

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	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
June ..	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
July ..	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
August ..	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
September ..	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
October ..	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
November ..	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
December ..	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
1925	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
January ..	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
February ..	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
March ..	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
April ..	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
May ..	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
June ..	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
July ..	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
August ..	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
September ..	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
October ..	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
November ..	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
December ..	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
1926	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
January ..	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
February ..	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
March ..	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
April ..	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
May ..	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
June ..	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
July ..	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
August ..	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
September ..	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
October ..	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
November ..	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
December ..	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
1927	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
January ..	133	154	134	176	150	166	147	172	152
February ..	134	156	136	177	151	166	147	172	154
March ..									
April ..									
May ..									
June ..									

LABOUR GAZETTE

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

BOMBAY, JULY, 1927

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VOL. VII

The Month in Brief

MIDDLE CLASS UNEMPLOYMENT

The Labour Office report on an enquiry into Middle Class Unemployment in the Bombay Presidency has been published. A summary of the report will be found on pages 1041 to 1046 of this issue.

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 June 1927. The average absenteeism was 7.85 per cent. for Bombay City, 2.23 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 0.86 per cent. for Viramgam, 13.74 per cent. for Sholapur and 9.08 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 14.59 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 10.97 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8.26 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 5.90.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In July 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 156 as against 154 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 154.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 147 for the month of June 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were 6 industrial disputes in the month of June 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 578* and the number of working days lost 694.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During June 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities, against India amounted to Rs. 294 lakhs.

* See footnote on p. 989.

The Cost of Living Index for July 1927

A RISE OF TWO POINTS

Increase per cent. over July 1914

{ All articles .. 56 per cent.
Food only .. 54 per cent.

In July 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 2 points higher than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 154 in June and 156 in July 1927. The general index number 37 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and one point higher than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles recorded a rise of 3 points during the month. There was a rise of 2 points each in rice and wheat and of 9 points in jowari which led to an increase of 2 points in the cereals index. Pulses declined by 3 points owing to a fall of 4 points in gram. Among other food articles, raw sugar (gul) advanced by 7 points, salt by 4 points and cocoanut oil by 3 points. Beef was steady but mutton went up by 8 points. The average price of tea was lower by 4 points and that of ghee and potatoes was higher by 5 and 14 points respectively. The prices of the remaining articles were practically stationary during the month under review. The "other food" index was 181 as against 177 in the preceding month.

The "fuel and lighting" index remained stationary at 166. The index number for the clothing group rose by 2 points to 149 due to a rise in the price of chudders.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	55
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	53
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	52
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	54
July ..	90	77	63	53	57	57	57	54
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	56
September ..	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	56
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	55
November ..	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	54
December ..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	56
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	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 June 16 and July 15

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JULY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	June 1927	July 1927	July 1914	June 1927	July 1927
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	Rs. 5.594	Rs. 7.615	Rs. 7.663	391.38	533.08	533.08
Wheat	"	21	5.594	7.354	7.432	117.47	154.43	154.43
Jowari	"	11	4.354	5.417	5.781	47.89	63.59	63.59
Bajri	"	6	4.313	5.771	5.771	25.88	34.63	34.63
Total—Cereals ..						605.62	745.73	745.73
Index Numbers—Cereals ..						100	124	124
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	16	4.302	6.740	6.563	68.83	105.21	105.21
Turdal	"	3	5.844	8.974	8.974	17.53	26.92	26.92
Total—Pulses ..						86.36	132.13	132.13
Index Numbers—Pulses ..						100	153	153
Other food articles ..								
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	2	7.600	13.693	13.693	15.24	27.39	27.39
Raw Sugar (Gul) ..	"	7	11.577	13.094	12.693	59.90	91.66	91.66
Tea	"	4	40.000	79.057	77.725	1.00	1.98	1.98
Salt	"	5	2.130	3.313	3.412	10.65	16.57	16.57
Beef	Seer ..	28	0.323	0.537	0.537	9.04	15.04	15.04
Mutton	"	33	0.417	0.823	0.854	13.76	27.16	27.16
Milk	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Ghee	"	13	50.792	97.026	99.406	76.19	145.54	145.54
Potatoes	"	11	4.479	7.141	7.740	49.27	78.55	78.55
Onions	"	3	1.352	3.573	3.573	4.66	10.72	10.72
Cocoanut Oil	"	1	25.396	27.974	28.573	12.70	13.99	14.29
Total—Other food articles ..						381.18	674.76	690.88
Index Numbers—Other food articles ..						100	177	181
Total—All food articles ..						1,024.55	1,550.78	1,576.23
Index Numbers—All food articles ..						100	151	154
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil ..	Case ..	5	4.375	7.656	7.656	21.88	38.28	38.28
Firewood	Maund	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal	"	1	0.542	0.771	0.771	0.54	0.77	0.77
Total—Fuel and lighting ..						60.44	100.54	100.54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting ..						100	166	166
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0.594	0.859	0.906	16.04	23.19	24.46
Shirtings	"	25	0.641	0.969	0.969	16.03	24.23	24.23
T. Cloths	"	36	0.583	0.844	0.844	20.99	30.38	30.38
Total—Clothing ..						53.06	77.80	79.07
Index Numbers—Clothing ..						100	147	149
House-rent ..								
Index Numbers—House rent ..						100	172	172
Grand Total ..						1,251.07	1,823.52	1,950.24
Cost of Living Index Numbers ..						100	154	156

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

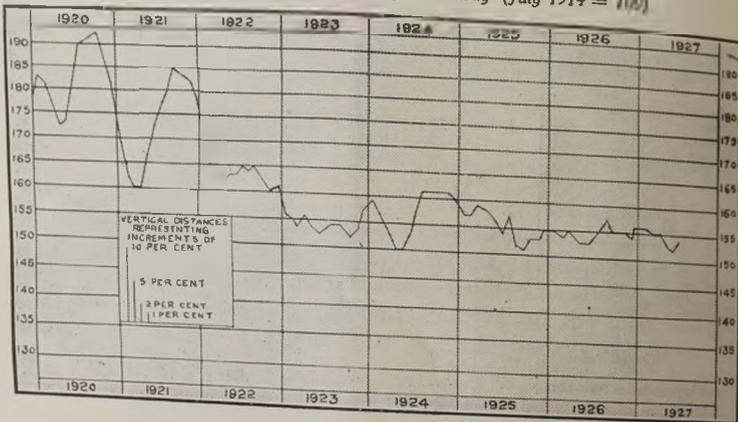
Articles	July 1914	June 1927	July 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in July 1927 over or below June 1927	Articles	July 1914	June 1927	July 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in July 1927 over or below June 1927
Rice	100	136	138	+ 2	Salt	100	156	160	+ 4
Wheat	100	131	133	+ 2	Beef	100	166	166	..
Jowari	100	124	133	+ 9	Mutton	100	197	205	..
Bajri	100	134	134	..	Milk	100	191	191	+ 8
Gram	100	157	153	- 4	Ghee	100	191	196	..
Turdal	100	154	154	..	Potatoes	100	159	173	+ 5
Sugar (refined)	100	180	180	..	Onions	100	230	230	+14
Sugar (raw)	100	153	160	+ 7	Cocoanut oil	100	110	113	+ 3
Tea	100	198	194	- 4	All food articles (weighted average)	100	151	154	+3

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

Rice 28, Wheat 25, Jowari 25, Bajri 25, Gram 35, Turdal 35, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 37, Tea 48, Salt 37, Beef 40, Mutton 51, Milk 48, Ghee 49, Potatoes 43, Onions 57, Cocoanut Oil 12.

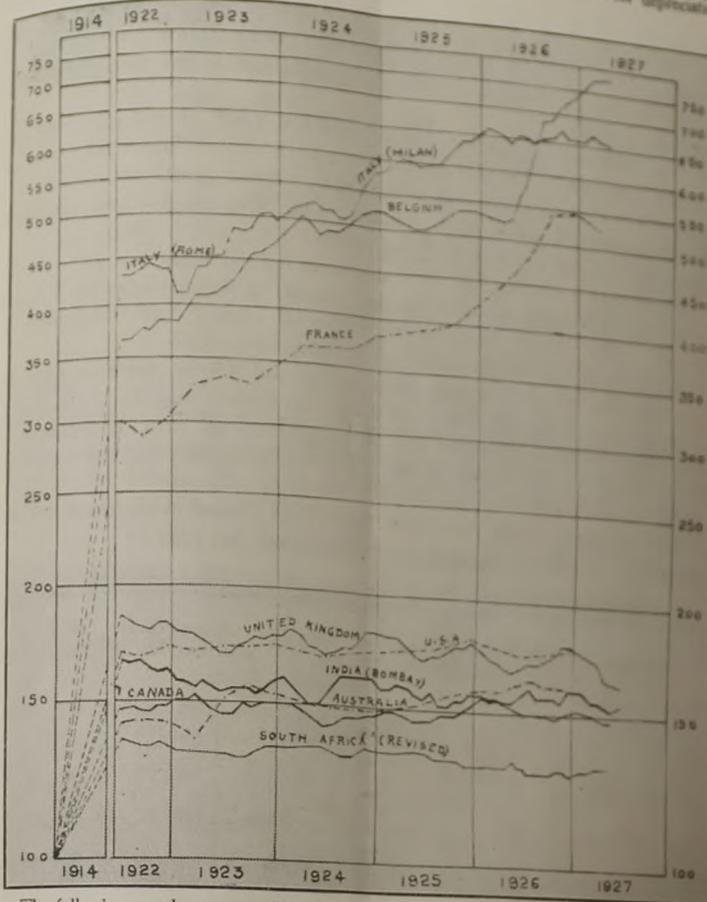
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 3 pies for all items and 10 annas 5 pies for food articles only.

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



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living index (1914 = 100) in Bombay and other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale, showing the position and movements of the various countries but is not to be used for depreciation purposes.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Central 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 Genoa for Milan. The Index 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 one point

In June 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 144 as against 148 in the previous month. As compared with May 1927, there was no change in the food group but the non-food group declined by one point. The general index number was 116 points below the highest point (263) reached in August 1918 and 2 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

The index number for food-grains recorded a fall of one point in Cereals having more than counter-balanced a rise of 3 points in Pulses. Rice and wheat fell by 5 and 3 points respectively but turdal registered a rise of 6 points. The other food-grains remained stationary during the month under review.

There was a further fall of 9 points in refined sugar but gul rose by 2 points. The index number for the "Sugar" group declined by 3 points to 129. The "Other food" index advanced from 155 to 164 owing to increases in all the articles included in that group.

Under the non-food group, Raw cotton and Other textiles rose by 7 points each, Oilseeds remained steady and Cotton manufactures, Hides and skins, Metals and Other raw and manufactured articles declined by 1, 11, 5 and 3 points respectively. The index number for the non-food group stood at 149.

The subjoined table compares June 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 May 1927	+ or - % compared with June 1926	Groups	1926				
					June 1926	Sep. 1926	Dec. 1926	Mar 1927	May 1927
1. Cereals	7	-1	-5	1. Cereals	103	103	98	101	98
2. Pulses	2	+2	+2	2. Pulses	102	103	104	106	101
3. Sugar	3	-2	-15	3. Sugar	101	104	104	91	88
4. Other food	3	+6	+11	4. Other food	98	98	99	99	103
All food	15	..	-2	All food	101	102	99	99	99
5. Oilseeds	4	..	+2	5. Oilseeds	106	104	99	107	108
6. Raw cotton	5	+5	+6	6. Raw cotton	101	106	78	94	101
7. Cotton manufactures	6	-1	-12	7. Cotton manufactures	103	98	89	93	92
8. Other textiles	2	+5	+14	8. Other textiles	96	97	96	98	104
9. Hides and skins	3	-7	-5	9. Hides & skins	97	91	101	93	100
10. Metals	5	-3	-5	10. Metals	99	97	107	103	97
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	-2	+6	11. Other raw and manufactured articles	97	99	104	106	105
All non-food	29	-1	-1	All non-food	99	99	97	98	98
General Index No.	44	-1	-2	General Index No.	101	100	98	98	98

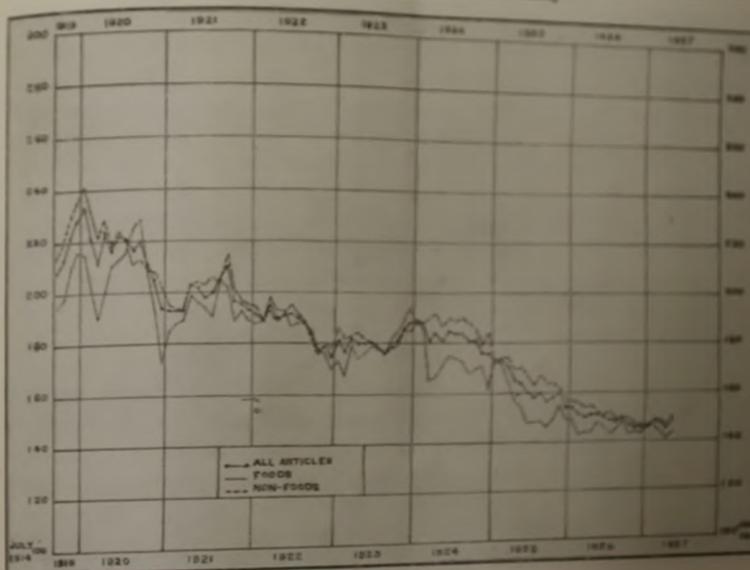
* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 1064

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

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	209	236
" " 1919	202	233	232
" " 1920	206	219	216
" " 1921	193	201	199
" " 1922	186	187	187
" " 1923	179	182	181
" " 1924	173	188	182
" " 1925	155	167	161
" " 1926	145	152	149
Six-monthly " 1927	144	148	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

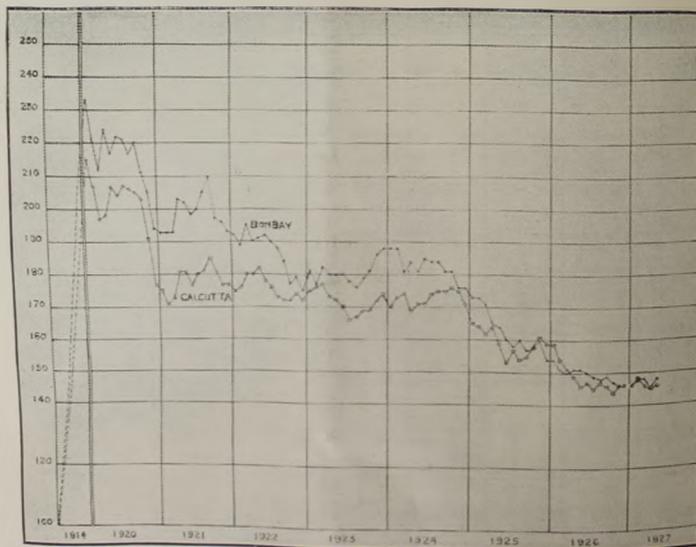


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

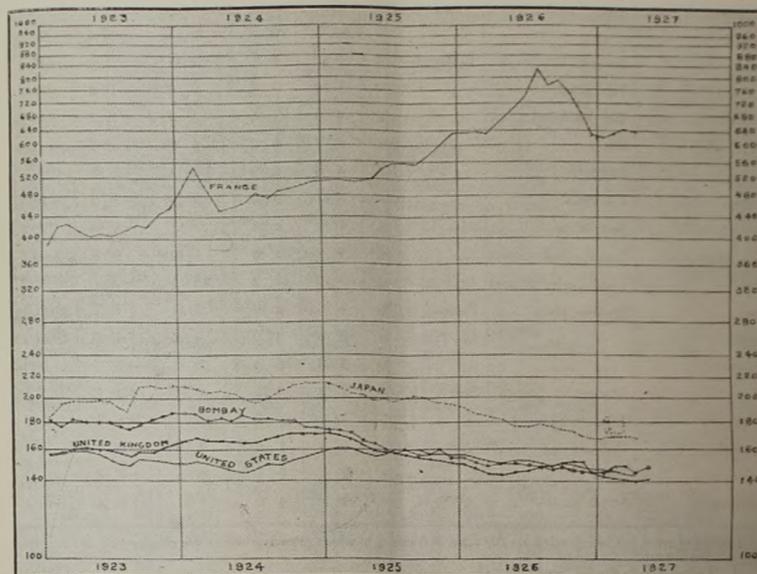
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1926 to February 1927 and in April 1927 prices in Bombay were on the same level as 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	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914		May 1927		June 1927		Increase (+) or decrease (-) in June 1927 over or below	
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	July 1914	May 1927
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill.	Paylee	208	5 10	7 10	7 11	+2 1	+0 1			
Wheat	Pisi Seoni		204	5 10	7 8	7 6	+1 0	-0 2			
Jowari	Best Sholapuri		196	4 3	5 6	5 5	+1 7	-0 1			
Bajri	Ghati		208	4 7	6 0	6 0	+1 5				
Gram	Delhi*		188	4 4	6 4	6 4	+2 0				
Turdal	Cawnpore		208	5 11	9 2	9 4	+3 5	+0 2			
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	1 11	1 11	+0 10				
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality		28	1 2	1 10	1 10	+0 8				
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 7	15 5	+7 7	-0 2			
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	2 10	2 11	+1 2	+0 1			
Beef		Lb.	39	2 6	4 0	4 2	+1 6	+0 2			
Mutton			39	3 0	6 4	6 5	+3 5	+0 1			
Milk	Medium	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2				
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior		28	7 1	13 2	13 7	+6 6	+0 5			
Potatoes	Ordinary		28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+0 4				
Onions	Nasik		28	0 3	0 6	0 6	+0 3				
Cocoanut oil	Middle quality		28	3 7	4 0	3 11	+0 4	-0 1			

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.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst 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 June 1927 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food grains, rice and turdal rose by 1 and 2 pies respectively per paylee while the price of bajri and gram showed no change. Jowari and wheat declined by 1 and 2 pies respectively per paylee. Among other food articles, tea recorded a decrease of 2 pies per lb. and cocoanut oil, of one pie per seer. Mutton advanced by one pie and beef by 2 pies per lb. The average price of salt was higher by one pie per paylee and of ghee by 5 pies per seer. The prices of the remaining articles were practically unchanged during the month under review.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show a rise in prices. Mutton is more than double and onions are double the pre-war price. Sugar (refined), tea, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent., gul, salt and beef by more than 50 per cent. and potatoes by 50 per cent. The rise in the prices of foodgrains is between 25 and 60 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 9 per cent. above its pre-war 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 May and June 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 May and June 1927:—

Articles	Bombay prices in May 1927 = 100					Bombay prices in June 1927 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice	100	108	108	114	104	100	105	105	111	111
Wheat	100	82	83	97	106	100	77	84	97	109
Jowari	100	80	90	70	93	100	82	92	72	91
Bajri	100	87	100	72	97	100	87	99	72	97
Average—										
Cereals	100	89	95	88	100	100	88	95	88	102
Pulses—										
Gram	100	91	76	85	90	100	79	77	84	82
Turdal	100	105	99	94	132	100	106	99	98	110
Average—										
Pulses	100	98	88	90	111	100	93	88	91	96
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined)	100	88	97	97	95	100	87	97	97	95
Jagri (Gul)	100	87	87	61	61	100	71	81	64	63
Tea	100	101	101	114	105	100	101	101	116	107
Salt	100	62	71	109	81	100	60	69	106	79
Beef	100	110	60	37	74	100	105	57	35	70
Mutton	100	77	77	62	69	100	76	76	61	68
Milk	100	44	61	76	76	100	45	70	76	76
Ghee	100	78	79	76	79	100	75	87	73	77
Potatoes	100	75	47	70	59	100	60	59	70	59
Onions	100	97	93	86	74	100	72	70	86	67
Cocoanut oil	100	90	112	112	98	100	92	114	114	100
Average—										
Other articles of food	100	83	80	82	79	100	77	80	82	78
Average—										
All food articles	100	86	85	84	88	100	81	85	84	86

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 declined by 2 and 5 points at Poona and Karachi respectively and remained stationary at Ahmedabad and Sholapur. Referring back to June 1926, it is found that in relation to Bombay, the average for all food articles is lower by 6, 10, 2 and 3 points at Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona respectively.

Of individual articles, the relative price of rice as compared with the previous month registered a decrease except at Poona. Wheat declined at Karachi, was steady at Sholapur and rose at the remaining two centres. The relative price of jowari was higher and that of bajri was stationary except at Poona and Ahmedabad respectively. Refined sugar was slightly lower at Karachi and tea showed an increase at Sholapur and Poona but both were stationary at the other centres. Gul fell at Karachi and Ahmedabad. The relative price of salt, beef and mutton registered a decrease and that of cocoanut oil increased at all the four mofussil centres. Ghee and onions declined except at Ahmedabad and Sholapur respectively.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1927

Abbreviations: S = Scarfy, F = Fair, N = Normal, E = Excess.

RAINFALL DIVISION	JUNE			JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER							
	1st	15th	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st	7th	14th	21st	28th	5th	12th	19th	26th
I. BOMBAY PRESIDENCY																				
1 Sind (River Rainfall)	S	S	S	S	S	F	N													
2 Gujarat	S	S	S	S	F	N	S													
3 Deccan	S	S	S	S	N	N	S													
4 Konkan	S	S	S	S	N	S														
II. MADRAS PRESIDENCY																				
1 Malabar	S	S	S	S	E	N	E													
2 Deccan	S	S	S	S	E	N	E													
3 Coast North	S	S	S	S	E	N	S													
4 South East	S	S	S	S	E	N														
III. MYSORE																				
	S	F	F	S	F	F														
IV. HYDERABAD																				
1 North	S	F	E	E	N	S														
2 South	S	F	E	E	N	E														
V. CENTRAL PROVINCES																				
1 Berar	S	S	F	E	E	S														
2 West	S	S	F	E	E	N														
3 East	S	S	F	E	N	E														
VI. CENTRAL INDIA																				
1 West	S	S	S	N	S	N	F	S												
2 East	E	S	S	F	S	N	N													
VII. BENGAL PRESIDENCY																				
	F	E	F	N	F	F	E	S												
VIII. ASSAM																				
	S	E	N	N	E	E	E													
IX. BIHAR & ORISSA																				
1 Bihar	F	F	S	F	S	E	N													
2 Orissa	S	F	S	N	F	N	E	S												
3 Chota Nagpur	F	S	S	F	F	F	E	F												
X. UNITED PROVINCES																				
1 East	E	S	S	N	S	N	E	N												
2 West	E	S	S	F	S	N	E													
XI. PUNJAB																				
1 East & North	E	S	F	S	S	N	E	N												
2 South West	E	N	F	S	F	S	N	F												
XII. NORTHWEST FRONTIER																				
	N	S	S	N	N	N	S													
XIII. RAJPUTANA																				
1 West	S	S	E	S	S	N	F													
2 East	S	S	F	F	E	S	F													
XIV. BURMA																				
1 Lower	E	S	F	F	N	N	F													
2 Upper	E	F	F	F	F	F	N													

NOTES—
 "Normal" in the chart is a variation from 20 to 120% of the true normal; "Excess" means more than 120% of the normal; "Fair" from 40 to 80% (incl.); "Scarfy" below 40%. The values are communicated by the Director of the Rainfall Division, Simla. Calculation is made by the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Divisions, excluding Hill Stations.
 The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are published according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign
 Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in June .. 6 Workpeople involved .. 578*

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

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in June 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in June 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in June 1927
	Started before 1st June	Started in June	Total		
Textile	2	3	5	543	589
Transport .. ..	....	....	....	....	....
Engineering .. ..	....	....	....	....	....
Metal .. ..	....	....	....	....	....
Miscellaneous .. ..	....	1	1	35	105
Total	2	4	6	578*	694

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was six, five of which occurred in textile mills. One of the disputes occurred in Bombay, another in Ahmedabad, and the rest in other centres. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 578* and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 694.

* 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.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

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

	February 1927	March 1927	April 1927	May 1927	June 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	4	7	4	6	6
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	1	2	1	....	2
Fresh disputes begun ..	3	5	3	6	4
Disputes ended ..	2	6	4	4	6
Disputes in progress at end ..	2	1	....	2	....
Number of workpeople involved ..	1,177*	1,521	1,738	3,479	578†
Aggregate duration in working days ..	775	5,987	3,298	29,688	694
Demands—					
Pay ..	4	3	1	4	4
Bonus ..	....	....	....	....	....
Personal ..	....	4	2	2	1
Leave and hours ..	....	....	....	....	....
Others ..	....	....	1	....	1
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	1	....	....	1	2
Compromised ..	....	1	2	1	1
In favour of employers ..	1	5	2	2	3

* This figure includes number of strikers originally involved in the dispute in the Emperor Edward Mill, viz., 692, which carried forward from January.

† 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.

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.)
July 1926 ..	4	2	4	661	100	..	..
August ..	7	7	7	22,457	86	..	14
September ..	3	3	3	3,558	100	..	..
October ..	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November ..	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 ..	2	4	6	694	50	33	17

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

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,679) 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 during the month of June 1927 was 4 as compared with 6 in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 578 and the aggregate time loss amounted to 694 working days. Three of these disputes arose over questions relating to wages and one over other causes. All the four disputes ended during the month. In addition, two other disputes which had begun in the previous month came to a close at the beginning of the month under review. Three disputes ended in favour of the employers, two in favour of the employees and one ended in a compromise.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY

The management of the Alexandra (and E. D. Sassoon) Mills, Bombay, curtailed the production of cloth in the mill on account of depression in trade. Consequently, the weavers had not sufficient work to do and their earnings decreased. In the morning of the 1st June, 400 weavers struck work demanding adequate work in order to enable them to earn their usual wages. The superintendent of the mills met the strikers at 10 a.m. and assured them that they would be given more work. The strikers were satisfied at this and resumed work next morning. The strike thus ended in a compromise.

AHMEDABAD

In the Patel Mills the operatives of the frame department demanded an increase in the rates of wages but the management did not accede to their demand. Consequently, 28 operatives struck work on the 6th. The management put up a notice warning the strikers that as they had gone on strike without previous notice they should resume work forthwith and that in default of their doing so they would be dismissed from service and their outstanding wages forfeited. There was no change in the situation up to the 8th. On that day the management engaged 10 new hands and on the 9th, 18 additional new men were employed. The management informed the strikers on the 10th that they would not be reemployed and that their outstanding wages would be paid to them after ten days. This strike ended in favour of the employers.

SHOLAPUR DISTRICT

In connection with the strike in the Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mill which had begun in the previous month, the management of the mill signified their consent to pay wages at the old rates and, as a result, all the strikers resumed work on the morning of the 1st June. The result of this strike was in favour of the workers.

JALGAON

The strike in the Bhagirath Mill, about which no settlement had been reported during the month of May, came to a close on the 1st June as a result of all the strikers resuming work when the mill was reopened on that day. This strike also ended in favour of the employers.

DHULIA

On the 15th, 115 weavers of the New Pratap Spinning and Weaving Mill, Dhulia, struck work demanding higher rates of wages as paid in the Pratap Mill at Amalner. The management explained to the strikers that as the mill was not in a prosperous condition and the weavers on strike were not so efficient as those in the other mill, the rates of wages could not be increased. The management also notified the strikers that if they did not resume work within 24 hours their services would be terminated. As a result of this notice all the strikers resumed work unconditionally next morning. The result of the strike was in favour of the employers.

KARACHI

Thirty-five sweepers of the Tatta Municipality formed themselves into a union and resolved that their pay should be increased and that their Jamadar should be dismissed by the Municipality for misbehaviour. With a view to enforce their demands they struck work on the 10th. There was no change in the situation during the next two days. On the 13th, the authorities of the Municipality promised the strikers that their Jamadar would be dismissed and that their pay would be increased by Rs. 3 per month per head. Satisfied at this, all the strikers resumed work. The strike thus ended in favour of the workers.

Employment Situation in June 1927

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 123 or 81·46 per cent. of the mills reported as working during the month of June 1927. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole amounted to 7·48 per cent. as against 8·31 per cent. in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working during the month, 77 or 96·25 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 7·85 per cent. as compared with 8·84 per cent. during May.

In Ahmedabad 60 mills were working during the month and 35 or 58·33 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 2·23 per cent. as against 2·18 per cent. in May. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

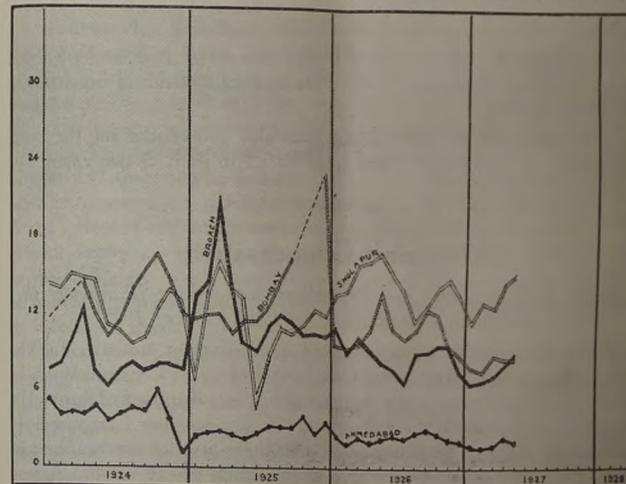
All the mills in Sholapur submitted returns and none of them reported any shortage in the supply of labour. The average percentage absenteeism amounted to 13·74.

Both the mills in Viramgam reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 0·86 per cent.

Out of the three mills in Broach which furnished information one reported that the supply of labour was short of the demand. The average absenteeism amounted to 9·08 per cent. as against 9·17 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was adequate in all the centres studied, whilst absenteeism decreased at all centres except Ahmedabad.

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 14·59 per cent. as against 16·89 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 10·97 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 8·26 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 5·90 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Prosecutions under the Indian Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency, June 1927

BOMBAY

The occupier of a litho press was prosecuted under Section 41 (j) of the Factories Act, 1911, for not submitting an occupation notice form "B" required by Section 33 of the Act. He was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

The occupier of a type casting foundry was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (a) for employing children without certificates. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of four cases.

The same occupier was also prosecuted under Section 41 (h) for breach of Section 35 for not maintaining the "D" form Register. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20.

The manager of a cotton cleaning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (f) for breach of Section 18 (1) (a) for not fencing the fly wheel. He was convicted and fined Re. 1.

KAIRA

The occupier of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (a). He was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in each of two cases.

The manager of the same factory was also prosecuted for the same offence and he was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in each of two cases.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during June 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of June 1927. Information was furnished by all Commissioners in the Presidency and out of a total number of 52 cases disposed of during the month 45 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. The cases which were transferred from one Commissioner to another have not been included in the statistics. The gross amount of compensation awarded during the month amounted to Rs. 24,307-8-0 as against Rs. 18,775-4-0 in the previous month and Rs. 13,422-1-0 in June 1926. Out of the 52 cases in which compensation was claimed, 16 were fatal accidents and the remaining 36 of permanent partial disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 22 and in other industries to 30. The corresponding figures for June 1926 were 19 and 25.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month was 52 of whom 49 were adult males and the remaining 3 were adult females.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review 23 were original claims, 28 registration of agreements and one a miscellaneous application. Compensation was awarded in 24 cases, and agreements were registered in 28 cases.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

The activities of the Union continued as usual in the course of the last month. About twelve mill meetings were held in June 1927. Advantages of "Trade Unionism" were explained to the workers at these meetings. Social work has been extended to two more localities in the Jamalpur area where the Ramayana is read out at night and explained to the labourers. Advice is given to the labourers with a view to improve their condition for which purpose two specially trained social workers are engaged.

As regards the system of fines and forfeitures prevailing in the mills a series of articles have been published in the *Majur Sandesh* emphasising the urgent need of some legislation in the matter. Since the *Majur Sandesh* is widely read here and the literate from amongst the workers read out the paper to their fellow workers, the Labour Union has started giving in it some foreign news of interest to the workers. The labourers are thus kept informed of conditions prevailing in foreign countries. Similarly, with a view to increasing the information of the workers, local news of importance is given, as for instance, a brief account of the Tariff Board's Report and at the same time a discussion on the causes of the present depression in the mill industry, avenues of reform, remedies, etc. In the *Illustrated Majur Sandesh* the Labour Union is giving an historical account of the Ahmedabad's mill industry, different periods being described in successive issues.

The Sanitary Association, Ahmedabad, recently organised two important sanitary rounds. In one round they studied conditions prevailing between Bhadra and Jamalpur and in the other Dariapur was visited. By means of such rounds the association is able to make many important suggestions with a view to redressing grievances and removing the insanitary conditions prevailing in different parts of the city.

The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association is preparing for registration under the Trade Unions Act, the members are also anxious to get their Association registered as early as possible.

One mill in Ahmedabad, the Hathising Manufacturing Co., Ltd., has closed down as from the 25th of June 1927.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

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

"The weather and crop reports received so far go to show that the outlook in most parts of the Presidency is now even brighter than it was a month

ago. The position regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at this moment in the different divisions of the Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—During the period under review excellent rain has been received throughout the division with the result that *kharif* sowings are proceeding smoothly almost everywhere and in places the crops are germinating quite satisfactorily. In some places, the rain has been rather too continuous or heavy and people are desirous of a break to enable them to continue their agricultural operations such as interculturing.

Konkan.—The position continues satisfactory in this division. The sowing of rice is completed nearly everywhere and its transplantation is now being pushed on vigorously under the favourable rains of the month.

Deccan.—Good rain has been received, during the period under review, in most of the Division. In parts of Khandesh and Satara a break in the rains is wished for to afford the cultivators an opportunity for weeding. The conditions of crops in most parts of the Division is quite satisfactory. A special feature of the season appears that even in the *east* of the Division the rainfall has been sufficient and well-distributed which has not been the case for many years.

Karnatak.—More rain is still needed in the eastern portions of the Belgaum and Dharwar districts and in some places in the Bijapur district. Here, the *kharif* sowings are retarded and the germination of the seed is not satisfactory. If we leave this area out, however, the position in the rest of the division, *viz.*, the western and the central parts, is quite satisfactory. *Kharif* sowings have been finished in most places and the young crops are showing a fairly healthy development.

All-India Postal and R. M. S. Conference

SEVENTH SESSION IN NAGPUR

In an article reviewing the Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency for the second quarter of the current year published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1927 it was stated that an account of the proceedings of the above conference would be given in this issue of the *Labour Gazette*. We give below a brief account of the main proceedings of the conference.

The Seventh Session of the All-India Postal and R. M. S. Conference was held in Nagpur on the 11th, 12th and 13th June 1927. Dr. B. S. Moonje, M.L.A., presided. The delegates to the Conference included representatives from all classes and grades of post-office workers and numbered 429. Several distinguished visitors were also present at the opening of the session. Mr. Mavlanker, the Chairman of the Reception Committee, in his address of welcome, referred to some of the important grievances of the postal workers. After the Annual Report was presented to the Conference by the General Secretary of the All-India Union and was unanimously adopted, Dr. Moonje delivered his presidential address. The President narrated his impressions about the organisation and the grievances of post office workers formed during the debates in the last session of the Legislative Assembly on the Post Office Budget and said

that he was convinced of the righteousness of their cause. He pointed out that postal unions which had once been looked upon with a certain amount of distrust and suspicion were now not only recognised by Government but were also respected in all quarters. While he appreciated the disciplined organisation and the consolidation of postal unions, he urged that all possible efforts should be made to enlist every worker in the Department as a member, in view of the fact that out of a total of about 150,000 workers, only 40,000 workers were on the rolls of the different postal unions. Referring to the special session of the Conference held at Lucknow in 1926 in order to unify all ranks of the service, the President observed that the failure of the Conference was due to differential interpretations of the findings of the Round Table Conference and hoped that with a little more perseverance and by skilful negotiations a satisfactory solution of the difficulties in the way of achieving unity would be found. On the question of revision of pay for mail-guards, postmen, branch postmasters, overseers and other inferior servants of the Post Office and R.M.S. Departments, Dr. Moonje assured the Conference that Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra had done all he could within the limit of his resources. He further advised them not to formulate fresh demands until and unless their old grievances were redressed. Before closing his speech the President drew attention to the concluding remarks of the address of Mr. Devkprasad Sinha at the Patna sessions of the Conference and pointed out that their success lay in their loyalty to the Department and efficiency in their work.

Several important questions were decided at the Conference. The Conference came to a final decision with regard to the demands of certain unions for independent and separate voting on their own questions and allowed such unions to affiliate themselves on a provincial basis. Another important decision was made with regard to the transfer of the headquarters of the All-India Union from Calcutta to Delhi. The Mutual Benefit Fund of the All-India Union received the formal sanction of the Conference and a sum of Rs. 500 has been placed at the disposal of the General Secretary for obtaining expert actuarial opinion and for other initial expenses. The only question on which no decision could be arrived at was regarding the creation of the Trust of the 10 per cent. Reserve Fund. Nearly two lakhs of rupees have accumulated to this Fund. Unfortunately there were practical difficulties experienced in the management and the operation of the Fund. The creation of the Trust and the registration of the Trust deed were, therefore, held over pending expert legal opinion on the practical difficulties of the question.

The delegates from Burma invited the next session to Rangoon. The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year :—

President : Dr. B. S. Moonje, M.L.A.

General Secretary : Mr. Tarapad Mukerjee.

Honorary Secretary : Mr. Manmohanlal Topa.

In a short speech before concluding the business of the Conference, Dr. Moonje assured the delegates of his unstinted support to their cause in the Assembly. After the usual thanksgiving, the Conference was dissolved.

Census of Production in England

COTTON TRADES

For the Third Census of Production separate Schedules were drawn up for the spinning and the weaving sections of the Cotton Trade, and firms who were both spinners of yarn and manufacturers of piecegoods were required to furnish a separate return for each department of their business. Consequently no effective comparison can be made between the particulars available for the year 1924 in respect of the spinning section of the trade and those obtained for the year 1907, when the cotton trade was treated as one unit and no particulars were recorded in regard to the output of cotton yarn which was used for manufacturing purposes by the firms who produced it.

The following statement gives particulars of the output of the spinning branch of the industry during the year 1924 :—

Kind of Goods	Total make of Single Yarns	Goods made and sold or added to stock		Work done on Commission	
	Quantities	Quantities	Net Selling Value	Quantities	Amount received for work done
	Lbs. 1,000	Lbs. 1,000	£	Lbs. 1,000	£
<i>Cotton Yarns</i>					
Counts up to No. 40	1,009,154	1,066,672	109,390,000	3,013	86,000
Counts over No. 40 and up to No. 80	310,037	363,627	57,026,000	4,664	208,000
Counts over No. 80 and up to No. 120	55,833	74,486	17,740,000	2,554	224,000
Counts over No. 120	3,623	5,724	1,946,000	49	6,000
Total Yarns	1,378,647	1,510,509	186,102,000	10,280	524,000
Cotton Waste (unmanufactured) sold		235,046	5,547,000		
All Other Products			1,694,000		
Total Value			193,343,000		
Total Value of Goods made and work done					£193,867,000

It will be observed that the quantities shown under the heading "Total Make of Single Yarn" are exceeded by those in the adjoining column. The latter include doubled yarns, both such as were doubled by the firms in whose mills they were spun and yarns bought for doubling. The quantities shown under "Work done on Commission" also relate mainly to the doubling of yarn, which is thus recorded at two stages of handling.

The figures of "Total Make" have been obtained with a view to the avoidance of such duplication of records.

In addition to the record of the same goods at different stages of handling, further consideration affects the comparison of yarns spun with yarns sold, since an increase of weight due to absorption of moisture commonly occurs between spinning and delivery. Further, in some cases the yarns may be sized before delivery to purchasers, involving an increase of weight.

Exports—The quantity of cotton yarn exported in the year 1924 was 163,056,000 lbs., or about 11·8 per cent. of the total quantity produced.* The total output of single cotton yarn in the United Kingdom in the year 1907 was estimated at 1,800,000,000 lbs. of which 241,077,000 lbs. or about 13·4 per cent., were exported.

Net Output.—The net output of the spinning branch of the trade was £46,763,000, that sum representing the amount by which the total value of the output exceeded the cost of materials used and the value of work given out. The net output per person employed was £190.

Persons Employed.—The average number of operatives employed in spinning mills during the year 1924 was 238,438, and 7208 persons engaged in management and in clerical and technical work were also returned on Schedules for the spinning trade. Firms carrying out the processes of both spinning and weaving were, however, as a rule, unable to apportion their management and clerical staff between these two branches of their business; the majority of such firms returned their entire salaried staff on Schedules for the spinning trade, and the number stated above (7208) as applied to the spinning trade solely, is, accordingly, excessive to some extent.

Classified according to age and sex, the numbers of operatives engaged in connection with the spinning trade were as follows :—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
Under 18 years	18,180	29,508	47,688
Over 18 years	79,580	111,170	190,750
Total	97,760	140,678	238,438

The largest number returned as at work at any time during the year was 250,691, in December, and the smallest 232,717, in February.

Power.—The aggregate capacity of engines as returned on Schedules for the spinning branch is in excess of that actually employed in spinning mills, as firms engaged in both spinning and weaving at one factory have commonly furnished, usually on the Schedule for the spinning trade, particulars covering the power employed in both departments.

* The exports of cotton yarns in 1924 include 578,000 lbs. consigned to the Irish Free State.

Particulars returned on Schedules for the spinning branch in regard to mechanical power are, accordingly, included in the statement given in the portion of the article which covers the cotton trade as a whole.

COTTON WEAVING

The statement on this page shows the output of piecegoods made for sale during the year 1924 as returned on Schedules for the weaving branch together with corresponding aggregates for the year 1907.

The output of other products returned on Schedules for the weaving trade was as follows:—

Other Products of the Cotton Weaving Trade

Kind of Goods	1924		1907	
	Quantity	Net Selling Value	Quantity	Net Selling Value
	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
Machinery Belting (Woven hair or cotton) ..	47,908	857,000	49,000	388,000
Manufactured cotton cleaning waste	472,327	810,000		
Artificial silk goods other than apparel:—				
(a) Piecegoods made wholly from artificial silk (including plushes) ..		53,000	....	9,363,000
(b) Other sorts ..	....	338,000		
All other products and work done on commission ..	....	10,485,000		
Total value of output ..	....	12,543,000	....	9,751,000

Piecegoods made for sale	1924			Net selling value	1907	
	Quantity				Quantity	Net selling value
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 square yards	Cwts.	£	1,000 linear yards	£
Piecegoods (of Cotton or of cotton mixed with other materials) including flags, handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece:—						
(a) Unbleached, Grey (including unbleached Dhooties) ..	4,948,164	5,390,973	9,312,255	139,621,000	6,376,451	71,530,000
(b) Manufactured wholly or in part of dyed yarn, and commonly known as coloured cottons ..	436,308	408,286	858,769	16,723,000	643,278*	9,783,000*
Total piece-goods made for sale	5,384,472	5,799,259	10,171,024	156,344,000	7,019,729	81,313,000

* These figures include relatively small quantities of bleached fabrics.

The output of piecegoods by firms working on commission during the two years was as follows:—

Piecegoods made on commission	1924				1907	
	Quantity			Amount received for work done	Quantity	Amount received for work done
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 square yards	Cwts.	£	1,000 linear yards	£
Piecegoods (of Cotton or of cotton mixed with other materials) including flags, handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece:—						
(a) Unbleached, grey (including unbleached dhooties) ..	11,796	12,134	30,011	120,000	10,740	51,000
(b) Manufactured wholly or in part of dyed yarn and commonly known as coloured cottons ..	29,693	32,098	70,392	248,000	45,734	214,000
Total piecegoods made on commission	41,489	44,232	100,403	368,000	56,474	265,000

It will be noted that the proportionate increase in aggregate value is smaller for this group of products than for the main products of the industry. This is in part due to the fact that, in reporting on the Census of 1907, the particulars relating to sewing cotton could not be shown separately in view of the provisions of the Census of Production Act, and were included under the heading "Other Cotton Manufactures." In the figures for 1924, the particulars regarding this product have been included with those relating to doubled yarns, and the aggregates shown above for 1924 and 1907 are, accordingly, not equally comprehensive.

The gross value of the output of firms making returns on Schedules for the weaving trade thus amounted to £169,255,000. The net output of this branch of the trade was £35,617,000, and the net output per person employed £131.

Exports.—Cotton piecegoods, together with cotton flags, handkerchiefs and shawls not in the piece, exported in the year 1924 amounted to 4,648,718,800 linear yards, or 85·7 per cent. of the total quantity manufactured.* In the year 1907, 6,297,708,000 linear yards of piecegoods were exported, or 88·9 per cent. of the total production in that year. The falling off in the linear yardage of exports, comparing the year 1924 with the year 1907, amounted, therefore, to about 27 per cent., and in that of aggregate production to about 23 per cent.

The following table shows, for 1924, the comparison of the different units of quantity in which output and foreign trade have been expressed:—

Piecegoods	Linear yards	Square yards	Weight lbs.
	Millions	Millions	Millions
Production	5,426	5,843	1,150
Exports	4,649	4,485	826
Net Imports	31	36	17

* Of this amount 21,798,500 linear yards were exported to the Irish Free State. The exclusion of this amount from the exports in 1924 would reduce the proportion of exports to production to 85·3 per cent.

Cloth as exported is, in large proportion, bleached, dyed, or printed and the square yardage and weight may not be comparable at the grey and finished stages. The weight differs from that of the raw cotton consumed in the production of the goods, both because of the addition of weight in sizing and dressing, of variations in moisture content, and also of loss due to waste.

It appears to be indicated, however, that exported piecegoods have an average width less than 35 inches, while the total production is returned as averaging nearly 39 inches in width. In weight the exports are shown as substantially lighter on the average than the returns of production show for the total output. It would appear, accordingly, that the piecegoods disposed of in the home market exceeded considerably in average width and in weight per square yard those shipped abroad.

Persons Employed.—The average number of operatives employed by firms whose returns were made on the schedules for the cotton weaving trade was 263,383, and the number mainly engaged in management and in clerical and technical work was 8,203. In the following statement the operative staff are classified in accordance with the age and sex divisions adopted in the Census Schedule:—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
Under 18 years	8,905	23,754	32,659
Over 18 years	74,325	156,399	230,724
Total ..	83,230	180,153	263,383

The largest number of operatives at work at one time during the year was in September (271,003), and the smallest in June (259,066).

COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING

For purposes of comparison with the results of the First Census, the aggregate numbers of persons employed, as returned on Schedules for the spinning and weaving branches of the trade, are combined in the following statement, the numbers returned for the year 1907 in respect of the cotton trade as a whole being added:—

Ages	1924			1907		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 18 years	28,123	53,592	81,715	51,153	89,761	140,914
Over 18 years	166,099	269,418	435,517	168,827	262,321	431,148
Total ..	194,222	323,010	517,232	219,980	352,082	572,062

The falling off in numbers employed in the cotton trade as a whole in the year 1924 amounted to about 10 per cent. compared with the year

1907. Apart from a small decrease in adult males, the reduction was confined to persons under 18 years of age. An increase of over 7,000 in female employees over 18 years of age is shown.

Power.—The particulars furnished in regard to the Engine equipment of the cotton trade as a whole are shown below, together with corresponding aggregates for the year 1907:—

Kind of Engines	1924	1907
	H P	H P
Steam engines, reciprocating	1,311,054	1,290,394
Steam Turbines	54,540	6,300
Other Power	8,675	11,500
Total ..	1,374,269	1,308,194

Of the total horse-power shown for the year 1924, 98,701 horse-power, or about 7.1 per cent., was returned as "in reserve or idle."

The increased use of electrical power in the cotton trade since the year 1907 is shown by the following statement, in which particulars of the capacity of electric generators in cotton mills in the two years are given:—

Electric Generators	1924	1907
	Horse-power	Horse-power
Steam engines, reciprocating	80,092	78,800
Steam Turbines	25,545	2,651
Other Power	1,875	2,743
Total	107,512	84,194

The total horse-power of electric motors driven by electricity generated in cotton factories was returned as 128,506. In addition, electric motors of a total horse-power of 176,959 were included in Returns received for the year 1924 as driven by purchased electricity. Of this aggregate, 12,279 horse-power, or about 7.0 per cent., were "in reserve or idle." Similar particulars were not obtained for 1907.

For the cotton spinning and weaving industry as a whole some of the leading data resulting from the Census of 1907, 1912 and 1924 may be compared. The compilation and revision of the information obtained at the Second Census of 1912 for the cotton industry had reached, when the progress of that Census was interrupted by the war, a stage much more advanced than in the majority of other industries, and in fact they were complete enough in the main particulars to render possible the comparisons

in question. The particulars for firms making returns on the Schedules for these branches of cotton manufacture give the following results:—

Year	Average number employed	Aggregate net output	Net output per head	Engine power
		£	£	H. P.
1907 ..	572,062	45,007,000	79	1,239,212
1912 ..	621,516	50,550,000	81	1,403,001*
1924 ..	517,232	82,380,000	159	1,398,685*

For 1907 and 1924 the inquiry covered all establishments, whatever their magnitude. For 1912 detailed particulars were not required from establishments at which not more than five persons in addition to the proprietor were employed. These exemptions were of but trifling importance in the case of the cotton trades.

The aggregate quantities of cotton yarn and cloth made in the three years compare with the exports and imports of the same years, as shown below:—

	Production	Exports	Net Imports
	Million lbs.	Million lbs.	Million lbs.
Yarn:			
1907 ..	1,800	241	10
1912 ..	1,976	244	8
1924 ..	1,379	†162	10
	Million lin. yards	Million lin. yards	Million lin. yards
Piecc-goods:			
1907 ..	7,088	6,298	65
1912 ..	8,044	6,913	98
1924 ..	5,426	†4,627	31

The totals of production shown for 1907 and 1912 include small quantities made by manufacturers whose Returns were made on Schedules other than that for cotton spinning and weaving and of the production of the small number of firms in Ireland, whose output in those years could not be shown separately.

The relative increase in output in 1912 compared with 1907 was, particularly in the case of yardage of piecgoods, somewhat greater than the relative increase in numbers employed. The net output per head, which was £79 in 1907, was £81 in 1912. The decrease in 1924 compared with 1912, of 30 per cent. in weight of yarn spun and of nearly 33 per cent. in yardage of piecgoods woven, was accompanied by a decrease in the number of persons employed in the spinning mills and weaving sheds of about one-sixth. The decrease in the normal hours worked and the

*In addition, electric motors driven by purchased electricity, of a total horse-power of 29,903 in 1912 and 176,959 in 1924. Corresponding particulars for 1907 were not ascertained.

† Excluding exports to the Irish Free State.

considerable and varying extent to which in 1924, short time was worked in different sections of the cotton industry render any attempt to compare the quantity output per worker difficult and involved. In comparing the net output per head in the industry as a whole, namely £159 in 1924, with that in the spinning section alone, £190, and in the weaving section, £131, it may be noted that a similar, but somewhat less marked, contrast is indicated by the comparison of the particulars received from factories engaged in spinning only and in weaving only in respect of 1912. For 1907 the corresponding tabulation was not carried out.

The linear yardage of piecgoods shown in the returns of production was greater than that of the excess of exports over imports in 1907 by 855 million yards. In 1912 the corresponding excess was 1229 million yards and in 1924 it was 830 million yards. Thus the yardage apparently available for uses other than export as piecgoods was somewhat less in 1924 than in 1907, but in 1912 the corresponding yardage was much greater than in either of the other two years. The percentage of exports to production was less in 1912 than in 1907, and less in 1924 than in 1912. (From "Board of Trade Journal and Commercial Gazette," London, March 3, 1927.)

Labour in Ceylon

The Ceylon Blue Book for 1926 issued by the Department of Statistics and Office Systems gives some interesting information on the question of labour in Ceylon. It is pointed out that on the estates in Ceylon out of an estimated population of 733,000 about 86 per cent. are Indian immigrant labourers. The hours of work are generally from 6-30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with an interval of about one hour for the midday meal. Night work on the estates only takes place in factories during very busy seasons.

Including bonuses the general average minimum wages for the most unskilled time workers on the estates vary from 50 to 55 cents a day for men, 30 to 35 cents for women and 20 to 35 cents for children. Some men earn up to 65 cents and women up to 50 cents a day at time work. More than half the work on the estates is done on a piecework basis and thus many labourers are able to earn twice or three times the amount earned at time work rates. In addition to nominal or cash wages, labourers on the estates receive bonuses as well as indirect wages such as free housing, free medical aid, free firewood, free maternity benefit, and rice at about 14 per cent. below the market rate. On some estates they have the free use of garden plots and get free issue of cloths and sometimes presents at festivals.

It is proposed to introduce legal minimum wage rates to workers on the estates. The rates proposed for time-workers are:

	Men	Women	Children
	cents	cents	cents
Low-country	50	40	30
Mid-country	52	41	31
Up-country	54	43	32

Together with these wages will be given good unblended rice at Rs. 6 4 a bushel and a free issue of rice to widows with dependents and for non-working children.

Under the new housing scheme about 80,000 rooms have been either constructed or reconstructed on the estates within the four years 1922-1925 at a cost of over Rs. 25,000,000. The ultimate total cost of this scheme will, it is estimated, be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 46,000,000.

It is pointed out that immigrant labour is more regular in attendance than indigenous labour. The immigrant labour consists mostly of Indian Tamils.

In addition to the large number of immigrant Indian labourers on the estates, a considerable number of them is employed in the Government Departments such as Public Works, Railways, Harbour Works, Local Bodies, etc. The general conditions in Government service are governed by provisions decided upon on the advice of the Labour Advisory Committee.

German Labour Courts Act

An Act, dated 23rd December 1926, provides for the establishment in Germany of a system of Labour Courts, and for the abolition of the existing Industrial and Commercial Courts* and other bodies at present empowered to deal with certain classes of labour disputes. The powers of the new Labour Courts are wider than those of the Industrial and Commercial Courts, and, unlike these bodies, they are directly connected with the Department of Justice.

The tribunals under the new Act are to be : (1) the local Labour Courts ; (2) the State Labour Courts ; and (3) the Federal Labour Court. The Labour Courts have jurisdiction, to the exclusion of the ordinary courts, and irrespective of the amount in dispute, in all civil disputes between parties to collective agreements, or between such parties and third parties in disputes arising out of collective agreements, or concerning the existence or non-existence of collective agreements, or between parties competent to make collective agreements or between these parties and third parties with regard to illegal actions, " so far as measures for the purpose of the labour conflict or questions of the right of combination are concerned." † They also have jurisdiction in disputes between employers and workers arising out of employment or apprenticeship, or concerning the existence or non-existence of a contract of employment or apprenticeship, or arising out of illegal actions in so far as these are concerned with employment or apprenticeship, or in disputes arising out of the Works Council Act for which the conciliation committees have hitherto been competent.

The new Labour Courts have no jurisdiction in disputes relating to conditions of employment when they arise out of a claim to vary such

* These courts were State or communal institutions of old standing which were not connected with the Department of Justice. They existed primarily to adjust individual disputes and claims, but, on the request of both parties to a collective dispute, they could act as boards of conciliation and arbitration. Neither the industrial courts nor the nominated boards of conciliation possessed powers to enforce their decisions. Later, under the Conciliation Order of 30th October 1923, in order to lighten the work of the conciliation committees, all " individual " disputes were transferred to these courts, pending the establishment of the Labour Courts.

† The conciliation committees appointed under the order of 30th October 1923 are the competent bodies for assisting in the conclusion of collective agreements.

conditions. The competent authorities in this class of case are the Conciliation Committees.

The courts of first instance or local Labour Courts, whose area of jurisdiction will normally coincide with that of one or more of the local civil courts,* will consist of the requisite number of presidents, vice-presidents and assessors. Each chamber of the Court is to consist of one chairman with one assessor representing the employers and one representing the workers. In cases arising out of collective agreements, the membership of the chamber is to be increased by two assessors, one representing the employers and one the workers. Chambers are to be set up to deal with disputes affecting manual and non-manual workers respectively and special chambers (handicrafts courts) must be set up for disputes relating to handicrafts. Where necessary special chambers may be set up to deal with disputes in particular occupations and trades or particular groups of workers.

The presidents and vice-presidents are to be appointed by the State Department of Justice, in conjunction with the Supreme State Authority for social administration. They are either to be judges or persons possessing special knowledge of labour matters, preference being given to judges who are ex-chairmen of conciliation committees. They are to be appointed for not less than one year and not more than nine. After holding office for three years, presidents may be appointed for life. Presidents and vice-presidents have the rights and duties of State judicial officials. Assessors are to be appointed by the Higher Administrative Authorities for a period of three years (with due consideration for minority representation) from nomination lists submitted by the local trade associations of employers and workers. Persons appointed as assessors may not refuse to act except for serious (specified) reasons. Assessors receive compensation for travelling expenses and loss of wages or salary arising out of the execution of their office.

Similar regulations apply to the constitution of the State Labour Courts, which are normally to be presided over by judges on the rota of the State Labour Court who are specially qualified by their knowledge of labour matters. The Federal Labour Court will function as a branch of the Federal Court and will consist of presidents chosen from the chief judges of the Federal Court, judicial assessors, and non-judicial assessors, representing employers and workers, appointed by the Federal Minister of Labour in conjunction with the Federal Minister of Justice from nomination lists submitted by the respective national trade organisations.

Assessors representing employers and workers are to have the official title of " Labour Judge, " " State Labour Judge " or " Federal Labour Judge, " as the case may be.

Disputes are to be settled by judgment or decision. † The local Labour Courts have jurisdiction in the first instance. Appeal may be made to the State Labour Courts in cases where the amount in dispute exceeds 300 Reichsmarks, or where the local court admits the appeal on account of the importance of the dispute. In special cases appeal may be had from

* In setting up local Labour Courts, regard is to be had, wherever possible, to the areas of jurisdiction of the former Industrial and Commercial Courts.

† Decisions are given in cases arising under the Works Council Act.

the judgment of the State Labour Courts to the Federal Labour Court. The ordinary procedure is similar to that applicable to civil disputes. It is laid down that legal procedure in all the labour tribunals shall be conducted expeditiously.

Litigants in the local courts may appear in person or be represented by duly accredited members or officials of their respective trade associations. Solicitors or counsel are not permitted to appear on behalf of clients in these courts. Proceedings in the State Labour Courts may be conducted either by solicitors or counsel or by accredited members or officials of the trade association of the litigant; while in the Federal Labour Court parties to disputes must be legally represented.

Labour Court fees are to be a proportion of the amount involved in the dispute; one mark if the amount involved is 20 marks or less; two marks if the amount is from 20 to 60 marks; three marks if the amount is from 60 to 100 marks, rising by three marks for every additional 100 marks up to a maximum of five hundred marks.

The costs of the local and State Labour Courts are to be borne by the State by which they are established, and the costs of the Federal Labour Court by the Reich.

The last section of the Act contains provisions relating to agreements for excluding the jurisdiction of the labour tribunals. The parties to a collective agreement may, by express agreement, exclude the jurisdiction of the Labour Courts in respect of such agreement, on condition that disputes arising out of the agreement are to be settled by an arbitration court. Such an arbitration agreement is to constitute a bar to all legal proceedings. The arbitration court is normally to consist of an equal number of employers and workers. It may also include impartial persons. The award of the court is given by a simple majority of the members and has the same effect as a judgment of the Labour Court. Appeal for annulment of such award may be made to the Labour Court which would be competent to enforce the award.

The parties capable of entering into an arbitration agreement in connection with labour disputes may also, without excluding the jurisdiction of the Labour Court, agree that legal proceedings may be preceded by conciliation proceedings conducted by persons agreed upon between them. Such a conciliation agreement also constitutes a bar to legal proceedings. The bar is removed after conciliation has failed.

Parties to an agreement who are capable of concluding an arbitration agreement in labour disputes may also, without excluding the jurisdiction of the Labour Court, agree that questions of fact material to the settlement of the dispute shall be decided by expert arbitration (expert arbitration agreement). All questions so settled by arbitration are excluded from the matters requiring proof in the legal proceedings before the Labour Court.

The Act is to come into force on 1st July 1927, unless the Federal Minister of Labour in conjunction with the Federal Minister of Justice decides on a later date, and the relevant provisions of other Acts will thereafter be repealed. Detailed regulations for the application of the Act are to be issued by the Federal Ministers of Labour and Justice jointly. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.)

Preliminary Results of German Industrial Census, 1925

The publication of the Federal Statistical Office, *Wirtschaft und Statistik* (No. 4 for the current year), contains provisional results of the German industrial census carried out simultaneously with the quinquennial census of population in June 1925. The former comprised all industrial and commercial undertakings in Germany (with the exception of the Saar Territory), including establishments owned by Federal, State, communal and other public authorities. The information furnished covers the number of undertakings, the number of workers employed, the horse-power of the machinery in use, and of motor vehicles, watercraft and aircraft utilised in connection with the various undertakings. The most recent comparable figures available are those resulting from the Census of Occupations taken in 1907, but owing to differences in the methods adopted, exact comparisons are in many cases impossible. Moreover, the 1907 figures include those districts ceded to other States under the Peace Treaty of 1919, as well as the Saar Territory. Allowing for these factors, and excluding from the 1925 figures those relating to State, etc., establishments (which were not dealt with in the 1907 census) the figures for the respective years are as follows:—

Total Number of	1907 Present German territory excluding Saar	1925 Present German territory excluding Saar	Percentage increase in 1925 compared with 1907
Industrial undertakings	2,983,000	3,412,000	14.4
Employed persons (male)	9,993,000	12,488,000	25.0
Employed persons (female)	3,282,000	4,565,000	39.1
Total employed persons (male and female)	13,275,000	17,053,000	28.5

While the total population of Germany (excluding the Saar) is stated to have increased by 13.5 per cent. between 1907 and 1925,* it will be seen from the above figures that the number of persons employed in industry and commerce increased by 28.5 per cent. It is pointed out, however, that this census was taken in a period of considerable industrial prosperity, and that, owing to the subsequent economic depression, the number of manual and non-manual workers in employment is now about one million less than it was in June 1925.

The total number of undertakings and employed persons (including those categories disregarded in the above table in order to afford a comparison with the 1907 figures) are stated to be 3,455,111 and 18,388,696, respectively. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.)

* The total population of Germany (excluding the Saar) according to the provisional results of the 1925 population census, was 62,539,098 (Supplement No. 2, *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, 1925).

The "Labour Charter" in Italy

TEXT OF THE DOCUMENT

The Italian "Labour Charter" has now been approved by the Fascist Grand Council, and promulgated.

The following is the text of the "Charter" as approved by the Fascist Grand Council.

THE CORPORATE STATE AND ITS ORGANISATIONS

Section 1.—The Italian nation is an organism with specific ends, a separate life, and methods of action superior to those of the individuals or groups which compose it. It constitutes a moral, political and economic unity the complete realisation of which is found in the Fascist State.

Section 2.—Labour in all its forms, intellectual, technical and manual, is a social duty. On this count, and on this count alone, it is protected by the State. Production as a whole must be regarded as a unit from the national point of view. Its objectives are all of the same kind, and may be summarised as the wellbeing of producers and the development of the national power.

Section 3.—Occupational or trade union organisation is free, but only trade unions which are duly recognised and subject to State control are entitled legally to represent all the categories of employers or workers for whom they are constituted, to protect their interests *vis-à-vis* the State or other occupational associations, to conclude collective labour agreements which are compulsory for all persons belonging to their category, to impose contributions on their members, and on their behalf to exercise delegated powers in the public interest.

Section 4.—The concrete expression of solidarity between the various factors in production is the collective agreement, through the conciliation of the opposing interests of employers and workers, and their subordination to the higher interests of production.

Section 5.—The industrial courts ("magistracy of labour") constitute the organisation through which the State intervenes to settle labour disputes, whether in connexion with the observance of agreements or other existing provisions, or in connexion with the determination of new conditions of labour.

Section 6.—Legally recognised occupational associations secure juridical equality between employers and workers, and maintain and seek to improve the regime of discipline in production and labour. The corporations are the unifying organisation of the forces of production, and fully represent its interests. In virtue of this plenary representation, the corporations are legally recognised as State organisations, since the interests of production are national interests.

Section 7.—The corporate State considers private enterprise in the sphere of production as being the most effective and useful method of securing the interests of the nation. Since private organisation of production is a work of national importance, the head of an undertaking is responsible to the State for the development of production. From the collaboration between the forces of production is derived a reciprocity of rights and duties. The worker, whether a technician, a salaried

employee, or a manual labourer, collaborates actively in the work of an economic undertaking, and the direction of the undertaking devolves upon the employer, who is responsible for it.

Section 8.—Occupational associations of employers are required by all means in their power to increase and improve the production of the goods which they produce, and to reduce the cost thereof. The representatives of persons who carry on a liberal profession or an art, and associations of employees in public undertakings, are required to combine in protecting the interests of art, science and letters, in the improvement of production, and in the achievement of the moral objects of the corporate system.

Section 9.—State intervention in economic production takes place only when private enterprise is wanting or inadequate, or when the political interests of the state are at stake. Such intervention may take the form of control, encouragement or direct administration.

Section 10.—In the event of collective labour disputes, legal action cannot take place unless the corporate organisation has first made attempts at conciliation. In individual disputes concerning the interpretation and enforcement of collective labour agreements, occupational associations are allowed to proffer their good offices for conciliation. Competence in such disputes belongs to the ordinary courts, with the assistance of assessors appointed by the occupational associations concerned.

THE COLLECTIVE LABOUR AGREEMENT AND LABOUR GUARANTEES

Section 11.—Occupational associations are compelled to regulate labour relations between the categories of employers and workers whom they represent, by means of the collective agreement. The collective labour agreement is concluded between associations of the first degree, under the direction and control of the central organisations; but the association of the first degree may be replaced by the association of the higher degree in the cases provided for in the laws and statutes. All collective agreements must, under pain of being null and void, contain precise rules concerning disciplinary relations, the period of probation, rates of wages and the methods of paying wages, and hours of work.

DETERMINATION OF FAIR WAGES

Section 12.—Trade union action, the conciliation work of the corporate organisations and the awards of the labour courts all constitute guarantees that wages will correspond to the normal requirements of life, to the possibilities of production and to the output of labour. The work of determining the wage is carried out without reference to any general rules, and is entrusted to the parties to the collective agreement.

Section 13.—The consequences of production crises and of currency disturbances must be distributed equally between all the factors of production. Data established by the public departments, by the Central Statistical Institute and by the legally recognised occupational associations, concerning conditions of production and of labour, the situation of the money market and variations in the standard of existence of the workers will, when co-ordinated and collated by the Ministry of Corporations, supply the criteria for the reconciliation of the interests of the various categories and

of the various classes among themselves, and also of their interests in comparison with the higher interests of production.

PIECE-RATES

Section 14.—When payment is calculated on a piece basis and is made for periods longer than a fortnight, accounts by the fortnight or the week are required.

Night work not carried out in regular shifts is paid for at a higher rate than day work. When payment for labour is made on a piece basis, the piece-rates must be determined in such a way that the hard worker with a normal capacity for work receives a minimum remuneration higher than the basic wage.

THE WEEKLY REST

Section 15.—The worker is entitled to a weekly rest coinciding with Sunday. Collective agreements will enforce this principle, taking account of existing legislation and of the technical requirements of the undertaking and, within the limits of these requirements, will take steps to secure that civil and religious holidays are respected in accordance with local tradition. Hours of work must be fully and strictly observed by the worker.

PAID HOLIDAYS

Section 16.—After one year's uninterrupted service a worker in a continuous process undertaking is entitled to an annual holiday with pay.

DISMISSAL INDEMNITIES

Section 17.—In continuous process undertakings the worker is entitled, in the event of his dismissal through no fault of his own, to an indemnity proportionate to his years of service. Such indemnity is also due in the event of the worker's death.

Section 18.—In continuous process undertakings the transfer of the undertaking does not cancel the labour agreement, and the staff of such an undertaking preserve their rights as against the new proprietor. Similarly, sickness on the part of the worker, which does not exceed a certain period, does not cancel the labour agreement. A worker may not be dismissed because he is called up for service in the army or in the militia.

Section 19.—Infringement of discipline and acts committed by workers calculated to disturb the normal working of the undertaking are punished, according to the gravity of the delict, by fines, suspension from work and, in serious cases, immediate dismissal without an indemnity. The cases in which the employer may inflict fines, suspend from work or dismiss on the spot without indemnity will be specified.

PROBATION PERIODS

Section 20.—When a worker is engaged, he must undergo a period of probation, during which period the agreement may be cancelled on either side, provided only that work actually done during the period in question must be paid for.

Section 21.—Collective labour agreements are extended, both as regards their benefits and the discipline which they impose, to home workers also. Special rules will be laid down by the State for securing conditions of cleanliness and hygiene for home work.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

Section 22.—The State is the only body which can ascertain and the state of employment and unemployment among the workers, which is the final index of conditions of production and of labour.

PREFERENTIAL CLAUSES

Section 23.—The joint employment office is under the control of the corporate organisations. Employers are compelled to take workers registered with these offices, and are entitled to choose them from a list of persons registered, giving the preference to members of the Party, to Fascist trade unionists, and also to seniority of registration.

Section 24.—Workers' occupational associations are compelled to make a certain choice among the workers, with the object of improving continuously their technical capacity and their moral worth.

Section 25.—The corporate organisations see to the observance of legislation concerning the prevention of accidents, and labour regulations on the part of individuals affiliated to the federated associations.

WELFARE, SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND EDUCATION

Section 26.—Welfare is an important manifestation of the principle of collaboration. The employer and the worker must contribute proportionately to welfare charges. The State, through the medium of the corporate organisations and the occupational associations, will, so far as possible, co-ordinate and standardise the system and the various welfare institutions.

Section 27.—The Fascist State proposes: (1) to perfect the system of accident insurance; (2) to improve and extend maternity insurance; (3) to set up a system of insurance against occupational diseases and tuberculosis, as a first step towards a general system of insurance against all diseases; (4) to perfect the system of insurance against involuntary unemployment; (5) to adopt a special insurance system for endowing young workers.

Section 28.—It is for the workers associations to protect the interests of their members in administrative and judicial matters connected with accident insurance and social insurance in general. In collective agreements, whenever technically possible, mutual benefit funds for sickness will be set up, fed by contributions from employers and workers, and administered by representatives of both, under the control of the corporate organisations.

Section 29.—It is both the right and the duty of the occupational associations to assist the persons they represent, whether members or non-members. The occupational associations must exercise their functions of assistance directly through the medium of their own organisations, and may not delegate them to other bodies or institutions, except for reasons of general interest which go beyond the scope of the interests of any single category of producers.

Section 30.—Education and instruction, in particular, the technical instruction of the persons they represent, whether members or non-members, is one of the chief duties of the occupational associations. They must collaborate in the work of the various National Workers' Spare Time Institutes, and in other educational schemes. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 9, 1927.)

Report of the Ministry of Labour for the Year 1926

The Third Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour, dealing with the work of the Ministry during 1926, has been issued.

Industrial Relations (Conciliation and Arbitration).—The number of disputes dealt with by the Department either by conciliation or arbitration was only 137, as compared with 257 in the preceding year and an average of 210 during the five-year period 1921-25. The Report suggests that this abnormally small number of disputes dealt with may be partly due to the depletion of trade union funds, and to the general dislocation of trade, resulting from the general strike and from the prolonged dispute in the coal mining industry. Of the 137 disputes settled by conciliation or arbitration in 1926, the number referred to the Industrial Court for arbitration was 104 (including 43 Civil Service cases and 41 cases in the railway service); five were referred to single arbitrators, and four to *ad hoc* Boards of Arbitration; five were settled under Section 2 (1) of the Conciliation Act, 1896; while in 19 cases agreement was reached with the assistance of officers of the Ministry.

A full account is given of the Reports of (i) the Court of Investigation, appointed in September 1926 to inquire into the national coal trimming tariff; (ii) the Court of Investigation (appointed in 1925, but reporting in March 1926) into the Scottish shale oil industry; and (iii) the Court of Inquiry (appointed in 1925, under Part II of the Industrial Courts Act, but reporting in 1926) into the threatened dispute affecting railway shopmen on the London and North Eastern Railway (Great Central Section) and on the Cheshire Lines.

The Report refers to the effect of the general strike on the Joint Industrial Councils and on the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees. It is stated that these bodies "showed their value in providing a meeting ground for the discussion of the situation arising out of the strike, and still more in the spirit of reasonableness in which those discussions were almost invariably conducted. One committee has suspended its activities indefinitely, but in general it may be said that the effect of the strike has been definitely to strengthen the position of the Industrial Councils and their power for good. Some of those affected by the strike have added to their constitution provisions designed to ensure at least an interval for discussion and negotiation before a stoppage of work takes place; others which already had such machinery took the opportunity to overhaul or to extend it. On the whole there is every ground for satisfaction at the way in which the Whitley Council system has stood the severe test to which the general strike exposed it."

Employment.—The Report states that "the history of employment in 1926 is largely the history of the general strike and the coal dispute. At the end of January the proportion of insured workpeople unemployed was 11 per cent. This figure declined steadily to 9·1 per cent. at the end of April, when for the first time since the post-war slump, the number of those registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed was below a million. Iron and steel manufacture, shipbuilding, marine engineering, and the linen and jute trades, still showed high figures of unemployment;

but in most other industries there was improvement, and the steady general fall of the live register held out some definite prospect of a trade revival. The general strike badly disturbed the growing confidence, and subsequently the increasing shortage of fuel and the high price of imported coal which were due to the coal stoppage completely checked the improvement, unemployment rising to 14·6 per cent. by the end of June. From this period there was a slight improvement in the general position.

The numbers on the live registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month from January 1923 to December 1926 have varied between a minimum of 981,877 (in April 1926) and a maximum of 1,639,776 (in June 1926). In thirty-three months out of this period of four years it was between 1,000,000 and 1,300,000, including a consecutive period of sixteen months from February 1924 to May 1925.

The following Table shows the numbers of vacancies notified to Employment Exchanges and of vacancies filled in each of the last four years—

Year	Vacancies Notified	Vacancies Filled
1923	1,056,970	893,713
1924	1,345,394	1,143,742
1925	1,480,820	1,279,292
1926	1,246,967	1,082,917

The vacancies notified have been distributed between men, women, and juveniles in the following proportions, taking the average of the last four years: Men, 53 per cent.; women, 28 per cent.; juveniles, 19 per cent. The corresponding percentages for vacancies filled are: Men, 57 per cent.; women, 25 per cent.; juveniles, 18 per cent.

The trade groups in which the largest number of vacancies for men were filled were: Construction of works; general labourers; building; engineering; and transport. This was the order in each of the years 1923, 1924 and 1925, and also on the average of the four years 1923-26; it was also the order in 1926, except that more vacancies were filled in the transport trades than in engineering in that year. These five groups accounted for nearly two-thirds of the total number of men's vacancies filled. Other trade groups with a large number of men's vacancies filled were: Shipbuilding; manufacture of metals; domestic service; commercial occupations; agriculture; mining and quarrying; cotton; boots and shoes; gas, water, etc.

The trade groups in which the largest number of women's vacancies were filled were: Domestic service (much the largest in all years); and thereafter dress; cotton; wool; miscellaneous textiles; commercial occupations; and food, tobacco, drink, lodgings, etc.; with smaller numbers in engineering and in agriculture. The relative order of these trade groups (except domestic service) varied considerably from year to year; though in each year either the dress trades or the cotton trade came next after domestic service.

It is pointed out in the Report that "nearly all the figures for 1926 for both men and women show an appreciable reduction from the figures for

the preceding year, the reduction being due entirely to the much slower movement of trade and employment during the greater part of the year owing to the mining dispute. Now that the dispute is over, one of the most difficult parts of the unemployment problem is to restore the fluidity of labour. The industrial depression of the last six years has been most acutely felt in the heavy industries, which tend to be congregated near the coalfields. Although conditions in other parts of the country may have been substantially better, the chances of regular employment in other areas have not been sufficiently certain to induce men to leave their own area. The result has been that in many districts labour has been 'frozen' by unemployment, and has remained stationary. At the same time, in other areas where there is a greater variety of industrial development, considerably greater trade activity has obtained, and there have been, occasionally, temporary local shortages of certain classes of workpeople." The temporary local shortages in the cases of boys and girls in particular are, it is stated, likely to increase.

The changes in the distribution by industry and in the geographical distribution of the employed population in recent years were examined in the November and in the December issues of the *Ministry of Labour Gazette* (pages 415-17 and 435). The Report refers to this change in industrial development, and proceeds: "There is no doubt that the midlands and the south and west have generally enjoyed greater prosperity, even in the difficult times of the last year; and it is in those parts of the country that there has been occasional difficulty in obtaining labour of the right quality, although such labour clearly exists in other parts of the country. What needs to be done is to facilitate the transfer of labour from area to area, and to ensure that industrial development is not retarded through inability to obtain the right type of labour. This task cannot be handled efficiently except by a system of employment agencies covering the whole country".

During the year the Department has continued to devote attention to the machinery of the Employment Exchanges as placing agencies; and it is pointed out that the effectiveness of the Department's efforts in this regard must depend on the co-operation of employers in notifying vacancies.

The number of employers on the King's National Roll on 31st December 1926 was approximately 27,500; they were employing approximately 375,000 disabled ex-service men. A resolution was passed in both Houses of Parliament on 16th February 1926 to the effect "that, in the opinion of this House, it is the duty of the Government in all Government contracts to make provision for the employment to the fullest possible extent of disabled ex-service men, and to this end to confine such contracts, save in exceptional circumstances, to employers enrolled on the King's National Roll."

Other subjects dealt with under the heading of employment include Local Employment Committees; port labour committees; oversea settlement; admission of foreign workers; unemployment relief works, etc.

Unemployment Insurance.—The Report refers to the very severe strain thrown upon the Unemployment Insurance scheme during the year by the great increase in unemployment consequent on the general strike and

the dispute in the coal-mining industry. The scheme was the less able to bear the shock because it had suffered just before a serious loss of annual revenue. By the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1925 its revenue (from 4th January, 1926) was reduced by £6,800,000 per annum in respect of employers' and workers' contributions. By the Economy Act of 1926 the Unemployment Fund lost a further sum of £1,700,000 a year out of the former Exchequer contribution. The total effect of these financial changes, together with the increase in unemployment, was to send up the Fund's debt to the Treasury from £7,137,569 on the 30th April, 1926, to £22,640,000 on the 31st December.

In addition to the Economy Act, two other Acts affecting Unemployment Insurance were passed during the year, viz., the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1926, and the Unemployment Insurance (Northern Ireland Agreement) Act, 1926.

Reference is made in the Report to the settlement of questions of claims to unemployment benefit arising out of the general strike and out of the coal-mining dispute. In the former case claims were disallowed either on the ground that the claimants were not unable to obtain suitable employment, or on the ground that they had left their employment voluntarily without just cause. The Umpire took the view that the general strike was due to a dispute between His Majesty's Government and the Trades Union Congress General Council, and not between employers and employed, and that it was not, therefore, a trade dispute within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Acts.

The rest of the section deals with the administration of unemployment insurance under various headings. Reference is made to the Report of the Interdepartmental Committee on Agricultural Unemployment Insurance. While the Committee was unanimous in recommending that agriculture should not be brought within the scope of the general scheme, and that no scheme was desirable for agriculture in Scotland, it recommended by a majority (six to five) that a special scheme should be set up for England and Wales. It was announced by the Minister of Agriculture in the House of Commons on 22nd November 1926, that the Government did not see its way to adopt the recommendations of the majority report of the Committee.

An appendix to this section gives the substance of certain specially important decisions of the Umpire.

Juveniles.—The numbers of boys and of girls insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain at July 1926, excluding those insured under the special schemes for the banking and for the insurance industries, were 564,000 boys and 401,000 girls; showing a decrease of 1,000 in the boys but an increase of 6,000 in the girls as compared with July 1925. In general during 1926 the supply of juvenile labour was sufficient to meet the demand in all areas, but some districts in which employment for juveniles was good have reported during the year a shortage of suitable boys to fill better-class vacancies, and there has apparently been some reluctance on the part of boys, especially in London, to take jobs as errand or messenger boys and other jobs with few or no prospects of permanent employment. As regards girls, the

supply for better-class vacancies in the dress trades, especially in London, has not been equal to the demand.

The industries in which the greatest numbers of insured boys were employed continued to be the distributive trades, coal mining, building, engineering (including iron and steel founding), cotton and printing (including publishing and bookbinding), in that order. For insured girls the chief industries continued to be the distributive trades, cotton, tailoring, dress and mantle making, and woollen and worsted.

In many areas juvenile unemployment was markedly severe during the year. At August 1926, Swansea, Stoke-on-Trent, Bolton, Sheffield and Glasgow, showed the highest percentages of insured boys unemployed; and Stoke-on-Trent, Dundee, Swansea, Newcastle and Bolton the highest percentages of girls unemployed. The industries in which the highest percentages of insured boys were unemployed in that month were shipbuilding, cotton, engineering and the distributive trades (in that order); while the percentages of insured girls unemployed were highest in the cotton, hosiery, woollen and worsted, and tailoring trades (in that order).

This section also contains a summary of (i) the Report of the Enquiry into unemployment among boys and girls in 1925; and (ii) Part I of the Report of the Committee on Education and Industry (England and Wales). Other matters dealt with in this section are the arrangements for giving advice to boys and girls, and for placing them in employment; and the juvenile unemployment centres.

Trade Boards.—The two grocery Trade Boards were dissolved during the year, as a result of an investigation into the wages and conditions of employment in that trade carried out in 1925. As a result of similar investigations into (i) the light refreshment and dining-room section of the catering trade, (ii) the meat distributive trade, and (iii) the drapery and allied distributive trades, the Minister decided that, in all the circumstances, the conditions did not justify at the present time the application of the Trade Boards Acts to those trades.

Other matters in connection with the administration of the Trade Boards Acts dealt with in this section are:—description of trades to which the Acts apply; constitution of Trade Boards and of district trade committees; Trade Board minimum rates; proceedings of Trade Boards; inspection and enforcement, etc.

International Labour.—This section gives an account of the proceedings at the eighth and at the ninth sessions of the International Labour Conference, held at Geneva in May and June, 1926; also of the Conference of Ministers of Labour, on the subject of the Washington Hours Convention, held in London in March, 1926.

Representatives of the Ministry attended the four sessions of the governing body of the International Labour Office, and the third international conference of labour statisticians, held during the year. Five draft conventions have been ratified during the year, three relating to employment at sea, and two relating to workmen's compensation.

Training Scheme for Young Unemployed Men.—This scheme provides a short course of manual or agricultural training, not exceeding 26 weeks' duration, for young men who are unemployed and who, owing to trade

depression, have had no opportunity of learning a skilled trade or even of acquiring a knowledge of the use of tools. The intention of the scheme is to improve the general employability of the men and to accustom them to the use of tools and to regular hours and discipline, and, in the case of intending migrants, to give some experience of agricultural work, the handling and care of live stock, ploughing, milking, the use and repair of farm implements, and general farm work. The existing centres provide accommodation for training 1,200 men at a time.

The following statement shows the progress made from the commencement up to December, 1926:—

	Placed in training	In training 31st December, 1926	Total cost of training
<i>Non-residential centres—</i>			
Birmingham	1,458	356	1,102
Waltham	980	394	586
<i>Residential centres—</i>			
<i>Claydon:</i>			
Oversea	359	105	254
Handymen	315	70	245
<i>Brandon:</i>			
Oversea	366	146	220
Handymen	61	43	18

It is stated in the Report that the further experience gained under this scheme during 1926 shows that it is possible, by a short course of intensive training, so to improve the employability of young men lacking both skill and experience, as to give them a good prospect of remunerative employment either in this country or in the Dominions. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1927.)

Indian Employees and Indian Firms in the Dutch East Indies

We have received from the Director of the Labour Office, Batavia, a report on the labour conditions of Bombay shop-assistants. The report deals with the conditions of labour of salesmen and servants in shops in the Dutch East Indies which are owned and managed by Indians.

The following are the conclusions drawn in the report:—

1. In the so-called Bombay-shops, the relations between the managers and the employees are quite different to the conditions in western trades.

Especially in larger concerns, we may speak of a great family consisting of persons united through religion, solidarity of caste, usages of race and social position, and doing their utmost to develop the concern they serve.

2. The fact that they profess the Hindoo religion, worship together at home, consecrate the current account books, and, generally speaking, cling to the habits of the parental home, renders their relations quite exceptional, namely, relations among a group of persons who, living together under one roof, are trying to keep up the patriarchal family life in foreign parts, as far as this is possible.

3. Although the written agreements,* from a Western point of view appear very unsatisfactory to us, it is nevertheless true that, on account of the hard struggle of life in British India, and the trying situations of their larva families resulting from economical and religious causes, the shop-assistants in question themselves are glad to accept these agreements as an opportunity to work, it is true, abroad, but at any rate among their own race and class, absolutely in their own environment, under conditions which enable them to assist their families every month, and moreover, if their way of living in this country is thrifty, to return after two and a half years with an amount of money sufficient for a stay of several months among their relatives.

4. In many cases, the employees are not quite free to move as they please out of working hours, a restriction we cannot tolerate and which is not permitted by the law of this country; but we are bound to admit that the relation between the manager and the employees explains it to a certain extent. The former feels that he is morally obliged to prevent his personnel from harming their morality and their health, in so far as they might abuse their liberty in their off time; it should be borne in mind that these men who left their wives at home in so far as they are married are exposed to strong temptation.

5. Paying and calculating the wages at a rate far below the present value of the rupee is contrary to the written agreement, which establishes salaries to be paid in rupees—British Indian currency.

6. The labour conditions of the personnel of the larger firms, which, nearly without exception, is sent from Sindh and Bombay and entered there into an agreement, are satisfactory. Should difficulties arise between the personnel and the managers, the latter are in position to abuse the power given to them by the agreement; the condition of those assistants who stay in Java without a claim to passage money to British India, and who are obliged to look for employment in the smaller Bombay-shops, which do not guarantee them much legal security if any, is decidedly unfavourable. As a rule, however, these persons are the less desirable ones, dismissed elsewhere on account of bad behaviour, etc.

7. Working-time does not exceed ten hours a day, the work is light and consists mainly of mere selling in the store, for which the personnel is quite sufficient, on account of the small space in the store.

8. The wages are not high, but they offer a sufficient livelihood on account of the level of wages at home and the additional items of free board and lodging, free passages, free admission, an eventual bonus, and eventual presents.

9. Should, however, the clause concerning the right to free passage from and to Hyderabad have been omitted from a written agreement entered into by a Bombay firm and a shop-assistant, we must consider it an improper labour contract not providing for a sufficient means of living; admitting those who entered into such a contract to the Dutch East Indies is not justified.

10. On account of the conditions mentioned in the second conclusion, conflicts in connection with the labour contract did not occur often, but it cannot be denied that in such cases the employees in question will not find it easy to assert their rights to the full in Court.

* For a copy of the agreement, see page 154 of the October 1924 issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

Night Work of Women in Japan

It will be remembered that the prohibition by law of the night work of women in Japan will not be enforced until 1st July 1929.

There are, however, a number of large factories in which night work of women has already been abolished, without regard to the delay allowed by the Factory Act (Amendment) Act. A recent issue of the *Sarugo Futuri* ("Industrial Welfare"), published by the Industrial Welfare Association of the Bureau of Social Affairs, says:

The Oji factory of the Oriental Spinning Company (*Tayo Kaisha*) voluntarily abolished the night work of women as from August 1925. The Company naturally had to make a sacrifice, in the form of a decrease in its production; but it gained a gratifying result in another direction.

Since the abolition of night work, the health of the operatives has been greatly improved, and the pale, swollen faces called "spinning factory colour" have entirely disappeared from the factory. While the percentage of sickness and the turnover of operatives has decreased, that of regular attendance and the number of spindles handled by each operative has increased; further, the quality of the products has greatly improved.

Another result of the abolition of night work is shown in the following table, which indicates an appreciable decrease in the percentage of absence of workers:—

Year and month	Male Operatives	Female operatives	
		Living out	Dormitory
1925: Average of the first 6 months ..	3.99	7.62	3.23
June	4.98	6.74	3.39
July	5.59	10.26	3.64
August	4.65	9.38	3.80
1926: Average of the first 6 months ..	2.30	5.42	2.26
June	1.72	4.16	1.37
July	2.18	4.99	1.49
August	3.18	4.93	1.84

The working hours of the operatives after the abolition of night work were fixed as follows:

First shift.—Commences work at 5 a.m.; interval for breakfast, from 7.30 to 8 a.m.; finishes work at 2 p.m.

Second shift.—Commences work at 2 p.m. interval for dinner, from 7.30 to 8 p.m.; finishes work at 11 p.m. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 9, 1927.)

Legislation on Indian Mines

A Bill to further amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th March 1927. The statement of objects and reasons, the text of the Bill and notes on the clauses of the Bill are printed below—

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The weekly hours of work for persons employed in mines are limited to 60 in the case of persons working above ground and to 54 in the case of persons working below ground. But there is no statutory limit on the daily hours of work, so that, for example, there is nothing to prevent a miner from being employed for 17 or 18 hours in one day. During the debates in the Legislative Assembly on the Mines Bill (which afterwards passed into law as the Mines Act, 1923) a proposal was made to place a direct limitation on the daily hours of work. The proposal was rejected, but the Honourable Sir Charles Innes on behalf of Government promised to examine, in consultation with Local Governments, the question of introducing a compulsory system of shifts in mines. The main part of the present Bill is the outcome of this examination.

2. While the primary object of the Bill is the imposition of a limitation on the daily hours of work, it must not be supposed that hours of work in mines are generally excessive. It is probably the case that in few mines do the miners maintain a standard of more than 8 hours' work daily on the average; and it is not anticipated that the Bill, if passed, will have any appreciable effect in reducing hours of work. The main advantages which the Bill is designed to secure are of a different character. The present system (or lack of system) in many mines encourages miners to spend long hours underground and makes satisfactory supervision difficult. It tends to increase the number of accidents in several ways, and it diminishes the potential efficiency of the Indian miner. The shift system has been introduced with success in a number of mines, and it would probably be introduced more generally without compulsion were it not for the danger that labour may gravitate to those mines where restrictions are absent. That danger will disappear when regularity in working hours is made the general rule, and it is believed that the system now proposed will be to the general advantage both of the mine-owner and the miner.

3. There is no suggestion from any quarter that a limitation should be imposed on the hours within which work may be carried on in a mine, and it is intended that mine-owners should be at liberty to carry on work for the whole 24 hours. If the mine-owner is willing to restrict the total hours of work to the limit that may be prescribed for the individual worker, the declaration beforehand of the hours within which the mine is to be worked is sufficient to enable control to be exercised over working hours. But when a mine-owner desires that the mine should be worked for a longer period than the daily limit prescribed for the individual worker, the enforcement of a system of shifts is essential if control has to be maintained. Further, the Government of India are satisfied that, if effective

control is to be exercised, it is necessary that the shifts should be so arranged that they do not overlap. In other words, if the workmen of any particular class, e.g., coal cutters, are to be divided into a number of shifts, not more than one such shift should be employed in the mine at the same time.

4. If this is accepted, it means that there are only two-shift systems which can reasonably be considered. These are the two-shift system in which the limit of each shift is 12 hours and the three-shift system in which the limit is 8 hours. The three-shift system is already in force in a few mines in India, but the Government of India consider that it is, at present at any rate, out of the question to enforce an 8 hours' day in Indian mines. They have therefore reached the conclusion that it is impracticable at present to attempt to fix a lower limit for the daily hours of work than 12. Under the Bill, if passed, mine-owners will have the option of (1) limiting the hours of working over the mine as a whole to 12 daily, and (2) introducing a system of shifts, not exceeding 12 hours each, so arranged that the hours under two shifts of the same type of worker do not overlap. The detailed provisions by which this end is to be secured are explained in the Notes on Clauses, where an explanation is also given of clause 7 which is unconnected with the main part of the Bill.

TEXT OF THE BILL

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

1. *Short Title and Commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Indian Mines (Amendment) Act, 1927.

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

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

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

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

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

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

to work after an interval of not less than six hours for another complete shift of a duration not exceeding twelve hours.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NOTES ON CLAUSES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

House Rents in Ahmedabad

I. METHOD OF ENQUIRY

On page 67 of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1926 an article on "Ahmedabad Mill Chawls" was published. In that article reference was made to a general house-rent enquiry for Ahmedabad. This enquiry was conducted by the Investigators of the Labour Office during 1926. Data were collected both for the working and the middle classes. The working class includes manual labourers such as mill-workers. The term "middle class" mainly denotes clerks, professional men with uncertain incomes, lawyers, traders, doctors and the like and not included nor are the upper classes.

Information was collected by personal visits to the tenements sampled. On a form specially drawn up for the purpose, the Ward No., the name of the street, the name and address of the owner, the number of rooms, their dimensions, the rent in 1926 and the data regarding ventilation, sanitation, water-supply, etc., were noted down. The method of sampling adopted was as follows. It was ascertained from the Ahmedabad Municipality that properties were numbered on the basis of tenements and not of houses. That is to say, if there were five tenements within a single building a separate number was given by the Municipality to each of the five tenements and not one number to the whole house. For the purposes of the present enquiry, a sample of three per cent. was decided upon. Three out of every hundred tenements were visited. Tenements bearing numbers 33, 66, 99, 133, 166, 199, 233 and so on were studied. If the 33rd, 66th or the 99th tenement happened to be a temple or a shop or belonged to traders, professional men or the upper class or was unoccupied it was altogether omitted without any attempt to collect data from an adjoining working-class or middle-class tenement in place of it. If, however, the tenement was occupied by a working-class or middle-class person and if information was refused by him, information was collected from another tenement of the type required within the previous thirty-two tenements. It may, however, be pointed out that such refusals were few in number.

At the time of tabulating the data collected, tenements let out by employers to workmen at concession rents were omitted and cases where owners themselves occupied the premises were also omitted because in such instances only estimates of rent were available and the object of the enquiry was to find out the actual rent paid by tenants. As a result of the exclusion of such tenements the final number of tenements for which data could be tabulated is somewhat low but the results may be said to be reliable as a uniform method of sampling was adhered to throughout.

The number of tenements visited in each ward and the number of tenements for which data were finally tabulated are shown below:

Wards	Total number of tenements	Number visited, i.e., 3 per 100 tenements	Number for which data were not collected (temples, shops, vacant tenements, etc.)
Khadia	13,245	400	
Kalupur	16,771	503	281
Danapur	10,814	324	372
Shahpur	12,015	363	153
Raikhad	5,679	175	181
Jamalpur	12,149	362	95
Pura 1	5,661	192	212
Shahibagh	1,456	50	89
Railway-pura	3,651	116	21
Asarwa	3,255	144	93
Pura 4	6,122	186	40
Saraspur	3,204	97	70
Comtipur	3,279	136	40
Rajpur Hirpur	2,256	68	37
Behrampur	638	21	24
Ellis Bridge	996	31	12
All Wards	100,191	3,168	1,741

Wards	Working Class tenements		Middle Class tenements	
	Number of tenements let out at concession rents or occupied by owners	Tabulated	Number occupied	Tabulated
Khadia	17	37	32	33
Kalupur	29	50	18	34
Danapur	33	115	15	8
Shahpur	45	112	14	11
Raikhad	28	42	5	7
Jamalpur	36	86	15	13
Pura 1	32	70	1	
Shahibagh	21	8		
Railway-pura	20	2	1	
Asarwa	50	51		
Pura 4	38	76		3
Saraspur	12	43	2	2
Comtipur	25	74		
Rajpur Hirpur	16	28		
Behrampur	6	3		
Ellis Bridge	5	2		1
All Wards	413	799	103	112

It will be seen from the above table that in some wards, especially 1, Asarwa and Gomtipur, the number of tenements visited is greater than the number that ought to have been visited according to the proportion 3 per 100 tenements in column 2 of the above table. This is due to a comparatively large number of tenements in those wards either unnumbered or given sub-numbers only which were not included in the census figures. When there were no Municipal numbers the Investigators sampled the usual proportion after ascertaining the total number of such tenements. Where there were sub-numbers, that is to say, where there were for example 60 tenements under the same number as say 300/1, 300/2 up to 300/60 the Investigators adopted the same procedure and collected data from one in every thirty-three of those tenements.

The number of tenements for which data were not collected appears high because of the presence of shops, shopkeepers, professional men, etc.

Of 413 working class tenements omitted from tabulation as belonging to employers or as occupied by owners themselves nearly 300 were in the latter class. In the case of the middle classes the number of tenements owned by the occupiers was nearly equal to the number of tenements where the occupiers were tenants.

II. RESULTS OF THE ENQUIRY

A. Working Class Tenements

Data for 799 working class tenements were tabulated. The following table shows the number of tenements according to the number of rooms:—

Rooms	Tenements	Percentage to total
One	635	79.5
Two	129	16.2
Three	25	3.1
Four	5	0.6
Five	5	0.6
	799	100

1. One-roomed tenements

Nearly 80 per cent. of the working class tenements are one-roomed. The following table gives by wards (1) the number of tenements, (2) the average dimensions per tenement in cubic feet, and (3) the average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.

Working Class one-roomed tenements, 1926

Wards	Number of tenements	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926
			Rs. a. p.
Khadia	77	1,005	4 10 1
Kalapur	15	1,999*	5 1 5
Danapur	82	1,082	4 14 4
Shahpur	60	1,005	4 1 11
Raikhad	60	981	4 12 7
Jamalpur	66	1,180	4 4 7
Pura 1	66	1,711	4 10 7
Asarwa	40	1,001	4 10 7
Pura 4	75	1,136	4 8 2
Saraspur	56	1,204	3 10 2
Gomtipur	63	1,080	3 12 8
Rajpur Hirpur	38	1,227	4 3 7
Others	5		
All wards	635	1,544*	4 6 1

In the above table no figures are shown against "Others" because that item consists of 8 tenements in Shahibagh, 3 in Behrampur and 2 each in Railwaypura and Ellis Bridge and a combined average for all these wards situated far away from each other would be meaningless. Separate averages are not given because the number sampled is small.

The average space per tenement is very low in Raikhad and Asarwa. It is highest in Rajpur Hirpur. The average cubic area per tenement for all wards combined is 1544 feet.

Apart from considerations of the space available, the average monthly rent is highest in Kalapur and lowest in Saraspur. The average monthly rent per tenement for all wards combined is Rs. 4-6-1.

In arriving at the final averages for all wards no attempt has been made to weight the ward averages according to the proportion borne by one-roomed tenements in each ward to the total number of one-roomed tenements in Ahmedabad as the method of sampling followed in the present enquiry has given to each ward the importance due to it by taking into consideration the exact number of tenements—neither more nor less—warranted by its size. This remark applies to all the final averages worked out in the present enquiry.

2. Two and more roomed tenements

Two, three, four and five-roomed tenements number 164 in all. The following table gives (1) the number of tenements, (2) the average dimensions per tenement in cubic feet, and (3) the average monthly rent per tenement in 1926 for each ward.

* Average for one tenement less.

Working Class two and more roomed tenements, 1926

Tenements		Khadia	Kalapur	Dariapur	Shahpur	Raikhad	Jamalpur	Swaripur	Gomtipur	Others	All Wards
Two-roomed.	Number of two-roomed tenements.	11	9	28	26	10	19	13	8	5	129
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	2,817	3,290	3,351	2,975	1,698	2,358	2,501	2,577	..	2,764
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.	Rs. a. p. 7 8 6	Rs. a. p. 6 2 2	Rs. a. p. 6 15 2	Rs. a. p. 5 5 10	Rs. a. p. 6 1 10	Rs. a. p. 5 14 1	Rs. a. p. 5 1 10	Rs. a. p. 4 8 2	..	..	Rs. a. p. 6 0 4
Three-roomed.	Number of three-roomed tenements.	1	5	3	5	1	2	2	3	3	25
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	5,104	4,321	3,803	3,656	1,680	3,026	2,898	3,541	..	4,219
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.	Rs. a. p. 15 0 0	Rs. a. p. 5 7 6	Rs. a. p. 7 4 5	Rs. a. p. 6 14 8	Rs. a. p. 6 0 0	Rs. a. p. 9 6 8	Rs. a. p. 7 0 0	Rs. a. p. 4 12 8	..	..	Rs. a. p. 7 0 2
Four-roomed.	Number of four-roomed tenements.	1	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	5
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	12,288	5,400	..	9,500	..	..	5,183	..	..	7,531
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.	Rs. a. p. 20 0 0	Rs. a. p. 12 0 0	..	Rs. a. p. 5 4 0	Rs. a. p. 6 8 0
Five-roomed.	Number of five-roomed tenements.	2	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	5
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	4,040*	..	7,536	..	1,984	..	..	..	..	5,274*
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.	Rs. a. p. 10 8 0	..	Rs. a. p. 8 13 4	..	Rs. a. p. 13 5 4	..	..	..	..	..

* Average for one tenement less.

1030

LABOUR GAZETTE

JULY, 1927

JULY, 1927

LABOUR GAZETTE

1031

Kalapur stands first in regard to the size of tenements and Raikhad stands last. The average measurement per tenement for all wards is 3195 cubic feet. The average rent for Khadia is Rs. 9-4-1. This high figure is not surprising in view of the fact that Khadia is pre-eminently a middle class locality. The highest rent paid by a working class family in Ahmedabad, viz., Rs. 20 per mensem, was found in this ward. The average rent for Gomtipur is only Rs. 4-9-5. The average rent for all wards works out at Rs. 6-6-10.

3. Frequency of Dimensions

A frequency table showing the cubic measurement of working class tenements is given below. The most common type of working class one-roomed tenement falls in the group 1000-1500 cubic feet. The average for one-roomed tenements is 1544 cubic feet. Among two and more roomed tenements the most common type is of 2000-2500 cubic feet. The average for two and more roomed tenements is 3195 cubic feet.

Frequency of Dimensions
(Working Class)

Measurement in cubic feet	One-roomed tenements	Two-roomed tenements	Three-roomed tenements	Four-roomed tenements	Five-roomed tenements	All tenements
Below 500	64	1	..	..	..	65
500 and 1,000	147	11	..	..	..	158
1,000 " 1,500	162	19	..	..	..	182
1,500 " 2,000	105	16	..	..	..	126
2,000 " 2,500	62	22	..	..	..	87
2,500 " 3,000	24	14	3	..	..	38
3,000 " 3,500	37	10	4	..	..	51
3,500 " 4,000	12	11	5	..	..	28
4,000 " 4,500	10	6	3	..	..	21
4,500 " 5,000	2	5	2	1	..	8
5,000 " 5,500	1	2	1	1	..	6
5,500 " 6,000	1	5	1	1	..	7
6,000 " 6,500	2	4	1	1	..	8
6,500 " 7,000	..	1	..	..	1	2
7,000 " 7,500	..	1	..	..	..	2
7,500 " 8,000	..	2	..	..	..	4
8,000 " 8,500	..	1	..	..	..	4
8,500 " 9,000	..	..	..	..	..	1
9,000 " 9,500	..	1	..	..	..	1
9,500 " 10,000	..	..	..	..	..	1
10,000 " 10,500	..	..	..	..	..	1
over 10,500	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total ..	634†	129	25	5	4†	797‡

* 12,288 cubic feet † One tenement less; ‡ Two tenements less.

4. Frequency of Rents

A frequency table showing the rents paid by the working class during 1926 is given below :—

Frequency of Rents

(Working Class)
1926

Monthly rent in Rupees	One-roomed tenements	Two-roomed tenements	Three-roomed tenements	Four-roomed tenements	Five-roomed tenements	All tenements
1 and below 2	13	1	..	..	..	14
2 " " 3	60	3	..	..	..	63
3 " " 4	126	11	2	..	..	139
4 " " 5	171	22	3	..	..	196
5 " " 6	168	29	4	1	..	202
6 " " 7	70	21	7	1	1	100
7 " " 8	12	15	1	1	..	29
8 " " 9	8	12	2	..	1	23
9 " " 10	2	4	1	..	..	7
10 " " 11	4	7	2	..	..	13
11 " " 12	1	2	2	..	1	6
12 " " 13	..	2	..	1	1	4
13 " " 14	..	..	..	..	1	1
14 " " 15	..	..	..	..	..	..
15 " " 16	..	..	1	..	..	1
16 " over	..	..	..	1*	..	1
Total ..	635	129	25	5	5	799

* Rs. 20.

B. Middle Class Tenements

Data for 112 middle class tenements were tabulated. The following table shows the number of tenements according to the number of rooms—

Rooms	Tenements	Percentage to total
One	39	34.8
Two	46	41.1
Three	20	17.8
Four	5	4.5
Five	1	0.9
Nine	1	0.9
Total ..	112	100

One and two-roomed tenements are the frequently recurring types. One tenement with nine rooms occupied by a Municipal teacher was found in Jamalpur.

1. One-roomed tenements

The following table gives by wards (1) the number of tenements, (2) the average dimensions per tenement in cubic feet and (3) the average monthly rent per middle class one-roomed tenement in 1926.

Middle class one-roomed tenements, 1926

Wards	Number of tenements	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet	Average monthly rent per tenement in Rs.
Khadia	7	3,050	6 4 8
Kalapur	12	1,794	5 3 11
Danapur	4	4,060	4 12 0
Shahpur	3	2,944	6 3 1
Raikhad	5	1,635	5 3 2
Jamalpur	3	2,059	6 5 4
Others	5*	....	..
All wards ..	39	2,298	5 9 8

In the above table averages for even small numbers of tenements have been given because these numbers although small in themselves are not altogether unimportant considering the proportion they bear to the total number of tenements of which they form part.

The cubic space per tenement is highest in Dariapur and lowest in Raikhad. The average for all wards is 2298 cubic feet.

The rent is low in Dariapur and high in Khadia and Jamalpur. The average rent for all wards is Rs. 5-9-8.

2. Two and more roomed tenements

Middle class two and more roomed tenements tabulated numbered 73 in all. The following table gives by wards (1) the number of tenements, (2) the average measurement per tenement in cubic feet and (3) the average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.

The cubic space per tenement is highest in Shahpur and lowest in Raikhad. The average measurement per tenement for all wards is 3739 cubic feet.

One of the tenements in Raikhad is four-roomed. This explains the high average rent for that ward. Barring Raikhad the average rent is high in Khadia and Jamalpur and low in Shahpur. The average rent per tenement for all wards is Rs. 7-5-9.

* Made up of 2 in Asarwa, 2 in Pura 4, and 1 in Ellis Bridge.

Middle Class two and more roomed tenements, 1926

Tenements	Khadia	Kalupur	Dariapur	Shahpur	Raikhad	Jamalpur	Others *	All wards
Two-roomed	14 3,187	15 3,354	2 2,620	6 5,261	1 1,900	7 3,310	1	46 3,490
	Rs. a. p. 6 2 3	Rs. a. p. 6 5 9	Rs. a. p. 8 6 8	Rs. a. p. 7 3 8	Rs. a. p. 7 0 0	Rs. a. p. 7 11 5		Rs. a. p. 6 11 0
Three-roomed	7 4,761	7 3,306	2 3,157	2 2,514		2 2,907		20 3,681
	Rs. a. p. 7 5 3	Rs. a. p. 9 0 0	Rs. a. p. 4 9 4	Rs. a. p. 3 12 8		Rs. a. p. 5 1 8		Rs. a. p. 7 1 0
Four-roomed	4 4,932				1 3,710			5 4,688
	Rs. a. p. 11 1 4				Rs. a. p. 12 0 0			Rs. a. p. 11 4 3
Five-roomed	1 5,376							1 5,376
	Rs. a. p. 15 6 0							Rs. a. p. 15 6 0
Nine-roomed						1 9,970		1 9,970
						Rs. a. p. 16 10 8		Rs. a. p. 16 10 8

* Asarwa.

1034

LABOUR GAZETTE

JULY, 1927

Measurement in cubic feet	One-roomed tenements	Two-roomed tenements	Three-roomed tenements	Four-roomed tenements	Five-roomed tenements	Nine-roomed tenements	All tenements
Below 500	1	1					2
500 and below 1,000	4	1					5
1,000 "	7	2					9
1,500 "	7	11					20
2,000 "	4	5					10
2,500 "	6	2					13
3,000 "	3	5					11
3,500 "	3	6					13
4,000 "	2	2					7
4,500 "	1	6					8
5,000 "							2
5,500 "							2
6,000 "							2
6,500 "							1
7,000 "							1
7,500 "							1
8,000 "							3
8,500 "							1
9,000 "							1
9,500 "							1
10,000 and over							1*
Total	39	40	20	5	1	1	112

* 10,800 cubic feet.

3. Frequency of Dimensions
(Middle Class)

A frequency table showing the space available in cubic feet in middle class tenements is given below. The most common type of middle class one-roomed tenement measures from 1000-2000 cubic feet, the arithmetic average for the most prevalent type measures from 1500-2000 cubic feet although tenements up to 4000 cubic feet are also common. The arithmetic mean for all two and more roomed tenements is 3739 cubic feet.

JULY, 1927

LABOUR GAZETTE

1035

It may be pointed out here that in working out the cubic measurement of tenements of both the labour and the middle classes verandahs whether closed or open were not taken into consideration. Verandahs are not common in Ahmedabad.

4. Frequency of Rents

A frequency table showing the rents paid by the middle class is given below:—

Frequency of Rents
(Middle Class)
1926

Monthly rent in Rupees	One-roomed tenements	Two-roomed tenements	Three-roomed tenements	Four-roomed tenements	Five-roomed tenements	Nine-roomed tenements	All tenements
1 and below 2	1	..	1	..	..	..	1
2 " " 3	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
3 " " 4	6	6	1	..	..	..	13
4 " " 5	1	8	2	..	..	..	11
5 " " 6	13	6	2	..	..	..	21
6 " " 7	10	5	3	..	..	..	18
7 " " 8	3	6	5	..	..	..	14
8 " " 9	2	..	1	1	..	..	12
9 " " 10	1	1	..	1	..	..	2
10 " " 11	2	1	1	1	..	..	5
11 " " 12	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
12 " " 13	..	1	1	2	..	..	4
13 " " 14	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
14 " " 15	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
15 " " 16	..	..	2	..	1	..	3
16 " " 17	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
17 " " 18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18 " over	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Total	39	46	20	5	1	1	112

For one-roomed tenements the most common rent is from Rs. 5-6. In the case of two and more roomed tenements the figures do not group themselves about any pronouncedly prevalent type. The reason is that the tenements are so heterogeneous in type as to fall into many distinct classes. Rents from Rs. 7-8 may be said to be more common than other groups for two and more roomed tenements. All tenements taken together the most prevalent type is from Rs. 5-6.

One three-roomed tenement fetching a monthly rent of Rs. 1-10-8 was found in Dariapur.

III. GENERAL AMENITIES

1. Ventilation

The number of windows to each tenement was noted down on the form of enquiry. The number of windows is not of course an adequate index of the state of ventilation because the windows may not be kept

open and even if kept open may admit dust and smoke instead of light and fresh air. The size of the windows has not been taken down.

Number of Windows

Tenements with	Working Class		Middle Class	
	Number	Percentage to total	Number	Percentage to total
No Windows	51	45.6	17	17.0
1 Window	26	25.1	19	17.0
2 Windows	88	11.0	20	23.7
3 Windows	21	5.3	15	13.4
4 Windows	21	2.9	14	12.1
5 Windows and over	20	3.3	13	13.4
Unspecified	14	2.4	6	3.5
Total	799	100	112	100

It will be seen from the above figures that 45.6 per cent. of working class tenements have no windows at all. Only 17 per cent. of middle class tenements have no windows.

2. Conservancy

Information was collected about the number of privies and the number of tenements making use of them. The privies belong either to the Municipality or to the Punch or to private persons. By Punch privies are meant the privies maintained in common by people in different *pols*. "The peculiarity of the houses of Ahmedabad is that they are generally built in blocks or *pols* varying in size from small courts of from five to ten houses to large quarters of the city containing as many as 10,000 inhabitants. The larger blocks are generally crossed by one main street with a gate at each end and are subdivided into smaller courts and blocks each with its separate gate branching off from either side of the chief thoroughfare."* In the case of Municipal and Punch privies it is not possible to find out how many tenements each of them is serving. In the case of private privies alone the number of tenements served by them was ascertained. At the time of tabulation the following classification was adopted:—

One privy for eight tenements and less	..	Good
One privy for more than eight but less than sixteen tenements	..	Fair
One privy for sixteen tenements and over	..	Bad

* Imperial Gazetteer.

According to this classification the following results were arrived at:—

Privies

Tenements with	Working Class		Middle Class	
	Number	Percentage to total	Number	Percentage to total
Municipal privies	382	47·8	24	21·4
Punch privies	42	5·3	28	25·0
Private privies—				
Good	172	21·5	55	49·1
Fair	114	14·3	2	1·8
Bad	24	3·0		
Others	7	0·9		
No privies	53	6·6	1	0·9
Unspecified	5	0·6	2	1·8
Total	799	100	112	100

Where there is no privy people use adjoining open spaces. Under "Others" come privies in dharmasalas, etc. About 48 per cent. of the working classes use Municipal privies as against 21 per cent. of the middle class. Punch privies are more common among the middle class than among the working class.

Water-Supply

The classification adopted in the case of conservancy applies to water-supply also. The following table summarises the available information.

Water-taps

Tenements with	Working Class		Middle Class	
	Number	Percentage to total	Number	Percentage to total
Municipal taps	223	27·9	7	6·2
Private taps—				
Good	269	33·6	97	86·6
Fair	59	7·4	2	1·8
Bad	162	20·3	2	1·8
Others	19	2·4	1	0·9
Well water	64	8·0	3	2·7
Unspecified	3	0·4		
Total	799	100	112	100

Under "Others" come taps in mosques, temples, etc. About 20 per cent. of labour class tenements have been classified as bad from the standpoint of water supply. The use of wells is common especially in Asarwa and Gomtipur. About 6 per cent. of the middle classes depend on Municipal taps.

The classification into good, fair and bad is done merely on the basis of the number of tenements served by each tap and does not take into consideration the scarcity of water due to other reasons, e.g., want of sufficient flow in the Municipal mains, etc.

IV. COMPARISON BETWEEN WORKING AND MIDDLE CLASS TENEMENTS

The following table summarises the principal results of the enquiry and at the same time compares working and middle class tenements.

Summary Table

	Working Class		Middle Class	
	One-roomed tenements	Two and more roomed tenements	One-roomed tenements	Two and more roomed tenements
No. of tenements tabulated ..	635	164	39	73
Measurement in cubic feet ..	1544	3195	2298	3739
Modal class for above ..	1000-1500	2000-2500	1000-2000	1500-2500
Rent in 1926 (all tenements) ..	Rs. a. p. 4 6 1	Rs. a. p. 6 6 10	Rs. a. p. 5 9 8	Rs. a. p. 7 5 9
Modal class for above ..	Rs. 4-Rs. 5	Rs. 5-Rs. 6	Rs. 5-Rs. 6	Rs. 7-Rs. 8
Percentage of tenements with—				
No windows		45·6	17·0	
Municipal privies		47·8	21·4	
Municipal taps		27·9	6·2	

If the figures for the working and the middle classes are compared by wards some apparent inconsistencies like middle-class rents being lower than working-class rents and averages for two and more roomed tenements being less than those for one-roomed tenements arise. The former is due to the fact that the incomes of the working and the middle classes overlap and middle-class families with lower incomes are forced to adopt a standard of life in some respects lower than that of working class families with higher incomes. The latter is explained by the heterogeneous nature of the material sampled. Two-roomed tenements need not necessarily be bigger than one-roomed tenements and are in fact sometimes let out at lower rents in some places. These apparent inconsistencies disappear in the general averages for all wards where the number of tenements taken into consideration is large. The summary table given above therefore contains no such inconsistencies.

V. COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS ENQUIRIES

A house rent enquiry was conducted for labour class one-roomed tenements in Ahmedabad in 1923 and the results were published on page 1178 of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1925. The method of sampling adopted in that enquiry was not as systematic as in the present enquiry. Where the results of the two enquiries differ in certain respects which cannot be explained, the results of the present enquiry may be taken to supersede those of the previous one for the reason stated above.

SPECIMEN FORM OF ENQUIRY
The Ahmedabad Rent Enquiry, 1926

Serial No.	Ward No.	Street and Locality	Name and address of owner	Labour or middle class	Old or new Building	No. of rooms	Dimensions of each room l x b x h	Rent in		Remarks (occupation of tenant, etc.)
								1913-1914	1926	

Middle Class Unemployment in the Bombay Presidency

In the October 1926 issue of the *Labour Gazette* reference has been made to an Enquiry into Middle Class Unemployment which the Labour Office had undertaken. This enquiry was completed at the beginning of this year and the results based upon it are now incorporated in a special report which has just been published. It is proposed here to give a brief summary of the report.

The report which contains numerous tables and runs over more than 100 closely printed pages is divided into five sections. Section I contains introductory remarks regarding the definition of the subject-matter of the enquiry and the manner and method of conducting it. In Section II the statistics of unemployment relating to Bombay city have been analysed and commented upon. In Section III the combined results for the three mofussil centres, Poona, Ahmedabad and Karachi have been discussed. Section IV is devoted to the presentation of statistics collected for the other centres in the Presidency and Section V contains a discussion of the combined results of the whole Presidency.

This enquiry arose out of Government Resolution No. 5863 of 23rd September 1926 directing the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence to collect statistics regarding unemployment among the middle classes. The method of enquiry decided upon by the Labour Office was to draw up a suitable schedule and to send copies of this schedule together with a circular letter (copies of the schedule and the circular letter have already been printed on pages 238-40 of the November 1926 issue of the *Labour Gazette*) to various heads of offices, departments, schools, colleges, etc. with a request that the schedules might be circulated amongst unemployed persons known to themselves, to their subordinates, friends or students. In all, 20,446 schedules were circulated in the Presidency out of which 2575 were received back duly completed. A number of these schedules was defective and out of the total, only 1852 were accepted for final tabulation.

This enquiry relates to persons unemployed during the month of November 1926.

The schedules were, on the whole, filled in satisfactorily by the persons returning them.

It was a matter of considerable difficulty for the Labour Office to decide upon a definition of the expression "middle class." This expression is one of those expressions in common use, the general significance of which is understood by all, but which it is somewhat difficult precisely to define. In this report the term "middle class" covers educated persons engaged for the most part in non-manual occupations. A further limitation was introduced because the enquiry dealt with only those who were literate in English, although there are of course many educated members of the middle class who do not know English. The reason for this limitation was (1) that the problem of middle-class employment, as generally understood, chiefly affects persons ordinarily engaged in the larger cities,

who by the nature of their education and occupation are "English knowing" and (2) the difficulty of approaching those who are chiefly engaged in *Pedhis* and small trading concerns.

The "unemployed" for the purposes of this enquiry include (a) persons who had once had employment, but had lost it and (b) persons who are qualified for and desirous of holding a post, but have not been able to obtain one. In the case of the latter, the duration of unemployment has been counted from the fifth month after the individual was qualified for a post and desired to obtain one.

The Labour Office enquiry, therefore, covers unemployed persons not engaged in purely manual occupations, who have been educated at least upto the English Fourth Standard and have earned a salary of not less than Rs. 50 per month or are qualified to hold a post at that pay. The enquiry does not include pensioners or persons with fluctuating or unascertainable incomes. It also excludes persons in business on their own account and those following the learned professions.

BOMBAY CITY

Out of the 1852 schedules tabulated for the whole Presidency, 1244 or 67·17 per cent. were for Bombay city only. In Bombay city, only 9 unemployed women workers furnished schedules, but from this figure no deduction whatever can be drawn as to the relative incidence of unemployment among the sexes.

In Bombay city, of the 1244 unemployed persons, 65·76 per cent. had been previously employed while 34·24 per cent. had never been in employment. Of the total, 33·92 per cent. had been unemployed for six months or less, 29·02 per cent. for from seven to twelve months and 30·71 per cent. for over a year.

The bulk of the unemployed or 77·65 per cent. of the total were below the age of 32 and 61·41 per cent. of the total were between the ages of 17 and 26. Only about 12 per cent. were over 37. It appears from these figures that unemployment affects mostly younger men, very largely those who have just left school or college.

It is seen that 57·16 per cent. of the total unemployed in Bombay were unmarried. Of those 31 years of age and under, 68·12 per cent. were unmarried and of those 26 and under, 76·31 per cent. were unmarried.

As regards the duration of unemployment, excluding 79 cases in which it was not specified, in 67·21 per cent. the duration was one year or less.

The analysis of the figures according to religion and caste and native place shows that 64·79 per cent. were Hindus, 3·94 per cent. were Muhammadans, 13·18 per cent. were Parsis, 15·44 per cent. Christians, 2·09 per cent. Jews and 0·56 per cent. others. The bulk of the unemployed persons or nearly 80 per cent. of the total belong to the Bombay Presidency. Only 7·80 per cent. hail from Madras.

The table giving the analysis of the qualifications of unemployed persons is of interest. It is seen that nearly 50 per cent. of the unemployed persons covered by the returns do not possess what are generally regarded as the minimum qualifications. In 605 cases or 48·64 per cent. of the total the individual had not even passed the School Leaving Certificate Examination. Only 164 persons or 13·18 per cent. of the total had

passed the Matric or its equivalent examination. Fifty-one or 4·10 per cent. were undergraduates and 77 or 6·18 per cent. were graduates.

The returns when analysed according to the salary earned during previous employment by unemployed persons show that of the total, in 474 or 57·95 per cent. of the cases the salary earned was less than Rs. 80 per mensem, in 275 or 33·61 per cent. of the cases it was over Rs. 80 per month but below Rs. 175, while in 57 or 6·97 per cent. of the total it was over Rs. 175. The highest salary reported was Rs. 550 per month. The fact that the majority of the unemployed persons earned during their previous employment a comparatively low salary is not surprising when one considers that the majority of them are very poorly qualified.

One of the heads under which information was asked for in the schedule was the means of livelihood of the unemployed persons during the period of unemployment. The analysis of the information received under this head is of great interest. It shows that in nearly half the number of cases the unemployed person is supported by his relatives. The relatives most frequently reported to be supporting were the father and the brother. About 10 per cent. of the unemployed persons maintained themselves on savings. 6·75 per cent. of the persons reported that they were doing casual work. In 5·55 per cent. of the cases the means of livelihood reported were "debts." In 3·78 per cent. of the cases it was the support of friends and in 1·88 per cent. cases it was charity. There were a few cases in which the unemployed person reported that he had taken to agriculture as a means of livelihood.

The number of cases in which unemployed persons had no dependents to support was only 173 or 13·91 per cent. of the total. The average number of dependents per unemployed person comes to 3·13.

The cause of unemployment was in 46·58 per cent. of the cases given as "retrenchment." In 8·44 per cent. of the cases it was attributed to "closing down of the office" in which the unemployed person had served. If this is also regarded as "retrenchment," this cause (*i.e.*, retrenchment) accounts for 55·02 per cent. of the unemployment. In 127 cases or 15·53 per cent. of the total, the cause of leaving last employment was "illness." In 82 or 10·02 per cent. of the cases, unemployment was due to resignation. It is surprising that so large a number of men should voluntarily place themselves on the unemployed list. The causes given for resigning were various. Some reported that they resigned in order to improve their prospects, others complained of ill-treatment at the hands of their superiors. In one case the person who was working as a salesman resigned because he thought the work "not agreeable to an educated man" and in one instance the unemployed person resigned because his politics did not agree with those of his master.

The position previously held by the majority of unemployed persons was that of a clerk. If typists and head clerks are also regarded as clerks, this group accounts for no less than 62·96 per cent. of the total.

It is seen that in nearly half the number of cases the means adopted by unemployed persons to secure employment were either applications only, or applications and personal calls. In no case was it stated that efforts were made to secure employment through the agency of some employment bureau.

POONA, AHMEDABAD AND KARACHI

The method of enquiry followed in the case of these three centres of the Presidency was the same as in the case of Bombay city, but the number of circular letters and schedules sent to these places was very much smaller than in Bombay city. The number of completed schedules received was only 697. Out of these, 443 were accepted for final tabulation, 58 for Ahmedabad, 172 for Poona and 213 for Karachi.

Neither in Ahmedabad nor in Karachi were schedules returned by females. In Poona city only 3 females returned the schedule.

It is seen that out of the 443 unemployed persons in these three centres, 243 or 54·85 per cent. of the total had been previously employed while 200 or 45·15 per cent. had never been in employment. Of the total, 33·41 per cent. were unemployed for six months or less, 30·02 per cent. for seven months to one year, 31·15 per cent. for more than one year, while 5·42 per cent. did not specify the duration of unemployment.

Of the total number of unemployed persons, 83·97 per cent. were below 32 years of age and 72·23 per cent. were between the ages of 17 and 26. Only 16·03 per cent. were over 32 years of age. As regards their civil condition, 48·98 per cent. were married, 48·31 per cent. were unmarried and 2·71 per cent. were widowers.

As regards the qualifications of unemployed persons in these three centres, of the total 443 unemployed, 192 or 43·34 per cent. had not even passed the Matriculation examination, 76 or 17·16 per cent. had passed the Matric or an equivalent examination, 29 or 6·55 per cent. were undergraduates, 42 or 9·48 per cent. were graduates and only 26 or 5·87 per cent. were typists.

As in Bombay city in these three centres, unemployment seems to affect persons on low salaries. The figures for those earning between Rs. 50 and Rs. 80, Rs. 81 and Rs. 175 and Rs. 176 and above are 60·1, 30·4 and 9·5 per cent. respectively.

An analysis of the means of livelihood during unemployment in these three centres shows that 46·05 per cent. were supported by relatives, 9·48 per cent. were living by means of casual work while 8·58 per cent. were living on the income from real property. As in Bombay city, the average number of dependents per unemployed person comes to a little over 3.

Unemployment in these three centres seems to be mostly due to retrenchment (i.e., retrenchment and the closing down of offices). Of the total, not less than 48·97 per cent. of the persons reported that the cause of leaving last employment was retrenchment. Illness was responsible for 11·94 per cent. of the unemployment, temporary work for 16·46 per cent., dismissal for 2·88 per cent., resignation for 5·76 per cent. and other causes for 13·17 per cent.

The table given in the report showing the duration of unemployment and the last position held brings out the fact that in Poona and in Karachi, the position previously held by the majority of unemployed persons was that of a clerk. The sample for Ahmedabad is too meagre to draw any conclusions from.

In all the three centres, the means adopted to secure employment were in the majority of cases either applications only, or personal calls and

applications. If all the three centres are considered, it will be seen that out of a total of 443, in 187 or 42 per cent. of the cases applications were the only means adopted while in 85 or 19 per cent. of the cases personal calls and applications were the means adopted to secure employment.

COMBINED RESULTS OF THE ENQUIRY FOR THE WHOLE PRESIDENCY

In the last section of the Report the results of the enquiry as a whole have been presented in order to enable the reader to get an idea of the middle class unemployment problem as it affects the whole Presidency. It is seen that of the total number of unemployed persons 59·56 per cent. had held previous employment, while 40·44 per cent. were never employed.

80·24 per cent. of the total unemployed persons were below the age of 32, 65·98 per cent. were below 27 years of age and 30·13 per cent. were below 22 years of age.

Of the total unemployed persons in the Presidency, 42·60 per cent. were married, 53·89 per cent. were unmarried, 3·19 per cent. were widowers while in 0·32 per cent. of the cases the civil condition was not specified.

Excluding 119 cases in which the duration of unemployment was not specified, in 615 or 35·49 per cent. of the cases the duration of unemployment was less than six months, in 529 or 30·52 per cent. of the cases it was over six months but not over one year, in 312 or 18 per cent. of the cases it was over one year but not over two years and in only 277 or 15·99 per cent. of the cases it was over two years. It will thus be seen that the majority or 66·01 per cent. of the persons were unemployed for a period of only one year or less.

Analysed according to religion and caste and region of origin it is seen that of the total number of unemployed persons in the Presidency, 69·22 per cent. were Hindus, 5·35 per cent. Muhammadans, 10·20 per cent. Parsis, 13·01 per cent. Christians, 1·84 per cent. Jews while in 7 or 0·38 per cent. of the cases the religion of the unemployed persons was not specified. Nearly 81 per cent. of the unemployed persons belong to the Bombay Presidency.

As regards educational qualifications, it is seen that 47·68 per cent. of the total had not passed the Matriculation examination which is considered the minimum qualification for a person desirous of entering Government service. 13·60 per cent. of the unemployed had passed the Matriculation or an equivalent examination, 4·59 per cent. were undergraduates, 7·02 per cent. were graduates, 5·78 per cent. knew typing, 1·73 per cent. knew shorthand and the rest either possessed some other miscellaneous qualification, technical or otherwise, or did not specify their qualifications or specified them very imperfectly.

The tables in the report showing the salary earned during previous employment indicate clearly that the unemployment problem is one that chiefly affects the lower paid workers. It is seen that out of the total unemployed persons in the Presidency, 58·57 per cent. earned a salary of Rs. 80 or below, 32·91 per cent. earned a salary of over Rs. 80 and below Rs. 175 and only 7·43 per cent. earned a salary over Rs. 175. In 12 or 1·09 per cent. of the cases the salary earned was not specified.

As regards the means of livelihood during unemployment, it is seen that 49·46 per cent. of the total or nearly half the number of unemployed persons were supported by their relatives during the period of unemployment. 8·15 per cent. maintained themselves on previous savings, 7·67 per cent. by casual work, and 4·91 per cent. by income from real property. Cases in which the unemployed person had to depend upon vicarious charity were comparatively few.

It appears that retrenchment is the principal cause of unemployment as in no fewer than 579 or 52·49 per cent. of the cases, the cause assigned for unemployment was retrenchment. In 15·14 per cent. of the cases it was illness, in 14·32 per cent. of the cases the unemployed person lost his job because it was a temporary one and in 8·98 per cent. of the cases unemployment was due to resignation.

The position previously held by the majority of unemployed persons was that of a clerk. 50·95 per cent. of the total returned themselves as clerks, 6·80 per cent. as typists, 2·36 per cent. as head clerks and 2·81 per cent. as store keepers. All these persons can be styled as clerks and the combined figure thus comes to 62·92 per cent. of the total.

It appears that the majority of unemployed persons try to secure an appointment either by means of applications only or by personal calls and applications.

The Weekly Rest in Spain

REGULATION FOR THE FISHING INDUSTRY

As the result of a request addressed to the Spanish Ministry of Labour by the Federation of Fishing-boat Owners, the Minister has recently amended the Regulation of 17th December 1926 relating to the application of the Sunday rest in the fishing industry.

The Regulation in question provided that if, by virtue of any exemption, the crew of a fishing-boat were unable to take their weekly rest on Sunday, they were to be allowed another day of rest per seven-day period, taken after each two voyages of 3 to 7 days' duration, or at the end of each voyage of more than 7 days.

The new Regulation lays down that the rest day may be suspended over longer periods, but that in all cases the crew must be granted 13 days of rest in every period of three months, without any deduction from wages.

On Sundays, except in case of *force majeure*, the crews of fishing-boats shall not be called upon to undertake any work other than that of navigation and ensuring the safety of the vessel. All work not justified by the special circumstances laid down in the Regulation shall be paid for as overtime. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 6, 1927.)

Labour in the Japanese Cotton Industry

A Report on the Cotton Spinning and Weaving Industry in Japan for the year 1925-26 has recently been issued by Mr. W. Cunningham, His Majesty's Consul at Osaka. The report deals, among other things, with the conditions of labour in the Japanese cotton industry, and it is proposed briefly to summarise in this article those parts of the Report which deal with this subject.

The beginning of the Japanese Cotton Industry dates from the year 1867 when the first mills were created. In the early years the industry did not make much progress and it was not until the year 1896, when the import duty on raw cotton was abolished, that it became one of national importance. It was, however, the Great War which gave the industry its great opportunity and led to its unprecedented development. After the restoration of peace, the industry suffered from the post-war slump, but since 1921, notwithstanding the earthquake disaster in 1923, the industry has resumed its unusual progress. In 1925 production both of yarn and of piecegoods attained record figures in spite of the world wide slump in trade and industry.

The following table gives the number of operatives employed by the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association and the rates of wages paid —

Number of, and Average Daily Wages paid to, Cotton Spinning and Weaving Operatives in Japan during 1916-1925*

A—SPINNING

Period	Average number of operatives			Average daily wages (in yen)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Per operative
1916	24,195	95,349	119,544	0·504	0·336	0·370
1917	25,776	96,852	122,628	0·573	0·392	0·430
1918	26,536	90,473	117,009	0·747	0·519	0·570
1919	32,568	106,110	138,678	1·339	1·079	1·140
1920	33,331	106,661	139,992	1·514	1·131	1·222
1921	35,295	106,450	141,745	1·486	1·175	1·252
1922	42,130	135,431	177,561	1·537	1·234	1·306
1923	36,724	114,911	151,635	1·481	1·181	1·254
1924	36,319	118,854	155,173	1·530	1·202	1·278
1925	40,037	136,233	176,270	1·554	1·221	1·297

* Figures in this table relate to the second half of each year.

B—WEAVING

Period	Average number of operatives			Average daily wages (in yen)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Per operative
1916 ..	3,764	22,733	26,497	0·535	0·409	0·427
1917 ..	4,588	23,525	28,113	0·611	0·465	0·488
1918 ..	5,796	30,150	35,946	0·774	0·570	0·603
1919 ..	8,741	39,838	48,579	1·347	1·072	1·122
1920 ..	7,725	37,018	44,743	1·516	1·110	1·180
1921 ..	6,681	31,766	38,447	1·524	1·181	1·241
1922 ..	7,947	38,416	46,353	1·554	1·218	1·276
1923 ..	8,045	40,306	48,351	1·479	1·185	1·234
1924 ..	8,123	43,327	51,450	1·540	1·169	1·228
1925 ..	8,882	47,615	56,497	1·578	1·227	1·283

From the above table it will be seen that since 1916 the number of spinners has increased by 47 per cent. and the number of weavers by 113 per cent. Another remarkable feature of the above table is that of the spinners 22·7 per cent. are males and 77·3 per cent. are females, while of the weavers only 15·7 per cent. are males and 84·3 per cent. are females. This presents a sharp contrast to conditions in the Indian Cotton Industry where the majority of the operatives are males.

The average daily wage per operative in 1925 was for spinners 1·297 yen or Re. 1-7-5 per day. The average daily wage of males in the spinning department was Re. 1-12-1 and of females Re. 1-6-1. In the weaving department the average daily wage in 1925 was 1·283 yen or Re. 1-7-2 per day, that for female operatives being Re. 1-6-2 and for male operatives Re. 1-12-6. It appears from these figures that there is only a slight difference in Japan in the wages paid to males and females and that the wages paid to spinners are a little higher than those paid to weavers. In India, on the other hand, there is a very appreciable difference between the wages paid to males and females and those paid to weavers and spinners in the cotton mills. There is no universal rule in the Japanese cotton industry as regards the method of payment of wages, but, speaking generally, the mill employees are paid at a daily rate of wages while the female employees are paid according to the amount of work done.

During the last fifteen years the average number of working days per month in the Japanese cotton spinning and weaving mills has not varied very considerably. In 1912 it was 27·8, in 1923 26·8, in 1924 26·3 and in 1925 26·7. Usually no work is done on Sundays and the practice of observing this day as a general holiday has increased very noticeably during the past few years.

In the spinning departments of the mills, the practice of working double shifts may be said to be universal and the average number of working hours in 1912 was 22·3. There has since then been a decrease and the average in 1923 was 20·47 hours, in 1924 18·54 hours, and in 1925 19·80 hours.

As regards the efficiency of operatives in the mills there is a consensus of opinion among industrialists in Japan that during recent years there has been little or no change. A great impediment in the way of improving the efficiency of the workers has been the comparatively short length of time for which the women operatives remain in the mills. The majority of the girls take up the work as a means of obtaining some money before marriage and the average length of time spent in a mill is seldom more than two and at the outside three years. In the case of the male operatives conditions are somewhat better as many of them remain some years in the mills and attain considerable knowledge of their work. Figures of the number of spindles and looms managed by operatives however show that there has been actually in recent years an improvement in the efficiency of workers. In 1925, as compared with 1920, it would appear that as regards spinning there has been a decrease of between 4 and 5 in the number of operatives required to attend 1000 spindles. This amounts to an improvement of about 16·5 per cent. As regards weaving, the improvement amounts to 28·2 per cent.

The Eight-Hour Day in France

SALARIED WORKERS AND OVERTIME

According to the provisions of the French Eight-Hour Day Act of 23rd April 1919, before the Act is enforced in any industry public administrative regulations are issued setting forth the exemptions allowed for certain specific occupations.

The question arose recently whether a salaried worker paid by the month, i.e., working on a contract, has the right to demand the payment of overtime by his employer for any hours worked over and above the legal eight-hour day.

A chemist's dispenser demanded from his employer the payment of overtime hours worked in accordance with the exemptions authorised by the Decree of 5th March 1926. In opposing this claim, the chemist insisted on the fact that the work was performed under a contract, and also that the dispenser had only made the claim after leaving his employment.

The *Conseil de Prud'hommes*, before whom the case was brought, pronounced in favour of the dispenser.

The employer thereupon appealed to the 7th Chamber of the Tribunal, which confirmed the judgment of the *Prud'hommes*, and laid down that (1) effective hours of overtime should be paid for at an enhanced rate, and (2) the fact that payment was not claimed at once did not constitute a renunciation of the right to it. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 6, 1927.)

Reviews of Books and Reports

Economics of Agricultural Progress (with reference to conditions in the Deccan), by B. G. Sapre, M.A., pp. 207, 1926

The object of the author in writing this little book is, as he points out in his prefatory note, "to marshal some of those considerations which form the background of agricultural prosperity." His immediate purpose in writing the book, appears however to be to present the Royal Commission on Indian Agriculture with his views on the various questions into which they are at present enquiring.

It is difficult within the narrow limits of a review adequately to deal with a book running over more than 200 pages. But a few points arising out of the book may be referred to here. In the first place, the title of the book is very misleading. In a book on the economics of agricultural progress, one would expect to find either an examination of the general theoretical considerations underlying agricultural progress or at least a statistical and economic analysis of the subject. What one actually finds is a super-abundance of the author's personal opinions on various questions, very often based only on a pinpoint of fact.

The method followed by the author in dealing with the subject is extremely vague. As he himself acknowledges, he has followed neither the extensive nor the intensive method of investigation and on p. 3 where he attempts to explain his method, it amounts to this that he has followed no particular method of enquiry at all.

Many of the suggestions made by the author for agricultural improvement are not only jejune but even fantastic. For instance, on p. 184 he seriously suggests that Government should start wood depots in every village in order to prevent cowdung cakes being used for cremation purposes. On the same page he emphasises the necessity of passing legislation to regulate the keeping of goats to avoid damage to vegetation! He suggests the creation of various officers for talukas and districts to look after almost every side of the peasants' life and when it comes to considering the cost of such schemes he dismisses it with the remark "by additions here and retrenchments there such a body of subordinate officials can be put together without any considerable extra burden upon the taxpayer." (p. 189).

The documentation in this book being defective, it is very difficult to verify the statements made by the author or to check the statistics used by him for drawing his conclusions. Most of the statements are unsupported by evidence and the references given are very inadequate, and in some cases even inaccurate. For instance, on p. 100 where it is possible to check the statement from the source indicated, it is seen that the author has misquoted Dr. Mann and has also given an inaccurate reference, since the statement has been taken not from p. 44 but from p. 46 of Dr. Mann's book. In the bibliography on p. 206, the title of Gadgil's book has been wrongly given. The table on p. 88 does not occur on p. 43 but p. 42 of the *Statistical Atlas*.

As in the case of most recent books on Indian economics, the present book leaves much to be desired as regards the presentation of statistical

It will be seen that on p. 196 the average given in the last column is 17.8 while the correct average ought to be somewhere near 15.8. The table on p. 88 which is called a comparative table is thoroughly defective. On p. 156 it is said that landholders had between them 718 separate plots of land but the total of the table comes to 723 and not 718. It is not understood why there should be a difference in the number of holdings given on p. 116 and on p. 196.

In spite of its numerous shortcomings, the book is a useful addition to the existing literature on the subject.

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Annual Report on the Working of the Indian Factories Act in the United Provinces for the year 1926, by W. G. Mackay, Allahabad. The Superintendent, Government Printing Press, U. P., 1927

The total number of factories in the United Provinces at the end of the year under report was 335 as compared with 294 in 1925. The total average daily number of operatives was 85,517 as compared with 78,942 in the previous year.

There were during the year 1637 accidents, 12 fatal, 141 serious and 1484 minor.

The weekly hours of work in 52 factories were not more than 48, in 20 factories they were not more than 54 and in 236 factories they were above 54. On the whole, however, the working hours of the majority of factories were upto the total hours of work allowed by the Act.

As regards welfare work, it is pointed out that Indian owned and managed concerns were not doing very much for the welfare of their employees but, speaking generally, many of the large industrial concerns in the province do something in this direction by providing free medical attendance for their employees, schools for employees' children or donations to hospitals and dispensaries. Some concerns also provide creches.

The wages of both skilled and unskilled labour remained practically the same as in the previous year.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 102, JUNE 1927. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *Pension Funds: Some Preliminary Considerations*, by Sir Joseph Burn, K.B.E., pp. 179-182.

(2) *Welfare in the Dyeing and Cleaning Industry. III.*—Superannuation scheme—non-contributory; superannuation scheme—contributory; savings bank; sick club and funeral benefit society; dental treatment; mess room; holidays; works council; fire brigade; social side; men's club; girls' club; long service; the South Hackney and District Business Houses Athletic Association. pp. 183-187.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, NO. 5, MAY 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Report of Board in Dispute between the Shipping Federation of Canada and the Canadian Pacific Steamships, Limited, and their Checkers and Coopers.*—Report of Board—statement by Col. W. I. Gear, on behalf of the shipping companies, brotherhood of railway and steamship clerks, freight handlers, express and station employees. pp. 492-495.

(2) Report of Board in Dispute between the Canadian National Railways and its clerks, freight handlers, etc., in and around shops and roundhouses.—Report of Board; minority report pp. 496-500.

(3) Labour Legislation Enacted by the Parliament of Canada and the Legislatures of Quebec and Manitoba in 1927.—Canada; Quebec; Manitoba. pp. 506-507.

(4) Lumber Industry and Workmen's Compensation in New Brunswick.—Report of Provincial Royal Commission; the report—prevention of accidents, first aid, administration of the Act, estimated payroll, application for compensation, co-operation, adjusting assessments; summary. pp. 508-510.

(5) Workmen's Compensation in Nova Scotia and British Columbia during ten years.—Nova Scotia—industrial conditions in 1926, value of compensation, accidents, medical aid, income and expenditure by classes, administration, etc.; British Columbia—protection to workmen, accidents and claims during 1926, accident prevention. pp. 511-514.

(6) Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Manitoba: New Order Governing certain Manufacturing Industries.—Hours of labour; wages; permits of exemption. pp. 515-516.

(7) Industrial Conditions in Canada and the United States: Report of Delegation appointed by British Government.—General characteristics; industrial relations; earnings of labour; hours of work; conditions in Canada; pp. 518-521.

(8) Fascist "Charter of Labour" for Italy.—Text of the Charter. pp. 524-526.

(9) League of Nations International Labour Organization: Tenth Session of the International Labour Conference.—Ratification of conventions by Jugo-Slavia; the eight-hour day in France; the right of association by employers and employed; international survey of legal decisions on labour law, 1925; recent publications regarding international labour organization. pp. 534-536.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 6, JUNE 1927.
(Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) An inquiry in regard to the Cause of Spinners' Scrotal Cancer, by James Robertson, M.B., D.P.H. (Medical Officer of Health, Darwen, England.) Introduction; part 1, the faller shaft and the process of oiling—the spinner and the faller shaft, the oiling of the bolster, experiments showing extent and duration of oil spray from bolster, experiment to measure throw of oil, starting the mule, the spinner and the oil spray, summary; part 2, a further investigation of the question of oil—capillary experiment; part 3, history—overalls; conclusions. pp. 217-238.

(2) A Study of the Lead Line, Arteriosclerosis, and Hypertension in 381 Lead Workers by May R. Mayers, M.A., M.D. (Bureau of Industrial Hygiene, New York State Department of Labor.)—Standardization of terminology; lead line in the gums; arteriosclerosis; hypertension; conclusions. pp. 239-249.

(3) The Comfort Zone for Men at Rest and Stripped to the Waist, by C.P. Yaglou (Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.)—Introduction—other investigations on determining the comfort zone; equipment; experimental procedure; advantages and disadvantages of experimental method; experimental data—sensations of comfort in relation to effective temperature and relative humidity; effect of diurnal and seasonal acclimatization on sensations of comfort; effect of clothing on temperature limits of comfort zone; seasonal variation in optimum temperature for comfort; thermometric chart with comfort zone superimposed; summary. pp. 250-263.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

Employment during May showed continued improvement in almost every industry. The improvement was again most marked in those industries in which unemployment nevertheless remained severe, such as shipbuilding, marine engineering, public works contracting, and the hand tool and cutlery industry. In the building and clothing industries there was a further seasonal improvement, and employment was good on the whole. There was also an improvement in general engineering, in the wool textile industry, textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., and the boot and shoe industry. In the coal-mining industry both the numbers wholly unemployed and the numbers temporarily stopped showed a slight decrease as compared with 25th April, but employment remained slack on the whole. Employment in the tin plate industry and among workers in the canal, river, dock, etc., service continued bad, and was worse than in the previous month.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 12,000,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) in all industries taken together at 23rd May 1927, was 8·8, as compared with 9·4 at 25th April 1927, and 14·3 at 24th May 1926. The percentage wholly unemployed declined from 7·2 at 25th April to 6·7 at 23rd May. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 30th May 1927, was approximately 1,015,000, of whom 823,000 were men and 136,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 25th April 1927, it was 1,075,000, of whom 867,000 were men and 144,000 were women, and at 31st May 1926, it was 1,675,000, of whom 1,246,000 were men and 333,000 were women. The figures for May 1926 (although exclusive of coal miners disqualified for unemployment benefit under the trade dispute provisions), were, of course, affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.)

* * * * *

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in May was 38. In addition, 15 disputes which began before May were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in May (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 16,000; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during May was about 73,000 working days. The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first five months of 1927 was about 594,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 45,000. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.)

* * * * *

At 1st June 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 63 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 64 per cent a month ago and 68 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 54, 54 and 58 respectively.

The fall in the index number at 1st June, as compared with a month earlier, was due to reductions in retail prices of coal. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.)

* * * * *

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The Departmental Committee on Workmen's Compensation appointed by the Government of the Irish Free State on 28th May 1926 has recommended important changes, especially in the rates of benefit. The existing law comprises the British legislation of 1906, as amended by the War Addition Acts. The general character of the changes proposed is similar to that of those introduced in Great Britain by the Act of 1923.

Insurance is at present optional. Proposals for State intervention to guarantee the payment of compensation were put aside by the Committee to wait until statistical evidence of the necessity of such intervention should become available.

There is no statutory right for an injured workman to medical aid (except as poor relief), since medical benefit is not provided by the health insurance scheme. It is recommended that, when medical aid is introduced as a health insurance benefit, the cost of additional treatment and of artificial limbs should be paid by employers.

Cash compensation in respect of fatal accidents should no longer vary with wages, but be fixed at a rate depending on the age of the widow and the number of her minor children; for the former, compensation would take the form of a lump sum, and for each child, that of an annuity up to the age of 15.

For total incapacity, there should be a weekly payment of 80 per cent. of earnings, if less than £1 a week, and 75 per cent. in other cases, subject to a maximum of 35s. a week.

For the first time in English-speaking countries a proposal is made to award additional compensation (20 per cent.) for every seriously disabled man needing constant help. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 20, 1927.)

* * * * *

The Italian Chamber of Deputies adopted on 31st March 1927 a Bill introduced by the Government on 15th December 1926 for the purpose of giving full and complete effect in Italy and her Colonies to the Convention concerning equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards workmen's compensation for accidents (Geneva, 1925).

The Bill was sent to the Senate on 3rd May. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 6, 1927.)

* * * * *

On 18th May 1927, the Belgian Senate adopted a Bill relating to "compensation for occupational diseases," which is intended to apply the Convention concerning workmen's compensation for occupational diseases

amended by the Seventh Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, 1925). (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 6, 1927.)

* * * * *

OTHER COUNTRIES

On 1st January 1927 an amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act of New Zealand came into force.

Its object is to raise the rates of compensation provided in the Act of 1920, which itself considerably increased the previous rates.

The new scale provides compensation for incapacity at the rate of two-thirds of wages, instead of 58 per cent. as hitherto, and lengthens the maximum period during which such compensation may be drawn from 156 weeks to 208 weeks.

The rate of compensation may not exceed £4 a week, nor may the aggregate payments exceed £1000. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 20, 1927.)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN JUNE 1927

JULY, 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Trades</i>						
1. The Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mill, Barsi.	640	44	4 May	1 June	Demand for the same rates of wages as are paid in Sholapur Mills.	The strike ended in favour of the workers.
2. The Bhag-sai Mill, Jalgaon.	328	120	9 May	1 June	Refusal to admit an operative to work after absence without leave.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
3. The Alexandra Mill, Ghorupdeo, Bombay.	400	..	1 June	2 June	Less work resulting in decrease in earnings.	The strike ended in a compromise.
4. The Patel Mills, Gomti-pur Road, Ahmedabad.	28	..	6 June	10 June	Demand for an increase in wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
5. The New Pratap Spinning and Weaving Mill, Dhul-ha, West Khandesh.	115	..	15 June	16 June	Demand for higher rates of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
<i>Miscellaneous</i>						
6. The Tatta Municipal ity, Tatta, Karachi District.	35	..	10 June	13 June	Demand for an increase in pay and for dismissal of a Jamadar.	The strike ended in favour of the workers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES*

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927		
I. Textile Mills— Cotton Mills ..	75	94 (a)	43	59 (a)	4	4	41	23	75	79	130	155
Others ..	1	3	1	2	..	..	1	1	1	4	2	5
Total ..	76	97	44	61	4	4	42	23	76	83	122	160
II. Miscellaneous— Engineering ..	12	3	73	72	..	1	14	14	71	60	85	75
Railway ..	32	60	326	259	..	1	42	40	316	273	350	319
Mint ..	1	..	2 (a)	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	1	2
Others ..	..	2	2 (a)	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	2
Total ..	45	65	401	331	..	2	58	59	309	335	447	396
III. Miscellaneous— Flour Mills ..	1	1	3	1	..	..	3	..	1	2	4	2
Others ..	3	5	2 (a)	4	..	..	3	4	3	5	6	9
Total ..	4	6	5	5	..	..	6	4	4	7	10	11
Total, All Factories ..	125	168	450	397	4	6	106	136	409	425	579	567

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927		
I. Textile Mills— Cotton ..	33	50(a)	26	25	1	1	30	41	28	34	59	76
Total ..	33	50	26	25	1	1	30	41	28	34	59	76
II. Miscellaneous— Match Factories ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Total, All Factories ..	35	50	27	25	1	1	32	41	29	34	62	76

* The figures for March and April, 1927, are preliminary estimates. The figures for January and February, 1927, are final.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES—(contd.)
3. Karachi City

JULY, 1927

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured		
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor				
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	
	I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust Engineering	..	3	4	2	1	4	5	4	5
Total	3	4	3	..	..	..	1	4	5	4	5	1
II Miscellaneous—	..	2	..	3	1	..	..	1	1	4	..	5	1
Total	2	..	3	1	..	..	1	1	4	..	5	1
Total, All Factories	2	3	7	4	..	..	1	2	8	5	9	7

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor			
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
	I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills Others	13 2	21 5	(d) 12 (a) ..	4 4	13 ..	1 ..	15 15	4 4	10 9	5 5	38 2	25 9
Total ..	15	26	12	8	13	1	16	19	11	14	40	34
II. Workshops— Railway Arms and Ammunition Others	5 1 1	6 .. 2	57 5 2	46 2 2	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	11 2 1	5 2 2	51 4 2	47 2 2	62 6 3	52 2 4
Total ..	7	8	64	50	..	..	14	7	57	51	71	58
II. Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pressing Factories Paint Works Others	5 .. 2	2 .. 3	5 (c) .. 7	1 .. 5	6 .. 1	.. .. ..	2 .. 3	.. .. 4	5 .. 5	3 4 4	13 9 9	3
Total ..	7	5	12	6	7	..	5	4	10	7	22	11
Total, All Factories ..	29	39	88	64	20	1	35	30	78	72	133	103

Explanation:—(a) 2 persons injured by one accident.
(c) 4 persons injured by one accident.
(d) 13 persons injured by one accident.

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

Count or Number	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	6,555	6,070	6,054	12,791	12,967	12,082
Nos. 11 to 20	20,067	18,687	18,446	39,766	36,314	37,250
Nos. 21 to 30	14,908	15,589	16,185	28,544	30,896	32,064
Nos. 31 to 40	1,151	1,801	2,090	2,319	3,392	3,917
Above 40	407	810	986	811	1,544	1,958
Waste, etc.	10	173	117	20	254	209
Total ..	43,098	42,530	43,878	84,251	85,367	87,480

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	5,900	5,360	5,337	11,536	11,549	10,633
Nos. 11 to 20	13,436	11,984	12,544	26,868	24,346	25,223
Nos. 21 to 30	9,974	9,582	10,100	19,058	19,252	19,989
Nos. 31 to 40	652	752	906	1,264	1,465	1,663
Above 40	236	300	470	465	547	956
Waste, etc.	2	162	117	4	235	209
Total ..	30,200	28,140	29,474	59,195	57,394	58,673

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	205	185	185	387	360	379
Nos. 11 to 20	3,541	3,462	3,213	7,027	6,749	6,596
Nos. 21 to 30	3,778	4,404	4,938	7,330	8,638	9,653
Nos. 31 to 40	322	812	850	693	1,460	1,612
Above 40	116	392	376	244	749	716
Waste, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,962	9,255	9,562	15,681	17,956	18,956

JULY, 1927

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

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	827	683	1,727	1,527	1,601	2,201
Chudders	1,155	1,207	1,588	2,302	2,401	2,804
Dhotis	7,093	7,847	8,402	14,090	14,816	15,769
Drills and jeans	1,108	1,122	1,295	2,343	2,315	2,646
Cambrics and lawns	159	13	33	196	32	61
Printers	262	192	153	629	420	51
Shirtings and long cloth	8,449	10,511	10,973	17,365	20,742	20,900
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,067	1,026	1,410	2,173	1,974	3,007
Tent cloth	73	26	86	231	64	18
Other sorts	586	487	504	1,150	992	1,051
Total	20,829	23,114	26,171	42,006	45,357	49,600
Coloured piecegoods	7,073	9,046	10,030	14,854	18,655	21,244
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	302	318	241	581	629	433
Hosiery	16	24	37	33	49	65
Miscellaneous	138	230	281	257	520	566
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	55	231	418	109	355	736
Grand Total	28,413	32,963	37,178	57,840	64,965	71,644

BOMBAY CITY

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	624	582	854	1,171	1,398	1,697
Chudders	801	854	1,144	1,618	1,607	1,988
Dhotis	2,433	2,329	2,886	4,535	4,430	5,324
Drills and jeans	997	945	1,221	2,095	2,103	2,515
Cambrics and lawns	128	3	13	149	3	26
Printers				7		
Shirtings and long cloth	6,510	8,155	8,013	13,167	16,240	15,977
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	774	632	1,109	1,569	1,347	2,474
Tent cloth	46	19	80	171	46	166
Other sorts	233	271	256	481	537	565
Total	12,546	13,840	15,576	24,963	27,711	30,732
Coloured piecegoods	5,015	6,111	6,770	10,214	12,060	13,517
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	291	307	239	558	608	428
Hosiery	3	4	11	11	12	19
Miscellaneous	132	199	237	235	420	452
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	55	95	214	108	163	377
Grand Total	18,042	20,556	23,047	36,089	40,974	45,547

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	56	17	8	115	47	23
Chudders	289	241	310	537	620	567
Dhotis	3,429	4,593	4,174	7,014	8,593	8,113
Drills and jeans	75	30	32	140	64	61
Cambrics and lawns	24	9	17	34	27	30
Printers	154	127	54	347	244	169
Shirtings and long cloth	1,488	1,732	1,847	3,129	3,349	3,423
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	271	210	217	555	451	387
Tent cloth	13	3	1	42	6	2
Other sorts	206	141	149	431	280	306
Total	6,005	7,103	6,809	12,344	13,681	13,083
Coloured piecegoods	1,297	2,028	2,118	3,182	4,215	4,530
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	1	2	2	2	3	4
Hosiery	12	20	26	22	37	46
Miscellaneous	3	32	44	20	101	112
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool		132	199		188	329
Grand Total	7,318	9,317	9,198	15,570	18,225	18,104

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927	July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927
Cereals—			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 12 7	6 6 10	6 3 1	100	144	137	132
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6		7 12 9	7 12 9	100		139	139
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	82 8 0	82 8 0	100	156	183	183
Do.	Jubbulpore		40 0 0	54 8 0	55 8 0	52 8 0	100	136	139	131
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 8 10(1)	4 5 5(1)	4 5 5(1)	100	144	137	137
Barley			3 4 6	4 13 11	4 7 1	4 7 1	100	148	135	135
Bajri	Ghati		3 4 6	5 11 5	4 10 6	4 10 6	100	174	142	142
	Index No.—Cereals		....	....	....	....	100	150	145	143
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	5 1 3	4 10 6	4 10 6	100	120	110	110
Turdal	Cawnpore		5 10 5	7 9 11	8 2 4	8 7 5	100	135	144	150
	Index No.—Pulses		....	....	....	....	100	128	127	130
	Index No.—Food grains		....	....	....	....	100	145	141	140
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0				100			
Do.	Java, white		10 3 0	18 4 0	16 0 0	15 2 0	100	179	157	148
Raw (Gu)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	9 12 9	8 7 0	8 9 2	100	124	107	109
	Index No.—Sugar		....	....	....	....	100	152	132	129
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	7 5 7	8 4 9	8 11 4	100	132	149	156
Ghee	Deshi		45 11 5	80 0 0	85 11 5	91 6 10	100	175	188	200
Salt	Bombay (black)		1 7 6	2 0 0	1 14 0	2 0 0	100	136	128	136
	Index No.—Other food		....	....	....	....	100	148	155	164
	Index No.—All Food		....	....	....	....	100	146	143	143
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	11 1 0	11 3 0	11 0 0	100	124	126	124
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)		8 0 0	12 4 0	11 6 0	11 11 0	100	153	142	146
Poppy seed			10 14 0	14 4 0	17 4 0	17 12 0	100	131	159	163
Gingelly seed	White		11 4 0	18 0 0	17 4 0	16 10 0	100	160	153	148
	Index No.—Oilseeds		....	....	....	....	100	142	145	145

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927	July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927
Textiles—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw—T	Good	Candy	251 0 0	342 0 0	323 0 0	336 0 0	100	136	129	134
Breach	Fully good		222 0 0	325 0 0	310 0 0	329 0 0	100	146	140	140
Oomra	Saw-ginned		230 0 0	350 9 0	341 0 0	345 0 0	100	152	148	150
Dharwar	Machine-ginned		205 0 0	291 0 0	299 0 0	319 0 0	100	142	146	156
Khandesh	Do.		198 0 0	257 0 0	292 0 0	306 0 0	100	150	147	155
Bengal	Do.		....	....	....	....	100	141	142	149
	Index No.—Cotton, raw		....	....	....	....	100	149	137	135
(b) Cotton manufactures	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 0	1 1 6	1 1 3	100	154	147	147
Twist	Fair 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	9 12 0	8 12 0	8 12 0	100	233	215	215
Grey shirtings	n. 600		4 3 0	9 12 0	9 0 0	9 0 0	100	198	172	166
White mulls	Liepmann's 1,700		10 6 0	20 8 0	17 14 0	17 4 0	100	179	158	158
Shirtings	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 0	0 15 0	0 15 0	100	168	142	145
Long Cloth	34" x 4 yds.		0 9 6	1 0 0	0 13 6	0 13 9	100	182	162	161
Chudders			....	....	....	....	100	163	153	155
	Index No.—Cotton manufactures		....	....	....	....	100	115	124	137
	Index No.—Textile—Cotton		....	....	....	....	100	146	160	160
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	5 14 8	6 6 2	7 0 11	100	131	142	149
Do.	Mathow 1st		2 15 1	4 4 10	4 11 3	4 11 3	100	131	142	149
	Index No.—Other Textiles		....	....	....	....	100	129	172	141
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 7 11	1 15 9	1 10 2	100	81	80	81
Do. Buffalo	Do.		1 1 3	0 13 11	0 13 10	0 13 11	100	221	191	189
Skins, Goat	Do.		1 4 0	2 12 3	2 6 2	2 5 9	100	144	148	137
	Index No.—Hides and Skins		....	....	....	....	100	95	93	91
Miscellaneous—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	53 8 0	56 0 0	55 0 0	100	175	169	169
Iron bars			4 0 0	3 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	129	129	132
Steel hoops			7 12 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 4 0	100	161	155	146
Galvanized sheets			9 0 0	14 8 0	13 15 0	13 2 0	100	183	189	171
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 0 0	16 8 0	15 0 0	100	149	147	142
	Index No.—Miscellaneous		....	....	....	....	100	142	142	142
Other—										
Coal (2)	Bengal	Ton	14 12 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	91	127	115
Do.	Imported		19 11 6	18 0 3	24 15 8	22 10 1	100	169	175	175
Kerosene	Chester Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 6 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	185	191	191
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	147	159	156
	Index No.—Other		....	....	....	....	100	146	143	143
	Index No.—All Goods		....	....	....	....	100	151	150	149
	Index No.—All Goods		....	....	....	....	100	150	148	147

(1) Quotation for Shalapur quality. (2) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. (3) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. (4) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. (5) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. (6) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. (7) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. (8) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. (9) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. (10) In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6,000 the price quoted is for the grade 6,000. 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WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers				
			July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927	July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927	
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.					
Cereals—											
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	60 8 0	61 12 0	61 12 0	100	155	158	158	
Wheat, white	1% barley, 1% dirt, 98% red	"	31 8 0	43 4 0	43 4 0	41 4 0	100	137	137	131	
red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red	"	31 4 0	42 4 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	135	127	127	
white	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 8 0	44 8 0	44 6 0	42 6 0	100	137	137	130	
red	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 4 0	43 8 0	40 14 0	40 14 0	100	135	127	127	
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	43 8 0	38 8 0	38 8 0	100	171	151	151	
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	35 8 0	36 0 0	34 0 0	100	134	136	128	
Index No.—Cereals			....	....	..	....	100	143	139	136
Pulses—											
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	37 4 0	36 12 0	34 8 0	100	126	125	117	
Sugar—											
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	17 4 0	15 5 0	15 1 0	100	189	168	165	
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	....	14 4 0	13 12 0	100	..	176	170
Index No.—Sugar			....	....	..	....	100	189	172	168
Other food—											
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 11 6	1 10 6	100	78	81	78	
Oilseeds—											
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 12 0	4 2 0	4 3 0	100	139	153	155	
Rapeseed, Lald	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	....	70 8 0	67 8 0	100	..	138	132
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	....	97 0 0	99 0 0	100	..	156	160
Index No.—Oilseeds			....	....	..	....	100	139	149	149
Textiles—											
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	53 0 0	48 8 0	50 0 0	100	139	127	131	

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927	July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927
Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund.	20 4 0	26 0 0	24 4 0	24 4 0	100	136	149	149
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill	Piece.	10 3 6	19 8 0	19 12 0	17 14 0	100	191	125	125
Shirtings	Lepmann's	"	10 2 0	20 0 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	198	168	168
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			....	....	..	....	100	195	152	152
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton			....	....	..	....	100	176	157	158
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	31 0 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	100	111	129	129
Hides, dry	Sind Punjab	Maund.	21 4 0	12 0 0	14 8 0	15 0 0	100	56	68	71
Index No.—Hides			....	....	..	....	100	56	68	71
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	58 8 0	57 0 0	56 8 0	100	97	94	93
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	5 8 0	6 12 0	6 4 0	100	142	174	161
Plates		"	4 6 0	5 12 0	7 0 0	6 10 0	100	131	160	151
Index No.—Metals			....	....	..	....	100	123	143	135
Other raw and manufactured articles										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	21 2 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	132	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	183	183
	Elephant ..	2 Tins	4 7 0	7 4 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	163	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			....	....	..	....	100	159	165	165
Index No.—Food			....	....	..	....	100	140	138	135
Index No.—Non-food			....	....	..	....	100	134	140	139
General Index No.			....	....	..	....	100	136	139	137

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

1064 LABOUR GAZETTE

LABOUR GAZETTE

1065

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 man.-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No non-food.	General Index No.
1924														
June ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	18	150	185
1925														
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
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	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January ..	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February ..	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	135	158	159	148	148
March ..	148	133	135	149	144	144	132	163	134	137	156	161	149	148
April ..	144	125	134	150	141	143	128	161	136	142	149	156	147	145
May ..	145	127	132	155	143	145	142	162	142	148	147	159	150	147
June ..	143	130	129	164	143	145	149	161	149	137	142	156	149	147

(a) Revised figures from October 1926 to March 1926

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	France (Paris)	United Kingdom (L)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (G)	Union of South America (J)
No. of articles	14	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 ..	100	96	.....	.....	106	102	.....	102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915	97	.....	.....	147	102	.....	188	224	159	145	110	101
1916	117	.....	.....	138	124	.....	262	276	341	185	132	127
1917	149	.....	.....	153	169	.....	339	375	345	244	179	177
1918	196	.....	.....	178	207	.....	356	304	331	339	199	194
1919	236	.....	.....	189	226	.....	509	292	(c) 377	347	209	206
1920	222	.....	.....	228	299	.....	307	182	377	341	244	226
1921	216	.....	.....	175	180	.....	345	298	377	347	172	147
1922	199	.....	.....	162	146	.....	327	233	377	347	152	149
1923	187	.....	.....	176	179	.....	327	233	377	347	155	150
1924	181	.....	.....	176	173	.....	327	233	377	347	160	163
1925	182	.....	.....	170	170	.....	327	233	377	347	158	160
1926	163	.....	.....	170	170	.....	327	233	377	347	160	160
1927	158	.....	.....	175	170	.....	327	233	377	347	154	160
July	158	.....	.....	175	170	.....	327	233	377	347	151	157
August	160	.....	.....	175	170	.....	327	233	377	347	148	157
September	157	.....	.....	175	170	.....	327	233	377	347	150	158
October	150	.....	.....	175	170	.....	327	233	377	347	161	158
November	(b) 158	.....	.....	175	170	.....	327	233	377	347	164	156
December	(b) 160	.....	.....	174	173	.....	327	233	377	347	164	156
1928	(b) 154	.....	.....	173	168	.....	327	233	377	347	148	155
1929	(b) 154	.....	.....	172	169	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1930	(b) 151	.....	.....	170	168	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1931	(b) 150	.....	.....	167	171	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1932	(b) 154	.....	.....	165	176	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1933	(b) 151	.....	.....	170	171	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1934	(b) 150	.....	.....	167	171	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1935	(b) 154	.....	.....	165	176	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1936	(b) 151	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1937	(b) 151	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1938	(b) 150	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1939	(b) 150	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1940	(b) 149	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1941	(b) 148	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1942	(b) 147	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1943	(b) 146	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1944	(b) 145	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1945	(b) 144	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1946	(b) 143	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1947	(b) 142	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1948	(b) 141	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1949	(b) 140	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1950	(b) 139	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1951	(b) 138	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1952	(b) 137	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1953	(b) 136	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1954	(b) 135	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1955	(b) 134	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1956	(b) 133	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1957	(b) 132	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1958	(b) 131	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1959	(b) 130	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1960	(b) 129	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1961	(b) 128	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1962	(b) 127	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1963	(b) 126	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1964	(b) 125	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1965	(b) 124	.....	.....	175	175	.....	327	233	377	347	145	152
1966 ..													

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915	104	125	97	119	(h) 108	99	...	(d) 117	119	103	...	(m) 105
1916	108	148	102	115	117	116	...	146	140	106	...	118
1917	118	180	130	116	128	146	...	190	180	114	...	142
1918	149	203	146	118	144	197	...	253	229	118	...	174
1919	186	208	155	132	157	205	...	(d) 275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	307	253	155	(a) 341	200
1921	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	294	209	133	(a) 307	174
1922	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	251	158	(i) 135	(a) 302	170
1923	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	238	166	130	(a) 334	173
1924	157	170	144	149	160	512	493	249	169	132	(a) 366	173
1925	157	173	146	(a) 153	(l) 163	598	509	259	169	133	(a) 390	178 (m)
1926 January	155	175	155	...	...	665	527	232	167	131	...	...
February	154	173	154	...	162	661	526	230	165	131	...	...
March	155	172	154	...	...	654	521	225	...	131	451	...
April	153	168	153	...	...	642	529	221	...	131	...	...
May	155	168	152	...	163	652	558	220	160	132	...	...
June	155	167	150	...	...	650	579	218	162	131	485	175
July	157	170	150	...	...	649	637	220	162	130	...	...
August	155	170	150	...	...	652	681	219	161	130	...	...
September	155	172	149	...	163	657	684	217	161	130	...	...
October	155	174	148	...	...	672	705	218	161	131	...	...
November	154	179	150	...	...	657	730	217	161	131	...	...
December	156	179	151	...	157	657	741	213	161	129	545	176
1927 January	156	175	152	...	...	655	755	210	160	130	...	...
February	155	172	151	...	...	667	770	208	160	130	...	...
March	155	171	150	...	...	663	771	203	159	131	524	...
April	153	165	148	...	...	651	774	201	158	131	...	...
May	152	164	148	...	161	...	776	201	...	...	...	...
June	154	163	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July	156	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(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) From 1920 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 to the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (j) Revised series from 1915 to 1925 refer to August. (k) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to December. (l) First half of the year. (m) June figures.

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	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100 (h)
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	160	124	128	119 (i)
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	142	142	146	146	141
1917	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	176	219 (g)	181	166	178
1918	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	210	289	268	187	222
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	310	212	212	250 (j)
1920	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	100	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	87	1,278	180	295	232	236	157
1922	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	402	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	166	166
1923	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	136	218	160	188	170
1924	151	162	134	117	149 (c)	148	140	360	508	133	1,016	138	248	159	200	167
1925	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	147	1,107	152	260	169	210	163
December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	142	1,062	(i) 175	221	164	163	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	..
February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	138	1,069	172	205	159	..	..
March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	142	1,049	..	198	158	..	159
April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	161	1,052	..	194	157	..	159
June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	185	1,067	168	198	156	159	157
July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	193	1,116	..	196	156	..	158
August	153	161	150	117	157	149	..	587	660	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	160
September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	197	1,091	..	191	157	..	159
October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	206	1,081	164	186	158	..	159
November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	628	630	208	1,081	164	186	158	..	159
December	154	169	151	117	158	149	159	599	631	208	1,081	..	184	157	..	158
1927 January	155	167	153	116	158	148	156	592	625	208	1,063	166	180	156	156	157
February	152	164	151	117	153	146	153	585	642	212	1,064	..	177	153	..	156
March	152	162	149	118	151	146	151	581	635	205	1,055	168	173	151	..	156
April	151	155	146	119	151	145	151	580	617	204	1,034	..	169	151	..	156
May	150	154	145	..	152	145	..	589	..	..	..	..	169	150	..	..
June	151	154	..	..	..	145	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
July	154	..	..	..	..	145	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series from 1921 = 100. (e) Figures for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) Figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100).

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN MAY AND JUNE 1927

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

Articles	Price per	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		May 1927	May 1927	May 1927	May 1927	May 1927	June 1927	June 1927	June 1927	June 1927	June 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	Maund	7 6 3 <i>132</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	7 11 1 <i>133</i>	7 9 10 <i>136</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 7 10 <i>147</i>
Wheat	"	7 8 3 <i>134</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	6 3 5 <i>132</i>	7 4 1 <i>141</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>	7 5 8 <i>131</i>	5 10 7 <i>135</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	7 1 9 <i>138</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>
Jowari	"	5 9 10 <i>129</i>	4 7 7 <i>123</i>	5 0 8 <i>132</i>	3 11 6 <i>136</i>	5 3 10 <i>153</i>	5 6 8 <i>124</i>	4 7 1 <i>122</i>	5 0 0 <i>131</i>	3 14 6 <i>136</i>	4 15 3 <i>144</i>
Bajri	"	5 12 4 <i>134</i>	5 0 0 <i>119</i>	5 12 3 <i>122</i>	4 2 4 <i>118</i>	5 9 10 <i>137</i>	5 12 4 <i>134</i>	5 0 0 <i>119</i>	5 11 5 <i>121</i>	4 2 4 <i>118</i>	5 9 10 <i>137</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		<i>132</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>144</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund	6 9 7 <i>153</i>	5 15 8 <i>157</i>	5 0 0 <i>125</i>	5 10 2 <i>131</i>	5 15 0 <i>122</i>	6 11 10 <i>156</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	5 2 7 <i>129</i>	5 10 2 <i>131</i>	5 8 11 <i>114</i>
Turdal	"	8 15 10 <i>154</i>	9 6 7 <i>141</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 7 1 <i>145</i>	11 13 8 <i>179</i>	8 15 7 <i>154</i>	9 8 10 <i>143</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 13 5 <i>151</i>	9 13 6 <i>149</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		<i>154</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>151</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>132</i>

Articles	Price per	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		May 1927	May 1927	May 1927	May 1927	May 1927	June 1927	June 1927	June 1927	June 1927	June 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>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	12 1 2 <i>166</i>	13 5 4 <i>167</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	12 15 3 <i>138</i>	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	11 13 8 <i>163</i>	13 5 4 <i>161</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	12 15 3 <i>138</i>
Jagri (gul)	"	13 1 6 <i>153</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	11 6 10 <i>129</i>	8 0 0 <i>103</i>	7 14 9 <i>113</i>	13 1 6 <i>153</i>	9 4 5 <i>133</i>	10 10 8 <i>120</i>	8 6 9 <i>108</i>	8 5 0 <i>118</i>
Tea	Lb.	0 15 7 <i>200</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 5 <i>198</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>
Salt	Maund	3 3 6 <i>151</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 8 2 <i>158</i>	2 9 11 <i>139</i>	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 0 <i>154</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 8 2 <i>158</i>	2 9 11 <i>139</i>
Beef	Seer	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 4 11 <i>82</i>	0 3 0 <i>121</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 7 <i>166</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 4 11 <i>82</i>	0 3 0 <i>121</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	"	0 13 0 <i>195</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 8 0 <i>133</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 13 2 <i>197</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 8 0 <i>133</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 12 11 <i>170</i>	10 10 8 <i>213</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	8 0 0 <i>180</i>	12 4 11 <i>246</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	"	94 0 9 <i>185</i>	73 2 5 <i>171</i>	74 6 8 <i>167</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	74 6 8 <i>144</i>	97 0 5 <i>191</i>	73 2 5 <i>171</i>	84 8 5 <i>190</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	74 6 8 <i>144</i>
Potatoes	"	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	5 5 4 <i>98</i>	3 5 4 <i>88</i>	5 0 0 <i>125</i>	4 3 4 <i>125</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	4 4 3 <i>79</i>	4 3 4 <i>111</i>	5 0 0 <i>125</i>	4 3 4 <i>125</i>
Onions	"	3 9 2 <i>230</i>	3 7 8 <i>191</i>	3 5 4 <i>167</i>	3 1 3 <i>123</i>	2 10 1 <i>131</i>	3 9 2 <i>230</i>	2 9 3 <i>142</i>	2 8 0 <i>125</i>	3 1 3 <i>123</i>	2 6 6 <i>120</i>
Cocconut oil	"	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	25 9 7 <i>104</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</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>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		<i>174</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>137</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles</i>		<i>162</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>147</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>138</i>