

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY
BY GROUPS
Prices in July 1914 = 100

APR., 1928

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	Housing	General
1925									
April ..	157	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May ..	130	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June ..	130	119	129	184	149	165	196	172	154
July ..	126	117	134	183	152	165	192	172	154
August ..	128	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	157
September ..	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	152
October ..	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	151
November ..	129	112	129	182	149	165	189	172	153
December ..	112	117	133	183	151	165	196	172	153
1926									
January ..	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February ..	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	155
March ..	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	154
April ..	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	155
May ..	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June ..	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	153
July ..	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	155
August ..	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	157
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	177	152	166	152	172	155
April ..	133	153	135	179	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	180	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	176	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	146	126	171	142	144	151	172	145
April ..	121	147	124	168	140	145	153	172	144

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

VOL. VII]

BOMBAY, JUNE, 1928

[No. 10

The Month in Brief

GENERAL STRIKE IN COTTON MILLS

The general strike in the cotton mills in Bombay City continues. Discussions are at present proceeding between the Millowners' Association and representatives of the strikers on the standard disciplinary rules put forward by the employers. The men's leaders are also considering the wages standardisation scheme prepared by the Association for adoption by its members.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry except in Bombay City where the General Strike was in progress, the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of May 1928. The average absenteeism was 4.62 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 2.08 per cent. for Viramgam, 13.53 per cent. for Sholapur and 8.83 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 17.59 per cent in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 17.37 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8.60 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 9.0.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBER

In June 1928, the Bombay Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 146 as against 147 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 142.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 145 for the month of May 1928.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were eight industrial disputes in the month of May 1928, including the General Strike in the textile industry in Bombay City. The number of workpeople involved was 164,089 and the number of working days lost 4,243,194.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During May 1928, the visible balance of trade, including securities, against India amounted to Rs. 9 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for June 1928

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Increase over July 1914 .. { All articles .. 48 per cent.
.. { Food only .. 42 per cent.

In June 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 1 point lower than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 147 in May and 146 in June 1928. The general index is thus 47 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and 8 points lower than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1927.

As compared with May 1928, the index number for all food articles declined by 2 points to 142. The index number for Cereals declined by one point due to a fall of one point in rice and of 12 points in jowari. Pulses recorded a decrease of 11 points owing to a fall in the price of both gram and turdal. The combined average for all food grains stood at 124 as against 126 in the previous month. Among other food articles, tea and mutton fell by 5 points each; salt, gul and potatoes were cheaper by 4, 7 and 13 points respectively, while ghee and cocoanut oil registered a rise of 2 and 3 points respectively. The price of the remaining articles was practically stationary during the month under review. The index number for the "Other food" group fell by 3 points to 172.

The "Fuel and lighting" index number rose by 13 points to 158. The index number for the "Clothing" group advanced by 1 point to 156 owing to a rise in the price of Chudders.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
January ..	69	73	56	59	57	55	56	54
February ..	62	65	55	56	57	54	55	48
March ..	60	65	54	54	59	55	55	45
April ..	60	62	56	50	58	53	53	44
May ..	67	63	53	50	56	53	52	47
June ..	73	63	52	53	54	55	54	46
July ..	77	65	53	57	57	57	56	
August ..	80	64	54	61	52	55	57	
September ..	85	65	54	61	51	55	54	
October ..	83	62	52	61	53	55	51	
November ..	82	60	53	61	53	54	50	
December ..	79	61	57	60	55	56	51	
Yearly average ..	73	64	54	57	55	55	54	

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 May 16 and June 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JUNE

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	May 1928	June 1928	July 1914	May 1928	June 1928
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	Rs. 5.594	Rs. 6.969	Rs. 6.943	Rs. 391.58	Rs. 487.03	Rs. 466.01
Wheat	"	21	5.594	6.781	6.750	117.47	142.40	141.75
Jowari	"	11	4.354	5.271	4.750	47.89	57.96	52.25
Bajri	"	6	4.313	4.969	5.146	25.88	29.81	30.88
Total—Cereals						582.82	718.02	710.89
Index Numbers—Cereals						100	123	122
Pulses—								
Lentils	Maund	10	4.302	6.651	6.078	43.02	66.51	60.78
Turdal	"	3	5.844	8.734	8.333	17.53	26.20	25.00
Total—Pulses						60.55	92.71	85.78
Index Numbers—Pulses						100	153	142
Other food articles—								
Sugar (unrefined)	Maund	2	7.620	13.094	13.094	15.24	26.19	26.19
Raw Sugar (Cult.)	"	7	8.557	12.500	11.906	59.90	87.50	83.34
Tea	"	40,000	80.771	78.630	78.630	1.00	1.97	1.97
Pea	"	5	2.130	3.412	3.313	10.65	17.06	16.57
Salt	"	28	0.323	0.510	0.510	9.04	14.28	14.28
Beet	"	33	0.417	0.833	0.813	13.76	27.49	26.83
Mutton	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Milk	"	14	50.792	94.641	95.240	76.19	141.96	142.86
Ghee	"	11	4.479	7.141	6.547	49.27	78.55	72.02
Potatoes	"	3	1.552	3.573	3.573	4.66	10.72	10.72
Onions	"	3	25.396	27.974	28.573	12.70	13.99	14.29
Cocoanut Oil	"	1						
Total—Other food articles						381.18	645.92	655.23
Index Numbers—Other food articles						100	175	172
Total—All food articles						1,024.55	1,476.65	1,451.90
Index Numbers—All food articles						100	144	142
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4.375	5.125	6.688	21.88	25.63	33.44
Firewood	Maund	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal	"	1	0.542	0.771	0.771	0.54	0.77	0.77
Total—Fuel and lighting						60.44	87.89	95.70
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						100	145	158
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lt.	27	0.594	0.906	0.922	16.04	24.46	24.89
Shirtings	"	25	0.641	1.010	1.010	16.03	25.25	25.25
T. Cloths	"	36	0.583	0.906	0.906	20.99	32.62	32.62
Total—Clothing						53.06	82.33	82.76
Index Numbers—Clothing						100	155	156
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						1,251.07	1,841.27	1,824.76
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						100	147	146

(1) Quotation for April 1928.

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

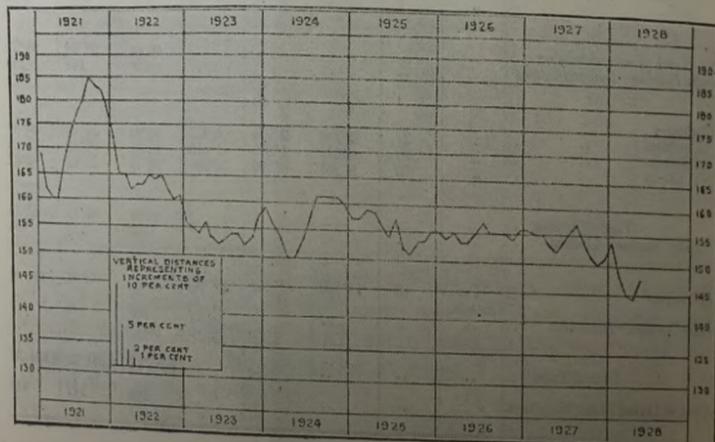
Articles	July 1914	May 1928	June 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in June 1928 over or below May 1928	Articles	July 1914	May 1928	June 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in June 1928 over or below May 1928
Rice	100	125	124	- 1	Salt	100	160	156	- 4
Wheat	100	121	121	..	Beef	100	158	158	..
Jowari	100	121	109	-12	Mutton	100	200	195	- 5
Bajri	100	115	119	+ 4	Milk	100	191	191	..
Gram	100	155	141	-14	Ghee	100	186	188	+ 2
Turdal	100	149	143	- 6	Potatoes	100	159	146	-13
Sugar (refined)..	100	172	172	..	Onions	100	230	230	..
Raw sugar (gul).	100	146	139	- 7	Cocoanut oil ..	100	110	113	+ 3
Tea	100	202	197	- 5	All food articles (weighted average)..	100	144	142	- 2

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

Rice 19, Wheat 17, Jowari 8, Bajri 16, Gram 29, Turdal 30, Sugar (refined) 42, Raw Sugar (gul) 28, Tea 49, Salt 36, Beef 37, Mutton 49, Milk 48, Ghee 47, Potatoes 32, Onions 57 and Cocoanut Oil 12.

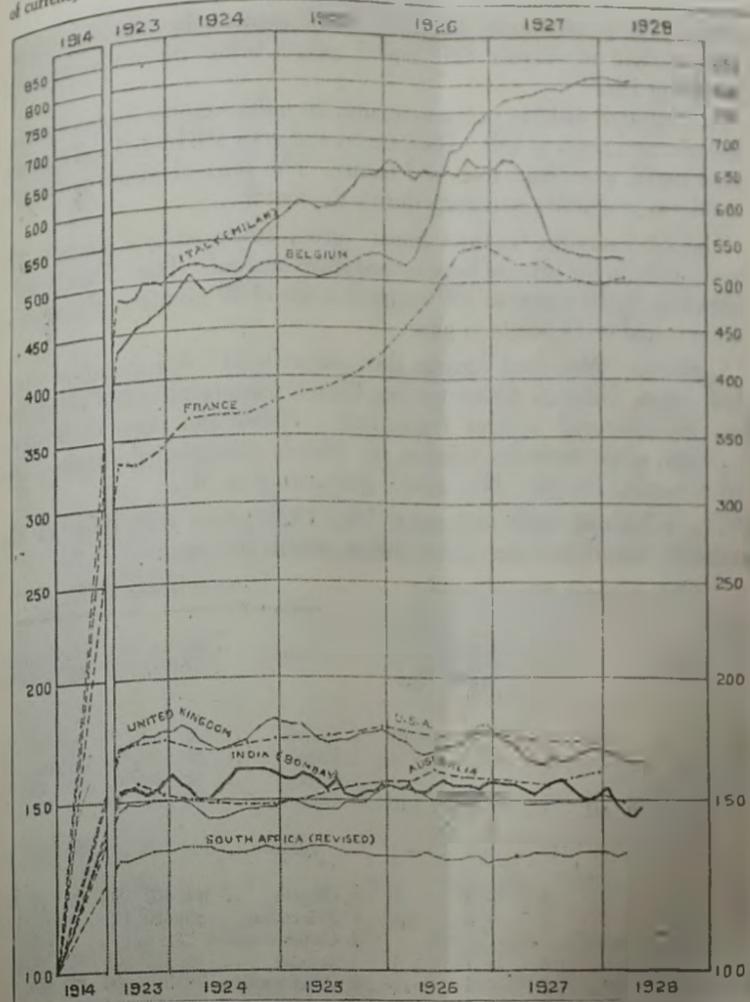
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 11 annas for all items and 11 annas 3 pies for food articles only.

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



Comparison with the Cost of Living in Other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1923. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In comparing the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for 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

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

Increase over July 1914

.. 45 per cent.

In May 1928, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 145 as against 142 in the previous month. As compared with April 1928, there was a rise of 4 points in the food group and of 3 points in the non-food group. The general index number was 118 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 2 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1927.

As compared with the previous month, the index number for food grains declined by 1 point to 130. Rice, barley and gram fell by 2, 3 and 8 points respectively, while bajri rose by 3 points. The price of wheat, jowari and turdal was practically stationary during the month.

The index number for the "Sugar" group advanced by 2 points to 129 due to a rise in the price of both refined sugar and gul. The "Other food" index rose by 18 points to 180 owing to a rise of 39 points in the price of turmeric and of 13 points in ghee.

Under the "Non-food" group, there was a rise of 7, 4, 4, 2 and 9 points in Raw cotton, Oilseeds, Other textiles, Cotton manufactures and Other raw and manufactured articles respectively. Hides and skins declined by 2 points, while the index number for Metals remained the same. The index number for the "Non-food" group stood at 147.

The subjoined table compares May 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 April 1928	+ or - % compared with May 1927	Groups	May 1927	Aug. 1927	Nov. 1927	Feb. 1928	Apr. 1928	May 1928
1. Cereals	7	-	-10	1. Cereals	102	100	99	94	92	94
2. Pulses	2	-3	+3	2. Pulses	96	99	105	103	102	99
3. Sugar	3	+2	-2	3. Sugar	98	98	102	90	94	98
4. Other food	3	+11	+16	4. Other food	99	105	99	96	104	113
All food	15	+3	-1	All food	100	100	100	95	96	97
5. Oilseeds	4	+3	-9	5. Oilseeds	104	102	94	87	91	94
6. Raw cotton	5	+4	+16	6. Raw cotton	95	106	115	100	105	110
7. Cotton manufactures	6	+1	+1	7. Cotton manufactures	99	102	101	99	99	100
8. Other textiles	2	+3	-8	8. Other textiles	104	101	96	89	92	95
9. Hides and skins	3	-1	+2	9. Hides & skins	108	104	84	115	112	110
10. Metals	5	-	-10	10. Metals	103	94	94	93	93	93
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	+7	-12	11. Other raw and manufactured articles	104	102	92	86	86	92
All non-food	29	+2	-2	All non-food	101	101	96	97	97	94
General Index No.	44	+2	-2	General Index No.	101	101	98	97	97	99

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 904.

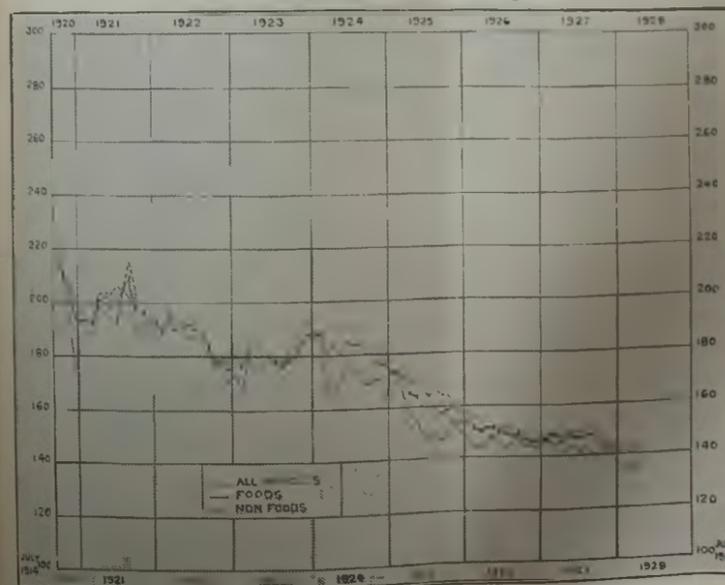
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices:—

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	167	187
" " 1923	179	182	181
" " 1924	173	188	182
" " 1925	155	167	163
" " 1926	145	152	149
" " 1927	143	148	147
Five-monthly " 1928	137	144	142

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

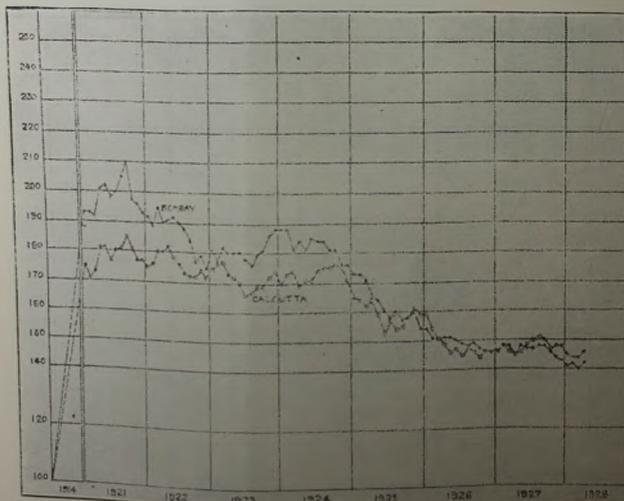


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

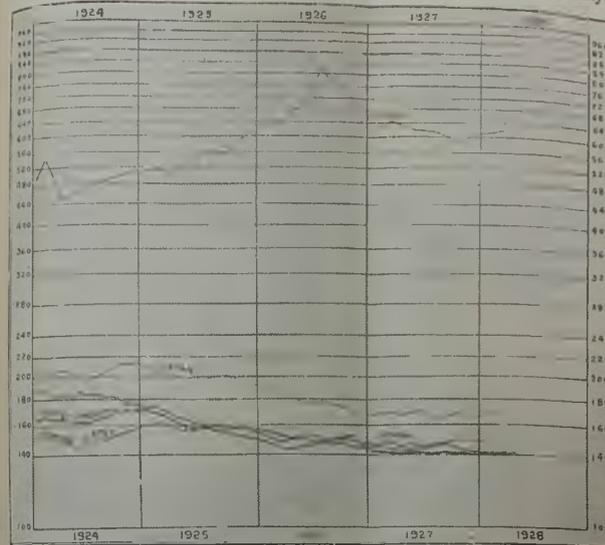
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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	Equiv- alent in tolas	July 1928		May 1928		Increase (+) or decrease (-) in May 1928 over July 1928	
				July 1914	April 1928	July 1914	April 1928	July 1914	April 1928
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill..	Paylee ..	208	5 10	7 2	7 3	+1 5	+0 1	
Wheat	Pisai Seoni	" ..	204	5 10	6 9	6 11	+1 1	+0 2	
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	" ..	196	4 3	5 0	5 2	+0 11	+0 2	
Bajri	Ghani	" ..	208	4 7	5 0	5 2	+0 7	+0 2	
Gram	Delhi*	" ..	188	4 4	5 11	6 3	+1 11	+0 4	
Turdal	Cawnpore	" ..	208	5 11	9 0	9 1	+1 2	+0 1	
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white	Seer ..	28	1 1	1 9	1 10	+0 9	+0 1	
Raw Sugar (Gul)..	Sangli, middle quality	" ..	28	1 2	1 8	1 9	+0 7	+0 1	
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb. ..	39	7 10	15 5	15 9	+7 11	+0 4	
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee ..	176	1 9	2 11	3 0	+1 3	+0 1	
Beef .. ..	.....	Lb. ..	39	2 6	4 0	4 0	+1 6	..	
Mutton .. ..	.....	" ..	39	3 0	6 6	6 6	+3 6	..	
Milk	Medium	Seer ..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	..	
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior ..	" ..	28	7 1	13 3	13 3	+6 2	..	
Potatoes	Ordinary	" ..	28	0 8	0 9	1 0	+0 4	+0 3	
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. | 7. Fergusson Road. |
| 2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End). | 8. DeLisle Road. |
| 3. Seitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End). | 9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road. |
| 4. Elphinstone Road. | 10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road. |
| 5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls. | 11. Grant Road. |
| 6. Parel—Poibawdi. | |

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 May 1928 as compared with the preceding month were within narrow limits. Under food grains, rice and turdal rose by 1 pie each per paylee; wheat, bajri and jowari recorded a rise of 2 pies each per paylee and gram of 4 pies per paylee. Among other articles of food, both refined sugar and raw sugar (gul) advanced by 1 pie per seer and salt rose by 1 pie per paylee. Tea was dearer by 4 pies per lb. and potatoes by 3 pies per seer. The price of the remaining articles was practically stationary during the month under review.

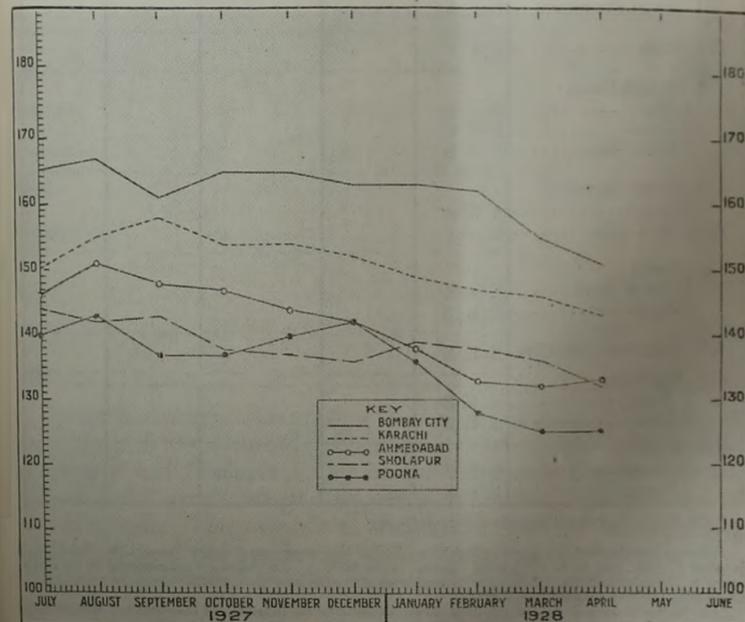
As compared with July 1914, all articles show a rise in prices. Tea and mutton are more than double and onions are double the prewar price. Milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent.; refined sugar, salt and beef by more than 50 per cent. and raw sugar (gul) and potatoes by 50 per cent. The price 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	April 1928					May 1928				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Rice	122	120	130	145	126	122	120	130	145	124
Wheat	125	138	116	129	132	128	137	121	126	132
Jowari	125	130	97	108	98	125	133	100	105	95
Bajri	119	119	100	88	87	119	127	105	85	103
Gram	167	141	94	108	96	167	140	100	103	106
Turdal	175	141	132	138	130	175	137	130	136	122
Sugar (re- fined)	158	154	143	112	138	167	166	154	114	138
Jagri (Gul) ..	127	135	112	103	107	127	135	112	103	116
Tea	190	225	200	171	200	190	225	200	171	200
Salt	131	149	151	159	152	131	145	151	154	138
Beef	169	180	100	201	141	158	180	100	201	141
Mutton	185	167	167	133	158	185	167	167	133	158
Milk	191	164	200	157	133	191	164	200	157	133
Ghee	154	150	152	142	129	154	158	157	142	129
Potatoes	128	73	102	111	78	128	96	150	143	78
Onions	184	134	125	123	100	184	124	108	114	69
Cocoanut oil ..	112	108	133	109	105	112	106	133	109	100
Average— All food articles ..	151	143	133	132	125	151	145	136	132	122

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



PROCESS OF THE MONSOON, 1928

JUNE 1928

Abbreviations: S = Scanty, F = Fair, N = Normal, E = Excess

Regional Division	JUNE			JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			CUMULATIVE
	6th	15th	25th	4th	13th	23rd	1st	10th	20th	1st	10th	20th	
I. BOMBAY PRESIDENCY													
1. Sind (River)	E	F	F										
2. Gujarat	S	F	F										
3. Deccan	S	F	F										
4. Konkan	F	F	F										
II. MADRAS PRESIDENCY													
1. Malabar	F	F	F										
2. Deccan	F	F	F										
3. Coast North	S	F	F										
4. South Coast	S	F	F										
III. MYSORE													
1. Mysore	F	F	F										
IV. ANDHRA PRADESH													
1. North	S	F	F										
2. South	S	F	F										
V. CENTRAL PROVINCES													
1. Berar	S	F	F										
2. West	S	F	F										
3. East	S	F	F										
VI. GUJARAT STATES													
1. West	F	F	F										
2. East	F	F	F										
VII. BIHAR PRESIDENCY													
1. Bihar	F	F	F										
VIII. ASSAM													
1. Assam	F	F	F										
IX. BENGAL & CHHIS													
1. Bihar	F	F	F										
2. Orissa	F	F	F										
3. Chhota Nagpur	F	F	F										
X. UNITED PROVINCES													
1. East	S	F	F										
2. West	F	F	F										
XI. PUNJAB													
1. East & West	F	F	F										
2. South West	F	F	F										
XII. NORTHWEST FRONTIER													
1. Frontier	S	F	F										
XIII. RAJPUTANA													
1. West	S	F	F										
2. East	S	F	F										
XIV. BURMA													
1. Lower	F	F	F										
2. Upper	F	F	F										

NOTES—
 * The data for the Indus River refer to calendar weeks.
 "Normal" in the chart is a variation from 60 to 120% of the true normal; "Excess" means more than 120% of the normal; "Fair" from 40 to 60% and "Scanty" below 40%. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observations, Sind. Calculation is made in his office on the basis of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Indus Division, including Hill St. alone.
 The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviation from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. R. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign
 Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in May 1928 — 8 Workpeople involved — 164,009

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during May 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 May 1928, and the number of working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trade

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in May 1928			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in May 1928	Aggregate number of working days of all disputes in progress in May 1928
	Started before May	Started in May	Total		
Textile	2	3	5	161,706	4,232,174
Transport	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Engineering	.....	1	1	10	60
Metal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mechanics	.....	2	2	2,293	13,860
Total	2	6	8	164,009	4,263,194

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was eight, of which five occurred in Bombay City and one each in Ahmedabad, Ambernath and Sholapur. One of the disputes in Bombay City was a general strike which affected 66 cotton mills, two silk mills and one bleaching mill. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 164,009 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 4,263,194.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, January 1928 to May 1928

	January 1928	February 1928	March 1928	April 1928	May 1928
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	3	10	14	10	0
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	—	2	2	2	2†
Fresh disputes begun ..	3	8	12	8	6
Disputes ended ..	1	8	12	5	4
Disputes in progress at end ..	2	2	2	5	4
Number of workpeople involved ..	19,287	21,022	14,631	163,770	164,089
Aggregate duration in working days ..	377,121	249,083	72,239	1,314,041	4,243,194
Demands—					
Pay ..	1	2	6	4	3
Bonus ..	—	—	—	—	—
Personal ..	—	2	2	2	1
Leave and hours ..	—	—	3	—	—
Others ..	2	6	3	4	4
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	—	1	1	—	—
Compromised ..	1	—	—	—	2
In favour of employers ..	—	7	11	5	2

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.)
June 1927 ..	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	—
April ..	10	8	5	1,314,041	100	—	—
May ..	8†	6	4	4,243,194	50	—	50

* 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.

† Three individual disputes which merged into the General strike are not counted separately.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,243,194) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in May 1928 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 May 1928 was six as compared with eight in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 8445 and the total time loss amounted to 94,156 man-days. Two of these disputes arose over questions relating to wages, one over a question regarding the dismissal of individuals and the rest were due to miscellaneous causes. In addition, two disputes, including the General Strike in the Bombay Textile Mills, involving 155,644 workpeople, were in progress at the beginning of the month under review and caused a time loss amounting to 4,149,038 man-days. Out of the eight old and new disputes, settlements were arrived at in the case of four disputes, in two of which the results were favourable to the employers while a compromise was effected in each of the remaining disputes.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

There were five industrial disputes in progress in Bombay City during the month under review. One of these was a continuation of the General Strike in the textile industry which had begun during the previous month. All the affected mills continued to remain closed throughout the month. At the beginning of the month a Joint Strike Committee consisting of 30 members with five outsiders each from the moderate and the extremist groups was formed. The Committee decided to start picketing the mills regularly from the 7th and for that purpose proposed to raise a volunteer corps of 1000 persons from amongst the strikers. The Police Commissioner, however, apprehending danger to public peace and safety, was at first reluctant to permit the proposed picketing but eventually granted permission to allow two pickets at each mill on an assurance given by the leaders to the effect that it would be carried on quite peacefully. A Defence Committee was appointed by the Joint Strike Committee to defend the volunteers in case they were arrested in connection with the picketing which was carried on vigorously during the month. On the 3rd, the Joint Strike Committee forwarded to the Millowners' Association a statement of the following demands of the strikers:—

- (1) The present practice resorted to by some Millowners which result in the reduction of wages shall be stopped, and reduction and altered conditions already effected since 1925 shall be restored;
- (2) That where the daily hours of work of any class of workers are at present less than ten, the hours shall not be raised to ten without the consent of the workers concerned expressed through their

organisations. When the hours are thus increased the workmen should be paid for the same at the usual overtime rates ;

(3) That the Millowners shall not vary any of the present conditions to the disadvantage of the workers before securing the approval of the workers through their organisations ;

(4) That the Millowners' Association shall not permit its individual members to vary conditions of service to the disadvantage of the workers without the sanction of the Association ;

(5) The rates of new varieties shall be fixed by the Millowners' Association in consultation with the representatives of workers' organisations ;

(6) Notices in vernacular showing piecework rates in detail should be posted in the departments for the information of the workers ;

(7) The system by which each worker is required to look after three looms or the whole frame (two sides) should not be introduced or continued without consultation with and the free consent of the workers expressed through their organisations ;

(8) The wages of those workers whose average monthly wage is less than Rs. 30 shall be raised substantially ;

(9) The rules regarding forfeiture of wages remaining unclaimed for a certain period should be done away with ;

(10) Conditions of employment, work and payment should be standardised ;

(11) The newly introduced system of compelling the workmen (a) to take out and present tickets of attendance ; and (b) to clean machinery daily, should be discontinued ;

(12) The present high prices allowance should be consolidated with the original wages ;

(13) One month's notice must be given by either side before terminating the contract of service ;

(14) The Millowners' Association should make standard rules for the guidance of its members regarding the grant of leave to their employees ;

(15) All the rules that are usually posted in the mills or departments should be standardised by the Millowners' Association so that they shall be uniform in all the mills. That none of those rules or regulations shall be such as may deprive the workers of their rights conferred on them by the existing law, goes without saying ;

(16) Employment in the weaving department of the mills should be open to the members of the so-called depressed classes ; and

(17) That there shall be no victimisation of men who have taken part in the present dispute or in their Union activities.

The Millowners' Association, after ascertaining the constitution, powers and representative character of the Joint Strike Committee, published in reply to the men's demands, a statement in the press on the 10th clearly defining their attitude and stating that their policy was to adopt at all costs such of the measures recommended by the Indian Textile Tariff Board as were likely to afford relief to the Bombay cotton mill industry. For the purpose of standardising wages, hours of work, etc.

they appointed a sub-committee to investigate the matter and make recommendations. Several mills notified that the outstanding wages would be paid to the strikers from the 10th to the 15th. The Joint Strike Committee advised the strikers to accept their wages if offered by the 15th about a lakh of the strikers were paid off by the mills. On the 16th, the Millowners' Association published the following terms on which they were prepared to reopen the mills —

(1) Standardised rates of wages ;

(2) Revised and standardised muster rolls ;

(3) Full ten hours work for all male operatives in all departments without any extra remuneration, to which they are not entitled, where work was being done for less time previously ;

(4) Revised set of Rules and Regulations with a view to enforce stricter discipline than that which obtained in the past ;

(5) Fines to be credited to a workers' welfare fund, and unclaimed wages to be made available when claimed ; and

(6) A uniform system of calculating wages.

The leaders of the strikers advised the men to remain firm till all their original demands were granted. The Honourable Sir Cowasji Jehangir, the General Member of the Government of Bombay, came down to Bombay from Mahabaleshwar on the 15th with a view to bringing about a rapprochement, if possible, between the owners and the workers and granted interviews to the Committee of the Millowners' Association and the members of the Negotiation Sub-Committee of the Joint Strike Committee but the result was not encouraging. Meetings of the strikers were held each day at which speeches were made by the leaders explaining to the men the daily developments in the strike situation, exhorting them to remain firm and united, and advising them to go away to their native villages. A Strikers' Exodus Committee was formed in order to assist the strikers who wanted to go to their native places, and arrangements were also made with a local steamship company to get concession passage rates for the strikers. Despite all the efforts of the Strike Committee, the exodus of the strikers from Bombay did not increase to any appreciable extent. During the month contributions received from India and foreign countries towards the Strikers' Relief Fund amounted to over Rs. 23,000, a large part of which came from Moscow. Sporadic attacks by the strikers on workers who proceeded to work in the affected mills were not infrequent, but in spite of these and the vigorous picketing campaign carried on by the strikers, the Dawn mill was able to engage 350 women cotton pickers on daily wages on the 26th and 600 on the 27th. A deputation of the Negotiation Sub-Committee of the Joint Strike Committee waited on the President of the Municipal Corporation at the latter's invitation, on the 28th and explained that nothing short of the acceptance by the Millowners of the 17 demands formulated by the Joint Strike Committee would satisfy the men. The President proposed to meet the Millowners and then communicate the result to the Strike Committee. Three Unions of textile workers in Bombay city (excluding the Bombay Textile Labour Union

which was already registered) registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, and every member on the Joint Strike Committee became connected with one or other of the four registered Unions. Towards the close of the month, the Committee of the Millowners' Association decided to invite six representatives of the registered Trade Unions of textile workers to discuss matters concerning the strike with six of their own representatives. The Colaba Land Mill alone continued working as usual during the month. This strike continued into the next month.

The second dispute occurred in the Swadeshi Mill at Kurla, and affected the Kurla Spinning and Weaving Mill also. In the former mill, 3337 operatives struck work on the 14th demanding an increase in wages. Their other demands were (1) cancellation of fines imposed by the Manager on 2 or 3 men; and (2) removal of a rule regarding dismissal of employees for misbehaviour, absence, etc. As a sufficient number of hands did not turn up on any working day the management kept the mill closed during the rest of the month. As a result of the picketing carried on by the strikers at the Kurla Spinning and Weaving Mill, 16 operatives of that mill joined the strikers on the 17th and 100 more on the 18th. Only 390 operatives out of a total strength of 1800 turned up for work at that mill on the 19th and the management therefore closed the mill for that day. On the next day, the mill was reopened but had to close down again owing to the unwillingness of the operatives to work. From the 20th the Kurla Spinning and Weaving Mill also remained closed for the rest of the month. There were no further developments in the situation during the rest of the month and the strike continued into the next month.

The third dispute took place in the Kurla Match Factory where 600 women operatives of the box filling department struck work on the morning of the 21st demanding wages at the rate of 1½ to 2 annas per 200 boxes filled. There was no change in the situation on the next day but on the 23rd 30 strikers resumed work. The operatives of the frame, filling and dipping departments struck work on the same day and only 377 operatives out of a total strength of 1200 were working in the factory. The workers formed a Union called the "Kurla Match Factory Labour Union" and proposed to submit their grievances to the management through the Union. On the 24th, 323 strikers resumed work unconditionally and by the 28th all the remaining strikers returned to work and the strike ended. The result of the dispute was in favour of the employers.

The fourth dispute occurred in the Bombay Dyeing Works. On account of the General Strike in the textile mills in Bombay City, there was not sufficient work to do in the Works and the management therefore arranged to give work to the dyers by turns. The earnings of the dyers were consequently reduced. The dyers represented their grievance to the management who explained to the men their helplessness. Thereupon 310 dyers struck work on the 22nd. The Manager, however, met the strikers and told them that he would arrange to give them as much work as he could. On the next day 220 dyers attended the works and most of the remainder on the 24th. The strike ended in a compromise.

The fifth dispute arose in Mancherji Byramji and Co.'s Iron Workshop, alleged ill-treatment of a moulder by the management. On account of this reason all the operatives struck work in sympathy on the 22nd. There was no change in the situation on the 23rd but on the 24th a meeting of the strikers was held and the following demands were formulated: (1) Mistries to be employed for each department; (2) An 8-hour working day with overtime pay for extra work; (3) Pay to be given prior to proceeding on leave; (4) No fines to be inflicted; and (5) Workers were not to be assaulted by the management under any circumstances. In spite of the advice of the leaders to the strikers to remain firm until all their demands were conceded to by the management, some operatives approached the management for getting the men re-engaged. The management refused to move in the matter so long as the men were under the influence of outsiders and unless the men were prepared to resume work unconditionally. On the 28th, 50 workers resumed work unconditionally despite the picketing carried on by the strikers, and 15 more on the 29th. There was no change in the situation during the remaining two days of the month, at the close of which the strike was still in progress.

AMBERNATH

On the 1st May, a dispute arose between the employees and the management of the Western India Match Factory at Ambernath over the question of granting full wages to the operatives in cases of injuries sustained during the course of their employment. For some time past the employees had a grievance against the ill-treatment said to be meted out to the operatives of the box-filling department and when the news spread that the employees would not get full wages during the period of disablement, 60 operatives of the box-filling department struck work. The management explained to the men that they would be paid 75 per cent. of their wages for the first fortnight of their disablement and that thereafter compensation would be paid to them in accordance with the law on the subject. The strikers were not, however, satisfied with this and tried to represent their case to the management through a labour leader from Bombay. As the management were not prepared to discuss the question with an outsider, the strikers elected their own representatives and put up their demands before the management. The demands included (1) abolition of all fines, (2) reinstatement of two men dismissed for disobedience and (3) full pay for the periods of absence due to disablement. The management did not accept the first demand, agreed to comply with the second after a month and maintained their former position with regard to the third demand. The terms of the management were not agreeable to the men, who were therefore asked to vacate their quarters in the Company's chawls from the 5th. The other workers in the factory also struck work in sympathy on the 4th and the factory remained closed from that date. The strikers formed a Union and on the intervention of the officials of the Union, a settlement was arrived at, the terms of which were on a basis of a compromise. The management re-opened the factory on the 10th but only 150 operatives resumed work while the other strikers began to picket the factory. On the 13th, the

Union's officials explained to the men the terms of the compromise arrived at and advised them to resume work. Accordingly all the strikers resumed work on the 14th. This strike thus ended in a compromise.

AHMEDABAD

In the Sarangpur Cotton Manufacturing Mill, a jobber and a head jobber of the weaving department were dismissed by the management for unsatisfactory work. On the 22nd, 300 weavers struck work in sympathy and demanded their reinstatement. The management thereupon notified the strikers to take away their outstanding wages, and employed 200 new hands and two new jobbers on the 23rd. All the strikers were paid off on the 24th and 15 additional new hands were employed. The services of the strikers were dispensed with on the same date and the strike ended. The result of this dispute was favourable to the employers.

SHOLAPUR

The dispute in the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills which had begun in the previous month was in progress during the month under review. On the 1st, the management put up a notice to the effect that the mills would be re-opened on the next day. When the mills were re-opened on the 2nd, all workers except 2000 operatives of the weaving and winding departments resumed work. The leaders, however, continued to advise the strikers to remain firm until all their demands were granted. They also invited the officials of the Bombay Textile Labour Union to support the men's cause. On the 3rd, 350 additional strikers resumed work. Owing to the spreading of a rumour that the "Jowari" allowance would not be given to the operatives, all the workers again struck work on the 4th and the mills had to be closed. A procession of the strikers was taken out by the leaders on the 6th with a view to enlisting public sympathy for the men's cause. Meetings of the strikers were held at which the men were exhorted to remain firm and become members of the Union. The leaders made enquiries about the grievances of the strikers and the Labour Union submitted to the management on the 9th, a statement of the men's demands which included (1) one month's notice in case of dismissals, (2) pay for the strike period, (3) no worker should be dismissed for having taken part in the strike, (4) system of bribery to jobbers should be investigated into, and (5) "Jowari" should be given as usual. As the Labour Union was affiliated to the "Bombay Textile Labour Union" the management refused to consider the demands put up through that Union but notified that the outstanding wages of the strikers would be paid from the 13th. Accordingly all the workers were paid off by the 16th. On the invitation of the Manager of the mills, the President of the Bombay Textile Labour Union, the officials of the local Labour Union and a few leading mill-hands discussed the grievances of the men with the management on the 16th. The workers' representatives interviewed the management on the same subject on the 17th and the 18th also. The management declined to take up the question of the men's complaints against the jobbers but agreed to increase the wages of the mill-hands and to grant Jowari allowance subject to the approval

of the Agent. They also distributed bonus for the last year to the workers from the 17th. In view of the terms offered by the management, the labour leaders advised the men to resume work from the 23rd, on which date 5000 strikers resumed work. A section of the men's leaders were of the opinion that the men should not resume work until the concessions granted by the management were put up in writing. On the 25th, the workers enquired from the management whether they would keep their promise regarding an increase in wages but they received a disappointing reply. The circumstance was made known to the officials of the Union on the evening of the same date and it was resolved by a meeting of the strikers held the same night that the men should not resume work unless the management put their promises in writing. This resolution was conveyed to all the mill-hands by night, and the management also sent round their men to persuade the workers not to suspend work. There was no change in the situation on the 26th but on the 27th, 500 winders struck work. A leader of the strikers interviewed the management on the 27th and the 28th regarding the strike situation but no definite conclusion was arrived at. At the close of the month there were 5500 hands working in the mill, and the leaders were trying to formulate a further programme in view of the refusal of the management to increase the wages of the operatives. This strike was still in progress at the close of the month under review.

Employment Situation in May

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 47 or 68·12 per cent. of the mills reported as working at the various centres of the Presidency except Bombay City where the General Strike in the Textile Industry was in progress throughout the month. On account of this fact, the Presidency average of percentage absenteeism in the Textile Industry as a whole has not been worked out for the month of May.

As all the mills but one in Bombay City were affected by the General Strike, no statistics of absenteeism have been compiled for this centre.

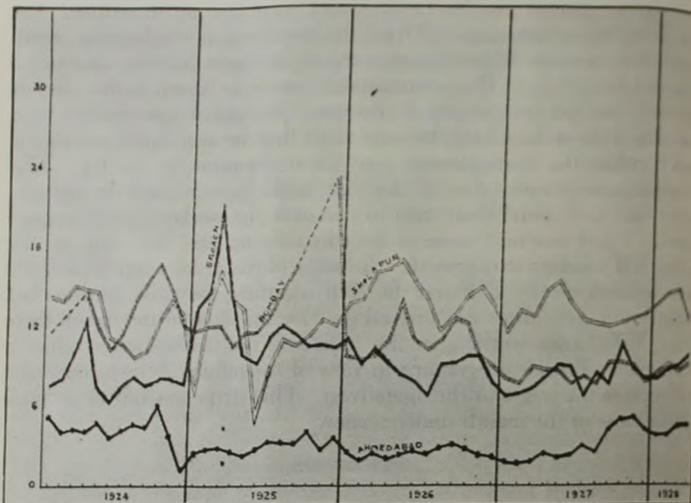
In Ahmedabad 59 mills were working during the month and 38 or 64·41 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 4·62 per cent. as compared with 4·63 per cent. in April 1928. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

Returns were submitted by five mills in Sholapur. None of these reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 13·53 as against 12·67 per cent. in the previous month.

Information was supplied by only one mill in Viramgaum which was working during the month. The percentage absenteeism amounted to 2·08 as against 1·87 per cent. in April 1928.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information and only one of them reported that the supply of labour was inadequate. The absenteeism amounted to 8.83 per cent. as against 10.07 per cent. in preceding month.

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 17.59 per cent. as against 15.20 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 17.37 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust was 8.6 per cent.

The Karachi Port Trust found both skilled and ordinary labour available in plenty. On an average 9.0 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in May

AHMEDABAD

The manager of a match factory was prosecuted under section 41 (a) for breach of section 28 for employing certain persons at night time who had already been employed during the day. The manager was convicted and fined Rs. 50 in each of five cases.

BROACH

The acting manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 42 (2) for breach of sections 21, 26 and 28. He was convicted and fined Rs. 30 in each of six cases.

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under section 41 (a) for breach of section 24 read with Rule 75 for employing certain women before the legal hours. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20 in each of three cases and Rs. 20 in each of seven cases.

The manager of a second ginning factory was prosecuted under section 41 (f) for breach of section 18 (1) (a) for not fencing the engine fly-wheel. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20. The manager was also prosecuted under section 41 (h) for not maintaining "D" form register as required by section 35. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15.

AHMEDNAGAR

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under section 41 (f) for breach of section 18 (1) (a) for not fencing the engine fly-wheel. He was convicted and fined Rs. 50 and for breach of section 18 (1) (c) read with Rule 38 (d) for not guarding the gin roller pulleys, he was fined Rs. 25. The manager was also prosecuted under section 41 (h) for not maintaining "D" form register as per section 35. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

The "Tukaram" Disaster

CREW CANNOT RECOVER COMPENSATION

IN THE COURT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, BOMBAY

Application No. 41-B. 1 of 1928 for order to deposit compensation.

Habibi Majidalli Lala Applicant;

against

The Indian Co-operative Steam Navigation & Trading Co., Ltd. Opposite party.

Claim—Rs. 1950

The petitioner prays for an order against the opposite party to deposit compensation on account of the death of one Majidalli Lala who died on the 12th of November 1927 while he was working on S. S. "Tukaram" when the ship sank in the Arabian Sea.

Before discussing the various defences raised by the opposite party, I have to determine whether the applicant's husband formed part of the crew of a registered ship as defined in section 2 (i) (j).

Registered ship is defined in section 2 (i) (j). The records produced from the Port Office show that this ship was not registered under any of the Acts mentioned in that clause but was registered according to the various provisions of Part I of the British Merchant Shipping Act of 1894, being 57 and 58 Victoria, Ch. 60.

As the ship was not a registered ship within the meaning of section 2 (i) (j) the applicant's husband was not a seaman within the meaning of clause (k) of section 2 (i). This is sufficient to dismiss this application as I can only deal with cases of such seamen as come within the scope of

this Act see section 2 (i) (n) read with clause (iv) of the II Schedule of the Act (VIII of 1923).

I would, however, point out that the applicant need not be hopelessly disappointed as she still stands a possible chance of getting some relief in view of the provisions of section 503 of the British Merchant Shipping Act which she would be well-advised to work for.

Before parting with this case I wish to point out what was mentioned to me by counsel for the applicant, that most of the boats plying along the coasts of this Presidency are registered like this ship "Tukaram." That may or may not be so. It would be a great hardship if it be so; as in that case there appears to be a serious omission on the part of the legislature in the clause that defines Registered ships.

As to costs, Mr. Joglekar, who appears for the opposite party, states he does not claim costs in view of the sad circumstances that led to the applicant's seeking relief here.

(Signed) N. M. PATVARDHAN,

Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation,
Bombay.

Dated 1st March 1928.

Inspection of Electric Installations

REVISED RULES

The Government of Bombay have recently revised the rules for the levy of fees for the services of Electrical Inspectors, etc. These rules supersede those published in the *Bombay Government Gazette*, Part I of 18th November 1926. The revised rules contain several modifications chiefly in respect of fees levied for the services of Inspectors. Thus, for inspection, examination or test in cases where energy is supplied at high and medium pressure, the maximum rates have been considerably reduced. While for 1 to 150 Kilowatts the scale of fees ranges from Re. 1 to Rs. 30, the rate for above 150 Kilowatts up to 1000 Kilowatts is fixed at Rs. 10 for each 50 Kilowatts, and above 1000 Kilowatts only Rs. 250 are charged instead of Rs. 350 charged under the old rules.

For the inspection, examination or test of any generating station, the minimum rate is Rs. 20 for 1 to 50 Kilowatts while the fees for installations above 1000 Kilowatts is Rs. 300, reducing thus the maximum rate by Rs. 200.

For the inspection, examination or test of electrical installation in any factory within the meaning of the Indian Factories Act, the rates now laid down are comparatively low. In place of a fixed fee of Rs. 100 the new rules provide a graduated scale of Rs. 10 per Kilowatt or part thereof provided the maximum charge does not exceed Rs. 100. Provision is made for testing of disputed energy meters, the scale rising from Rs. 10 for testing a single meter of any description in the Laboratory up to 50 amperes capacity to Rs. 25 for above 500 amperes.

Provision is also made in the revised rules for default of payment of fees levied under these orders. If for any reason the owner of the installation fails to pay the prescribed fees at the time of inspection, he

will be responsible for making the payment at the office of the Electrical Inspector within ten days from the date of inspection. Failure to do so will render the owner of the installation liable to action under section 54 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, in accordance with which the fee may be recovered on application to a Magistrate by the distress and sale of any moveable property belonging to him.

The revised rules will be found in the *Bombay Government Gazette*, Part I of 5th April 1928.

Workmen's Compensation Act

Details of Proceedings

Information furnished by all the Commissioners in the Presidency for the month of May 1928 shows that out of 47 cases disposed of during the month 44 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. 23,597-13-0 as against Rs. 13,233-2-0 in the previous month and Rs. 18,775-4-0 in May 1927. Out of the 47 cases in which compensation was claimed, 18 were in respect of fatal accidents, one of temporary disablement and 28 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 8, and in other industries to 39. The corresponding figures for May 1927 were 28 and 19.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month was 49, of whom 44 were adult males, four adult females and one was a male under 15 years of age.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review, 21 were original claims, 24 registration of agreements and two miscellaneous applications. Compensation was awarded in 20 cases, agreements were registered in 24 cases and 3 cases were dismissed.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

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

The weather and crop reports received so far go to show that the agricultural outlook is generally satisfactory in the Presidency except in the Ahmedabad district in Gujarat and in most places of the North Deccan where more rain is urgently needed to enable a general start being made in the sowing of *kharif* crops. There has also been rather excessive rain in places in the South Konkan while a few more brisk showers are needed in places of the South Deccan to enable the sowing operations to be continued smoothly but such areas of excessive rainfall in the Konkan or of deficient rainfall in the South Deccan are not very large and need not cause any great anxiety at present.

The situation in the different divisions may be briefly summarised as follows:—

Gujarat.—The monsoon has made a good start in this division, excepting the Ahmedabad district, during the second week of this month (June), and the sowing of *kharif* crops has, hence, been undertaken generally except in Ahmedabad where cultivators have their land ready to receive rain and are waiting for same to put the seed in the ground. With the exception of the Ahmedabad district therefore, the situation in this division may be taken to be fairly satisfactory, at least at the present moment.

Konkan.—The monsoon which started on the 4th of June in the south of the division has given vigorous rain here and thus enabled the cultivators to proceed with the sowing operations energetically. In some places, the rain has been rather heavy and has hampered sowings and affected the germination of rice, but generally the situation in the south of the division has been satisfactory. In the North of the division the rains started rather late and gave some cause for apprehension on that score but though late, the rains after the start have been up to the mark in most places and have thus made the sowing of crops on a nearly normal scale possible. With the above limitations, *viz.*, an excess in places in the south and a rather late start in the north, however, the situation in the division is generally favourable just now.

Deccan.—Good rain was received in a large part of the South Deccan in the first week of June and thus being supplemented by some fairly good showers even in the second week in places, the situation in the south of the division has been generally satisfactory upto now. No doubt, the rain during the second week has not been quite general and consequently the sowing of *kharif* crops is not proceeding as fast as one would desire but such places are few and if rain occurs soon, the situation may very easily improve. In the North Deccan, on the other hand, though there have been some fair to good showers in the second week of June which have facilitated the preliminary operations and enabled a start in *kharif* sowing being made in places, the rain cannot yet be said to be either general or sufficient for the needs of the moment and in these circumstances, it is natural that the cultivators should look forward anxiously to brisk and widespread showers. In the canal areas the sowing of cotton and groundnut is proceeding smoothly. While thus the position is satisfactory in the canal areas and a large part in the south of the division, it is one of suspense in the north and much depends on what rain is received during the next few days.

Karnatak.—The general outlook in the division is particularly satisfactory owing to the good ante-monsoon showers which facilitated the preparatory tillage and thus enabled the cultivators to keep in readiness for the regular monsoon showers. The monsoon also started very well and the rain received being both copious and general there was no difficulty in proceeding with the sowing operations. The early crops are thus being sown in a large area of the division and in some cases the sowing is nearing completion. So far as the start of the monsoon is concerned, it must be admitted that it has been auspicious in a large part of this division

Apprentices in Textile Industry

MINISTRY OF LABOUR'S REPORT

The Ministry of Labour has conducted an Enquiry into Apprenticeship and Training for the Skilled Occupations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The fourth of the seven reports incorporating the results of the enquiry has just been published and deals with the textile and clothing industries.

According to the Census of 1921, 1,304,995 persons were engaged in the various textile industries in Great Britain, of whom 58·4 per cent. were females. The textile industry indeed forms one of the principal industries for the employment of female labour. The cotton trade employed 620,564 persons at the Census of 1921, or nearly half the total number of textile workers in Great Britain. An exceptionally large number of young workers are employed in the textile industries. In the cotton industry no less than 23 per cent. of the males and 35 per cent. of the females were under 21 years of age while in the spinning section of the cotton industry the percentages were even higher—33 per cent. and 42 per cent. respectively. Among these young workers, however, apprenticeship is rare. In the cotton industry only 29 out of 340 employers returned schedules in respect of boys employed as boy apprentices, while none employed any girl apprentices. Although the term "learner" appears in the rules of certain trade unions in the textile industries, the use thereof does not imply any definite and prolonged scheme of training such as exists in the handicraft industries. The rules in question provide that juveniles shall not be admitted to learn a particular trade until, for example, they have attained a certain age or that they must only be admitted in a fixed proportion to the number of adult workers or only with the consent of the local Trade Union Committee. The emphasis, in fact, is on the regulation of the entry of young workers into an occupation rather than on the provision of the training itself. There is a marked contrast between those industries, for example, building and wood-working, engineering and ship-building, and printing in which apprenticeship or a more or less equivalent learnership is the normal method of entry, and the textile industries. The former retain many of the handicraft characteristics and their organisation and methods of recruitment are based on a handicraft tradition. The textile industries, on the other hand, are for all practical purposes based on production by automatic or semi-automatic machines. It follows that the training given to the young workers in a textile factory is quite different from that given to the young workers in the other industries referred to above and is generally much less systematic. There are in a textile factory a large number of light jobs such as doffing and creeling which are well suited to juveniles and which give them constant opportunities of watching the adult workers engaged in the various productive processes. They are thus prepared for the next stage, of becoming helpers in the actual processes of production as vacancies occur. Many young workers thus get a very considerable, but a generalised familiarity, with textile processes whereas the apprenticeship or learnership in other industries is more usually a training for one specific occupation and no other.

The great majority of boys and girls start work as doffers, creelers, piecers or as assistants to weavers and gradually advance to jobs requiring greater skill, as vacancies occur. An elementary school education usually suffices for entry into practically all occupations and boys and girls usually enter the trade direct from school at the age of 14 years. In the case of overlookers and certain other male occupations, apprenticeship usually begins between the ages of 16 and 20 after a period of service as apprentices. For most of the trades there are technical schools in the largest centres, which are attended mainly by those who are aiming at employment in the higher technical and administrative branches.

A distinct feature of the cotton trade is the large extent to which wages are paid on a piece work basis. In 1906, 66 per cent. of all employees were piece workers and in the case of women workers the percentage was over 90. It is an industry in which there is little apprenticeship. Details were received of only 17 indentured boy apprentices and 198 boy apprentices under verbal agreement. Particulars were also given of 124 boy learners and 285 girl learners where the learnership was in accordance with a definite system of training over a period of years, coupled with a graduated scale of wages. Premiums are rarely, if ever, paid to the employer, although it is not unusual for the young worker to be required to pay a sum, from 10s. to £4, to the trade union before any member of the trade union is allowed to teach him or her. Boys and girls are almost invariably taught by the operatives. There is no special method of recruitment, although it is very common for persons already employed to introduce their children or other young relatives into the cotton factories. Advertisement or application to an employment exchange appears to be exceptional. Training is seldom given directly by the overlookers, except to boys who are themselves learning to be overlookers. Attendance at technical classes does not appear to take a prominent place in the education of young workers in the cotton industry as in some other industries, and some employers state that technical knowledge is not necessary.

Mortality Rates in India

The Indian Life Assurance Year Book for 1927 contains a summary of the results of a recent investigation into the mortality experience of the Oriental Life Insurance Company. The Company has so far made four mortality investigations. The following table shows the progressive increase in the magnitude of the experience relating to lives accepted at the ordinary rate of premium :—

Period	Years of life exposed to risk of death	Number of deaths
1874-1897	1,16,489	1,568
1874-1902	1,89,482	2,895
1874-1913	4,96,817	7,838
1905-1925	8,46,796	13,399

The average duration of membership showed a steady increase being 7.70 years in the 1902 investigation.

8.05	1913
8.49	1925

It is pointed out that mortality has improved from one period to another and that in the latest period it was 12 per cent. better than what it was in the period 30 years earlier. The steady improvement thus shown is stated to be a clear indication of there having been an improvement in the longevity of the Indian population generally in the last 30 years.

It was found from the Oriental's latest investigation that the mortality was heavier for Hindus than for Mahomedans and lowest for Europeans, Anglo-Indians and Parsis.

The following table which gives the percentages of the deaths which arose from each different cause in the two periods 1903-1913 and 1914-1925 is of interest :—

Europeans and Anglo-Indians		Cause of Death	Indians	
1903-1913	1914-1925		1903-1913	1914-1925
14.1	13.3	Respiratory Organs	14.0	13.9
8.9	8.0	Stomach and Intestines	9.0	11.0
4.5	6.4	Fever	8.8	10.0
11.7	9.5	Brain and Nervous System	8.8	8.3
13.4	9.2	Heart	8.8	7.2
2.6	5.5	Tubercle	4.5	6.8
..	5.7	Influenza .. ..	..	6.5
4.7	5.7	Diabetes and Carbuncle	8.0	6.3
3.1	1.6	Plague	13.5	4.6
5.1	4.7	Enteric Fever	5.1	4.3
9.1	5.6	Kidneys	3.5	4.1
2.3	4.4	Debility and Senile Decay	1.8	3.8
5.7	3.4	Liver	2.8	2.8
1.0	2.4	Blood Poison	1.1	2.5
1.4	1.0	Cholera	3.5	2.0
3.0	3.9	Violent Deaths	1.8	1.8
4.5	3.3	Cancer	1.0	1.1
..	.7	Rheumatism .. ..	..	.8
1.0	.3	Small Pox .. ..	..	.4
..	5.1	Killed in action .. ..	..	.1
1.0	..	Suicide .. ..	..	..
2.9	.3	Other causes	4.5	1.7
100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0

The above table shows among other things that the percentage of deaths from epidemic diseases such as plague and cholera fell considerably during 1914-25 as compared with 1903-1913. This, as the Oriental's report points out, has been due to improved sanitation, medical advice and the precautions taken by Public Health Authorities. (Abstracted from the Indian Life Assurance Year Book, 1927.)

British Textile Trades

BALFOUR COMMITTEE'S REPORT SUMMARISED

The Cotton Industry

The Balfour Committee appointed in 1924 "to inquire into the conditions and prospects of British industry and commerce, with special reference to the export trade," have now published a "Survey of Textile Industries" which covers the cotton, wool textile, and artificial silk trades.

The first chapter, which deals with the cotton industry, opens with a brief introductory and historical account of the origins of the industry, of its concentration in Lancashire, and of the industrial processes concerned. The rapid growth of the industry is next illustrated, and it is shown that between 1885 and 1914 the number of spindles increased by 43·7 per cent. from 41,298,000 to 59,317,000, and of the actual increase nearly three-quarters took place between 1905 and 1914. Spinning capacity no doubt increased faster than the spindle-age, especially during the earlier part of the period, owing to improvements in the machinery. Since the war there has been no decline in the number of spindles corresponding with the reduction in retained imports of raw cotton. The number of spindles in 1927 was greater than in 1914. A reduction from 60,079,000 to 59,511,000 occurred between 1920 and 1924 owing to mills going out of effective—though not perhaps out of actual—existence; but since 1924 the figures have tended markedly to increase, reaching 60,465,000 in 1927.

The number of looms was on the whole increasing rapidly before the war, and not least between 1905 and 1914, when the number rose from 652,166 to 805,452. Since the war the figures have been slightly below the maximum pre-war level, and have tended to decline rather than to increase.

It is explained that the export trade has always been important in the industry and has for many years far exceeded the home trade. But in piecegoods, yarn, and finished thread exports in the post-war period have been at a low level relatively to those in 1910-13. The place of the British industry in the world production of cotton goods and the place of British exports in the world trade in cotton products are, therefore, discussed. The report holds that:

1. The advantage which Great Britain derived from being a pioneer in the application of machinery to the cotton industry could not, in the long run, remain unshared.

2. It is said that in the introduction of improvements Lancashire has now twelve months' start over other countries, but even to-day

the presence in close contact with the cotton industry of the leading and most highly developed cotton textile machinery industry must be counted in various ways as a substantial advantage for the Lancashire cotton industry over that of most other countries.

The development of the industry abroad was, however, rapid, for—

1. Although proximity to raw materials, as Lancashire showed, is unnecessary, nevertheless countries with local supplies of cotton and local markets for cotton goods possess some advantage.

2. Labour abroad could be had at lower rates of wages than in Lancashire, and mills could be worked longer hours.

3. Although labour—except on the Continent and places where the industry is long established, too—is inefficient, textile machinery is so nearly automatic in operation that cotton goods of a kind can be produced by workers who have attained only a low degree of skill.

4. The large proportion of mule spindles in Great Britain is closely connected with the superior quality of a great part of the British production both of yarns and of fabrics. The proportions are as follows:—

	Spindleage per cent.	
	Mule	Ring
Great Britain	67·5	13·7
Rest of Europe	26·5	29·0
Non-European	6·0	57·3

Developments abroad have forced Lancashire to concentrate increasingly on fine counts and high-grade fabrics, where her naturally humid climate and the skill of her operatives play an essential part. Although differential advantages have been lost, her special facilities for making and marketing yarns and cloth remain very great and have in some respects probably increased rather than diminished.

Apart from the influence of the enormous improvements in transport which specially benefit countries distant from raw materials and markets, the great scale which the Lancashire cotton industry has attained has made possible a degree of specialisation within the industry which would not otherwise have been attainable in this country, and which is unattainable in any country where the industry is small. Large stocks of raw cotton of all growths are maintained at Liverpool from which spinners can at any time meet their precise requirements. Moreover, the Lancashire industry derives great advantages from high development of other industries and services—e.g., transport, news, banking, insurance,—which is in some measure consequent upon the growth of the cotton industry itself. These are substantial and valuable assets, although their importance cannot be precisely measured.

The next section discusses the organisation of the industry and shows how each section is organised separately, how a high degree of concentration and combination exists among the finishers whilst the other sections consist of large numbers of separate concerns, and how little consultation there is between separate sections. In discussing the position of the industry this organisation must be borne in mind, for diverse conditions can exist simultaneously in the several sections; for example, the depression of the post-war years has been concentrated specially in the American section of the spinning trade.

On the Liverpool cotton market the report says:

Having regard to the small proportion of "futures" contracts which culminate in actual delivery, the question may be asked whether this system of trading is of real value to the cotton trade and industry. It can hardly be doubted that the trade could not satisfactorily be carried on without it. It is true that it may lead to gambling on the part of outside speculators who have no knowledge of conditions affecting the cotton trade, and it may facilitate manipulation of the market by professional operators. On the other hand, a well-organised "futures" market enables the task of foreseeing future conditions of supply and demand and of adjusting the price of cotton with the effect of diminishing extreme fluctuations to be concentrated in the hands of an expert group whose business it is also to carry risks which would otherwise remain to be borne by cotton merchants and spinners. In a commodity the supply of which is dependent upon the state of the crops and cannot be rapidly adjusted to meet changes in demand, it is obvious that the task of foreseeing and discounting the future is one of great importance which may reasonably require the service of a group of experts.

After dealing with the functions of the shipping merchant and the yarn agent the report discusses the types and sizes of businesses in spinning and weaving. It refers to the relatively few combinations in these branches of the trade compared with the close organisation of the finishing trades, not only through the principal consolidations but also by voluntary price-fixing associations.

Then follows a discussion of the present productive capacity of the industry. It is not to be inferred that the productive capacity of the industry is the same as it was before the war, principally because the hours of labour were reduced in July 1919, from 55½ to 48 a week. Speed of machinery, the skill, assiduity, and application of the operatives all play a part, and

it is stated that, in spinning, the production per hour is slightly lower than it was before the war, possibly owing to loss of minutes at daily starting and stopping, and because operative spinners (it is alleged) are less ready to help one another in small emergencies. In weaving it is said that the proportion of inadequately skilled operatives is markedly greater than it was before the war. On the assumption that the productive capacity of a given number of spindles and looms is diminished in proportion to the reduction in the working day, it may be estimated that in 1927 the productive capacity of the spinning branch was about 11 per cent. less than it was in 1914, though only 8 per cent. less than the average of 1911-14; and that the productive capacity of the weaving branch in 1927 was 17½ per cent. less than in 1914, though only 14 per cent. less than the average of 1911-14.

Productive capacity is increased by a second shift, but, even if demand were sufficient, labour supplies are limited. On the other hand:

The comparative productive capacity of the bleaching, dyeing, printing, and finishing industries is difficult to gauge. There has been no considerable extension of plant, but improvements have taken place in organisation and technical efficiency. The employers' associations generally affirm that there has been no increase of hourly output to set off against the reduction of the working week. It was stated, however, that the Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., shortly before the war entered into arrangements for the gradual introduction of piecework, that these arrangements have now been fully carried out, and that a considerable increase of efficiency has resulted.

But the decline in output is very much greater than any decline in productive capacity attributable to the shortening of normal working hours, and the report goes on to consider the causes of the depression and what measures were taken to meet it.

The depression was felt particularly in the coarse and medium sections of the American spinning trade, and the report criticises the organised short-time system which was adopted by the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations:

The recommendations of the Federation, even when supported in a ballot by mills controlling a very large proportion of spindles concerned, were not always loyally observed, and at best the system of organised part-time was open to objections. A uniform curtailment of hours worked in the American section made no allowance for the fact that conditions of supply and demand for different types of yarns within the section might show great diversity. Moreover, the more efficient mills which might have plenty of orders were required to work short time with the rest, although concentration of production in mills working full time makes for lower working costs than dispersion among a larger number of mills working part-time. The system of part-time working no doubt enabled the available employment to be spread among the operatives so that fewer were wholly out of work, and it enabled mills to keep their staffs together. It might, therefore, be the best method of meeting a purely temporary depression, but in the case of a prolonged depression the disadvantages attaching to it were clearly more serious.

The work of the Cotton Yarn Association is dismissed in two paragraphs and the reference to the problem of over-capitalisation is almost equally brief. In commenting on the more favourable situation of weaving compared with spinning the report says:

It appears to have been easier to reduce the total quantity of the weaving plant by the elimination of small concerns than it has been to reduce the quantity of the spinning plant, for it is noteworthy that the number of spindles has almost constantly increased since 1921, while the number of looms has almost constantly diminished. Beyond this is the fact that weaving establishments are less rigidly specialised to the production of a narrow range of products than are spinning mills, so that there are greater possibilities of changing the kind of goods produced to meet changes in market conditions. In this connection it may be noted that many weavers have been making an increasing use of artificial silk yarns, and many new fabrics are being successfully manufactured. There is no system of fixing prices in the weaving section; and, unlike the Master Cotton Spinners' Federation, the Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association have never organised short-time

working in the weaving sheds. The system generally adopted when trade is slack is to reduce the number of looms tended by the individual operative weavers. The weaving section of the industry almost entirely escaped the evils of over-capitalisation which afflicted the spinning section.

An important section of the finishing trades follows, and particular attention is paid to the question of finishing charges. Other sections complained to the Committee that finishing charges were unreasonably high and unnecessarily rigid. Before, however, going further in the matter the report points out that,

whatever the truth regarding the reasonableness of finishing charges, they cannot account for anything like the whole of the depression in the cotton trade.

But the relatively high profits of the finishing trades raise the question whether these trades without undue harm to themselves could have alleviated the depression to the general advantage, and on this point the report says:

It is no doubt true that in some lines of trade, especially where there is no foreign competition, a slight reduction of finishing charges would produce no appreciable effect upon consumption; but there can equally be no question that in other lines, especially where Lancashire is in competition with foreign producers, such a reduction might exert a substantial effect upon the consumption of British goods. The existence of such severe competition was, in fact, admitted by the representatives of the finishers, and they stated that in certain instances they had adjusted or were proposing to adjust their charges to meet it. Co-operation between the finishers and the merchants is obviously in the interests of the trade as a whole. Much of the criticism levelled by the merchants at the high cost of finishing may be due to a feeling that co-operation is not carried far enough, and that trade is being lost for that reason.

The limits within which it is practicable and advantageous to charge what the trade will bear can (like other problems affecting the cotton industry) only be explored and settled by the parties concerned acting in concert. While it may be true that the successive stages of spinning, weaving, finishing, and marketing are as a rule best carried on separately, it cannot be denied that separation carries with it the possibility of incidental disadvantages, and not least when the undertakings at one stage are strongly combined. It is clearly of great importance that the disadvantages of separation should be reduced to the smallest possible compass, for the interests of all the parties concerned are fundamentally the same.

After summarising the principal changes since the war in the direction and character of British trade in cotton yarns and manufactures, the report examines in great detail the position of the British cotton industry in relation to the cotton industry of the world. It is clear that

the British cotton industry, while increasing in equipment and output before the war, and also to some extent in equipment (i.e., spindles) since the war, yet has represented a steadily diminishing proportion of the world's cotton industry. Nevertheless in 1926 it accounted for over one-third of the world's spindles, one-quarter of the looms, about two-fifths of the weight and half the value of the yarns exported from the principal countries, and about half the value of the piecegoods exported. It was still unsurpassed by any other country in the extent of its equipment and was far ahead of all others in volume and value of exports.

The world's mill consumption represented 21,637,000 bales on the average of the four years 1909-10 to 1912-13. In 1923-24 it was some 1,207,000 bales less, but in the three following years it exceeded the pre-war average by 1,657,000 bales, 3,044,000 bales, and 4,245,000 bales respectively. These figures leave no room for doubt that in 1924-25, 1925-26, and 1926-27 the world's mill production of yarns (and presumably also of piecegoods) was actually in excess of the pre-war average production. It may be concluded, therefore, that the depression in the British industry is not a reflection of general conditions affecting the cotton industry of the whole world.

It remains, then, to consider whether the British depression can be related to a general depression of international trade in cotton products, and the discussion is illuminated by a table published on the next page.

Exports of Cotton Yarns and Piecegoods from certain Countries

	Quantities			Values (in thousands of £)				
	1910-13 average	1924	1925	1926	1910-13 average	1924	1925	1926
(a) Cotton Yarns—								
From								
Metric tons								
United Kingdom	98,618	73,982	85,994	76,471	15,057	27,792	30,501	21,784
France	5,355	14,576	9,597	7,139	693	6,258	3,563	2,063
Germany	12,878	6,193	5,529	8,853	1,592	1,301	1,114	1,474
Belgium	5,604	9,420	10,508	8,269	518	1,768	1,919	1,115
Italy	13,796	17,194	15,933	13,941	1,343	3,402	2,801	2,265
Switzerland	3,298	6,608	7,839	5,560	573	2,360	2,673	1,673
Czechoslovakia	18,186	26,339	26,339	17,799	*	3,157	3,949	2,292
British India**	83,581	16,575	14,462	18,836	5,994	2,707	2,214	2,305
Japan	63,325	48,679	55,961	37,010	5,366	10,413	10,414	6,860
United States	*	6,204	9,933	10,906	123	1,661	2,463	2,497
Total of above†	286,455	199,431	213,756	186,993	31,259	57,672	57,662	42,036
(b) Cotton Piece Goods (returned by weight)—From								
France	40,500	55,045	42,774	49,797	7,504	26,668	17,282	15,246
Germany	39,856	20,433	19,803	19,837	8,186	7,054	6,676	6,175
Belgium	27,208	26,108	23,721	27,839	3,109	5,686	6,756	6,430
Netherlands	*	*	26,696	26,516	*	6,517	8,825	7,818
Spain	5,247	2,327	3,151	2,601	1,421	940	1,674	1,559
Italy	41,201	53,102	65,524	51,624	6,254	17,196	19,099	15,160
Switzerland	4,231	6,897	6,448	5,121	1,193	5,547	4,540	3,522
Czechoslovakia	*	32,114	40,891	34,969	*	11,797	13,618	10,868
(c) Cotton Piece Goods (not returned by weight)—From								
Other units								
U. Kingdom‡	6,651	4,585	4,637	3,923	89,650	153,448	150,628	116,053
British India								
Mill. lin. yd. . .	89	182	165	197	1,401	5,015	4,647	5,474
Japan Mill. lin. yd. . .	156	960	1,213	1,348	1,917	28,201	33,365	36,783
Japan Th. pieces	6,978	3,353	4,170	4,107	596	1,644	2,043	2,102
Total value for Japan (including articles otherwise enumerated)					2,540	31,025	36,612	40,374
U. States								
Mill. lin. yd. . .	395				5,467			
U. States								
Mill. sq. yd. . .		479	544	514		18,351	18,213	15,912
Total value of piecegoods (b) and (c)§					126,725	270,930	266,129	225,905

*Comparable figure not available. **Exports by sea only. †Excluding Czechoslovakia. ‡The weight of British exports of piecegoods was not ascertained prior to 1920. It amounted (in metric tons) to 371,852 in 1924, 382,143 in 1925, and 341,087 in 1926. §Excluding Netherlands and Czechoslovakia.

There has been a material contraction in the volume of world trade in yarns compared with the pre-war volume. As it is believed that the world production of yarns has increased since before the war, foreign countries must be producing and consuming more of their own yarn than before. The growth of the weaving industry in Japan and British India has absorbed an increasing amount of home-produced yarn and has caused a fall in exports. China, which imported yarns, has reduced her purchases. Tariffs have reduced America's buying. But the import trade of Western Europe is maintained.

The European trade is to an important extent in special kinds, colours, or qualities of yarn, and in view of the considerable amount of specialisation which exists in the manufacturing industries of most European countries it is practically impossible under normal conditions for them to do without imported yarns.

The falling off in the world yarn trade is mainly outside Europe and in those qualities which can be spun by countries which have only recently developed their industry. The table makes it clear that Great Britain is carrying on a larger proportion of the trade than before the war, although ground has in particular instances been lost to some competitors. But the yarn exported from the United Kingdom represents only one-eighth of the total weight produced. If, however, the yarn exported in the form of piecegoods is taken into account, over two-thirds of the total is exported. The fortunes of the spinning section depend mainly, therefore, on the export trade in piecegoods.

Whilst the falling off in British trade in piecegoods may be connected in part with the decline in the total international trade in piecegoods, some ground has also been lost to foreign competitors. Although the decrease in piecegoods was largely due to causes which led to the falling off in yarns, some special circumstances are emphasised:

1. The reduction in Indian imports—as the result of local development—would alone account for any reduction in the world trade in piecegoods, but affects Lancashire primarily in view of her predominant interest in that market.

2. The tendency to substitute home-produced for imported goods was marked, too, in Canada, Brazil, and some European countries.

But the development of cotton manufacturing abroad has increased competition for the world trade which remains. Japan has built on solid foundations, and is in a position to push its way still further into many important markets. Indian exports have increased considerably since the war, and China's potentialities "are enormous." Italy, the United States, and Canada are all making a fight in British markets; but, on the other hand, there are places in which British piecegoods hold their own.

One of these markets is the United States itself, and here British trade has not merely held its relative place but has expanded absolutely—notwithstanding exceedingly high rates of duty levied upon imports in the last few years. The explanation is that the goods exported to the United States are of very high quality, such as are not produced there to any great extent, and that the abounding prosperity of America since the war has resulted in an increased demand which the tariff has failed to check.

In Brazil the high tariff also practically restricts imports to goods of superior quality, and it is significant that in the imports of that country British trade has fully maintained its relative position, though there has been some falling off in the absolute volume.

Both in the United States and Brazil British goods represent the bulk (75 to 80 per cent. in quantity) of the piecegoods imported, a fact which

may be regarded as indicating the position of predominance which the British cotton industry has attained and maintains as regards the finest qualities of piecegoods. This may also be observed in the Australian and New Zealand markets, where the demand is also predominantly for the better qualities of goods. The imperial connection and preferential tariff rates doubtless play a part, and British exports of piecegoods to Australasia have hitherto, it would appear, experienced no serious competition from other countries.

Lancashire, indeed, is almost everywhere able to hold her own in free competition in the higher and highest qualities of cloth. Such competition as there is comes mainly from European countries.

But in coarse cloths, where Lancashire has lost ground in competition with the East, it is not to be expected that she will regain much, if any, of the trade in the commonest qualities or even retain what she still holds, for

the East has some important advantages both in the cost of raw material and in other ways; and in the market for common qualities price is all-important. Between the fine and the common qualities there is a wide range of goods, and the future of Lancashire will depend to a great extent on her ability to retain a large share of this trade. She has on her side substantial advantages, to some of which reference has already been made; but international competition for the class of trade in question is keen, and in some of the competing countries both the organisation and the methods of the cotton industry differ substantially or even fundamentally from those in this country.

If Lancashire is to succeed, is the conclusion, it will be necessary for her to see to it that her methods and organisation are capable of adjustment if required to meet changed and changing conditions, and are maintained at the highest pitch of efficiency. Only in this way will it be possible for her to place her products on the world's markets at prices and under conditions which will enable them to hold their own. (From "Commercial," Manchester, May 24, 1928.)

Middle-Class Cost of Living

The practice of adjusting rates of remuneration for labour in accordance with fluctuations in the cost of living is in this country open to the grave charge that the index number utilised for this purpose, namely, the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index number, is computed on a basis that unfits it as a true measure of value of the middle-class cost of living. This was one of the points that were stressed by Mr. D. Caradog Jones in the course of a paper on the "Cost of Living of a Sample of Middle-class Families" which he read this week before the Royal Statistical Society. The lecturer gave an interesting account of his analysis of a sample of middle-class budgets.

The budgets were divided into three groups, representing, respectively, families living in London, in large towns with a population exceeding 50,000, and in smaller towns and country places. On several important items, for families of about the same type, the budgets revealed a higher level of expenditure in the small towns than in the large towns. Other evidence was presented indicating that the prices of many important commodities were also higher in the smaller towns. The conclusion drawn was that

the higher expenditure in small towns and country places indicated by the budgets was due in part to the higher cost of living experienced rather than to the higher standard of living enjoyed there.

When all the returns from different areas were combined it was found, taking an average, that out of a total family expenditure of something between £400 and £500 a year, in round numbers 40 per cent. was spent on housekeeping and service, 20 per cent. on rent, rates, fuel and light, 10 per cent. on clothing, 10 per cent. also on holidays, clubs and recreation, 5 per cent. on insurance, while the rest of the amounts were comparatively trifling. In general, the proportion of the total income spent on the necessities of life, such as food and house-room, tends to fall as the income rises, while the proportion spent on things which are not indispensable tends to rise with the income.

Dr. Caradog Jones then discussed the differences between the results of his sample investigations and the data used by the Ministry of Labour in calculating the cost-of-living index number. The weights used by the Ministry of Labour are: Food, 60; rent (inclusive of rates), 16; clothing, 12; fuel and light, 8; miscellaneous, 4. The corresponding weights based on Mr. Caradog Jones's sample of middle-class budgets are 32, 14½, 11, 4½, 38. Although the lecturer made it clear that an appropriate choice of weights is really of much less importance than an accurate determination of price changes, this comparison does show how desirable it is that a separate cost-of-living index number should be computed for middle-class families, in which adequate allowance could be made for the miscellaneous expenditure which is relatively so very much more important to them than it is to the average working-class family. (From "Statist," London, May 19, 1928.)

It may be of interest to compare the above distribution of expenditure with that of the middle class families in Bombay city earning between Rs. 75 and Rs. 225 per month. The tabulations of 1325 family budgets collected by the Labour Office between July 1922 and August 1924 give the following percentages:—

Groups	Percentage expenditure on each group
Food	43·4
Fuel and Lighting	5·5
Clothing	10·4
Bedding and household necessities	2·5
House-rent	14·8
Miscellaneous	23·4

It will be seen from the above figures that in the case of the Bombay middle-classes, the percentage expenditure is higher on food and lower on miscellaneous items than among the middle-class families considered by Dr. Caradog Jones. The other groups do not show any marked differences in the percentage expenditure.

Factories in Baroda in 1926-27

The number of factories subject to the control of the Factory Act was 118 as compared with 127 in the previous year. The total number of operatives employed was 15,836 of whom 13,186 were employed in the cotton industry. The number of women and children employed in factories was 2846 and 1623 respectively. Almost all the cotton mills maintained schools and dispensaries during the year.

A revised draft of the Factory Act is still under the consideration of the Baroda Government. (Abstracted from the Annual Report of the Department of Commerce and Industry, Baroda State, for the year 1926-27.)

Wages and Hours in the German Textile Trades, 1927

In Germany, until recently, the only wage rates which could be included in official wage statistics were the basic rates prescribed by collective agreements; no adequate data were available showing the extent to which actual earnings were affected by piecework systems, output bonuses, etc., on the wage side, as well as by short time and overtime on the hours side, and, consequently, nothing was known as to how actual earnings differed from the rates laid down by collective agreement. The necessity for statistics of wages actually earned in at least the most important branches of industry had long been recognised, and, accordingly, the Wages Statistics Act of 27th July 1922, was passed, empowering the Government to issue instructions for the initiation of inquiries into the wages and salaries paid to manual and non-manual workers. The filling up of returns is made obligatory, under the threat of monetary penalties, and both the employer and representatives of the workers sign the returns. The issue of regulations under the Act was, however, postponed until 1927, owing to the fluctuations and uncertainties of the "inflation" and "post-inflation" periods.

The first inquiries under the Act are to be made so as to cover practically the same branches of industry and groups of workers as are covered by collective agreements. The investigation is not to be undertaken simultaneously in all the industries, but, as far as possible, industry by industry, at intervals of about two months, the textile industry being the first to be covered.

The chief results of the inquiry into wages and hours in this industry have now been published in the journal* of the Federal Department of Statistics, from which the following summary has been made. The inquiry was carried out by means of wages returns framed in such a way as to make a comparison possible with the Federal collective agreement statistics for the last payment period prior to the 12th September 1927, relating to piece-workers in 11 branches† of the textile industry, in 263 undertakings,

* *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, No. 5, 1928.

† Cotton industry, worsted spinning, wool spinning, cloth weaving, linen industry, ribbon weaving, hosiery industry, lace making, velvet weaving, silk weaving, knitted goods industry.

in 19 chief centres.* In order to facilitate comparison between the collective agreement rates of wages and the actual earnings, it was decided to limit the inquiry to the two principal occupations of skilled male and female workers (spinner, weaver or hosiery frame worker) paid at piece-rates, and to male and female assistant workers over 20 years of age paid at time rates. These occupations, wage categories and age classes comprised 36,519 workers, or 21 per cent. of all the textile workers (171,544, according to the occupational census of 1925) in the 19 centres covered.

The following Table affords a comparison of the actual earnings of skilled workers in all branches and centres covered, with the average piece-work basis time-rates which are fixed by collective agreements:—

Occupation	Average hourly earnings at September 1927 (exclusive of increases for extra hours and overtime and social allowances)	Average piece-work basis time-rates under collective agreements at September 1927	Average percentage increase of earnings over rates fixed by collective agreements
	Reichspfennigs	Reichspfennigs	Per cent.
Skilled workers, male	82.4	65.1	26.6
Spinners	84.9	71.4	18.9
Weavers or hosiery frame workers	82.2	64.7	27.0
Skilled workers, female	60.3	51.3	17.5
Spinners	55.5	47.9	15.9
Weavers or hosiery frame workers	63.0	53.2	18.4

As regards assistant workers, earnings at time rates only were considered, and a comparison can, therefore, be made with hourly collective agreement rates. For male assistant workers over 20 years the latter rates were, on an average, 55.6 pfennigs, and for female assistant workers over 20 years, 41.4 pfennigs. The actual hourly earnings (exclusive of increases for extra hours and overtime and for social allowances) were, for males, 61.3 pfennigs, and for females 44.4, being, on an average, therefore, 10.3 per cent. higher for male assistant workers and 7.2 per cent. higher for female assistant workers than the collective agreement hourly time rates.

The average weekly working hours in all branches and centres covered, during the period of the inquiry, excluding the effect of losses due to sickness, absenteeism, etc., but including extra hours or overtime, were as follows:—

Skilled workers, male	50.0 hours.
" " female	49.5 "
Assistant workers, male	53.1 "
" " female	49.6 "

* Aix-la-Chapelle, Augsburg, Barmen, Bielefeld, Chemnitz, Crefeld, Elberfeld, Forst, Gera, Hof, Kaiserslautern, Landshut, Leipzig, Lorrach, Munchen-Gladbach, Plauen, Reichenbach, Rheine and Stuttgart.

The average weekly extra hours or overtime, for which an increased rate was payable, amounted to :—

Skilled workers, male	..	..	3.3 hours.
" " female	..	..	2.8 "
Assistant workers, male	..	..	6.1 "
" " female	..	..	3.1 "

Including payments for extra hours or overtime, and allowances for wife and children still paid in certain districts, the average hourly and weekly earnings were as shown below, where comparative figures are given for 1913 :—

Occupation	Average Hourly Earnings			Average Weekly Earnings		
	1913	Sept. 1927	Increase	1913	Sept. 1927	Increase
	Pfennigs	Reichspennigs	Per cent.	Mar ks	Reichmarks	Per cent.
Skilled workers :						
Male	44.7	84.5	89	25.65	42.22	65
Female	30.7	61.2	99	17.47	30.25	73
Assistant workers :						
Male	34.6	63.6	84	19.91	33.78	70
Female	25.1	45.1	80	14.14	22.40	58

It is pointed out that, in considering the above increases, it should be borne in mind that, before the War, wages in the textile industry were particularly low.

In ascertaining the actual incomes of the workers, deductions from gross earnings are of importance. The percentage deductions in respect of taxes on wages and contributions of the workers towards social insurance at the time of the present inquiry and in 1913 are shown in the following Table :—

Occupation	Percentage of Gross Weekly Earnings deducted in respect of :—			
	State and Communal Income Tax in 1913	Tax on Wages in 1927	Sickness and Invalidity Insurance (no Unemployment Relief) in 1913	Social Insurance, including Unemployment Relief, in 1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Skilled workers :				
Male	2.0	3.1	3.6	6.9
Female	1.3	2.1	3.6	7.7
Assistant workers :				
Male	0.95	1.8	3.7	7.6
Female	0.57	0.3	3.8	8.3

A comparison is made of the purchasing power of wages in September 1927, with that of the pre-war period. Using the Federal cost-of-living index number, it is estimated that real wages based on net money wages, after deduction of income-tax and social insurance contributions, were, in September 1927, as compared with 1913 (taken as equal to 100 per cent.), as follows :—

Skilled workers, male	..	..	104.6 per cent.
" " female	..	..	109.6 " "
Assistant workers, male	..	..	107.4 " "
" " female	..	..	101.0 " "

Of the 36,519 textile workers covered by the inquiry, more than two-thirds had, during the period of the inquiry, an actual working week of more than 48 hours (of these rather more than one-third worked from over 52 to 54 hours a week); 16.0 per cent. worked 48 hours a week, and 16.3 per cent. less than 48 hours. As regards the several occupations, 85 per cent. of the male assistant workers had an actual weekly working time of more than 48 hours; of these a little more than three-tenths worked from over 52 to 54 hours, and a little more than two-tenths worked more than 56 hours a week. The particularly long hours of male assistant workers are to some extent due to the fact that certain workers of this class are engaged in putting machinery into working order before the commencement of the normal working day, and in cleaning it after hours.

The following Table shows the distribution of the workers covered according to the weekly working hours :—

Occupation	Number of persons with an average actual working week of :—					
	Less than 48 hours		48 hours		more than 48 hours	
	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.
Skilled workers :						
Male	2,502	16.6	2,388	15.8	10,217	67.6
Female	2,709	17.8	2,739	18.0	9,779	64.2
Assistant workers :						
Male	247	7.8	238	7.5	2,671	84.7
Female	491	16.2	477	15.8	2,061	68.0
Total	5,949	16.3	5,842	16.0	24,728	67.7

The following Table shows the distribution of the workers according to gross weekly earnings. The data are extracted from a Table in the source which classifies the number of workers, both according to earnings and at the same time according to the number of hours worked a week :—

Gross Weekly Earnings in Reichsmarks	Percentage of workers who earned the wages indicated in the first column			
	Skilled Workers		Assistant Workers	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Up to 20	2.2	6.4	2.3	24.4
Over 20 and up to 24	2.5	12.6	4.4	41.4
" 24 " 28	4.5	21.1	8.9	25.4
" 28 " 32	7.0	25.1	26.3	7.0
" 32 " 36	10.5	13.8	24.2	1.4
" 36 " 40	14.9	10.0	16.8	0.3
" 40 " 44	16.3	5.5	9.7	0.1
" 44 " 48	13.9	2.7	4.5	.....
" 48 " 52	10.6	1.7	1.6	.....
" 52 " 56	7.6	0.7	0.6	.....
" 56 " 60	4.4	0.2	0.5	.....
" 60	5.6	0.2	0.2	.....

Of the 15,107 skilled male workers covered by the inquiry (spinners, weavers, hosiery frame workers), two-thirds came within the range of gross weekly earnings—over 32 up to and including 52 Reichsmarks; and 69 per cent. of the workers in this range were working over 48 up to and including 54 hours a week.

The skilled female workers covered by the inquiry (ring-frame spinners, throstle-frame spinners, flyer-frame spinners, weavers and hosiery-frame workers) numbered 15,227, of whom 82.6 per cent. fell into the range of gross weekly earnings—over 20 up to and including 40 Reichsmarks; and two-thirds of these were contained in the hours classes—over 48 up to and including 54 hours.

The inquiry covered 3,156 male assistant workers, over 20 years of age, paid at time rates of wages. Of these, 86 per cent. came within the range of gross weekly earnings—over 24 up to and including 44 Reichsmarks. The proportion of workers in this range working more than 50 hours a week was 84 per cent.

Of the 3,029 female assistant workers, over 20 years of age, paid at time rates, covered by the inquiry, about two-thirds had gross weekly earnings ranging from over 20 up to and including 28 Reichsmarks. Nearly three-quarters of the workers in this wage range had a working week of over 48 up to and including 54 hours.

Details are given in the source with regard to earnings and hours in each of the eleven branches of the textile industry and in each of certain districts. Concerning certain of the most important of these branches, the cotton, wool, linen, hosiery, knitted goods, lace and silk weaving industries, the following Table contains information as to the weighted average hours worked, the hourly earnings, the piece-work basis time

rates or hourly time rate, according to collective agreements, and the average gross weekly earnings:—

Industry and Occupation	Average number of hours worked per week	Average hourly earnings		Average piece-work basis time rate or hourly time rate according to collective agreements	Average gross weekly earnings
		Including	Excluding		
		Allowances for extra hours and overtime and social allowances			
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Reichspennigs	Reichspennigs	Reichspennigs	Reichsmarks
<i>Cotton—</i>					
Spinners:	51.1	86.0	83.5	72.1	43.99
Male	50.0	56.9	56.0	48.5	28.41
Female					
Weavers:	50.8	72.4	70.4	60.5	36.69
Male	50.1	61.0	60.1	54.4	30.54
Female					
Assistants:	53.9	62.1	59.5	54.7	33.51
Male	50.6	43.2	42.4	40.2	21.82
Female					
<i>Wool—</i>					
Woollen spinners:	50.6	83.1	81.4	65.6	42.05
Male	49.9	57.5	56.7	47.0	28.71
Female					
Worsted spinners:	50.6	93.6	92.0	75.9	47.32
Male	49.4	53.4	52.9	45.4	26.37
Female					
Weavers:	49.5	87.1	85.3	64.9	43.12
Male	48.8	78.6	77.9	58.4	38.41
Female					
Assistants:	52.7	66.1	64.3	58.4	34.84
Male (weaving)	48.7	50.5	50.1	48.3	24.56
Female					
<i>Linen—</i>					
Spinners, female	46.3	57.7	56.9	45.6	26.71
Weavers:	46.7	63.8	63.4	56.1	29.73
Male	47.0	51.8	51.5	42.9	24.36
Female					
Assistants:	51.4	58.3	56.1	49.4	29.95
Male	47.5	38.1	37.8	36.3	18.08
Female					
<i>Hosiery—</i>					
Frame workers:	50.4	102.0	100.8	67.2	51.40
Male	47.8	53.1	52.7	38.8	25.39
Female					
<i>Knitted Goods—</i>					
Frame workers:	51.6	112.3	110.5	66.9	57.98
Male	49.7	59.1	58.5	44.3	29.40
Female					
<i>Lace—</i>					
Twist hands, male	51.0	101.9	100.3	75.5	52.03
Lace finishers, female	48.3	51.7	51.3	42.0	24.98
<i>Silk Weaving—</i>					
Weavers:	51.1	86.9	84.2	68.3	44.42
Male	49.5	76.5	75.0	63.9	37.90
Female					
Assistants:	50.4	66.8	64.2	60.0	33.65
Male	48.2	53.5	52.5	47.4	25.77
Female					

(From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1928.)

The Seven-Hour Day in Russia

RESULTS OF FIRST EXPERIMENTS

The following is a summary of several articles which the Soviet Press has recently devoted to the results of the first experiments for the introduction of the seven-hour day which were made in textile undertakings.

In a spinning mill owned by the textile trust of Ivanovo-Vosnessensk, in the second fortnight of February 1928, the hourly output of the spindles fell by about 6 per cent. as compared with the output of the last quarter of 1927 (the fall is rather less if one takes into account differences in kinds of thread manufactured).

The waste in manufacture increased by 15 per cent. in comparison with December 1927. Stoppages in production, which amounted to 5 per cent. in December, rose to 18 per cent. in February, causing a deficit in production of 20 tons of thread in two weeks. The chief reasons for these stoppages were, first, defects in the running of the machinery (half the cases); next, lack of labour power (one-third of the cases); and, finally, repairs and inspection of machinery.

In a spinning mill in Jaroslav, where the change to the seven-hour system extended only to one-tenth of the workers, the results are similar. According to anticipation, the total production should have risen by 31·25 per cent. as a result of the introduction of a third shift. In practice, in the first week the increase was only 26·53 per cent., in the second week 31·03 per cent., and in the third week, 28·32 per cent. The output per hour fell by 4 per cent. The waste in production with the mule-jenny increased from 1·1 per cent. in December to 1·9 in February.

It should be noted that in this factory the ration of workers to machines has been cut down considerably; instead of 7·73 workers per 1000 spindles, there are at present 6·15.

STATEMENT OF WORKERS' DELEGATES

At the seventh congress of the Textile Workers' Union, references were made to the putting into operation of the seven-hour system.

Mr. Melnichansky, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Union, declared that there was still much to be done to solve the question of the work of women shortly before childbirth, under the seven-hour system, for, in spite of the prohibition of night work for women in such circumstances, the women themselves infringed the regulation by working at night.

A delegate protested that the Central Committee was not firm enough in this matter, and that it ought to give definite instructions to the local branches.

According to many of the delegates, the reduction in the ratio of workers to machines is being carried out unreasonably, while the raw materials supplied are of poor quality, with the result that there is irregularity in the running of the machinery, and a lowering of individual output and earnings.

LACK OF SKILLED LABOUR

In general, the result of the first experiments has been a relative falling-off in production and in individual output. The Press gives various explanations of this. First of all, the new workers are not sufficiently skilled.

This can easily be seen from data relating to wages. The average wage has fallen by from 0·7 to 4·0 per cent. for the workers as a whole, whereas for certain occupations there has been a rise of from 4·0 to 39 per cent.

According to *Trud* of 11th April 1928, this increase in the proportion of half-trained or badly-trained labour is due to the sudden decision of the heads of undertakings to introduce a third shift. It has been necessary to engage a large number of workers very hastily, and they have been drawn from the ranks of apprentices, etc. In the labour exchanges, which have several millions of unemployed on their books, it was impossible to find more than a few individuals with the skill required, and, after a test, it was frequently found that the "skilled" workers had very little knowledge of the trade which they professed.

According to statements made at the textile workers' congress, some of the factories chosen for these experiments are situated in essentially agrarian districts, where it is difficult to recruit or to introduce skilled labour. The influence of skill on production is well shown by the fact that in the factory at Jaroslav already mentioned it has been noted that, contrary to all expectations, in certain workrooms the output of the night shift was greater than that of the day shift. This is due solely to the fact that the night shift is composed of workers who have been employed for some time, while the greater part of the day shift is made up of new workers. In other workrooms, however, where the night shift is made up of new workers, production has fallen off considerably.

A second cause of the drop in output is the defective state of the machinery, which, in certain cases, demands urgent and extensive repairs.

Finally, reference is made to difficulties in reduction of staff in relation to machinery. One woman previously looked after one machine; an attempt has been made to use three women for four machines; as a result, the fourth machine is somewhat neglected.

TRANSFER AND TRAINING OF WORKERS

Of all the causes for the decline in output, the most important certainly seems to be the labour question. This is the point stressed by the whole Press.

Trud suggests that in order to obtain skilled workers for undertakings brought under the seven-hour system, recourse should be had to the workers who remain or who will remain surplus after the introduction of rationalisation in other undertakings. The reductions of staff by this means (it is stated) have not been extensive enough up to the present, simply because there was no way of finding employment for the workers who were threatened with dismissal. The transfer of these workers, as well as the engagement of unemployed workers, pre-supposes a considerable amount of re-training. These workers must pass through

an apprenticeship or a re-apprenticeship. So far the management of undertakings have been very reluctant to give the unemployed a trial in their works. At the moment, however, this reluctance seems to have been partly overcome.

In order to attract workers to the undertakings concerned, another problem must be faced—that of housing. If no solution is arrived at, the managements will be faced with the following dilemma: either they must work short-handed, or else they must employ unskilled workers. This question is of supreme importance, for there is a danger that the change to the seven-hour system may not produce any decrease in unemployment.

Trud also points out that so far, in the preliminary steps for the transition to the seven-hour system, too much attention has been paid to the legal aspect (particularly the protection of workers) and too little to the question of preparing the necessary corps of workers.

All these questions have been studied during the introduction of the seven-hour system in other works. On 18th April the textile factory at Narofominsk was to take on 1,600 new workers. A month previously it began by employing 500 young workers, so as to make them familiar with the work. Industrial aid activity was also intensified, so as to train the apprentices more quickly, and courses of one month were organised for young foremen, who during that period were excused work in the factory. But there again the vital question is that of housing, the accommodation for workers being already insufficient.

FURTHER EXPERIMENTS

At Leningrad two factories were to change to the seven-hour system on 1st May 1928—a clothing factory and part of a boot factory.

In connection with the latter establishment, it may be noted that some trade unionists opposed a partial experiment, by which part of the workers were to work seven hours and the rest eight hours. In neither case, moreover, was there any intention of increasing the number of workers or the total output. It was simply a case of reorganising the work of the three shifts, who really do not work eight complete hours, so that the daily wage might not fall nor the cost of production be increased. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 21, 1928.)

Registered Trade Unions in the Punjab

The following seven trade unions have so far been registered in the Punjab under the Indian Trade Unions Act of 1926: (1) The Punjab Motor Drivers' Union, (2) The Punjab Tonga Workers' Union, (3) The Upper India Homeopathic Association, (4) The North Western Railway Union, (5) The North Western Railway Audit Union, (6) The General Workers' Union N. W. Railway and (7) The Punjab Labour Board. The strength of five of these unions is not more than 15 each, one union has a membership of 37 and another of 323.

Unemployment in the United States

Unemployment continues to attract widespread attention in the United States. An enquiry conducted by Mr. E. Stewart, Commissioner of Labour Statistics, shows that there were at least 1,674,050 more persons out of work in January 1928 than in 1925. The total number of unemployed is estimated at about 3,000,000; one estimate places it as high as 5,796,920.

The method of calculation employed in arriving at the first figure was as follows:—The year 1925, accepted as an average normal year during which there was no noticeable unemployment, is made the basis of measurement from which the employment shrinkage is computed. The number of employees in 1925 is estimated from the population census taken in January 1920, recast in the July 1923 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*, and from the percentage of change as indicated by the employment index for manufacturing and railroads calculated by the Bureau of Labour Statistics. Thus a figure is arrived at of 25,222,742, representing the number of persons working for wages or salaries for others, an employment in 1925. The calculated number of employees as in January 1928 is 23,548,692, leaving a shrinkage between the two periods, as indicated above, of 1,674,050.

It must be borne in mind that, whilst the estimated number of employees in 1925, mainly based upon the population census, may be regarded as approximately correct, the corresponding figure for 1928 is but a rough valuation, which should be accepted with all the necessary reserve.

Further Estimates

Moreover, according to a declaration by the Secretary of Labour Mr. Davis, to the effect that there are in the United States at least 1,000,000 workers unemployed at any time, it may be inferred that in 1925, the year taken as a basis for the above calculation, there were also about 1,000,000 unemployed, which, added to the 1,674,050 as brought out by the enquiry, would lead to the conclusion that there are at present about 3,000,000 unemployed.

In a speech to the Senate on 20th April 1928, Senator Wagner goes even further, by affirming that the figure submitted by Mr. Stewart is but one single item in the calculation. To the shrinkage in employment between 1925 and 1928 which is claimed by Mr. Davis to represent the present unemployment, Senator Wagner adds 1,230,870 for shrinkage between 1923 and 1925, calculated on the same basis, 500,000 for the drift from farm to city between 1924 and 1927, and 2,196,000 for the increase in population by natural growth and immigration. He thus arrives at the figure of 5,796,920.

These various estimates prove unquestionably the existence of a considerable volume of unemployment, but they show also the impossibility, owing to lack of regular official statistics, of determining even approximately its extent.

A striking illustration of the degree to which unemployment estimates are arbitrary is furnished by a recent report of the Maryland Commissioner of Labour. The Maryland State Federation of Labour asserted that at present 75,000 people were out of work in Baltimore. The Chamber of

Commerce immediately replied with an estimate of 33,000. A house-to-house canvass undertaken by the police showed that only 15,477 persons were unemployed.

Signs of Improvement

On the other hand, during February 1928, there seems to have been a certain improvement in the labour market. The general index of employment in manufacturing industries rose from 84.2 in January to 85.5 in February 1928, the first rise registered since March 1927. The percentage of unemployed trade union members, which, from 13.8 in December 1927 rose to 17.8 in January 1928, showed no further increase during February.

The Director of the Employment Service of the Department of Labour, in a statement issued on 31st March 1928, whilst admitting certain slackness in the textile and boot and shoe industries, declares that the employment outlook in general is encouraging. The iron and steel industry, long recognised as a reliable barometer, has shown a definite improvement in both production and employment. Orders for structural materials, railroad cars, rails and other equipment, as well as the increase in the demand for automobile materials, practically ensure a steady enhancement to the forces employed in this basic industry. It is natural to expect a corresponding increase in allied plants and factories.

PROPOSED REMEDIES

As regards remedial measures, Mr. Davis announced recently that prompt relief is due from the Government's elaborate building programme, and similar programmes of States, municipalities and counties, as well as from private construction.

Senator Jones (Chairman of the Committee on Commerce) has introduced a bill for the creation of a "prosperity reserve" for public works, to stabilise employment and industry when they begin to recede. This reserve should, according to the Bill, apply to all Federal public works, including roads, public buildings, rivers, harbours, and flood control. For this purpose Senator Jones asks that the present annual appropriation of 150,000,000 dollars should be doubled in years of slackening activity.

Senator Wagner is also preparing a Bill to attenuate cyclical fluctuations by the timely execution of public works. Further, he has already submitted a Bill providing for a wide extension of the service of the Bureau of Labour Statistics so as to include collection of regular unemployment statistics, and another for the creation throughout the country of a system of employment offices under the co-operative auspices of the Federal Government and the States. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 21, 1928.)

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Family Budgets in Moscow

The Labour Statistics Service of the City of Moscow conducts regularly an enquiry into the budgets of working-class families in Moscow. The enquiry undertaken in November 1927 referred to 340 families, with a total of 1493 persons. The average family consisted of 4 to 5 (4.39) persons. The average number of members of the family working as wage-earners was 1 to 2 (1.37) per family.

The enquiry, which was carried out by means of an examination of account-books kept up to date by all the families covered during the month of November, gave the following results* :—

Monthly Income			
	Rs.	a. p.	Percentage
Wages of the head of the family ..	149	1 7	72.6
Other income of the head of the family ..	5	13 8	2.9
Wages of members of the family ..	27	8 1	13.4
Other income of members of the family ..	6	0 10	3.0
Advances, loans, sale of belongings ..	11	4 2	5.5
Other income ..	5	7 5	2.6
Total ..	205	3 9	100.0

Monthly Expenditure			
	Rs.	a. p.	Percentage
Rent ..	17	7 9	8.8
Lighting and heating ..	7	10 2	3.8
Food ..	87	1 9	43.6
Alcohol and tobacco ..	8	10 2	4.2
Clothing ..	39	12 6	19.9
Household utensils, furniture ..	6	1 6	3.1
Health and medicines ..	2	5 6	1.2
Education, reading and amusements ..	3	14 1	2.0
Contributions to the trade union, the Communist Party, etc. ..	5	6 8	2.7
Help to relatives ..	4	5 1	2.2
Repayment of loans and advances ..	9	14 9	5.0
Other expenses ..	6	13 9	3.5
Total ..	199	7 8	100.0

By way of comparison, it may be remarked that the minimum budget, calculated for 1913 at 12.99 pre-war roubles per month, comes at present (1st December 1927) to 25.06 chervonetz roubles (or Rs. 35.36) which gives a cost of living index of 193 (1913 = 100). (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 14, 1928.)

* Roubles have been converted to Indian currency at the rate of exchange in November 1927 which was 1 Rouble = Re. 1-6-7.

Social Legislation in Japan

MEASURES TO BE ACCELERATED

In accordance with the decision of a recent Conference of Deputy Ministers in Japan, the Department of the Interior has instructed the Bureau of Social Affairs to renew its efforts for the completion or further study of social legislative measures which are pending.

Among the measures in progress are the following:—

- Trade Union Bill.
- Collective Agreement Bill.
- Amendment of the Factory Act.
- Workmen's Compensation Bill.
- Amendment of the Health Insurance Act.
- Child Relief Bill.
- Amendment of the Delinquent Children's Act.
- Poor Relief Bill.
- Amendment of the Regulations for the Employment and Relief of Miners.
- Tenant-Farmers' Bill.

Among the measures under investigation are Bills relating to unemployment insurance and the protection of commercial employees.

It is stated that the action of the Government for the speeding up of the progress of social legislation is due to its desire to adapt itself to the changed situation brought about by universal suffrage and the recent General Election. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 7, 1928.)

Works Councils in Germany

NEW LEGISLATION

The German Government has promulgated an Act, dated 28th February 1928, amending the Act of 4th February 1920 relating to works councils.

To understand the scope of the new Act, it is necessary to recall briefly the reasons which led to its adoption. Since 1926, the central trade union organisations in Germany—the General Federation of German Trade Unions ("A.G.D.B."), the Federation of Salaried Employees ("A.F.A."), the Federation of Christian Trade Unions, and the Federation of Hirsch-Duncker Trade Unions—have jointly proposed certain amendments to the Act of 1920, in order to remedy various defects which had appeared in practice.

The trade union organisations protested especially against the wording of Section 23 of the Act of 1920, by which it was made the duty of the heads of undertakings to set up the election committees for the organisation of elections to works councils whenever the existing works council had neglected to do so, or when a new works council had to be set up. But since, in the event of the refusal of the head of the undertaking to appoint an election committee, there was no legal means of compelling him to do so, the very existence of works councils actually depended in many new establishments on the goodwill of the employer.

It was therefore considered desirable, in the first place, not to leave the initiative for summoning and constituting the election committee in the circumstances indicated, to the employers exclusively, but to entrust it either to the interested parties themselves, or to a neutral party, such as the President of the Labour Court, who would take action when requested by the workers entitled to vote, or by an occupational organisation of the workers, or by the factory inspectorate.

Section 1 of the new Act, amending Section 23 of the principal Act, satisfies in substance this first claim.

In the second place, it was desired to strengthen the protection given to the wage-earners, in the exercise of the rights they enjoy under the principal Act, against any interference or pressure on the part of the employer. Section 2 of the new Act, amending Section 95 of the Act of 1920, satisfies this claim.

Finally, to complete the guarantees given by Sections 1 and 2 of the principal Act, it was necessary to make it possible, even in the absence of a works council, to take action against an employer for infringement of the provisions of Section 95. For this purpose, Section 3 of the new Act, amending Section 99 of the Act of 1920, gives the factory inspector, or an authority appointed by the Government, the right to take proceedings in case of infringement of this kind. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 14, 1928.)

Experiment in Vocational Guidance

In London a new experiment in vocational guidance is being undertaken with the help of the Carnegie Trust. Psychological tests were made, in which all available information was taken into account. On the results of these tests 600 children were given advice as to choice of trade or profession. A further 600 school-leavers, who were given only the usual advice, were brought into the scope of the experiment. Both groups—the psychologically-tested and the other—were to be compared at the close of a follow-up period. These psychological tests went on for three years until 1926, when the following-up was started. Enquiries were made as to the kind of work each child had taken, the wages received, and the degree of satisfaction which the child and employer expressed. As yet no definitely ascertained results have been received, but it seems as if the advice given to the psychologically tested children have been helpful. (From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, April 1928.)

Restriction of Foreign Labour in Greece

In view of the existence of a certain amount of unemployment in Greece, the Ministry of the Interior has issued a circular recommending the police authorities not to grant to aliens any further permits for work in a number of specified trades. As this list embraces over 50 trades, the prohibition may be regarded as almost general. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 21, 1928.)

The Indian Mines (Amendment) Bill

Regulation of Daily Hours of Work

A Bill to amend the Indian Mines Act 1923 (No. 27 of 1927) was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th March 1927. The original Bill with the Statement of Objects and the Notes on Clauses is reproduced below.

A Bill further to amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, for certain purposes.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, for certain purposes; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. *Short title and Commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Indian Mines (Amendment) Act, 192 .

(2) It shall come into force on the 1st day of April 1930.

2. *Amendment of section 23, Act IV of 1923.*—In section 23 of the Indian Mines Act, 1923 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act) after clause (c) the following clause shall be inserted namely:—

“(d) for more than twelve hours in any consecutive period of twenty-four hours.”

3. *Insertion of new sections 23A, 23B and 23C in Act IV of 1923.*—After section 23 of the said Act the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“23A. *Limitation of working hours.*—Work shall not be carried on in any mine for a period exceeding twelve hours in any consecutive period of twenty-four hours except by a system of shifts so arranged that not more than one shift of persons employed in work of the same kind shall be at work in the mine at the same time.

23B. *Special provision for change of shifts.*—Where work is carried on by a system of shifts, the manager of the mine may, notwithstanding anything contained in clause (d) of section 23, not more than once in every seven days, permit persons who have been employed on a shift of a duration not exceeding eight hours to return to work after an interval of not less than four hours on another complete shift of a duration not exceeding eight hours and permit persons who have been employed on a shift of a duration not exceeding twelve hours to return to work after an interval of not less than six hours for another complete shift of a duration not exceeding twelve hours.

23C. *Notices regarding hours of work.*—(1) The manager of every mine shall cause to be posted outside the office of the mine a notice in the prescribed form stating the time of the commencement and of the end of work at the mine and, if it is proposed to work by a system of shifts, the time of the commencement and of the end of work for each shift. A copy of each such notice shall be sent to the Chief Inspector, if he so requires.

(2) In the case of a mine at which mining operations commence after the 7th day of April, 1930, the notice referred to in sub-section (1) shall be posted not less than seven days before the commencement of work.

(3) Where it is proposed to make any alteration in the time fixed for the commencement or for the end of work in the mine generally or for any shift, an amended notice in the prescribed form shall be posted outside the office of the mine not less than seven days before the change is made, and a copy of such notice shall be sent to the Chief Inspector not less than seven days before such change, if he so requires or if the original notice was sent to him.”

4. *Amendment of sections 24 and 25, Act IV of 1923.*—In sections 24 and 25 of the said Act, after the word and figures “section 23” the words, figures and letter “or section 23A” shall be inserted.

5. *Insertion of new section 25A in Act IV of 1923.*—After section 25 of the said Act the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“25A. *Employment in different mines.*—Save in such circumstances as may be prescribed, no person shall employ or permit to be employed in a mine any person whom he knows or has reason to believe to have already been employed in any other mine during the preceding twelve hours.”

6. *Amendment of section 28, Act IV of 1923.*—(1) Section 28 of the said Act shall be re-numbered as sub-section (1) of section 28, and to that sub-section after the word “employments” the following shall be added, namely:—

“and, where work is carried on by a system of shifts, of the shift in which each such person works.”

(2) To the same section the following sub-section shall be added, namely:—

“(2) No person shall be employed in a mine until the particulars required by sub-section (1) have been recorded in the register in respect of such person, and no person shall be employed except during the hours of work specified for him in the register.”

7. *Amendment of section 31, Act IV of 1923.*—In section 31 of the said Act—

(a) in sub-section (3) the words “or rule,” in both places where they occur, the words “in the case of a regulation,” and the words “and in the case of a rule to every Mining Board constituted in the province” shall be omitted; and

(b) after sub-section (3) the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

“(3A) No rule shall be made unless the draft thereof has been referred to every Mining Board constituted in the province for which it is proposed to make the rule, and unless each such Board has had a reasonable opportunity of reporting as to the expediency of making the same and as to the suitability of its provisions.”

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The weekly hours of work for persons employed in mines are limited to 60 in the case of persons working above ground and to 54 in the case of persons working below ground. But there is no statutory limit on the daily hours of work, so that, for example, there is nothing to prevent a miner from being employed for 17 or 18 hours in one day. During the debates in

the Legislative Assembly on the Mines Bill (which afterwards passed law as the Mines Act, 1923) a proposal was made to place a direct limitation on the daily hours of work. The proposal was rejected, but the Honourable Sir Charles Innes on behalf of Government promised to examine, in consultation with Local Governments, the question of introducing a compulsory system of shifts in mines. The main part of the present Bill is the outcome of this examination.

2. While the primary object of the Bill is the imposition of a limitation on the daily hours of work, it must not be supposed that hours of work in mines are generally excessive. It is probably the case that in few mines do the miners maintain a standard of more than eight hours' work daily on the average; and it is not anticipated that the Bill, if passed, will have any appreciable effect in reducing hours of work. The main advantages which the Bill is designed to secure are of a different character. The present system (or lack of system) in many mines encourages miners to spend long hours underground and makes satisfactory supervision difficult. It tends to increase the number of accidents in several ways, and it diminishes the potential efficiency of the Indian miner. The shift system has been introduced with success in a number of mines, and it would probably be introduced more generally without compulsion were it not for the danger that labour may gravitate to those mines where restrictions are absent. That danger will disappear when regularity in working hours is made the general rule, and it is believed that the system now proposed will be to the general advantage both of the mineowner and the miner.

3. There is no suggestion from any quarter that a limitation should be imposed on the hours within which work may be carried on in a mine, and it is intended that mineowners should be at liberty to carry on work for the whole 24 hours. If the mineowner is willing to restrict the total hours of work to the limit that may be prescribed for the individual worker, the declaration beforehand of the hours within which the mine is to be worked is sufficient to enable control to be exercised over working hours. But when a mineowner desires that the mine should be worked for a longer period than the daily limit prescribed for the individual worker, the enforcement of a system of shifts is essential if control has to be maintained. Further, the Government of India are satisfied that, if effective control is to be exercised, it is necessary that the shifts should be so arranged that they do not overlap. In other words, if the workmen of any particular class, e.g., coal cutters, are to be divided into a number of shifts, not more than one such shift should be employed in the mine at the same time.

4. If this is accepted, it means that there are only two shift systems which can reasonably be considered. These are the two-shift system, in which the limit of each shift is 12 hours and the three-shift system in which the limit is 8 hours. The three-shift system is already in force in a few mines in India; but the Government of India consider that it is, at present at any rate, out of the question to enforce an 8 hours' day in Indian mines. They have therefore reached the conclusion that it is impracticable at present to attempt to fix a lower limit for the daily hours of work than twelve. Under the Bill, if passed, mineowners will have the option of (1) limiting the hours of working over the mine as a whole to 12 daily, and

(2) introducing a system of shifts, not exceeding 12 hours each, so arranged that the hours under two shifts of the same type of worker do not overlap. The detailed provisions by which this end is to be secured are explained in the Notes on Clauses, where an explanation is also given of clause 7 which is unconnected with the main part of the Bill.

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1.—It is considered desirable that, even after the Bill is passed, mineowners should have a period of grace in which to make the adjustment that will be necessary in many mines. It is therefore proposed that the Bill should not be brought into operation until 1st April 1930.

Clause 2.—The amendment proposed makes it unlawful to employ any person for more than 12 hours in any consecutive 24 hours.

Clause 3.—The new section 23A enforces the introduction of shifts in all mines working for more than 12 hours out of the 24. Section 23B is designed to allow for a periodical change of shifts, necessary wherever the workers are not to be compelled to work within the same hours (e.g., night hours) for indefinite periods. Section 23C provides for the notices necessary to enable the inspecting staff to enforce the Act.

Clause 4.—Section 24 of the main Act exempts the supervising staff from the provisions limiting hours of work and section 25 enables the manager to employ labour in contravention of these provisions in the case of an emergency on work necessary to protect the safety of the mine or the workers in it. This clause is rendered necessary by the introduction of the new section 23A.

Clause 5.—This provision is required to prevent the evasion of the limitations on hours of work which would be possible if double employment were permitted.

Clause 6.—Section 28 of the main Act provides for the maintenance of a register of workers and their hours of work. The first amendment to it is consequential on the introduction of the shift system; the second is necessary for the enforcement of the restriction on daily hours; and, coupled with the new section 23C, gives the inspecting staff what is required to enable them to ascertain whether the law is being observed or not.

Clause 7.—Under the existing law, all regulations and rules have to be referred to Mining Boards before they are published for criticism. It has been brought to the notice of Government that in the case of rules, which are made by Local Governments, this provision leads in some cases to unnecessary delay, and that Mining Boards may, on occasion, more suitably be consulted after criticisms have been received from the general public. The proposed amendment will give Local Governments the power to consult Mining Boards at the stage which appears best to them. No change is proposed in the law relating to regulations, which are framed by the Government of India.

B. N. MITRA.

W. T. M. WRIGHT,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

The Bill was referred to a Select Committee on the 13th February 1928, which presented the following Report to the Legislative Assembly on the 12th March 1928:—

" We, the undersigned, Members of the Select Committee to which the Bill further to amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, for certain purposes was referred, have considered the Bill and have now the honour to submit this our Report, with the Bill as amended by us annexed thereto.

" 2. *Clause 1.*—We considered the proposal that this Act should come into force at once, or, at least, on some date much earlier than the 1st day of April 1930; but bearing in mind the important alterations in working conditions which this Bill and other contemplated changes (*viz.*, the gradual stoppage of employment of women underground) will bring about in many mines, we thought it safer not to run the risk of outstripping the capabilities of some of the mines to adjust themselves to these rapidly altering conditions. However, these considerations do not apply to section 7, and we propose to amend sub-clause (2) of clause 1 so as to bring this into force at once.

" It was pointed out to us that it would be a convenience to many mines if the Act came into force immediately after a non-working day, and we have accordingly altered the 1st day of April into the 7th day of April, which is a Monday, and have made a consequential amendment in the proposed section 23B (2).

" 3. *Clause 2.*—We discussed in great detail a proposal to shorten the period of twelve hours proposed as the maximum hours of daily work in the new clause (d) of section 23, and we considered, in succession, whether the period should be reduced to eight, ten or eleven hours. The proposal to reduce the period to eight hours was strongly urged in the interests of the workmen, for reasons with which we find ourselves in sympathy. There can be no doubt that in a properly equipped and organised mine, the eight hours' shift is the best for all concerned, for reasons which are so well known that they require no elaborate statement by us. The advantages of the eight hours' shift are so clear that, we understand, many well equipped mines in India do now actually work on an eight hours' shift.

" But, in view of the present conditions in Indian mines, we are of opinion that the immediate introduction of a compulsory eight hours' shift would be detrimental to the interests of many of the workers themselves. The miner's wages are not fixed on a daily basis, but on a piece-work basis at so much per tub of coal, and the average outturn of a miner is three tubs of coal per working day. A skilful miner who works hard can fill four tubs in eight hours, but this rate of output is exceptional, and the majority of the miners consider the getting of three tubs to be a day's work; and to turn out even this amount within a limited time requires a certain degree of punctuality and application, and also the provision of a sufficient number of tubs. Now many miners, who are drawn largely from the aboriginal classes, have not yet trained themselves fully to habits of punctuality and regularity, and if they should begin work an hour or two late on a day with a maximum of eight hours' working

time and are turned out of the mine at the end of the eight hours, they may not succeed in earning their present rate of daily wages. At present they may take, and do take, longer than eight hours to get three tubs of coal. Under a maximum twelve hours system they will not have the same latitude as to hours of work which they now have, but their habits will not be so seriously interfered with as to diminish their earnings. Again, the capacity of a miner to get three tubs of coal during any maximum period of daily work necessarily depends on the supply of three tubs to him at the proper times during that period; but many mines are insufficiently equipped with tubs, and in the present position of the coal mining industry in India, the mine-owners may not be in a financial position to buy the large extra number of tubs that will be required in order to give the miner a fair opportunity of receiving payment for three tubs of coal per day of eight hours. It is apprehended, therefore, that in these mines the inevitable effect of restricting the daily working hours of a miner to a maximum of eight will be to reduce his daily earnings.

" 4. We consider that the safest course is to advance cautiously and to consolidate the position as we go along. When the miner has acquired improved habits of punctuality and application under the twelve hours' shift system, and the small mine-owner has equipped his mine properly, the eight hours' shift may be introduced. Meanwhile, we would point out that under a twelve hours' shift there is nothing to prevent a skilful and punctual miner from filling his three, or even four, tubs in eight hours and then coming out of the mine.

" 5. The proposal to have a ten or eleven hours' shift can be supported and opposed on very similar grounds and also on others. A compulsory ten hours' shift would, in practice, mean in many cases an actual eight hours' shift, otherwise the mine would remain empty and unworked for several hours of the twenty four. The proposal for a ten or twelve hours' shift was also supported on the ground that it will allow some time between shifts in which the mine could be cleared of men working on the one shift before others went below, and thereby confusion would be avoided and the work of inspection facilitated; but some of the larger mines are already working on an eight hour shift without confusion or difficulty in inspection.

" We also considered the proposal that we should provide now by Statute that the eight hours' shift should be introduced after the twelve hours' shift had been in operation for three years; but we prefer not to tie the hands of the Legislature of three years hence in this matter.

" 6. We adhere, therefore, to the twelve hours' shift proposed in the Bill; but as we all agree that the eight hours' shift is the system which should gradually be worked up to, we recommend to Government that after the present Bill has been in force for three years, the situation should be again examined to see whether an eight hours' shift can then be introduced.

" 7. *Clauses 2 and 5.*—The proposed section 25A set out in clause 5 of the Bill contemplated rules to exempt mines from the provisions of the new section, in particular circumstances; but it transpires that there are no circumstances of a general kind which would entitle mines

generally to exemptions from this provision, save those contemplated in sections 24 and 25 of the Act. The proposed section, therefore, may be reduced to a provision regulating the hours of employment only and as such we have incorporated it in section 23, as a new sub-section by an amendment of clause 2 of the Bill. Sections 24 and 25 will apply automatically; and if any special circumstance should arise in any mine which we have not foreseen, it may be dealt with under section 46 of the Act.

"8. *Clause 3.* In the proposed section 23A it was proposed to omit the words 'in work of the same kind,' as their presence may afford a loophole for evasion. We consider that evasion by this means is unlikely, and if any instances should occur they will be brought to the notice of the Government by the inspecting staff, and necessary measures can then be taken. We prefer to retain the words to cover the cases of clerks, checkers and so forth, whose work may occupy a portion of the time of both shifts.

"9. We consider that the proposed section 23B is unnecessary and is an undue complication, and we have deleted it.

"10. *Clause 6.*—We have deleted clause 5, for reasons given above, and have re-numbered the original clause 6 as clause 5. In the new clause 6 we have introduced a provision reproducing in part the power to prescribe the form of notices under section 23B, and also giving a further explicit power to Local Governments to require that these notices shall be posted in the vernaculars known to the employees in the mine.

* * * * *

K. C. NEOGY.
B. N. MITRA.
B. S. MOONJE.
W. S. J. WILLSON.*
B. DAS.
N. M. JOSHI.*
M. A. AZIM.
G. SARVOTHAM RAO.*
S. LALL.
HARBILAS SARDA.
DARCY LINDSAY.
ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURY.*
HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU.*

MINUTES OF DISSENT

Although the Bill, inasmuch as it places a limit on the daily hours of work in Indian mines, effects some improvement in the legal position as regards the hours of work, we still feel that as this legislation is being undertaken more than fifty years after the starting of the industry, the maximum hours of work to be permitted by legislation should not be more than eight, and there is absolutely no serious difficulty in doing this. In a large number of mines, it is admitted the workers do not work for more than eight hours, and they do not get less wages than those workers who work longer hours; nor do the owners of these mines earn less profits.

* Subject to minutes of dissent.

The argument about the lack of habits of regularity and punctuality among miners has no force and may equally be used against any limit to be placed upon the daily hours of work. The same may be said about the alleged difficulty created by the fact that some miners do not reside near the mines but go there to work from their villages. We therefore consider that the maximum daily hours of work should be eight and not twelve as approved by the majority. We also feel that the Bill should come into force from the 1st April 1929. As the question has been under discussion for five years and as the Bill was introduced in the Assembly in the early part of 1927 no injustice will be done to the employers, if they are not allowed more time to effect the change required by this legislation.

N. M. JOSHI
ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURY
G. SARVOTHAM RAO
HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU

Reserving the right to move for reinsertion of clause 23-B.

W. S. J. WILLSON.

A Bill further to amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, for certain purposes

As Amended by the Select Committee

(Words printed in italics indicate the amendments suggested by the Committee)

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, for certain purposes; It is hereby enacted as follows—

1. **Short title and commencement.**—(1) This Act may be called the Indian Mines (Amendment) Act, 1929.

(2) *This section and section 7 shall come into force at once, and the remaining provisions of this Act shall come into force on the 7th day of April 1930.*

2. **Amendment of section 23, Act IV of 1923.**—In section 23 of the Indian Mines Act, 1923 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act),

(a) after clause (c) the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

"(d) for more than twelve hours in any consecutive period of twenty-four hours;" and

(b) *the section as so amended shall be numbered as sub-section (1) and the following sub-section shall be added, namely:—*

"(2) *No person shall employ or permit to be employed in a mine any person whom he knows or has reason to believe to have already been employed in any other mine during the preceding twelve hours.*"

3. **Insertion of new sections 23A and 23B in Act IV of 1923.**—After section 23 of the said Act the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"23A. **Limitation of working hours.**—Work shall not be carried on in any mine for a period exceeding twelve hours in any consecutive period of twenty-four hours except by a system of shifts so arranged that not more than one shift of persons employed in work of the same kind shall be at work in the mine at the same time.

23B. **Notices regarding hours of work.**—(1) The manager of every mine shall cause to be posted outside the office of the mine a notice in the

prescribed form stating the time of the commencement and of the end of work at the mine and, if it is proposed to work by a system of shifts, the time of the commencement and of the end of work for each shift. A copy of such notice shall be sent to the Chief Inspector, if he so requires.

(2) In the case of a mine at which mining operations commence after the 14th day of April, 1930, the notice referred to in sub-section (1) shall be posted not less than seven days before the commencement of work.

(3) Where it is proposed to make any alteration in the time fixed for the commencement or for the end of work in the mine generally or for any shift, an amended notice in the prescribed form shall be posted outside the office of the mine not less than seven days before the change is made and a copy of such notice shall be sent to the Chief Inspector not less than seven days before such change, if he so requires or if the original notice was sent to him.

Amendment of sections 24 and 25, Act IV of 1923.—In sections 24 and 25 of the said Act, after the word and figures "section 23" the words, figures and letter "or section 23A" shall be inserted.

5. Amendment of section 28, Act IV of 1923.—(1) Section 28 of the said Act shall be renumbered as sub-section (1) of section 28, and to that sub-section after the word "employments" the following shall be added, namely:—

"and, where work is carried on by a system of shifts, of the shift in which each such person works."

(2) To the same section the following sub-section shall be added, namely:—

"(2) No person shall be employed in a mine until the particulars required by sub-section (1) have been recorded in the register in respect of such person, and no person shall be employed except during the hours of work specified for him in the register."

6. Amendment of section 30, Act IV of 1923.—In section 30 of the said Act, after clause (c), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

"(cc) for prescribing the forms of notices required under section 23B, and for requiring such notices to be posted also in specified vernaculars."

7. Amendment of section 31, Act IV of 1923.—In section 31 of the said Act,—

(a) in sub-section (3), the words "or rule," in both places where they occur, the words "in the case of a regulation," and the words "and in the case of a rule to every Mining Board constituted in the province" shall be omitted; and

(b) after sub-section (3) the following sub-section shall be inserted namely:—

"(3A) No rule shall be made unless the draft thereof has been referred to every Mining Board constituted in the province for which it is proposed to make the rule, and unless each such Board has had a reasonable opportunity of reporting as to the expediency of making the same and as to the suitability of its provisions."

L. GRAHAM,

Secretary to the Government of India.

The Bill as reported by the Select Committee was taken into consideration by the Legislative Assembly on the 27th March 1928. Mr. N. M. Joshi (Nominated Member: Labour Interests) moved "that in clause 2 (a) for the word 'twelve' the word 'eight' be substituted," and when the motion was defeated, again moved a further amendment for the substitution of the word "ten" for "twelve." This motion was also defeated. Two further amendments moved by Mr. Joshi (1) to omit the words "in work of the same kind" in clause 3 of the proposed new section 23A; and (2) for the substitution of the words and figures "1st day of April 1929" in place of "7th day of April 1930" in clause 1 (2) of the Bill were not accepted by the House and the Bill as amended by the Select Committee was passed without further amendment.

Strikes in China, 1925 and 1926

There was a remarkable increase in the number of strikes in China in 1926 in comparison with preceding years, the record being 535 for 1926 and 318 for 1925, while for the 8-year period, 1918 to 1925, there were only 698, counting those directly resulting from the "Shanghai affair" of May 30, 1925.

This phenomenal rise in the number of strikes is declared to be a fair indication of "the growing labour movement and its increasing complexities." At the same time it is pointed out that strike reporting and data collection for 1926 were more satisfactory than for former periods, and consequently the number of unreported strikes should be fewer in 1926 than for previous years.

The number of strikes and of strikers and the duration of strikes in 1925 and 1926 are shown in the following statement. The figures in parentheses used here include the strikes arising from the incident in Shanghai on May 30, 1925.

	1925		1926
Total number of strikes	183	(318)	535
Strikes for which number of strikers was reported	103	(198)	313
Total number of strikers	403,334	(784,821)	539,585
Average number of strikers per dispute	3,916	(3,964)	1,723.91
Strikes for which duration was reported	95	(120)	340
Total number of days lost	505	(2,266)	2,335
Average duration of strikes (days)	5.32	(18.88)	6.87

With reference to mediation methods it should be noted that in 1926 "the part played by the Kuomintang government as an arbitrator was appreciably more important than in former years, because in 1926 the Kuomintang gradually extended its influence in the Wu-han area and the lower Yangtze Valley and wherever the party has gone it has carried with it the tactics of directing the labour movement. In 1926, out of a total of 535 strikes, 266 cases were settled either through the efforts of the representatives of employers and employees or of third parties." (From "Monthly Labor Review," Washington, February 1928.)

Workmen's Compensation Statistics, 1926*

The Workmen's Compensation Statistics for the year 1926 together with a note on the working of the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 published by the Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour, are reprinted below:—

The year under report was the second complete year of the working of the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act which came into force on the 1st July 1924. As in the preceding year considerable difficulty has been experienced by local Governments in securing satisfactory returns; and it is to this that the delay in publishing the report is mainly due. Statement I which shows the number of cases and the amount of compensation paid under the Act is based on the returns which are required to be furnished by employers under section 16 of the Act. In most provinces returns were not received from some of the employers and in spite of the attempts made to prevent mistakes in the preparation of this return by the addition of footnotes many of the returns submitted are still far from being accurate. The figures in Statement I must not therefore be regarded as wholly reliable though they furnish some idea of the working of the Act. As stated in last year's report, these figures do not cover all the cases of workmen who are protected by the Act, but they include the more important classes, *viz.*, workers in factories, mines and docks and on railways and tramways; the number of claims which can be put forward by other classes to which the Act applies is comparatively small.

2. The figures published in Statement I of last year's report showing the number of cases and the amount of compensation paid during 1924 (July to December) and 1925 have been found to be in some instances inaccurate and revised figures for this period have now been prepared and are included in Statement I along with the figures for 1926. A perusal of Statement I will show that workmen are availing themselves of the benefits of the Act to an increasing extent. The number of cases in which compensation was paid in 1926 was 14,096 as against 11,371 in 1925, *i.e.*, an increase of about 24 per cent. and the total amount of compensation paid was Rs. 8,21,475-10-11 as against Rs. 6,44,120-6-6 in the preceding year, *i.e.*, an increase of over 27 per cent. Provincial reports indicate that the provisions of the Act are becoming more widely known to the workers and that the employers are also beginning to show a greater regard to their obligations to their employees. There are however cases of complaints regarding under-payment and excessive delays in the payment of compensation. But these relate mostly to the smaller employers in the country who are not yet fully alive to their obligations. In Bengal and Bombay the larger employers of labour are insuring their liabilities to an increasing extent with Insurance Companies and this has facilitated to a considerable extent the settlement of claims under the Act, as the Insurance Companies have shown a special anxiety not to contest claims unless they have clear and strong grounds for doing so. Labour

* The Workmen's Compensation Statistics for the 18 months from July 1924 to December 1925 were published on pp. 64-71 of the September 1927 issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

organisations, particularly in Bengal, are also taking an increasingly active part in furthering the claims of their members, but their activities in this direction are still inadequate for the needs of the workpeople in the country.

3. The total number of applications filed under section 10 (for the award of compensation) was 379 as against 284 in 1925, the increase being most marked under permanent disablement. There was also a marked increase in the number of contested cases and in the number of cases that were dismissed by the Commissioners for Workmen's Compensation. The number of applications for the registration of agreements was 610 as against 427 in 1925. Of this number only 2 were not registered on account of the inadequacy of the amount of compensation offered. It is satisfactory to note that in the majority of cases compensation was paid without the intervention of the Commissioner. Over 14,000 persons are reported to have received compensation in 1926 and the total number of applications filed for the award of compensation was only 379.

4. During the year there were 7 appeals (including one revision petition) to the High Court. Of these 5 were disposed of during the year and 2 were pending at its close. There was also one reference made to the High Court under section 27 of the Act.

5. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, was amended during the year under report in order to bring the Indian law into conformity with the provisions of the Draft Convention concerning Workmen's Compensation for Occupational Diseases adopted at the Seventh International Labour Conference at Geneva in 1925. This Convention has been ratified by India and the necessary changes were made in sub-section (2) of section 3 and in the list of occupational diseases given in Schedule III of the Act. Certain occupations in connection with operations for winning natural petroleum or natural gas and in connection with the loading, unloading and fuelling of a ship in any harbour, roadstead or navigable water were also brought within the purview of the Act by notification issued by the Governor General in Council in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 2 of the Act.

6. So far the administration of the Act has given rise to remarkably little difficulty, but it is still premature to say that the endeavours made to meet the peculiar conditions in India have been completely successful, as full use is not yet being made of the Act. A number of suggestions have been made for the improvement of the Act and the question of amending it in certain respects is engaging the attention of the Government of India.

STATEMENT I
Number of Cases and Compensation paid

	NUMBER OF CASES RESULTING IN				Total	COMPENSATION PAID FOR						TOTAL	
	Death	Permanent disablement	Temporary disablement	Total		Death		Permanent disablement		Temporary disablement			Total
						Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.			Rs.	A. P.
1924 (July—December)													
Adults	249	98	3,800	4,147	82,085	6 0	18,400	15 6	47,846	15 7	1,48,333	5 1	
Minors	2	1	18	21	375	0 0	1,050	0 0	465	10 9	1,890	10 9	
1925													
Adults	583	624	10,127	11,334	3,45,995	1 4	1,50,574	6	1,44,960	9 10	6,41,529	12 8	
Minors	7	9	21	37	200	0 0	2,219	10 0	170	15 10	2,590	9 10	
1926													
Adults	661	832	12,555	14,048	4,25,935	4 0	2,11,615	9 0	1,82,769	11 6	8,21,199	11 4	
Minors	3	4	41	48	400	0 0	3,300	10 8	176	7 9	4,076	7 7	

STATEMENT II
Proceedings before Commissioners

Applications for	Pending at commencement (Revised figures)	Filed	NOT CONTESTED						CONTESTED				Total disposed of	Pending at conclusion	
			Withdrawn	Dismissed for non-appearance	Summarily dismissed under Rule 21	Dismissed under Rule 22	Admitted by opposite party	Allowed <i>ex parte</i>	Total	Allowed	Allowed in part	Dismissed			Total
Award of compensation (under section 10):—															
Fatal accidents ..	31	187	8	4	5	4	73	9	103	10	25	30	73	176	62
Permanent disablement ..	13	177	9	7	2	10	41	1	70	13	30	25	68	150	52
Temporary disablement ..	..	15	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	3	4	4	11	14	1
TOTAL ..	44	379	17	11	9	14	115	10	176	26	79	67	172	340	75
Distribution (under section 8) ..	63	409	5	5	1	..	319	60	380	3	10	..	13	403	69
Commutation (under section 7) ..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	2	..
Review (under section 6)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Recovery of compensation (under section 31)	4	16	..	..	..	..	7	..	7	6	..	2	8	19	5
Others ..	2	68	..	..	..	..	57	2	62*	2	1	1	4	67	4
TOTAL ..	70	495	5	5	1	..	384	63	447*	11	12	3	26	486	78
GRAND TOTAL ..	114	874	22	16	10	14	499	73	637*	37	91	70	199	835	153

* Includes three cases which cannot be brought under any of the columns.

STATEMENT III
Registration of agreements

Applications for registration of agreements relating to	Pending at commencement (Revised figures)	Filed	Registered as filed	Registered after modification	NOT REGISTERED ON ACCOUNT OF		Total disposed of	Pending at conclusion
					Inadequacy	Other causes		
Payment of compensation for permanent disablement.	28	573	550	5	1	1	557	44
Payment of compensation for temporary disablement.	2	35	32	....	1	....	33	4
Commutation of half-monthly payments	..	2	1	....	....	....	1	1

Reviews of Books and Reports

An Economic Survey of Gaggar Bhana, by S. Gian Singh, B.Sc., and C. M. King, I.C.S. *The Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab, 1928*, pp. 235, price Rs. 4

This is number 1 of Punjab Village Surveys conducted by the Punjab Board of Economic Inquiry. It relates to a typical Jat Sikh village in the Amritsar District. The survey was conducted by Sardar Gian Singh under the supervision of Mr. C. M. King, I.C.S., Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

This is perhaps the most complete and detailed village survey conducted in this country by a non-official agency. Almost every aspect of the life of the villager has been enquired into and analysed. The report contains many well-printed maps and numerous statistical tables which are clearly presented. The two appendices at the end contain the text of the questionnaire used by the Investigator and a glossary of the terms used for the benefit of the uninitiated reader.

In March 1925, when the survey was undertaken, the total number of inhabitants in the village was 1795, the average number of persons per family being 4.9 or nearly 5. The total area of the village was 1644 acres of which the cultivated area was 1386 acres. The crops which occupied the largest areas were wheat (24.9 per cent.), fodder including chari, i.e., jowar (23.5 per cent.), cotton (13.9 per cent.) and berra, i.e., wheat and gram in mixture (13.8 per cent.). The number of persons owning land in the village was 189, the average number of acres owned by each being 7.3. The table on page 49 shows that 31.9 per cent. of the number of owners held between 2½ and 5 acres and 16.6 per cent. between 5 and 7½ acres of the total land.

Some interesting facts regarding the social life of the people may be mentioned here. It is refreshing to find that there is very little litigation or drinking in the village (p. 19). One is agreeably surprised to read that 10 per cent. of the inhabitants of the village are literate (p. 27) and that girls are not married till the age of 17 or 18 (p. 9). As regards indebtedness, the position appears to be as bad as in many parts of the country. In 28.5 per cent. of the cases debt was incurred for house building while in 28 per cent. of the cases it was for marriage and other social functions (p. 84). The rates of interest vary from 12 to 30 per cent. per annum. According to the authors of the survey "the only definite effect of indebtedness that is noticeable is that it causes some of the villagers to migrate for work or else to take service in the Army" (p. 91). It is distressing to find that 62 families out of a total of 366 were living on "charity, begging, religion, etc." (p. 16.)

A few defects of the work may be pointed out here. In certain parts there is overelaboration of the analysis and an almost embarrassing mass of detail is given with the result that it causes considerable confusion in the mind of the reader. This may perhaps be inevitable from the point of view of the specialist, but for those who desire to get a broad idea of the subject, the addition of a chapter summarising the results of the whole

enquiry would have been helpful. The words "acres" in the second column of the table on p. 109 is obviously a misprint. The size of this table could have been reduced by the addition of a suitable footnote in view of the fact that the figures given in columns 3 and 4 and 6 and 7 are identical. There is misprint in the second table on p. 128.

Judged as a whole, this is an altogether excellent piece of work and the Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab, deserve to be congratulated upon it.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. VII, NO. 1, MAY 1928. (Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *Labour's £100,000 Fighting Fund: Why it is wanted and how it is being raised*, by Rt. Hon. A. Henderson, M.P. pp. 5-8.

(2) *Fuel, Power and Transport*, by J. T. W. Newbold. 11.—Capitalism's Flight from Coal as Coal. pp. 9 and 10.

(3) *The E. C. C. I.'s Latest: Why the Life of British Communist Leaders is not worth living*, by H. Morrison, J.P., L.C.C. (Vice-Chairman of the Labour Party).—The Impossible; conference humours; the new declaration; two kinds of revolution; Lenin's ghost; pity the poor boishies! pp. 11-13.

(4) *Cuckoos in the Cotton Mills*, by T. H. Richardson. pp. 14-16.

(5) *Thinking Internationally*, by Mark Starr. pp. 17 and 18.

(6) *Maternity: A Primary Problem of Socialist Policy*, by M. Phillips, D.Sc. (Chief Woman Officer of the Labour Party). pp. 19 and 20.

(7) *Labour's March to Power: Tory misgivings: Liberal disappointment by-election facts and figures*, by W. W. Henderson. pp. 21-23.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. X, NO. 112, APRIL 1928. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *A Pension Fund in a Family Business*. pp. 105 and 106.

(2) *A Trade Union Experiment in Welfare Work*. pp. 107 and 108.

(3) *Welfare Work in a Lancashire Asbestos Factory*. pp. 109-114.

(4) *Welfare in the Dyeing and Cleaning Industry—V*. pp. 114 and 115.

(5) *Two Accidents in 325,000 Working Hours! What Thought and Care can do in any Factory*. pp. 116.

(6) *Operating an Efficient Accident Prevention Campaign*. pp. 120 and 121.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. X, NO. 113, MAY 1928. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *Bournville in 1928: Present-day housing development, with some notes on some of the world-famous welfare schemes of Cadbury Brothers, Ltd.* pp. 141-148.

(2) *Safety and Production*. pp. 148 and 149.

(3) *Workers Who are Prone to Accident*. pp. 153-156.

(4) *"Present Tendencies in Industry"*. pp. 164-166.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XXVI, NO. 2, FEBRUARY 1928. (U. S. Department of Labour, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Trade-union Old-age Pensions and Homes for the Aged and Tubercular*—Old-age and disability pensions: requirements for receipt of pension; amounts of annuity, and expenditure for pensions; payments for wife, widow or other beneficiaries; discontinued or rejected plans; proposed pensions; homes for aged, disabled, and tubercular members: carpenters' home; Costello home: tuberculosis sanatorium of stereotypers—conditions of admission and residence, medical provision, general benefits provided, maintenance of home; printing pressmen's home—tuberculosis sanatorium, home for aged, administration; home for aged and disabled railroad employees—conditions of admission and residence, material, medical, and recreational benefits provided, administration and maintenance; railway conductor's home; union printers' home—home

for aged, hospital and tuberculosis sanatorium conditions of admission and residence, medical care, material and recreational provision, administration and maintenance, conclusion; other trade-union provision for tuberculosis treatment. pp. 1-29.

(2) *Science and the Worker*, by James J. Daw (Secretary of Labour)—Benefits of science to the worker; lengthening the working life, slavery no longer profitable; creation of new commodities and demands; general employment is true measure of prosperity. pp. 29-36.

(3) *Federal Employees Retirement Act*—System of contribution; analysis of act of 1926—employments covered, retirement, annuities and refunds, source of funds, administration; statistics of operation of the act. pp. 37-47.

(4) *Public-Service Retirement Systems in Foreign Countries*—Austria: legislation—provisions as to retirement and pensions; widows' and orphans' pensions; loss of right to pension; contributions of civil-service employees; contract civil-service employees; Belgium: Pension of Civil-service employees—magistrature, high-school instruction service, normal-school and intermediate instruction service, public or elementary school instruction service, all other civil-service employees; widows and orphans' pensions—department of finance, department of justice, department of colonies; Czechoslovakia: law of February 5, 1920; law of December 22, 1920; law of December 30, 1920; law of October 9, 1924; Germany: legislation; retirement of pensions of civil officials—old age, length of service, and disability, amount, computation, and time of payment of pensions, widows' and orphans' pensions, pensions paid by Government; insurance of civil employees; general provisions of law, contributions toward insurance, insurance pensions or benefits, survivors' pensions, medical treatment, amount of retirement pensions, insurance offices, appropriations for pensions; Switzerland: legislation; general provisions; benefits; survivors' pensions; lump-sum payments; relief; contributions; savings deposits; insurance offices; total contributions and payments. pp. 47-73.

(5) *Productivity of Labour in Australia*. pp. 74-76.

(6) *Migration of United States Industry*—Shift of the centre of manufacturing; percentage comparisons; production of rolled iron and steel; the manufacturing movement in general, study of 68 cities. pp. 77-79.

(7) *Decrease in Severity of Industrial Accidents in New York*. pp. 92 and 93.

(8) *Sickness and Invalidity Insurance in Chile*—Scope of law; benefits; capital of the funds; administration of funds. pp. 99-101.

(9) *New Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain*. pp. 101 and 102.

(10) *Compulsory Investigation of Industrial Disputes in Colorado*—General provisions of the legislation; operation under the act; factors entering into commission's wage decisions; effectiveness of the industrial commission act. pp. 113-117.

(11) *Strikes in China, 1925 and 1926*. pp. 117 and 118.

(12) *Index Numbers of Wages, 1840 to 1926*—General index of hourly wages; farm-wage index. pp. 120 and 121.

(13) *Wages of Milkers in the Dairy Industry in California, 1906 to 1927*. pp. 121 and 122.

(14) *Changes in Cost of Living in the United States*. pp. 218-231.

(15) *Economics of Instalment Selling*.—Volume of instalment selling exaggerated; prejudices against instalment credit, evolution of instalment credit—what is a luxury?—effect on the consumer; reflex on business conditions; summary. pp. 233-236.

(16) *Income and Living Standard of Unskilled Labourers in Chicago*. pp. 236 and 237.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. X, NO. 4, APRIL 1928. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *Effects of Dust Upon Coal Trimmers*, by Edgar L. Collis, D.M. (Talbot Professor of Preventive Medicine, University of Wales) and I. C. Gilchrist, M.D. (Tuberculosis Physician, Welsh National Memorial Association)—Introduction; mortality records; summary. pp. 101-109.

(2) *Fatal Accidents from Electric Shock in Recent Years in the United States and Canada, in England and Wales, and in Switzerland*. Discussion; conclusion. pp. 111-116.

(3) *Recent Experience of the Public Utilities of the United States and Canada in the Use of the Schafer Prone Pressure Method of Resuscitation in Cases of Electric Shock*. pp. 117-127.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. X, NO. 5, MAY 1928. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *Arsine Intoxication: A case of suspected Poisoning in the Steel Industry*, by C. W. Muehlberger, A. S. Loevenhart and T. S. O'Malley (from the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Wisconsin Madison, Wis)—Case report; pickling process; chemical analyses; discussion. pp. 137-143.

(2) *Some Clinical and Pathologic Observations on Silicosis in Ontario*, by Andrew R. Riddell, B.A., M.B., D.P.H. and H. E. Rothwell, B.A.Sc.—Legal classification of cases of silicosis; dust exposure and dust in lungs—estimation of silica in lungs; discussion. pp. 147-157.

Routine Matter. As in previous issues.

LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVIII, NO. 4, APRIL 1928. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles. (1) *Unemployment, Sickness and Invalidity Insurance*—Unemployment compulsory unemployment insurance; sickness insurance in Canada—disability benefits insurance policies, sickness and accident insurance by commercial companies, sickness fraternal benefit societies, mutual benefit funds in industry, sickness benefits provided by sickness insurance in other countries. pp. 361-368.

(2) *Labour Legislation in Saskatchewan in 1928.* pp. 369 and 370.

(3) *Workmen's Compensation in Ontario*—Changes in rates of assessment for various industries in 1928; merit rating refunds; assessment changes in 1928. pp. 374 and 375.

(4) *Labour Commission appointed in Saskatchewan.* pp. 375 and 376.

(5) *Control of Industrial Combinations from the Social Standpoint.* pp. 376 and 377.

(6) *Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Employees Pension Plan.* pp. 381 and 382.

(7) *Industrial Census of United States.* p. 392.

(8) *Recent Industrial Agreements and Schedules of Wages*—Construction: buildings and structures; transportation and public utilities; local transportation; transportation and public utilities: electric railways; service: public administration; transportation and public utilities: telegraphs and telephones. pp. 408-410.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

Labour Legislation in the United States

The *Monthly Labor Review* for March 1928, published by the Bureau of Labour Statistics, Department of Labour, Washington, gives a brief catalogue of the labour legislation passed by the various State legislatures of the United States during the year 1927.

A rough classification of the legislation according to subject dealt with is given below—

Employment matters (regulation of employment agencies, and of matters connected with employment contracts, etc.)	..	..	..	27	measures.
Wage questions	..	..	..	55	"
Hours of work, holidays and rest periods	..	..	..	26	"
Safety and health measures	..	..	..	31	"
Trade Unions	..	..	..	1	"
Disputes	..	..	..	3	"
Old-age pensions	..	..	..	2	"
Mothers' pensions	..	..	..	12	"
Vocational rehabilitation	..	..	..	10	"
Retirement and pensioning of public employees, including teachers	..	..	..	32	"

The most important of these measures was the New York eight-hour law, by which hours of work for women in factories and business houses are broadly limited to 48 hours per week. Hours of work for women and children have been limited by legislation or amendment in seven other States.

The *Review* also refers to the setting up, during the year, of investigation commissions on old age, retirement for State employees, teachers' pensions, safety regulations in mines, and industrial diseases. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," Geneva, May 7, 1928.)

Current Notes from Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The International Labour Office has now completed its enquiry into wages and hours of work in coal mines. The report, which will be available shortly in English, French and German, embodies in a volume of some 300 pages the first complete attempt ever made to compare, on an international basis, the remuneration and hours of labour of miners.

The enquiry, it will be remembered, was undertaken as the result of a resolution of the Seventh Session (1925) of the International Labour Conference. It was conducted throughout under the supervision of a special committee of the Governing Body of the Office, consisting of two representatives of each group—Governments, employers and workers. The task was one of obvious difficulty, having regard to the great variety of methods employed in different countries to calculate the length of the underground workers' working day, and also to the divergent conceptions of what constitutes wages. The scientific services of the Office, however, have succeeded in reducing the different interpretations to a common denomination, and arriving at statistics which are properly comparable.

The report contains complete information, for the chief coal-producing countries of Europe and for the year 1925, as to the average hours of labour, the total earnings of coal miners, the total number of shifts worked and lost, the average number of workers employed, and finally the total and average output of coal, and, on the basis of this extensive material, calculates and compares the real wages of miners in the various countries and their earnings per ton of coal produced. Supplementary information is given in appendices for non-European countries, and for the years 1926 and 1927, which, for reasons of method, could not be included in the comparative study. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," Geneva, May 21, 1928.)

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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 April resulted in a reduction of £9350 in the weekly full-time wages of 204,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £1500 in those of 9000 workpeople. The principal group of workpeople affected by the reductions in April were textile bleaching, dyeing, printing, etc., operatives in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Scotland, whose wages were reduced, under cost-of-living sliding scales, by about 1½ per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and by 1s. and 8d. per week in the case of men and women respectively in Lancashire and Scotland. There were reductions, also under cost-of-living sliding scales, in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for pieceworkers in the boot and shoe repairing industry, and for various classes of workpeople in the brush and broom-making industry. Other groups of workpeople whose wages were reduced during April included blastfurnace workers in Cleveland, Cumberland and Scotland, iron puddlers and millmen in the North of

JUNE, 1928

England, and workpeople employed in the seed-crushing and oil-milling industry. Increases occurred in the wages of shale miners and oil workers in Scotland, and in those of furniture trade operatives at certain towns in Yorkshire. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1928.)

* * * * *

At 1st May 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, the same as a month ago and a year ago. For food alone the corresponding percentage for 1st May was 54, as compared with 55 a month ago and 54 a year ago. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1928.)

* * * * *

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in April, was 16. In addition, 24 disputes which began before April were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in April (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2900, and the aggregate duration of all disputes during April was about 30,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 38,000 workpeople involved and 168,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 10,200 workpeople involved and 79,000 days lost in April, 1927. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1928.)

JUNE, 1928

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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MAY 1928

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Industry</i>						
1. General Strike, Bombay—						
(a) 10 cotton mills.	20,262		16 Apr.		Introduction of new systems of work in accordance with the recommendations of the Textile Tariff Board and alleged reductions in rates of wages.	No settlement reported.
(b) 8 cotton mills and Indian Bleaching Mill.	17,834		17 Apr.			
(c) 1 cotton mill	5,774		18 Apr.			
(d) 2 cotton mills.	5,750		19 Apr.			
(e) 3 cotton mills.	5,525		21 Apr.			
(f) 23 cotton mills.	47,199		23 Apr.			
(g) 14 cotton mills and Choi Silk Mill.	26,631		24 Apr.			
(h) 6 cotton mills and Alliance Silk Mill.	17,713		25 Apr.			
(i) 1 cotton mill.	956		26 Apr.			
2. The Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills, Station Road, Sholapur.	2,500	5,500	21 Apr.		Alleged reduction in wages.	Do.
3. The Swadeshi Mill and The Kurla Spinning and Weaving Mills, Kerla.	3,337	2,175	14 May		Demand for an increase in wages.	Do.
4. The Bombay Dyeing Works, Caddel Road, Bombay.	310		22 May	24 May	Want of sufficient work.	The strike ended in a compromise.
5. The Sarangpur cotton manufacturing Mills, Outside Raipur Gate, Ahmedabad.	300		22 May	24 May	In sympathy with dismissed jobbers.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
<i>Engineering</i>						
6. Mancherji Byramji and Co.'s Iron Workshop, Jairaj Lane, Foras Road, Bombay.	100		23 May		Ill-treatment of a moulder.	No settlement reported.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MAY 1928—contd.

JUNE, 1928

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Miscellaneous 7. The Western India Match Factory, Ambernath, Bombay.	60	1,340	1 May	14 May	Demand for full wages for the period of disablement caused by injury in the course of employment.	The strike ended in a compromise.
8. The Kurla Match Factory, Kurla.	823		21 May	28 May	Demand for higher rates of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.

JUNE, 1928

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

899

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Month of April		
	1926	1927	1928
	Pounds	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	6,897	(000)	(000)
Nos. 11 to 20	18,227	6,028	3,187
Nos. 21 to 30	15,307	18,804	11,945
Nos. 31 to 40	1,591	15,879	11,933
Above 40	734	1,827	2,194
Waste, etc.	81	972	806
Total ..	42,837	43,602	30,157

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	Month of April		
		(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	6,189	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 11 to 20	12,362	5,296	2,518	6,345
Nos. 21 to 30	9,670	12,679	5,986	9,889
Nos. 31 to 40	713	9,889	5,986	9,889
Above 40	247	713	757	925
Waste, etc.	73	247	486	389
Total ..	29,254	29,199	16,255	

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	Month of April		
		(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	175	194	192	
Nos. 11 to 20	3,287	3,383	2,934	
Nos. 21 to 30	4,234	4,715	4,829	
Nos. 31 to 40	648	762	920	
Above 40	357	340	289	
Waste, etc.				
Total ..	8,701	9,394	9,164	

JUNE, 1928

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

Description	Month of April		
	1926	1927	1928
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	918	974	721
Chudders	1,194	1,216	833
Dhotis	6,969	7,367	6,589
Drills and jeans	1,193	1,351	1,297
Cambrics and lawns	19	28	69
Printers	228	208	218
Shirtings and long cloth	10,231	10,017	6,372
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	948	1,627	1,154
Tent cloth	38	94	66
Other sorts	505	547	498
Total	22,243	23,429	17,817
Coloured piecegoods	9,009	10,214	7,164
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	311	192	230
Hosiery	25	28	48
Miscellaneous	290	285	221
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	124	318	381
Grand Total	32,002	34,466	25,861

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	816	843	549
Chudders	753	844	495
Dhotis	2,101	2,438	1,912
Drills and jeans	1,158	1,294	1,181
Cambrics and lawns	..	13	27
Printers	..	..	..
Shirtings and long cloth	8,085	7,964	4,131
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	665	1,365	712
Tent cloth	27	86	63
Other sorts	266	309	271
Total	13,871	15,156	9,341
Coloured piecegoods	5,949	6,747	4,121
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	301	189	211
Hosiery	8	8	8
Miscellaneous	221	215	122
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	68	185	177
Grand Total	20,418	22,500	13,980

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

Description	Month of April		
	1926	1927	1928
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	30	15	30
Chudders	379	259	290
Dhotis	4,000	3,939	3,855
Drills and jeans	34	29	11
Cambrics and lawns	18	13	40
Printers	117	115	103
Shirtings and long cloth	1,617	1,576	1,750
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	241	170	262
Tent cloth	3	1	..
Other sorts	139	157	132
Total	6,578	6,274	6,473
Coloured piecegoods	2,187	2,412	2,141
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	1	2	..
Hosiery	17	20	41
Miscellaneous	69	68	98
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	56	130	202
Grand Total	8,906	8,906	8,955

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

902

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers					
			July 1914	May 1927	April 1928	May 1928	July 1914	May 1927	April 1928	May 1928		
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.						
Cereals—												
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Maund	4 11 3	6 6 10	5 7 7	5 5 9	100	137	116	114		
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	7 12 9	7 5 3 (7)	7 10 9	100	139	131	137		
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	82 8 0	82 8 0	77 8 0	100	183	183	172		
Do.	Jubbulpore	Maund	40 0 0	55 8 0	46 8 0	48 8 0	100	139	116	121		
Jowari (1)	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 5 5	3 11 3	3 11 3	100	137	117	117		
Barley ..	Ghati	"	3 4 6	4 7 1	4 2 0	4 0 4	100	135	126	123		
Bajri ..	"	"	3 4 6	4 10 6	4 0 4	4 2 0	100	142	123	126		
Index No.—Cereals							100	145	130	130		
Pulses—												
Gram ..	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 10 6	5 1 3	4 12 2	100	110	120	112		
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	"	5 10 5	8 2 4	8 7 5	8 7 5	100	144	150	150		
Index No.—Pulses							100	127	135	131		
Sugar—												
Sugar (refined)	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	16 0 0	15 10 0	15 14 6	100	157	153	156		
Do. (do.)	Java, white	Maund	10 3 0	16 0 0	15 10 0	15 14 6	100	157	153	156		
Do. Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	8 7 0	7 14 3	8 0 5	100	107	100	102		
Index No.—Sugar							100	132	127	129		
Other Food—												
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	8 4 9	11 0 4	13 3 2	100	149	158	237		
Ghee ..	Deshi	"	45 11 5	85 11 5	70 0 0	75 11 5	100	188	153	166		
Salt ..	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	1 14 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	128	136	136		
Index No.—Other food							100	155	162	180		
Index No.—All Food							100	143	137	141		
Oilseeds—												
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	11 3 0	10 7 0	10 12 0	100	126	117	121		
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	"	8 0 0	11 6 0	10 6 0	10 12 0	100	142	130	134		
Poppy seed	"	"	10 14 0	17 4 0	16 12 0	17 6 0	100	150	146	160		
Gingelly seed	White ..	"	11 4 0	17 4 0	12 7 0	12 14 0	100	153	111	114		
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	145	128	132		

LABOUR GAZETTE
JUNE 1928

Textiles—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw—†										
Broach	Good	Candy	251 0 0	323 0 0	375 0 0	398 0 0	100	129	149	159
Omra	Fully good	"	222 0 0	310 0 0	345 0 0	362 0 0	100	140	155	163
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0	341 0 0	391 0 0	400 0 0	100	148	170	174
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	"	205 0 0	299 0 0	318 0 0	339 0 0	100	146	155	165
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0	292 0 0	317 0 0	325 0 0	100	147	160	164
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	142	158	165
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40 s	Lb.	0 12 9	1 1 6	1 0 9	1 1 0	100	137	131	133
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	8 12 0	9 6 0	9 8 0	100	147	158	160
White mulls*	6/600	"	4 3 0	9 0 0	8 6 0	8 8 0	100	215	200	203
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	17 14 0	18 6 0	18 6 0	100	171	177	177
Long Cloth (3)	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 3	100	156	158	160
Chudders (4)	54" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	0 13 6	0 14 3	0 14 6	100	142	150	153
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	162	162	164
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton							100	153	160	165
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 6 2	6 2 11	6 5 1	100	124	120	123
Do.	Mathow Lari	"	2 15 1	4 11 3	3 13 10	4 0 6	100	160	131	137
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	142	126	130
Hides and Skins—										
Hides Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 15 9	1 8 5	1 13 8	100	172	181	160
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	0 13 10	1 5 3	0 15 7	100	80	123	90
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 6 2	2 8 7	2 8 8	100	191	209	203
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	148	153	151
Metals—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	56 0 0	60 8 0	59 8 0	100	93	100	98
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	6 12 0	6 0 0	6 2 0	100	169	150	153
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	10 0 0	9 0 0	9 0 0	100	129	116	116
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	13 15 0	11 14 0	11 14 0	100	153	132	132
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	189	166	166
Index No.—Metals							100	147	133	133
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	24 15 8	19 10 7	18 5 0	100	127	109	109
Kerosene		2 Tins	4 6 0	7 10 6	5 2 0 (5)	6 11 0	100	175	112	112
Do.		Case	5 2 0	9 12 6	8 8 6 (6)	8 12 0	100	140	106	121
Index No.—Other raw and manufd. articles							100	130	111	140
Index No.—Food							100	141	147	141
Index No.—Non-food							100	130	144	147
General Index No.							100	140	142	140

JUNE 1928
LABOUR GAZETTE

† Quotation for Broach, good, since March 1926. ‡ Quotation for Dharwar, fully good, since March 1925. § Quotation for Bengal, 1st Class Boria, since March 1926. ¶ Quotation for 37" x 60" oil, since March 1926. * Quotation for 37" x 60" oil, since March 1926. (1) Quotation for March 1928. (2) Quotation for December 1927. (3) Quotation for January 1928. (4) Quotation for the grade 6,000 the price quoted for white mulls is for the grade 6,000/56 since June 1925 and for 6,000/54 x 19 since October 1925. (5) Quotation for the grade 6,000/56 since June 1925 and for 6,000/54 x 19 since October 1925. (6) Quotation for the grade 6,000/56 since June 1925 and for 6,000/54 x 19 since October 1925. (7) Quotation for the grade 6,000/56 since June 1925 and for 6,000/54 x 19 since October 1925. (8) Quotation for the grade 6,000/56 since June 1925 and for 6,000/54 x 19 since October 1925. (9) Quotation for the grade 6,000/56 since June 1925 and for 6,000/54 x 19 since October 1925. 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WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	May 1927	April 1928	May 1928	July 1914	May 1927	April 1928	May 1928
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice (1)	Larkans No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	61 12 0	66 4 0 (4)	66 4 0 (4)	100	158	170	170
Wheat, white	5% barley, 5% dirt, 30% red	"	31 8 0	43 4 0	41 0 0	41 4 0	100	157	130	131
" red	5% barley, 5% dirt, 92% red	"	31 4 0	39 10 0	"	"	100	157	130	131
" white	5% barley, 11% dirt	"	32 8 0	44 6 0	42 4 0	42 8 0	100	157	130	131
" red	2% barley, 11% dirt	"	32 4 0	40 14 0	"	"	100	157	130	131
lowari	Export quality	"	29 8 0	38 8 0	32 4 0	36 4 0	100	151	126	127
Barley	5% dirt	"	26 8 0	36 0 0	34 12 0	35 0 0	100	136	131	132
Index No.—Cereals							100	139	137	141
Pulses—										
Gram (2)	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	36 12 0	35 12 0	35 8 0	100	125	121	120
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 5 0	14 12 6	14 13 0	100	166	167	167
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	14 4 0	13 10 0	13 8 0	100	176	168	167
Index No.—Sugar							100	177	165	165
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 6	1 9 6	1 8 9	100	81	75	73
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	4 2 0	3 6 0 (3)	3 6 0 (3)	100	111	114	114
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	20 8 0	24 8 0	24 10 0	100	120	117	117
Gingelly seed	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	30 0 0	24 8 0	25 0 0	100	115	117	117
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	115	117	117
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	30 4 0	40 0 0	32 0 0	31 8 0	100	107	107	107

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Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	34 4 0	34 14 0 (5)	36 8 0	100	100	100	100
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperell	Fine	10 3 6	13 12 0	17 12 0	19 4 0	100	100	100	100
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 3 6	17 0 0	19 0 0	18 0 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	102	101	101
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton							100	107	107	107
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	36 0 0	30 0 0	36 0 0	100	100	100	100
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund	21 4 0	14 8 0	21 12 0	19 8 0	100	100	100	100
"	Punjab	"	21 4 0	14 8 0	21 12 0	19 8 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Hides							100	100	100	100
Metals—										
Copper Brakes		Cwt.	60 8 0	57 0 0	60 12 0	60 8 0	100	100	100	100
Steel Bars		"	1 14 0	1 12 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	100	100	100	100
" Plates		"	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Metals							100	100	100	100
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton	12 0 0	12 0 0	12 4 0	12 4 0	100	100	100	100
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Gallon	1 14 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	100	100	100	100
"	Elephant	"	1 14 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	100	100	100
Index No.—Food							100	100	100	100
Index No.—Miscellaneous							100	100	100	100
General Index No.							100	100	100	100

* Year 1914 prices should be taken from the index for year of comparison. (1) Quotations for Indian white, since August 1928. (2) Quotations for 7 per cent. normal since April 1928. (3) Quotations for September 1927. (4) Quotations for December 1927. (5) Quotations for March 1928.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No.	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1925														
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
1926														
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	149	148
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	149	148
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	141	183	167	138	142	135	156	150	148
September ..	135	125	133	165	140	141	183	167	138	142	135	156	150	148
October ..	136	135	132	162	141	136	179	172	141	140	133	153	152	148
November ..	140	139	138	155	143	131	172	165	131	144	133	141	148	146
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	132	144	141
February ..	133	136	121	155	136	124	163	162	122	157	133	131	144	142
March ..	128	129	122	161	135	124	162	162	124	140	132	132	143	142
April ..	130	135	127	162	137	128	158	162	126	153	133	131	144	142
May ..	130	131	129	180	141	132	165	164	130	151	133	140	147	143

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
	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, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, rent, 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)	(h) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100 (k)	100 (j)	100 (l)	(a) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(i) 108	99	....	(d) 117	....	103	....	105 (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	204 (n)	118	....	174
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	....	(d) 275	224	126	238 (n)	199
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	307	224	155	(a) 341	200
1921 ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	294	200	133	(a) 307	174
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	251	164	(i) 135	(a) 302	170
1923 ..	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	238	164	130	(a) 334	173
1924 ..	157	170	144	149	160	512	493	249	169	132	(a) 300	178
1925 ..	157	173	146	153	163	598	509	259	168	133	(a) 300	178
1926 ..	157	170	150	(a) 161	(f) 163	649	637	220	162 (a)	130	(a) 485	180 (m)
1927 January ..	156	175	152	....	162	655	755	210	160	140	....	....
February ..	155	172	151	....	....	667	770	208	160	140	....	....
March ..	155	171	150	....	116	663	771	203	159	131	524	....
April ..	153	165	148	....	....	651	774	201	158	131	....	....
May ..	152	164	148	....	161	612	776	201	159	132	....	....
June ..	154	163	148	155	....	586	785	201	160	....	525	179
July ..	156	166	149	....	....	548	790	203	162	....	....	....
August ..	157	164	149	....	161	543	787	203	162	111	....	....
September ..	154	165	149	157	....	537	794	197	161	131	502	....
October ..	151	167	149	....	....	536	804	196	161	132	....	....
November ..	150	169	150	....	161	536	809	195	162	132	....	....
December ..	151	169	151	159	....	531	812	195	162	132	498	192
1928 January ..	154	168	151	....	....	531	813	194	161	132	....	....
February ..	148	166	150	....	....	533	811	194	161	131	....	....
March ..	145	164	149	....	....	531	806	193	160	132	507	....
April ..	144	164	149	....	....	....	807	193	....	....	....	....
May ..	147	164	....	....	162	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
June ..	146	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

(a) From 1914 to 1926 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) June figures are given. (e) June 1914=100. (f) Average for 1914=100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from 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 1918-1926. (o) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan (Shanghai)	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (London)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (Z)	United States of America (S)
No. of articles	44	56	147	92	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average	100	100	(G) 100	100	100	(o) 100	100	100	100	(a) 100	(I) 116	100	100
1914	97	97	100	106	106	100	140	135	146	115	145	102	98
1915	100	100	100	138	138	128	108	159	146	159	145	107	127
1916	147	147	100	153	153	216	188	276	178	179	185	131	179
1917	259	259	100	339	339	376	345	371	284	345	244	209	206
1918	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1919	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1920	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1921	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1922	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1923	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1924	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1925	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1926	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1927	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1928	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1929	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1930	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1931	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1932	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1933	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1934	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1935	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1936	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1937	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1938	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1939	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1940	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1941	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1942	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1943	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1944	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1945	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1946	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1947	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1948	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1949	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1950	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1951	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1952	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1953	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1954	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1955	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1956	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1957	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1958	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1959	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1960	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1961	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1962	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1963	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1964	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1965	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1966	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1967	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1968	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1969	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1970	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1971	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1972	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1973	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1974	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1975	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1976	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1977	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1978	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1979	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1980	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1981	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1982	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1983	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1984	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1985	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1986	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1987	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1988	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1989	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1990	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1991	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1992	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1993	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1994	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1995	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1996	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1997	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1998	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
1999	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
2000	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
2001	259	259	100	509	509	376	509	345	337	347	347	209	206
20													

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN APRIL AND MAY 1928*

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

Articles	Price per	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		Apr 1 1928	Apr 1 1928	Apr 1 1928	April 1928	April 1928	May 1928	May 1928	May 1928	May 1928	May 1928
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
<i>Cereals—</i>											
Rice	Maund	6 13 5 122	8 0 0 120	8 0 0 130	7 10 6 145	7 3 10 126	6 13 5 122	8 0 0 120	8 0 0 130	7 10 6 145	7 2 10 124
Wheat	"	6 15 7 125	5 13 1 138	5 7 6 116	6 10 8 129	7 1 9 132	7 2 10 128	5 12 3 137	5 11 5 121	6 7 8 126	7 1 9 132
Jowari	"	5 7 1 125	4 11 4 130	3 11 2 97	3 1 7 108	3 5 7 98	5 7 1 125	4 13 7 133	3 12 11 100	3 0 4 105	3 4 0 95
Bajri	"	5 2 1 119	5 0 0 119	4 11 4 100	3 1 4 88	3 15 8 97	5 2 1 119	5 5 4 127	5 0 0 106	2 15 8 85	4 3 5 103
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>	..	123	127	111	118	113	124	129	114	115	114
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund	7 2 10 167	5 6 1 141	3 12 3 94	4 10 6 104	4 10 8 96	7 2 10 167	5 5 4 140	4 0 0 100	4 6 10 103	5 2 10 106
Tur dal	"	10 4 1 175	9 6 7 141	8 1 7 132	8 0 8 138	8 9 8 130	10 4 1 175	9 2 3 177	8 0 0 130	7 14 9 136	8 1 4 122
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>	..	171	141	113	123	113	171	177	115	120	114

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined)	Maund	12 0 6 158	11 3 8 154	11 6 10 143	11 3 8 112	12 15 3 138	12 11 2 167	12 1 2 166	12 4 11 154	11 6 10 114	12 15 3 138
Jagri (gul)	"	10 14 2 127	9 6 7 135	10 0 0 112	8 0 0 103	7 7 8 107	10 14 2 127	9 6 7 135	10 0 0 112	8 0 0 103	8 1 11 116
Tea	Lb.	0 14 10 190	0 15 7 225	0 15 7 200	1 1 10 171	1 0 5 200	0 14 10 150	0 15 7 225	0 15 7 200	1 1 10 171	1 0 5 200
Salt	Maund	2 12 9 131	1 15 3 149	2 4 7 151	3 8 8 133	2 13 10 152	2 12 9 131	1 14 6 145	2 4 7 151	3 6 11 154	2 9 5 138
Beef	Seer	0 8 9 169	0 9 0 180	0 6 0 100	0 5 0 201	0 6 0 141	0 8 2 158	0 9 0 180	0 6 0 100	0 5 0 201	0 6 0 141
Mutton	"	0 12 4 185	0 10 0 167	0 10 0 167	0 8 0 133	0 9 6 158	0 12 4 185	0 10 0 167	0 10 0 167	0 8 0 133	0 9 6 158
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 191	7 4 4 164	10 0 0 200	11 6 10 157	13 5 4 133	17 9 4 191	7 4 4 164	10 0 0 200	11 6 10 157	13 5 4 133
Ghee	"	78 0 9 154	64 0 0 150	67 5 11 152	80 0 0 142	66 10 8 129	78 0 9 154	67 6 0 158	69 9 0 157	80 0 0 142	66 10 8 129
Potatoes	"	5 11 5 128	3 15 7 73	3 14 5 102	4 7 1 111	2 10 1 78	5 11 5 128	5 3 3 100	5 11 5 150	5 11 5 143	2 10 1 78
Onions	"	2 13 9 184	2 7 1 134	2 8 0 125	3 1 3 123	2 0 1 100	2 13 9 184	2 4 1 124	2 2 7 108	2 13 9 114	1 6 0 69
Cocunut oil	"	28 9 1 112	26 10 8 108	26 10 8 133	29 1 5 109	29 5 8 105	28 9 1 112	26 2 0 106	26 10 8 133	29 1 5 109	28 1 1 100
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>	..	157	149	144	138	131	157	151	148	140	127
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i>	..	151	143	133	132	125	151	145	136	132	122

*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.