

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1924									
October	131	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	133	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	131	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	188	172	151
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
March	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
April	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
May	133	154	134	176	150	166	147	172	152
June	134	156	136	177	151	166	147	172	154
July	136	153	138	181	154	166	149	172	156
August	136	157	133	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

LABOUR GAZETTE

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[No. 3

The Month in Brief

INDIAN TRADE UNIONS ACT

Six unions have so far registered under the Act : (1) Bombay Municipal Workmen's Union, Bombay ; (2) G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union, Bombay ; (3) B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association, Ahmedabad ; (4) G. I. P. Railway Employees' General Union, Bombay ; (5) B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union, Bombay ; (6) Wadi Bunder Staff Union, (G. I. P. Railway), Bombay.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of October 1927. The average absenteeism was 9.40 per cent. for Bombay City, 5.0 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 2.04 per cent. for Viramgaum, 12.39 per cent. for Sholapur and 10.98 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 11.82 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 13.83 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 9.30 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 7.70.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In November 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 150 as against 151 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 147.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 146 for the month of October 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were seven industrial disputes in the month of October 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 998 and the number of working days lost 4,297.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During October 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 172 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for November 1927

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Increase per cent. over July 1914 { All articles 50 per cent.
Food only 47 per cent.

In November 1927,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was one point lower than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 151 in October and 150 in November 1927. The general index is thus 43 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920, and 5 points lower than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

As compared with October 1927, the index number for all food articles recorded a fall of one point. The index number for Cereals declined by 2 points owing to a rise of 7 points in bajri which was offset by a fall of 3, 3 and 4 points in rice, wheat and jowari respectively. Turdal fell by 3 points but the price of gram showed no change and the index number for Pulses therefore remained the same. Among other food articles there was a rise of 7 points in raw sugar (gul) but sugar (refined) was steady at 172. Tea and salt advanced by 3 and 4 points respectively, but the index number for ghee registered a decrease of 8 points. The price of the remaining articles was practically steady during the month under review. The "other food" index stood at 180.

The "fuel and lighting" index remained stationary at 156. The index number for Clothing declined by 6 points to 157, owing to a decrease in the price of all the articles included in that group.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

	1920		1921		1922		1923		1924		1925		1926		1927	
	Per cent.															
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56	55	57	55	55	55	56	56	
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55	56	57	55	55	55	55	55	
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	53	55	56	57	55	55	55	55	55	
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	55	56	57	55	55	55	55	55	
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	55	56	57	55	55	55	55	55	
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	53	55	56	57	55	55	55	55	55	
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	55	57	57	57	55	55	55	55	55	
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	57	57	57	55	55	55	55	55	
September ..	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	57	57	57	55	55	55	55	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	57	57	57	55	55	55	55	55	
November ..	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	55	56	57	55	55	55	55	55	
December ..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	57	58	59	57	57	57	57	57	
Yearly average ..	83	75	64	54	57	55	55	55	56	57	55	55	55	55	55	

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 October 16 and November 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—NOVEMBER

Articles	Unit of measurement	Annual consumption (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price x Mass Unit		
			July 1914	October 1927	November 1927	July 1914	October 1927	November 1927
Cereals—	Mauud	70	Rs. 5'594	Rs. 7'214	Rs. 7'052	Rs. 391'58	Rs. 504'98	Rs. 493'64
Rice ..	"	21	5'594	6'945	6'781	117'47	145'80	142'40
Wheat ..	"	11	4'354	5'354	5'188	47'89	58'89	57'07
Jowari ..	"	6	4'313	5'292	5'609	25'88	31'75	33'65
Total—Cereals	"	..	..	..	..	582'82	741'42	726'76
Index Number—Cereals	"	..	..	..	..	100	127	125
Pulses—	Mauud	10	4'302	6'474	6'474	43'02	64'74	64'74
Raw Sugar (Gul) ..	"	3	5'844	8'974	8'813	17'53	26'92	26'44
Total—Pulses	"	..	..	..	..	60'55	91'66	91'18
Index Number—Pulses	"	..	..	..	..	100	151	151
Other food articles—	Mauud	2	7'620	13'094	13'094	15'24	26'19	26'19
Sugar (Refined) ..	"	7	8'557	13'094	13'693	59'90	91'66	95'85
Raw Sugar (Gul) ..	"	5	40'000	79'490	79'490	1'00	1'96	1'99
Tea ..	"	5	2'130	3'313	3'412	10'65	16'57	17'06
Salt ..	Seer ..	28	0'323	0'510	0'510	9'04	14'28	14'28
Beet ..	"	33	0'417	0'833	0'833	13'76	27'49	27'49
Mutton ..	Mauud	14	9'198	17'583	17'583	128'77	246'36	246'16
Milk ..	"	11	50'792	101'781	97'620	76'19	152'67	146'43
Ghee ..	"	11	4'479	7'740	7'740	49'27	85'14	85'14
Potatoes ..	"	3	1'552	3'573	3'573	4'66	10'72	10'72
Onions ..	"	1	25'396	27'974	27'974	12'70	13'99	13'99
Cocoanut Oil ..	"	..	..	..	..	381'18	686'83	685'30
Total—Other food articles	"	..	..	..	..	100	180	180
Index Number—Other food articles	"	..	..	..	..	100	180	180
Total—All food articles	"	..	..	..	..	1,024'33	1,503'24	1,503'24
Index Number—All food articles	"	..	..	..	..	100	148	147
Fuel and Lighting—	Case ..	5	4'375	6'406	6'406	21'88	32'03	32'03
Kerosene oil ..	Mauud	48	0'792	1'281	1'281	38'02	61'49	61'49
Firewood ..	"	1	0'542	0'771	0'771	0'54	0'77	0'77
Coal ..	"	..	..	..	..	60'44	94'29	94'29
Total—Fuel and Lighting	"	..	..	..	..	100	156	156
Index Number—Fuel and Lighting	"	..	..	..	..	100	156	156
Clothing—	Lb.	27	0'594	0'969	0'953	16'04	26'16	25'73
Chadders ..	"	25	0'641	1'068	1'042	16'03	26'70	26'05
Shirts ..	"	36	0'583	0'938	0'875	20'99	33'77	31'50
T. Cloths ..	"	..	..	..	..	53'06	86'63	83'28
Total—Clothing	"	..	..	..	..	100	163	157
Index Number—Clothing	"	..	..	..	..	100	163	157
House-rent ..	Per month.	10	11'302	19'440	19'440	113'02	194'40	194'40
Index Number—House-rent	"	..	..	..	..	100	172	172
Grand Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,251'97	1,850'38	1,850'38
Cost of Living Index Numbers.	..	..	..	..	..	100	151	150

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in October and November 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :-

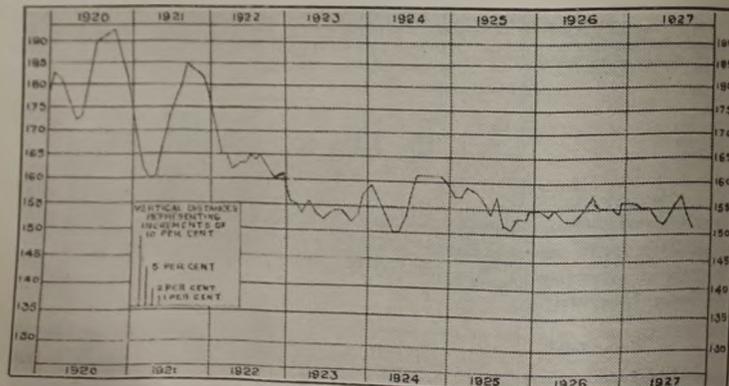
Articles	July 1914	October 1927	November 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in November 1927 over or below October 1927	Articles	July 1914	October 1927	November 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in November 1927 over or below October 1927
Rice	100	129	126	- 3	Salt	100	156	160	+ 4
Wheat	100	124	121	- 3	Beef	100	158	158	
Jowari	100	123	119	- 4	Mutton	100	200	200	
Bajri	100	123	130	+ 7	Milk	100	191	191	
Gram	100	150	150		Ghee	100	200	192	- 8
Turdal	100	154	151	- 3	Potatoes	100	173	173	
Sugar (refined)	100	172	172		Onions	100	230	230	
Raw sugar (gul)	100	153	160	+ 7	Cocconut oil	100	110	110	
Tea	100	196	199	+ 3	All food articles (weighted average)	100	148	147	- 1

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

Rice 21, Wheat 17, Jowari 16, Bajri 23, Gram 33, Turdal 34, Sugar (refined) 42, Raw Sugar (gul) 37, Tea 50, Salt 37, Beef 37, Mutton 50, Milk 48, Ghee 48, Potatoes 42, Onions 57 and Cocconut Oil 9.

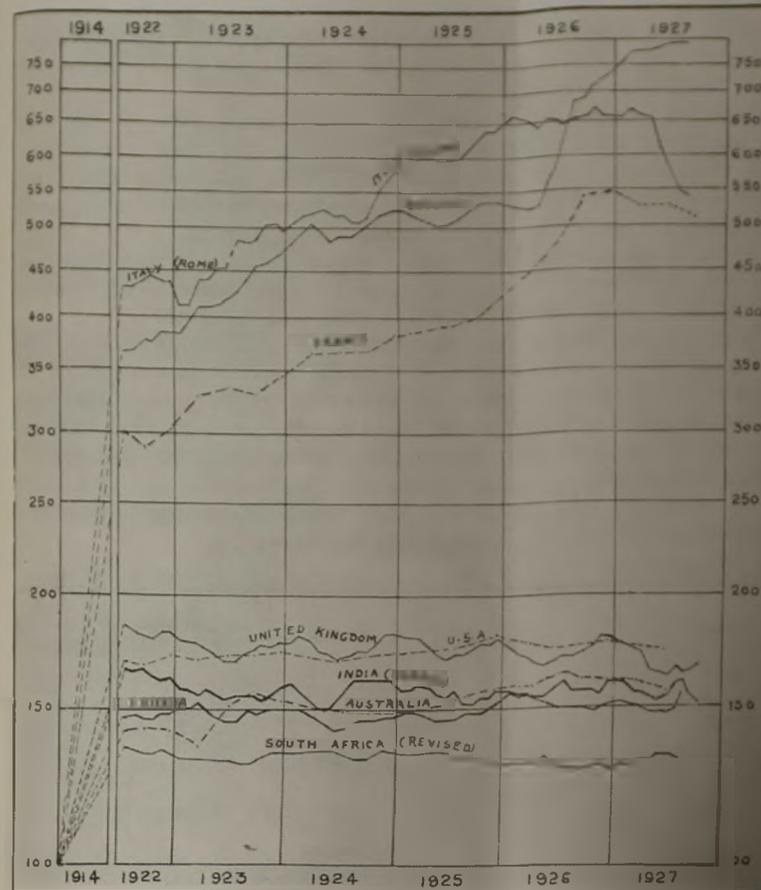
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914, its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 8 pies for all items and 10 annas 11 pies for food articles only.

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 and certain other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is logarithmic. In considering 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) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working 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

A fall of two points

In October 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 146 as against 148 in the previous month. As compared with September 1927, there was a rise of one point in the food group but the non-food group fell by 4 points. The general index number was 117 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 3 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

The index number for foodgrains advanced by 3 points to 136, due to a rise of one point in Cereals and of 10 points in Pulses. There was a fall of 2 points in rice and of 4 points in bajri, but barley and gram recorded a rise of 4 and 20 points respectively. Jowari and turdal were very nearly the same during the month under review.

The index number for the "sugar" group declined by one point due to a fall of 3 points in raw sugar (gul). The "other food" index declined by 3 points owing to a fall in ghee and turmeric.

Under the non-food group, there was a fall of 5 points each in Oilseeds and Cotton manufactures, of 4 points in Raw cotton and of 10 points in Other textiles. Hides and skins rose by 4 points. Other raw and manufactured articles declined by 14 points, owing to a heavy fall in the price of Kerosene oil. The index number for the "non-food" group stood at 148.

The subjoined table compares October 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay *

100 = Average of 1926

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with Sep. 1927	+ or - % compared with Oct. 1926	Groups	Oct. 1926	Jan. 1927	Apr. 1927	July 1927	Sep. 1927	Oct. 1927
1. Cereals	7	+ 1	- 6	1. Cereals	99	105	99	95	92	93
2. Pulses	2	+ 8	+ 5	2. Pulses	102	106	99	102	99	107
3. Sugar	3	- 1	- 8	3. Sugar	96	99	89	87	89	88
4. Other food	3	- 2	+ 11	4. Other food	97	93	99	107	109	107
All food	15	+ 1	- 1	All food	99	101	97	97	97	97
5. Oilseeds	4	- 4	+ 3	5. Oilseeds	99	103	107	107	105	101
6. Raw cotton	5	- 2	+ 20	6. Raw cotton	106	81	91	110	131	128
7. Cotton manufactures	6	- 3	+ 1	7. Cotton manufactures	94	88	91	93	98	95
8. Other textiles	2	- 7	- 2	8. Other textiles	98	99	99	104	103	96
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 3	- 2	9. Hides & skins	99	96	96	94	95	97
10. Metals	5	---	- 10	10. Metals	98	105	99	90	88	88
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	- 9	- 9	11. Other raw and manufactured articles	100	105	103	105	101	91
All non-food	29	- 3	- 1	All non-food	98	96	97	98	100	97
General Index No.	44	- 1	- 1	General Index No.	99	98	97	99	99	98

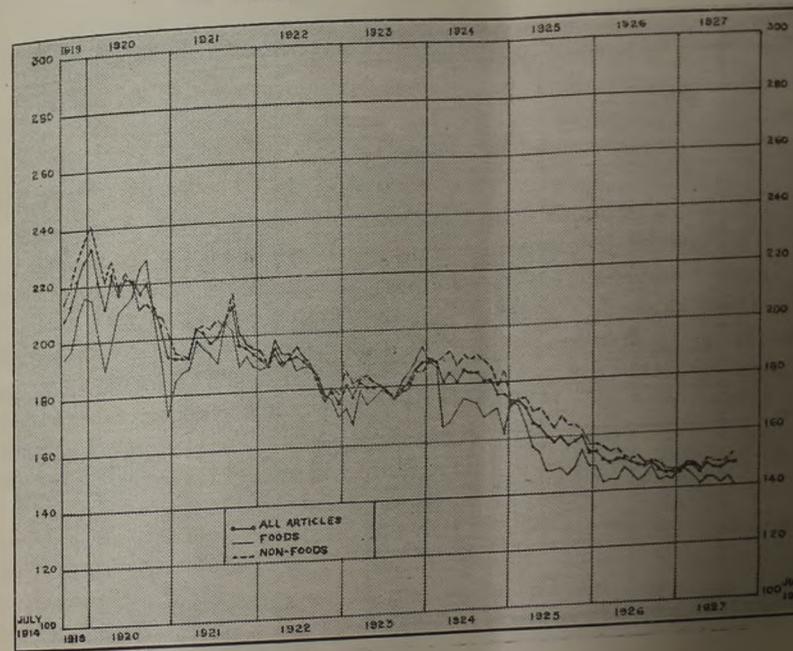
* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 280.

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 1918	171	269	236
" " 1919	202	233	222
" " 1920	206	219	216
" " 1921	193	201	199
" " 1922	186	187	187
" " 1923	179	182	181
" " 1924	173	188	182
" " 1925	155	167	163
" " 1926	145	152	149
Ten-monthly " 1927	143	149	147

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 1919.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

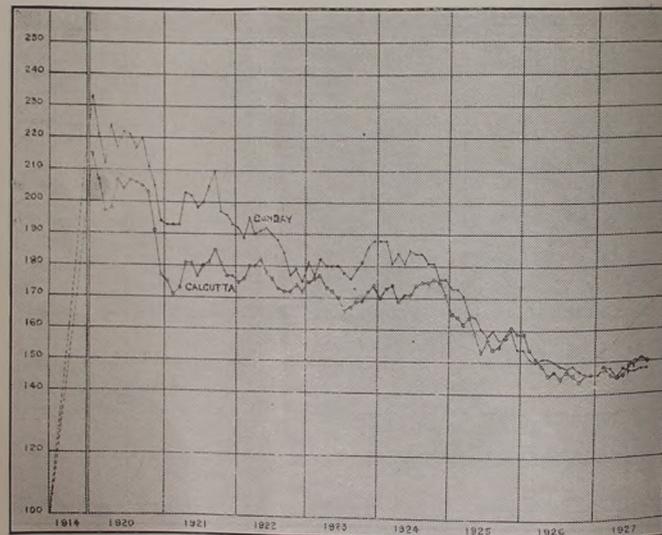


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

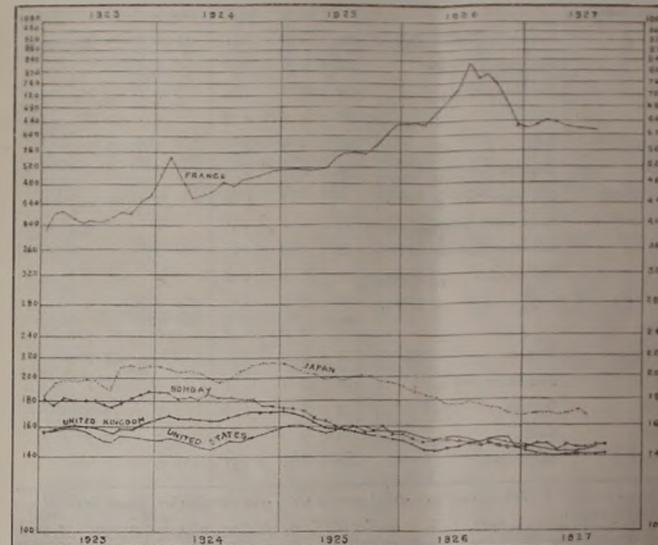
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter); Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in the "*Statist*."

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

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiva- lent in tolas	July 1914		Sept. 1927		Oct. 1927		Increase (+) or decrease (-) in % 1927 over or below
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill..	Paylee	208	5 10	7 11	7 6	+1 8	-0 5		
Wheat	Pissi Seoni	"	204	5 10	7 0	7 1	+1 3	+0 1		
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	"	196	4 3	5 4	5 3	+1 0	-0 1		
Bajri	Ghati	"	208	4 7	5 8	5 6	+0 11	-0 2		
Gram	Delhi*	"	188	4 4	6 1	6 1	+1 9			
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	208	5 11	9 2	9 4	+3 5	+0 2		
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	1 10	1 10	+0 9			
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	"	28	1 2	1 11	1 10	+0 8	-0 1		
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	14 10	15 3	+7 5	+0 5		
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	3 0	2 11	+1 2	-0 1		
Beef	"	Lb.	39	2 6	4 0	4 0	+1 6			
Mutton	"	"	39	3 0	6 3	6 6	+3 6	+0 3		
Milk	Medium	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2			
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior	"	28	7 1	13 11	14 3	+7 2	+0 4		
Potatoes	Ordinary	"	28	0 8	1 1	1 1	+0 5			
Onions	Nasik	"	28	0 3	0 6	0 6	+0 3			
Cocoonut oil	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	3 11	3 11	+0 4			

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

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.

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

The variations in prices during October 1927, as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food grains, rice, jowari and bajri declined by 5, 1 and 2 pies respectively per paylee, wheat and turdal recorded a rise of 1 and 2 pies respectively per paylee, while the price of gram showed no change. Amongst other food articles, tea and mutton advanced by 5 and 3 pies respectively per lb. and ghee by 4 pies per seer. Raw Sugar (gul) fell by 1 pie per seer and salt by 1 pie per paylee. The price of the remaining articles was practically stationary during the month under review.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show a rise in prices. Mutton and ghee are more than double and onions are double the prewar price. Milk and tea have risen by more than 75 per cent.; and refined sugar, gul, potatoes, salt and beef by more than 50 per cent. The rise in the prices of foodgrains is between 20 and 60 per cent. The price of cocoonut oil is only 9 per cent. above its prewar level.

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

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in September and October 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in September and October 1927:—

Bombay prices in September 1927 = 100

Bombay prices in October 1927 = 100

Articles	Bombay prices in September 1927 = 100					Bombay prices in October 1927 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice	100	105	117	111	108	100	111	111	117	122
Wheat	100	84	90	104	117	100	82	89	102	115
Jowari	100	85	92	72	82	100	83	88	73	84
Bajri	100	92	105	73	87	100	94	101	75	87
Average—										
Cereals	100	92	101	90	99	100	93	97	92	102
Pulses—										
Gram	100	84	77	87	84	100	85	77	82	84
Turdal	100	107	101	105	123	100	105	99	103	118
Average—										
Pulses	100	96	89	96	104	100	95	88	93	101
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined)	100	86	98	94	92	100	87	96	94	92
Jagri (Gul)	100	69	78	58	68	100	72	81	61	71
Tea	100	105	105	120	111	100	102	102	117	108
Salt	100	61	67	103	84	100	61	69	106	94
Beef	100	123	63	49	74	100	117	56	49	74
Mutton	100	94	78	62	75	100	83	75	60	68
Milk	100	41	57	65	76	100	41	57	65	76
Ghee	100	78	89	80	85	100	76	90	79	83
Potatoes	100	105	86	103	46	100	110	86	69	44
Onions	100	119	70	86	51	100	97	70	86	55
Cocoonut oil	100	92	95	114	100	100	92	95	114	100
Average—										
Other articles of food	100	88	81	85	78	100	85	80	82	79
Average—										
All food articles	100	90	86	87	86	100	88	85	85	87

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles fell by 2 points each at Karachi and Sholapur and by 1 point at Ahmedabad, but rose by 1 point at Poona. Referring back to October 1926, it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles was 5, 3 and 3 points lower at Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona respectively, whilst it was higher by 2 points at Karachi.

Of individual articles, the relative price of wheat and turdal fell at all the centres while that of rice and bajri rose at Karachi and Sholapur and declined at Ahmedabad. Jowari was cheaper at Karachi and Ahmedabad. Gram rose at Karachi, declined at Sholapur and was steady at the remaining centres. Among other food articles, gul recorded a rise, milk and cocoonut oil remained stationary and mutton and tea showed a decrease at all the four mofussil centres. Sugar and beef were steady at Poona and Sholapur and declined at Ahmedabad. The relative price of ghee decreased and that of salt increased at all the centres except Ahmedabad and Karachi respectively.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in October .. 7 Workpeople involved .. 998

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during October 1927, 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 October 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in October 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Oct. 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Oct. 1927
	Started before 1st Oct.	Started in Oct.	Total		
Textile ..	1	5	6	973	4,222
Transport ..	....	....	....	....	....
Engineering ..	....	....	....	....	....
Metal ..	....	....	....	....	....
Miscellaneous ..	....	1	1	25	75
Total .	1	6	7	998	4,297

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was seven, six of which occurred in textile mills. Three of the disputes occurred in Bombay, two in Ahmedabad, and the rest in other centres. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 998 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 4,297.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, June 1927 to October 1927

	June 1927	July 1927	August 1927	September 1927	October 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	6	5	8	8	7
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	2	....	....	2	1
Fresh disputes begun ..	4	5	8	6	6
Disputes ended ..	6	5	6	7	5
Disputes in progress at end ..	....	....	2	1	2
Number of workpeople involved ..	578 *	5,271	4,326	9,151	998
Aggregate duration in working days ..	694	14,218	64,338	23,156	4,297
Demands—					
Pay ..	4	2	3	3	5
Bonus ..	....	....	....	....	....
Personal ..	1	1	2	3	1
Leave and hours ..	....	....	....	....	....
Others ..	1	2	3	2	1
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	2	2	2	1	....
Compromised ..	1	1	1	....	....
In favour of employers ..	3	4	3	6	5

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.)
November 1926 ..	4	4	3	3,094	67	..	33
December ..	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927 ..	5	5	4	16,507	100	..	..
February ..	4	3	2	775	50	50	..
March ..	7	5	6	5,987	83	..	17
April ..	4	3	4	3,298	50	..	50
May ..	6	6	4	29,688	50	25	25
June ..	6	4	6	694	50	33	17
July ..	5	5	5	14,218	80	..	20
August ..	8	8	6	64,338	50	33	17
September ..	8	6	7	23,156	86	14	..
October ..	7	6	5	4,297	100	..	..

* This figure excludes the number of workpeople involved in the two disputes which ended on 1st June 1927, causing no time-loss during the month.

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

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work reported as beginning in the month of October 1927 was 6, the same as in the previous month. Four of these disputes arose over questions relating to wages, one over a question respecting the employment of particular persons and the remaining dispute was due to the system of handing over damaged cloth in lieu of wages. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 837 and the aggregate time loss amounted to 2,639 man-days. In addition, another dispute affecting 161 workpeople was in progress at the beginning of the month and caused a time loss of 1,658 man-days. Of the seven old and new disputes, 5 terminated during the month under review and the results in the case of all the disputes were favourable to the employers.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY

There were three disputes in progress in Bombay City during the month under review. One of these occurred in the Moon Mills on the 15th October. Pay tickets for the month of September were distributed to the workers on the 14th October. All the weavers attended the mill next day but 125 of them remained idle alleging that a reduction had been made in their wages and they demanded more pay for the month of September. The management explained that no reduction had been made in the rates and advised them to resume work. But the men were not satisfied with this and they left the mill at 9 A.M. On the 17th, 25 strikers resumed work unconditionally in the morning and 30 more in the afternoon. The remaining strikers were informed by the management that their services would be dispensed with and that their outstanding wages would be paid on the next pay-day. On the morning of the 18th, 20 additional strikers resumed work unconditionally. The management discharged the remaining strikers and engaged new hands in their place. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

The second dispute occurred in the Empress Mill No. 1, Bombay. A jobber of the ring department was dismissed by the management on the morning of the 21st for inefficiency. At 11 A.M., 30 operatives of that department struck work demanding the re-instatement of the dismissed jobber. Their demand was not granted by the management and the men left the mill at noon. On the next day ten strikers assembled at the mill in the morning but did not resume work. The management dispensed with the services of the strikers and engaged new hands in their place. The strike ended in favour of the employers.

The third dispute took place in the Khilafat Printing Press, Bombay, on the 11th October. It was alleged that there was some delay in the payment of the wages of the employees for the month of September. All the workers attended the press on the morning of the 11th as usual,

but 25 of them remained idle and demanded immediate payment of their outstanding wages. In the afternoon the strikers were met by the Secretary of the Khilafat Committee who advised them to resume work promising to pay them as soon as he got some money. Not satisfied with this the men left the press at 1-30 P.M. There was no change in the situation till the 14th. On that date, 15 strikers resumed work unconditionally in the morning and the management dismissed the remaining strikers and engaged new men. This strike also ended in favour of the employers.

AHMEDABAD

During the month under review there were 2 disputes in progress in Ahmedabad. One of these occurred in the Patel Mills. The management proposed to pay the operatives of the frame department at piece rates instead of at time rates but the men demanded the continuance of the old system of payment and as their demand was not granted, 24 of them struck work on the morning of the 28th. Nine doffers working in the same department also struck work in sympathy with the strikers. The same morning 4 strikers resumed work unconditionally and the management engaged 5 new hands in the afternoon. Four other strikers resumed work on the 29th and 2 more on the 30th. The management dispensed with the services of the remaining strikers and engaged new hands in their place. The result of this dispute was in favour of the employers.

The second dispute occurred in the New Manekchok Spinning and Weaving Mills on the 31st October. The weavers complained that owing to the system obtaining in the mill of handing over damaged cloth in lieu of wages they suffered a loss in their earnings and as a protest against the system, 300 weavers struck work after the recess and demanded that less damaged cloth and more cash should be paid to them as wages. A few of the strikers saw the manager in the afternoon and they were promised that their request would be considered. This strike continued into the next month.

BROACH

The strike in the Broach Fine Counts Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited, which had begun in the previous month was in progress at the beginning of the month under review. On the 1st October the strikers issued a leaflet appealing to local as well as outside labour for support. Nine of the new hands employed by the management joined the strikers on the 3rd. There was no change in the situation till the 10th, on which date 25 strikers resumed work unconditionally. By the 13th, 70 other strikers had resumed work, 30 had secured employment in another local mill and 14 others had gone out of the district leaving only 22 men still on strike. On the 14th, 13 additional strikers resumed work and there was no further change in the situation. The strike practically came to an end as the mill was working with almost its usual strength. This strike also ended in favour of the employers.

HUBLI

In the Bharat Mills at Hubli the operatives of the weaving department demanded an immediate increase in the rates of their wages but the

management stated that they could not do anything in the matter they obtained orders from their head office at Bombay. On the 22nd October, 324 operatives struck work with a view to enforcing their demand. During the subsequent five days there was no change in the situation. On the 28th, the strikers approached the local Mamlatdar in order to bring about a settlement of the dispute. However as there was no unanimity amongst the men with regard to their demands, they were asked to submit a definite statement of their grievances in writing. In the meantime, 50 strikers resumed work unconditionally. On the 30th, the management notified the strikers that an increase in the rates of wages would, for the present, be given only to those weavers who produced striped and coloured cloths. This dispute continued into the next month.

Prices in the Bombay Presidency, 1926-1927

RETAIL PRICES

In March 1927, the prices of food-grains in the Presidency showed a rise as compared with the corresponding month last year. With the exception of the Northern Division, the unweighted index number of the prices of six food-grains recorded a rise in each of the Divisions and in Bombay City. The retail prices of the eleven articles included in the index for the "other food" group showed a downward tendency except in the case of Bombay City.

NORTHERN DIVISION

The index number for food-grains was 143 in March 1927, a decrease of 4 points as compared with the corresponding month of the previous year. All the districts in this Division, with the exception of Surat where prices were stationary, reported a downward tendency in the prices of food-grains. The price of gram ruled high in the Panch Mahals district owing to the failure of the rabi crop in the previous year. The prices of pulses and ghee increased in Ahmedabad. Ghee and milk remained almost stationary in the other districts. In Thana, rice was slightly cheaper than in the previous year but the price of nagli was high. The price of fodder was steady at Kaira throughout the year.

CENTRAL DIVISION

An upward tendency was noticeable in the prices of food-grains in all the districts of this Division and the index stood at 141 in March 1927 as against 137 a year before. The prices of food-grains were steady at Nasik and Satara but recorded a rise in the Ahmednagar, Sholapur and Poona districts. There was a marked rise in the price of turdal, gram and wheat in Poona, while the prices of all the principal staple food-grains except bajri increased in Ahmednagar owing to a condition of general scarcity. In the Sholapur district, the outturn of kharif crops was fair but the rabi crops suffered somewhat for want of rain. A general rise in the prices of all food-grains except bajri was noticed. In East Khandesh, jowari and bajri were cheaper but the prices of gram, turdal

and wheat increased. The supply of fodder was adequate at Satara and the prices of kadbis ranged from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6 per hundred sheaves during the year.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

There were no marked fluctuations in the prices of food-grains in this Division but the index of retail food-grain prices rose to 143 in March 1927 from 138 in the corresponding month of the preceding year. The price of turdal rose in Dharwar owing to inadequate imports and the failure of the crop in the district. Chillies were slightly dearer in Belgaum. Cocoanuts were cheaper in Kanara. The other three garden products of the Kanara district, viz., betelnut, cardamum and pepper, recorded a rise in prices. In the Ratnagiri district there was a small rise in the price of pulses but ghee was slightly cheaper. Salt and nagli remained almost stationary.

SIND

The index number for food grains in March 1927 was only 2 points above the level of the corresponding month in the previous year which was 144. There was a decline in the price of wheat and a rise in the price of rice. The price of wheat fell owing to less demand from outside, a larger area having been brought under cultivation and a large quantity made available from the Punjab. The increase in the price of rice was due to a general shrinkage in the area under cultivation owing to the late inundation of the river. Jowari became dearer in Larkana and the Upper Sind Frontier but was steady at Sukkur. There was a fall in the price of seed cotton in Thar and Parkar. In Karachi there was an appreciable decrease in the price of fodder.

BOMBAY CITY

The general level of retail prices of food-grains (142) was higher by 10 points as compared with March 1926. The "other food" index stood at 186 as against 184 in the previous year, and was more or less stationary during the period under review. The working class cost of living index which takes into account food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent, remained steady at 155 in March 1927. The following tables give the unweighted index numbers of the prices of six foodgrains and eleven other food articles :—

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Food-grains *
July 1914=100

Divisions	March 1925	March 1926	March 1927
Northern Division	138	147	143
Central Division	139	137	141
Southern Division	137	138	143
Sind	137	144	146
Presidency (excluding Bombay City) ..	137	141	144
Bombay City	136	132	142

* Food-grains included are : Rice, wheat, jowari, bajri, gram and turdal.

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Other Food Articles*

July 1914=100

Divisions	March 1925	March 1926	March 1927
Northern Division	173	167	165
Central Division	166	158	149
Southern Division	169	158	156
Sind	171	169	166
Presidency (excluding Bombay City)	169	163	156
Bombay City	187	184	186

WHOLESALE PRICES

Wholesale prices in Bombay City fluctuated greatly during the year under review. Though the "All food" index remained stationary at 144, there was a distinct rise in pulses which was counterbalanced by a fall in sugar and the "other food" group. Oilseeds rose by 17 points and raw cotton showed an upward tendency up to October 1926, but fell during the latter part of the year. The other groups included under "All non-foods" recorded a fall with the exception of "metals" and "other raw and manufactured articles" which rose by 5 and 8 points respectively. The non-food index number stood at 149 as against 154 for the corresponding month of the previous year, and the general index number declined by 2 points from 150 to 148 in March 1927. The changes in the index numbers of the different groups included in the Bombay Wholesale Prices Index are set out in the following table:—

Group Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Bombay City

July 1914=100

Groups	March 1925	March 1926	March 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in points in March 1927 over or below March 1926.
Cereals	154	148	148	.
Pulses	99	117	133	+16
Sugar	175	146	135	-11
Other food	219	152	149	-3
All food	164	144	144	.
Oil seeds	136	127	144	+17
Raw cotton	209	144	132	-12
Cotton manufactures	212	186	163	-23
Other textiles	160	145	134	-11
Hides and skins	145	147	137	-10
Metals	162	151	156	+5
Other raw and manufactured articles	166	153	161	+8
All non-foods	174	154	149	-5
All articles	171	150	148	-2

* Other food articles included are: Sugar (refined), raw sugar, tea, salt, beef, mutton, milk, ghee, potatoes, onions and coconut oil.

In Broach, the prices of seed cotton (kapas) and ginned cotton fluctuated greatly owing to the pronounced variations in the Bombay Market. The price of seed cotton fell from Rs. 220 to Rs. 165 per bhar (24 maunds of 40 lbs. each) but again rose to Rs. 220 in March 1927. Clean cotton was available at Rs. 345 per bhar in the beginning of the year, but the rate rose to Rs. 400. The lowest price recorded was Rs. 280 per bhar in January 1927. The price of clean cotton in Surat fell from Rs. 49-11-8 to Rs. 38-11-10 per Indian maund during the year under review. In West Khandesh, the price of clean cotton declined from Rs. 40 to Rs. 22 per Indian maund. Timber in Thana showed a downward tendency.

As compared with March 1926 the wholesale prices in Karachi showed a general downward tendency. The food index fell by 7 points and stood at 137 in March 1927, which was the lowest level reached during the preceding twelve months. The "non-food" and the general index numbers declined by 3 and 5 points respectively and stood at 137 in March 1927.

The following table shows the food, non-food and general index numbers of wholesale prices in Karachi:—

Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Karachi

July 1914=100

Groups	March 1925	March 1926	March 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in points in March 1927 over or below March 1926.
Food	151	144	137	-7
Non-food	162	140	137	-3
All articles	158	142	137	-5

Employment Situation in October

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 117 or 80·69 per cent. of the mills reported as working during the month of October 1927. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole amounted to 9·01 per cent. as against 8·90 per cent. in the month of September 1927.

In Bombay City out of 76 mills which were working during the month 72 or 94·74 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of labour

was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 9.40 per cent., the same as in the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 59 mills were working during the month and 35 or 59.32 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 5.0 per cent. as against 4.20 per cent. in September. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

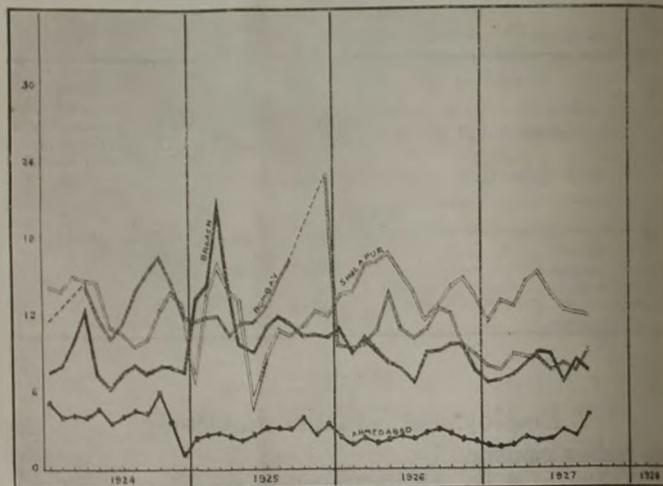
Returns were submitted by all the mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 12.39.

Information was supplied by only one mill in Viramgaum which was working during the month. The percentage absenteeism amounted to 2.04.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information and only one of them reported that the supply of labour was inadequate. The average absenteeism amounted to 10.98 per cent. as against 7.70 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all the centres studied.

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



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 11.82 per cent. as against 11.66 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 13.83 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust was 9.30 per cent.

The Karachi Port Trust found both skilled and ordinary labour available in plenty. On an average 7.70 per cent. of the labourers attended themselves from work during the month under review.

Workmen's Compensation Act

Details of Proceedings

Information furnished by all Commissioners in the Presidency for the month of October shows that out of 58 cases disposed of during the month 51 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. The gross amount of compensation awarded was Rs. 17,292-11-11 as against Rs. 17,280-3-0 in the previous month and Rs. 15,955-15-0 in October 1926. Out of 58 cases in which compensation was claimed, 17 were in respect of fatal accidents, 4 of temporary disablement and 37 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 26 and in other industries to 32. The corresponding figures for October 1926 were 26 and 19.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month was 58, of whom 54 were adult males, 3 adult females and one a male under 15 years of age.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review, 29 were original claims, 27 registration of agreements and 2 miscellaneous applications. Compensation was awarded in 24 cases, agreements were registered in 28 cases, four cases were dismissed, one was allowed to be withdrawn and the remaining case was compromised.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in October

BOMBAY

The occupier of a printing press was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (c) and Section 26 for employing children for more than six hours and also beyond the hours specified. He was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in each of the four cases.

The occupier of a second printing press was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 26 for employing a child after the hours specified. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15.

A contractor of the same press was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 26 for similar offences. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of two cases.

AHMEDABAD

The manager of a hosiery factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 26 for employing certain persons after the specified hours. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of five cases.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

A few mills have given loans to their workers for re-building their houses and the Flood Relief Committee has built 58 tenements in all for the temporary accommodation of dishoused workers. A rent of Rs. 3 per month is charged for these tenements.

Many workers are suffering from malaria and the Labour Union has arranged to distribute quinine among them.

On 4th November 1927 the local Sanitary Association arranged to show films on leprosy in the Labour Union premises.

The Labour Union is agitating against the practice obtaining in some mills of making workers clean machinery during the midday recess. It is also opposed to the permission granted to mills to cancel the weekly holiday to engineering workers.

About seven members of the local Municipal Board tried to form a Labour Party but all of them have subsequently joined the newly formed Independent Party under the leadership of Sheth Ambalal Sarabhai. Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Secretary of the Labour Union, has been elected to the Standing Committee of the Municipality.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th November 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

"The most characteristic feature of the weather conditions during the period under review was the heavy rain which was received between the 10th and 13th of November almost everywhere in the Deccan, in many places in the Karnatak, in North Kanara and a few other places in the Konkan and in Surat in Gujarat. This rain proved injurious to the crops which had reached maturity and to those lying on the threshing yards but was of considerable benefit to the young *rabi* crops and also to complete the retarded *rabi* sowings. The extent of the rainfall and its effects on crops in the different divisions may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—Fairly heavy rain was received in the Surat district and a few other places in the Division. This rain damaged, to a certain extent, the standing *kharif* crops which were ready for harvest and also those lying on the threshing floors but was generally useful for the late sown crops. The cloudy weather which prevailed in a very large part of the Division was, however, generally harmful to crops which were flowering.

Konkan.—During the period under review, heavy rain was received in the North Kanara district and a few other places in the Division about the end of the second week of November. This rain was generally unwelcome as it spoiled rice and other *kharif* crops which were either harvested and lying in the fields for being threshed, or ready for harvest.

Deccan.—The rainfall which was received between the 10th and 13th of November in this Division was both heavy and widespread. It was of considerable benefit to complete the *rabi* sowings retarded in places for

want of moisture and to the young *rabi* crops, though, on the other hand, it did some damage to the *kharif* crops which were ready for the sickle, or lying on threshing yards. It also spoiled cotton in many parts of Khandesh. Generally speaking, however, the rain may be said to have done much good.

Karnatak.—The rainfall in this Division between the 10th and 13th of November, though not as widespread as in the Deccan, was nevertheless received over very large areas and here it considerably improved the *rabi* prospects. It damaged the ripe or harvested *kharif* crops as elsewhere but did, on the whole, more benefit than injury. In some places in the Bijapur and Dharwar districts this rain did not exceed about half an inch and more was still needed here to really improve the situation."

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923

FIRST APPEAL TO HIGH COURT

The Agent, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay .. Appellant ;

versus

Kashinath Chimnaji, father of the deceased
Ganpat Kashinath .. Respondent.

(Before Marten C. J. and Crump J.)

This was an Appeal against an order of N. M. Patwardhan, Esq., Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay.

The Advocate-General with Messrs. Little & Co. appeared for the Appellant and Mr. S. R. Bakhale (for Mr. P. S. Bakhale) for the Respondent.

The Chief Justice in giving judgment said :—We understand that this is the first case to be brought before the High Court under the new Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. I only hope that it is not going to be the forerunner of a large number of other cases, for, as we know, the English Workmen's Compensation Act has given rise to more litigation and more differences of opinion between various Judges than any legislation of modern times ; and with our present overcrowded list we are not in a position to stand any substantial increase of litigation.

The present case is an appeal by the G. I. P. Railway Company, under section 30 of the Act, against an award of a sum of Rs. 750 by the Commissioner as lump compensation to the father and other relatives of the deceased. The question before us is whether the accident arose out of and in the course of the workman's employment within the meaning of section 3 of the Act. As has been clearly laid down in the English cases dealing with the same words, both those conditions must be satisfied, *viz.*, the accident must be one arising out of the employment, it must also be in the course of the employment. And unless both those conditions are satisfied, the workman cannot bring his case within the Act.

Now in the present case the Company admits before us that the accident arose in the course of the workman's employment. But it is denied by them that it arose out of his employment. It is further

contended by the Company that the workman acted in wilful disobedience of a rule expressly framed for the purpose of securing the safety of workmen within proviso (b) (ii) to section 3. It was also originally contended that he had no right to travel in the particular manner he did, and also that notice was not given as soon as practicable after the happening of the event as required by the Act.

The short facts are these. The workman was in the employ of the Company on Rs. 25 a month, and was employed at Kalyan. He was sent on a message by one of the Company's officers from Kalyan to Bombay. In Bombay he was directed by another of the Company's officers to return to Kalyan. On his way back he was travelling in an electric train as far as Kurla. While so travelling he, to follow the language of the plaint, being "a cooly under the Engineering Department on the 16th January 1926 received personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment at the Sandhurst Road New Bridge. The cause of injury is that while he was standing at about 12.52 p.m. on the day mentioned at the entrance of the carriage of a train on the Harbour Branch supporting himself on the vertical iron bar, the train while going up the bridge received a jerk, and as a result of that Ganpat fell down on the lines and died consequently." In their written statement the Company do not deny the facts as stated in the claim, except that they do deny that the accident arose out of and in the course of his employment.

Now taking the points one by one, first of all, as regards notice under section 10, the accident occurred on the 16th January 1926, and notice was given on the 22nd January 1926. It was contended that this was not given as soon as practicable after the happening of the accident. But in my judgment that suggestion is entirely unfounded, when one considers the condition the man's family would be in after an accident such as this. Moreover, to give a notice under the Act, the family would no doubt have to consult some lawyer, for a layman cannot be expected to be familiar with his precise rights under this particular Act. I need not however pursue this point.

Then as regards the proviso to section 3 of the Act, that arises in this way. The Company have apparently issued certain warning notices in connection with these electric trains, which state, amongst other things, "Don't stand near the door." It is contended that this is a rule expressly framed for the purpose of securing the safety of workmen within section 3. In our opinion that is not a fair construction of section 3. The notice in question, if it is a rule at all, is one expressly framed for the purpose of securing the safety of passengers in general, and not for those of workmen. No doubt what section 5 primarily contemplates are certain rules or regulations in a factory for preventing, for instance, workmen coming within a particular dangerous area in the factory. And there are many other instances one can think of. Accordingly we do not think that the Company are protected by this proviso in the present case.

Then I may get rid of another argument they urged in the Court below. They said they had got another rule which prevented workmen

going by the electric trains at all. It seems somewhat inconsistent with the point I have just dealt with, but at any rate it is a point which they made in the Court below, and which they have abandoned before us. There is therefore nothing in that point because they conceded that the workman was entitled to travel on the return journey by this particular electric train.

We, therefore, come to the question, which is really the crux of the case, as to whether in acting as he did, the workman's accident arose out of his employment. Now in the first place, one has to see exactly what is the admitted evidence in the case. It was at first suggested to us—so I understood—that the learned Commissioner had acted without taking any evidence, and that this was an irregular procedure. But when one comes to look at the plaint and the written statement, it is clear that on those two documents—at any rate if one treats them as pleadings—there was no dispute as to how the accident arose. I have already read out what may be described as the plaint. I have already referred to what is called the written statement. So we may take it that the cause of injury was that while the workman was standing at the entrance of the carriage of this train supporting himself on the vertical iron bar, the train while going up the bridge, received a jerk, and as a result of that Ganpat fell down on the lines and died consequently.

Why then did he fall out of the train in this way? The answer is that the door was open. In reply to certain questions put to him by the Bench, the learned Advocate-General produced a rough sketch of the carriages used on these electric trains, which show that there were six doors in all, three on each side, and that in the middle of each door there was a place called "vertical iron stanchion." The learned Advocate-General stated (this of course is not in evidence) that the stanchion is not used for the purpose of shutting the doors or holding them in any way when they are shut, but that the stanchion comes inside the carriage when the doors are shut. He further stated that in practice these trains all run with the doors open, because it is not practicable for the Railway Company to find porters to shut the doors. It was at first further suggested that this was in accordance with the regulations of the Railway Board or other proper authorities. But when we asked for the Regulations to be produced, it was subsequently admitted that this procedure could not be justified under the regulations. Indeed I rather gather that in ordinary trains to travel deliberately with open doors is a matter which is prohibited under the regulations.

But later on in the case the learned Advocate-General said that though he had made these statements, they were not in evidence, and accordingly we must go by the evidence in the case. But taking the evidence as it stands, it is a reasonable inference that the door was open. That being so, I do not think we ought to infer that the workman opened that door. Still less ought we to do so after what we were told by counsel, who has made statements quite frankly to assist the Court, which cannot be entirely ignored.

Now that being so, was there evidence before the Commissioner on which he could find that this accident arose out of the employment of

the workman? We have here a case where the Company in effect invite passengers to use these carriages on the electric line. This particular carriage was left with the door in question—if not other doors—open. Presumably the passengers were entitled to consider that that was a safe mode in which to travel, if it was done deliberately by the Railway Company. There was a jerk in the train, and the traveller was thrown out. What added risk then did he expose himself to beyond what would be so in the case of an ordinary traveller. This class of case is naturally near the line. But on the facts of the present case, I think there was evidence before the learned Commissioner on which he could properly find that the traveller in question, viz., the workman, did not take any greater risk than an ordinary traveller would do while travelling at the present time on one of these electric trains. I lay some stress on the fact that that door was left open. I think this has a material bearing on the circumstances of the present case.

We were referred to certain English authorities which have been naturally of great value to us in arriving at our conclusion, because they clearly bring out what is described as an added peril. For instance, in *Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company v. Highley*, 1917 A.C. 352, there the workman in the course of his employment crossed the railway by an unauthorised way, and exposed himself to an added peril by going under the trucks of a standing goods train. The train moved and he was killed. It was held that although it was proper for him to cross the line at a particular place, he was exposing himself to an added peril by attempting to pass under the trucks in the way he did. But that was not entirely an accident arising out of his employment, and was not an ordinary risk of his employment, and consequently the Act did not apply.

Then in *Pomfret v. Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company*, 1903 2 K.B. 718, the workman while travelling in a train in the course of his employment fell out of the train. The question arose as to whether the mere fact of his falling out of the train was sufficient to prove that it had arisen out of his employment. In other words, was he merely doing what an ordinary passenger might do? At the first hearing before the Court of Appeal their Lordships differed; Lord Justice Mathew took the view that the learned County Court Judge had "drawn the inference that the deceased did no more than an ordinary passenger in the train might do." But on the evidence in that particular case the other two Judges, viz., Collins M. R. and Lord Justice Stirling were not prepared to go as far as that on the then evidence, and accordingly the whole Court agreed in sending the case back to the County Court Judge. On remand certain further evidence was taken of the passengers in the train, and the County Court Judge said he could draw no other inference than that the accident occurred when the deceased was acting as an ordinary passenger would do. On that further finding the Court of Appeal came to the conclusion that there was evidence on which he could so find, and accordingly they refused to disturb the finding of the County Court Judge. But even then the accident itself was left in a condition of some doubt, for the Court only arrived at this rather tentative conclusion: "The evidence rather suggests that while the deceased was still standing up and

was putting his basket in the rack the train began to move, and as it travelled almost unsteadily at starting the deceased lost his balance and fell against the window in the upper part of the door, and so fell out of the train."

Of course we have not got here, I take it, a door or a window like an ordinary English railway carriage. We have here a carriage with large openings and sliding doors such as are found in many electric trains in England.

Then another case cited was *Jibb v. Chadwick* (1915) 2 K.B. 94. There the workman tried to enter the train whilst in motion, and it was held that "the risk attaching to the attempt to enter a train in motion was not a risk reasonably incidental to the deceased's employment. He had exposed himself to an added risk by doing an unauthorised and illegal act, and the accident did not, therefore, arise out of the employment within section 1, sub-section 1, of the Act." In that action it was pointed out by Lord Justice Swinfen Eady in his judgment, quoting also a Scottish case to the same effect, that "the risk of entering a train in motion, which is prohibited by Act of Parliament, cannot be included or regarded as one of the risks of railway travelling."

Then *Brice v. Edward Lloyd Ltd.*, 1909 2 K.B. 804, was a case where a workman employed at certain works climbed on to a hot water tank in the building to eat his supper. The tank was only partially covered in. On returning to his work the man fell into the tank and was scalded to death. The workmen were not allowed on the tank. There Lord Justice Kennedy said: "But where, as here, a man chooses to go to a dangerous place where he has no business to go, incurring a danger of his own choosing and one altogether outside any reasonable exercise of his employment, in my opinion, if he meets with an accident, it cannot be said that the accident arose out of his employment."

Here, if the carriage was a dangerous place, it was a dangerous place provided by his masters the Railway Company, viz., an electric coach on which the door in question, if not the other doors, were not properly shut. The fact that the man leaned against the stanchion for protection did not necessarily involve that he was negligent. He may have thought that that stanchion was put there expressly for the protection of passengers, and that he was safer in holding on to it than if he stood on some other part of the carriage without having anything to hold on to at all.

As regards the point whether the carriage at the time was crowded or not, as may often be the case, we have no evidence. But as it was in the middle of the day probably it was not.

Taking however the facts as we find them, we think there was evidence on which the Commissioner could arrive at the finding, which he did, viz., in effect that the applicants had discharged the onus of proof which lay upon them. It was contended that the learned Commissioner had misapprehended the onus of proof, and really put the onus of the Railway Company to show that they were not liable. With all respect I do not think that that suggestion is justified by the judgment of the learned Commissioner. It is quite clear from the cases to which allusion has already been made, and which only state the ordinary well accepted

procedure under this type of legislation, that the onus of proof is on the applicants to allege that they are entitled to the benefit of the Act.

Under these circumstances the appeal will be dismissed with costs.

* * * * *

ACCIDENT ON BACK BAY RECLAMATION

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

Jai, widow of Nathu Bapu Applicant.
(Counsel Mr. S. C. Joshi instructed by the Bombay Claims and
General Agency.)

against

The Bombay Development Department Opposite party.
Messrs. Shamji Gokal & Son Contractors.

(The Deputy Chief Engineer, Bombay Development Department, for
the Opposite party and Mr. N. C. Bharucha, High Court Vakil, for the
Contractors.)

The petitioner prays for an order to deposit compensation amount
against the opposite party on account of the death of one Nathu Bapu
on the 25th of January 1927 while he was working on the Back Bay
Reclamation Works. The opposite party claims that if it is ordered
that compensation be paid by them, then, they should be indemnified
by the Contractors, Messrs. Shamji Gokal & Son who had taken the
particular contract on which the deceased workman was employed.
Notice was ordered to be issued to the Contractors as provided by Rule 36
and the Contractors appear to defend this claim. The two issues raised
by Mr. Bharucha for the Contractors are :—

(1) whether the accident arose out of and in the course of the
employment of the workman ;

(2) whether the workman wilfully disobeyed any express order
framed for securing his safety ;

No written statement was put in for the Contractors but Mr. Bharucha
stated his defence to be this. That the accident causing the injury arose
while the workman was doing something which he was not employed
to do. Not only that but he along with other workmen working with
him was distinctly told that they should not go near the waggons.

The facts relevant to this case are very simple. The Contractors
have the contract of spreading the material that is brought in waggons.
These waggons are of two types : (1) the tipping and the non-tipping
ones. A complete rake generally consists of 50 waggons. These rakes
are brought by the B. B. & C. I. Railway and placed on the siding where
they are to be emptied. This the Railway Company does in the early
hours of the morning. The rake is there in position before 7 a.m. The
contractor's men (known as crow-bar men) tip the waggons. (The rake
in this case consisted of tipping waggons.) They do this at 7 a.m. and
then the coolies have to spread the material. The rake must be ready to
be taken back by 12-45 p.m. at the latest otherwise the Railway Company
is entitled to a sum of about Rs. 279 by way of penalty. Of the 50

waggons, 25 were at one spot ; the other 25 at a different one. On the
first 25 waggons, the Contractors had that day employed for the
first time 100 new coolies ; 4 coolies for one waggon were to empty it.
Generally experienced coolies finish the emptying before 12 ; new men
however sometimes take more time. But if the emptying is not finished
by 12 noon which is the recess hour, the coolies do not stop work till the
emptying work is finished for reasons stated above. In this process of
emptying, sometimes the coolies have also to remove material that has
fallen on the permanent way, *i.e.*, below the waggons.

The evidence shows that the accident took place sometime between
12 and 12-30 p.m. Further that there were only two crow-bar men on
the job of tipping and re-tipping this section of the rake. One of the
crow-bar men was examined and according to him they had to re-tip
100 waggons. He commenced this work of re-tipping and had not
finished it by 12 noon. He says about 40 waggons were re-tipped and
60 still had to be re-tipped, that he was about 10 yards from where the
accident took place ; that new coolies had not finished their work.

I have stated all this evidence because it makes it abundantly clear
that as the rake was not ready to be taken back for various reasons and
the time for it was nearly over, these coolies who were new ones must
have been doing the work of removing the material from below the
waggons and on the line and being absolutely new to these waggons some
of them happened to touch the waggons with the result that the unfortu-
nate workman Nathu happened to be crushed under it. None of the
supervisors of the Contractors were on the spot. The telephone message
which Mr. Ahmed, Assistant Engineer, Bombay Development Department
Reclamation Scheme, received from his supervisors lends support to the
view I have taken of the cause of the accident. The Contractors have not
called Mr. Iyengar the supervisor who sent this telephone message and
who therefore was perhaps one of those who went to the scene of accident
almost immediately. I find that the accident arose out of and in the
course of employment.

As to the second issue, it does not survive on the view I take of the facts.

The wages are not disputed. I, therefore, order that the opposite
party do deposit Rs. 900 for compensation and Rs. 25 for professional
costs plus Rs. 2 for court fee in all Rs. 927 and that the Contractors,
Messrs. Shamji Gokal & Son do indemnify the opposite party by paying
them Rs. 927 and I also order that the said Contractors do pay the
opposite party Rs. 3 for court fee which they had to pay.

Questions in the Legislature

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Diwan Chaman Lall : Will Government state what action they intend to
take in regard to the Recommendations of the International Labour
Conference in connection with social insurance ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : I am unable to say.
Government have not yet received either the report of their Delegates to

the Conference or the authentic copies of the Draft Conventions and Recommendations. When these are received the question will be examined.

Mr. K. Ahmed : Was not there any representative representing the Government of India and the people of this country in the Conference ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : I am sorry, Sir, I did not catch the Honourable Member's question.

Mr. K. Ahmed : It is very simple, Sir. Was not there any representative from India and on behalf of the Government—the Government of my Honourable friend—sent there, who must have been familiar with these questions, and must have informed the Honourable Member's Department about it ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : If the Honourable Member had kindly listened to what I said in reply to my Honourable friend Mr. Chaman Lall, he would have got the answer to that question.

Mr. K. Ahmed : Then what is the difficulty now, Sir, for the Honourable Member to answer the question ?

Kumar Ganganand Sinha : (a) Have Government received any suggestion or direction from the International Labour Office regarding measures proposed in the recommendations and conventions on unemployment adopted by the International Labour Conferences ?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to lay the same on the table and indicate what steps, if any, they are taking to act up to it ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : Several Conventions and Recommendations relating to unemployment have been adopted at different sessions of the International Labour Conference. The Draft Conventions and Recommendations so far passed will be found in the statement laid on the table in answer to Mr. Chaman Lall's starred question No. 286 on 27th January 1925. The effect given to these Conventions and Recommendations will be found in the same statement. A Resolution concerning unemployment was adopted by the Eighth International Labour Conference in 1926, and the Government of India are at present endeavouring to collect certain information for which the International Labour Office has asked in this connection.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : May I ask whether the Government of India are aware that at this year's session of the International Labour Conference a Committee was appointed to go into the question of the action taken on the ratifications, and the Committee laid some blame on the Government of India for not taking action on the Convention regarding unemployment and the establishment of labour exchanges in India ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : I have seen something to that effect in the papers but have not yet received authoritative reports from Geneva. As soon as we get the reports we shall certainly look into the matter.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : May I ask whether the Government of India does not receive reports from their representative on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : If the Honourable Member will have a little patience, he will get that information in my reply

to another question. We are still awaiting those reports. We shall get them very soon and then we shall look into the whole question.

Diwan Chaman Lall : Since the assent has been given by His Excellency the Viceroy to the Trade Unions Act, will the Government let the House know why its operation is being delayed and when do the Government propose to bring it into operation ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : The Indian Trade Unions Act came into force on the 1st June 1927.

Diwan Chaman Lall : May I ask the Honourable Member whether he is aware that when applications are made in certain provinces for the registration of unions the office says they have no documents or forms with which to register these unions ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : I am not aware of that. If that was my Honourable friend's point and he had put down that question on paper, I would by this time have made inquiries on the subject.

COUNCIL OF STATE

The Honourable Sir Ebrahim Jaffer : Will Government please state—

(a) Whether the provincial Governments have been approached regarding the introduction of legislation for the control of building construction in factories, and

(b) what have been the results of such consultation ?

The Honourable Mr. A. C. McWatters : (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India have been informed by one local Government that they propose to introduce a Bill in the Legislative Council in due course and by another that they do not intend to take such action at present.

International Labour Conference

TENTH SESSION

The tenth session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 25th May to 16th June 1927 and extracts from the report of the Indian Government delegates are given below.

Out of 55 Members of the International Labour Organisation 43 States were represented at the Conference, the total number of delegates and advisers officially taking part being 341, the highest figure yet reached. The Indian delegation consisted of Sir Louis Kershaw, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Assistant Under Secretary of State, and Dr. R. P. Paranjpye, Member of the India Council (Government delegates); Mr. J. C. Walton, M.C., India Office, London, and Mr. S. Lall, I.C.S., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour, (advisers to the Government delegates); Mr. G. D. Birla, M.L.A., (employers' delegate); Mr. V. V. Giri, Bar.-at-Law, (workers' delegate); and Mr. G. Sethi (adviser to the workers' delegate). Mr. Lall also acted as Secretary to the delegation. An outstanding feature of this Conference

was the signal honour done to India by the unanimous election of Sir Atul Chatterjee as President of the Conference. In the course of his inaugural address opening the Conference Sir Atul Chatterjee referred to the striking character of recent industrial development not only in India and Japan but also in other Asiatic countries where the percentage of increase in the volume both of production and of trade between 1913 and 1925 has been greater than that of the world generally, largely under the head of manufactured goods. He said that the social risks of too rapid industrialisation were realised in Asiatic countries and referred to the honourable emulation between India and Japan in labour legislation. He emphasised the importance of the International Labour Organisation in the Eastern countries as an agency for diffusion of information and as an authority for defining international standards towards which national legislation should gradually approximate. Turning to the International Labour Conventions, he stated that the number of draft Conventions that are ratified should not be the sole criterion by which the value of the work of the International Labour Organisation should be judged and pointed out that even in countries where owing to temporary circumstances Conventions cannot be ratified, the International Labour Organisation has always exercised its moral authority and profound influence on public opinion and on Government action towards encouraging progressive tendencies.

The three main items on the agenda of the Conference were (1) Sickness Insurance, (2) Freedom of Association and (3) Minimum Wage-fixing Machinery in trades in which organisation of employers and workers is defective and where wages are exceptionally low, with special reference to homeworking trades. In addition to the Selection Committee and the Credentials Committee the Conference set up three Committees to deal with the three items and two other Committees, one to deal with the amendments of Standing Orders and the other to examine the Director's summary of the Annual Reports submitted by Governments. Mr. Birla and Mr. Sethi were elected by their respective groups to the Committee on sickness insurance, and Mr. Giri obtained a place on the Committee on minimum wage-fixing machinery. The discussion of the report of the Director occupied no fewer than eight sittings and speeches were delivered covering a wide range of subjects such as the work of the Organisation, special problems requiring international solution, the internal organisation of the office, the relations between the office and the States Members and non-members, the ratification, interpretation and application of Conventions, etc. The delegates from the Asiatic countries took a prominent part in the discussions. Mr. Birla, the employers' delegate from India, suggested that the headquarters of the National Correspondent to be appointed in India should be in Calcutta or Bombay and that the literature issued from his office should be in the vernacular. He referred to the non-ratification of the Hours Convention by Japan as the cause of the severe competition in India from the Japanese Weaving Mills. Mr. Giri, the workers' delegate from India, criticised strongly the level of wages and conditions of labour in India and complained that the International Labour Office had not devoted sufficient attention to the investigation and amelioration of labour conditions in special countries and in

mandated territories. He pointed out that some railway employees in India had to work from 12 to 16 hours a day and that in order to evade the Hours Convention some employers set up their factories in Indian States which paid no attention to the decisions of the Labour Conference. He deplored that there was very little freedom of association in India and stated that "even organised associations in the country were suppressed and gagged when the real issue of employers and employees arose." In reply to Mr. Giri, Dr. Paranjpye stated that labour conditions in India were improving gradually and that the Government of India had tried their best to carry out the Hours Convention which applied only to those branches of railway work notified by Government. As regards the non-observance of the Conventions by the Indian States he pointed out that the Government of India could only proceed indirectly in the matter. He repudiated the charge that there was very little freedom of association in India and stated that India had granted the right of association to all workers including those engaged in agriculture. Sir Louis Kershaw giving his personal view of the working of the Organisation characterised it as a clearing house of information, as a forum for the discussion of labour problems and as a legislative or quasi-legislative body. He also pleaded for greater brevity in the publications issued by the Office. The Director of the International Labour Office wound up the discussion by giving a broad survey of the work achieved by the Organisation. In the course of his speech he pointed out that there was a tendency for the progress of ratifications to become slower and in order to combat this he solicited the co-operation of the delegates and the States Members. He promised to do his best to meet the wishes of the delegates with regard to publication of the Reports in languages other than the official languages.

The Conference had before it the report of the Committee of Experts. One of the Committee's suggestions was that an enquiry might be addressed to the Government of India regarding the existence or continued non-existence of industrial unemployment. As in the time available it had been impossible for the Government of India to receive the Experts' Report and to communicate full instructions, the Delegates of the Government of India decided not to volunteer any statements, which could only have been of a provisional character. In reply, however, to a passing reference by Mr. Ringenbach (French Workers' Adviser), Sir Louis Kershaw pointed out that the Government of India, when they ratified the Unemployment Convention, had explained fully the position in India resulting from an absence of industrial unemployment and the complete machinery available to deal with agricultural unemployment in time of scarcity; as regards the point mentioned by the Experts he thought it would be best that the Office should address a formal enquiry to the Government of India. When the Report of the Committee came before the Conference a similar statement was made by Mr. Walton in replying to Mr. Sethi, who alleged the existence of extensive unemployment in India.

Other points in the Committee's reports were that the form of the annual reports made by the Members should contain not only information on the laws giving effect to the Conventions but also some information

of wage fixing machinery, the Committee found that the condition relating to the defective organisation of employers and workers was too rigid and difficult of definition. An amendment to substitute for the words "employers and workers" in the Office text the words "employers or workers" was put to vote and was lost. The Committee decided to entrust the task of redrafting the questionnaire to a small sub-Committee which got over the difficulty by substituting the expression "no arrangements exist for the effective regulation of wages" for the expression "defective organisation of employers and workers." When this subject came up for discussion in full Conference Mr. Lall, the Secretary of the Indian delegation, explained that the Government of India would gladly co-operate in this preliminary enquiry although they could not commit themselves at this stage to any particular solution of the problem. The Conference rejected all amendments proposed to the Questionnaire and adopted it by 80 votes to 19. The proposal to include this question in the agenda of the next Conference was also adopted by a large majority.

The general resolutions proposed to be moved in the Conference were next considered. Out of nine general resolutions submitted, four were proposed to be moved by Mr. V. V. Giri (workers' delegate, India,) dealing with (a) forced labour, (b) the treatment of a breach of contract of service as a criminal offence, (c) dismissal and discharge without adequate grounds or compensation, and (d) the representation of native and coloured workers on the delegations. The remaining resolutions related to the regulation of hours of work, pensions of workers, vocational education, contracts of employment and collective labour disputes. These resolutions were first discussed in the Selection Committee and the texts were modified by agreement so as to make them easier for adoption by the Conference. The four resolutions submitted by Mr. Giri were condensed into two; the first dealt with forced labour, contract labour, and the question of dismissals, and requested the Governing Body to draw the special attention of the Committee of Experts on native labour to these matters. This was adopted by the Conference. Mr. Giri's second resolution which dealt with the representation of native labour at International Labour Conferences was not adopted by the Conference but was referred to the Governing Body. The Conference also adopted without opposition all the other resolutions.

Before concluding the session, the President delivered an address in the course of which he summarised the results of the Conference and remarked that this session might well be described as "a session for the sick and poor." He shared the regret of the Conference that the effort bestowed on the subject of the freedom of association was futile but expressed the hope that as a result of the discussions which had clarified the atmosphere and defined the issues it would be possible for every country to discuss the subject again in a practical and conciliatory spirit. He closed his speech by thanking his colleagues and the staff of the Labour Office for their uniform and most cordial co-operation. With the usual vote of thanks to the President the session was brought to a close.

mandated territories. He pointed out that some railway employees in India had to work from 12 to 16 hours a day and that in order to evade the Hours Convention some employers set up their factories in Indian States which paid no attention to the decisions of the Labour Conference. He deplored that there was very little freedom of association in India and stated that "even organised associations in the country were suppressed and gagged when the real issue of employers and employees arose." In reply to Mr. Giri, Dr. Paranjpye stated that labour conditions in India were improving gradually and that the Government of India had tried their best to carry out the Hours Convention which applied only to those branches of railway work notified by Government. As regards the non-observance of the Conventions by the Indian States he pointed out that the Government of India could only proceed indirectly in the matter. He repudiated the charge that there was very little freedom of association in India and stated that India had granted the right of association to all workers including those engaged in agriculture. Sir Louis Kershaw giving his personal view of the working of the Organisation characterised it as a clearing house of information, as a forum for the discussion of labour problems and as a legislative or quasi-legislative body. He also pleaded for greater brevity in the publications issued by the Office. The Director of the International Labour Office wound up the discussion by giving a broad survey of the work achieved by the Organisation. In the course of his speech he pointed out that there was a tendency for the progress of ratifications to become slower and in order to combat this he solicited the co-operation of the delegates and the States Members. He promised to do his best to meet the wishes of the delegates with regard to publication of the Reports in languages other than the official languages.

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Other points in the Committee's reports were that the form of the annual reports made by the Members should contain not only information on the laws giving effect to the Conventions but also some information

of wage fixing machinery, the Committee found that the condition relating to the defective organisation of employers and workers was too rigid and difficult of definition. An amendment to substitute for the words "employers and workers" in the Office text the words "employers and workers" was put to vote and was lost. The Committee decided to entrust the task of redrafting the questionnaire to a small sub-Committee which got over the difficulty by substituting the expression "no arrangements exist for the effective regulation of wages for the expression, "defective organisation of employers and workers." When this subject came up for discussion in full Conference Mr. Lall, the Secretary of Indian delegation, explained that the Government of India would gladly co-operate in this preliminary enquiry although they could not commit themselves at this stage to any particular solution of the problem. Conference rejected all amendments proposed to the Questionnaire and adopted it by 80 votes to 19. The proposal to include this question in the agenda of the next Conference was also adopted by a large majority.

The general resolutions proposed to be moved in the Conference were next considered. Out of nine general resolutions submitted, four were proposed to be moved by Mr. V. V. Giri (workers' delegate, India) dealing with (a) forced labour, (b) the treatment of a breach of contract of service as a criminal offence, (c) dismissal and discharge without adequate grounds or compensation, and (d) the representation of native and coloured workers on the delegations. The remaining resolutions related to the regulation of hours of work, pensions of workers, vocational education, contracts of employment and collective labour disputes. These resolutions were first discussed in the Selection Committee and the texts were modified by agreement so as to make them easier for adoption by the Conference. The four resolutions submitted by Mr. Giri were condensed into two; the first dealt with forced labour, contract labour, and the question of dismissals, and requested the Governing Body to draw the special attention of the Committee of Experts on native labour to these matters. This was adopted by the Conference. Mr. Giri's second resolution which dealt with the representation of native labour at International Labour Conferences was not adopted by the Conference but was referred to the Governing Body. The Conference also adopted without opposition all the other resolutions.

Before concluding the session, the President delivered an address in the course of which he summarised the results of the Conference and remarked that this session might well be described as "a session for the sick and poor." He shared the regret of the Conference that the effort bestowed on the subject of the freedom of association was futile but expressed the hope that as a result of the discussions which had clarified the atmosphere and defined the issues it would be possible for every country to discuss the subject again in a practical and conciliatory spirit. He closed his speech by thanking his colleagues and the staff of the Labour Office for their uniform and most cordial co-operation. With the usual vote of thanks to the President the session was brought to a close.

Madras Wage Census, 1926

AN INTERESTING REPORT

The following is the report on the Wage Census taken in Madras in 1926 by the Commissioner of Labour.

Four quinquennial censuses were taken previously in 1908, 1911, 1916, and 1921 and the census of 1926 is the fifth one.

RURAL WAGES

The following months were, in consultation with the Collectors concerned, determined to be the most suitable months for the taking of the census. They were the same as those selected in 1921.

July	.. Anantapur—(As Gooty taluk of Anantapur district was seriously affected by famine in July 1921 the Collector chose December for taking Census in that year).
August ..	.. Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavari East, Godavari West, Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, Cuddapah, Bellary, Kurnool Chittoor, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Ramnad, Tinnevely, The Nilgiris, Salem and Malabar.
September	.. Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot and Coimbatore.
October ..	.. Madura.
November	.. South Kanara.

The Agency tracts which formed a separate division previously have since been added to the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Godavari East respectively to which they originally belonged. Kistna district has since been bifurcated into two districts, West Godavari and (New) Kistna, Godavari district being named as East Godavari. The total number of districts in which the census was taken in 1926 was 25 the same as in 1921.

The present census was prepared by homogeneous tracts as in 1921. In selecting these tracts the principles followed by the Settlement Department were generally adopted; red soil tracts being separated from black, deltas from uplands and remote areas from more populous centres. The grouping adopted in 1921 has been followed in the census under report except in the districts of Nellore, Tinnevely, Salem and Ramnad. The Collector of Nellore has increased his district groups from 3 to 4 and the Collector of Tinnevely has increased them from 8 to 9 and the Collector of Salem from 9 to 10. The Collector of Ramnad has divided his district into only two tracts, ryotwari and zamindari, instead of into seven units adopted in the previous census. These rearrangements and the reconstitution of the Agency division and Kistna district have resulted in a decrease of the total number of units for the

Tinnevely and the highest fall is 1.0 seer in North Arcot. Of the districts which show a rise, Madras, which is one, is not an agricultural district. The Nilgiris shows a small rise of 0.1 seer a rupee, Trichinopoly, Tanjore and Madura a rise of 0.3 seer each, and South Kanara shows the largest rise of 0.9 seer a rupee. The prices are stationary in the districts of Salem and Coimbatore.

A fall in prices is accompanied by a fall in wages in the ceded districts, Chittoor, Nellore, Chingleput and South Arcot though not to the same extent as prices. In the delta districts of East Godavari and Kistna the wages show a good increase in spite of a fall in prices. These facts indicate a rise in the real wages in these districts. Vizagapatam in spite of the maximum fall in prices gives an increase of 12.5 per cent. to women labour. In the other districts where the prices have fallen there is a rise in wages of male labour but a fall in the wages of women labour or *vice versa*. In Salem and Coimbatore where prices are stationary wages have fallen especially in the former, where the fall is remarkable. Wages in Tanjore and Madura in spite of a small increase in prices have slightly decreased; in Trichinopoly the wages of men have decreased while those of women have increased and in the Nilgiris the reverse is the position. South Kanara is the only district in which both prices and wages have risen. The net result for the Presidency as a whole shows that while the average prices of food grains have fallen from 6.9 seers a rupee to 8.4 seers a rupee the average wages remain the same. Speaking generally, the delta tracts and those near large centres of industry or near emigration centres or hill stations pay the highest wages.

In arriving at the district rates of the maximum and minimum wages the procedure adopted in the previous census has been followed. The rates for each group or homogeneous tract in a district were first arrived at by taking the maximum and minimum average rates prevailing in the Revenue Inspector's *irkas* in each group. Similarly the district rates were arrived at by taking the highest and the lowest rates in any one group in the district as the maximum and minimum rates for the district after excluding all abnormal rates. The results for the artisans show that there is a general fall in the minimum and an increase in the maximum. The minimum has fallen in all districts except Ganjam, Vizagapatam, East Godavari, Bellary, Anantapur and Tanjore. The Nilgiris shows the least fall by 4.1 per cent. and North Arcot the greatest fall by 66.3 per cent. The percentage of increase ranges from 13.3 per cent. in Anantapur to 117.5 per cent. in East Godavari. The percentage of decrease for the Presidency as a whole is 32.5. A comparison of the minimum rates prevailing in the various districts shows the lowest rates for North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Chittoor, South Arcot, Chingleput, Guntur and Kurnool ranging from As. 2.7 in North Arcot to As. 4.8 in Chittoor. The minimum is high in East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Trichinopoly and Tanjore ranging from As. 8 to As. 9. The Nilgiris of course shows an exceptionally high rate of As. 18.7.

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The maximum rates for the artisans have increased in all the districts except Cuddapah, Chingleput, Salem, Malabar and South Kanara where

they have decreased, and Kurnool, Nellore, South Arcot and Ramnad where they are stationary. The increases range from 6.3 per cent. in Tinnevely district to 54.4 per cent. in Bellary. In the districts in which they have fallen the decrease varies from 3.6 per cent. in Chingleput to 29.2 per cent. in Salem. The maximum for the Presidency has not undergone any change. The districts of West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur, Kurnool, Nellore, North Arcot, Trichinopoly, Tanjore and Madura show high maximum rates ranging from As. 25.3 to As. 32, while those of Salem, Vizagapatam and East Godavari give low figures ranging from As. 17 to As. 18.6.

The minimum wages of field-labourers show an increase of 23.1 per cent. while the maximum has fallen by 7.3 per cent. The minimum has increased in the Circars except Guntur, in the central districts of Chittoor, North Arcot and Chingleput in the West Coast districts and in the southernmost districts of Madura, Ramnad and Tinnevely, and in the Nilgiris. In the remaining districts the minimum has decreased. The percentage of increase and decrease in the above districts varies from 3.4 per cent. to 115.4 per cent. and from 3.6 per cent. to 15.2 per cent. respectively. In East Godavari the minimum rose very high from As. 1.3 to As. 2.8 and in Cuddapah it fell from As. 3.3 to As. 2.8.

The maximum has risen in the 9 districts of Ganjam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, North Arcot, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, South Kanara and the Nilgiris while it has decreased in the remaining districts. The percentage of increase and decrease vary from 1.3 to 33.8 and from 0.9 to 34.4 respectively. The Nilgiris shows the highest increase from As. 6.8 to As. 9.1 and Anantapur the heaviest fall from As. 9.3 to As. 6.1.

URBAN WAGES

Prior to 1921 statistics were prepared for only three classes of labourers—carpenters, masons and coolies. Figures even for these classes were obtained only for eleven towns and the results published referred only to maximum and minimum wages. In the census of 1921 a revised classification was adopted. According to this classification, the workmen were divided into three main divisions, artisans, general labourers or coolies and domestic servants. The artisans were sub-divided into carpenters, blacksmiths, masons and bricklayers. The coolies were classified as men, women and boys. Under domestic servants were included sweepers, bhists, malis and syces. The number of classes of workmen for whom statistics were prepared was nine and they were obtained for all the towns in the Presidency. The above classification and procedure were adopted in 1926. The number of towns for which statistics were prepared in this census is 81 as against 82 in the previous census.

The figures show that the average wages of the urban artisans have generally risen in the Circars, except Ganjam, and in Bellary, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput, Chittoor, Trichinopoly, Malabar and the Nilgiris. The percentage of increase in these districts varies from 1 per cent. to 29 per cent. the rise in Vizagapatam, West Godavari, Nellore and

at the beginning of the next "insurance year," July 1928. (Report paras. 58, 67-71.)

Subsection 2 of Clause 4 proposes that the allowance now payable in respect of a woman living with the claimant as his wife shall be restricted to the cases where she has the care of dependent children of the claimant, in which cases the allowance may be drawn as for a housekeeper. The allowance in respect of a housekeeper having the care of dependent children is extended to the housekeepers of married men and women. At present it is confined to unmarried persons and widowers or widows.

The cases in which benefit is payable in respect of a dependent mother are extended to cover a widowed stepmother, a mother who has never been married, and a mother whose husband is permanently disabled.

Only one allowance in respect of an adult dependent may be drawn. (Report, paras. 141-7.)

Clause 5 proposes that, after a transitional period, it will be a condition for the receipt of benefit that at least 30 contributions (or in the case of disabled ex-service men, 15 contributions) have been paid in the two years preceding the date of claim. Fulfilment of this condition will be verified at quarterly intervals.

The present rules limiting the payment of standard benefit to one week of benefit for every six contributions, subject to a maximum of 26 weeks of benefit in a benefit year, will cease to have effect. (Report, paras. 58, 72-7, 85 and 164.)

The transitional period referred to above is dealt with in Clause 12, which proposes that persons over 18 years of age making claims within twelve months after the coming into force of the new Act (19th April 1928) shall be exempted for a further twelve months from compliance with the new condition. (Report, para. 99.)

Clause 6 introduces modifications in the trade dispute disqualification. At present persons who are not themselves participating in or financing, or directly interested in, a trade dispute which causes a stoppage of work at the premises where they were employed, may nevertheless be disqualified from benefit if other members of the grade or class to which they belong are participating or financing, or directly interested in, the trade dispute. Such disqualification may be imposed although the other members in question may not have been employed at the same premises or even in the same district as the persons disqualified. The effect of the first part of the clause is to secure that in such circumstances the disqualification will not apply to persons who are not themselves participating in, or financing, or directly interested in, the trade dispute, unless there are other members of their grade or class *at the same premises as themselves* who are so participating or financing or directly interested.

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association for the administration of State benefit can be made or continued will be amended. The broad effect of the amendment is to secure that the association will make a small payment of benefit from its own funds on each occasion on which it makes a payment of State unemployment benefit. (Report, paras. 148-58.)

Under Clause 9 the power of the Minister of Labour to make or approve a special scheme for an industry is to cease; but the position of the two existing schemes (for the banking industry and for the insurance industry) is preserved. (Report, paras. 102-110.)

The Bill also contains a number of minor provisions, the most important of which are the following:—

The present provision under which benefit may in certain circumstances be paid to persons who are following a remunerative occupation of a subsidiary character is somewhat extended, in favour of claimants, by Clause 5 (1) (c). (Report, paras. 159-61.)

Clause 5 (2) (ii) proposes that, after the lapse of a reasonable interval, employment of a kind other than the claimant's usual employment may be regarded as suitable, subject to certain safeguards. (Report, para. 95.)

An amendment to Section 11 of the Act of 1920, embodied in the fourth schedule to the Bill, proposes that persons who have received an aggregate of thirteen weeks of benefit during a prescribed period will have their claims reviewed by a Court of Referees.

Clause 10, and a number of the minor amendments in the fourth schedule relating to the enforcement of payment of contributions, assimilate the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Scheme in this respect to those of the National Health Insurance Scheme. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October, 1927.)

Industrial Co-operation

AN INTERESTING SCHEME

Imperial Chemicals Ltd., one of the largest industrial organisations in the world employing about 40,000 hands has put forward a programme of industrial co-operation which has aroused considerable interest. The four chief features of the plan are (1) the establishment of a Central Labour Department (2) the creation of a system of Interlocking Works Councils (3) the institution of a Staff Grade among the employees of the concern and (4) the initiation of an Employees' Share Purchasing Scheme.

The Central Labour Department will have for its exclusive purpose the handling of all questions affecting the relations between the Company and its workers and will be under the control of a member of the executive assisted by an expert staff, while the Advisory Committee, consisting of those whose business it is to administer labour policy at the Company's various works will secure the necessary interchange of view between those who frame the policy and those who execute it.

The system of Works Councils provides for a Local Council to meet monthly at each Works while the group of works belonging to each constituent Company is to have its own group council. The Central Works Council, representative of the management and the workers, will

REPORT ON TELEGRAPHISTS' CRAMP

The Board have also issued a Report on telegraphists' cramp. The investigation was carried out at the instance of the Union of Post Office Workers, with the consent and co-operation of the Postmaster-General, and was directed to ascertaining whether, and if so how far, there is a specific individual susceptibility to telegraphists' cramp among the persons engaged or about to be engaged in telegraphy.

At an early stage of the investigation, it was found that "cramp" subjects, as compared with normal subjects, had a greater susceptibility to muscular fatigue, less ability to perform quick and accurate movements, less complete control over the muscles when sending a message, and a greater prevalence of psycho-neurotic symptoms. The two groups, however, were not completely differentiated, so that there was no assurance that liability to cramp could be detected with certainty in individual cases.

A medical study of control groups of workers in other analogous occupations suggested, so far as the smallness of the numbers admitted of any conclusion, that the entrants into the Post Office are in no way different from entrants into other occupations.

Other lines of investigation are being pursued, particularly among learners in the school of telegraphy, with a view to discovering whether those having characteristics shown to prevail amongst actual cramp subjects will, in fact, eventually contract it; this, of course, cannot be definitely decided for many years. At present, the conclusion suggested by the enquiry is that people who show psycho-neurotic symptoms or poor muscular co-ordination, and particularly both in combination, should not take up telegraphy. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1927.)

The Young Person in Industry

The Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for the year 1926 contains a chapter summarising the result of special enquiries into the employment of young persons in factories and workshops, and the effect of factory work upon the health and general well-being of boys and girls.

The Reports received indicate that the number of young persons from 14 to 18 years of age employed in industry has, on the whole, decreased of late. It is difficult to find a young person who is prepared to be apprenticed to a skilled trade, probably owing to the fact that a bigger wage can be earned in some of the unskilled trades. Little consideration is given to the selection of the right boy or girl for the work he or she is to undertake. The important matters of the engagement of the young persons, the allotment of the work they are to undertake, and their dismissal if unsatisfactory, are too often in the hands of the foreman instead of a person skilled in selecting labour. The education of the foreman and forewoman in this side of their work is, therefore, of paramount importance.

association for the administration of State benefit can be made or continued will be amended. The broad effect of the amendment is to secure that the association will make a small payment of benefit from its own funds on each occasion on which it makes a payment of State unemployment benefit. (Report, paras. 148-58.)

Under Clause 9 the power of the Minister of Labour to make or approve a special scheme for an industry is to cease; but the position of the two existing schemes (for the banking industry and for the insurance industry) is preserved. (Report, paras. 102-110.)

The Bill also contains a number of minor provisions, the most important of which are the following:—

The present provision under which benefit may in certain circumstances be paid to persons who are following a remunerative occupation of a subsidiary character is somewhat extended, in favour of claimants, by Clause 5 (1) (c). (Report, paras. 159-61.)

Clause 5 (2) (ii) proposes that, after the lapse of a reasonable interval, employment of a kind other than the claimant's usual employment may be regarded as suitable, subject to certain safeguards. (Report, para. 95.)

An amendment to Section 11 of the Act of 1920, embodied in the fourth schedule to the Bill, proposes that persons who have received an aggregate of thirteen weeks of benefit during a prescribed period will have their claims reviewed by a Court of Referees.

Clause 10, and a number of the minor amendments in the fourth schedule relating to the enforcement of payment of contributions, assimilate the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Scheme in this respect to those of the National Health Insurance Scheme. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October, 1927.)

Industrial Co-operation

AN INTERESTING SCHEME

Imperial Chemicals Ltd., one of the largest industrial organisations in the world employing about 40,000 hands has put forward a programme of industrial co-operation which has aroused considerable interest. The four chief features of the plan are (1) the establishment of a Central Labour Department (2) the creation of a system of Interlocking Works Councils (3) the institution of a Staff Grade among the employees of the concern and (4) the initiation of an Employees' Share Purchasing Scheme.

The Central Labour Department will have for its exclusive purpose the handling of all questions affecting the relations between the Company and its workers and will be under the control of a member of the executive assisted by an expert staff, while the Advisory Committee, consisting of those whose business it is to administer labour policy at the Company's various works will secure the necessary interchange of view between those who frame the policy and those who execute it.

The system of Works Councils provides for a Local Council to meet monthly at each Works while the group of works belonging to each constituent Company is to have its own group council. The Central Works Council, representative of the management and the workers, will

REPORT ON TELEGRAPHISTS' CRAMP

The Board have also issued a Report on telegraphists' cramp. The investigation was carried out at the instance of the Union of Post Office Workers, with the consent and co-operation of the Postmaster-General, and was directed to ascertaining whether, and if so how far, there is a specific individual susceptibility to telegraphists' cramp among the persons engaged or about to be engaged in telegraphy.

At an early stage of the investigation, it was found that "cramp" subjects, as compared with normal subjects, had a greater susceptibility to muscular fatigue, less ability to perform quick and accurate movements, less complete control over the muscles when sending a message, and a greater prevalence of psycho-neurotic symptoms. The two groups, however, were not completely differentiated, so that there was no assurance that liability to cramp could be detected with certainty in individual cases.

A medical study of control groups of workers in other analogous occupations suggested, so far as the smallness of the numbers admitted of any conclusion, that the entrants into the Post Office are in no way different from entrants into other occupations.

Other lines of investigation are being pursued, particularly among learners in the school of telegraphy, with a view to discovering whether those having characteristics shown to prevail amongst actual cramp subjects will, in fact, eventually contract it; this, of course, cannot be definitely decided for many years. At present, the conclusion suggested by the enquiry is that people who show psycho-neurotic symptoms or poor muscular co-ordination, and particularly both in combination, should not take up telegraphy. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1927.)

The Young Person in Industry

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The Reports received indicate that the number of young persons from 14 to 18 years of age employed in industry has, on the whole, decreased of late. It is difficult to find a young person who is prepared to be apprenticed to a skilled trade, probably owing to the fact that a bigger wage can be earned in some of the unskilled trades. Little consideration is given to the selection of the right boy or girl for the work he or she is to undertake. The important matters of the engagement of the young persons, the allotment of the work they are to undertake, and their dismissal if unsatisfactory, are too often in the hands of the foreman instead of a person skilled in selecting labour. The education of the foreman and forewoman in this side of their work is, therefore, of paramount importance.

Young persons are generally employed, under ordinary circumstances, during the same hours as the adults working in the same department. This was found to be the case even in factories where the work of the adult and the young is not interdependent. Where work in excess of 48 hours is called for, it appears to apply uniformly to workers of all ages. Where short breaks in the work are customary during the morning and afternoon spells, a reduction of fatigue is noticeable.

Young persons are not affected to any considerable extent by dangerous processes, the number employed under Special Regulations or under the Lead Processes Act, 1920, being small. During 1926 only 11 boys and 4 girls were notified as suffering from industrial poisoning, out of a total of 568 reported cases. As regards heavy work, although there is a distinct advance in the provision of mechanical appliances for the lifting of heavy weights, etc., young persons are still subjected in certain industries to fairly heavy manual work. It does not appear, however, that they are being pressed or even encouraged to do work beyond their strength; and much of the work done, particularly by girls, is exceedingly light.

Enquiries with regard to posture, an important matter where boys and girls are concerned, showed that only very rarely is an attempt made to ensure that young workers are standing or sitting in the position best suited for their work. Frequently no seats are provided, or the seats are such as to throw the young worker into a stooping position.

Some employers arrange that *all* young persons in their employment, irrespective of age, shall be examined on engagement by the works doctor, with further examinations at intervals in certain cases. More attention is being given to the teeth of young workers, and the hope is expressed that similar care may be taken in regard to eyesight. The value of outdoor games and exercise is becoming more and more realised. Nearly all the large factories in which there is any form of welfare organisation have set up sports and games clubs.

In 1926, 23,274 industrial accidents occurred to boys and girls, including 57 deaths; and special enquiries were made in the industries where accidents occurred most frequently as to how far young persons are trained in the use of machinery, and the methods adopted for such training. The investigations showed that a certain number of accidents were due to the lack of proper training of young persons for their work, whilst a larger number were due to dangerous practices arising from general ignorance of the functions and operations of machinery. The Report states: "It is evident that there is ample scope for better instruction, and that the young persons on entering industry are entitled to systematic training in the use of the machines on which they are to be employed; for it is probable that some of them do not know the difference between the guard and the machine, or, at any rate, do not understand the purpose of the guards until they are instructed. Where this ignorance is coupled with the instinct to explore and the lack of prudence which is natural to youth, it is surprising that more accidents to young persons do not occur." With regard to the effect of repetition work, on which young people are increasingly engaged, the Report suggests that much can be done by changing the work as often as possible, and by arranging

that the girls and boys employed on monotonous work get a thorough change of atmosphere when they are not at the factory. Repetition work leads too often to a blind alley occupation, and to avert this some employers have tried by educational means to develop the mind of the girl and boy whose work involves "repeat" movements. Education in industry is coming to be considered to be of the first importance; and the Report gives examples of schemes of instruction, both vocational and general, in operation in various industries. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1927.)

Social Work and Labour Legislation

In the current issue of the *International Labour Review* Mr. G. A. Johnston gives a survey of the relations of social work and labour legislation which he compares to intersecting circles each of which contains an area common to both and an area peculiar to itself. He concludes:

"And what of the relation of social work and labour legislation in the area that is common to both? Do they overlap? Do they compete? Do they even conflict? If governmental and voluntary agencies are engaged in social service substantially identical in character, the question naturally arises of the desirability of having both sets of agencies in the same field.

There is, in fact, very little overlapping and still less conflict. In the first place, it frequently happens that when governmental and voluntary agencies are to be found doing similar work, the work is done in different countries. Some forms of social service which in Germany and in England, for instance, are carried on by governmental agencies are done in the United States by voluntary institutions. In the second place, even where governmental and voluntary efforts are both engaged in one field in the same country, for instance in the prevention of industrial accidents, the work they do rarely overlaps. Their work is complementary.

The detailed co-ordination of the social services of the state and the social work of voluntary associations can rarely if at all be effected internationally. It is a matter for the particular country and even for the particular district concerned.

Though this detailed co-ordination is a matter for local regulation, it may be suggested that, in general and subject to exceptional circumstances, the functions of public services and of voluntary associations in respect to social work differ in two respects. In the first place, the social services of the state deal with normal needs and normal circumstances. They lay down normal standards and aim at regulating the normal relations of normal human beings. The social work of voluntary associations, on the other hand, tends, in certain of its aspects, to be "case work." The voluntary society can deal with the particularised individual, and the individual is never "normal"! This distinction is specially true where both the state and the voluntary society co-operate in the same field in the same country and locality.

In the second place, the voluntary society often goes in advance of the state to conduct experiments and to blaze new trails. The voluntary

societies go out as patrols in front of the big battalions of the state, and it is on the basis of what the voluntary societies find that the state decides whether to occupy the field or not. Historically most forms of state social service have first been put into operation by the voluntary society, and it is only when the need has been seen to be real and general that the state has decided to organise the service itself.

It results from the close correlation of the social services of the state and the social activities of the voluntary societies that the human agents of both may and should be regarded as social workers. The official of the public employment exchange is as much a social worker as the helper in a voluntary association. This is increasingly recognised by the Schools of Social Study, which aim at training workers not only for voluntary societies but for employment by the state in its social services."

Labour Conditions in Australia

From the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics the annual Labour Report for 1926 has been issued. Information given in this publication shows that there was a general increase both in the number of unions and unionists throughout Australia. The total number of unions was given as 768, as compared with 743 in 1925. Members of unions increased from 795,722 in 1925 to 851,478 in 1926, an advance of 55,756. The percentage increase in membership of unions was 7, as against 9.1 in the previous year.

There was also a considerable increase in the number of industrial groups. In recent years many associations of employees of public and semi-public bodies have been organised, and such unions are now included in the tabulations. Public service, municipal, banking, and insurance associations, which were not previously recognised, are now registered under the provisions of Commonwealth and State Industrial Arbitration Acts, and were therefore classified as industrial bodies. The estimated aggregate number of male employees aged 20 years and over throughout Australia was 1,240,914, of which number 745,681 were members of unions, or a percentage of 60.1. Junior workers numbered 230,003. Women employees aged 20 years and over throughout Australia were estimated to number 293,594, including 105,797 members of unions, or a percentage of 36.0. Junior women workers totalled 129,540. The estimated number of employees included all persons receiving wages or salary, as well as those unemployed, and therefore embraced a large number of adults who were not eligible for membership of any trade union (such as certain persons employed in professional occupations), as well as others who, while eligible for membership so far as the nature of their trade or occupation was concerned, did not reside in a locality which was covered by any union devoted to their particular trade or calling. Moreover, the age at which persons were eligible for membership varied in different unions. The census results were classified in quinquennial age groups, and the age of 20 years was taken as approximating to the age of admittance to membership.

Referring to central labour organisations, the report stated that in each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organisations consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, had been established. The revenue was raised by means of a *per capita* tax on the members of each affiliated union. The councils in Australia numbered 26, which was the same as in 1925, while the number of unions affiliated numbered 693, as against 687 in the previous year. The number of unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act was 132, with a membership of 719,479.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were 360 industrial disputes in 1926, involving 113,034 workers. The number of working days lost through these disputes was 1,310,261, and the estimated loss in wages for the Commonwealth aggregated £1,415,813. Of the total number of disputes 227 occurred in the mining industry, and of these 202 were in New South Wales. The following table is of interest:—

Industrial Disputes, 1922 to 1926

	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Number of disputes..	445	274	504	499	360
Number of workers involved.	116,332	76,321	152,446	176,746	113,034
Number of working days lost.	858,685	1,145,977	918,646	1,128,570	1,310,261
Estimated wages lost, £	751,507	1,275,506	917,699	1,107,544	1,415,813

Disputes were more prevalent in New South Wales than in any other States, the number being given as 256, which involved 96,640 workers in a loss of 1,111,230 working days, and an estimated loss in wages of £ 1,229,410. Of that number of disputes 202 occurred in mines and quarries. In Victoria the number of disputes was 33, which involved 8565 workers, who lost 100,735 working days, the estimated loss in wages being £ 106,423.

The year 1926 was remarkable not only for the comparatively small number of disputes taking place, but also for the absence of the very protracted disputes which had characterised previous years, although regarding working days lost, the number was the largest since 1920. The estimated loss in wages was also exceptionally high, the amount of £1,415,813 being compared with the previous years as follows: 1922, £751,507; 1923, £1,275,506; 1924, £917,699; 1925, £1,107,544.

EFFECTIVE WAGES

It is stated in the report that retail prices of food and groceries increased by 2·5 per cent. The cost of housing accommodation increased by 1·8 per cent., the combined increase in respect of food, groceries, and housing accommodation being 2·3 per cent. Under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts, 438 awards were made, and in addition 154 agreements arrived at by the parties were registered. At the end of 1926 there were 1262 awards and 681 industrial agreements in force throughout

Commonwealth. Changes in rates of wages brought about by these awards and agreements affected 1,221,760 persons, and resulted in an average increase of 1s. 4d. a week, and the average nominal rates of wages at the end of December 1926, was 99s. 4d. for males and 51s. 8d. for females.

While wage rates increased during 1926, the cost of food, groceries, and housing increased at a slightly greater rate, consequently effective or real wages were lower in 1926 than in 1925. The working week has further reduced to an average of 45·57 hours a week, compared with 46·44 in 1925 and 48·93 in 1914.

An international comparison of wages and cost of food showed that real wages were highest in Philadelphia, followed in the order named by Ottawa, Melbourne, Sydney, Copenhagen, and London. (From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, October 13, 1927.)

Industrial Psychology in Australia

The Australian Institute of Industrial Psychology, which was inaugurated in Sydney last month, has commenced operations. The institute is modelled on the National Institute of Industrial Psychology in Great Britain, and has the support of Sydney University, the Chamber of Commerce, Chamber of Manufacturers, the Retail Traders' Association, the Hardware Merchants' Association, and other bodies. Mr. Frank L. Edwards, Secretary of the Chamber of Manufacturers, and President of the Vocational Guidance Association, is the honorary Secretary of the institute. The institute aims at assisting girls and boys to choose occupations for which they are best suited. The British institute has done much to benefit business firms by increasing output and effecting economies, and in aiding the workers. (From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, October 27, 1927.)

The Trade Union Bill in Northern Ireland

The principal business before the Northern Ireland Parliament, which reassembled on October 11th, has been the discussion of a Trade Dispute and Trade Union Bill, which passed its second reading on 12th October 1927 by 24 votes to 8. In moving the second reading Mr. Babington, the Attorney-General, stated that the Bill was intended to extend to Northern Ireland the provisions of the Act which was recently passed by the Imperial Parliament, with such minor modifications as were rendered necessary by Northern Ireland's separate jurisdiction. The Imperial Act does not extend to the Six Counties except as regards civil servants employed in the administration of reserved services (principally the Post Office and Inland Revenue services) in respect of which the Northern Parliament has no power to legislate. In view of the fact that out of sixty trade unions operating in Northern Ireland forty have their headquarters in Great Britain, and that these include by far the

greater number of workers in the Province, the Government considers that these unions should be subject to the same limitations in Northern Ireland as in Great Britain, and that there is no reason why the same limitations should not also apply to those trade unions which operate solely within the jurisdiction of the Northern Parliament. It has been pointed out by opponents of the Bill that Northern Ireland has been free from any serious industrial dispute for a considerable number of years, and that the general strike of 1926 did not extend to the Six Counties. Mr. Andrews, the Minister of Labour, fully acknowledged these facts, and ascribed the credit to the reasonableness of the workers and also to the desire of the employers to negotiate with them. He pointed out, however, that at the time of the general strike in May 1926, a considerable number of dockers refused to handle goods, and that it was due to the forbearance of the employers from replacing these workers by voluntary labour that the strike did not extend to the Six Counties. (From "Economist," London, October 22, 1927.)

The American Federation of Labour in 1926-1927

The report on activities for the year 1926-27, submitted by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labour to its recent congress, shows that the membership of the centre was on 31st August 1927, 2,812,407, as compared with 2,803,966 in 1926 (the record membership of the centre having been attained in 1920 with 4,078,740): at the outbreak of the war, the membership of the American Federation of Labour was 2,020,671, while in 1897 it was 264,825, and in 1881 barely 50,000. There are 106 organisations, some national and others international (covering both the U.S.A. and Canada). The organisations affiliated with the American Federation of Labour comprise 29,394 local unions, and 365 local trade and federal labour unions, which are affiliated directly with the centre. There are in all 49 State federations in the various states.

For the twelve months ending August 31, 1927, the total receipts were \$524,284.74: there was also a balance in hand from the preceding year of \$212,391.96, so that the total amount in hand was \$736,676.70. The expenditure for the year was \$485,033.96, so that the balance of funds in hand on August 31, 1927, was \$251,642.74. Of this amount \$217,839.56 forms a Defense Fund for Local Trade and Federal Labour Unions, which is earmarked for the protection of the members of these organisations in case of strike or lockout, while the remainder (\$33,803.18) goes to the general fund and is available for general purposes. The report gives details of the whole activities of the American Federation of Labour: there are separate sections dealing with education, legislation, the fight against the company unions, organisational work, labour banking, the immigration question, etc. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, October 20, 1927.)

Family Budget of a Skilled Worker in Russia

During the first quarter of 1927 the Moscow Office of Labour Statistics carried out an enquiry into the family budgets of skilled workers in Moscow. The enquiry covered 98 working class families, including 455 persons, each family having on an average 4.5 members and three adult members. The following table shows the main items of monthly income and expenditure in chervonetz roubles:—

	Per family	Per adult member of family
<i>Income</i>		
A. Head of Family—		
Wage	91.17	30.41
Other income	3.53	1.18
B. Other members of family—		
Wage	24.92	8.31
Other income	3.31	1.11
C. Credit, loans, sale of articles	13.23	4.41
D. Miscellaneous	6.86	2.29
Total	143.02	47.71
<i>Expenditure</i>		
A. Housing, heating and lighting	12.50	4.17
B. Food	59.10	19.72
C. Drink and Tobacco	6.01	2.01
D. Clothing	29.37	9.80
E. Toilet articles	1.41	0.47
F. Books, theatres, concerts and cinemas	3.50	1.17
G. Expenses for trade union and the Communist Party	3.16	1.04
H. Repayment of loans and advances, redemption of pawned articles, etc.	8.83	2.94
I. Purchases and various expenditure	19.14	6.39
Total	143.02	47.71

An analysis of the above figures shows that the earnings of the head of the family constitute about 64 per cent. and those of the members of the family 16 per cent. of the total income of a skilled worker's family. Credit and loans plus the proceeds of pawning or selling articles represent from 9 to 10 per cent. of the total income.

Food is the largest item of expenditure, accounting for 44.7 per cent.; to this must be added the cost of spirits and tobacco, which represents 4.5 per cent., making in all about half the total expenditure. Clothing calls for 22.2 per cent. and housing, including heating and lighting, 9.5 per cent. of the expenditure of a working class family. The cost of education including cinemas and theatres, represents about 2.7 per cent. and toilet accessories 1.1 per cent. of the total budget. Finally, 6 per cent. of the expenditure consists of the repayment of loans and credit granted by private individuals and distributive co-operative societies. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 24, 1927.)

Absenteeism and Stoppages of Work in Russia

A recent number of the monthly review of the Russian Commissariat of Labour contains an article on absenteeism among Russian industrial workers and stoppages of work in industrial establishments.

According to statistics published by the Soviet Central Statistical Office the average annual number of days of work and days of absence per worker was as follows during the years 1922-1926 :—

Average annual attendance and absence of industrial workers

Year (1st October to 30th September)	Days worked	Stoppage of work	Public holidays	Annual holidays	Absence due to		
					Sickness	Other justified reasons	Unjustified reasons.
1922-23 ..	262·4	1·2	59·8	12·2	13·7	5·4	9·6
1923-24 ..	262·4	1·3	60·6	13·1	14·6	4·7	9·3
1924-25 ..	262·1	0·9	61·8	14·0	15·1	3·9	7·2
1925-26 ..	259·8	1·9	61·2	14·0	16·1	4·0	8·0

STOPPAGES OF MACHINERY

The stoppages of machinery in industrial establishments are said to be due mainly to bad organisation, insufficiency and inferior quality of raw materials, and want of method, while breakdowns in machinery, which is often defective, are also responsible for a number of stoppages. Inefficient management, lack of skilled workers, and indifference on the part of the workers to the re-starting of machinery also seems to have detrimental effects, and it is even stated that the workers show a certain amount of passive resistance to the re-starting of machinery.

It is thought that the only way to reduce the number of stoppages is to introduce rational methods of work, and to get the workers interested in preventing them. To achieve this aim, the author of the article considers that it is essential to revise labour legislation dealing with the payment of wages during periods of idleness due to stoppages of machinery, and suggests that stoppages of less than half an hour should not be counted as time worked. It is further suggested that workers should be obliged, under penalty of a fine, to notify the management immediately a stoppage takes place, and to pay a fine if they are to blame for the stoppage; finally, that when a stoppage lasts 42 consecutive hours or more, workers should work during the week-end to make up for lost time.

UNJUSTIFIED ABSENCE

The high percentage of absence from work is stated to be due to (1) the consumption of spirits; (2) lack of discipline; and (3) malingering.

An enquiry covering several industrial establishments in Leningrad showed that of a total of 2,600,000 days of absence, 500,000 were due to prolonged illness, 550,000 to malingering, and 1,300,000 to illness of

less than three days' duration. In the latter figure were included a large number of days lost for absolutely unjustifiable reasons.

The Labour Code, which hitherto allowed employers to dismiss workers for unjustified absence only when such absence exceeded three consecutive days or more than six days in any one month, has recently been amended, and workers absenting themselves from work for three days in a month may now be summarily dismissed.

The article concludes by advising the introduction of bonuses for workers who avoid all forms of unjustified absence. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 24, 1927.)

The Population Problem in Japan

RELATION TO INDUSTRIALISATION

In the October 1927 issue of the *International Labour Review* there is an interesting article on the above subject by Iwao F. Ayusawa. It is pointed out that the outstanding feature of the Japanese population problem is that the population has nearly doubled in the last fifty years while agriculture has long ceased to produce enough of the staple foods such as rice and wheat for the requirements of the population.

That the population of Japan is fast increasing will be seen from the figures of the census of 1873, 1900 and 1925. In 1873 the population was 33 millions, in 1900 it was 44 millions and in 1925 it rose to 59 millions. It is likely that this rate of growth will continue because the vital statistics of recent years show that while the birth rate has increased the death rate has fallen and in 1926 the figures actually recorded a net increase in population of 20 per thousand.

Not only is the rate of the growth of population high but the density of population has greatly increased. At the beginning of 1884 the density per square kilometre was only 97·7 but in 1888 it rose to 103·6, at the end of 1913 it reached 138·3, in 1923 it was 155·28 and according to the latest figures it is now approximately 156·43 per square kilometre.

Discussing the question of emigration and food supply in relation to density of population, it is pointed out by the writer that emigration does not offer a solution of the problem because the Japanese are too much attached to the country to leave it. So strong is the tie that binds them to their homes that "earthquakes and hurricanes do not easily drive them out, and if they moved at all, they would do so nearer home."

As regards food supply, the author quotes facts and figures regarding the production and consumption of food in support of his contention that the Japanese people cannot subsist on the products of their own soil. He further points out that even if the "thirty-year plan" of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry which aims at increasing the food supply by various methods is adopted and carried out successfully, there is no prospect of the food-supply being adequate to feed the whole population.

As a result of the publication of the population figures in 1926, the Government of Japan issued a special Imperial Decree on 7th July 1927

and an important Commission (*Jinko Shokuryo Mondai Chosakai*) was appointed the same day to enquire into the problem of population and food-supply.

What measures the Japanese Government will adopt to deal with these problems will not be known until the Commission has produced its report. But in the view of the writer the only way in which Japan could increase her national wealth would be by means of the development of her industry and that the policy of *Sangyo Rik-Koku*, which means, 'founding the nation upon industry' has become the main policy of successive Governments in Japan.

Conditions of Work on Japanese Railways

A report was recently published by the Labour Section of the Japanese Ministry of Railways on conditions of labour of workers other than administrative employees. The number of such workers at the end of 1925 was 174,603.

HOURS OF WORK

Station Staff

The average hours of attendance of station staff were as follows throughout the country:—

Day service	..	9 hours	57 minutes.
One shift service	..	12 "	3 "
Rotation service..	..	11 "	39 "
Three shift service	..	8 "	19 "
Five shift service	..	10 "	4 "
Night duty	..	14 "	4 "

Maintenance Staff

The hours of work of persons engaged in the maintenance of the permanent way vary according to the season, as follows:—

From November to February	..	9 hours
From March to April, and September and October	..	10 "
From May to August	..	11 "

Shopmen

The hours of shopmen are as follows:—

7 a.m.	..	..	time of reporting for duty.
7-10 a.m.	..	..	time of starting work.
12 p.m.	..	..	rest interval.
12-40 p.m.	..	..	time of starting work.
4-50 p.m.	..	..	time of ceasing work.
5 p.m.	..	..	closing time.

Traffic Staff

The average period of attendance of engine-drivers is 7 hours 39 minutes, and of firemen 7 hours 41 minutes. The period of actual driving is 4 hours 43 minutes for engine-drivers and 4 hours 45 minutes

for firemen. The hours of attendance of other persons vary between 7 hours 44 minutes for a brakeman and 9 hours 16 minutes for a dining car attendant (hours of actual work: 5 hours 19 minutes and 8 hours 32 minutes respectively); on electric trains the hours of attendance vary between 5 hours 55 minutes for an electrician and 8 hours 13 minutes for a driver (hours of actual work: 3 hours 59 minutes and 4 hours 30 minutes respectively).

HOLIDAYS

No system of holidays has yet been provided for engine-drivers or other trainmen. Station staff are granted holidays as follows:—

Day service	..	in general one day twice a month.
One shift service	..	one day once a month.
Other cases	..	24 hours or more continuous holiday once every three or five days.

Workers employed on the permanent way and shopmen receive one day in each fortnight.

WAGES

The monthly wages vary between 24.93 *yen* (lowest-paid women workers) and 87.405 *yen* (superintendents, etc). The lowest-paid grades receive payment for overtime. Extra wages are paid for long service, after five years' employment, except in the case of higher officials. Allowances are also provided for persons employed at night, in dangerous work (couplers), in tunnels, or on trains passing through long tunnels, to persons working in compressed air compartments, and to those whose services have proved specially satisfactory. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 24, 1927.)

Freedom for Factory Girls in Japan

The Japanese Cotton Spinners' Trade Union, which is affiliated to the General Federation of Japanese Trade Unions, recently decided to start a movement to abolish restrictions on the freedom of factory girls throughout the country. Propaganda leaflets will shortly be distributed among factories and sent to all women's organisations, urging them to support the movement.

With a view to protecting factory girls and to prevent their being taken over by other factories, it has been customary in Japan to restrict the liberty of female workers to leave their dormitories except on their regular holidays. The workers resented this restriction, and it was a frequent cause of labour disputes.

The Japanese Cotton Spinners' Trade Union, during a dispute with the Kameido Factory of the Oriental Muslin Company in May 1926, presented a statement of demands in which the removal of the restriction in question was included. The company accepted the proposal, and allowed its factory girls to go out freely from 1st June 1926. Contrary to expectation, one year's experience has clearly proved that these women are capable of

taking care of themselves, so that the fear that had been entertained was found entirely groundless. There have been much fewer cases involving moral discipline, and the number of women going out or stopping out of the dormitories has diminished; it has also been found that the efficiency of their work has greatly increased. The company, satisfied with the result of this experiment, is planning to remove the dormitories from its premises, and construct new ones in the suburbs of the city, giving them a more homely atmosphere. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 12, 1927.)

Health Insurance in Japan

Under the Japanese Health Insurance Act of 1922, which came into force in July 1926, the granting of benefits began at the commencement of 1927. According to a statement of the Chairman of the Japanese Medical Practitioners' Association, of the two million persons insured under the scheme, about one and a half millions are insured by the State through its local health insurance offices, and the remaining half million as members of work funds, known as health insurance societies. The State and the societies have negotiated agreement on behalf of the insured with the doctors' association for the provision of medical benefit. (From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, October 1927.)

Industrial Census in Germany

Preliminary results of the industrial census taken in Germany simultaneously with the census of population and occupations on 16th June 1925 are now available. The industrial census comprised all establishments engaged in non-agricultural gardening, stock-rearing, fishing, mining, manufacturing, commerce, transportation, entertainments (theatres, music halls, etc.) and sanitation, including establishments owned by public authorities.

The total number of industrial establishments (*Gewerbliche Niederlassungen*) was 3,455,111, with 18,388,696 persons employed, 4,777,639 or 26 per cent. of whom were females. The chief industrial groups are manufacturing, including mining, with 1,842,913 establishments (53.3 per cent. of the total) employing 12,482,442 persons (67.9 per cent.), and commerce and transportation with 1,495,266 establishments (43.3 per cent.) employing 5,383,119 persons (29.3 per cent. of the total number).

The most recent comparative figures available are those of the industrial census of 1907, but owing to differences in the methods of census taking, exact comparisons are in many cases impossible. For instance, the figures of 1907 do not include establishments owned by the Federal, State and other authorities, particularly the Federal railways and the postal services.

In all groups of industry covered by both censuses, the number of establishments showed an increase from 2,982,599 to 3,412,342 (14.4 per cent.), while the total number of persons employed increased from 13,275,442 to 17,053,653 (28.5 per cent.).

The development of manufacturing industry, including mining, and of commerce and transport is indicated by the following figures:—

	Former territory	1907	1925	Increase (present territory excluding Saar)	
		Present territory excluding Saar	Present territory excluding Saar	No.	Per cent.
<i>Number of establishments</i>					
Manufacturing, including mining	1,957,553	1,808,165	1,842,913	34,748	1.9
Commerce and transport..	1,158,777	1,057,852	1,465,986	408,134	38.6
<i>Persons employed</i>					
Manufacturing, including mining	10,701,485	9,843,065	12,482,442	2,639,377	26.8
Commerce and transport..	3,310,521	3,073,876	4,240,837	1,166,961	38.0

The figures show that commerce and transport developed faster than manufacturing industries. In wholesale and retail trading, the number of establishments increased by about 430,000 (or 62 per cent.) and the number of persons employed by about 1,160,000 (or 50 per cent.).

Local industries are still, measured by the number of establishments and persons employed, the most important, namely the building trades with 225,000 establishments and 1,470,000 persons employed; the clothing trades with 601,000 establishments and 1,436,000 persons employed, and the food and drink trades with 292,000 establishments and 1,346,000 persons employed. Engineering and the textile trades take the next rank, viz.,

	Establishments	Persons employed
Engineering ..	41,000	1,221,000
Textiles ..	123,000	1,196,000

If classified according to horse-power of machinery, mining leads the list (3,833,000 h.p.), followed by iron and metal manufacture (3,689,000 h.p.), manufacture of machines and electrical installations (1,887,000 h.p.), the food and drink trades (1,707,000 h.p.), etc.

Out of a total of 3,455,111 establishments enumerated in 1925, 548,324 (15.9 per cent.) used power-driven machinery or motor vehicles. The horse-power of machinery was distributed as follows: steam, water and wind (primary power) 6,415,731 h.p., electric power (secondary power) 12,892,781 h.p.; total 19,308,512 h.p. The power of motor vehicles used in industrial establishments of all kinds amounted to 36,956,972 h.p. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 17, 1927.)

THE ORGANIZATION OF LABOUR

At the end of 1917 owing largely to the demobilisation of the Army and the Navy an immense upheaval took place in the Russian labour market. A decree was issued by the Commissariat of Labour on 31st January 1918 which laid down that labour exchanges were to be opened by trade unions and gave to the unions the sole right to find employment for the workers. Gradually, however, this monopoly developed into a semi-military system and the Labour Code which appeared at the end of 1918 contained provisions for the introduction of a system of compulsory labour. From that moment the labour exchanges ceased to function and were transformed into institutions whose duty it was to find and engage the necessary labour required for the various branches of industry and their name was changed into "Sections for the Census and Distribution of Labour." The trade unions thus became the mechanism of an immense labour army.

One of the first consequences of the introduction of the New Economic Policy was the suppression of compulsory labour. The abolition of compulsory labour was definitely recognized as one of the principles of labour organization in the Soviet Republic by the Labour Code of 1922 which sanctioned it only in very exceptional circumstances.

WAGES

In 1917, wages and conditions of labour were established by mutual consent of the workers and employers by collective agreements. After the revolution, collective agreements disappeared and were replaced by wage tariffs drawn up by the trade unions and approved by the Commissariat of Labour. From this there resulted the tendency to standardise wages at first in each of the various branches of production and later for the whole of the workers. Still later the idea of wage barometers was introduced, and these barometers were fixed for the various districts in accordance with the cost of living index numbers.

At this period the payment of wages depended on several institutions. Wages and cash were supplied by the Commissariat of Finance, and rations by the Commissariat of Supplies while the managements of industrial undertakings distributed a part of their output among the workers.

All these measures added importance to the part played by the Central Council of Trade Unions in the remuneration of labour and a complicated administrative machinery was set up to deal with the various questions.

From the administrative point of view the unions had acquired a complete control of the wages policy and they were not long in acquiring for themselves an important part in the application of this policy. This they were able to do largely on account of the introduction of payments of wages in kind which gradually gave them the position of state agents for the provisioning of the working classes. Wages in kind included the distribution of working clothes.

In spite of numerous expedients to make the workers' lot happier, the workers' position did not improve as will be seen from the following table till 1921.

Average monthly wage of an industrial worker
(In pre-war roubles)

Year	In cash	In kind	Total
1913	22	..	22
1917	22.1	1.10	22.39
1918	4.73	4.26	8.99
1919	1.40	5.37	6.77
1920	0.49	6.63	7.12
1921	0.96	5.99	6.95

It will be seen that in 1920, 93.1 per cent. of wages were paid in kind and the real value of wages had diminished to one-third of pre-war figures.

After the introduction of the New Economic Policy there was considerable change in the wages policy. In the first place, the Unions lost the exclusive competence which they had enjoyed until then and instead of being the sole authorities for the establishment of wage rates they became mere parties to agreements of which the main object was to fix conditions for the remuneration of labour. A special Wage Fund was created by the State to guarantee the payment of wages in large scale industry. This fund was fed by levies made on the proceeds of the Government's tax in kind and by goods furnished by the various undertakings taking part in the scheme. These undertakings received the amount of wages (in cash and in kind) due to them one month in advance. Another experiment made about this time was the "budgetary scheme by agreement," whereby the State instituted for each undertaking an annual "budgetary fund," which included the quantity of products and the amount in cash required for the payment of wages of all workers and employees in the undertaking for the period of one year. This fund was constituted in accordance with pre-war output and the minimum workers' budget.

These experiments, however, gave good results only when they were first introduced and by the beginning of 1922 it had become evident that the only solution of the problem was to adapt conditions to the results which naturally followed the New Economic Policy. Accordingly a minimum legal wage was fixed which was guaranteed by the wages fund and administered by the Supreme Wage Tariff Council.

About this time the trade unions launched an active campaign in favour of the conclusion of collective agreements, with the result that the system of the regulation of wages by such agreements speedily became general. Simultaneously with the increase in the number of collective agreements wages rose rapidly and soon soared high above the minimum rates laid down by the State. This led to many difficulties and the unions compromised by agreeing to make no further demands for increased wages provided they were allowed to retain the rates they had acquired.

The present activity of the trade unions is confined mainly to the adjustment of the position already acquired. Since 1925 wages have risen to just slightly under those of pre-war times and there does not appear to be a possibility of a further increase.

LABOUR DISPUTES

There was a large number of strikes from March to October 1917 but from October the unions did their utmost to reduce their number and even to prohibit them altogether, without, however, asking for legislative measures to that effect. This was due to the realization of the fact that in a Communist State a strike against the employer is a strike against the workers themselves.

With the introduction of the New Economic Policy, however, the trade unions perceived that the whole position had changed. Labour disputes again became inevitable with the reappearance of private capital and the unions had at the outset to decide on the attitude to be adopted. In 1922 the question was decided in consultation with Government and instructions were issued to reduce the number of strikes to a minimum. These instructions admitted in principle the right to strike in State undertakings and institutions as well as in private concerns. But it was recommended that this right should only be used as a last resort and when all conciliatory measures had been exhausted.

A trade union may declare illegal any strike begun without its approval and may prosecute the delinquents before the workers' tribunals. All strikes declared in a province are illegal if they have not been sanctioned by the provincial inter-trade union council and by the central committee of the union concerned. All decisions taken by a central committee of a trade union concerning the declaration and the cancellation of a strike are binding and any local body not accepting these decisions is dissolved.

As a result of the introduction of the New Economic Policy it was necessary to provide for arbitration and conciliation in the case of labour disputes. Conciliation chambers were therefore set up and attached to the departments of the Commissariat of Labour. Thus, the unions were no longer the sole arbiters of labour disputes but they still continued to play an important part in all such matters. Throughout the whole conciliation scheme they were represented in the joint committees on an equal footing with the employers, both official and private.

At present the trade unionists consider that "the existing judicial system is competent to deal with the settlement of disputes" but there is a general desire that "legal procedure should be so arranged as to abolish bureaucratic delays."

SOCIAL INSURANCE

The system of social insurance established by the Government in 1912 was still in operation when the revolution broke out in 1917. In that year the Workers' Organizations worked out a new insurance scheme and their demands may be described as insurance against all risks (disablement and unemployment) covering all wage earners, the cost to be borne by the employers and the State. This scheme was duly submitted to the Provisional Government which adopted a number of legislative measures to meet the workers' demands and subsequently to the Soviet Government. Thus under the new regime the entire administration of social insurance was to be entrusted to the workers' organizations. This principle was reiterated in the Decree of 11th December 1917

on Unemployment Insurance and in that of 29th December 1917 on Sickness Insurance.

Although the necessity of reorganizing the social insurance system had been generally felt for some time, it was not until after the introduction of the New Economic Policy that definite steps were taken for this purpose. In the meanwhile, the Trade Union Congress was formulating various new demands and their proposals were embodied in the Labour Code of 1922.

The Trade Unions managed to impose their point of view as regards social insurance, but when it came to actual practice their demands met with many obstacles of an economic character.

Since 1923 the payment of contributions has greatly improved. Whereas in the beginning of that year the incoming contributions represented only one-third of the total contributions due, in 1924 the percentage paid was 80 to 90 while in 1925 income from this source exceeded the estimated expenditure for the first time. For the financial period October 1925 to June 1926 on an average 95.2 per cent. of the contributions were paid. If account is taken of the sums received in fines, this figure comes to 97 per cent. As regards benefits, the fundamental aim of the Unions was to obtain the payment of full wages during temporary disablement. At the beginning of 1923 benefits were equal to 64 per cent. of the wage earned by the beneficiary and it was only towards the end of 1925 that wages were first paid during incapacity to work.

The position as regards the provision of medical assistance is far from being satisfactory. The Public Health Services which were entrusted with the work were inadequately financed and they were accused of utilising for their general needs a large part of the funds advanced to them for the organization of medical assistance.

As regards unemployment insurance the position has been rendered difficult by the increase in the ranks of the unemployed which has taken place since 1923. Nevertheless the Trade Unions have obtained an extension of the categories of unemployed eligible for relief, and at the same time an increase in the relief granted.

On the whole it appears that although the Trade Unions have received great concessions as regards social insurance the situation cannot as yet be considered stable. The State undertakings are showing greater disinclination than ever to pay their contributions. Whenever the question of economy arises, it is always towards social insurance that the economic organizations turn their eyes. Nor must it be supposed that the financial reserves of the scheme are large. The total reserve funds at the beginning of 1926 were barely 30 million roubles, an amount which represents not more than two or three weeks' normal expenditure. It is therefore not surprising that the financial position of the scheme is described as "tight and ever threatening."

PROTECTION OF LABOUR

Before October 1917 the Russian trade unionists were demanding the "eight hour day," adequate protection of women and children and the appointment of factory inspectors appointed by the workers. These

demands formed the basis of the Soviet Decree issued on 29th October 1917. It fixed the duration of the working day at eight hours for all classes of wage earners. It also sanctioned a rest period in the middle of the day and established the principle of a weekly rest period of at least 42 consecutive hours while limiting the number of overtime hours that could be worked. The same decree further embodied a number of provisions connected with the work of women and children. A later decree of 18th May 1918 provided for a workers' inspection service on an elective basis. Thus, not only did the Unions exercise supervisory functions but legislative and administrative powers were conferred on them.

The wide powers given to the trade unions in matters of labour protection were, however, of short duration. Early in 1922 it was decided that the trade unions 'being a party to the collective agreements which establish conditions of labour' must surrender all their prerogatives concerning labour protection and that labour inspection must be carried out and financed by the Commissariat of Labour.

TRADE UNIONS AND EDUCATION

It was recognised from the beginning that the trade unions should play an important part in the reorganization of the educational system and a Decree of 12th November 1917 therefore set up an Education Committee. But the Government had no definite scheme prepared for this reorganization nor did the trade unions possess the necessary trained staff. Throughout 1918 therefore the position remained unchanged and there was little or no co-operation between the unions and the Commissariat of Education.

Gradually, however, the trade unions began to take more interest in the matter and the Central Trade Union Council created an educational section which immediately got into touch with the corresponding bodies in the various unions. The new section at once proceeded to organize a trade union instructors' school, with accommodation for 120 students and to found a library of works and literature on the trade union movement, subsequently setting up its own publication service. The central and trade union organizations had also begun to take steps to promote education among the masses.

All these efforts were, however, unorganized and sporadic and it was now decided to concentrate all efforts on the development of technical education. In 1920 a compulsory system of technical education for the workers was established and by the end of that year serious efforts were made to organize general education also.

With the introduction of the New Economic Policy the unions were compelled to give their attention to questions more closely connected with labour such as wages, collective agreements, etc. and to relinquish a large part of their educational duties. But while surrendering the managements of a considerable proportion of the educational establishments, the trade unions reserved the right of supervision.

The trade unions were particularly anxious to develop an intellectual movement among the unions themselves. It was believed that the best way to achieve this was to promote and encourage the formation of

workers' clubs with the object of the political education of the members, the raising of their intellectual standard, the promotion of the trade union movement and the provision of amusements and entertainments for the workers.

In spite of all that has been done, the trade union educational scheme still leaves much to be desired. Although the clubs have increased, the number of persons coming under their influence is still very restricted as only 12 per cent. of the trade unionists are members of the clubs while the actual number of persons using them is still smaller.

As regards technical education, the most noteworthy feature is the development of factory schools, which in 1926 numbered 1,000 with 100,000 pupils. Instruction is given in these schools to 50 per cent. of the young persons employed in industry. In addition to these schools, there is a system of apprenticeship training which is carried out collectively and individually under the supervision of skilled workers and which extends to 40 per cent. of the young workers.

At the present time the trade unions are of opinion that the whole educational system requires re-organization.

Welfare Work and Labour Turnover

In a series of articles on industrial management, published in Canada, it is observed that the employment departments and welfare undertakings of large industrial concerns owe their existence to the discovery about fifteen years ago of the magnitude and importance of labour turnover. In 1912, the General Electric Company made an investigation of the extent and scope of labour turnover. It was found that twelve factories had increased their working force of 37,274 by 6,697 during the year, but during that period 42,571 people were hired, so 35,874 must have been taken off the payroll, while of the employees engaged, 27 per cent. had worked in the factories before.

The publication of these figures created a stir in the industrial world, and resulted in the leaders taking steps to reduce the turnover. The first step was the organization of the employment department and the taking of increased care in the selection and placement of employees, after which employers turned their attention to welfare work, whereby the needs or desires of the workers could be administered to, so that they would be content to "remain on the job." (From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, October 1927.)

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. VI, NO. 6, OCTOBER 1927. (Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *Where are the Trade Unions Going? A Survey of the Edinburgh Trades Union Congress*, by Walter M. Citrine (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress)—Industrial relationships; organisation by industry; the minority movement; the Anglo-Russian joint advisory council. pp. 246-249.

(2) *New Light on the United States: How Far do the Workers Share in American Prosperity?* by W. S. Sanders. pp. 250-252.

(3) *Modern Architecture and the Housing Problem: A German Experiment*, by Grete Lihotzky (Architect to the Frankfurt Building Council). pp. 253-255.

(4) *The Economic Crisis in Italy*, by G. E. Modigliani. pp. 256-261.

(5) *The Role of Labour in Irish Politics: Secretary of the Irish Labour Party*, by R. M. Fox. pp. 262-263.

(6) *Minerals and Metals in North America*, by J. T. Walton Newbold. pp. 268 and 269.

(7) *What shall we do with the Dockyards?* by E. P. Harries, J.P. (Trade Union Member of Admiralty Industrial Council). pp. 270-272.

(8) *In the "Eight-fifteen": The Olive Branch on the Housetop—and the Club in the Basement*, by T. S. Dickson. pp. 273-275.

(9) *Soft Woods and Soft Heads: The World Timber Shortage and the Need for Tree Planting*, by R. B. Suthers. pp. 276-278.

(10) *Looking at To-morrow from Yesterday*, by Marion Phillips. pp. 279 & 280.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 105, SEPTEMBER 1927. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *Sickness in relation to its Cost in Industry*, by G. F. McArthur, M.B.E. (Chief Lady Welfare Superintendent, the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Co.). pp. 284-288.

(2) *Pension Funds—An Important Legal Question*. pp. 288-290.

(3) *The High Cost of Industrial Ill-Health: An Outline of Simple Preventive Measures*. pp. 293-295.

(4) *Accidents in 1926: The Cash Value of Accident Prevention*—Accidents which need not occur. pp. 295-298.

(5) *Industrial Welfare Society: Eighth Annual Lecture Conference*—Messages to the conference—from H. R. H. the Duke of York (President of the Industrial Welfare Society), from the Rt. Hon. Sir William Joynson-Hicks (The Home Secretary), from Sir Arthur Steel-Maitland, Bart. M.P. (Minister of Labour), from the Rt. Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P. pp. 299-301.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XVI, NO. 3, SEPTEMBER 1927. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles: (1) *The International Economic Conference*.—Characteristic features of the conference; statements of principles, resolutions and recommendations; the economic conference and the international labour organisation; conclusion. pp. 305-327.

(2) *The Evolution of a Wage-Adjustment System: III*, by J. R. Bellerby.—VI. The machinery of wage adjustment—the preparation and adoption of wage principles, the machinery necessary for giving effect to the principles of wage adjustment; Italy; the Commonwealth of Australia; New Zealand; Germany; Great Britain; general conclusion. pp. 328-360.

(3) *The Christian Trade Union Movement in France*, by Max Turmann. (Professor in the Zurich Federal Polytechnic and the University of Fribourg, Switzerland; Corresponding Member of the Institut de France).—Origin and development of the Christian trade unions—the Paris trade union of commercial and industrial employees, Christian trade unions for manual workers, women's trade unions; the French confederation of Christian workers—origin, principles, organisation and development; the activities of the Christian trade unions—organisations for mutual aid: a typical case, employment exchanges, unemployment funds, help for the unemployed, measures to prevent unemployment, strike funds, co-operative purchasing societies and discount arrangements, friendly societies, dowry funds, pension funds, convalescent and rest homes, legal advice and loan funds, co-operative credit and productive co-operative societies, instruction and training, organisations for vocational training, social studies; trade union action for the defence of the workers' interests; the methods of action of the Christian trade unions—trade union investment funds, the Christian trade unions and strikes; the social ideal of the Christian trade unions. pp. 361-391.

(4) *Membership of Trade Unions during the years 1921-1926*. pp. 392-395.

(5) *Child Labour in the Colorado Beet Fields*—Ages of children; occupations; hours worked; school attendance. pp. 395-397.

(6) *Collective Labour Disputes in Rumania in 1926*. pp. 398-400.

(7) *Education of the Children of Agricultural Workers in England and Wales*. pp. 400-405.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XVI, NO. 4, OCTOBER 1927. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles: (1) *Social Work and Labour Legislation*, by G. A. Johnston. pp. 449-471.

(2) *Fifty Years of Legislation on Occupational Diseases in Switzerland*, by Dr. Werner Lauber (Registrar of the Federal Insurance Court in Lucerne).—Historical survey; legal provisions. pp. 472-486.

(3) *Labour Legislation in the French Colonies*, by Maurice Besson (Officer in charge of the Labour Service, Ministry of the Colonies, Paris).—Forced labour; long-term labour contracts; the extension of labour legislation. pp. 487-511.

(4) *The Population Problem and Industrialisation in Japan*, by Iwao F. Ayusawa, Ph.D.—The growth of the population; the density of the population; population and food; the "thirty-year plan"—Japan's social policy; industrialisation and migration. pp. 512-526.

(5) *The Work of the British Ministry of Labour in 1926*.—Industrial disputes; employment and unemployment—mobility of labour, juveniles, training schemes for the unemployed, unemployment insurance, benefit and determination of claims, special schemes; trade boards. pp. 527-534.

(6) *Unemployment Insurance in Italy from 1920 to 1925*. pp. 535-540.

(7) *Factory Inspection in Japan in 1925*.—Statistics; employment of children; hours of work, rest periods, and holidays; accidents and compensation; welfare and hygiene. pp. 540-544.

(8) *Allotments for Rural Workers in Netherlands*. pp. 545-547.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXIV, NO. 6, JUNE 1927. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Trend Toward Apartment-House Living in American Cities*.—Comparison of conditions in Cities of over 500,000; comparison of conditions in cities under 500,000. pp. 1-18.

(2) *Exploitation of Labor Through Nonpayment of Wages, and Efforts of Labor Offices to Enforce Payment*.—Number and amount of wage claims, 1920 and 1926; laws under which labor offices handle wage claims; procedure; census for the nonpayment of wages; recommendations; conclusion. pp. 19-28.

(3) *Co-operation as a World Movement*.—Co-operative development of co-operative movement; membership and sales of consumers' societies; resources of consumers co-operative movement; consumers co-operative wholesale societies; production by consumers wholesale societies; educational work; women's co-operative guilds; relation with the government; international co-operation—education, trade, banking, celebration. pp. 28-40.

(4) *Factory Labor Turnover Experience*. p. 41.

(5) *Changing Importance of Various Industries in the United States and other Countries*.—Change in output and trade; causes of shifting trade. pp. 42-45.

(6) *British Report on Industrial Conditions in the United States*—Economic conditions affecting industry; comparative efficiency of British and American workers; comparative well-being of British and American workmen. pp. 45-47.

(7) *Volume of Building Construction, 1914 to 1926*. pp. 69-75.

(8) *Group Insurance Experience of Various Establishments*.—State regulation of group insurance; reasons for inaugurating group insurance; general provisions governing group insurance; types of insurance plans—sickness and accident provisions, insurance plan of a large hardware manufacturing company, life, sickness and accident indemnity plan of a public utility company, plan for endowment savings and life insurance combined. pp. 76-86.

(9) *Wage Rates and Hours Established by Recent Agreements*.—Fishermen—Alaska; meat cutters; painters; photo-engravers—Topeka, Kans.; plasterers—Steubenville, Ohio; plumbers; pressmen; railroads—maintenance-of-way employees; railroads—signalmen; railroads—telegraphers; railroads—train dispatchers; railways, electric; stereotypers; typographical unions; pp. 111-116.

(10) *Comparative Wages and Output in the Plate-Glass Industry in the United States and Belgium*.—Daily wages; production per employee; losses in manufacture. pp. 116-117.

(11) *Wages, Employment, and Labor Conditions in the Shipbuilding Industry*—Employment; hours of labor; wages; overtime. pp. 120-124.

(12) *English Regulation of Agricultural Wages*.—Wages of adult male workers; rates for adult women; exemptions; enforcement of minimum rates; earnings as distinct from minimum wage. pp. 131-132.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXV, NO. 1, JULY 1927. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Immigration Restriction and the "Scarcity" of Domestic Servants*.—The question of efficiency and wages; analysis of immigration statistics; decrease in domestic servants over a period of years. pp. 1-6.

(2) *Why Workers Borrow: A Study of Four Thousand Credit Union Loans*, by Mildred John (Fellow in Research Department, Women's Educational and Industrial Union, Boston, Mass.)—Nationality, marital condition, and age of borrowers; occupations and wages of borrowers; property owned and insurance carried; dependents of borrowers; purposes and amounts of loans. pp. 6-16.

(3) *Per Capita Expenditure for Nonresidential Buildings in Representative Cities*. pp. 17-19.

(4) *Establishment Funds for the Benefit of Disabled Workers*.—Membership and management of associations; length of membership required before becoming eligible for benefits; time between beginning of disability and payment of benefits; forfeiture of membership. pp. 20-26.

(5) *Results of Co-operation of Workers and Management on Railroads*.—Inauguration of plan; essentials of the plan; results of the plan. pp. 30-33.

(6) *The Italian "Labour Charter"*.—The corporate state and its organizations; collective labor agreement and labor guaranties; determination of fair wages, piece rates, the weekly rest, paid holidays, dismissal indemnities, probation periods; employment exchanges—preferential clauses; welfare, social assistance, and education. pp. 35-39.

(7) *Labor's Conference on the Elimination of Waste*.—Union efforts to eliminate industrial waste; unemployment as a source of waste; elimination of waste through scientific management. pp. 41-43.

(8) *Hours and Earnings in Bituminous-Coal Mining, 1924 and 1926*.—Changes in wage rates since October 15, 1926. pp. 89-97.

(9) *Wage Rates and Hours Established by Recent Agreements or by Arbitration*.—Blacksmiths—American Railway Express Co.; hotel and restaurant employees—Vallejo, Calif.; marine cooks and stewards' association; marine firemen, oilers and water tenders—Atlantic and Gulf; plumbers and steam fitters—Lafayette, Ind.; pressmen—Joliet, Ill.; railroad conductors and trainmen—Louisville and Nashville Railroad; railroad maintenance of way foremen—Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway; railroad shopmen; railroad signalmen; railroad station employees—Boston and Maine Railroad Co.; railroad telegraphers, railway clerks; railways, electric—Trenton and Mercer County Traction Corp; retail clerks—Belleville, Ill.; Sailors' Association, Eastern and Gulf; typographical unions. pp. 97-105.

(10) *Adequacy of Incomes of Unskilled Laborers in Chicago*.—Composition of families and households; family earnings. pp. 108-111.

(11) *Trend of Employment and Pay-Roll Totals in Cotton-Goods Mills, by Districts, 1923 to 1927*. pp. 132-134.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 9, SEPTEMBER 1927. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *Health Hazards in the Cotton Industry*, by William Francis Dearden, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Vict.) (Medical Officer of Health, Port of Manchester, and Certifying Surgeon).—Health of cotton operatives; conditions affecting health of operatives temperature and humidity, cotton point of view, human aspect, mechanical and human interests in association. pp. 371-400.

(2) *A Clinical Study of the Effects of Mine Gases*, by Richard F. Herndon, M.D.—Dangerous gases—carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, methane, other gases; smoke and dust; warm, moist, and still air; clinical study—diagnosis, conclusion. pp. 402-418.

(3) *A Simple Face Mask for Certain Types of Dusty Industrial Processes*, by Leonard P. Lockhart, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Medical Officer, Welfare Department, Messrs. Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Nottingham, England). pp. 421-423.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, NO. 9, SEPTEMBER 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Strikes and Lockouts in Great Britain and Other Countries*.—Great Britain and Northern Ireland; New Zealand; United States; Belgium; Czechoslovakia; Finland; Germany; Netherlands; Poland. pp. 942-944.

(2) *Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act of Great Britain*.—Strikes and lockouts; picketing; political funds; civil servants, employment disabilities; injunctions; definitions. pp. 944-946.

(3) *Labour and Industry in British Columbia in 1926*.—Industrial conditions; factory inspection; employment service. pp. 946-948.

(4) *Workmen's Compensation in New Brunswick and Alberta in 1926*.—New Brunswick; Alberta. pp. 954-956.

(5) *Mineral Industry in Canada in 1926-27*.—Coal production; employment; capital employed. pp. 957-958.

(6) *Mining Operations in Quebec in 1926*.—pp. 958-960.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes from Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in September resulted in a reduction of about £47,800 in the weekly full-time wages of 208,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £420 in those of 3800 workpeople.

The largest group of workpeople affected by the reductions were coal miners in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire), in Leicestershire, and in Warwickshire. In the first-mentioned district the percentage addition to base rates was reduced by the equivalent of $13\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the previous wages; in the other two districts the reduction amounted to about $2\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of the previous wages. There were also reductions in the minimum rates of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for pieceworkers in the boot and shoe-repairing trade and for various classes of workpeople employed in the brush and broom trade. Other groups of workpeople whose wages were reduced in September included iron-ore miners and blastfurnace workers in Cumberland, iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England and West of Scotland, and furniture trade operatives in various parts of Scotland. There was an increase in the wages of bricklayers in the Glasgow and West of Scotland district. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1927.)

* * * * *

At 1st October 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 67 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. a month ago and 74 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 61, 57 and 63 respectively.

The rise since the beginning of September was mainly due to increases in the prices of eggs, butter and milk. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1927.)

* * * * *

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in September was 18. In addition, 12 disputes which began before September were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in September (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 15,200; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during September was about 84,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of approximately 19,000 workpeople involved and 169,000 working days lost in the previous month. The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first nine months of 1927 was about 1,041,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 92,000. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1927.)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN OCTOBER 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Trades</i>						
1. The Broach Fine Counts Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Broach.	161	..	13 Sept. 1927	18 Oct. 1927	Demand for the continuance of the current rates of wages for the new quality of cloth manufactured.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. The Mool Sewres. Mills, Bombay.	125	..	15 Oct.	18 Oct.	Alleged reduction in the rates of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
3. The Empress Mill No. 1, Deltale Road, Bombay.	30	..	21 Oct.	22 Oct.	Demand for reinstatement of a dismissed jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
4. The Bharat Spinning and Weaving Mills, Hubli.	324	..	22 Oct.	..	Demand for an increase in the rates of wages.	No settlement reported.
5. The Patel Mills Co., Ltd., Gontipur Road, Ahmedabad.	33	..	28 Oct.	30 Oct.	Demand for the continuance of fixed monthly wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
6. The New Manekchok Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad.	300	..	31 Oct.	..	Damaged cloth given in lieu of wages.	No settlement reported.
<i>Miscellaneous</i>						
7. The Khilafat Printing Press, Dongri, Bombay.	25	..	11 Oct.	14 Oct.	Delay in payment of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.

NOV., 1927
DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	4,341	6,761	6,775	38,113	41,824	39,171
Nos. 11 to 20	14,393	18,313	18,060	114,102	111,355	108,111
Nos. 21 to 30	9,895	12,890	14,643	81,074	88,453	92,668
Nos. 31 to 40	1,079	1,715	2,280	6,974	10,195	12,841
Above 40	360	903	902	2,559	5,026	5,673
Waste, etc.	53	93	81	280	658	656
Total	30,121	40,675	42,741	243,102	257,511	259,120

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of September			Six months ended September		
		(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	3,604	6,036	5,894	33,976	37,284	34,310	
Nos. 11 to 20	7,606	12,894	11,791	73,421	75,855	72,713	
Nos. 21 to 30	4,534	7,829	8,515	50,663	54,734	57,447	
Nos. 31 to 40	394	821	1,110	3,640	4,744	6,069	
Above 40	162	404	438	1,497	1,958	2,699	
Waste, etc.	44	84	80	227	598	655	
Total	16,344	28,068	27,828	163,424	175,173	173,893	

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of September			Six months ended September		
		(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	237	184	213	1,325	1,237	1,110	
Nos. 11 to 20	3,842	3,323	3,303	22,903	20,005	18,750	
Nos. 21 to 30	4,160	3,776	4,722	23,525	24,738	27,490	
Nos. 31 to 40	552	708	905	2,314	4,301	4,908	
Above 40	130	405	312	716	2,389	2,109	
Waste, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	8,921	8,396	9,455	50,783	52,670	54,367	

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

Description	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	2,019	2,265	2,899	7,305	8,186	13,316
Chudders	2,524	1,665	1,794	9,212	9,626	10,324
Dhotis	6,751	7,589	8,464	39,411	46,349	49,474
Drills and jeans	625	968	1,318	5,486	5,629	7,589
Cambrics and lawns	7	37	92	305	153	333
Printers	262	142	153	1,348	994	843
Shirtings and long cloth	8,680	8,557	9,615	48,505	60,863	59,623
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,152	1,547	1,570	6,230	7,399	8,609
Tent cloth	197	143	55	823	429	385
Other sorts	494	376	447	3,067	2,604	2,871
Total	22,711	23,289	26,407	121,692	142,232	153,267
Coloured piecegoods	11,299	10,009	11,227	50,002	56,421	61,948
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	224	161	211	1,484	1,546	1,330
Hosiery	24	17	26	117	136	179
Miscellaneous	195	214	302	996	1,396	1,723
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	36	141	223	301	954	1,987
Grand Total	34,489	33,831	38,396	174,592	202,685	220,434

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	1,625	2,013	2,302	5,883	7,282	10,601
Chudders	1,738	1,102	1,242	6,420	6,883	7,345
Dhotis	1,952	2,345	2,964	13,032	14,410	17,591
Drills and jeans	501	906	1,223	4,758	5,160	7,078
Cambrics and lawns	2	3	59	197	26	169
Printers	6	—	—	19	—	—
Shirtings and long cloth	6,132	6,559	6,520	35,970	47,147	43,786
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	873	1,157	1,064	4,670	5,213	6,207
Tent cloth	118	107	49	579	359	242
Other sorts	190	196	287	1,326	1,464	1,653
Total	13,137	14,388	15,710	72,854	87,944	94,672
Coloured piecegoods	8,800	7,348	8,292	37,070	40,080	44,013
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	220	154	208	1,428	1,496	1,315
Hosiery	11	5	11	37	29	57
Miscellaneous	182	177	238	821	1,137	1,398
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	30	102	163	279	605	1,310
Grand Total	22,380	22,174	24,622	112,489	131,291	142,765

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

Description	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	106	64	263	378	195	543
Chudders	625	392	382	2,189	2,072	2,120
Dhotis	4,019	4,291	4,540	20,217	26,123	25,222
Drills and jeans	18	25	19	311	165	168
Cambrics and lawns	5	34	33	94	124	160
Printers	213	75	53	806	528	366
Shirtings and long cloth	2,081	1,452	2,375	9,897	10,305	11,920
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	242	302	367	1,422	1,682	1,716
Tent cloth	77	1	—	208	10	15
Other sorts	204	87	97	1,205	624	736
Total	7,590	6,723	8,129	36,727	41,828	42,966
Coloured piecegoods	1,525	1,578	1,657	8,095	10,456	10,800
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	—	2	1	5	8	7
Hosiery	14	12	16	79	107	123
Miscellaneous	3	30	50	141	241	288
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	6	37	59	20	340	661
Grand Total	9,138	8,382	9,912	45,067	52,980	54,845

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers				
			July 1914	Oct. 1926	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1927	July 1914	Oct. 1926	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1927	
Cereals—											
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 10 8	6 1 2	5 15 3	100	142	129	127	
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	7 5 0	7 5 0	7 8 0	100	100	100	100	
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	76 8 0	82 8 0	82 8 0	100	170	131	134	
Do.	Jubbulpore	"	40 0 0	52 0 0	51 0 0	53 8 0	100	130	128	134	
Jowari (1)	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	3 14 8	4 3 9	4 3 9	100	124	134	134	
Barley	"	"	3 4 6	4 3 9	3 14 8	4 0 4	100	129	119	123	
Bairi	Ghati	"	3 4 6	5 13 1	4 0 4	3 14 8	100	177	123	119	
	Index No.—Cereals		100	145	135	136					
Pulses—											
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	5 3 0	4 10 6	5 8 1	100	123	110	130	
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	5 10 5	7 9 11	7 15 0	7 15 0	100	135	140	140	
	Index No.—Pulses		100	129	125	135					
Sugar—											
Sugar (refined)	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	10 3 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	166	147	147	
Do. (do.)	Java, white	"	10 3 0	16 14 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	166	147	147	
Do. Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	9 8 5	9 6 2	9 1 10	100	121	119	116	
	Index No.—Sugar		100	144	133	132					
Other Food—											
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	7 7 9	9 4 0	8 15 8	100	134	166	161	
Ghee	Deshi	"	45 11 5	77 2 3	88 9 2	85 11 5	100	169	194	188	
Salt	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	136	136	136	
	Index No.—Other food		100	146	165	162					
Oilseeds—											
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	10 10 0	10 9 0	10 1 0	100	143	140	141	
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	"	8 0 0	10 14 0	11 2 0	10 8 0	100	119	119	113	
Poppy seed	"	"	10 14 0	14 10 0	17 10 0	17 0 0	100	136	139	131	
Gingelly seed	White	"	11 4 0	15 8 0	16 4 0	16 4 0 (6)	100	138	162	156	
	Index No.—Oilseeds		100	132	141	136					

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Textiles—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw—†	Good	Candy	251 0 0	350 0 0	435 0 0	435 0 0 (5)	100	139	173	173
Branch	Fully good	"	222 0 0	341 0 0	442 0 0	442 0 0 (5)	100	154	192	192
Oomra	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0	360 0 0	442 0 0	442 0 0 (5)	100	157	192	192
Dharwar	Machine-ginned	"	205 0 0	308 0 0	442 0 0	442 0 0 (5)	100	150	192	192
Khandesh	Do.	"	198 0 0	291 0 0	442 0 0	442 0 0 (5)	100	147	192	192
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0	291 0 0	442 0 0	442 0 0 (5)	100	149	183	179
	Index No.—Cotton, raw		100	149	183	179				
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	0 15 6	1 1 0	1 1 6	100	122	133	137
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	9 0 0	10 0 0	9 10 0	100	152	168	162
White mulls*	6/600	"	4 3 0	9 10 0	9 0 0	8 8 0	100	230	215	203
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	17 0 0	18 8 0	18 3 0	100	164	178	175
Long Cloth (3)	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	0 15 3	1 0 6	0 15 9	100	160	174	166
Chudders (4)	54" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	0 15 3	1 0 6	0 15 9	100	160	166	158
	Index No.—Cotton manufactures		100	165	172	167				
	Index No.—Textile—Cotton		100	158	175	171				
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 2 11	6 15 10	6 14 9	100	120	136	134
Do.	Mathow Lari	"	2 15 1	4 5 4	4 4 10	3 12 3	100	147	146	128
	Index No.—Other Textiles		100	134	141	131				
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 11 3	1 12 11	1 11 8	100	147	156	150
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	0 15 7	0 11 2	0 13 2	100	90	65	76
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 8 9	2 7 10	2 9 1	100	204	199	205
	Index No.—Hides and Skins		100	147	140	144				
Metals—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	58 0 0	55 0 0	56 0 0	100	96	91	93
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	6 8 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	100	163	156	156
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	10 0 0	9 4 0	9 2 0	100	129	119	118
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	14 6 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	160	133	133
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	17 0 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	194	166	166
	Index No.—Metals		100	148	133	133				
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal (2)	Bengal	Ton	14 12 0	22 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	149	142	142
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	20 4 10	20 3 11	20 3 11 (5)	100	103	103	103
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 6 6	7 10 6	6 6 6	100	169	175	146
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 6	9 12 6	8 8 6	100	186	191	166
	Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles		100	152	153	139				
	Index No.—Food		100	143	140	141				
	Index No.—Non-food		100	149	152	148				
	General Index No.		100	147	148	146				

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(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality since March 1926. (2) Since June 1925, the quotation is for Bengal, 1st Class Jheria. (3) Quotation for 37" x 37½ yds. since March 1926. (4) Quotation for 50" x 6 yds. since March 1926. (5) Quotation for September 1927.
 * In the absence of price-quotations for the grade 6/600 the price quoted for white mulls is for the grade 6/600 since June 1925 and for 6,000/54" x 19 since December 1927.
 † Since October 1925, the price-quotations for raw cotton are for the following five varieties, viz., Branch, Fully good; Oomra, Fine; Dharwar, Saw-ginned, F.S.; Khandesh, Fully good; Bengal, Fully good.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers				
			July 1914	Oct. 1926	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1927	July 1914	Oct. 1926	Sept. 1927	Oct. 1927	
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.					
Cereals—											
Rice (1)	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	65 12 0	66 4 0	66 4 0	100	169	170	170	
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red	"	31 8 0	43 12 0	40 8 0	38 8 0	100	139	129	122	
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red	"	31 4 0	43 0 0	39 10 0	39 12 0	100	138	127	122	
" white	2% barley, 13% dirt	"	32 8 0	45 1 0	41 12 0	39 12 0	100	139	128	122	
" red	2% barley, 13% dirt	"	32 4 0	44 5 0	40 14 0	39 12 0	100	137	127	122	
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	37 8 0	38 12 0	37 12 0	100	147	152	148	
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	36 0 0	34 8 0	33 8 0	100	136	130	126	
Index No.—Cereals							100	144	138	138	
Pulses—											
Gram (2)	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	40 1 0	38 0 0	38 0 0	100	136	129	129	
Sugar—											
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 12 0	14 10 6	13 15 6	100	173	161	153	
"	" brown	"	8 1 6		13 12 0	13 2 0	100		170	162	
Index No.—Sugar							100	173	166	158	
Other food—											
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 13 0	1 11 0	100	78	85	79	
Oilseeds—											
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 15 0	3 6 0	3 6 0(3)	100	146	125	125	
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0		68 0 0	68 0 0(3)	100		133	133	
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0		89 0 0	80 0 0	100		144	129	
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	146	134	129	
Textiles—											
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	57 0 0	51 4 0	50 12 0	100	149	134	133	

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Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	24 4 0	36 2 0	36 2 0(3)	100	120	178	178
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperell	Piece.	10 3 6	16 12 0	16 0 0	15 12 0	100	164	157	154
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	20 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	100	198	178	178
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	181	168	166
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton							100	161	171	170
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	39 8 0	37 0 0	35 0 0	100	141	132	129
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund	21 4 0	12 0 0	15 8 0	16 8 0	100	56	73	78
"	Punjab	"	21 4 0	12 0 0	15 8 0	16 8 0	100	56	73	78
Index No.—Hides							100	56	73	78
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	57 0 0	55 4 0	58 0 0	100	94	91	96
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 4 0	6 0 0	6 4 0	100	161	155	161
Plates		"	4 6 0	6 4 0	7 2 0	7 2 0	100	143	163	163
Index No.—Metals							100	133	136	140
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	21 4 0	22 0 0	20 8 0	100	133	138	128
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	8 6 0	100	183	188	163
"	Elephant	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 4 0	7 8 0	6 4 0	100	163	169	141
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	160	165	144
Index No.—Food							100	139	137	135
Index No.—Non-food							100	136	139	135
General Index No.							100	137	138	135

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

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1924														
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	181
1925														
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	120	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	148
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	151	155	151
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	150	155	151
June ..	150	128	144	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	152	151
July ..	146	128	144	146	145	134	149	178	130	134	148	148	146	150
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	134	148	148	146	149
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	147	148	149	148
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	148	150	149
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	149	147
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	141	141	143	128	161	136	142	149	156	147	148
May ..	145	127	132	155	143	145	142	162	142	148	147	159	150	148
June ..	143	130	129	164	143	143	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	125	132	161	143	143	159	167	138	142	135	156	149	147
September ..	135	125	133	165	140	141	183	172	141	140	133	152	148	148
October ..	136	135	132	162	141	136	179	167	131	144	133	159	148	146

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	(Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(c) 100 (k)	100 (j)	100 (j)	(a) 100
1915 ..	104	123	97	115	(l) 108	99	116	146	146	103	114	118 (m)
1916 ..	108	148	102	116	117	116	146	190	190	106	114	142
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	146	197	253	204 (c)	118	118	174
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	253	275	275	126	126	199
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	453	307	222 (c)	126	126	200
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	379	294	224	155	155	174
1921 ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	366	251	200	133	(p) 341	200
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	159	429	328	164	130	135	(p) 307	174
1923 ..	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	238	164	130	(p) 302	170
1924 ..	157	170	144	149	160	512	493	249	169	132	(p) 334	173
1925 ..	153	167	146	152	163	598	509	259	168 (a)	133	(p) 366	173
1926 May ..	155	168	150	157	163	652	558	220	162	132	(p) 390	178 (m)
July ..	157	170	150	161	163	650	579	218	162	131	485	175
August ..	155	170	150	163	163	649	637	220	162	130	485	175
September ..	155	172	149	158	163	652	681	219	161	130	485	175
October ..	155	174	148	157	163	657	684	217	161	130	485	175
November ..	154	179	150	157	163	672	705	218	161	131	485	175
December ..	156	179	151	157	163	657	730	217	161	131	485	175
1927 January ..	156	175	152	157	163	657	741	213	161	129	485	175
February ..	155	172	151	157	162	655	755	210	160	130	485	175
March ..	155	171	150	156	162	667	770	208	160	130	485	175
April ..	153	165	148	155	161	663	771	203	159	131	485	175
May ..	152	164	148	155	161	651	774	201	158	131	485	175
June ..	154	163	148	155	161	612	776	201	159	132	485	175
July ..	156	166	149	155	161	586	785	201	160	132	485	175
August ..	157	164	155	155	161	548	790	203	160	132	485	175
September ..	154	165	155	155	161	543	787	203	160	131	485	175
October ..	151	167	155	155	161	543	787	197	157	131	485	175
November ..	150	167	155	155	161	543	787	197	157	131	485	175

(a) From 1914 to 1925 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (j) Revised figures. (k) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to August. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to December. (m) First half of the year. (n) Yearly averages for the years 1918 to 1925. (o) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (i)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	(e) 100	100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914	96	96	.....	.....	106	.....	.....	102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915	97	97	.....	.....	147	.....	.....	140	146	159	145	110	101
1916	117	117	.....	.....	138	.....	.....	188	224	233	185	132	127
1917	149	149	.....	.....	153	.....	.....	262	276	341	244	179	177
1918	236	196	.....	.....	178	.....	.....	339	373	345	339	199	194
1919	222	236	.....	.....	189	.....	.....	356	304	322	331	209	206
1920	216	259	.....	.....	228	.....	.....	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921	199	200	.....	.....	175	.....	.....	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922	187	196	.....	.....	162	.....	.....	327	160	233	162	152	154
1923	181	199	.....	.....	176	.....	.....	419	151	233	157	153	149
1924	182	207	.....	.....	173	.....	.....	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925	163	202	.....	.....	170	.....	.....	550	155	251	157	160	159
November	(b) 160	197	.....	.....	174	.....	.....	605	154	217	150	161	158
December	(b) 154	194	.....	.....	173	.....	.....	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January	(b) 154	192	.....	.....	172	.....	.....	634	153	214	150	164	156
February	(b) 151	188	.....	.....	167	.....	.....	636	149	211	148	162	155
March	(b) 151	184	.....	.....	171	.....	.....	632	145	204	145	160	152
April	(b) 150	181	.....	.....	176	.....	.....	650	143	198	145	161	151
May	151	177	.....	.....	175	.....	.....	688	143	196	145	157	152
June	150	177	.....	.....	171	.....	.....	738	144	195	143	156	152
July	149	179	.....	.....	169	.....	.....	838	141	196	143	156	151
August	148	177	.....	.....	170	.....	.....	769	139	196	143	154	149
September	149	176	.....	.....	166	.....	.....	787	140	197	142	151	151
October	147	174	.....	.....	162	.....	.....	751	143	188	142	151	150
November	146	172	.....	.....	163	.....	.....	684	147	182	142	152	143
December	146	170	.....	.....	162	.....	.....	627	147	177	141	151	147
1927 January	146	170	.....	.....	159	.....	.....	622	145	170	140	151	147
February	148	171	.....	.....	160	.....	.....	632	146	165	140	150	146
March	148	171	.....	.....	157	.....	.....	641	144	160	139	149	145
April	(b) 145	170	.....	.....	157	.....	.....	637	143	159	138	149	144
May	148	171	.....	.....	158	.....	.....	629	145	160	139	152	144
June	147	172	.....	.....	163	.....	.....	623	149	159	140	154	144
July	147	170	.....	.....	169	.....	.....	620	151	160	141	152	145
August	148	.....	.....	.....	173	.....	.....	618	149	161	144	152	147
September	148	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
October	146	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* July 1914=100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914=100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914-1920 are for December. (d) February 1913=100. (e) Average January 13 to July 1914=100. (f) Board of Trade. (g) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (h) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (i) Average for year ended June 1914=100. (j) The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	33
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a) 100 (j)	100	100	100	(i) 100 (h)
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	142	124	128	..
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	..
1917	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	..	176	181	166	..
1918	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	..	210	268	187	..
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	..	211	289	212	..
1920	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	..
1921	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	462	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	211
1922	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	157
1923	148	162	137	116	142	142	144	321	(j) 496	105	968	136	218	160	188	166
1924	151	162	134	117	149 (e)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	200	170
1925	152	167	141	120	156	154	156	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	210	169
1926 April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	163	198	158	..	161
May	150	158	152	119	163	151	156	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
June	152	158	149	118	162	151	156	544	657	161	1,052	..	194	157	..	159
July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	..	159
August	153	161	150	117	157	149	152	587	660	193	1,116	164	196	156	..	157
September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	158
October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1,091	164	186	158	..	160
November	152	169	148	119	155	146	158	628	630	206	1,081	164	186	158	..	159
December	154	169	151	117	158	149	158	599	631	208	1,081	164	184	157	..	159
1927 January	155	167	153	116	158	148	156	592	625	208	1,063	166	180	156	..	158
February	152	164	151	117	153	145	153	585	642	212	1,064	166	177	153	..	157
March	152	162	149	118	151	146	150	581	635	205	1,055	168	173	151	..	156
April	151	155	146	119	151	145	151	580	617	204	1,034	168	169	151	..	156
May	150	154	145	121	152	145	152	589	565	201	1,021	162	169	150	..	156
June	151	154	146	120	153	145	151	580	541	207	1,035	162	172	151	..	157
July	154	159	147	119	152	144	149	557	524	210	1,065	172	175	151	..	157
August	155	156	149	118	155	144	149	539	518	204	1,121	174	175	152	..	157
September	151	157	..	..	157	143	..	532	..	..	..	..	174	156	..	..
October	148	161	..	..	..	143	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
November	147	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921=100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914=100. (i) Revised figures. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914=100).

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1927

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1924 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		September 1927	September 1927	September 1927	September 1927	September 1927	October 1927	October 1927	October 1927	October 1927	October 1927
		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	Mauud	7 9 10 <i>136</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>129</i>	8 5 3 <i>142</i>	7 3 5 <i>108</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 12 8 <i>152</i>
Wheat	"	6 13 10 <i>131</i>	5 2 3 <i>137</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	7 1 9 <i>130</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>	6 15 1 <i>120</i>	5 11 5 <i>120</i>	6 2 0 <i>120</i>	7 1 9 <i>120</i>	8 0 0 <i>140</i>
Jowari	"	5 7 1 <i>125</i>	4 9 8 <i>127</i>	5 0 0 <i>140</i>	3 14 6 <i>126</i>	4 7 8 <i>110</i>	5 5 8 <i>123</i>	4 7 1 <i>122</i>	4 11 4 <i>120</i>	5 14 0 <i>120</i>	4 7 8 <i>120</i>
Bajri	"	5 7 2 <i>126</i>	5 0 0 <i>119</i>	5 11 5 <i>121</i>	3 15 4 <i>113</i>	4 12 0 <i>108</i>	5 4 8 <i>125</i>	4 15 5 <i>116</i>	5 5 4 <i>113</i>	3 15 4 <i>113</i>	4 9 11 <i>113</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		<i>126</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>126</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Mauud	6 7 7 <i>150</i>	5 6 9 <i>142</i>	5 0 0 <i>125</i>	5 10 2 <i>131</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>	6 7 7 <i>150</i>	5 8 3 <i>145</i>	5 0 0 <i>125</i>	5 4 11 <i>130</i>	5 7 1 <i>111</i>
Turdal	"	8 13 0 <i>151</i>	9 6 7 <i>141</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	9 4 5 <i>159</i>	10 13 0 <i>164</i>	8 15 7 <i>154</i>	9 6 7 <i>141</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	9 4 5 <i>159</i>	10 9 6 <i>160</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		<i>151</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>140</i>

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Other articles of food—		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		September 1927	September 1927	September 1927	September 1927	September 1927	October 1927	October 1927	October 1927	October 1927	October 1927
		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.
Sugar (refined)	Mauud	18 11 8 <i>172</i>	11 3 0 <i>154</i>	12 12 10 <i>160</i>	12 4 11 <i>129</i>	12 2 4 <i>176</i>	15 1 6 <i>172</i>	11 6 10 <i>157</i>	12 0 0 <i>157</i>	12 11 11 <i>161</i>	12 10 0 <i>160</i>
Jagg (raw)	"	13 11 1 <i>160</i>	9 6 7 <i>135</i>	10 10 8 <i>136</i>	8 0 0 <i>101</i>	11 11 8 <i>131</i>	13 1 6 <i>153</i>	9 6 7 <i>126</i>	10 10 0 <i>120</i>	9 10 0 <i>108</i>	9 5 0 <i>120</i>
Tea	Lb.	0 14 10 <i>190</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 0 5 <i>200</i>	0 15 3 <i>196</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>210</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 0 5 <i>200</i>
Salt	Mauud	3 6 7 <i>160</i>	2 1 3 <i>158</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 8 2 <i>158</i>	2 13 10 <i>152</i>	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 5 <i>154</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 8 2 <i>158</i>	3 1 7 <i>165</i>
Beef	Seer	8 2 <i>158</i>	0 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 5 2 <i>86</i>	0 4 0 <i>160</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	0 9 7 <i>161</i>	0 4 7 <i>77</i>	0 4 0 <i>160</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	"	0 12 10 <i>192</i>	0 12 0 <i>200</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 8 0 <i>133</i>	0 9 8 <i>161</i>	0 13 4 <i>200</i>	0 11 8 <i>183</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 8 0 <i>133</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>
Milk	Mauud	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 4 4 <i>164</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	11 6 10 <i>157</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 4 4 <i>164</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	11 6 10 <i>157</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	"	99 6 6 <i>196</i>	77 9 4 <i>182</i>	88 14 2 <i>200</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>	101 12 6 <i>200</i>	77 9 4 <i>162</i>	91 6 10 <i>206</i>	80 0 0 <i>162</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes	"	7 11 10 <i>173</i>	8 1 7 <i>149</i>	6 10 8 <i>175</i>	8 0 0 <i>200</i>	3 9 4 <i>106</i>	7 11 10 <i>173</i>	8 8 0 <i>157</i>	6 10 8 <i>173</i>	8 5 4 <i>152</i>	8 5 11 <i>160</i>
Onions	"	3 9 2 <i>230</i>	4 1 10 <i>233</i>	2 8 0 <i>125</i>	3 1 3 <i>123</i>	1 13 3 <i>91</i>	3 9 2 <i>106</i>	3 7 8 <i>129</i>	2 8 0 <i>125</i>	3 1 <i>123</i>	1 15 4 <i>90</i>
Cucumbers	"	27 15 7 <i>110</i>	25 9 7 <i>104</i>	26 10 8 <i>133</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	27 15 7 <i>110</i>	25 9 7 <i>104</i>	26 10 8 <i>133</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		<i>176</i>	<i>173</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>168</i>	<i>186</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>167</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i>		<i>161</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>166</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>157</i>

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