927	Dec. 1927	Feb. 1928	Mar. 1928
1. Cereals	7	-4	-14	1. Cereals	104	101	95	94	94	90
2. Pulses	2	-5	-3	2. Pulses	101	98	95	102	103	98
3. Sugar	3	+1	-10	3. Sugar	100	96	99	97	90	90
4. Other food	3	+4	+8	4. Other food	96	100	106	101	99	103
All food	15	-1	-6	All food	101	100	96	97	95	94
5. Oilseeds	4	-	-14	5. Oilseeds	103	104	101	93	89	89
6. Raw cotton	5	-1	+23	6. Raw cotton	88	99	122	112	109	108
7. Cotton manufactures	6	-	-1	7. Cotton manufactures	99	98	105	100	99	99
8. Other textiles	2	+2	-7	8. Other textiles	98	109	103	95	89	91
9. Hides and skins	3	-17	+2	9. Hides & skins	100	100	102	88	115	102
10. Metals	3	-1	-15	10. Metals	109	99	93	92	93	92
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	+1	-18	11. Other raw and manufactured articles	105	102	100	91	86	86
All non-food	29	-1	-4	All non-food	101	101	103	97	97	97
General Index No.	44	-1	-5	General Index No.	101	100	101	97	97	95

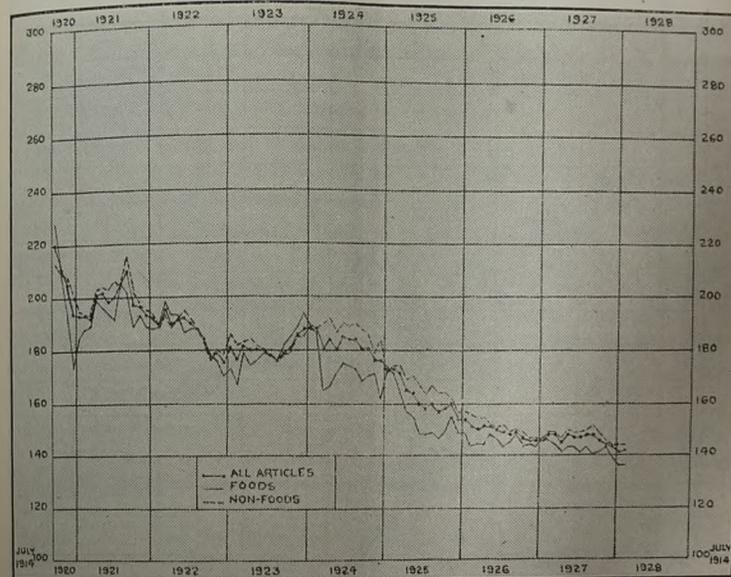
* Wholesale prices will be found on page 728.

The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices —
July 1914 = 100

	Food Index No.	Non-food Index No.	General Index No.
Twelve-monthly average for 1918 ..	171	275	239
" " 1919 ..	202	234	223
" " 1920 ..	206	219	216
" " 1921 ..	193	201	198
" " 1922 ..	186	187	187
" " 1923 ..	179	182	181
" " 1924 ..	173	188	182
" " 1925 ..	155	167	163
" " 1926 ..	145	152	149
" " 1927 ..	143	148	147
Three-monthly " 1928 ..	136	144	141

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1920.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

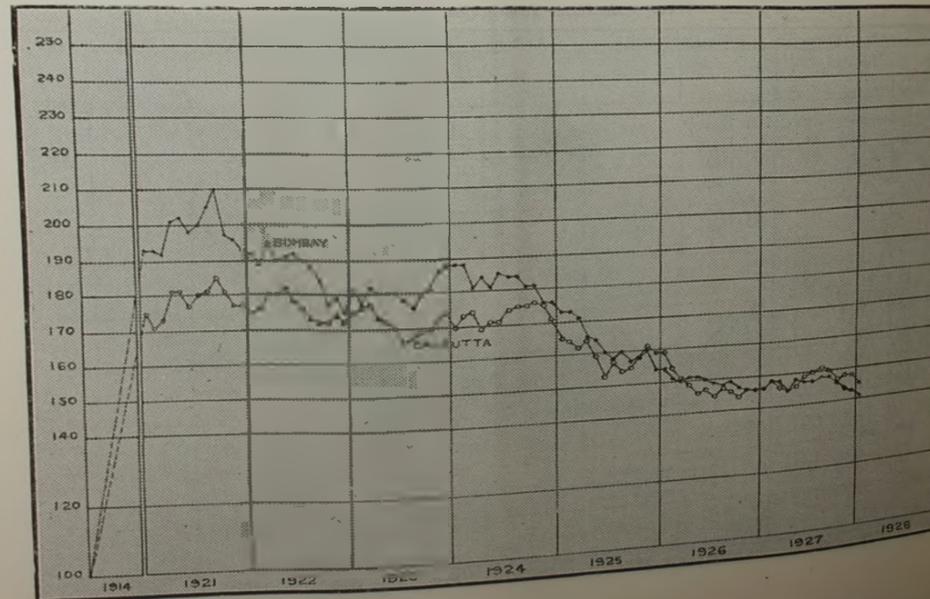


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

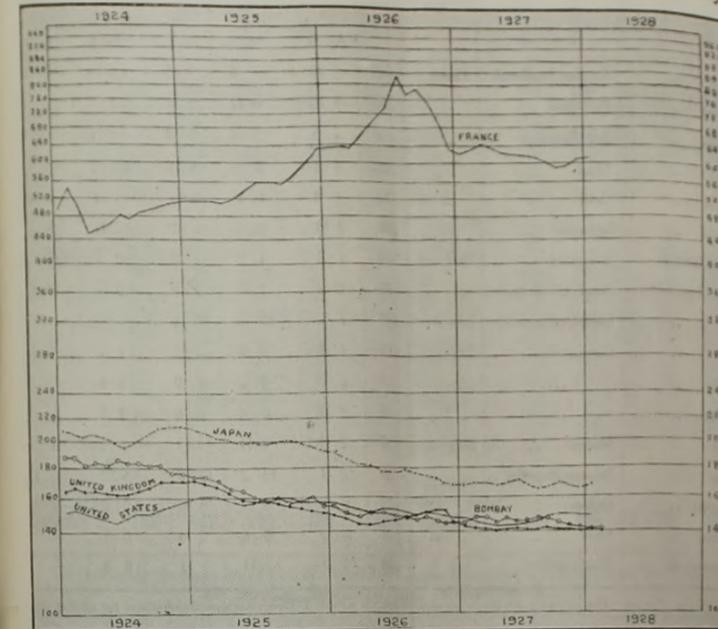
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 and 1927 the two curves temporarily crossed. Since June 1927 prices in Bombay have been lower than those in Calcutta.

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 Labor Statistics; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

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 Dominion Bureau of Statistics; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance; Java (Batavia), Monthly Bulletins of Statistics of prices and Index Numbers in the Neth.-Indies; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, published by the League of Nations; Norway, Sweden and Holland, figures republished in the *Statist*.

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three 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 three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiva- lent in tolas	July 1914			Feb. 1928			Mar. 1928			Increase (or decrease) in Mar. 1928 over or below July 1914
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.			
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill.	Paylee	208	5 10	7 6	7 3							
Wheat	Pisi Seoni	"	204	5 10	6 11	6 11						+1 5	-3
Jowari	Best Sholapur	"	196	4 3	5 4	5 4						+1 1	
Bajri	Ghati	"	208	4 7	5 3	5 1						+1 1	
Gram	Delhi*	"	188	4 4	6 2	5 11						+0 6	-0 1
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	208	5 11	9 1	8 10						+1 7	-0 1
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	1 9	1 8						+2 11	-0 3
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	"	28	1 2	1 10	1 9						+0 7	-0 1
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 6	15 6						+7 8	-0 1
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	3 0	2 11						+1 2	-0 1
Beef	"	Lb.	39	2 6	4 2	4 0						+1 6	-0 2
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	13 2	13 3						+6 2	+0 1
Potatoes	Ordinary	"	28	0 8	0 11	0 10						+0 2	-0 1
Onions	Nasik	"	28	0 3	0 6	0 6						+0 3	
Cocoanut oil	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	3 11	3 11						+0 4	

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

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Sivan Chavdi—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naagam—Naagam Cross Road and Development Chavdi.
6. Parel—Pobaychi.
7. Ferguson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chindgaokli—Tarsi Road.
11. Grant Road.

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 collected by the investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during March 1928 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Except in the case of wheat and jowari, which remained stationary, all the other foodgrains declined in price, viz.: rice, gram and turdal by 3 pies each per paylee and bajri by 4 pies per paylee. Amongst other articles of food, refined sugar, raw sugar (gul) and potatoes were cheaper by one pie each per seer. Salt fell by one pie per paylee and beef by 2 pies per lb. Ghee was the only item which showed a slight rise in price. The price of the remaining articles was practically stationary during the month under review.

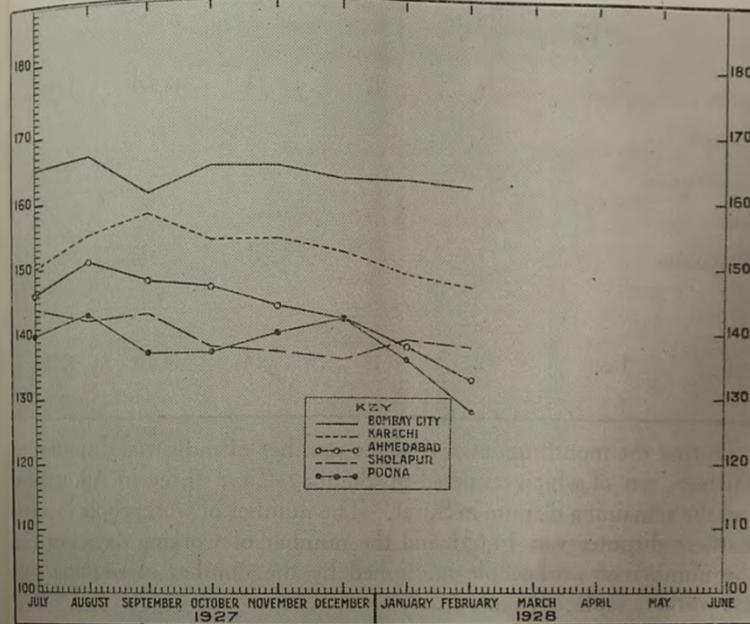
As compared with July 1914, all articles show a rise in prices. Mutton is more than double and onions are double the prewar price. Tea, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent.; and salt, beef, refined sugar and raw sugar (gul) by more than 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 9 per cent. above its prewar level.

* The equivalent in tolas shown in column 4 relates to Punjab gram.

RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS OF FOOD ARTICLES IN FIVE CENTRES OF THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY (July 1914 = 100)

Articles	February 1928					March 1928				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Rice	128	120	128	145	126	122	120	130	145	126
Wheat	126	133	131	132	134	125	138	128	132	132
Jowari	131	129	105	134	114	129	130	104	123	109
Bajri	119	118	106	97	103	119	119	105	94	98
Gram	176	145	125	127	99	173	145	107	125	96
Turdal	175	141	144	159	149	175	143	144	141	130
Sugar (refined)	167	147	145	114	120	162	144	143	114	120
Raw Sugar (Gul)	142	135	112	108	114	130	135	112	106	110
Tea	190	225	200	171	200	190	225	200	171	200
Salt	131	152	131	158	141	131	152	151	158	147
Beef	218	180	100	201	141	182	180	100	201	141
Mutton	185	167	167	133	150	185	167	167	133	150
Milk	191	164	133	157	133	191	164	133	157	133
Ghee	170	158	152	142	144	166	158	152	142	144
Potatoes	159	69	108	125	109	134	70	88	111	89
Onions	230	195	125	123	105	216	179	125	133	100
Cocoanut oil	112	113	133	120	100	112	113	133	120	100
Average—All food articles	162	147	133	138	128	155	146	131	136	125

Chart showing the unweighted Retail Prices food Index Numbers (17 articles) in five centres of the Bombay Presidency (July 1914 prices = 100)



Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in March .. 14 Workpeople involved 14,631

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during March 1928, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word "dispute," in the official sense, means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with "strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in March 1928, and the number of working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in March 1928			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Mar. 1928	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Mar. 1928
	Started before March	Started in March	Total		
Textile	1	12	13	14,599	72,239
Transport .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Engineering .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Metal .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miscellaneous	1	.....	1	32	.....
Total	2	12	14	14,631	72,239

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was fourteen, ten of which occurred in Bombay City, three in Ahmedabad and the remaining dispute in Surat. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 14,631 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 72,239.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, November 1927 to March 1928

	November 1927	December 1927	January 1928	February 1928	March 1928
Number of strikes and lock-outs	5	.....	3	10	14
Disputes in progress at beginning	2	.....	.....	2	2
Fresh disputes begun	3	.....	3	8	12
Disputes ended	5	.....	1	8	12
Disputes in progress at end .. .. .	.....	.....	2	2	2
Number of workpeople involved	1,317	.....	19,287	21,022	14,631
Aggregate duration in working days	2,103	.....	377,121	249,083	72,239
Demands—					
Pay	1	.....	1	2	6
Bonus .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Personal	2	.....	.....	2	2
Leave and hours .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Others	2	.....	2	6	3
Results—					
In favour of employees .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Compromised .. .. .	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
In favour of employers	5	.....	.....	7	11

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

III.—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months*

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
April 1927	4	3	4	3,296	50	..	50
May	6	6	4	29,688	50	25	25
June	6	4	6	694	50	33	17
July	5	5	5	14,218	80	..	20
August	8	8	6	64,338	50	33	17
September	8	6	7	23,156	86	14	..
October	7	6	5	4,297	100	..	..
November	5	3	5	2,103	100	..	..
December .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
January 1928	3	3	1	377,121	..	..	100
February	10	8	8	249,083	87	13	..
March	14	12	12	72,239	92	8	..

* This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth columns are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) 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 December 1927, when no strikes were reported. The nearest approach to this was in May 1924 when only 390 working days were lost.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work reported as beginning in the month of March 1928 was 12 as against 8 in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 11,814 and the total time loss amounted to 62,549 man-days. Five of these disputes arose over questions relating to wages, two over questions pertaining to individuals, three regarding leave and hours of work and the remaining disputes were due to miscellaneous causes. In addition, two disputes which had commenced during the preceding month were in progress at the beginning of the month under review, affecting 2,817 workpeople and resulting in a loss in time amounting to 9,690 man-days. Out of the 14 old and new disputes, 12 were settled during the month and the results were favourable to the employers in all the cases but one in which the employees were successful.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

There were ten industrial disputes in Bombay City during the month under review. One of these was a continuation of the dispute between the Fire Salvage Association and their employees. The strikers were dismissed from service on the 1st March and new hands were employed in their place. This strike ended in favour of the employers.

The second was a continuation of the dispute which had begun in the Madhowji Dharamsi Mill in the previous month. On the 1st, the strikers tried to intimidate new hands from going to the mill to work and caused injuries to a policeman and two other persons. Three strikers were arrested in this connexion. Only the dyeing and the bleaching departments of the mill were working on that date and the new hands were given odd jobs. The management engaged 200 new hands during the next two days and started work in the weaving department. Five hundred strikers resumed work unconditionally on the 4th and the remainder on the 5th. The operatives of the ring department, who struck work in sympathy, did not resume work and the management therefore engaged new hands in their place. The strike ended in favour of the employers.

The third dispute occurred in the Kohinoor Mill. The workers in the mechanical department were asked to attend the mill at 7 a.m. from the 1st March instead of at 7-15 a.m. as was the previous practice. The mechanics protested against this and struck work on the 1st March. They however resumed work unconditionally on the next day and the strike ended in favour of the employers.

The fourth dispute took place in the Imperial Mill. A head jobber was dismissed by the management for refusing to oil some frames as ordered

by the assistant spinning master. Thereupon 480 operatives of the ring department struck work in sympathy on the 3rd. None of the strikers resumed work during the following 10 days. The management engaged a new head jobber with 105 new hands on the 5th and 300 more hands by the 10th. All the departments of the mill were working since the 5th. On the 12th, 300 strikers resumed work unconditionally and the management retained 115 of the new hands employed and discharged the rest. The strike ended in favour of the employers.

The fifth dispute which took place in the Rachel Sassoon Mill arose over the question of an increase in working hours. The management notified all the operatives that they should attend the mill at 7 a.m. from the 1st March instead of at 7-30 a.m. as in February but the men were not agreeable to this, and 260 operatives struck work on the 3rd. All the strikers resumed work on the next day unconditionally. The result of this dispute was in favour of the employers.

The sixth was a dispute which occurred in the Pearl Mill over the question of an alleged reduction in the rates of wages. The weavers learnt that their wages for the month of February were less than those for the previous month and, alleging that the low wages were due to some reduction in the rates of wages, struck work on the 12th. The management tried to explain to the men that February being a short month, the wages for that month were correspondingly low and that there was no reduction in the rates of wages. This did not satisfy the strikers who demanded that a notice should be put up stating that there had been no reduction of rates but the management refused to do so. The outstanding wages were paid to the strikers on the 13th. Work was resumed unconditionally by 600 strikers on the 15th and by the rest by the 17th. The management dismissed 60 operatives who had taken a prominent part in the strike and engaged new hands in their place. This strike ended in favour of the employers.

The seventh dispute was in the Morarji Gokuldas Mill. On receipt of the pay tickets for the month of February 1928, 920 weavers found that their wages were low, and struck work alleging that the rates had been reduced. The efforts of the management to explain to them the real situation were of no avail. The men contended that their wages at present when they turned out 8 to 9 sarees a day were less than what they used to receive when they were producing only 6 sarees a day. On the 16th, the management distributed Marathi leaflets to the strikers who had assembled at the mill, explaining how the low wages were due to a smaller number of working days in February. They also agreed to put up boards showing the rates of wages in each Department. On the 19th, 700 strikers resumed work unconditionally, and on the next day the rest followed suit. This dispute ended in favour of the employers.

The eighth was a dispute which affected the Madhowji Dharamsi Mill for the second time during the month under review. The rates of wages of the weaving department were revised by the management in consultation with the jobbers of the department and a representative of the Bombay Textile Labour Union. The weavers were not satisfied with the revised rates and therefore struck work in the afternoon of the 16th. The management refused to alter the revised rates and informed the strikers that if

they did not resume work by the 19th, new hands would be employed in their place. An official of the Bombay Textile Labour Union also advised the men to resume work. Thereupon 150 strikers resumed work on the 19th and the rest on the 20th. This dispute ended in favour of the employers.

The ninth dispute occurred in the Textile Mill. With effect from the 1st February, the management discontinued the system of engaging substitutes in place of absent hands and asked the spinners to look after their absentee neighbours' work in consideration of extra wages. The spinners requested the management to cancel the orders, but their request was refused. Consequently 700 spinners struck work on the 17th. The whole mill was closed on the 21st on account of the strike. The management engaged 90 new hands on the 23rd and started the spinning department but the operatives of the mill, including the strikers, dissuaded the new hands from going into the mill to work. The strikers also tried to bring out the operatives of the Crown Mill but were unsuccessful, due to the intervention of the Police, who arrested two strikers in this connection. There was no change in the situation till the 30th. On that date, two officials of the Girni Kamgar Mahamandal took the strikers to the mill and interviewed the management with a view to arriving at a settlement. The management explained that the new system was optional but refused to put up a notice to that effect without the permission of the Agents. The Agents, when interviewed, stated that a fresh notice in the matter was unnecessary. The officials of the Girni Kamgar Mahamandal explained the situation to the strikers and advised them to resume work from the 1st April. This strike continued into the next month.

The tenth dispute occurred in the Simplex Mill. The weavers had a complaint that for several months past their wages had gone down. On the 26th, they suspended work and approached the manager for an explanation as to the cause of the low wages. The manager asked them to send four representatives to discuss the matter but the men refused to do so and left the mill. Thereupon the management put up a notice asking the strikers to resume work immediately and stating that their grievances would be duly looked into. This notice had no effect on the strikers. The mill was closed from the 28th on account of the strike. On the 30th, a deputation of 15 strikers headed by the Secretary of the Bombay Textile Labour Union waited on the management. As the result of a discussion, the management proposed to increase the rates of wages for three varieties of cloth and notified the strikers on the 31st that those who were prepared to resume work under the new conditions might do so from the 1st April. This dispute also continued into the next month.

AHMEDABAD

The number of disputes in progress in Ahmedabad during the month under review was three, one of which occurred in the Ahmedabad Spinning and Weaving Mills. Owing to the refusal of the management to grant the request of the weavers for a half holiday on the 7th, 150 weavers struck work on that day. The strikers also asked for higher wages and complained of ill-treatment by the weaving master and his assistants and demanded their removal. The management notified the strikers that if they failed

to resume work on the same day, they would be replaced by new hands. On the 8th, 175 other operatives joined the strike. The management when interviewed by the leaders of the strikers stated that they would look into the question of their wages but declined to remove the weaving master or his assistants. On the 9th, 96 additional weavers joined the strike and they all resolved to continue the strike and to collect two annas from each weaver for the purpose. The management engaged 50 new hands on the 10th and 146 on the 11th on which date 147 strikers also resumed work. At the request of the strikers the Secretary of the local Labour Union interviewed the management who expressed their inability to dismiss the new hands employed and take on the remaining strikers. On the 12th, 30 additional new hands were employed and the services of the remaining strikers were dispensed with. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

The second dispute took place in the Asoka Mill. The weavers complained that damaged cloth was given to them in lieu of wages resulting in less cash wages, and 400 of them struck work on the 15th. They demanded that less damaged cloth should be set off against wages due in future. The management notified the strikers that as they had struck work without cause, they should take their outstanding wages on the 16th and that they would be re-admitted to work only on payment of a fine of Rs. 2 per head. The mill was closed on the 17th on account of the strike and the strikers were paid their due wages on the same date. On the 18th, the management engaged new hands in place of the strikers and the strike ended. The result of this dispute was also in favour of the employers.

The third dispute occurred in the New Swadeshi Mills where a weaver was roughly handled by a mukadam of the weaving department. As a protest against this conduct of the mukadam, 360 weavers struck work on the 26th. The weaving master pacified the men and promised to look into their grievances. Thereupon 50 weavers resumed work on the same day and the remaining strikers on the next day. The mukadam whose conduct was protested against by the weavers was dismissed and a new one was employed by the management. This dispute ended successfully for the workers.

SURAT

In the Jafarali Mill at Surat there was an industrial dispute during the month under review. The operatives of the mill requested the management to grant them a fixed rate of Rs. 22 per month instead of the current rate of Re. 0-10-3 a day but their request was refused. Thereupon 150 operatives struck work on the 2nd. There was no change in the situation on the 3rd but on the 4th all the strikers resumed work unconditionally and the strike ended in favour of the employers.

Employment of Women in Indian Mines

In reply to a question in the House of Commons as to how many women were employed in the coal mines in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and the Central Provinces, and in the salt mines of the Punjab, and whether any

proposals for the gradual withdrawal of these women were being considered, the Under Secretary of State for India (Earl Winterton) that the answer to the first part of the question was in tabular form and was being circulated. Proposals were under consideration for the gradual withdrawal of the women employed below ground.

The table referred to is as follows :—

Province and class of mine	Average number of adult females employed daily		Total
	Below ground*	Above ground†	
Coal Mines			
Bengal	8,010	4,961	12,971
Bihar and Orissa	18,910	12,828	31,738
Central Provinces	1,472	827	2,299
Salt Mines			
Punjab	223	—	223

(From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, February 6, 1928.)

Workmen's Compensation Act

Details of Proceedings

Information furnished by all the Commissioners in the Presidency for the month of March 1928 shows that out of 43 cases disposed of during the month 37 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. The cases which were transferred from one Commissioner to another have not been included in the statistics. The gross amount of compensation awarded in lump sums was Rs. 12,758-1-0 as against Rs. 19,754-7-0 in the previous month and Rs. 26,951-10-3 in March 1927. Out of the 43 cases in which compensation was claimed, 7 were in respect of fatal accidents, two of temporary disablement, four of permanent total disablement and 30 of permanent partial disablement. No case of occupational disease has been reported since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 12 and in other industries to 31. The corresponding figures for March 1927 were 17 and 26.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month was 43, of whom 41 were adult males, one an adult female and the remaining one was a female under 15 years of age.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review, 15 were original claims, 27 registration of agreements and one a miscellaneous application. Compensation was awarded in 13 cases, agreements were registered in 27 cases, 2 cases were dismissed and the remaining case was allowed to be withdrawn.

* Figures in this column relate to the year 1926.

† Figures in this column relate to the year 1925, this being the latest available.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th April 1928 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture :

Konkan.—Excepting some fairly good showers during the last four days of March in the North Kanara district, there has been no rain anywhere in the division. The harvesting of late crops is in full swing in the division generally while cutting of sugarcane continues in parts of the Kanara district. Preparation of lands for the ensuing season has been undertaken almost everywhere.

Gujarat.—Since the submission of the last report, the whole period under review passed away without any rain. The picking of cotton is progressing in many places while the harvesting of *rabi* crops such as wheat, barley, etc., is nearing completion and in many areas their threshing is in progress. The crops under irrigation are generally doing well.

Deccan and Karnatak.—Since the submission of the last report rainfall varying from a few cents to about three inches and a half was received in almost the whole of the Karnatak and in the district of Satara in the Deccan during the last five days in March. There was practically no rain anywhere else in either of these two divisions during the period under review. The rainfall damaged the harvested *rabi* crops in places where it was heavy. It also spoiled the cotton in many places in the Karnatak. Harvesting and threshing of *rabi* crops are in full progress almost everywhere while the crushing of sugarcane is in progress in the canal and other sugarcane areas. The garden crops are progressing satisfactorily in both these divisions. The picking of cotton is also progressing in the Karnatak and in places it has been completed. Lands are being prepared for the next season.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in March

BOMBAY

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (f) for breach of Section 18 (1) (c) read with rule 33 (ii) for working the finisher scatcher and the thread extractor without self-locking guards. The manager was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

The manager of a printing press was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 22. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of fifteen cases.

The manager of a second printing press was also prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 22 (b). He was convicted and fined Rs. 30 in one case and Rs. 15 in each of two other cases.

WEST KHANDESH

The occupier and the manager of a cotton ginning factory were prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 (a) read with rule 75 for employing women before the legal hours. They were convicted and fined Rs. 10 and Rs. 5 respectively in each of ten cases.

AHMEDNAGAR

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 26. He was convicted and fined Rs. 100 in all for eight cases.

AHMEDABAD

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (j) for breach of Section 18 for working a hoist without properly securing the hoist door. He was convicted and fined Rs. 100.

The manager of a second mill was also prosecuted under Section 41 (j) for breach of Section 18 for not fencing hoist doors while in motion. He was convicted and fined Rs. 150.

KAIRA

The manager of a match works was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 for employing uncertified children. The manager was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of eight cases.

The same manager was also prosecuted under Section 41 (h) for not maintaining the "D" form register. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

A meeting of Bhangis (Sweepers) was held on 27th March in the premises of the Labour Hospital. Nearly one thousand Bhangis (both men and women) attended the meeting. Mr. Gandhi told them to purify themselves by giving up evil habits like drink, gambling and extravagance during marriages and advised them to learn at least arithmetic if not all the three R's so that they might not be deceived by anybody. He asked them to reform themselves first and then to demand higher wages so that the increment might not be thrown away on drink, etc.

A social gathering of children in schools conducted by the Labour Union was held on 31st March in the Municipal Hall; nearly seven hundred children were present. The Inspector of Schools of the Labour Union read out the report detailing the progress made by the Labour schools. According to the report there are 10 day schools with 726 boys and 75 girls, 16 night schools with 612 students and one Montessori school with 50 children. In two localities there is a reading-room and Library also. Owing to want of funds it has not been found possible to meet the demand for opening more schools. Mr. Gandhi who was present addressed the teachers and students.

At the instance of Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda the Municipality has set apart a small sum in the budget for 1928-29 for building baths and privies for women.

THE POSTAL AND R. M. S. UNION

The annual meeting of the general body of the above Union was held on 1st April when the report for the last year was adopted and office-bearers for the new year were elected.

EMPLOYMENT BUREAU

An Employment Bureau has been started by the Anand Youth Lodge of the local branch of the Theosophical Society with a view to secure employment for the unemployed.

Bombay Trade Union Conference

The third session of the Bombay Provincial Trade Union Conference was opened on the 10th March 1928 in Bombay under the presidency of Mr. F. J. Ginwala, M.A., LL.B., M.L.C. Amongst the distinguished visitors present were Messrs. A. A. Purcell, M.P., and J. Hallsworth, members of the British Trades Union Congress, Mr. Thurtle, M.P., and Mrs. Thurtle. There was a large audience chiefly of the labouring classes. Mr. S. H. Jhabvala, in his welcome address, said that Labour in this Presidency had not yet been well organised and that such organisations as existed had not been able to do much for the cause of labour.

The Presidential address surveyed the general conditions of work and welfare of labour in the Presidency. The method of recruitment of textile labour through jobbers was condemned as giving rise to bribery and corruption. Sympathy was expressed with the efforts of the mill-owners to reorganise the textile industry and to increase the efficiency of labour in accordance with the recommendations of the Indian Textile Tariff Board; but it was pointed out that before any reforms were introduced it would be necessary to carry out the suggestions of the Tariff Board regarding certain internal conditions such as the quality of yarn supplied and the installation of up-to-date machinery and humidifiers. A plea was advanced that as a ten hours working day was injurious to women operatives the daily hours of work for women should be reduced to eight. The opposition of the millowners to the Maternity Benefits Bill being passed into law was deprecated and a reference was made to the growing evil of drink among the working classes.

Referring to railway labour, attention was focussed on the hardship to the employees of the G.I.P. Railway workshops at the drastic retrenchment carried on by the railway administration under the garb of a system of periodical medical examination and it was stated that if the system was not discontinued, a general railway strike was imminent. Adult suffrage was advocated as a means to securing adequate representation of Labour in the Legislative Councils and other public bodies. Referring to the question of unemployment, it was considered that remedial measures should be undertaken and that employment bureaux should be started in each District of the Presidency. The speech was translated into Marathi by Mr. R. S. Asavle, M.L.C. Messrs. Purcell and Hallsworth, who also addressed the gathering, explained the benefits of Trade Unionism and advised the workers to consolidate their ranks. After forming a Subjects Committee, the session was adjourned till the next day.

When the session re-assembled on the 11th, Mr. R. R. Bakhale, speaking on a resolution regarding the recommendations of the Tariff

emphasised the need of a Factory Act in India similar to the one in force in England in which the rights of workmen were Mr. Syed Munawar, M.L.A., who spoke next, dwelt on the evils of the system of recruiting seamen through shipping brokers and the need for a suitable amendment of the Indian Merchants Shipping Act. He suggested the creation of an employment bureau for seamen by Government. Mr. Thurtle, M.P., in addressing the meeting, conveyed to the Indian workers the fraternal greetings of their fellow workmen in England and urged them to build up their trade unions on sound lines and to see that they secured due representation in the legislatures and other bodies. Mrs. Thurtle also addressed the gathering and endeavoured to bring home to the audience the necessity for organising women workers and the advantages of keeping them in close touch with the activities of their trade unions in order that they may not lag behind men in the march towards economic salvation.

Liquor Shops and Labour

QUESTION OF CLOSING ON PAY-DAY

In the First Session for the year 1928 of the Bombay Legislative Council Mr. N. A. Bechar asked Government whether they had made any enquiries from the millowners and Railway Companies and other bodies with regard to the question of fixing one day for payment to the staff; if so, whether the replies were favourable or unfavourable, if favourable, what action had been taken or was proposed to be taken to close liquor shops in particular areas on the pay-day and the day following; if unsatisfactory, what efforts had been made to induce the employers to fix a pay-day. He also asked Government what steps they proposed to take to reduce the number of liquor shops in the working class localities.

In reply to the first part of the question, Government placed on the Council Table a copy of a communication received in this matter from the Collector of Bombay. It was pointed out in this communication that the Bombay Millowners' Association had suggested to the mill authorities certain days in every month on which the mill hands were to be paid. This suggestion, however, was not rigorously observed by many of the mills. In the case of large mills payments took more than two or three days to make. Besides this, some mills gave advances to their hands against their pay leaving a small balance to be drawn on the actual pay-day. It was pointed out further that even if a pay-day could be fixed, the cause of temperance would not be served but on the contrary such a step would be resented as an encroachment on liberty. Besides this, there was a likelihood of ways and means being devised by workpeople to get their drinks by purchases beforehand at shops or through illicit means. If shops are closed on the pay-day liquor shops might be crowded the next day, or liquor might be purchased through illicit dealers or brought from the suburbs.

As regards the reduction of the number of shops in working class localities, the Excise Committee appointed by Government in 1922 had

recommended that all liquor shops situated in the immediate vicinity of mills and factories should be closed. In a Resolution issued by Government on the Committee's Report, Government pointed out that they would not wish shops, if any, should be allowed to be objectionable and where that was not practicable, closed if the shops in question had been really opened.

Labour Representation

BOMBAY CORPORATION COMMITTEE'S VIEWS

The Law, Procedure and Elections Committee of the Bombay Municipal Corporation have reported on the Bill to amend the Bombay Municipal Act so as to increase the number of Councillors from 106 to 110 with a view to nominating labour candidates in the four additional seats. The Committee recommend the Corporation to inform Government as follows:—

(1) That no proper reason exists at present to increase the number of members of the Corporation from 106 to 110. (2) That Government already possess the power of nominating 16 Councillors and the Corporation are not in favour of extending this power further. (3) That if Government are desirous of appointing 4 labour members on the Corporation, there is in fact nothing to prevent them from appointing them to the seats now available to Government for nomination. (4) That if at any time it is deemed expedient to grant separate and direct representation to labour on the Corporation, they are of opinion that such representation should not be by nomination but by election on the same lines as the representation given to capital at present on that body. (5) That as the commercial and industrial bodies have at present 3 elected representatives on the Corporation and labour is not yet properly organised, the Corporation suggest that Government would be well advised to nominate for the present labour representatives to 2 seats out of the 16 reserved for nomination. (From "Times of India," Bombay, March 13, 1928.)

Employment Situation in March

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 123 or 82.55 per cent. of the mills reported as working during the month of March 1928. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole amounted to 8.70 per cent. as against 8.76 per cent. in the month of February 1928.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working during the month 79 or 98.75 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of Labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 8.92 per cent. as against 9.28 per cent. in the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 59 mills were working during the month and 34 or 57·63 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 4·53 per cent. as against 3·86 per cent. in February 1928. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

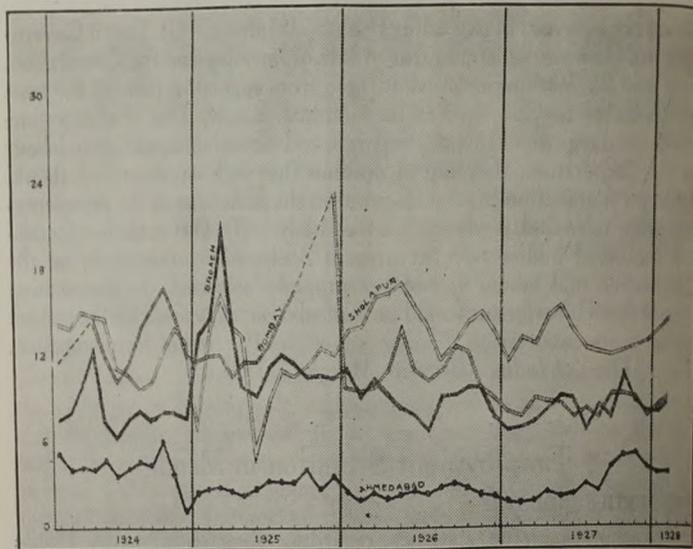
Returns were submitted by all the mills in Sholapur. None of them reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 14·93.

Information was supplied by only one mill in Viramgaum which was working during the month. The percentage absenteeism amounted to 1·72.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information and only one of them reported that the supply of labour was inadequate. The average absenteeism amounted to 9·11 per cent. as against 8·95 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole, the supply of labour was adequate in all the centres studied.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative workshops was 14·87 per cent. as against 13·86 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation Scheme absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Bombay Port Trust Docks it amounted to 14·26 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust was 10·40 per cent.

The Karachi Port Trust found both skilled and ordinary labour available in plenty. On an average 8·50 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery

VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

In its letter in reply to the Questionnaire issued by the International Labour Office on minimum wage fixing machinery the Government of India makes the following observations.

"In their reply to Question I the Government of India have referred to a matter of some importance which does not directly form the subject of any question in the Questionnaire. This is the extent to which Governments are to have discretion to apply their minimum wage fixing machinery to trades which satisfy any criteria that may be laid down and I am to explain briefly the considerations underlying the conclusion which has been embodied in the draft reply on this matter. It will obviously be impossible, in most cases, for Governments or the authorities which they set up to deal immediately with every trade satisfying the criteria. In countries where wage-fixing machinery has been established, the extension of the scope of that machinery has generally been gradual and it is probable that even in the countries where legislation of the type contemplated has the longest history minimum wages have not yet been fixed for every trade satisfying the criteria suggested. Further, there are trades for which, although they may satisfy the criteria, minimum wages cannot advantageously be fixed. No advantage would be gained by fixing a minimum wage at a level lower than that paid in the industry and there will be cases in which any endeavour to fix the wage at a substantially higher level would be detrimental to the interest of the workers. There will also be cases in which the general enforcement of a suitable minimum will not be a practical proposition. It appears to be essential, therefore, that Governments should have full discretion to determine to which trades (out of those satisfying the criteria) minimum wages should be applied. This conclusion was indeed suggested in the preliminary Report of the International Labour Office on the subject—(vide "Grey Report," pages 140-141).

There are in the view of the Government of India three possible methods of attaining this end, viz.—

- (1) To adopt only a Recommendation or Recommendations on the subject;
- (2) To relegate the criteria to a Recommendation, omitting all mention of them in the Convention;
- (3) To make it clear in the Convention that the obligation undertaken by States ratifying the Convention is the establishment of machinery of the kind indicated and not its application, immediate or otherwise, to every single trade that satisfies the criteria.

The second course is definitely objectionable, because the criteria (as given in Question 1) form part of the main principle: in fact the subject on the agenda is limited to minimum wage fixing machinery in trades satisfying these criteria; and their omission from any Convention that may be adopted would involve an unwarrantable extension of the scope of that Convention. The Government of India have therefore reached the conclusion that the choice lies between the first and third of the methods

indicated above, and their reply to Question 1 has been formulated accordingly.

"As has been stated in the reply to that Question the time allowed for the consideration of the Questionnaire has been insufficient to enable the Government of India to consult local Governments on the subject and the views expressed in the Questionnaire are purely provisional. Before preparing instructions for their delegates, the Government of India will endeavour to ascertain the views of local Governments."

We give below the replies of the Government of India to the detailed questionnaire.

PRINCIPLE OF THE CREATION OF MACHINERY AND SCOPE OF ITS APPLICATION

Q.—1. Do you consider that the Conference should adopt proposals dealing with methods of minimum wage-fixing in home-working and other trades or in parts of such trades in which :

(a) No arrangements exist for the effective regulation of wages by collective agreement or otherwise, and

(b) Wages are exceptionally low ?

2. Do you consider that a definition of (a) home-working trades, and (b) other trades, should be included in any proposals which may be adopted by the Conference? What definitions do you propose?

3. Do you consider that it is for the Government of each country to decide, having regard to the conditions of the country, which are the home-working and other trades covered by Question 1 ?

4. What criteria (if any) would you propose to adopt for determining in which trades there are :

(a) No arrangements for the effective regulation of wages,

(b) Exceptionally low wages ?

A.—1. The Government of India consider that the question whether any minimum wage-fixing machinery can be devised which will give satisfactory results in India requires more careful consideration than it has been possible to give it in the time available, and in particular close consultation with local Governments is necessary before any views other than purely provisional views can be formulated. Subject to this qualification, they consider that the criteria referred to in the first question are generally suitable, it being understood that both criteria have to be satisfied and not one only. Further they consider it essential that the Governments of ratifying States should have full discretion to determine to which trades (out of those satisfying the criteria) minimum wages should be applied. In other words, the obligation of Governments should be limited to the establishment of minimum wage-fixing machinery and the question whether or not the machinery should be applied to any particular trade satisfying the criteria must be left to the Government concerned, as was in fact suggested in the preliminary report of the International Labour Office. The method of securing the end in view should preferably be to adopt a Recommendation or Recommendations on the subject, or in the alternative to make it clear in the Convention that the obligation undertaken by States

ratifying the Convention is the establishment of machinery of the kind suggested and not its application, immediate or otherwise, to every trade that satisfies the criteria.

2. The reply is in the negative. The Government of India consider that a definition would serve no useful purpose.

3. The reply is in the affirmative.

4. The Government of India doubt if any rigid criterion can be adopted for determining whether there are or are not arrangements for the effective regulation of wages. The existence of arrangements or not is a clear question of fact admitting of no ambiguity; but the extent to which these arrangements are effective must be, to some extent, a matter of opinion. This extent cannot be made the subject of quantitative measurement and therefore no satisfactory criterion can be devised. In any case, there would appear to be no necessity for the formulation of a criterion by the Conference. As regards exceptionally low wages the criterion should ordinarily be a comparison with the general wage-level for unskilled work in the same area (The lowest wages are universally confined to work demanding little skill.) But no criterion should be laid down by the Conference, as no one criterion can be universally applicable.

BASIS FOR FIXING MINIMUM WAGES

Q.—5. Do you consider that some provision should be made for a basis for fixing minimum wages? If so, what basis do you suggest?

A.—5. The reply is in the negative. Experience has shown that it may be unwise to fix minimum wages on the basis of any single principle. Regard must ordinarily be had to

(i) the cost of maintaining a suitable standard of living;

(ii) the state of the industry;

(iii) the general level of wages;

and the extent to which each of these factors should govern the decision must vary with individual cases. The insertion in a Convention or Recommendation of a rigid principle would reduce the chances of its being generally acceptable in various countries.

DETERMINATION OF THE MINIMUM WAGE FIXING METHODS

Q.—6. Do you consider that the Conference should

(a) Lay down the method or methods upon which the minimum wages should be fixed? If so, what method or methods do you propose? Or

(b) Confine itself to laying down general principles? If so, what principles do you suggest?

7. If not, do you consider that it is for the Government of each country to decide, having regard to the administrative practice of the country, the method or methods to be introduced in fixing minimum wages in the home-working and other trades covered by Question 1?

A.—6. The Conference should adopt neither course. This matter is best left to the authorities in each country.

7. The reply is in the affirmative. But see also the answer to Question 14.

PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION WITH THE TRADE AND OTHER
SPECIALLY QUALIFIED PERSONS

Q.—8. Do you consider that any such method should make provision for full preliminary consultation with representatives of the trade concerned, including representatives of organisations of employers and workers (if any), and with any other persons specially qualified by their trade or functions to be usefully consulted?

A.—8. Consultation of the type suggested will ordinarily be essential. The Government of India doubt if it is necessary to lay this down in any Convention or Recommendation.

COMPOSITION OF THE WAGE FIXING BODIES

Q.—9. Do you consider that employers and workers should be represented on the wage-fixing body? If so, do you consider that they should be represented in equal numbers?

10. Do you consider that any minimum wage-fixing body should contain an independent person or persons?

11. What methods do you consider should be adopted in selecting and appointing:

- (a) The representatives of employers and workers,
- (b) The independent person or persons?

A.—9. Not invariably. There will be cases where it is undesirable that employers or workers should be represented. Where representation is accorded to one party, it should be accorded to the other: and in such cases the deliberative power (e.g., voting strength) of the two parties should be equal. It is not necessary for this purpose that the numbers should be equal; but it will ordinarily be advisable.

10. The reply is in the affirmative.

11. As regards employers' and workers' representatives the methods to be adopted should be those best suited to the country in question and to the state of organisation in the industry under consideration. Ordinarily, representation should be given to responsible organisations of employers and employed. But no general rule should be laid down, either in respect of such representation or in respect of the selection of the independent persons on the tribunal.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE MINIMUM RATES

Q.—12. What systems of inspection, general supervision and enforcement do you propose for ensuring the payment of wages in the trades concerned at not less than the rates fixed?

A.—12. This is a matter which is best left for Governments to consider in the light of any schemes that may be adopted. Beyond specifying that there should be some provision for the effective statutory enforcement of any standards of wages that may be adopted, the Conference cannot usefully deal with this question.

ANNUAL REPORTS ON APPLICATION

Q.—13. Do you consider that the Governments should communicate to the International Labour Office, either in the annual report furnished in accordance with Article 408 of the Treaty or otherwise in the case of a

Recommendation, the list of trades in which the system of fixing minimum wages has been applied, together with the approximate number of workers covered, and a general statement on the minimum rates of wages and other conditions established in the trades concerned?

A.—13. The obligation to send a Report should be confined to the obligation imposed on ratifying Governments by Article 408 of the Treaty. The particulars to be entered in the report are, under the Treaty itself, to be determined by the Governing Body and the Conference should not deal with this question. No report should be required in connection with a Recommendation.

FORM AND CONTENTS OF THE CONFERENCE'S DECISION

Q.—14. Do you consider that the Conference should proceed by way of a Draft Convention or a Recommendation or both? If the latter, in what respects should either form of decision be adopted?

A.—14. See answer to Question 1. Whether or not a Convention is adopted, a Recommendation would appear to be required. Any Convention must be limited to the formulation of the main principle and all matters of detail should be relegated to a Recommendation. In particular, any conclusions formulated in respect of the subject matter of questions 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 should be excluded from the Convention. (From "Report on Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery: second discussion at the Eleventh Session of the International Labour Conference, Geneva, 1928.")

Scheme for the Improvement of Vocational Training

The Government of India have sanctioned a revised scheme for the improvement of vocational training in Ordnance and Clothing Factories in India. These factories include the Rifle Factory, Ishapore, the Metal and Steel Factory, Ishapore, the Gun and Shell Factory, Cossipore, the Gun Carriage Factory, Jubbulpore, the Harness and Saddlery Factory, Cawnpore, the Ammunition Factory, Kirkee, the Cordite Factory, Aruvankadu and the Clothing Factory, Shahjahanpur. The expenditure on the Scheme will only be incurred as funds become available.

The *Boy Artisans'* scheme is intended to train boys in one trade, or in one or more of its branches, with the object of producing skilled tradesmen, from whom a higher grade of temporary supervision than is now obtainable will in time be produced. The Boy Artisans will, as far as possible, be recruited from amongst the sons of workmen employed in the factories. The age of recruitment will not be less than 12 or more than 17 and the maximum number of such recruits in all factories is fixed at 300. The period of training will be normally four years but in certain trades may be extended to five years at the discretion of the Superintendent or other officer in charge of the factory. The Artisans will be entitled to get certain stipends varying from annas 8 to annas 14 a day during the course of training.

The *Apprentices'* scheme is intended to train boys into thoroughly useful tradesmen to a degree that will enable the more ambitious and capable

to look forward in time to appointment as assistant-foremen and foremen. The apprentices will undergo training in general engineering and specialised trades. To *Student Apprentices* training will be given for trades which require a general engineering education, such as draughtsmen and gauge, tool and fixing designers. *Trade Apprentices* while learning one trade thoroughly, will be given opportunities of acquiring a reasonable amount of knowledge of allied trades. *Special Apprentices* will be trained in tanning, currying, harness and saddlery, and the practical operations involved in cordite manufacture.

The apprentices will be recruited from every race and creed found suitable for the performance of the work required, and will include a proportion of Europeans, Anglo-Indians, Muhammadans, Hindus, Sikhs, Punjabis, Madrasis, etc. The normal age of recruitment will be 15 to 19 years, but discretion is given to the Master General of Supply to modify the age according to circumstances. The number of apprentices that may be entertained is 230 and they will be allotted to factories at the discretion of the Master General of Supply. The entrance qualification will be generally a "sound general education." The exact qualification to be fixed for each factory is left to the discretion of the Master General of Supply. Social standing, physique, health, character, and skill at games will be considered, as well as educational qualifications. Candidates successful in the qualifying examination will be personally interviewed before final selection. The course of training will be normally 5 years and the apprentices will get stipends ranging from Rs. 40 per mensem in the first year to Rs. 100 in the sixth year.

Facilities will be provided for the education in schools of Boy Artisans, half-timer boys working in factories, and the children of workmen employed therein and families living in the Factory Estates.

Special arrangements are also made for providing hostel accommodation for apprentices who are being trained in some of the factories described above.

Boys who hold the "Silver Wedding Fund" scholarships will be allowed to be apprenticed to the Ordnance and Clothing Factories. They will be provided with the necessary grants for initial equipment, etc.

Additional particulars can be obtained from the Director of Public Instruction, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Family Budgets in Greece

A Committee composed of high officials and employees of the National Bank has been instructed by the Greek Government to undertake an enquiry into the family budgets of workers in Athens and in 25 other urban and rural centres.

The objects of the enquiry, which will be completed in twelve months, are to establish the co-efficients necessary for determining the index numbers of the cost of living, and to bring together the elements required to determine the standard of living of the families covered by the enquiry. The families will be chosen by the workers' organisations. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 19, 1928.)

Middle Class Unemployment

DISCUSSION IN THE COUNCIL OF STATE

The Honourable Mr. P. C. Desika Chari recently moved the following resolution in the Council of State

"This House recommends to the Governor General in Council to appoint a Committee to make the necessary inquiries to devise ways and means for relieving unemployment of the educated and other middle classes."

Mr. Desika Chari first of all defined the expression "Middle Classes." It included, he said, all those people belonging to classes who had been engaged for ages in literary or quasi-literary or intellectual pursuits and also those classes who had been engaged in some kind of work or other which was not actual physical manual labour. He pointed out that the problem of the educated middle classes was very acute, especially in provinces like Madras and Bengal.

Mr. Desika Chari emphasised the fact that the problem of middle class unemployment, though primarily an economic one, was threatening to assume a political aspect, for the people belonging to the educated and other middle classes commanded such a high degree of respect among the masses that discontent amongst them was bound to react upon the condition of the masses. As an example of the acuteness of the unemployment problem he referred to the fact that 4500 applications were received for 23 subordinate posts under the Calcutta Corporation.

As regards the causes of unemployment, Mr. Desika Chari said that the system of education in vogue in this country had been for a long time a delusion and a snare and very many middle class families had lost all they had in educating their children. Young men in the country having lost their patrimony had been left at large without any chance of relief or any hope of employment in the near future. He said further that the Central Government had done nothing effectively to tackle the problem.

He was not in a position to suggest any cut and dried scheme but he was of opinion that it was quite possible to find remedies, remembering always the peculiar position of Indians. India, he said, was not in the happy position of England and other European countries which had got their own colonies and dependencies where their young men could find careers. He contended that most of the avenues of employment, such as the Army, Navy and Mercantile Marine, were closed to Indians.

While pressing for the appointment of a Committee to make a comprehensive inquiry to devise ways and means to tackle the unemployment problem, Mr. Desika Chari suggested certain remedies for the solution of the problem such as encouragement to new industries requiring small capital, the improvement of cottage industries, the establishment of employment bureaux, the starting of schemes of colonisation, etc.

The Honourable Mr. Alma Latif (Punjab Nominated Official) opposed the resolution on the ground that the question raised was one which might be more properly dealt with by the Provincial Governments. In support of this contention he pointed out that the questions raised by the

resolution were intimately local. The racial characteristics of the population of India varied from province to province and the provinces also differed from each other in the resources they could command.

The Honourable Sir Phiroze Sethna (Bombay Non-Muhammadan) also opposed the resolution. He said that the question was a purely provincial one and that unemployment existed to a larger extent in some provinces than in others. This, he thought, was due to the fact that the people of certain provinces were not sufficiently advanced to engage themselves in trade, commerce and industry. The number of graduates in Bengal proper, apart from Eastern Bengal, was given as 30,000. If graduates were manufactured at that rate it was not to be wondered at that there was unemployment among the educated classes. The remedy lay in the hands of the people themselves and there was no reason for always asking for Government help.

The Honourable Mr. H. A. B. Vernon (Madras Nominated Official) also opposed the resolution. He briefly summarised the conclusions of the report of the Madras Unemployment Committee, which were that the cause of unemployment among the middle classes was a complete misconception not only in the minds of the parents but of the pupils, as to the real object of education. Education in their idea was merely a means to enter Government service and the result was that many of the classes who had hitherto employed themselves as artisans, carpenters and so forth had crowded into the clerical profession with the result that there were far more candidates than places to offer them. Moreover, while the lower classes were pressing upwards, the higher classes themselves whose hereditary occupation is clerical work, are rigid and do not give way and do not move into other avenues of employment. That again was entirely the result of social prejudice, for the higher classes have a distinct dislike to any manual labour.

The Honourable Colonel Nawab Sir Umar Hayat Khan (Punjab Nominated Non-Official) said that he did not agree that the question was a purely provincial one. If the unemployed, after qualifying themselves, were not to approach Government for help, he did not know whom they were to approach. He suggested that Government ought either to train young boys in the professions of their forefathers or create some other suitable work for them.

The Honourable Mr. G. A. Natesan (Madras Nominated Non-Official) expressed the opinion that even if Government were inclined to look at this question sympathetically, employment in various directions could be found only by local Governments and the Central Government as such could not tackle the problem. He pointed out that though the Council of State could not help by the appointment of a Committee, the object of the resolution could be served by asking the member in charge to see that the debate was forwarded to the various local Governments and those Governments which had already dealt with the question might be asked to formulate definite schemes for relieving unemployment.

The Honourable Mr. A. C. McWatters replying to the debate said that the subject was exceedingly complex and difficult but the issue before the House was a simple one. The issue was whether it was desirable and

necessary to super-impose a Central Committee to co-ordinate the activities of local Governments in this matter. He did not deny that the evil of unemployment existed and that it was a serious evil nor did Government, he said, desire to minimise its importance.

Referring to the debate in the Legislative Assembly in March 1926 on the subject of unemployment, he said that as a result of the debate the Government of India addressed the local Governments on this matter in May 1926. About that time unemployment committees were set up in Bengal and Madras and a statistical enquiry as to the extent and character of unemployment among the middle classes was undertaken in Bombay. The Punjab Government had also set up a committee and the United Provinces Government had also recently appointed one.

The speaker pointed out that it was not correct to say that the Central Government had been doing nothing to relieve unemployment. He referred to the rapid Indianisation of the services but pointed out that Government alone could not absorb all the unemployed, and Indianisation of the services alone would only touch the fringe of the problem, and not solve it. What the Central Government could do was to direct its attention to the economic development of the country, which he maintained Government was doing. He referred to the Industrial Commission, the Fiscal Commission and to the Agricultural Commission as instances of the anxiety of Government to develop the resources of the country. He said further that the whole trend of the financial policy of Government had been to encourage economic development.

The resolution was put to the vote and negatived.

Questions in the Legislatures

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Labour in Assam

Mr. N. M. Joshi : (a) Is there any annual report published by the Government of India on the working of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act?

(b) If not, why not?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The Government of India do not consider it necessary to publish such a report. Copies of the annual reports of the provincial Governments concerned are available in the Library of the House and the more important reports are also published by local Governments. The annual report on the working of the Assam Labour Board is published in the *Gazette of India*.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : What arrangements have the local Governments of Assam, Bengal and Madras made to supervise the treatment meted out to the workers in the tea gardens and to find out whether they are provided with their due privileges such as their proper housing, medical assistance, wages, etc.?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : In Assam the local Government have framed rules under the Assam Labour and Emigration

Act providing for the inspection of tea gardens employing immigrant labour. The Madras Planters Labour Act, 1903, contains provisions for the inspection of such estates. This Act will cease to have effect from the 1st January 1929 when "labour contracts" will be abolished. Bengal there is no legislation corresponding to the Assam Labour and Emigration Act VI of 1901 or the Madras Planters Labour Act, 1903.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : (a) Is there any arrangement for supervising labour recruitment for the tea gardens of Bengal, and tea, coffee, rubber and other plantations of the Madras Presidency ?

(b) If so, what are they and what is their scope and character as compared with those of the Assam Labour Board and commissions for recruitment for Ceylon, Singapore, etc. ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : (a) and (b) There is no provision for supervising the recruitment of labour for the tea gardens of Bengal. With regard to the tea, coffee, rubber and other plantations of the Madras Presidency, the attention of the Honourable Member is invited to section 4 of the Madras Planters Labour Act, 1903. This Act will, however, cease to have effect from the 1st January 1929 when "labour contracts" will be abolished.

BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Fines and Deductions from Labourers' Wages

Mr. S. C. Joshi : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of any, and if so, what action, legislative or otherwise, that is proposed to be taken by the Government of India in the matter of the report of the Bombay Government as regards fines and deduction of wages of employees in mills ;

(b) what definite steps the Bombay Government will take to ameliorate the hardship caused by these heavy fines and deductions from wages ?

The Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir : (a) No.

(b) An enquiry regarding fines and deduction of wages of employees in mills was recently undertaken at the instance of the Government of India from which it may be inferred that the whole question is under the consideration of the Government of India. In the circumstances the Government of Bombay do not propose to take any action.

Workmen's Housing and Welfare Work

Mr. S. K. Bole : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have asked the millowners to give effect to the recommendations of the Indian Tariff Board as regards housing and welfare work in respect of their workmen ;

(b) how many and what millowners have given effect to the said recommendations of the Tariff Board and in what way ?

The Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir : (a) and (b) The Tariff Board was appointed by the Government of India and the report submitted by the Board is on the whole for the consideration of that Government. The recommendations mentioned in part (a) of the question are included in paragraphs 59-71 of the Report. Most of these recommendations do not call for any official action, as the initiative in such matters rests with the millowners.

Seamen's Recruitment

Mr. Lalji Naranji : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the system of brokers for the supply of Indian seamen in Bombay has been causing considerable hardship to Indian seamen ;

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, the steps they have taken or propose to take to protect Indian seamen from the iniquities of such a system ?

The Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir : (a) Allegations to this effect have been made to Government.

(b) Proposals are under the consideration of Government for transferring to the Shipping Office, Bombay, the Brokers' work of maintaining the Register of Butlers and Serangs.

Unemployment among Seamen

Mr. Lalji Naranji : Will Government be pleased to state the number of Indian seamen that form the floating population in Bombay awaiting or seeking employment ?

The Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir : 5,000 approximately.

Seamen's Rest House at Karachi

Mr. N. A. Bechar : Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a Seamen's Rest House at Karachi which is run entirely for the benefit of seamen of European birth ;

(b) whether they contribute anything towards the maintenance of the said institution ;

(c) whether the Port Trust or any other public body contributes towards the upkeep of the above institution ;

(d) if so, the grounds on which Indian seamen are excluded from the benefit of the above institution ;

(e) whether they approve of this policy of racial discrimination ;

(f) whether they are aware of the intensity of resentment felt by Indian seamen at this attitude of Government in their own country ;

(g) if so, whether they propose to make arrangements for similar welfare work for Indian seamen ?

The Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir : (a) There is a Seamen's Rest House at Karachi known as "The McHinch Memorial Seamen's Rest," Keamari. The rest house is not, however, run entirely for the benefit of seamen of European birth, as the object of the Institution is to promote the welfare of all seamen, irrespective of nationality or religion ;

(b) Government pay an annual grant of Rs. 500 to the Institute ;

(c) The Port Trust is the only public body which contributes towards the maintenance of the Institute ;

(d), (e) and (f) These do not arise in view of the reply given to part (a) of the question ;

(g) the establishment of an Indian Seamen's Home at Bombay with the aid of private subscriptions is being considered.

Seamen's Employment

Mr. Lalji Naranji: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Indian seamen shipped from and discharged at the port of Bombay during the last five years giving separate figures for each year;

(b) whether they are aware that a large number of Indian seamen remains unemployed throughout the year;

(c) if the reply to (b) be in the affirmative, the steps that they have taken or propose to take to relieve this unemployment?

The Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir: (a) A statement showing the number of Indian seamen shipped from and discharged at the port of Bombay during the last five years is placed on the Council Table.

(b) and (c) Taking into consideration the number of seamen shipped and discharged annually at the port of Bombay, the number of *bona fide* unemployed seamen, excluding raw recruits, is not large. The number is likely to be reduced still further when shipping returns to normal conditions.

Statement of Indian Seamen shipped from and discharged at the port of Bombay during the last five years

	Shipped			Discharged		
	Deck	Engine	Saloon	Deck	Engine	Saloon
1922-23 ..	10,888	14,611	10,874	10,985	15,531	13,552
1923-24 ..	10,032	12,925	10,243	10,396	13,711	10,799
1924-25 ..	9,257	13,131	10,162	9,046	12,792	10,144
1925-26 ..	8,866	12,480	10,211	8,922	12,654	9,887
1926-27 ..	8,858	11,859	10,457	8,688	12,326	10,709

Prince of Wales Seamen's Institute

Mr. Lalji Naranji: Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Indian seamen are admitted to the Prince of Wales Seamen's Institute in Bombay;

(b) if so, the number of Indian seamen admitted to that institute during the last two years;

(c) whether the building of the Prince of Wales Seamen's Institute was raised out of public subscriptions and whether the Indian public subscribed a large sum towards that building fund;

(d) if the answer to (c) be in the affirmative, whether any Indian has ever been appointed to the Committee of that institute;

(e) if the answer to (d) be in the negative, whether they intend to appoint an Indian gentleman to that Committee;

(f) whether any separate annexes for the Indian seamen are attached to the Prince of Wales Seamen's Institute, as was contemplated at one time;

(g) if the answer to (f) be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir: (a) and (b) The Institute, though undenominational in character, does not cater specially to the needs of Indian seamen. They do not accordingly resort to it.

(c) Yes. Certain sums were received from Indians, but the majority of the subscriptions came from the Western India Turf Club, European Firms and Europeans.

(d) No.

(e) According to the Rules and Regulations of the Institute, the Members of the Society consist (for the time being) of the Committee and also any person, firm, company or public body who have paid a subscription or contribution of Rs. 30 or upwards to the Society in the year expiring on the previous December. The Committee consists of nine persons elected by members of the Society and eight *ex-officio* Members. The nine members to be elected by the subscribers of whom two-thirds shall belong to the Church of England, are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. No Indian has so far been elected by the subscribers.

(f) No.

(g) Certain monies subscribed for the purpose of erecting a Lascars' Memorial Home have been kept apart and have accumulated. A Committee has recently been appointed by Government to examine the question of the proposed Indian Sailors' Home in Bombay and its report is awaited.

Social Policy in Japan

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FACTORY ACT

It will be remembered that the Japanese Factory Act was amended as from 1st July 1926, the scope of its application being extended and improved protection granted to workers, especially to women and juvenile workers under 16. In order, however, to extend the scope of the Act to cover a still greater number of women and juvenile workers, the Department of the Interior recently decided to submit to the session of the Diet convened on 26th December 1927 a Bill amending the present Factory Act.

The benefit resulting from the proposed amendment will be far reaching; the change will affect the working hours, holidays and rest hours of 238,602 workers (174,119 male and 64,483 female workers) employed in 92,967 workshops to which the Factory Act did not apply heretofore.

Section I of the present Act provides that the law applies to factories normally employing 10 or more workers and to dangerous or unhealthy industries. Although under section 24 the competent Minister may extend the provisions concerning the prevention of accidents to factories using motor power, irrespective of the number of workers employed, no regulation exists as to the working hours, holidays and rest hours of workshops employing less than 10 workers. In these circumstances, a number of employers, taking advantage of the absence of any restriction in this respect, limited the number of workers to about 9 and extended the working hours to 13 or even 15 per day. The proposed amendment aims at applying the same provisions concerning the working hours, holidays and rest hours to workshops employing less than 10 workers in which motor power is used. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 5, 1928.)

Maternity Benefits

LEGISLATION IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The following article is a summary of the Chapter on Maternity Insurance in a report of the International Labour Office dealing with Compulsory Sickness Insurance. The report itself was reviewed in the March issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

The Draft Convention of the International Labour Conference concerning the employment of women before and after child-birth contains the following prohibitions and defines certain rights in favour of women employed in industrial and commercial establishments :

1. Women are forbidden to work during the six weeks following their confinement.
2. They shall have the right to leave work on presentation of a medical certificate proving that they are likely to be confined within six weeks.
3. The employer is prohibited from giving a female worker notice of dismissal during the prescribed period of absence.
4. A female worker while absent from her work on account of pregnancy or confinement shall be paid benefits sufficient for the full and healthy maintenance of herself and her child.
5. She shall be entitled to free attendance by a doctor or a certified midwife, and
6. She shall, in any case, if she is nursing her child, be allowed half an hour twice a day during her working hours for this purpose.

Although the regulations contained in the Draft Convention have not yet been embodied in all national legislations, the legitimacy and desirability of such rules is universally recognised ; and they are tending more and more to constitute an international standard for the protection of motherhood in all countries.

States with a properly organised system of compulsory sickness insurance provide that the sickness insurance system in force should grant all benefits connected with motherhood. The funds are responsible for granting benefits to insured women during their confinement. The women are also entitled to free attendance by a certified midwife, and if necessary by a doctor, and receive cash benefits from the funds during the prescribed period of absence from work before and after confinement. In certain laws the sickness insurance funds are also liable for other benefits and in these cases the insured receive a grant after confinement to cover the cost of a layette and also to receive a nursing bonus. Further, all compulsory sickness insurance laws provide that an insured person who has not recovered her health at the end of the prescribed period of absence shall be entitled to the medical attendance which her state of health necessitates.

There are certain conditions attaching to maternity benefits. Some laws, however, such as of Czechoslovak and Russia do not impose any qualifying period, while in the majority of other sickness insurance laws, though the insured only become entitled to cash benefits after the completion of the qualifying period, they are entitled to free medical treatment irrespective of the time during which they have been insured. The qualifying periods vary in length from 3 to 10 months dating from entry

into insurance. The period in question must either immediately precede confinement or have been completed without long interruption in the course of a longer period preceding confinement. In many instances the qualifying periods have been instituted for the benefit of insurance institutions which are, however, at liberty to waive this provision at will. Some laws, on the other hand, authorise funds to impose stricter conditions in connection with the granting of maternity benefits. In Great Britain and the Irish Free State the qualifying period for cash benefits is compulsory under the insurance laws and may not be waived. In addition to cash benefits, most laws provide that obstetrical assistance shall be provided and that the funds shall furnish the insured with the medical attendance and appliances necessitated by their state of health.

The insured persons are entitled under compulsory sickness insurance laws to pregnancy allowance for the period during which absence from work is authorised by law on presentation of a medical certificate establishing pregnancy. The period during which allowance is payable must coincide with the time of absence from work. This period varies from two weeks to 2 months in different countries. The amount of the allowance varies from 50 and 100 per cent. of the basic wage rate, amounting to at least 50 per cent. in Czechoslovakia, France, Germany and Luxemburg, to 60 per cent. in Japan and Poland, 75 per cent. in the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom, while it is equal to the amount of wages in Estonia, Hungary and Russia.

Cash benefit is given during a period of six weeks, according to the provisions of the Draft Convention adopted by the First Session of the International Labour Conference in 1919. This form of benefit varies between 50 and 100 per cent. of the basic wage. Under certain laws the allowance consists of a lump-sum and does not depend on the rate of wages.

Sickness insurance is also liable for providing mothers who are nursing their children with a bonus intended to help the recipient and to provide a suitable diet. An allowance of this kind is payable under the insurance system during the 12 weeks subsequent to confinement in Austria, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Hungary and Luxemburg. In Poland a nursing bonus is payable for 12 weeks after the date when the payment of the allowance for confinement expires, while in the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom the period is fixed at 20 weeks after that date. The amount of bonus is fixed arbitrarily or consists of a fraction of the daily basic wage varying from one eighth to one half.

National Health Insurance Bill in Great Britain

A Bill to amend the National Health Insurance Act, 1924, and other enactments relating to health insurance, was introduced in the House of Commons on 5th March. A financial memorandum is prefixed to the published text, explaining the new proposals of the Bill in so far as they affect the Exchequer. In addition, the Ministry of Health have published separately, as a Command Paper, a memorandum explaining the general provisions of the Bill.

The Bill is based mainly on the majority Report of the Royal Commission on National Health Insurance, some of the proposals in which, however (specified in the memorandum), have not been adopted. The Bill also embodies new proposals in regard to prolongation of insurance and arrears of contributions; and the opportunity has been taken to include in it a number of minor alterations in the law.

Continuation of Insurance.—Under the National Health Insurance Act, 1924, insured persons who cease to be employed remain entitled to all benefits (subject only to reduction or suspension by reason of arrears of contributions) for a period of twelve months; at the end of which, if they have not meanwhile returned to employment, they cease to be insured for the purposes of health insurance. Their title to medical benefit only is, however, continued for a further period of nine months on the average; and during that additional period they are treated as insured persons for the purposes of the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925. But by virtue of the temporary provisions of the National Health Insurance (Prolongation of Insurance) Act, 1921, which has been extended year by year by successive Expiring Laws Continuance Acts, persons who were in regular employment, but have ceased to be employed have been entitled to have their insurance continued year by year, so long as they do not take up non-insurable employment.

These provisions have proved unsatisfactory in working, in so far as insured persons have not been entitled to sickness and disablement benefits during a period averaging nine months, though in that period they may be incapable of work and entitled to medical benefit. Confusion has also arisen by reason of the different dates for the termination of insurance for the purposes of the health insurance and of the pensions schemes, respectively, although these schemes are interlocked. Furthermore, persons have been retained in insurance for protracted periods, and have continued to be entitled to certain benefits, although they have not been genuinely unemployed, but have ceased work voluntarily, and have paid no contributions.

The provisions of Clause 1 of the Bill are designed to remove these anomalies, and to make satisfactory permanent provision in place of the existing temporary arrangements. The new scheme is explained in some detail in the memorandum.

Arrears.—The present position as regards arrears of contributions is that an employed contributor who becomes unemployed falls into arrears, and, if he fails to redeem his arrears by payment of what is commonly called an "arrears penalty" within the time allowed, he is penalised by reduction of benefits.

The Bill follows the recommendation of the Royal Commission that arrears due to genuine unemployment should not involve any penalties; but it also makes provision for substantial financial assistance to approved societies to enable them to bear the additional burden imposed on their funds by this concession.

New Insurable Classes.—Another clause in the Bill proposes to bring within the scope of compulsory insurance certain classes of workers of the type for which the present scheme was intended, but who are at present

excluded because they are not technically employed under a contract of service—e.g., tree fellers, hay cutters, share fishermen, and the crews of barges and small sailing vessels.

Deposit Contributors.—Under a section of the present Act, insured persons who do not join an approved society within a limited time after their entry into insurance become deposit contributors. It is proposed to make permanent the provision, which has hitherto been kept in force from year to year under the Expiring Laws Continuance Acts. The contributions of such persons are carried to individual accounts, and the contributor's benefits cease as soon as the balance to his account is exhausted.

It is also proposed that deposit contributors who are unable by reason of the state of their health to secure admission to an approved society, shall be admitted to a special section of the Deposit Contributors' Fund (called the Insurance Section), and become entitled to the ordinary benefits of the Act, in the same way as members of approved societies. As the Insurance Section will be composed exclusively of "bad lives," from the insurance point of view, special arrangements are proposed to secure the solvency of this section.

Other Provisions.—Among other points dealt with by the Bill are the benefits payable to insured women who cease work on marriage, and the collection of contributions in respect of foreign-going seamen. The first Schedule to the Bill contains a list of the additional benefits among which approved societies may select those to be provided for their members out of a disposable surplus. The remaining clauses, and the second Schedule, introduce a number of minor amendments. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1928.)

Agenda of the International Labour Conference for 1929

The International Labour Conference of 1929 will hold two sessions, one general session, and another special session to discuss the question of work on board ship. As for the date of these sessions, the Governing Body at its last meeting decided that the Seamen's Conference should follow immediately upon the general Labour Conference. The agenda of the special Conference comprises the following items: regulations of hours of work on board ship, the protection of seamen in case of sickness (including treatment of seamen injured on board ship), and the promotion of seamen's welfare in ports.

For the General Conference, the Berlin session of the Governing Body decided upon the discussion of the question of Forced Labour. Various additional items have been under consideration, such as unemployment insurance, the working hours of salaried employees, the very complicated question of early closing for shops, and the period of notice to be given to non-manual workers. A final choice has now been made of the working hours of salaried employees. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, March 15, 1928.)

Apprenticeship and Training Inquiry in the U. K.

Two further volumes—the fourth and fifth—of the Report by the Ministry of Labour on the Inquiry made in 1925 and 1926 into Apprenticeship and Training for the skilled occupations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland have recently been issued by H. M. Stationery Office. Volume IV deals with the Textile and Clothing Industries; Volume V with Government Departments, the Public Utility Services, the Distributive Trades, and certain Miscellaneous Industries. The three volumes previously issued related to (I) the Printing and Allied Industries; (II) the Building, Woodworking and Allied Industries; and (III) the Mining and Quarrying, Metal Extraction, Chemical, Glass, Pottery and Allied Industries.

The Reports describe the general conditions of apprenticeship and learnership in the industries and services dealt with, as ascertained from information furnished by a large number of representative employers and by the principal trade unions. They also include summaries of the provisions contained in collective agreements arrived at between employers' associations and trade unions, and in trade union rules, affecting apprentices and learners. Details are given as to the methods of recruitment of juvenile labour; the ages of commencement of apprenticeship and learnership; the proportions of indentured apprentices, of apprentices under verbal agreement, and of learners; premiums; duration of apprenticeship or learnership; factory or workshop training and technical education; wages; and other conditions of apprenticeship.

Textile Industries.—The following industries are covered by this section of the Report: cotton; wool and worsted; silk; flax and hemp; jute; hosiery; lace; carpets and rugs, rope, twine and net; hair and fibre; sack and bag making; tent, tarpaulin, and flag-making; sail-making; elastic web, etc.; embroidery; bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing; making-up and packing.

The Report reveals that, although an exceptionally large proportion of young workers are employed, apprenticeship is rare in these industries, being restricted, in the main, to maintenance workers, overlookers and tuners, and a few special occupations in particular industries. Similarly learnership, in the sense of a prolonged period of definite training comparable with apprenticeship, is common only in some of the industries (e.g., flax, hemp and jute) to which Trade Board Orders, containing special provisions as to such learners, have been applied, and in a very few occupations outside those industries. With these exceptions there are no general arrangements for the systematic training of young workers in textile occupations, comparable with those in operation in industries such as building and woodworking, engineering, shipbuilding, and printing, in which apprenticeship or a more or less equivalent learnership is the normal method of entry to the skilled occupations. The great majority of the boys and girls start work on light work such as doffing and creeling (carrying bobbins and changing them on machines), and assisting spinners and weavers, which gives them constant opportunities of watching the adult workers at various production processes, and of acquiring the knowledge,

experience, and skill which will enable them to advance to superior jobs as vacancies occur. Numerous examples of these methods of acquiring training are given in the Report, together with detailed particulars of the training and general conditions of service in those cases in which systems of apprenticeship or systematic learnership are in operation.

Clothing Industries.—The results of the inquiry indicate that there is very little apprenticeship in these industries, but that the juvenile workers are usually trained under a more or less definite system of learnership extending over a period of years. It is a frequent practice, however, for learners to be employed for a relatively short period on time-work, and to be transferred to piece-work as soon as they have gained proficiency in the process or branch of work to which they have been allocated.

The Report gives detailed particulars as to the extent and conditions of apprenticeship and learnership in each of the following industries: tailoring (retail bespoke, ready-made, and wholesale bespoke); mantle and costume manufacture; dressmaking and women's light clothing manufacture; fur dressing and furriery; shirt, collar, etc., manufacture; corset manufacture; household linen, handkerchief, etc., manufacture; hat, cap and millinery manufacture; leather and fabric glove manufacture; feather dressing, cleaning and dyeing; artificial flower manufacture; umbrella, parasol and walking-stick manufacture; and boot and shoe manufacture and repairing. Rates of wages and other working conditions in many of these industries are governed very largely by Orders under the Trade Board Acts; in the boot and shoe manufacturing industry there is a comprehensive collective agreement between the manufacturers' and the operatives' associations; while in the glove industry conditions are regulated by a Joint Industrial Council.

Government Departments.—Systematic training in certain skilled occupations is given to suitable boys who enlist in the naval, military, and air forces, and also to boys in civil employment in certain Government Departments. An outline is given in the Report of the principal conditions governing apprenticeship or learnership, including age limits, methods of recruitment, training, periods of service and rates of wages, for artificer apprentices, shipwright apprentices, and telegraphists in the Royal Navy; apprentices in H. M. Dockyards; apprentice tradesmen in the Army; apprentices in the Royal Ordnance Factories; aircraft apprentices in the Royal Air Force; messengers, probationers, telephonists, telegraphists, sorters, engineers, etc., in H. M. Post Office; apprentices in the printing department of H. M. Stationery Office; learners on the industrial staff of the Royal Mint; forestry apprentices under the Forestry Commission, and boys in the engineering workshops of the National Physical Laboratory.

Public Utility Services.—Considerable numbers of apprentices are employed in various branches of industry by municipal authorities and other bodies engaged in supplying public services. The general conditions of apprenticeship and training are described in sections of the Report dealing respectively with electricity and gas undertakings, waterworks, and other services, such as the road and maintenance work of local authorities.

Distributive Trades.—Detailed information as to apprenticeship training is given in separate sections of the Report relating to the drapery, grocery, meat, fish, game and poultry, ironmongery, and retail furnishing branches of these trades.

Apprenticeship and learnership are found to be practically confined to the occupation of shop assistant or salesman. In the wholesale drapery trade indentured apprenticeship is practically non-existent, but many of the larger firms have definite schemes for the recruitment and training of their staffs. In the retail drapery trade, some form of apprenticeship or learnership is the usual method of recruitment, though the details given in the Report as to the extent to which systematic training is given and as to other conditions show wide variations in different types of establishments. In the wholesale grocery trade there is little apprenticeship, recruitment being mainly effected by engaging suitable boys or girls who learn their duties in the course of their service. In the retail grocery trade, large numbers of youths are engaged as juniors without any definite arrangement as to their future; considerable numbers of the boys and girls employed by large multiple firms and co-operative societies are trained as shop assistants under regular systems of apprenticeship or learnership, details of which are set out in the Report. In the meat distributive trade apprenticeship is uncommon in England and Wales, the great majority of the boys in training being learners; in Scotland, however, they are in nearly all cases apprentices. Apprenticeship is more common in the wholesale than in the retail section. In the fish distributive trade there is little apprenticeship. In the ironmongery trade apprenticeship is more marked than in most of the other distributive trades; the many branches of the trade, the complicated price lists, and the peculiar uses of the many articles handled are stated to make apprenticeship necessary. In the retail furnishing trade definite systems of apprenticeship are not usual in establishments confined solely to furniture dealing, boys being for the most part employed as juniors and progressing to the position of salesman without any definite period of service being fixed; but in some of the large furnishing stores and in departmental stores and co-operative societies boys and girls are employed both as apprentices and as learners. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1928.)

Labour Legislation in France

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LABOUR CODE

A Bill for the amendment of several sections of Book I of the Labour Code was introduced by the French Government in the Chamber of Deputies on 23rd December 1927, and is at present being considered by the Labour Committee of the Chamber. The Bill relates to the public display of the service regulations of industrial and commercial establishments, the penalties laid down by employers for breach of such regulations, the application of provisions relating to notice of dismissal and summary dismissal in the case of a plurality of employers, and the responsibility

of an employer who engages a worker already engaged by another employer.

SERVICE REGULATIONS

The Bill provides that in establishments where service regulations exist they shall be posted up in the places where workers are engaged or work is carried on. Copies of all service regulations and of amendments to such regulations must be deposited with the secretariat of the *Conseil de Prud'hommes* of the place where the establishment is situated. Employers are forbidden to impose fines for failure to observe the provisions of service regulations. In establishments where a system of fines is in existence at the time of promulgation of the Act it is to be abolished within six months. The maintenance of such a system, or its introduction in new establishments, may, however, be authorised by the Divisional Factory Inspector, after consultation with the organisations of employers and workers concerned. In such cases the following conditions are to be observed:—

Fines may be inflicted only for breach of discipline or regulations relating to the hygiene and safety of the workers;

The rate shall be determined by service regulations properly drawn up;

The total amount of fines imposed in any one day may not exceed one-third of the daily wage;

The amount of the fines shall be handed over to a benevolent fund for the assistance of the staff;

All regulations contrary to the above provisions shall be null and void;

The imposition of fines must be recorded in a special register showing the use made of the money. The register shall be kept constantly at the disposal of the factory inspectors.

Offences under this section be punishable by a court of summary jurisdiction, the penalty being a fine not exceeding 5,000 francs, or imprisonment for not more than five days.

NOTICE OF DISMISSAL

The Bill amends section 23 of Book I of the Labour Code by adding the following paragraph:

The provisions of the present section apply even when the employee is bound by contracts of service to more than one employer.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EMPLOYER

The Bill adds a new section (23a) containing the following provision:

When a paid worker illegally breaks a labour contract, and enters into another contract, the new employer shall be solely responsible for the damage incurred by the previous employer if:

(1) It can be shown that he was instrumental in bringing about the breach of contract; or

(2) He knew that the worker whom he engaged was already bound by a labour contract to another employer; or

(3) He has continued to employ a worker after learning that such worker was still bound to another employer by a labour contract.

(From "Industrial and Labour Information" Geneva, March 5, 1928.)

Hours of Work

TWO STUDIES BY THE INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE RESEARCH BOARD

The Industrial Fatigue Research Board has recently issued a report containing the results of two studies on hours of work. The first deals with five-hour spells for women, with reference to rest pauses and the two shift system in certain factories.

In the first study the suitability of an unbroken five-hour spell for women is discussed. The following is a summary of the conclusions arrived at.

The adoption of a rest-pause with opportunity for refreshment during work spells of 5 hours' duration is desirable.

(a) for physiological reasons, dependent on the fact that there is often a period of 6 hours between breakfast and dinner;

(b) for psychological reasons, dependent on the relief from monotony.

The rest-pause increases the efficiency of the workers, for in certain occupations (with 44-hour work spells) the immediate effect of introducing a rest was to increase output by 2.8 per cent., whilst the improvement in other groups of workers who were tested some months after the introduction of the rest amounted to 6.2 per cent. Also the introduction of a rest appeared to reduce the labour turnover greatly.

A compulsory rest-pause is disadvantageous to output in a small number of semi-continuous occupations connected with the manufacture of chocolates and biscuits, because it involves the waste of a good deal more time than that of the nominal rest-pause. However, this objection can be avoided by employing temporary substitutes, and by arranging that various groups of women take their rest-pause successively, and not simultaneously. This principle can be advantageously applied to many other occupations.

For various reasons it is probable that a 10-minute rest-pause is better than one of 15 minutes.

The second study is devoted to exploring the effects on rate of output, loss of working time, absenteeism, sickness and labour turnover, of the double shift system for women as compared with a single day shift. The following is a summary of the results:—

(1) The operation of the two-shift system (as compared with a day system of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.) was studied in detail in eight factories, employing in all about 2,400 workers on shift-work.

(2) The few comparable data available suggest that the rate of work was often increased when workers were employed on the two-shift system. Owing, however, to the shorter hours worked by the shift-workers (on the average 40½ hours compared with 46 hours), the weekly output per worker was lowered by 4 per cent.

(3) A comparison of the lost time records in one factory suggests that absenteeism amongst the shift-workers was greater than amongst the day-workers.

(4) Neither system was shown to have any advantage over the other in respect of the sickness experienced. So far as could be ascertained by questioning the workers, a deficiency of sleep during the week of morning shifts was usually compensated for during the week of afternoon shifts.

(5) In one large factory it was found that the labour turnover was slightly greater in departments engaged on shift-work than departments on day-work. But in departments in which there were changes from day to shift-work and vice versa, the turnover was approximately equal.

Prevention of Industrial Accidents

An ideal American periodical contains a short essay under the heading "The Accident Victim's Friend."

The author pointed out that such a leading daily paper would not only give the news, but also the most serious news. Public opinion would demand energetic measures to combat the terrible conditions which led to such results, etc. The losses were genuine, but were those most closely affected? Small ones indeed. They did not lead to no sudden catastrophe, but only to the accident on the building site during a period of six months. And, as we would expect, in the State of Pennsylvania.

This is an impressive but, alas, no exceptional example of the tremendous sacrifices of life and health which are made in our day, month by month, and year by year on the battlefield of labour. Statistics throw a startling light on this circumstance. Unfortunately they are not sufficiently developed to allow of adequate comparison on the state of industrial safety in the different countries. Yet we cannot refrain from giving at least a few figures to illustrate the great extension of the problem of industrial accident prevention. In 1923 the number of fatal accidents to workers was 2,082 in France and 3,302 in England. The corresponding figure for Germany in 1925 was 5,285. In the United States of America the total number of fatal industrial accidents is estimated at 20,000 to 25,000 a year. The number of injuries sustained at work is far more than one hundred times as high. Compared with the figures of fatal accidents already given, the number of reported injuries was 777,975 in France and 652,837 in Germany, while the number for which compensation was paid in England was 480,035. These include high figures of cases of more or less serious crippling, leading to a permanent reduction in working capacity. The mass of pain, distress, and lost prospects concealed in these figures cannot be imagined, leaving altogether aside the serious material losses suffered by individuals and the community as a whole in consequence of accidents. It is estimated that contributions to compulsory accident insurance roughly average 1 to 2 per cent. of wages. In Germany the industrial and agricultural accident insurance associations paid out 317,700,000 marks as compensation in 1921. The official English estimate for 1925 is over £12,000,000. In the United States a method has been used to estimate the annual loss in working days, a fatal accident being considered equivalent to a loss of 6,000 days. The result is an annual average of 40 million working weeks lost. In other words, 800,000 persons must work steadily throughout the year merely to take the place of those who have permanently or temporarily lost all or part of their working capacity in consequence of an accident.

There can be no question that it is worth while to leave nothing undone which may help to reduce these losses and injuries. Much has already been done, but much still remains. Fortunately, during the last few years there have been many more instances than before to prove that organised accident prevention work is very successful in practice. Many undertakings, large and small, report a reduction in their accidents to a half or even a fifth within a few years. Only one illustration will be given here, of particular importance because it relates to a large and dangerous industry, namely, the U. S. Steel Corporation. The following figures refer to some 400,000 workers on an average. Taking the average for the period 1910-1914, there were 59.2 accidents per million hours of work, involving a loss of 4.1 working days per thousand hours. These figures were steadily brought down with success, and in 1926 the proportions were 25.3 and 2.9 respectively. In the period 1910-1914 there were 1,524 fatal accidents among 1,310,911 workers. In 1925 and 1926 there were 529 fatal accidents among 881,915 workers, a figure which on the 1910-1914 basis would have been 1,025. The preserving safety work of this undertaking may therefore take the credit for saving 496 human lives in two years.

What was possible in this one case must be possible everywhere. And no one who can make however small a contribution to the work of accident prevention should hold aloof. The following study is intended as a modest contribution to this end. It should make it easier for the Governments of the States, Members and Delegates to the Eleventh International Labour Conference to decide on their attitude towards the question of accident prevention in industrial undertakings, so that they may return from the Session of the Conference conscious that they have earned the gratitude of the many who will be able to preserve their life and health because their work is made less dangerous. (*Preface to "Prevention of Industrial Accidents": First Discussion at the 11th Session of the International Labour Conference, Geneva, 1928.*)

Price Level in America

1926 AS BASIC YEAR

The American Bureau of Labour in readjusting its index numbers for wholesale prices has taken the significant step of adopting 1926 as the new basic year, thus indicating that the average prices ruling during that period may be regarded as having returned as nearly to normal as they are ever likely to attain. Professor Cassel, who draws attention to this fact in the recent report of the Skandinaviska Kreditaktiebolaget, regards this move as of considerable moral importance, in that the general public will be brought to realize that the pre-war price level must now be looked upon as belonging to the domain of history and lacking actual importance. Professor Cassel's view is interesting because so long as the price level was quoted as 150 in relation to 100 of the basic year 1913 it was natural for the public to cling to the notion that the pre-war figure was the only really normal level towards the ultimate restoration of which endeavours must be directed—an idea that has exercised an injurious influence in more than one direction. (*From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, February 4, 1928.*)

The American Cotton Textile Industry

CHANGES IN LOCALIZATION

The News-Bulletin of the National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc., of 15th February 1928 contains an interesting article on the changes in the localization of the American cotton textile industry. It is pointed out that when an industry is in the stage of rapid growth, the discovery of new industrial areas may not affect the established industry, but where growth is slow or has ceased, a new localization may result in serious consequences to the old. Such a situation, it is believed, has arisen in the American textile industry where it is failing in the North and growing in the South. The South no doubt has the advantage of having to pay lower wages than the North. But this alone is not a deciding factor in fixing the future localization of the industry. "Industry is subject to considerable inertia which resists its movement from one region to another. The existence of a supply of experienced labour and of substantial numbers of persons who have managerial capacity and who know the business, which is characteristic of the established industrial area, often acts to interrupt a trend that on its surface appears irresistible. Observers of the cotton textile industry point to the operation of such recuperative forces in the New England states that may conceivably interrupt, if not change, the trend of the industry toward the South."

The Wages Tax in Spain

By Royal Decrees of 3rd and 9th January 1928, the Spanish Government applied the income tax to wages exceeding 3,250 pesetas a year.

Protests were made by workers in the industrial centres, including Madrid and Barcelona, and partial strikes were declared, but ended as the result of an official statement to the effect that if the strikers did not resume work within forty-eight hours the undertakings would be authorised to dismiss them.

The National Committee of the General Federation of Labour sent a delegation to the Prime Minister to explain the effect of the new Decrees on the workers. The Prime Minister stated that the Decrees could not, under any circumstances, be repealed, but he was disposed to make certain concessions. This reply relieved the situation to some extent.

The newspaper of the Spanish National Federation of "Free" Trade Unions published a manifesto protesting against the new tax. It pointed out that though wages were higher at present than they were in 1914, that did not prove that the position of the workers had improved.

Catalonian manufacturers have complained to the Governor that certain employers have raised the wages of their staffs in such a way as to take upon themselves the burden of the new tax. It is held that this is contrary to the spirit of the Decree. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 5, 1928.*)

Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Returns for First Quarter 1928

AN INCREASE OF OVER 9 PER CENT. IN MEMBERSHIP

The Quarterly Reviews of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency prepared by the Labour Office used to be published in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for the months of March, June, September and December. The review for the third quarter of the year 1927 was however published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for the month of October. In future these reviews will be published in the issues for the months of January, April, July and October. The latest information for the first quarter of the year 1928 is summarised in three tables on pages 700 to 721 of this issue. Table I gives the names of the Federations or Associations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the names of the principal office-bearers of each Federation, and the names of the affiliated Unions in each case. Table II gives, by localities or centres, the names of all Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the number of members in each Union and the names and addresses of the principal office-bearers. Table III shows the rates of membership fees for different classes of members, the average monthly income for the latest quarter for which information is available and the average monthly expenditure in the same way for each of the Unions given in Table II.

The most important event associated with the Trade Union movement in the Bombay Presidency since the publication of the last review is the formation of a new Federation called the Bombay Trades Council to which the following 11 Unions have so far affiliated themselves as members—

- (1) The B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Union.
- (2) The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union.
- (3) The Bombay Municipal Workmen's Union.
- (4) The Jari Workers' Union.
- (5) The G.I.P. Railway Employees' General Union.
- (6) The Kasbi Karigars' Union.
- (7) The Press Workers' Union.
- (8) The Bombay Dock Workers' Union.
- (9) The Bombay Engineering Men's Union.
- (10) The Bombay Mill Workers' Union.
- (11) The newly revived Bombay Tramwaymen's Union.

Three new Unions have been formed in Bombay City: (1) The Bombay Dock Workers' Union which is primarily intended for all classes of dock workers who are not employed under the Bombay Port Trust; (2) the Bombay Engineering Men's Union, and (3) the Bombay Mill Workers' Union. The Alcock Ashdown Employees' Union has been merged in the new Engineering Men's Union. A new Union of Municipal Sweepers has been formed in Ahmedabad under the presidentship of Mrs. Anusuya Sarabhai. The North Western Railway Union (Sukkur District) has ceased to function as a separate Union.

The total number of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency as incorporated in Tables II and III now stands at 74 as compared with 72 as reported in the January 1928 issue of the *Labour Gazette* and as compared with 36 Unions reported just a little over three years ago in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for March 1925. Out of the 74 Unions in the Presidency, 34 are in Bombay City, 10 in Ahmedabad and 30 in the rest of the Presidency. The total membership of these Unions stands at 95,321 as compared with 87,340 showing an increase of 9·14 per cent. The number of members in the Unions having their offices in Bombay City rose from 59,489 to 67,239 or by 13·03 per cent. The membership of the Ahmedabad Unions rose from 19,229 to 19,663 or by 2·26 per cent. The number of members in the Unions in the rest of the Presidency fell from 8622 to 8419 or by 2·35 per cent. The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions:—

Summary Table showing the membership of the Unions

Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter	Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter
June 1922 ..	22	57,914		June 1925 ..	38	53,591	+ 3·8
Sept 1922 ..	23	52,776	— 8·87	Sept 1925 ..	38	54,175	+ 1·09
Dec 1922 ..	22	51,472	— 2·47	Dec 1925 ..	38	49,318	— 8·97
Mar 1923 ..	22	48,669	— 5·45	Mar 1926 ..	51	59,544	+20·73
June 1923 ..	21	51,276	+ 5·08	June 1926 ..	53	64,572	+ 8·44
Sept 1923 ..	19	41,646	—18·77	Sept 1926 ..	56	72,411	+12·14
Dec 1923 ..	19	46,037	+10·54	Dec 1926 ..	56	74,875	+ 3·4
Mar 1924 ..	21	48,502	+ 5·4	Mar 1927 ..	56	75,602	+ 0·97
June 1924 ..	21	49,729	+ 2·5	June 1927 ..	66	75,847	+ 0·32
Sept 1924 ..	21	47,242	— 5·0	Sept 1927 ..	68	81,107	+ 6·94
Dec 1924 ..	36	52,227	+10·7	Dec 1927 ..	72	87,340	+ 7·68
Mar 1925 ..	36	51,625	— 1·25	Mar 1928 ..	74	95,321	+ 9·14

The information in connection with Trade Unions is collected through Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District Officers in the Presidency, including Sind. The information for all the Unions affiliated to the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association and the Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union is procured from time to time from the head offices of these Associations in Bombay. Every endeavour is made to include in the quarterly review all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, but it often happens that some Unions do not notify their existence to the authorities concerned with the collection of the necessary information. It would be desirable both in the interests of the Unions themselves and of the Labour Office, if the persons who are concerned with the creation of new Unions notify their formation either to the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence (Labour Office), at Bombay or to the Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad.

Federations of Trade Unions

Table I on pages 700 to 702 of this issue shows that there are six Federations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—(1) The Central Labour Board in Bombay; (2) The Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association with its head office in Bombay; (3) The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union also with its head office in Bombay; (4) The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union with its head office in Bombay; (5) The Labour Union in Ahmedabad; and (6) the newly formed Bombay Trades Council with its head office in Bombay. The Labour Union in Ahmedabad is not exactly a Federation in the accepted sense of the term but rather a Central Bureau which controls, under one management, all the various Unions of cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad City. This Union has, however, during the quarter under review, extended its sphere of activities by organising a new Union of Municipal Sweepers in Ahmedabad City. The constitution of the first three Federations and the terms of affiliation of each of their members was fully described in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1925 and March 1926.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union, which had been reported as a Federation of the three Unions of the Port Trust workers in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1926 decided not to function as a Federation but as a Central Council of the Bombay Port Trust employees. This Council is composed of representatives from each of the three Port Trust Unions and functions only where the interests of all the workers of the different departments of the Bombay Port Trust are concerned. The constitution of the G.I.P. Railway Staff Union still remains undecided but it is understood that Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., M.L.C., who has been appointed its Honorary General Secretary is now engaged in drafting the constitution of the Federation which will be duly registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act.

The Central Labour Board.—In view of the formation of the Bombay Trades Council to which half the number of Union members of the Board are also affiliated, the Central Labour Board will cease to concern itself with matters which will in future be dealt with by the Trades Council. It will confine its activities mainly to Purity Mission work and to organising and delivering lectures on temperance, thrift and hygiene. The Board will, however, continue to maintain its separate identity for purposes of submitting representations to Government in response to enquiries concerning questions dealing with new proposals for Labour legislation and matters common to Labour in general.

The Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association.—The most important event during the quarter under review from the view-point of the members of this Association was the publication of the third instalment of the scheme of a general revision of pay, status and prospects granted to all classes of employees in the Postal and Telegraph Department by the Government of India within the last three years. Among the more important concessions granted are: (1) a general improvement in the time scale of pay of all Postal clerks throughout India as a result of which the average pay of a clerk has been increased by about Rs. 15 per month;

(2) a similar improvement in the time scale for Postmen and other classes of Postal employees; (3) substantial all round reductions in the periods for reaching the maxima in time scales of pay; (4) improved time scales for Assistant Directors-General, Presidency Postmasters, Deputy Postmasters-General, Superintendents of Post Offices and R. M. S. and Unconnected Postmasters; (5) the merging of the first and second Grades of Rs. 145-5-170 and Rs. 175-10-225 into a common grade of Rs. 160-10-250; (6) time scales of pay for Porters and Runners; (7) removal of the distinction in the rates of pay originally granted to village and town Postmen; (8) the granting of a higher percentage of leave reserve to the Railway Mail Service; (9) the admittance of R. M. S. workers to out-station allowance; and (10) abolition of the differences of pay between the Lower Grades in the R. M. S., the D. L. O. and the Post Offices. The Association will now be engaged in resubmitting representations to Government for the acceptance of the principle of setting up Wages Boards as has been done in England.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of this Union during the quarter under review.

The Ahmedabad Labour Union.—This Union was up to January 1926 concerned with the cotton mill operatives only but since that date it has, as already stated above, organised a new Union of Municipal Sweepers. The office-bearers of the new Union are the same as those of the Labour Union. The conditions of life of the sweepers are being studied and it is proposed to represent their grievances regarding low pay, long hours of work, no holidays and corruption among their immediate superiors to the Municipal authorities.

As regards the Unions of cotton mill operatives, only the Frame Department Union shows an increase of membership amounting to 100. The Winders' Union and the Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union are reported as not showing any substantial record of work. It was stated in the last quarterly review that Engineering Workers had joined the Firemen's Union in large numbers in order to agitate for getting back their weekly holiday. The net result of their agitation has been that some of the mills which originally intended to abolish the holiday have decided not to do so for the present.

The balance sheets and the statements of income and expenditure of the different Unions for the year 1926 have now been published. A study of these statements shows that except in the case of the Union of Engineering Workers the income of the different Unions fell short of their expenditure and the excess of expenditure was made up from the savings of previous years. The major items of expenditure are education, medicine and establishment.

The most important activity in which the Union is engaged at present is a reorganisation in the method of enrolling members. In addition to enrolling members by mills, the Union is tackling the problem of enrolling members by localities. This procedure is expected to increase the membership of the Union considerably. The Union has arranged to get a sum of Rs. 10,000 from the Gujarat Provincial Congress Committee in order

to meet the demands for loans from labourers for repairing their houses which were damaged by last year's floods. The Council of Representatives of the Union has passed a resolution deploring the conditions of work of labourers in Native States and has authorised the Secretary to take suitable steps to bring them on a line with those prevailing in British India.

The normal activities of the Union in regard to settlement of complaints, compensation claims, grain shops, etc., continued as usual. The *Majur Sandesh* published Indian and Foreign News of interest to labour. Some of the important articles published dealt with the Bombay mill strike, the history of Trade Unionism in England, conditions in Soviet Russia and the activities of the Indian National Congress. Some labourers have failed to repay the loans granted by the Co-operative Branch of the Union and the Secretary is reported to have been put to the disagreeable necessity of filing suits against them. The total number of patients treated at the two dispensaries maintained by the Union was 2510 during the quarter under review of whom 2440 were out-door and the remaining 70 in-door patients. The number of operations performed amounted to 54. The Union has 730 boys and 79 girls on the rolls of the 13 day schools, 621 boys in the 16 night schools, 49 boys and 33 girls in the 2 Montessori schools and 27 boys in the Boarding school conducted by the Union. The average attendance came to 80 per cent. in the day schools and 73 per cent. in the night schools. The above figures show an addition of three schools as compared with those reported in the previous review. These additional schools have been opened specially for the benefit of Municipal sweepers.

The Bombay Trades Council.—Thirty-two representatives of 12 Trade Unions in the City of Bombay met at the offices of the B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Union, Parel, on the 11th February 1928 on the invitation of Mr. S. H. Jhabvala and a resolution was passed at the meeting to form a Trades Council for the City of Bombay. Mr. S. H. Jhabvala was appointed President of the Council, Messrs. R. S. Nimbkar and Marcell Fernandes, Joint Honorary Secretaries and Mr. Syed Hussein, Honorary Treasurer. The members of the Executive Council are Messrs. K. G. Kulkarny, V. N. Juvekar, B. K. Parab, K. N. Joglekar and S. S. Mirajkar.

The objects of this Council are to co-ordinate the efforts and activities of all the Labour Unions and the Branches of such Unions in the City of Bombay and suburbs generally to further the interests of the workers in economic and political matters, to assist in local industrial disputes and generally to watch local conditions of labour in the interests of the workers, to organise educational classes on Trade Unionism and to carry on propaganda among the working classes by organising periodic demonstrations, to become the co-ordinating body in Bombay to assist in the economic and political emancipation of the workers and to build a strong Trade Union movement with a real working class leadership. The Council decided to appoint a Youth Sub-Committee to assist in organising young workers with a view to educate them for future leadership.

The Council will consist of delegates elected from affiliated Organisations and Branches. An Executive Committee which shall be responsible to the Delegates' meeting, is to be elected bi-annually. An endeavour will be made to make the Executive Committee as representative as possible

of all branches of trade and industry in Bombay. Meetings of the Executive Committee are to be held every two weeks and a full Delegates' meeting will be held once a month. The rates of affiliation fees are as follows—

Rs. 5	for Trade Unions with a membership of 500.
10	do. do. do. between 500 and 2000.
15	do. do. do. do. 2000 and 3000.
20	do. do. do. do. 3000 and 5000.
25	do. do. do. do. above 5000.

Each affiliated Trade Union will be entitled to send one delegate for every 500 members or fraction thereof to the Delegates' meeting.

In addition to the six Federations of Trade Unions dealt with above, there is also an All India Trade Union Congress with a Provincial Committee for the Bombay Presidency which has the management of matters connected with the Bombay Unions. The following Unions, in the Bombay Presidency are affiliated to the Indian Trade Union congress—

- (1) B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Union.
- (2) Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.
- (3) Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union.
- (4) Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union.
- (5) Bombay Textile Labour Union.
- (6) Bombay Press Workers' Union.
- (7) Clerks Union.
- (8) G.I.P. Railway Staff Union.
- (9) G.I.P. Railway Workmen's Union.
- (10) Girmi Kamgar Mahamandal.
- (11) Government Peons' and Menials' Union.
- (12) Indian Seamen's Union.
- (13) North Western Railway Union, Karachi.
- (14) Wadi Bundar Staff Union (G.I.P. Ry.).

PROGRESS OF INDIVIDUAL UNIONS

BOMBAY

The Bombay Textile Labour Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 7667 to 8234 during the quarter. The average monthly income during this period amounted to Rs. 1,128 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 761. The amount of cash on hand as at 1st March 1928 stood at Rs. 13,910-9-4. Nine propaganda meetings, 11 meetings of Mill Committees and 3 reception meetings were held during the quarter under review.

During the past three months the Union actively concerned itself with six strikes which took place in the cotton mills in Bombay City in connection with the introduction of more efficient methods of working by the substitution of three loom working for two loom working and the minding of double sides of spinning frames instead of single sides as heretofore. The Union was successful in removing the grievances of the workers in most of the cases and was able to obtain as satisfactory terms as it could under the circumstances in the remainder. It organised relief work for the strikers during the strike in the mills under the control of Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Company and spent an amount of Rs. 300 for this purpose. It succeeded,

by two court cases, in getting the workers an amount of nearly Rs. 11½. It has also prepared "Mela" (a band of singing boys) for carrying on the propaganda work of the Union. The Union is very gratified at the nomination by some textile Unions in India of its Secretary, Mr. R. B. Bakhale, as the fraternal delegate for the International Congress of Textile Workers to be held at Ghent at the end of May next. Mr. R. B. Bakhale leaves for Europe on the 5th May. The following statement shows the number of complaints received by the Union from its members during the year 1927 classified according to their nature and their result—

Nature of Complaints	Total No. of complaints	Successful	Unsuccessful	Dropped or compromised	Filed	Pending
1. Dismissal	56	29	11	11	1	2
2. Refusal of re-employment	10	3	1	3	..	..
3. Reduction in rates of wages	40	6	10	12	..	..
4. Withholding of wages	6	2	1	3	..	..
5. Fines	9	7	1	1	..	1
6. Assault and Brakes	9	2	..	7	..	..
7. Compensation for Accidents	10	6	..	2	..	..
8. Gratuity and Provident Fund	1	..	..	..	..	2
9. Breaches of Factory Act	19	3	..	16	..	..
10. Spoiled Cloth	28	15	5	5	..	3
11. Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	197	92	29	65	3	1

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma Limited—The membership of this Union fell from 1801 to 1699, which is attributed to the removal of the names of members in arrears with their subscription fees. The following table shows the distribution of the present effective membership over the various Railways in India—

Railway Administration	Class of Members					Total number of members
	A	B	C	D	E	
G. S. P. Railway	763	45	29	13	11	861
B. R. & C. I. Railway	60	6	8	13	14	91
M. & S. M. Railway	37	19	28	107	52	243
E. I. Railway	37	5	5	7	4	68
N. W. Railway	72	4	3	6	..	85
N. G. S. Railway	28	23	20	51	5	127
E. I. Railway	195	1	3	20	1	220
A. D. Railway	2	..	..	..	..	2
Total	1,194	103	96	217	89	1,699

The numbers of members of the different classes shown against each Railway are those who definitely belong to one or other of the 52 branches of the Society which are scattered over the whole of India. The number of members on the rolls of the Society's Voluntary Legal Defence and Protection Fund fell from 1199 as reported in the previous quarter to 1169 during the quarter under review. The number of members subscribing to the Society's Family Benefit Fund amounted to 423 and to the Voluntary Sick Benefit Fund to 91. The average monthly income during the quarter amounted to Rs. 2450 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 2000. This Association convened a special meeting of a Subcommittee of its Executive from the 2nd to the 5th April in order to revise its constitution with a view to registering the Association, at present unregistered under the Indian Companies Act, 1913, under the Indian Trade Unions Act.

The All India and Burma Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association—The membership of this Union, which is limited to Covenanted Europeans employed as foremen in railway workshops in India, increased from 325 to 420 during the quarter. The Association was registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act on the 8th March 1928. In November 1926 the Association submitted a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy regarding the granting of the Lee Commission's recommendations to the Subordinate Covenanted Railway Servants. As no decision had been reached in the matter, the Association sent a reminder on the 29th February 1928. The annual conference of the Association was held at Ajmer on the 13th and 14th December when delegates representing all railways in India attended. At the present moment they are engaged in collecting information by means of a questionnaire with regard to individual grievances concerning pay, status and prospects of each of its members.

The Indian Seamen's Union—The membership of this Union increased from 18,371 to 19,222. The distribution of this membership in the three departments which comprise the Union is as follows:—

Deck Department	..	..	3,432
Engine Department	..	..	4,110
Saloon Department	..	..	11,680

The average monthly income amounted to Rs. 1,662 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 1,368. During the quarter ending 29th February 1928, seven meetings of the Executive Council were held and the Engine Department Committee met once. On an average there was over 60 per cent. attendance at the meetings of the Committees. A special general meeting of the members of the Union was held in the Union's hall on the 4th March 1928 under the presidency of Mr. L. G. Pradhan, B.A., LL.B., Vice-President of the Union. Mr. A. A. Purcell, M.P., addressed Indian seamen on the importance of their solidarity and exhorted them to unite together into one single Union namely, the Indian Seamen's Union, for their own benefit. The grievances of seamen due to the existence of the shipping brokers system were brought to the knowledge of Mr. Purcell who was requested to champion the cause of Indian seamen.

in the British Parliament. The Willingdon Sports Club continued to extend its patronage to the Union by requisitioning the services of the unemployed members of the Saloon Department for service as waiters. During the quarter ending 29th February 1928, 14 such requisitions were received from the Club and 304 waiters were supplied by the Union.

A deputation of the members of the Union waited on the Honourable Sir Geoffrey Corbett, Secretary to the Government of India in the Commerce Department on the 20th December 1927 and Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., Treasurer of the Union, Mr. Syed Munawar, M.L.C., General Secretary, Mr. P. K. Kanekar of the Social Service League and a few representatives of each of the three Departments of the Union conducted him round several Goan Clubs in various localities of the City in order to enable him to get a first-hand knowledge of the conditions under which Indian Seamen live, the indefinite periods of their unemployment, their heavy indebtedness and other matters concerning their life and labour. A deputation of the Union again waited on Sir Geoffrey at the New Custom House on the 21st December when a memorial was submitted to him regarding the grievances of seamen, the present system of recruitment through shipping brokers and the enormous sums which were alleged that seamen were required to pay to some of the ship's officers in order to get employment. An early abolition of the broker system was asked for. Sir Geoffrey discussed with the members of the deputation some aspects of the recruitment of seamen and an early consideration of the whole question by Government was promised.

A joint conference of the representatives of the Indian Seamen's Union and the Bombay Seamen's Union was held on Sunday the 11th March 1928 at the residence of Mr. V. De Braganca Cunha at Napean Road, Malabar Hill, Bombay. Mr. De Braganca who was chosen at the meeting of the procuradores of the Goan Clubs in Bombay held on the 29th January 1928 to bring about an amicable settlement of the dispute between the two factions of the Goan seamen thought the way was clear for an open and frank discussion of the Goan Seamen problem. He began with a brief history of the circumstances that led to this preliminary meeting and he ended with the belief that Goan seamen were sufficiently serious minded to be able to act in consort with their own popular leaders. The pivot round which the discussions proceeded was the establishment of a separate department for the Goan Saloon crew and a co-ordination of the existing Indian Seamen's Union towards the ultimate objects of safeguarding the interests of Goan seamen. It was suggested by the Secretary of the Bombay Seamen's Union that Mr. Joseph Baptista and Father Herculano Gonsalves, the Goan Chaplain of Sonapur, should be made members of the Committee to draw up the constitution for the separate Saloon Department. Mr. De Braganca Cunha offered to co-operate with the Committee. The meeting however adjourned *sine die* without any definite conclusion in the matter of the amalgamation of the two Unions.

The Seamen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased by 119 to 8285 during the quarter. The average monthly income fell from Rs. 2439 as reported for the last quarter to Rs. 1450 whereas the average monthly expenditure increased from Rs. 573 to Rs. 1075. With regard

to the question of the amalgamation of the two Seamen's Unions in Bombay the officials of the Seamen's Unions stated that they are not agreeable to an agreement with the Indian Seamen's Union as it is constituted at present but that they are agreeable to reopen negotiations on the basis of a Union exclusively intended for Goan Saloon crew and the formation of separate Unions for Deck and Engine crews—these separate Unions to be affiliated to a Central Federation having as its Branches all Seamen's Unions in the Bombay Presidency.

The Government Peons' and Menials' Union.—The number of members of this Union fell from 1061 to 1000 during the quarter. According to the latest information available the distribution of the members of this Union over different Government offices in Bombay is as follows:—

New Custom House	..	406
Income Tax Office	..	134
High Court	..	126
Offices in the Old Custom House	..	125
Secretariat	..	97
Accountant General's Office	..	53
Small Causes Court	..	33
Office of the Deputy Controller of Currency	..	6
Miscellaneous Government Offices	..	20
Total	..	1,000

The first annual general meeting of the Union was held in Bombay on the 29th January with Mr. F. J. Ginwala in the chair. About 300 members attended. The annual report and the balance sheet for the year 1926-27 were adopted. A resolution was passed at the meeting requesting the Government of Bombay to grant all the members of the peons and menial establishment pension to the extent of half the amount of their pay as in the case of other classes of Government servants. The statements of accounts show that the revenue during the year under report amounted to Rs. 1739-4-0 and that expenditure amounted to Rs. 689-15-0. An amount of Rs. 500 was placed on fixed deposit and the balance of Rs. 549-5-0 was carried forward to the accounts of the next year. The amount recoverable by the Union from its members for arrears of subscriptions is Rs. 928-12-0.

The Girmi Kamgar Mahamandals.—No information regarding the number of members or the average monthly income and expenditure for the three Mahamandals was available for the quarter under review and the figures published for the previous quarter have been carried forward.

The G.I.P. Railway Workmen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 3222 to 5041 during the period December 1927 to March 1928. The average monthly expenditure fell from Rs. 503 to Rs. 411 whereas the average monthly income increased from Rs. 912 to Rs. 1404. This enormous rise in the membership of the Union is due to the cancellation of admission fees for the months of February and March 1928 and to the fight which the Union are putting up against the triennial medical examination of all workmen employed in the G.I.P. Railway workshops. General mass meetings of the members of the Union were held on the 17th,

20th and 21st February and 2nd, 9th and 12th March in various localities in Bombay for the purpose of organising demonstrations and general meetings against the triennial medical examination. Speeches were delivered at all the meetings to the effect that great injuries were being done to the men as a result of this examination because several workmen were disqualified for future employment on account of trifling ailments and debility due directly to the hard work which they had to do in the workshops. Some of the other resolutions passed at these meetings covered suspension of pay for gazetted holidays, free passes on the B. B. & C. I. Railway free in addition to the granting of free passes on the C. I. P. Railway and the removal of some miscellaneous grievances. At one meeting held on the 2nd March it was decided to hold mass meetings and prepare the workers for a general strike if the medical examination was not done away with as demanded by them. At the meeting held on the 9th March Mr. B. D. Mistry informed those present that he was one of the members of the deputation that waited on the Agent, C. I. P. Railway, regarding the question of medical examination. He stated that the Agent agreed to stop the triennial examination of the persons working in the C. I. P. Railway workshops till they attained the age of 45 after which they would again be medically examined. He thanked the Agent for his courtesy and characterised it as the Union's greatest success. Mr. Mistry also informed the meeting that the Agent would shortly recognise the Matunga and Parel Workshops Unions of the C. I. P. Railway. He appealed to the members to induce other workers to join the Union in order to derive the advantages and benefits of union. At the meeting held on the 12th March resolutions were again passed for rescinding of the orders regarding periodical medical examination and the reinstatement of all the men who were dismissed recently under the advice of the medical authorities of the C. I. P. Railway. In proposing these resolutions for general adoption, Mr. B. D. Mistry explained to the meeting that the Agent, C. I. P. Railway, was attempting to go back on his word regarding the discontinuance of the medical examination and that he with other labour leaders would approach him on the question again. A further appeal was made at the meeting for greater unity among the workers in the railway workshops which alone would bring about the granting of the demands made by them in respect of this matter.

The total funds of the Co-operative Society conducted by the Union stood at Rs. 1776-3-10 as at 1st March 1928 and the number of members on the rolls of the Society amounted to 96.

The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union.—With the object of increasing its membership the B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union held a "Labour Week" from the 14th February at Madhav Bhuvan, DeLisle Road, during which singing parties and shows of Indian jugglers were arranged for the entertainment of the men. Two meetings were held on the 16th and 17th February during the "Week" at which speeches were delivered exhorting the workers to join the Union. At a general meeting of the Union held on the 3rd March, medals were presented to our members who had taken a special interest in the work of the Union. During the "Labour Week" 661 new members during the "Labour Week." The

membership of the Union increased from 2521 to 3186 during the quarter. The average monthly income increased from Rs. 727 to Rs. 846 with a corresponding increase in the average monthly expenditure from Rs. 500 to Rs. 546.

The annual meeting of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union was held at DeLisle Road on the 5th April at which a meeting was held for celebrating "May Day" and for the election of the Union committee for the year 1928. Another resolution was also passed regarding the granting of 25 days of holiday. Another resolution was also passed regarding the recognition of the B. B. & C. I. Railway administration to recognise the

Municipal Officials' Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 468 to 468 during the quarter. The average monthly income increased from Rs. 480 to Rs. 480 with a corresponding increase in the average monthly expenditure from Rs. 300 to Rs. 300. In order to widen the scope of the Association and to improve the intellectual status of its members it was decided to open a library and a reading room. The Municipal Commissioner is reported to have been pleased to grant a sum of Rs. 500 towards the capital expenditure for the library. The opening ceremony of the library was performed by Mr. H. B. Mistry, C. I. E., I. C. S., Municipal Commissioner, Bombay, on the 11th February 1928, when a very large number of members and guests including Mr. H. P. Mody, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, the President of the Association and Mr. V. N. Chandavarkar, Barrister-at-Law, along with other officers of the Municipality were present.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 704 to 974 during the quarter. The average monthly income improved from Rs. 157 to Rs. 258 with a doubling of the average monthly expenditure of Rs. 88 to Rs. 167. The fifth annual general meeting of the Union was held at Hira Bagh on the 29th January with Mr. T. J. Ginwala in the chair when the annual report and the balance sheet for the year 1926-27 were adopted. The statement of income and expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1927 shows that subscriptions from members during the year amounted to Rs. 2429 which together with Rs. 243-14-8 as interest on investments brought the total income of the Union to Rs. 2872-14-8 during the year. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 1123-15-3 leaving an amount of Rs. 1748-15-5 to be transferred to the capital fund account. The balance sheet shows that the capital fund account including the amount carried to its credit from the accounts of the year under report stood at Rs. 7936-11-0 of which Rs. 313-7-10 represent value of furniture and fixtures on hand and the balance as the value of investments and cash on hand. The Union has started the publication of a monthly journal called the "Port Trust Kangar" in Marathi from the 14th February 1928.

The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.—The membership of this Union has remained steady at 468. The Union held its sixth annual general meeting at Hira Bagh, Bombay, on the 12th February with Mr. S. H. Jhabvala in the chair. Mr. P. W. McKie, Superintendent in charge of Telegraphs, was also present. The annual report and the balance sheet for the year 1926-27 were adopted. The statement of income and expenditure for the year under report shows that the total revenue from subscriptions during the year amounted to Rs. 931-9-0 which together

with Rs. 11-11-0 from interest on savings brought the total revenue to Rs. 945-4-0. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 752-12-3 and a balance of Rs. 197-9-7 was carried forward to the accounts of next year. The balance sheet shows that an amount of Rs. 1197-2-0 stands at the credit of the capital fund account as at 31st March 1927 and an amount of Rs. 150-1-4 under suspense account.

An extraordinary general meeting of the members of the Union was held at Hira Bagh on the 12th February 1928 at which resolutions were passed authorising the Union to submit to Government a memorial in connection with certain grievances of the members and a revision of certain rules pertaining to Telegraph peons. A resolution was also passed to alter the rules and regulations of the Union in order to bring them into line with the requirements of the Trade Unions Act.

The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union.—The membership of this Union fell from 395 to 238 during the quarter. A meeting of the members of the Union was held on the 28th February with Mr. O. E. Godfrey, Vice President of the Union, in the chair. Resolutions were passed requesting the Chairman of the Port Trust (a) to give 20 days casual leave, (b) to grant free passes on other Railways, (c) to revise the scales of pay, (d) to grant Bhatta allowances for work done on Sundays and holidays. It was resolved to declare a strike (after giving due notice) if the grievances were not redressed within one month.

The G.I.P. Railway Employees' General Union.—The membership of this Union has increased from 3000 to 4000 during the quarter. The Union has now opened eight branch centres at Igatpuri, Manmad, Bhusawal, Itarsi, Jhansi, Damoh, Nagpur and Lonavala. It has also started a monthly paper of its own in English and Marathi called *The G.I.P. Railwaymen*. A meeting of the members of the Union was held on the 25th January at Malunga with Mr. S. H. Jhabvala in the chair. The following important resolutions affecting all classes of workers on the G.I.P. Railway administration were passed:—

- (1) that working hours should be reduced to eight hours per day;
- (2) that medical examination as a means to retrenchment should be stopped;
- (3) that the Railway Company should contribute half the amount of money expended by Railway employees on the education of their children;
- (4) that privilege leave in the case of menial staff should be increased from 15 days to 30 days in a year;
- (5) that the Railway Board should be invited to look into the present arbitrary practice of fining; and
- (6) that the working hours of the coaching clerks should be reduced so as to give them time to take their meals.

In view of the fact that there exists at present a number of Unions of Railway employees which are under the Secretaryship of Mr. S. C. Joshi and that the existence of these was creating considerable confusion in relation to the Railway administration, it was decided to enter into negotiations with Mr. S. C. Joshi's Unions

with a view to an early amalgamation of all the existing Unions of different classes of G.I.P. Railway workmen.

The Bombay Dock Workers' Union.—This Union was formed in Bombay on the 12th February 1928 in order to organise and unite the whole of the dock workers on the dockside throughout Bombay. The immediate objects for which the Union has been formed are to secure for its members a permanent system of employment, accident compensation, adequate pension, sick and privilege leave and introduction of schemes of Benefit Insurance, formation of Co-operative Credit Societies, provision of medical and legal aid, opening of reading rooms and libraries, holding night schools, occupational socials and organising of lectures, processions and demonstrations for the benefit of the members. Although the primary object of this Union was to form a Union for Dock Workers outside the different Unions of the Bombay Port Trust employees, it has been decided to endeavour to bring all the existing members of the different Dock Workers' Unions in Bombay City into one strong Central Union. Mr. S. H. Jhabvala has been elected President of the new Union with Mr. S. S. Mirajkar as General Secretary.

The Bombay Millworkers' Union.—A meeting of the Bombay millworkers attended by about 200 mill mechanics was held at Parel on the 19th March under the Presidentship of Mr. S. H. Jhabvala when it was decided to start a new Union of cotton millworkers in Bombay City to be called "The Bombay Millworkers' Union." The Chairman said that they had no quarrel with the two existing Textile Unions but as these did not work properly and in the interests of the labourers themselves they had decided to start a new Union. It has been provisionally decided not to appoint a Managing Committee in the ordinary way. Mr. S. H. Jhabvala will be the Leader of the Union and it is intended to vest the administration of the Union in the hands of the general body of members who will direct their Leader as to the course of action to be followed.

The Remaining Unions in Bombay City.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of the rest of the Bombay Unions. The latest information in connection with membership, income and expenditure of all Unions not specifically dealt with in this review is given in Tables II and III, printed on pages 703 to 721 of this issue.

AHMEDABAD

The activities of the Unions of the cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad which are under the control of the local Labour Union have been dealt with under the heading "Federations of Trade Unions."

The B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Association.—The membership of this Association has increased from 7447 to 7606. The Association has been recognised by the Agent of the B.B. & C.I. Railway and it will be possible in future for its office-bearers to represent the grievances of the staff to the authorities concerned. Some of the grievances of the staff in the Meter-Gauge section are said to relate to fees in Railway schools being higher than in Government schools, same kind of uniform being

supplied to Brahmin watermen as well as to Bhangī sweepers, of getting leave experienced by the traffic and the menial staff and collection of compulsory subscriptions for presenting purses to superior officers on festive occasions such as marriages, etc.

The Gujarat Postmen's Union.—The annual general meeting of this Union was held on the 20th January 1928 when the same office-bearers were elected for the new year and it was decided to hold the Annual Session of the Bombay Provincial Postmen's Conference this year at Ahmedabad instead of at Baroda and to collect funds for this purpose.

REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

In view of the winding up of the two Unions of cotton mill operatives at Broach, the majority of the remaining Unions in the Bombay Presidency outside the cities of Bombay and Ahmedabad are Postal Unions, affiliated either to the Bombay Presidency Postal Association or to the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union. The activities of these Unions are more or less confined to constitutional agitation for the removal of specific grievances and for improvements in conditions of service. The remarks made under the headings of the two Federations of Postal Unions above therefore apply generally to the activities of the individual affiliated members as well. Full particulars regarding office-bearers, membership, income and expenditure of all known Trade Unions in the rest of the Presidency will be found in Tables II and III, printed on pages 703 to 721 of this issue.

It is noticed that great difficulty is now being experienced in collecting the necessary information for this review and for the tables published on pages 700 to 721 of this issue in view of the large increase in the number of Unions in Bombay. The main object in publishing quarterly reviews of Trade Unions in the *Labour Gazette* is to assist Trade Unionism in the Bombay Presidency by giving the latest and the most authentic information with regard to their membership, income and expenditure. If these reviews are to maintain the same standard that has now been reached it is absolutely necessary that the Secretaries and the Assistant Secretaries of the various Unions should do their utmost to co-operate with the Labour Office by supplying the information asked for as early as possible.

Labour Legislation in Mysore

In reply to an interpellation at the last Session (December 1927) of the Mysore Legislative Council, it was announced on behalf of the Government that a committee had been constituted to consider the lines on which legislative action might be taken to recognise trade unions with a view to enabling labour to be organised.

In the same session, the Government introduced a Workmen's Compensation Bill, which was later referred to a Select Committee. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," Geneva, January 23, 1928.)

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

LABOUR MAGAZINE VOL. VI, NO. 11, MARCH 1928 (Trade Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

- Special Articles: (1) *Social Revolution in Our Time*, by Herbert Tracey. I—Poets, Telegraphic Responses. pp. 483-486.
 (2) *Disruption: An Examination of Communist Influences in the Trade Unions*, by M. Citrine.—IV. The raid on the unions. pp. 487-491.
 (3) *Communist Federal Economic Council*, by S. Aufhäuser (Member of the Executive of the Federal Economic Council). pp. 495-497.
 (4) *Fascism and Anti-Fascism in Italy*, by Arturo Labriola. Part I. pp. 498-510.
 (5) *In the "Eight-fifteen"*, by T. S. Dickson. pp. 501-503.
 (6) *Is Whitleyism Worth While?* by E. P. Harries, J.P. (Technical Adviser to the Shipwrights and Shipwrights Association). pp. 508-510.
 (7) *Solomons in Committee*, by J. T. Scanlon. pp. 511 and 512.
 Routine Matter: As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE, VOL. X, NO. 110, FEBRUARY 1928. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

- Special Articles: (1) *Accident Prevention—Works Discipline and Co-operation*, by James Smith (Labour and Welfare Officer, Beyer, Peacock & Co. Ltd.).—Cleaning up the works, the foreman's education the basis of safety; the manager's part; safety bulletin boards; accident prevention committees. pp. 37-40.
 (2) *The Competitive Spirit in Accident Prevention*, by B. L. Lelliott (Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ltd.).—Co-operation of the individual; the team spirit; preparing the programme. pp. 40-44.
 (3) *A Model Factory and a Modern Welfare Scheme*. pp. 46-50.
 (4) *Preventing Accidents in Constructional Work*, by "Gang Foreman"—Handling materials; handling tools; faulty or broken tools; falling or flying objects; poor and broken stagings, scaffolds and runways; lack of toeboards, rails and screens; falls or slipping; protruding nails; ladders; ropes, chains and cables; machinery and equipment; miscellaneous. pp. 51-57.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XVII, NO. 3, MARCH 1928. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

- Special Articles: (1) *The Regulation of Minimum Wages as an International Problem*, by Dr. Karl Pribram (Chief of the Statistical Section, International Labour Office). pp. 317-331.
 (2) *The Prevention of Accidents in Industrial Undertakings*, by Dr. Friedrich Ritzmann (Chief of the Safety Service, International Labour Office).—The causes of industrial accidents; methods of accident prevention—technical methods, psychological methods; the international labour organization and accident prevention. pp. 332-348.
 (3) *Seasonal Fluctuations in Employment*. pp. 349-376.
 (4) *The Problem of Hours of Work in the Soviet Union: I*—The legal regulation of hours of work—the principle of the eight-hour day, the weakening of the regulations on hours of work. pp. 377-389.
 (5) *Labour Conditions in the Philippine Islands*—General; Asiatic immigration; emigration; wages and hours of work; employment of women and children; industrial organization; the bureau of labour. pp. 395-398.
 (6) *Unemployment Insurance in Queensland in 1925-1927*—Financial operations. pp. 399 and 400.
 (7) *The Work of Women in Delaware Vegetable Canning*—Hours and wages; the women workers; the camps. pp. 401-406.
 (8) *Employment of Young Persons in the Pennsylvania Glassware Industry*—Scope of study; ages of minors; occupations; hours and night work; working conditions and risks; sanitation and service facilities. pp. 407-411.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XXV, NO. 5, NOVEMBER 1927. (U. S. Department of Labour, Washington.)

- Special Articles: (1) *Increase in Union Wage Rates in 1927*.—Summary; union scales of wages and hours of labour in May 1927, by occupations. pp. 1-8.
 (2) *The International Federation of Trade Unions*, by Fritz Kummer, Stuttgart—Changes resulting from the war; reorganization in 1919; successes and failures; present membership; importance

of 1927 comprises transfer of central office from Amsterdam; dispute over presidency, international help in labour conflicts; demand for ratification of eight-hour day convention; opposition to war and militarism; need of a universal language. pp. 9-16.

(3) *The Unionization of Labour in China*, by S. K. Sheldon Tso, M.A. (Technical Adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture, China)—Origin of modern trade-unionism; ancient types of organization; labour organization of modern type; unionization in the south or Kwantung province; unionization in the Yangtze valley; unionization in the north. pp. 16-29.

(4) *The problem of the unskilled labourer with a large family*. pp. 34-38.

(5) *Effect of Low Income upon Health*—Sickness studies by various agencies; causes of child mortality according to economic status; relation of child sickness and mortality to economic status. pp. 38-41.

(6) *An Employer's View of High Wages and Industrial Relations*—The cultural war; the "bread and butter" of industry; labour and management; participation of labour in control of the problem of overemployment. pp. 45-49.

(7) *Labour Conditions in the Philippine Islands*—Occupational groups; Asiatic immigration—Chinese, Japanese, Hindus, Syrians, and Turks; labour supply; seasonal movement of labour; Filipino emigration to Hawaii; interland migration; agricultural colonization; labour troubles and contract labourers; working conditions—wages, working hours, living costs; labour organizations; agrarian disputes. pp. 49-56.

(8) *Accident Experience of Selected Industries in 1925 and 1926*. pp. 62-80.

(9) *Widows', Orphans', and Old-Age Contributory Pensions in England*—Widows' and orphans' pensions; methods of pension payments; non-contributory old-age pensions. pp. 108 and 109.

(10) *Child Endowment in New Zealand*—Effect on industry; influence on general wage levels; advantages of a national system. pp. 111-114.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. X, NO. 2, FEBRUARY 1928.
(Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *Changes in the Blood as Reflecting Industrial Damage*, by Dr. Selma Meyer (From the Laboratory of the Clinic of Professor Schlossmann in the Medical Academy in Düsseldorf) employing research material provided by Dr. Teleky, Medical Inspector of Factories, Danaberg—Benzal, toluol, and xylal; naphthalene, nitro compounds; arsine; thallium; trichlorethylene; cyanide poisoning; discussion and summary. pp. 29-54.

(2) *Metal Fume Fever: V. Results of the Inhalation by Animals of Zinc and Magnesium Oxide Fumes*, by Katherine R. Drinker, M. D. and Philip Drinker, Ch. E. (From the Departments of Physiology and of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.)—Introduction; experimental data—carbon dioxide control, zinc oxide, magnesium oxide; discussion; summary and conclusions. pp. 50-70.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVIII, NO. 2, FEBRUARY 1928. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Strikes and Lockouts in Canada and Other Countries, 1927*—Analysis of statistics. pp. 118-137.

(2) *Old-Age Pensions Regulations*. pp. 138-140.

(3) *Annual Report of the Department of Labour of Canada*—Industrial disputes investigation act; conciliation work; fair wages on Government contracts; statistics; Labour Gazette; labour organization; organization in industry, commerce and the professions in Canada; labour legislation in Canada; library; combines investigation act; Dominion government amputation; old age pensions act; employment offices co-ordination act; technical education act; international labour organization. pp. 141-145.

(4) *Annual Report of the Labour Department of Quebec*—Factories; electrical inspection; employment of children; Sunday observance; employment bureau; trade disputes act. pp. 146 and 147.

(5) *First Report of Women's Minimum Wage Commission of Quebec*—Cost of living; division of the province into zones; division of industries by groups; orders issued; conclusion. pp. 148 and 149.

(6) *New Scotia Fishery and Lumbering Industries and Workmen's Compensation*—Report and Recommendations of Provincial Royal Commission; the fishing industry; the lumber industry. pp. 150-153.

(7) *New Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain*—Number of insured persons at 1924 and 1925. pp. 154 and 155.

(8) *Accident Prevention in New Scotia Coal Mines*—Accidents from falls of roof and coal; accidents from mine hoists and locomotives. pp. 157-159.

(9) *Employers' Benefit Schemes in Canada*—Pension Fund of British Empire Steel Corporation. pp. 172 and 173.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes from Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation during February resulted in a reduction of £46,100 in the weekly full-time wages of 521,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £2,850 in those of 54,000 workpeople.

The changes affected principally workpeople in the building and the iron and steel industries. The great majority of the workpeople in the building industry sustained a reduction of ¼d. per hour under the operation of a cost-of-living sliding scale. In the iron and steel industries the principal changes were an increase amounting to 1 to 1½ per cent. on the current rates of most classes of steel smelters and millmen, except the lower-paid men, in various districts in England and Scotland; and a decrease equivalent to nearly 2 per cent. on the current rates of iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands. There were also reductions in the wages of Siemens steel makers in South-West Wales, and of blastfurnace workers in Cumberland and in North Lincolnshire. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1928.)

At 1st March the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 64 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 66 per cent. a month ago, and 71 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding percentage for 1st March was 55, as compared with 59 per cent. a month ago and 62 per cent. a year ago.

The fall in these percentages as compared with a month ago was due to reductions in the average prices of eggs, fish, flour and bread, and meat. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1928.)

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in February was 33. In addition, 13 disputes which began before February were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in February (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 13,200; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during February was about 107,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 10,000 workpeople involved and 50,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 5,700 workpeople involved and 65,000 days lost in February 1927. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1928.)

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay—contd.	City	15	Government Peons' and Menials Union—February 1926.	1,000	President—F. J. Ginwala, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. Hon. Treasurer—E. M. Bahadurji. Secretary—S. H. Jhabvala, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road. Hon. Secretary—R. F. Gurnani, M.A., Keshavnagar, L. S. Chawl Street, Bombay, No. 2.
		16	The Seamen's Union—March 1926.	8,385	President—B. L. Pereira (temporary). Honorary General Secretary—S. H. Jhabvala. Secretary—A. P. DeSa, 191-B, Cavel Street, Bombay P.O. 2.
		17	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union—1920.	238	President—F. J. Ginwala. Vice-President—O. E. Godfrey. Treasurer—G. K. Shet. Honorary General Secretary—S. H. Jhabvala. Hon. Secretary—B. K. Parab.
		18	The Bombay Port Trust Docks Staff Union—1926.	1,091	President—F. J. Ginwala. Vice-Presidents—(1) N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. (2) C. C. D'Sa. (3) C. S. Mandivkar. Treasurer—Tukaram Khrishnaji. Honorary General Secretary—S. H. Jhabvala. Secretary—P. P. Carvalho, Assistant Shed Superintendent, Port Trust Docks. Assistant Secretary—S. B. Singh.
		19	The Wadi Bundar Staff Union (G. I. P. Rly.)—1926. [Registered on 7th November 1927.]	419	President—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, M.L.C. Vice-President—N. G. Kulkarni. Treasurer—L. N. Savant. Honorary General Secretary—P. S. Bakhale, B.A., LL.B., Court Vakil. Joint Secretaries—(1) D. S. Vaidya (2) B. D. Jog.
		20	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union—1926.	160	President—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate. Secretary—P. S. Bakhale, B.A., LL.B., High Court Vakil.
		21	The Bombay Municipal Workmen's Union—March 1927. [Registered on 24th August 1927.]	3,000	President—S. H. Jhabvala. Honorary General Secretary—R. S. Nimbkar, Room No. 1, Improvement Trust Chawl, Block No. 17, Foras Road.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay—contd.	City	22	The Jari Workers (Gold thread workers) Union—March 1927.	325	President—S. H. Jhabvala. Secretary—Hafiz Khan, Choghri Mhola, Nal Bazar.
		23	The Municipal Officials' Union—April 1927.	496	President—H. P. Mody, M.A., LL.B., Advocate. Secretary—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, Soman Building, Girgaum Road, Bombay.
		24	The British India Steam Navigation Coy.'s Staff Union—May 1927.	200	President—S. H. Jhabvala. Legal Adviser—B. D. Mistry. Secretary—S. S. Mirajkar, Pheroze Building, Freere Road, Bombay. Assistant Secretary—Beilappa, Pheroze Building, Freere Road, Bombay.
		25	The G. I. P. Railway Employees' General Union—May 1927. [Registered on 31st October 1927.]	4,000	President—F. J. Ginwala. Vice-President—B. G. Horniman. Treasurer—G. K. Brahme. Honorary General Secretary—S. H. Jhabvala, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road, Parel. Assistant Secretary—Z. R. Chowdhery.
		26	The Kasbi Karigars' Union—March 1927. [Registered on 22nd December 1927.]	552	President—S. H. Jhabvala. Vice-President—Syed Ahmad Hussain. Secretary—Sibte Hassan, Ibrahim Building, 2nd floor, opp. J. J. Hospital Byculla.
		27	The Press Workers' Union—March 1927.	400	President—A. V. Chitre, Sahakari Press, Parel Road, Parel Settlement. Secretary—K. N. Joglekar, 168, Fanaswadi, Girgaum.
		28	The Shop Assistants' Union—May 1927.	150	President—S. H. Jhabvala. Secretary—V. Marfatia, Aspar's House, 7, Khetwadi, Bombay.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	29	The G.I.P. Railway Cabin Staff Union—July 1927. [Registered on 19th January 1928.]	455	President—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, M.L.C. Vice-President—C. H. Patwardhan, Vakil. Treasurer—P. S. Bakhale, Vakil.	Honorary General Secretary—A. H. Kirtikar, LL.B., Advocate, Bombay. Joint Secretaries—D. B. Gokhale, Deskar Kothari.
	30	All India and Burma Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association—October 1926. [Registered on 8th March 1928.]	420	President—R. Bell, Hubli. Vice-President—C. E. Townsend, C. 4, Wenden Avenue, Matunga, Bombay. Honorary General Treasurer—A. D. Ellis, Santa Cruz.	Honorary General Secretary—E. H. Turner, 12, Suparibag Road, Bombay.
	31	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Office Staff Union		President—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., J.P. Vice-President—A. H. Kirtikar. Treasurer—G. S. Paithankar.	General Secretary—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, M.L.C. Joint Secretaries—(1) M. B. Tili, (2) A. R. Ede.
	32	The Bombay Dock Workers' Union—February 1928.	650	President—S. H. Jhabvala. Vice-President—Pandarinath Ramkrish. Treasurers—(1) S. H. Jhabvala, (2) S. S. Mirajkar.	General Secretary—Shambhaji Mirajkar, Kirti Building, Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay. Assistant Secretaries—(1) S. P. Jathar, (2) Mahomed Hussein, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road, Mazgaon, Bombay.
	33	The Bombay Engineering Men's Union—February 1928.	250	*	*

* Not yet appointed.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	34	The Bombay Mill Workers' Union—March 1928. Total Members, Bombay City. 67,239	300	*	*
Ahmedabad ..	35	The Weavers' Union—February 1920.	825	President—Miss Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Secretary—Gulnar Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Murzapur Road, Ahmedabad. Assistant Secretary—Khanbhai Kanabhai Dams, Solicitor Girdhurlal's House, Mandvini Pole, Ahmedabad.
	36	The Winders' Union—June 1920.	160	Do. ..	Do.
	37	The Throstle Union—February 1920.	6,655	Do. ..	Do.
	38	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920.	3,300	Do. ..	Do.
	39	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union—September 1920.	432	Do. ..	Do.
	40	The Jobbers and Mukadams Union—March 1926.	180	Do. ..	Do.
	41	The Municipal Sweepers' Union—January 1928.	200	Do. ..	Do.

* Not yet appointed.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad —contd.	42	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association—February 1920. [Registered on 27th October 1927.]	7,606	President—V. J. Patel, Kharmasa Gate, Ahmedabad.	Secretary—K. K. Kothari, Patel's, Ahmedabad.
	43	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	148	President—N. M. Deas, B.A., I.L.B., Raipur.	Secretary—S. V. Patel, Office of the Superintendent of Post Office, Raipur, Ahmedabad.
	44	Gujarat Postmen's Union—August 1926.	127	President—V. J. Patel, Kharmasa Gate, Ahmedabad.	Secretary—M. V. Kothari, Patel's, Raipur, Ahmedabad. Assistant Secretary and Treasurer—Ganesh Arjun Patel, Madanath Bums, Sankdi, Ahmedabad.
Total Members, Ahmedabad ..			19,663		
Karachi	45	N. W. Railway (Recognised) Union (Karachi District)—1920.	2,000	Divisional President—Radhakishan A. Mathrani, Sub-Inspector of Works, N. W. Railway, Reti.	Honorary Divisional Secretary—Dayaram, Clerk, Divisional Superintendent's Office Commercial, Karachi, N. W. R. Divisional Secretary—J. Bukhari. Organizing Secretary—Jethanand.
	46	The Karachi Municipal Sweepers' Union—January 1927 [Registered on 5th January 1928.]	146	President—Narayandas Anandjee, Nanakwara, Jail quarters, Karachi. Vice-President—Shivji Narain. Hony. Treasurer—Lalchand Premchand.	General Secretary—Poonabhai Maniaya, Poonabhai Lane, Opp. Municipal Brigade, Karachi.
	47	The Indian Seamen's Union, Karachi—July 1927.	300	President—Dr. Tarachand J. Lalwani, Robson Road, Karachi.	Hony. Secretary—Abdul Rahiman Dadoo, Indian Village, Keeran.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Poona	48	The Press Workers' Union—February 1921	110	President—John Matheson, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	Secretary—1. G. T. Sahgal, Former Press Poona. 2. N. B. Puri, Press Poona City. 3. ... 4. ... 5. ... 6. ...
	49	The Military Accounts Association—January 1925.	1,800	President—G. G. Furudare, Vice-President—(1) B. A. ... (2) K. K. ... (3) ... (4) ...	Secretary—(1) C. S. Kulkarni, (2) D. N. ... (3) P. V. Mulye, (4) N. S. Brahme.
	50	Poona Postal Union—1919.	300	President—N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor, ...	Secretary—N. V. Bhonde, Poona.
	51	Poona R. M. S. B—Division Union—1926.	202	President—N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor—Kewari	Honorary General Secretary—R. M. Karlekar. Joint General Secretary—G. R. ...
	52	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—1920.	345	President—G. K. ... Vice-President—D. V. ... Honorary Treasurer—P. K. ...	Honorary General Secretary—B. B. More, Vakil. Honorary Secretaries—(1) H. G. Jadhav, (2) D. H. Dhapande. Assistant Secretary—B. B. ...
Broach	53	The (G. I. P. R.) Poona Staff Union	330	President—S. C. ... Vice-President—M. D. ...	General Secretary—S. ... Secretary—E. S. ... Joint Secretary—...
	54	Broach District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	26	President—H. D. ... Vice-President—C. ...	Honorary Secretary—K. J. Mishra.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmednagar	35	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	414	*	Secretary—Chakubswar, Ahmednagar.
Belgaum	56	Belgaum Postal Union—1920.	103	*	Secretary—G. V. Limaye, Belgaum.
	57	Belgaum District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	111	President—B. K. Dalvi, M.L.C., Vakil. Vice-President—V. S. Yardi.	Honorary General Secretary—B. N. Pawar, Vakil. Honorary Secretary—D. R. Patil. Assistant Secretary—S. F. Yardi.
Dharwar	58	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	58	President—V. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar.	Secretary—R. M. Betgiri, Dharwar.
Hubli	59	Dharwar District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—June 1927.	100	President—S. A. Pirjade, Vakil, Hubli. Vice-President—Y. S. Syed.	Honorary Secretary—G. R. Pawar. Assistant Secretary—K. K. Pawar.
Jalgaon	60	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	115	President—H. V. Kolhatkar.	Secretary—H. V. Modak.
Nasik	61	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	155	President—Rao Saheb Gogate.	Secretary—R. T. Lele, Nasik.
	62	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	73	President—A. B. Kachole, Vakil.	Honorary General Secretary—B. K. Panse, Vakil. Assistant Secretary—L. G. Barve, Pleader.
Ratnagiri	63	Ratnagiri Postal Union—1922.	125	*	Secretary—A. K. Murtuza, Ratnagiri.
Malwan	64	Konkan Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—May 1927.	181	President—Dr. R. K. Gawande, Malwan. Vice-President—N. G. Savant. Hony. General Treasurer—V. S. Kulkarni.	Hony. Secretary—V. S. Kulkarni, Pendur (Malwan). Assistant Secretaries— (1) S. K. Teli, Pendur (Malwan) (2) P. G. Kidye, Malwan.
Satara	65	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919.	135	President—R. V. Deshpande.	Secretary—T. K. Datye, Satara.

* Information not received.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concl.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Sarat	66	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union—1921.	186	.....	Secretary—B. N. Mistry, Surat.
	67	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	98	President—V. C. Jadhav, B.A. Vice-President—K. N. Desai. Honorary General Treasurer—C. N. Saraiya. Assistant Treasurer—J. L. Parolivala.	Honorary General Secretary—S. V. Vohora, Vakil. Honorary Secretary—G. V. Jadhav. Assistant Secretary—N. R. More.
Baroda	68	Baroda Postal Union—1920.	202	President—C. M. Doctor.	Secretary—R. J. Shah, Baroda.
	69	Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924.	293	President—Kalekar.	.....
Bhavnagar	70	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	45	President—D. N. Chitre, Vakil.	Honorary Secretary—B. B. Palekar, Editor, "Jagriti" Assistant Secretary—S. K. Fadnis.
	71	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	93	.....	Secretary—T. J. Parekh, Bhavnagar.
Rajkot	72	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	159	.....	Secretary—H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
Karwar	73	Kanara District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	65	President—M. G. Chandawarkar, Vakil. Vice-President—S. S. Nagargatte.	Honorary Secretary—T. A. Mhaldar. Assistant Secretary—D. R. Telang.
Miraj	74	Satara Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—1926.	149	President—B. K. Joshi, High Court Vakil.	Honorary General Secretary—Ismail Saheb Salati, Miraj. Honorary Secretary—K. G. Arge.
		Total Members, Rest of the Presidency	8,419		
		Total Members, Bombay Presidency	95,321		

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information is available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information is available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union. [Registered on 23rd December 1927.]	1,128	As 4 per month ..	761
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.	2,450	Rs. 1-8-0 per month for those earning over Rs. 100 ("A" class members); Rs. 1 per month for those earning between Rs. 75 and Rs. 100 ("B" class members); As. 12 per month for those earning between Rs. 50 and Rs. 75 ("C" class members); As. 6 per month for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 ("D" class members); and As. 3 for those earning less than Rs. 25 ("E" class members).	2,330
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union. [Registered on 14th December 1927.]	1,662	Rs. 3 per year ..	1,368
	4	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees Union. [Registered on 31st October 1927.]	940	As. 2 for those earning Rs. 25 and under per month; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 per month; As. 8 for those earning over Rs. 50. Entrance fees same as subscriptions.	546
	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union. [Registered on 27th October 1927.]	1,404	Do. ..	411

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information is available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information is available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City	6	The Bombay Port Trust Employees Union.	258	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	162
	7	The Clerks Union.	22	As. 4 per month ..	Nil
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal, Bombay (Chinchpoh Mandal).	Nil	Rs. 1 per year ..	Nil
	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union.	513	As. 8 per month for postmen (oversmen, readers, sorting postmen and postmen); As. 2 per month for packers (runners, local posts, boy messengers and packers).	179
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal).	281	As. 4 per month ..	375
	11	The Bombay Finerency Association.	56	Rs. 3 for clerks and messes 8 for messes per year.	63
	12	Bombay Postal Union.	518	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior postmen.	304
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal).	133	As. 4 per month ..	32
	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.	124	As. 4 per month ..	50

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information is available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information is available	
Bombay contd.	City	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union.	Rs. 107	As. 4 per month..	Rs. 87
		16	The Seamen's Union.	1,450	Rs. 3 per year ..	1,075
		17	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union.	48	As. 2 to As. 8 per month according to pay.	25
		18	The Bombay Port Trust Docks Staff Union.	284	As. 8 per month for clerks and Superior Staff As. 4 for adult menials and As. 2 for boy menials per month.	167
		19	The Wadi Bundar Staff Union (G. I. P. Rly.) [Registered on 7th November 1927.]	94	Six annas and four annas per month according to pay.	35
		20	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union.	30	As. 4 per month for clerical staff and As. 2 per month below clerical.	15
		21	The Bombay Municipal Workmen's Union. [Registered on 24th August 1927.]	209	As. 2 per month for those earning below Rs. 20; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 20 to Rs. 50; As. 6 for those earning above Rs. 50.	13
		22	The Jari Workers (Gold thread workers) Union.	25	Rs. 2 per annum ..	10
		23	The Municipal Officials' Union.	160	Rs. 4 per year	96

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information is available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information is available	
Bombay contd.	City	24	The British India Steam Navigation Coy.'s Staff Union.	Rs. 30	As. 2 per month for those earning below Rs. 20; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 20 to Rs. 50; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50. Do.	Rs. 10
		25	The G. I. P. Railway Employees' General Union. [Registered on 31st October 1927.]	1,201	Do.	572
		26	The Kasbi Karigars' Union. [Registered on 22nd December 1927.]	299	Rs. 2 per annum ..	276
		27	The Press Workers' Union.	64	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 20 or more and As. 2 for those earning less than Rs. 20 per month.	29
		28	The Shop Assistants' Union.	30	As. 4 per month for those earning under Rs. 25; As. 8 for those earning over Rs. 25.	15
		29	The G. I. P. Railway Cabin Staff Union.	47	As. 4 per Cabinman and As. 2 per leverman per month.	11
		30	All India and Burma Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association. [Registered on 8th March 1928.]	..	Rs. 5 entrance fee and Re. 1 per member per month.	220
		31	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Office Staff Union.	..	..	..
		32	The Bombay Dock Workers' Union.	150	As. 4 per month.	100
		33	The Bombay Engineering Men's Union.	..	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 10 or more and Anna 1 for those earning less than Rs. 10 per month.	..

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information is available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information is available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay conld.	City	34 The Bombay Mill Workers' Union.	...	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 15 or more and Anna 1 for those earning less than Rs. 15 per month.	...
Ahmedabad		35 The Weavers' Union.	778	As. 4 per month ..	1,333
		36 The Winders' Union.	20	As. 2 per month ..	12
		37 The Throstle Union.	1,221	As. 4 per labourer ; As. 2 per doffer ; Anna 1 per half-day worker per fortnight.	2,041
		38 The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	541	As. 4 per month ..	776
		39 The Drivers, Oilmen's and Firemen's Union.	36	As. 6 per oilman ; As. 8 per driver or fireman per month.	1
		40 The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	90	As. 8 per jobber or mukadam per month.	...
		41 The Municipal Sweepers' Union.	....	As. 4 per month ..	....
		42 The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association. [Registered on 27th October 1927.]	294	As. 8 per year for workers earning Rs. 35 or less per month ; and Rs. 2 for those earning Rs. 36 to Rs. 50 ; Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 51 to 100 ; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 101 and upwards.	417
		43 Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.	84	As. 0 per clerk ; and As. 2 for others per month.	16
		44 Gujarat Postmen's Union.	70	Re. 1 per annum per postman and As. 8 per annum per packer.	

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information is available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information is available
			Rs.		Rs.
Karachi		45 N. W. Railway (Recognised) Union (Karachi District).	200	....	125
		46 The Karachi Municipal Sweepers' Union [Registered on 5th January 1928.]	...	As. 4 per month ..	....
		47 The Indian Seamen's Union, Karachi.	25	From As. 4 to Re. 1 per year.	50
Poona		48 The Press Workers' Union.	4	As. 12 per year ..	About 2
		49 The Military Accounts Association.	455	Rs. 6 and 3 per year for subordinate accounts service and clerical establishments respectively.	344
		50 Poona Postal Union.	86	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	101
		51 Poona R. M. S. B-Division Union.	96	As. 8 per clerk, sorter or inspector ; As. 2 per mailguard and Anna 1 per peon or porter per month.	76
		52 Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	26	As. 4 per month per postman and As. 3 per month for member of the lower grade staff.	9
		53 The (C. I. P. Rly.) Poona Staff Union.	45	As. 4 per month for clerks and As. 2 for menials.	20
Broach		54 Broach District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	28	As. 4 per month ..	25
Ahmednagar		55 Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	55	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	13

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information is available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information is available
			Rs.		Rs.
Belgaum	56	Belgaum Postal Union.	42	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	35
	57	Belgaum District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	4	As. 4 per month ..	8
Dharwar	58	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	56	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	5
Hubli	59	Dharwar District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	15	As. 4 per postman and As. 2 per member of the lower grade staff per month.	21
Jalgaon	60	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	51	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	58
Nasik	61	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	44	Do. ..	49
	62	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	4	As. 4 per month ..	1
Ratnagiri	63	Ratnagiri Postal Union.	39	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	32
Malwan	64	Konkan Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	31	Rs. 2 per postman and Re. 1 per member of the lower grade staff per year.	43
Satara	65	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	*	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	*
Surat	66	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	37	Do. ..	2
	67	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	30	As. 4 per postman and As. 2 per member of the lower grade staff per month.	78
Baroda	68	Baroda Postal Union.	162	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	56
	69	Baroda R. M. S. Union.	107	Do. ..	28

* Not reported.

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information is available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information is available
			Rs.		Rs.
Baroda contd. ..	70	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	75	As. 4 per month ..	3
Bhavnagar	71	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	27	As. 8 per clerk ; As. 2 for others per month.	6
Rajkot	72	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	5	Do. ..	4
	73	Kanara District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	5	As. 2 per month ..	1
Miraj	74	Satara Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	21	As. 4 per postman and As. 2 per member of the lower grade staff per month.	22

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MARCH 1928

Name of business and locality	Approximate number of workmen working		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
1. The Mill, Road, Bombay	100	2,185	1928 20 Feb.	1928 5 Mar.	Proposed reduction in rates of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employees.
2. The Mill, Road, Nanganam	100		1 Mar.	2 Feb.	Increase in working hours.	Do.
3. The Mill, Surat	150		2 Mar.	4 Mar.	Refusal to fix a consolidated monthly rate of wages instead of a daily rate.	Do.
4. The Mill, Road, Bombay	480		3 Mar.	12 Mar.	Demand for reinstatement of a dismissed Head Jobber.	Do.
5. The Mill, Chinchpokli Road, Bombay	260		3 Mar.	4 Mar.	Increase in working hours.	Do.
6. The Mill, Shahpur, Ahmedabad	421		7 Mar.	12 Mar.	Refusal to grant a half holiday.	Do.
7. The Mill, Parel, Bombay	832		12 Mar.	17 Mar.	Alleged reduction in the rates of wages.	Do.
8. The Mill, Supari Road, Bombay	920		14 Mar.	20 Mar.	Alleged reduction in the rates of wages.	Do.
9. The Mill, Naroda Road, Ahmedabad	400	1,000	15 Mar.	18 Mar.	Damaged cloth given in lieu of wages.	Do.
10. The Mill, Foras Road, Bombay	591		16 Mar.	20 Mar.	Protest against revised rates of wages.	Do.
11. The Mill, Elphinstone Road, Bombay	700	2,600	17 Mar.		Discontinuance of the system of engaging badlies in place of absent workers.	No settlement reported.
12. The Mill, Clarke Road, Bombay	700	2,300	26 Mar.		Alleged reduction in the rates of wages.	Do.
13. The Mill, Naroda Road, Ahmedabad	360		26 Mar.	27 Mar.	Assault on a weaver by a mukadam.	The strike ended in favour of the employees.
14. The Fire Salvage Association, Bombay	32		22 Feb.	1 Mar.	Refusal to introduce a pension scheme.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.

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

Count or Number	Month of February			Eleven months ended		
	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nov. 1 to 10	4,961	6,516	6,511	59,260	78,176	60,701
Nov. 11 to 20	12,433	18,345	14,976	176,426	201,220	169,265
Nov. 21 to 30	12,816	14,699	13,264	125,804	136,416	111,188
Nov. 31 to 40	1,186	1,469	1,221	12,056	16,000	23,307
Above 40	594	861	740	6,776	9,702	8,614
Waste, etc.	84	106	40	535	1,156	1,065
Total	40,323	41,796	35,606	380,970	468,719	380,540

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Month of February			Eleven months ended		
	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nov. 1 to 10	6,236	5,527	3,615	58,695	67,155	52,951
Nov. 11 to 20	12,536	12,212	8,640	104,086	140,545	121,905
Nov. 21 to 30	7,924	9,441	7,532	70,255	94,007	99,478
Nov. 31 to 40	631	718	1,046	6,279	8,417	11,145
Above 40	284	367	318	2,269	3,052	4,675
Waste, etc.	80	97	39	446	1,054	1,062
Total	27,691	27,982	21,190	233,380	315,850	296,216

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Month of February			Eleven months ended		
	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nov. 1 to 10	211	192	178	2,804	2,369	2,126
Nov. 11 to 20	3,383	3,606	3,630	41,256	48,532	46,795
Nov. 21 to 30	3,713	4,293	4,482	42,684	45,532	51,200
Nov. 31 to 40	583	569	861	5,119	7,651	6,077
Above 40	243	306	283	1,821	4,452	3,357
Waste, etc.						
Total	8,133	9,016	9,434	93,684	96,526	102,155

APR., 1928
 DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION
 OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED
 BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of February			Eleven months ended February		
	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	1,129	1,356	1,035	12,505	20,258	22,358
Chudders	1,129	935	979	15,533	16,157	17,070
Dhotis	8,692	7,519	6,790	73,532	82,682	67,830
Drills and jeans	1,673	1,411	1,386	9,386	12,024	14,339
Cambrics and lawns	32	31	50	504	329	650
Printers	272	202	181	2,613	1,852	1,742
Shirtings and long cloth	9,883	8,588	8,440	88,535	99,888	105,450
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,124	1,643	942	11,015	15,465	14,717
Tent cloth	112	67	126	1,447	1,252	614
Other sorts	612	609	528	5,533	4,997	5,120
Total	24,658	22,161	20,457	220,603	254,904	270,096
Coloured piecegoods	9,336	10,944	9,022	86,157	111,178	111,337
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	212	201	213	2,245	2,453	2,503
Hosiery	20	29	43	227	247	333
Miscellaneous	72	245	250	1,543	2,655	3,157
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	82	149	263	565	1,782	3,255
Grand Total	34,380	33,729	30,248	311,340	373,219	390,681

BOMBAY CITY

Description	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	884	1,103	720	8,989	17,621	17,685
Chudders	619	597	651	9,756	11,073	11,079
Dhotis	2,217	2,390	2,036	19,700	25,879	29,412
Drills and jeans	1,454	1,294	1,302	7,874	10,967	13,373
Cambrics and lawns	4	10	29	214	60	342
Printers	—	—	—	19	—	—
Shirtings and long cloth	6,935	6,855	6,061	62,122	77,242	76,731
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	778	1,342	575	7,499	11,200	10,182
Tent cloth	90	63	118	892	1,071	507
Other sorts	277	367	299	2,299	2,836	2,999
Total	13,258	14,021	11,791	119,364	157,969	163,070
Coloured piecegoods	5,932	7,491	5,640	58,194	79,394	76,908
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	205	198	206	2,146	2,364	2,450
Hosiery	8	6	12	70	60	111
Miscellaneous	67	204	163	1,223	2,164	2,500
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	56	105	96	440	1,239	1,974
Grand Total	19,526	22,025	17,908	181,437	243,190	247,013

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 DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION
 OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—contd.
 AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of February			Eleven months ended February		
	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	84	47	41	1,071	732	1,058
Chudders	416	273	260	4,501	3,949	3,895
Dhotis	5,478	4,071	3,851	42,780	46,497	46,693
Drills and jeans	141	41	9	633	285	240
Cambrics and lawns	26	20	21	214	263	303
Printers	164	95	103	1,714	948	813
Shirtings and long cloth	2,380	1,307	1,806	20,901	16,846	21,897
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	282	220	267	3,101	3,342	3,403
Tent cloth	16	3	1	469	21	59
Other sorts	229	169	146	2,248	1,240	1,333
Total	9,216	6,246	6,505	77,632	74,123	79,694
Coloured piecegoods	2,303	2,314	2,183	17,858	20,283	20,858
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	1	1	2	11	17	15
Hosiery	13	22	31	156	185	223
Miscellaneous	4	38	81	272	438	570
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	26	43	166	115	528	1,258
Grand Total	11,563	8,664	8,968	96,044	95,574	102,618

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Mar. 1927	Feb. 1928	Mar. 1928	July 1914	Mar. 1927	Feb. 1928	Mar. 1928
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Maund	4 11 3	6 4 11	5 9 6	5 9 6	100	134	119	119
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	7 12 0	7 5 3 (7)	7 5 3 (7)	100	139	131	131
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	91 0 0	72 8 0	72 8 0	100	202	161	161
Do.	Jubbulpore	"	40 0 0	54 8 0	52 8 0	50 0 0	100	136	131	125
Jowari (1)	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 5 5	4 7 1	3 14 8	100	137	141	124
Barley ..	"	"	3 4 6	4 7 1	3 14 8	3 12 11	100	135	119	116
Bajri ..	Ghati	"	3 4 6	4 15 7	4 2 0	4 0 4	100	152	126	123
Index No.—Cereals										
Gram ..										
Turdal ..	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 13 11	4 15 7	4 8 10	100	148	133	128
Do.	Cawnpore	"	5 10 5	8 7 5	8 10 10	8 7 5	100	115	117	108
Index No.—Pulses										
Index No.—Food grains ..										
Sugar—										
Sugar (refined)	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	17 0 0	14 1 0	14 14 0	100	144	133	129
Do. (do.)	Java, white	"	10 3 0	17 0 0	14 1 0	14 14 0	100	167	138	146
Do. Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	8 2 7	8 2 7	7 9 11	100	103	103	97
Index No.—Sugar										
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	8 11 4	9 4 0	11 6 10	100	135	121	122
Ghee ..	Deshi	"	45 11 5	74 4 7	74 4 7	68 9 2	100	156	166	166
Salt ..	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	1 14 0	2 0 0	1 14 0	100	163	163	205
Index No.—Other food ..										
Index No.—All Food										
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	10 10 0	10 0 0	10 2 6	100	144	136	135
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	"	8 0 0	11 2 0	9 12 0	9 14 0	100	119	112	114
Poppy seed	White	"	10 14 0	17 8 0	16 8 0	16 4 0	100	139	132	123
Gingelly seed	"	"	11 4 0	17 12 0	12 6 0	12 6 0	100	161	152	149
Index No.—Oilseeds										

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Textiles—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw—†										
Broach	Good ..	Candy	251 0 0	307 0 0	435 0 0(5)	378 0 0	100	122	173	154
Oomra	Fully good	"	222 0 0	291 0 0	329 0 0	340 0 0	100	131	148	153
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0	283 0 0	442 0 0(5)	442 0 0(5)	100	138	152	152
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	"	205 0 0	274 0 0	311 0 0	321 0 0	100	138	151	151
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0	274 0 0	299 0 0	311 0 0	100	138	151	157
Index No.—Cotton, raw										
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40 s	Lb.	0 12 9	1 1 6	1 0 6	1 0 9	100	137	129	131
Grey shirtings	Fair 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	8 14 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	149	158	158
White mulls*	6/600	"	4 3 0	9 0 0	8 6 0	8 6 0	100	215	200	200
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	18 8 0	18 6 0	18 6 0	100	178	177	177
Long Cloth (3)	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	0 14 9	0 15 0	0 15 0	100	155	158	158
Chudders (4)	54" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	0 13 6	0 14 3	0 14 3	100	142	150	150
Index No.—Cotton manufactures										
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton										
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 0 9	6 2 11	6 2 11	100	117	120	120
Do.	Mathow Lari	"	2 15 1	4 7 0	3 10 1	3 12 3	100	151	123	128
Index No.—Other Textiles										
Hides and Skins—										
Hides Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 8 2	1 9 3	1 10 7	100	131	137	144
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	0 13 7	1 7 4	0 14 0	100	79	135	81
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 8 3	2 7 9	2 7 3	100	201	199	196
Index No.—Hides and Skins										
Metals—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	58 8 0	60 8 0	62 0 0	100	97	100	102
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	6 12 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	100	169	150	150
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	10 2 0	8 12 0	8 12 0	100	131	113	113
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	13 5 0	11 11 0	11 6 0	100	148	130	126
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	20 8 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	234	171	171
Index No.—Metals										
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal (2)	Bengal ..	Ton	14 12 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	142	142	142
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	26 10 4	19 12 7	20 9 8	100	135	100	104
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 10 6	5 0 0(7)	5 2 0	100	175	114	117
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 12 6	8 8 6(6)	8 8 6(6)	100	191	166	166
Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles										
Index No.—Food										
Index No.—Non-food										
General Index No.										

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(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality since March 1926. (2) Since June 1925, the quotation is for Bengal, 1st Class Jheria. (3) Quotation for 37" x 37½ yds. since March 1926. (4) Quotation for 50" x 6 yds. since March 1926. (5) Quotation for September 1927. (6) Quotation for December 1927. (7) Quotation for January 1928.

* In the absence of price-quotations for the grade 6/600 the price quoted for white mulls is for the grade 6,000/5½ since June 1925 and for 6,000/54 x 19 since October 1927.

† Since October 1925, the price-quotations for raw cotton are for the following five varieties, viz., Broach, Fully good; Oomra, Fine; Dharwar, Saw-ginned, F. G.; Khandesh, Fully good; Bengal, Fully good.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

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Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers					
			July 1914	Mar. 1927	Feb. 1928	Mar. 1928	July 1914	Mar. 1927	Feb. 1928	Mar. 1928		
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.						
Cereals—												
Rice (1)	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	60 4 0	66 4 0 (4)	66 4 0 (4)	100	154	170	170		
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red	"	31 8 0	42 0 0	40 6 0	39 4 0	100	133	128	125		
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red	"	31 4 0	39 10 0	"	"	100	127	"	"		
" white	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 8 0	43 4 0	41 10 0	40 8 0	100	133	128	125		
" red	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 4 0	40 14 0	"	"	100	127	"	"		
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	37 0 0	34 4 0	33 2 0	100	145	134	130		
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	34 8 0	34 0 0	34 8 0	100	130	128	130		
Index No.—Cereals			....	....	....	....	100	136	138	136
Pulses—												
Gram (2)	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	40 0 0	38 0 0	34 12 0	100	136	129	118		
Sugar—												
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 4 0	13 2 0	13 0 0	100	167	144	142		
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	14 8 0	13 8 0	13 8 0 (6)	100	179	167	167		
Index No.—Sugar			....	....	....	....	100	173	156	155
Other food—												
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 10 6	1 9 9	100	79	78	76		
Oilseeds—												
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 12 0	3 6 0 (3)	3 6 0 (3)	100	139	125	125		
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	....	68 0 0 (3)	61 8 0 (3)	100	111	111	121	
Gingelly seed	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	99 0 0	75 0 0	75 0 0	100	160	121	121		
Index No.—Oilseeds			100	150	126	122		
Textiles—												
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	52 8 0	50 4 0	53 4 0	100	137	131	139		

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Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	29 6 0	34 2 0 (3)	34 14 0	100	145	178	172
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperell	Piece	10 3 6	14 0 0	17 0 0	17 8 0	100	137	166	171
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	17 8 0	18 8 0	19 0 0	100	173	183	188
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			....	....	....	....	100	155	175	180
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton			....	....	....	....	100	152	176	177
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	34 8 0	35 0 0	36 0 0	100	123	125	129
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund	21 4 0	14 8 0	19 0 0 (5)	19 0 0 (5)	100	68	89	89
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	14 8 0	19 0 0 (5)	19 0 0 (5)	100	68	89	89
Index No.—Hides			....	....	....	....	100	68	89	89
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	58 0 0	60 0 0	60 0 0	100	96	99	99
Small Bars		"	3 14 0	6 2 0	6 4 0	6 6 0	100	158	161	165
Plates		"	4 6 0	6 12 0	7 2 0	7 4 0	100	154	163	166
Index No.—Metals			....	....	....	....	100	136	141	143
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton	16 0 0	22 0 0	19 4 0	19 0 0	100	138	120	119
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 10 0	8 6 0	8 6 0	100	188	163	163
"	Elephant "	2 Tins	4 7 0	7 8 0	6 2 0	6 2 0	100	169	138	138
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			....	....	....	....	100	165	140	140
Index No.—Food			100	137	134	131
Index No.—Non-food			100	137	137	137
General Index No.			100	137	136	135

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* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Sukkur white, since August 1926. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual since April 1924. (3) Quotation for September 1927. (4) Quotation for October 1927. (5) Quotation for November 1927. (6) Quotation for February 1928.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1925														
March	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
1926														
March	148	117	146	152	144	127	144	186	145	147	151	153	154	150
April	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June	150	128	154	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	135	158	159	149	148
March	148	133	135	149	144	144	132	163	134	137	156	161	149	148
April	144	125	134	150	141	143	128	161	136	142	149	156	147	145
May	145	127	132	155	143	145	142	162	142	148	147	159	150	148
June	143	130	129	164	143	145	149	161	149	137	142	156	149	147
July	139	129	130	162	141	143	154	163	142	139	136	159	149	147
August	142	131	132	161	143	143	159	167	138	142	135	156	150	148
September	135	125	133	165	140	141	183	172	141	140	133	153	152	148
October	136	135	132	162	141	136	129	167	131	144	133	141	148	146
November	140	139	138	155	143	131	172	166	131	140	115	140	145	144
December	134	138	131	157	139	130	168	164	130	121	132	139	144	143
1928														
January	130	140	123	153	136	129	166	164	124	141	132	152	144	141
February	133	136	121	155	136	124	163	162	127	157	131	144	144	141
March	128	129	122	161	135	124	162	162	124	140	132	132	143	141

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Home)	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 and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100(f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(a) 100(k)	100(f)	100(f)	(a) 100
1915	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	99	....	(d) 117	....	103	....	109(m)
1916	108	148	102	115	117	116	....	146	....	106	....	118
1917	118	180	130	116	128	146	....	190	....	114	....	142
1918	149	203	146	118	144	197	....	253	....	118	....	174
1919	186	208	155	132	157	205	....	(d) 275	....	122	....	199
1920	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	307	....	126	....	238(n)
1921	177	219	152	152	178	387	....	379	....	124	....	300
1922	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	294	....	120	....	307
1923	153	169	146	151	158	(b) 487	429	251	....	(f) 135	....	302
1924	157	170	144	149	160	512	493	249	....	130	....	314
1925	157	173	146	153	163	598	509	259	....	132	....	306
1926	157	170	150	(a) 161	(f) 163	649	637	230	....	162(n)	....	300
November	154	179	150	163	163	657	730	217	....	161	....	306
December	156	179	151	157	....	657	741	213	....	161	....	306
1927	156	175	152	....	....	655	755	210	....	160	....	300
January	155	172	151	....	....	667	720	208	....	160	....	300
February	153	171	150	....	....	663	721	203	....	159	....	304
March	153	165	148	....	....	651	774	201	....	158	....	301
April	152	164	148	....	....	612	776	201	....	159	....	301
May	154	163	148	....	....	586	785	201	....	152	....	301
June	156	166	149	....	....	548	790	203	....	146	....	301
July	157	164	149	....	....	543	787	203	....	146	....	301
August	154	165	149	....	....	537	794	197	....	161	....	307
September	151	167	149	....	....	531	804	196	....	161	....	302
October	150	169	150	....	....	536	809	195	....	162	....	302
November	151	169	151	....	....	531	812	195	....	162	....	302
December	154	168	151	....	....	531	813	194	....	161	....	302
1928	148	166	....	....	....	531	811	194	....	....	....	302
January	145	164	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	302
February	145	164	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	302
March	144	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	302
April	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	302

(a) From 1914 to 1926 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (e) June 1914=100. (f) Average for 1914-1926. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (j) Revised figures. (k) Figures from 1915 to 1926 refer to August. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1926 refer to December. (m) First half of the year. (n) Yearly averages for the years 1918 to 1926. (o) June figures.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1952*

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1951 prices as 100 in each case

Articles	Price per	Bombay		Karnataka		Madhya Pradesh		Bihar		Assam		West Bengal		Madhya Pradesh	
		February 1952	Rs. & p.	February 1952	Rs. & p.	February 1952	Rs. & p.	February 1952	Rs. & p.	February 1952	Rs. & p.	March 1952	Rs. & p.	March 1952	Rs. & p.
Cereals—															
Rice	Masul	7 2/5 128	8 0/0 120	7 14/5 126	7 10/8 141	7 3/10 126	6 13/5 122	6 15/5 125	6 13/5 122	6 5/0 120	6 13/5 125	6 13/5 125	6 13/5 125	6 13/5 125	6 13/5 125
Wheat	"	7 1/0 126	5 9/10 133	6 7/6 131	6 11/8 134	7 3/4 114	6 15/7 125	6 15/7 125	6 15/7 125	5 13/3 138	6 13/5 125	6 13/5 125	6 13/5 125	6 13/5 125	6 13/5 125
Jowar	"	5 10/11 131	4 10/9 129	4 0/0 105	3 11/8 114	5 14/9 114	5 9/10 129	5 9/10 129	5 9/10 129	4 11/4 120	5 15/2 129	5 15/2 129	5 15/2 129	5 15/2 129	5 15/2 129
Bajra	"	5 2/1 119	4 15/5 118	5 0/0 106	3 6/8 91	8 3/10 103	5 2/1 119	5 2/1 119	5 2/1 119	5 0/0 119	4 14/9 109	4 14/9 109	4 14/9 109	4 14/9 109	4 14/9 109
Index No.—Cereals		126	125	118	127	119	124	127	124	127	117	117	117	117	117
Pulses—															
Green	Masul	7 9/0 176	5 8/3 145	5 0/0 125	5 7/4 127	4 13/4 95	7 7/4 175	7 7/4 175	7 7/4 175	5 6/1 145	5 6/1 145	5 6/1 145	5 6/1 145	5 6/1 145	5 6/1 145
Turhal	"	10 4/1 175	9 4/7 161	8 14/3 164	9 4/5 159	9 13/1 149	10 4/1 175	10 4/1 175	10 4/1 175	9 6/8 160	9 6/8 160	9 6/8 160	9 6/8 160	9 6/8 160	9 6/8 160
Index No.—Pulses		176	163	155	163	158	176	175	176	160	159	159	159	159	159

Other articles of food—															
Sugar (Cane)	Masul	12 13/2 147	9 5/7 135	10 11/2 142	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144	11 1/4 144
Tea	Lb.	0 14/10 190	0 15/7 225	0 15/7 200	1 1/10 171	1 5/5 205	0 14/10 190	0 14/10 190	0 14/10 190	0 15/7 225	0 15/7 225	0 15/7 225	0 15/7 225	0 15/7 225	0 15/7 225
Salt	Masul	2 12/9 131	2 0/0 152	2 4/7 151	3 8/2 158	2 10/8 141	2 12/9 131	2 12/9 131	2 12/9 131	2 12/9 131	2 12/9 131	2 12/9 131	2 12/9 131	2 12/9 131	2 12/9 131
Beef	Sms	0 11/3 216	0 9/0 109	0 6/0 99	0 5/0 200	0 6/0 140	0 11/3 216	0 11/3 216	0 11/3 216	0 9/0 109	0 9/0 109	0 9/0 109	0 9/0 109	0 9/0 109	0 9/0 109
Mutton	"	0 12/4 165	0 10/0 143	0 14/8 167	1 0/6 159	0 9/0 109	0 12/4 165	0 12/4 165	0 12/4 165	0 10/0 143	0 10/0 143	0 10/0 143	0 10/0 143	0 10/0 143	0 10/0 143
Milk	Masul	17 9/4 170	7 8/4 144	6 10/8 139	11 5/10 157	13 1/4 151	17 9/4 170	17 9/4 170	17 9/4 170	7 8/4 144	6 10/8 139				
Ghee	"	86 7/8 770	5 11/6 109	62 1/2 627	89 0/0 747	9 10/8 200	86 7/8 770	86 7/8 770	86 7/8 770	5 11/6 109	62 1/2 627	62 1/2 627	62 1/2 627	62 1/2 627	62 1/2 627
Potatoes	"	7 1/8 136	3 11/6 109	1 1/8 109	1 0/0 120	3 10/8 200	7 1/8 136	7 1/8 136	7 1/8 136	3 11/6 109	62 1/2 627	62 1/2 627	62 1/2 627	62 1/2 627	62 1/2 627
Onions	"	3 0/1 200	3 0/7 170	2 0/8 120	1 1/8 120	2 1/8 200	3 0/1 200	3 0/1 200	3 0/1 200	3 0/7 170	2 0/8 120				
Coriander	"	28 0/1 142	27 11/3 133	26 10/8 130	32 0/0 160	26 1/1 100	28 0/1 142	28 0/1 142	28 0/1 142	27 11/3 133	26 10/8 130	26 10/8 130	26 10/8 130	26 10/8 130	26 10/8 130
Index No.—Other articles of food		172	155	150	162	152	172	170	172	155	150	150	150	150	150
Index No.—All food articles (averages)		162	147	139	150	139	162	161	162	147	139	139	139	139	139

* The sources of the price quotations used in this table are the Monthly Returns of Average Retail Prices. Current supplied by the Director of Agriculture, Poona.