

Securities Index Numbers

Year	Month	1924						1923					
		Fixed Interest Securities	Cotton Mill shares	Cotton growing and processing companies	Electric undertakings	All Industrial Securities	General average (100 = 100)	Fixed Interest Securities	Cotton Mill shares	Cotton growing and processing companies	Electric undertakings	All Industrial Securities	General average (100 = 100)
1924	July	100	100	100	100	100	100	74	109	122	128	146	140
1923	Apr.	96	97	94	90	101	100	74	100	119	130	140	140
1923	May	87	114	102	122	130	127	74	179	120	137	140	140
1923	June	73	138	118	128	158	151	74	180	121	137	140	140
1923	July	74	212	131	129	194	184	74	176	121	133	140	140
1923	Aug.	77	216	126	237	216	206	74	192	124	130	140	140
1923	Sep.	65	438	168	246	313	296	72	205	124	131	153	140
1923	Oct.	65	460	158	212	311	295	72	197	127	127	140	140
1923	Nov.	63	406	163	175	267	253	72	198	128	127	149	140
1923	Dec.	67	255	142	140	193	185	72	196	128	128	147	140
1923	Jan.	68	241	142	133	186	178	72	205	129	141	152	140
1923	Feb.	71	235	142	133	183	176	72	204	131	157	154	140
1923	Mar.	71	222	145	126	176	168	72	197	131	154	150	140
1923	April	72	229	147	136	176	169	73	192	131	147	146	140
1923	May	73	216	153	138	168	161	73	173	121	146	137	130
1923	June	73	225	133	133	166	159	73	167	119	142	134	130
1923	July	72	213	133	131	163	157	74	169	118	140	134	130
1923	Aug.	71	216	122	135	163	156	74	161	118	135	130	126
1923	Sep.	71	215	122	131	160	154	74	156	118	133	128	124
1924	Jan.	71	196	122	126	151	146	74	158	121	136	129	120
1924	Feb.	73	192	122	127	148	143	74	156	121	139	128	120

\* Also included in "Industrial Securities."

# LABOUR GAZETTE

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

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## The Month in Brief

### EMPLOYMENT—THE COTTON INDUSTRY

The statistics regarding employment in the City of Bombay for the month ended 12th January 1925 showed that the supply of labour was not equal to the demand till the end of December and that the percentage absenteeism was 23.3.

In AHMEDABAD, the supply of labour was reported to be adequate during the month under review. Detailed reports of absenteeism received from representative mills in this centre showed an average of 3.6 per cent, as compared with 2.7 per cent, last month and 4.1 per cent, two months ago.

In SHOLAPUR, the supply of labour was adequate and absenteeism showed a slight decrease. The average was 12.1 per cent, as compared with 12.6 per cent, last month and 11.4 per cent, two months ago.

In BROACH, absenteeism was 10.5 per cent, as compared with 10.7 per cent, in the last month. The supply of labour in this centre was adequate.

On the whole therefore the supply of labour in all the abovementioned centres of the industry with the exception of the City of Bombay was adequate during the month and absenteeism decreased in Broach and Sholapur while it increased in Ahmedabad.

### THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average of absenteeism in representative engineering workshops (based on the returns from three large establishments) showed a slight decrease; the figure being 13.2 per cent, as compared with 13.3 per cent, last month and 15.1 per cent, two months ago.

On the Marine Lines and Colaba Reclamations of the Development Directorate the average absenteeism was 3.0 per cent., the same as in the four previous months.

There was no absenteeism on the construction of chawls (tenements) at Worli, Naigam and DeLisle Road during the month. The supply of unskilled labour employed for loading, removing, storing and unloading cargo in the docks by the Bombay Port Trust was equal to the demand but absenteeism showed an increase. The percentage absenteeism was 20.9 as compared with 14.9 in the preceding month and 19.3 two months ago. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply

of labour was equal to the demand and a slight fall in absenteeism was recorded. The average absenteeism decreased from 11.6 per cent. in the last month to 10.8 per cent. in the month under review. The percentage of absenteeism based on the attendance of monthly paid workers employed in the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust was 11, as compared with 13 in the preceding month.

#### WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING

In January 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index number was 155, the same as in the previous month. The average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the Cost of Living Index for Bombay City (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 155 for all articles and 151 for food articles only. There was a fall of 2 points as compared with this time last year and of 38 points from the high water mark (October 1920) in the cost of living index. The index number for all food articles remained stationary as compared with the preceding month. Cereals were steady in spite of a fall of 8 points in jowari and of 2 points in bajri. A rise of 4 points in gram and 2 points in turdal resulted in an increase of 3 points in Pulses. The other food articles remained stationary, an increase of 27 points in potatoes and of 39 points in onions having been nearly counterbalanced by a fall of 14 points in gul, 5 points in salt, 2 points in mutton and 6 points in ghee. Sugar (refined) advanced by 8 points, tea by 4 points and cocoanut oil by 2 points. Clothing recorded a further fall of 3 points and Fuel and lighting remained stationary during the month. The house rent index number was taken to be 172, i.e., equal to the weighted average for the year 1923-24.

Each commodity has been given a relative importance roughly corresponding with the estimated aggregate annual consumption of that article in the whole of India in the quinquennium 1909-10 to 1913-14. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living, because an index number for any given community purporting to combine movements in prices with movements in standards of living would present great difficulties in construction and interpretation.

The revision of the Index Number for the Cost of Living of the Bombay Working Classes, referred to in the September and October 1924 Numbers, has been carried out, and the methods and results of the revision are now being scrutinized.

#### THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER

In December 1925, the general index of wholesale prices in Bombay was 155, 5 points below the level of the previous month. There was a fall of 6 points in the food group and of 4 points in the non-food group. The index number for food grains only was 143 as against 147 during the previous month. This shows a decrease of 4 points which was due to a fall of 6 points in pulses and 4 points in cereals. Sugar declined by 13 points and other food by 7 points. The fall of 4 points in the non-food group was due to a fall in all the sub-groups included under that head.

The general index of all the articles is a mean of the price relatives of all the articles included in the index and is obtained by dividing the sum of

the index numbers of articles for which quotations are available and not by finding the mean of the group index numbers for food and non-food articles. The fluctuations in the prices of foods, non-foods and all articles will be seen in the following table:—

	Number of items	Increase per cent. over July 1914				
		August 1925	September 1925	October 1925	November 1925	December 1925
Foods	15	49	46	49	55	49
Non-foods	27	66	64	63	62	58
All articles	42	60	57	58	60	55

The work of revising the list of commodities for the Wholesale Prices Index Number, mentioned in the October 1924 issue of the *Labour Gazette*, has been carried out provisionally for Karachi with the assistance of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and the Collector of Customs, Karachi. So far it has not been possible to effect the much needed revision of the Bombay list. Since the last note on this subject the Labour Office has received intimation from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence that that Department is contemplating taking over the work of constructing Wholesale Prices Index Numbers for various centres in India. The idea is to abandon the all-India Index Number started by Atkinson, and publish Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in the main commercial centres. It is probable therefore that the Wholesale Prices Index Numbers for Bombay and Karachi will be compiled by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence; and the provisional list of commodities arrived at for Karachi has accordingly been furnished to that office.

#### SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

In December 1925 the general level of quotations of 102 shares and securities was 130, 5 points higher than in the previous month. Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies declined by 3 points while Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities remained steady at 74. Cement and Manganese Companies rose by 12 points, Electrical undertakings by 10 points, Cotton Mills by 9 points, Miscellaneous Companies by 3 points and Banks and Railway Companies by 2 points each. Industrial Securities registered a rise of 6 points during the month under review.

#### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were six industrial disputes in progress during December 1925. The number of workpeople involved was 152,876 and the number of working days lost 1,799,343.

#### COTTON MILL PRODUCTION

Cotton Mill production in November 1925 and in the 8 months ended November 1925, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two preceding years, is shown in the following two tables. In Ahmedabad

the production of yarn in November 1925 showed an improvement compared with the production in the corresponding months of the two previous years, while at Other centres it was on the same level as in November 1924. The production of woven goods recorded a fall in all centres. The heavy fall in the production of woven goods and the absence of production of yarn in Bombay during the month under review were due to the general strike.

## (1) Month of November

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced*		
	November			November		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	25	27	..	21	20	8
Ahmedabad ..	8	8	9	10	10	9
Other centres ..	4	5	5	4	4	3
Total, Presidency..	37	40	14	35	34	20

## (2) Eight months ending November

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced*		
	Eight months ending November			Eight months ending November		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	213	209	163	147	147	136
Ahmedabad ..	45	61	68	48	61	65
Other centres ..	35	36	39	22	22	24
Total, Presidency..	293	306	270	217	230	225

The Bombay Millowners' Association quotations at the end of December 1924 and November and December 1925 are as follows :—

	Net rate per lb. in annas		
	December 1924	November 1925	December 1925
Long Cloths ..	..	21	17½
T. Cloths ..	..	19½	16½
Chudders ..	..	19½	16

\* As defined by the Cotton Duties Act II of 1896.

## THE OUTLOOK

The fluctuations in the price of raw cotton were within narrow limits. The tone of the market was steady throughout the month. Japanese firms purchased consistently while business with Europe was dull except in the third week of the month under review. Owing to very low stocks of cotton with them, the local mills began to evince greater interest towards the close of the month.

Business in English yarns was dull as in the previous month. In spite of easier prices only a hand-to-mouth business was possible. The local yarn market was quiet and inactive. Prices remained unchanged, and purchasers postponed buying owing partly to dull business in the consuming centres and partly to expectation of lower rates. Business in Manchester piecegoods was not encouraging. There was as usual some retail enquiry but fresh business was scanty. Prices which were steady at first declined later on. The tone of the local piecegoods market was none the less discouraging. Demand was poor, and in spite of the strike the mills had in stock 80,000 packages at the beginning of this year.

The financial situation was easy. There was a great improvement in the trade demand, and to meet the situation currency worth two crores of rupees was issued against sterling during the third week under report. Although, according to the statement published on the 28th December 1925, the cash balances of the Imperial Bank declined by 56 lakhs at first, they increased by 74 and 26 lakhs in the 3rd and 4th weeks. Call money was available from 3 to 4½ per cent. during the month.

The Working Class Cost of Living Index in January was the same as in the previous month. The wholesale prices index declined by 5 points in December. The rise in Industrial Securities was of 6 points.

The bank rate continued at 6 per cent. from 3rd December 1925. The rate of exchanges in Bombay on London on 2nd January 1926 was ls. 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d., the same as on 1st December 1925.

## THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 20th JANUARY

The following summary of conditions in this Presidency was received from the Director of Agriculture :—

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

*Kanhan* :—With the exception of some light to fair rain which was received in parts of this division during the first week of this month (January) there has been no rain here during the period under review and the situation as described in the last report remains generally unchanged. The sowing of late crops is now nearly over. Harvesting of the *kharif* crops is now completed almost throughout the division while that of cardamom, sugarcane, betel-nuts, etc. is still in progress in parts of the Kanara District. The irrigated crops are progressing satisfactorily nearly everywhere.

*Gujarat* :—Here the condition of the crops is generally fair except in the North where the crops are withering for want of moisture. The harvesting of the *kharif* crops such as *bajri*, groundnut, *bavto*, etc. is now nearly completed while that of *tur* and late sown *jowar* continues in places. The standing crops of cotton, wheat, barley, etc., are being helped with irrigation wherever possible and such (irrigated) crops are progressing well on the whole.

*Deccan* :—Some light to fair rain was received in the North Deccan, including Ahmednagar, in the last week of December and the first week of January. This rain though useful to the late sown crops proved somewhat harmful to the crops already harvested and lying in the threshing yards. The reaping of *kharif* crops is now over nearly everywhere and their threshing is in progress. The standing *rabi* crops are generally in fair condition except in the eastern portions of the division where they are suffering from want of moisture. The irrigated crops, however, are doing well nearly everywhere. The picking of cotton continues in some parts of the division.

*Karnatak*.—Except a few drops of rain in the first week of January, there has been no rain in this division during the period under review. The cloudy weather which prevailed about the end of December proved somewhat injurious to wheat. The cotton crops are progressing well generally though the irrigated cotton has had a slight attack of aphides in places. *Rabi jowar* is suffering from want of moisture in the eastern part of the division. The irrigated crops, however, are progressing satisfactorily almost everywhere.

#### OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

On 1st December the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the British Ministry of Labour was approximately 77 per cent. above that of July 1914. There was thus a rise of 1 point in the index as compared with the previous month. The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in November was 43. In addition 29 disputes which began before November were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in November was about 50,000 and the estimated duration of all disputes during November was approximately 575,000 working days.

As compared with the previous month there was very little change in the business outlook. The position in the cotton industry remained much the same. In the coal trade the collieries which were open were doing good business but there were no signs of the majority of the pits closed down last year being restarted. Activity in the steel trade was reported from some quarters but business in the midlands which is one of the great centres of the steel trade was dull.

In Germany the shortage of capital was still the dominant factor in industry. The continued financial stringency and the widespread liquidation in all branches of industry considerably forced down the Berlin Stock market. The efforts of the Government to bring prices down met with considerable success. The wholesale index at November 4 was 119.9 as against 120.7 one week earlier and the average of 123.6 for October. The attempt, however, of Government to bring about an artificial lowering of prices is resulting in a great deal of unemployment.

In the Dominions, there was considerable optimism in business circles and particularly in Canada where the farmers' buying power was increasing. The threshing returns of the wheat crop have exceeded all calculations and it is now quite certain that Western Canada's wheat crops for 1925 will exceed 4 million bushels and be the second largest in its history. In Australia and South Africa schemes for the expansion of industry are being considered and a great deal of optimism prevails in South Africa owing to the big development schemes on the Rand.

There was considerable improvement in the business conditions in the United States. The average daily production of pig iron was more than 7 per cent. larger in October than in September and 22 per cent. larger than a year earlier. But perhaps the most significant feature in the basic industrial conditions was in the textile industry. Cotton consumption by the domestic mills in the three months ended October 31 amounted to 1,475,610 bales as compared with 1,330,036 bales in the corresponding period last year.

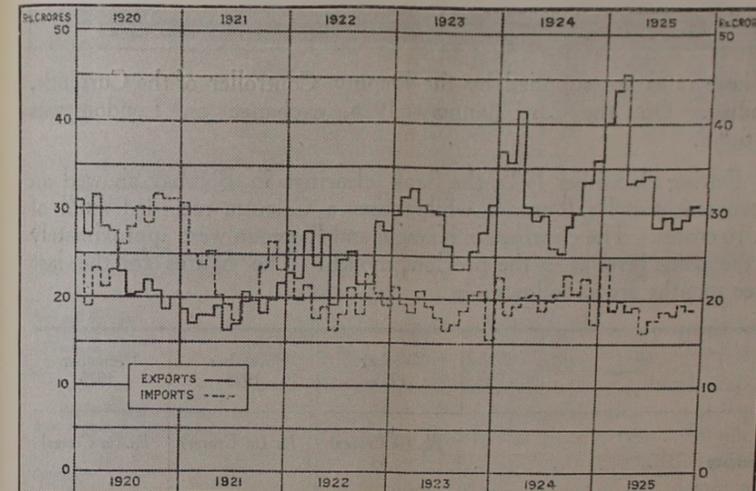
#### THE BALANCE OF TRADE

During December 1925, the visible balance of trade, including Securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 1,19 lakhs.

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

	India		Bombay		Karachi	
	November 1925	December 1925	November 1925	December 1925	November 1925	December 1925
	(In lakhs of rupees)		(In lakhs of rupees)		(In lakhs of rupees)	
Exports (private merchandise) ..	30.51	31.53	4.73	6.83	2.02	3.69
Imports do. ..	18.73	16.11	6.35	5.55	2.08	1.47
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 11.78	+ 15.42	- 1.62	+ 1.28	- 6	+ 2.22
Imports of treasure (private) ..			4.47	3.66	5	2
Exports of treasure (private) ..			19	10	1	2
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	- 4.59	- 3.79	- 4.28	- 3.56	- 4	..
Visible balance of trade including securities ..	+ 1.63	+ 1.19				

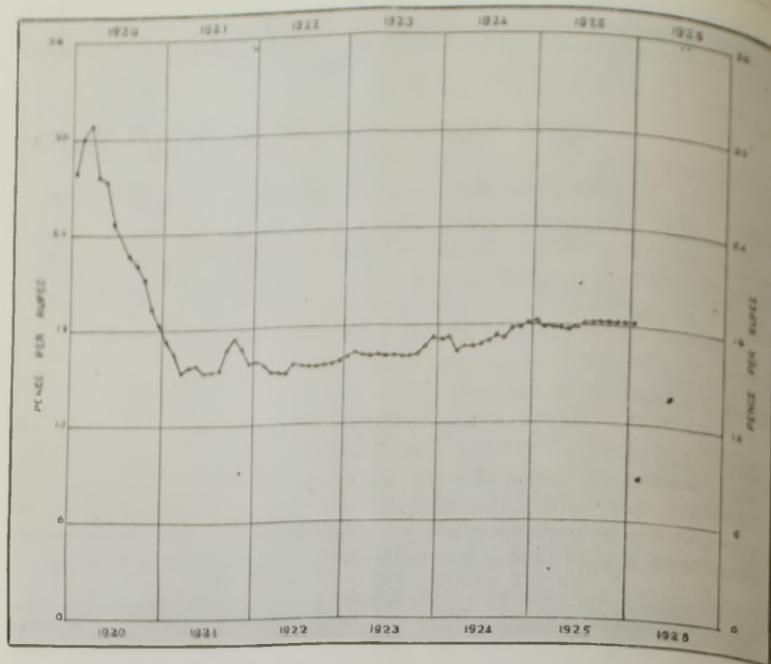
The movements of actual figures of Imports and Exports of private merchandise for British India since 1920 are shown in the annexed diagram



#### BUSINESS CONDITIONS

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

February 1925	..	..	1 5 15/16	August 1925	..	..	1 6 3/32
March	..	..	1 5 31/32	September	..	..	1 6 5/32
April	..	..	1 5 13/16	October	..	..	1 6 5/32
May	..	..	1 5 13/16	November	..	..	1 6 5/32
June	..	..	1 5 31/32	December	..	..	1 6 5/32
July	..	..	1 6 1/16	January 1926	..	..	1 6 5/32



These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 23rd January 1926, exchange on London was ls. 6 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>16</sub> d.

During December 1925, the Bank clearings in Bombay showed an improvement of Rs. 9 crores while those in Calcutta recorded a fall of Rs. 16 crores. The clearings in Karachi and Rangoon were approximately on the same level as in the previous month. The figures for the last three months are as follows:—

	October 1925	November 1925	December 1925
	<i>Rs. (in Crores)</i>	<i>Rs. (in Crores)</i>	<i>Rs. (in Crores)</i>
Bombay .. .. .	43	32	41
Karachi .. .. .	3	3	3
Calcutta .. .. .	118	95	79
Rangoon .. .. .	7	9	9
Total .. .. .	171	139	132

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of December 1925 was 55.10 as against 57.77 in November and 58.75 in October 1925.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JANUARY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mean Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price in Mean Unit		
			July 1914	Dec. 1925	Jan. 1926	July 1914	Dec. 1925	Jan. 1926
<b>Cereals—</b>								
Rice .. .. .	Maund	70	Rs. 5.594	Rs. 7.591	Rs. 7.591	Rs. 391.58	Rs. 517.37	Rs. 517.37
Wheat .. .. .	"	21	5.384	7.484	7.484	117.47	152.16	152.16
Jowar .. .. .	"	11	4.354	5.750	5.417	47.89	63.25	59.59
Bajri .. .. .	"	6	4.315	5.688	5.689	25.86	34.13	33.65
Total—Cereals .. .. .						582.82	771.91	767.77
Index Numbers—Cereals .. .. .						100	132	132
<b>Pulses—</b>								
Gram .. .. .	Maund	10	4.302	6.383	6.250	43.92	60.83	62.50
Turdal .. .. .	"	3	5.644	7.370	7.453	17.53	22.11	22.36
Total—Pulses .. .. .						60.55	82.94	84.86
Index Numbers—Pulses .. .. .						100	137	140
<b>Other food articles—</b>								
Sugar (refined) .. .. .	Maund	2	7.629	13.094	13.695	15.24	26.19	27.39
Raw Sugar (Gul) .. .. .	"	7	8.557	15.474	14.286	59.90	108.32	100.00
Tea .. .. .	"	5	40.000	74.787	76.496	1.00	1.87	1.91
Salt .. .. .	"	28	2.130	3.313	3.219	10.65	16.57	16.10
Beef .. .. .	Seer	33	0.323	0.510	0.510	9.04	14.28	14.28
Mutton .. .. .	"	14	0.417	0.823	0.813	13.76	27.16	26.83
Milk .. .. .	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Ghee .. .. .	"	11	50.792	100.000	97.024	76.19	150.00	145.54
Potatoes .. .. .	"	11	4.479	7.141	8.333	49.27	78.55	91.66
Onions .. .. .	"	3	1.552	4.167	4.760	4.66	12.50	14.28
Cocoanut Oil .. .. .	"	4	25.396	28.573	29.167	12.70	14.29	14.58
Total—Other food articles .. .. .						381.18	695.89	698.73
Index Numbers—Other food articles .. .. .						100	183	183
Total—All food articles .. .. .						1,024.55	1,550.74	1,551.36
Index Numbers—All food articles .. .. .						100	151	151
<b>Fuel and lighting—</b>								
Kerosene oil .. .. .	Case	5	4.375	7.438	7.438	21.88	37.19	37.19
Firewood .. .. .	Maund	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal .. .. .	"	1	0.542	0.813	0.802	0.54	0.81	0.80
Total—Fuel and lighting .. .. .						60.44	99.49	99.48
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting .. .. .						100	165	165
<b>Clothing—</b>								
Chudders .. .. .	Lb.	27	0.594	1.000	1.000	16.04	27.00	27.00
Shirtings .. .. .	"	25	0.641	1.177	1.162	16.03	29.43	29.05
T. Cloth .. .. .	"	36	0.583	1.031	1.000	20.99	37.12	36.00
Total—Clothing .. .. .						53.06	93.55	92.05
Index Numbers—Clothing .. .. .						100	176	173
House-rent .. .. .	Per month.	10	11.302	19.440	...	113.02	194.40	194.40
Index Numbers—House rent .. .. .						100	172	172
<b>Grand Total .. .. .</b>						1,251.07	1,938.18	1,937.29
<b>Cost of Living Index Numbers.</b>						100	155	155

# The Cost of Living Index for January 1926

## PRICES STATIONARY

All articles .. 55 per cent. Food only .. 51 per cent.

In January 1926 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 the same as in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914 the general index number was 55 both in December 1925 and in January 1926. This is 38 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and on a par with the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for all food articles remained steady as compared with the previous month, the variations in the different sub-groups being very slight during the month under review. Cereals were stationary in spite of a fall of 8 points in jowari and 2 points in bajri. The rise of 3 points in Pulses was due to an increase of 4 points in gram and 2 points in turdal. An increase of 27 points in potatoes and of 39 points in onions was nearly counterbalanced by a fall of 14 points in raw sugar (gul), 5 points in salt, 2 points in mutton and 6 points in ghee and the index number for other food articles recorded no change. The price of tea advanced by 4 points and of cocoanut oil by 2 points. There was a rise of 8 points in sugar (refined).

Clothing registered a further fall of 3 points due to a fall in the price of shirtings and T. cloth. The fuel and lighting group has remained constant since March 1925, although coal recorded a slight decrease in price during the month.

All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
January ..	82	83	69	73	56	59	57	Per cent. 55
February ..	76	81	62	65	55	56	57	
March ..	72	77	60	65	54	54	59	
April ..	67	72	60	62	56	50	58	
May ..	68	73	67	63	53	50	56	
June ..	74	81	73	63	52	53	54	
July ..	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	
August ..	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	
September ..	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	
November ..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	
December ..	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	
Yearly average ..	75	83	73	64	54	57	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 following table shows the price levels of articles of food in December 1925 and January 1926 as compared with that for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :-

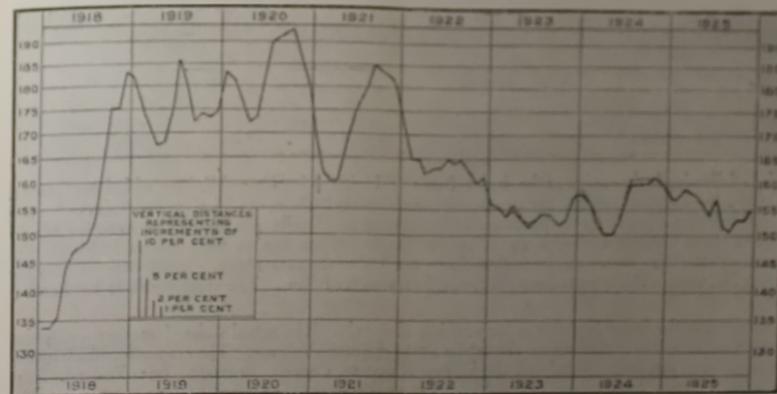
Articles	July 1914	Dec. 1925	Jan. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Jan. 1926 over or below Dec. 1925	Articles	July 1914	Dec. 1925	Jan. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Jan. 1926 over or below Dec. 1925
Rice ..	100	132	132	..	Salt ..	100	156	151	- 5
Wheat ..	100	134	134	..	Beef ..	100	156	158	..
Jowari ..	100	132	124	- 8	Mutton ..	100	197	195	- 2
Bajri ..	100	132	130	- 2	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	141	145	+ 4	Ghee ..	100	197	191	- 6
Turdal ..	100	126	128	+ 2	Potatoes ..	100	159	186	+ 27
Sugar (refined) ..	100	172	180	+ 8	Onions ..	100	268	307	+ 39
Raw sugar (gul) ..	100	181	167	- 14	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	115	+ 2
Tea ..	100	187	191	+ 4	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	151	151	..

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

Rice 24, Wheat 25, Jowari 19, Bajri 23, Gram 31, Turdal 72, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 48, Salt 34, Beef 37, Mutton 49, Milk 48, Ghee 48, Potatoes 46, Onions 67, Cocoanut Oil 13.

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 4 pies for all items and 10 annas 7 pies for food articles only.

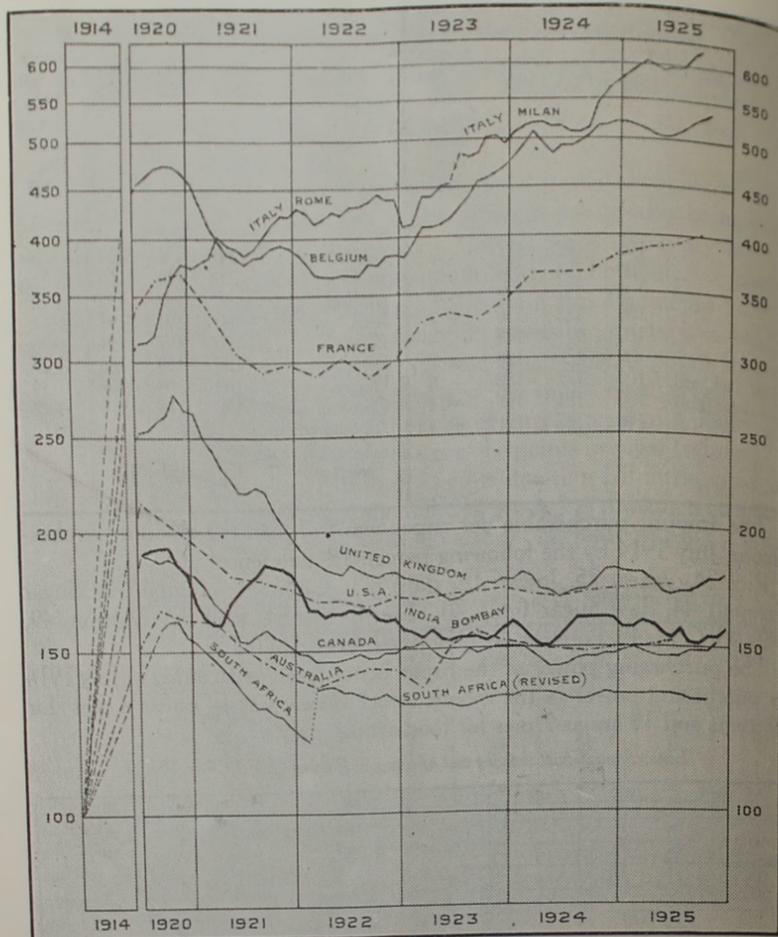
Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)\*



The extra dotted curve shows corrections for rental increases from April 1923 on data collected by special enquiry.

### Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1920. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



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

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

### Wholesale and Retail Prices

#### WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY—A FALL OF FIVE POINTS

In December 1925, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay was 55 per cent. above the level in July 1914. The fall of 5 points in the general index was due to a decline of 6 points in the food index and 4 points in the non-food index. The general index number has fallen by 108 points from the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and is 27 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1924.

The Index Number for food-grains declined by 4 points due to a fall of 4 points in Cereals and 6 points in Pulses. The decline in Cereals was mainly due to a fall of 10 points in jowar, 3 points each in wheat, barley and bajri and 2 points in rice. Pulses fell because of a fall of 11 points in turdal and 2 points in gram.

Sugar declined by 13 points, chiefly due to a fall of 21 points in raw sugar (gul). A decrease of 13 points in ghee and 10 points in turmeric resulted in a fall of 7 points in Other food.

The non-food group registered a fall of 4 points, all the different sub-groups having declined in price. Hides and skins showed a decrease of 6 points, Oil seeds, Cotton manufactures, Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles of 4 points each and Metals of 3 points. The price of Raw Cotton was assumed to be the same as in September, no quotations for the subsequent months being available.

During December 1925, all the groups except Cereals and Pulses were below the average level of 1924.

The subjoined table compares December 1925 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay\* 100 = average of 1924

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with Nov. 1925	+ or - % compared with Dec. 1924	Groups	Dec. 1924	Mar. 1925	June 1925	Sept. 1925	Nov. 1925	Dec. 1925
					1924	1925	1925	1925	1925	1925
1. Cereals ..	7	- 3	+ 7	1. Cereals ..	104	115	105	107	114	111
2. Pulses ..	2	- 5	+28	2. Pulses ..	103	108	111	113	139	133
3. Sugar ..	3	- 8	-11	3. Sugar ..	80	84	77	76	77	71
4. Other food ..	3	- 4	-34	4. Other food ..	90	77	64	62	62	59
All food ..	15	- 4	- 8	All food ..	94	95	86	84	90	86
5. Oilseeds ..	4	- 3	-10	5. Oilseeds ..	101	96	101	96	94	91
6. Raw cotton ..	3	..	-12	6. Raw cotton ..	83	83	75	73	73	73
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	- 2	-13	7. Cotton manufactures ..	94	91	90	88	84	82
8. Other textiles ..	2	- 3	-12	8. Other textiles ..	88	84	75	81	80	77
9. Hides and skins ..	3	- 4	-29	9. Hides & skins ..	135	93	91	90	99	96
10. Metals ..	5	- 2	- 9	10. Metals ..	98	96	93	91	91	89
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	- 3	- 8	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	103	102	96	98	98	95
All non-food ..	27	- 3	-14	All non-food ..	98	93	89	87	86	84
General Index No. ..	42	- 3	-12	General Index No. ..	97	94	88	86	88	85

\* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 488.

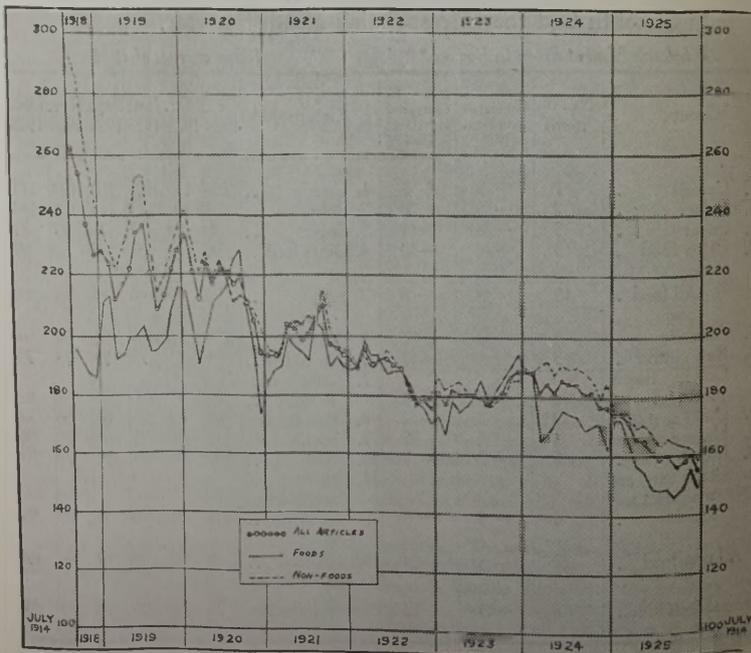
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

—		Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average	1918 .. ..	171	269	236
"	" 1919 .. ..	202	233	222
"	" 1920 .. ..	206	219	216
"	" 1921 .. ..	193	201	199
"	" 1922 .. ..	186	187	187
"	" 1923 .. ..	179	182	181
"	" 1924 .. ..	173	188	182
"	" 1925 .. ..	155	167	163

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

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

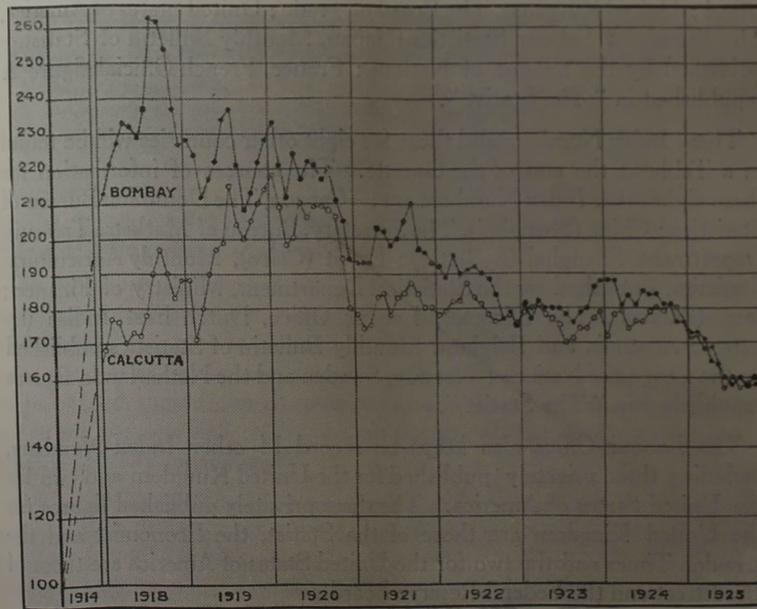


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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

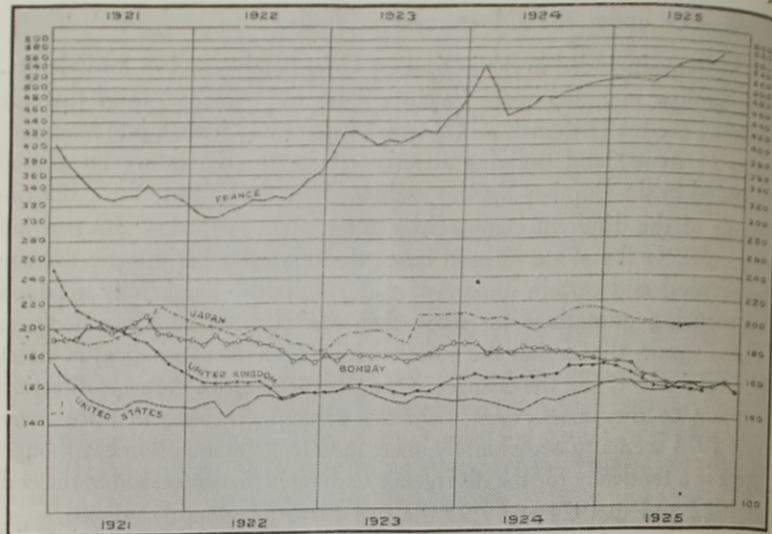
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, i.e., the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. On the whole the increase in prices over July 1914 seems to be definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there is a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1922 and in 1924 and 1925 the two curves temporarily crossed.

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



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

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



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

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

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

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiv- alent in 1914	July 1914			Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Dec 1925 over or below	
				July 1914	Nov 1925	Dec 1925	July 1914	Nov 1925
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
				5 10	7 8	7 10	+ 2 0	+ 0 2
Wheat	Pasi Seoni	"	216	5 10	7 7	8 1	+ 2 3	+ 0 6
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	"	200	4 3	5 11	5 9	+ 1 6	- 0 2
Bajri	Ghati	"	208	4 7	5 11	5 11	+ 1 4	....
Gram	Delhi	"	200	4 4	5 10	6 1	+ 1 9	+ 0 3
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	208	5 11	7 6	7 8	+ 1 9	+ 0 2
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	1 9	1 10	+ 0 9	+ 0 1
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	"	28	1 2	2 2	2 2	+ 1 0	....
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	14 8	14 7	+ 6 9	- 0 1
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	2 11	2 11	+ 1 2	....
Beef	....	Lb.	39	2 6	4 0	4 0	+ 1 6	....
Mutton	....	"	39	3 0	6 5	6 5	+ 3 5	....
Milk	Medium	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	....
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior	"	28	7 1	14 0	14 0	+ 6 11	....
Potatoes	Ordinary	"	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+ 0 4	....
Onions	Nasik	"	28	0 3	0 7	0 6	+ 0 3	- 0 1
Cocunut oil	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+ 0 5	....

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. Superibag—Superibag 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 for actual transactions and are carefully collected by the investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during December 1925 as compared with the previous month were slight. There was a rise of 6 pies in wheat, 3 pies in gram and 2 pies each in rice and turdal per paylee. Jowari declined by 2 pies per paylee while bajri remained stationary. In the case of other articles of food, sugar (refined) advanced by one pie, while onions declined by one pie per seer and tea by one pie per lb., all the remaining articles being practically unchanged.

As compared with July 1914, mutton has more than doubled and onions have nearly doubled in price. Sugar, gul, tea, salt, beef, milk and ghee are more than 50 per cent. above the prewar level. The rise in the prices of food grains has been comparatively much less.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in November and December 1925 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres are below the level of Bombay in November and December 1925 :-

Bombay prices in Nov. 1925 = 100					Bombay prices in Dec. 1925 = 100						
Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
<b>Cereals—</b>						<b>Cereals—</b>					
Rice ..	100	111	123	116	123	Rice ..	100	108	120	114	120
Wheat ..	100	88	106	105	112	Wheat ..	100	94	107	99	105
Jowari ..	100	79	81	63	92	Jowari ..	100	83	87	63	95
Bajri ..	100	87	108	78	102	Bajri ..	100	88	108	74	102
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	91	105	91	107	Cereals ..	100	93	106	88	106
<b>Pulses—</b>						<b>Pulses—</b>					
Gram ..	100	85	100	96	93	Gram ..	100	83	101	92	89
Turdal ..	100	96	117	98	107	Turdal ..	100	100	121	98	105
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	91	109	97	100	Pulses ..	100	92	111	95	97
<b>Other articles of food—</b>						<b>Other articles of food—</b>					
Sugar (re-fined) ..	100	84	91	107	84	Sugar (re-fined) ..	100	89	94	102	89
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	69	103	86	85	Jagri (Gul) ..	100	74	103	85	91
Tea ..	100	106	106	122	129	Tea ..	100	107	107	122	130
Salt ..	100	60	69	94	89	Salt ..	100	60	69	97	89
Beef ..	100	123	*49	61	74	Beef ..	100	123	*74	61	74
Mutton ..	100	91	76	76	68	Mutton ..	100	91	76	76	68
Milk ..	100	57	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	54	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	80	89	80	84	Ghee ..	100	80	75	80	84
Potatoes ..	100	105	112	80	65	Potatoes ..	100	86	118	80	74
Onions ..	100	120	120	87	63	Onions ..	100	115	120	101	63
Cocoa nut oil ..	100	102	124	118	98	Cocoa nut oil ..	100	102	124	118	98
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	91	91	90	83	Other articles of food ..	100	89	92	91	85
Average—						Average—					
All food articles ..	100	91	96	91	91	All food articles ..	100	90	98	91	91

\* Subject to correction.

Actual relative prices at these centres will be found among the Miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The differences of the relative prices at the different centres are considerable. The relative average rose at Ahmedabad by 2 points, declined at Karachi by one point and remained stationary at Sholapur and Poona. Referring back to December 1924 the averages for all food articles, as compared with Bombay, have risen at all the mofussil centres, there being a rise of 5 points at Karachi, 4 points at Ahmedabad, 2 points at Poona and one point at Sholapur. The relative prices of wheat and tea have risen at all the different centres over those of last year. Beef at Ahmedabad fell by 45 points while onions at Karachi showed a rise of 34 points. Reading from left to right the relative prices of jowari were 100, 70, 68, 83, 100 which bear little resemblance to the current prices. Both the differences between different centres at any given date and the fluctuations of those differences are surprisingly high, and it is not apparent why an article not locally produced (like tea and refined sugar) should sometimes be dearer and sometimes cheaper at any mofussil centre than at Bombay.

Securities Index Number

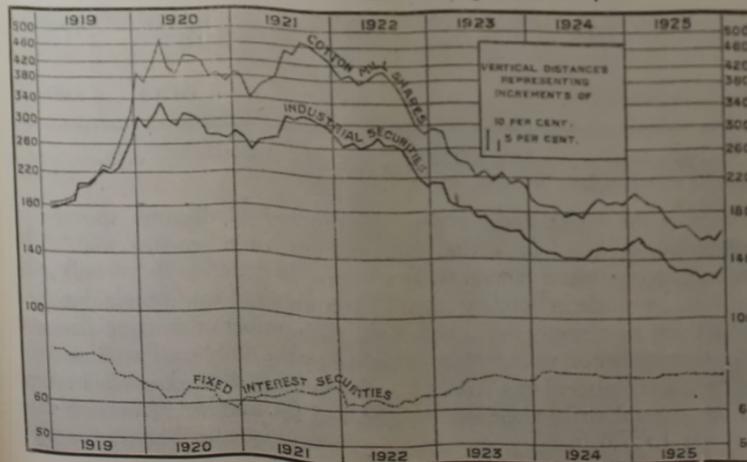
A RISE OF 5 POINTS

In December 1925 the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number was 130 as compared with 125 during the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities remained stationary while the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies declined by 3 points during the month. All the remaining shares and securities advanced in price—Cement and Manganeese Companies by 12 points, Electrical undertakings by 10 points, Cotton Mills by 9 points, Miscellaneous Companies by 3 points and Banks and Railway Companies by 2 points each. Industrial Securities rose by 6 points.

The Construction of the Index

No.	—	—	July 1924		December 1925	
			Total numbers	Total numbers	Average	
1	Government and Corporation Securities ..	7 Index Nos. ..	700	516	74	
2	Banks ..	6 " " " " ..	600	609	135	
3	Railway Companies ..	10 " " " " ..	1,000	1,067	109	
4	Cotton Mills ..	42 " " " " ..	4,200	6,924	165	
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies ..	8 " " " " ..	800	946	118	
6	Cement and Manganeese Companies ..	5 " " " " ..	500	583	117	
7	Electric Undertakings ..	2 " " " " ..	200	298	149	
8	Miscellaneous Companies ..	22 " " " " ..	2,200	2,059	94	
9	Industrial Securities ..	95 " " " " ..	9,500	12,706	134	
10	General average ..	102 " " " " ..	10,200	13,222	130	

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



## Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in December .. 6      Workpeople involved .. 152,876

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during December 1925, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word "dispute" in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with "strike". A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in December 1925.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in December 1925			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Dec. 1925	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Dec. 1925*
	Started before 1st Dec.	Started in Dec.	Total		
Textile ..	3	3	6	152,876	1,799,343
Total December 1925 ..	3	3	6	152,876	1,799,343
Total November 1925 ..	2	4	6	154,864	3,699,628

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

During the month under review the number of disputes was six, of which four occurred in cotton mills and one in a woollen mill. The remaining one was a general strike affecting 76 cotton mills, two silk mills and two dye-works in Bombay City. The number of workpeople involved in all these six disputes was 152,876 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 1,799,343. The number of workpeople involved in the general strike alone was 151,986 and the number of working days lost was 1,797,876.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results August to December 1925

	August 1925	September 1925	October 1925	November 1925	December 1925
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	9	7	5	6	6
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	....	3	1	2	3
Fresh disputes begun ..	9	4	4	4	3
Disputes ended ..	6	6	3	3	5
Disputes in progress at end ..	3	1	2	3	1
Number of workpeople involved ..	1,347	146,425	154,473	154,864	152,876
Aggregate duration in working days ..	4,884	1,551,927	3,904,182	3,699,628	1,799,343
Demands—					
Pay ..	7	2	4	3	4
Bonus ..	....	1	....	....	....
Personal ..	2	3	1	2	2
Leave and hours ..	....	....	....	....	....
Others ..	....	1	....	1	....
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	....	1	....	....	1
Compromised ..	1	....	....	....	1
In favour of employers ..	5	5	3	3	3

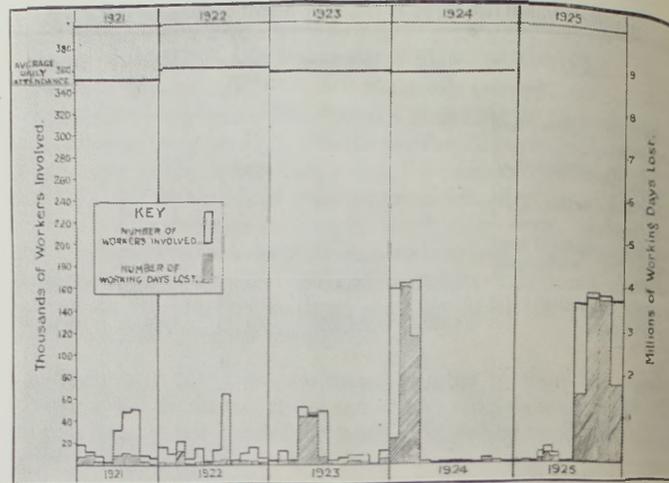
The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

III.—Industrial Disputes

Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs	Aggregate duration in working days	Disputes settled			In progress (Per cent.)
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Com-promised (Per cent.)	
December 1924 ..	6	941	67	16	17	..
January 1925 ..	5	1,444	40	40	20	..
February ..	4	3,070	50	..	25	25
March ..	7	9,962	72	14	14	..
April ..	11	70,672	46	9	27	18
May ..	16	202,683	44	13	37	6
June ..	2	138,459	100	..	..	..
July ..	4	1,543	100	..	..	..
August ..	9	4,884	56	..	11	33
September ..	7	1,551,927	72	14	..	14
October ..	5	3,904,182	60	..	..	40
November ..	6	3,699,628	50	..	..	50
December ..	6	1,799,343	50	16	17	17
Totals or Average (cols. 4 to 7) ..	88	11,388,738	62	9	13	16

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

## Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



## GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

During December 1925 the number of industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency was six, the same as in the previous month. Of these six disputes three were already in progress at the end of the previous month and three new disputes arose during the month under review. The cause of four of these disputes was an increase in or the maintenance of the old rates of wages and the remaining two were due to personal grievances. All of these disputes terminated before the end of the month under review, four in favour of the employers, one in favour of the employees and one dispute resulted in a compromise.

## BOMBAY

There were three industrial disputes in progress in Bombay during December 1925. The progress of the general strike in the Cotton Mill Industry during September, October and November has been already dealt with in the three previous issues of the "Labour Gazette". On the 1st December the Viceroy announced the suspension of the Cotton Excise Duty for the remainder of the current financial year, and in view of this the Bombay Millowners' Association decided to restore the cut in wages the announcement of which had led to the dispute. On the 3rd December notices were put up at the different mills stating that the mills would start work as soon as sufficient numbers of operatives presented themselves for work. The strike thus ended virtually and the number of workpeople who resumed work increased gradually from day to day.

The figures for the daily attendance at the mills up to the 20th December were given in a special article dealing with the progress of this strike on pages 324 to 329 of the issue of the "Labour Gazette" for December

1925. The figures for the daily attendance from the 21st December were as follows:—

21st December	..	..	106,152
22nd	"	..	114,604
23rd	"	..	116,131
24th	"	..	121,634
25th	"	..	124,247
26th	"	..	124,849
27th	"	..	Sunday
28th	"	..	127,274
29th	"	..	128,902
30th	"	..	103,488
31st	"	..	107,069

In view of the fact that the great majority of the cotton mill workers had migrated from Bombay to their homes in the mofussil during the period of the strike, a normal resumption of work was not possible with the virtual ending of the dispute. The general strike, therefore, was not considered as having terminated until such time as normal working was resumed in all the mills. The figure of daily attendance on the 4th January rose to 135,938 and the strike may be considered to have terminated finally on this date;

(2) The weavers of the Ruby mill demanded increased rates of wages and when the demand was refused 100 of them struck work on the 17th December. 50 of the strikers resumed work unconditionally on the next day and the remaining 50 followed suit on the day after. The strike thus terminated in favour of the employers; (3) The operatives of the Indian Woollen Mill were given their pay tickets on the 12th when the weavers alleged that their wages had been reduced. The assurance by the Weaving Master that no cut had been effected in their wages did not satisfy the men and 90 of them went on strike on the same date. On the next day 35 strikers resumed work unconditionally and the rest who were paid off joined their duties gradually. The strike terminated on the 21st in favour of the employers.

## AHMEDABAD

The strike in the Aryodaya Spinning and Manufacturing Co. which is described in the previous issue of the "Labour Gazette" terminated on the 1st December when the management engaged 75 new hands and dispensed with the services of all the strikers. (2) The management of the Ahmedabad New Cotton Manufacturing Co. Ltd., dismissed a Jobber on the 16th December on account of his unsatisfactory work. On the 17th, 300 spinners demanded his reinstatement and struck work. The next day the Secretary of the local Labour Union asked the strikers to resume work whereupon 50 of them joined their duties on that day and the remainder on the following day.

## VIRAMGAM

The strike of 250 weavers in the Whittle Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., began on the 28th November and is described in the December 1925 issue of the "Labour Gazette". The strike terminated as a result of a compromise on the 5th December.

### Industrial Disputes in the Bombay Presidency A REVIEW FOR THE YEAR 1925

Statistics regarding industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency have been collected by the Labour Office since its inception in April 1921, and detailed particulars with the facts and figures in connexion with each strike have been published every month in the *Labour Gazette* in a special article dealing with this subject. A review of all disputes during the 42 months from April 1921 to September 1924 was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1924. A complete review for the five years from 1st April 1921 to 31st March 1926 is now under preparation in this office and will be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1926. The object of the present article is to present an annual review for the year 1925.

The total number of disputes in the Bombay Presidency during the year 1925 amounted to 69. Out of these 61 or 88 per cent. occurred in Spinning and Weaving Mills, 3 or a little over 4 per cent. in Railway Workshops and the remainder in other industries. With the exception of the North-Western Railway Strike and the general strike in the Cotton Mills in Bombay City and Kurla all the remaining disputes, 67 in number, occurred in individual concerns. The following table shows the location of the disputes classified according to the more important industries:—

Number of Industrial Disputes

Locality	Spinning and Weaving Mills	Metal and Engineering Workshops	Railway Workshops	Railway Others	Others	Total
Bombay .. ..	17	1	..	..	2	20
Bandra .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Ghatkopar .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Ahmedabad .. ..	34	..	..	..	..	34
Viramgam .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Broach .. ..	6	..	..	..	..	6
Surat .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Baroda .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Godhra .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Amalner .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Karachi (including Sukkur) .. ..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Total .. ..	61	1	3	1	3	69

All the disputes which began during 1924 ended during the same year and there were, therefore, no disputes brought forward into the year under review.

The number of workpeople involved in all disputes during the year amounted to 175,631 out of which 168,315 or nearly 96 per cent. were cotton mill workers. If Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills and Railway Workshops are excluded, the number of workpeople involved in industrial disputes in the Presidency during 1925 from all other industries amounted to only 720. The largeness of the total figures of workers involved in

disputes during the year is due to the general strike in the Cotton Mills in Bombay City and Kurla which began on the 15th September and continued for over ten weeks. A full account of this strike has been published in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for October, November and December 1925 and it is not proposed therefore to deal with this strike, as a separate dispute, in the present article. The following table gives the numbers of workpeople involved in strikes in different localities in the Bombay Presidency classified according to industries:—

Number of Workpeople Involved

Locality	Spinning and Weaving Mills	Railway Workshops	Railway Others	Others	Total
Bombay .. ..	158,396	..	..	175	158,571
Bandra .. ..	..	..	..	472	472
Ghatkopar .. ..	46	..	..	..	46
Ahmedabad .. ..	5,590	..	..	..	5,590
Viramgam .. ..	250	..	..	..	250
Broach .. ..	1,692	..	..	..	1,692
Surat .. ..	175	..	..	..	175
Baroda .. ..	..	110	..	..	110
Godhra .. ..	..	17	..	..	17
Amalner .. ..	2,166	..	..	..	2,166
Karachi (including Sukkur) .. ..	..	6,469	73	..	6,542
Total .. ..	168,315	6,596	73	647	175,631

The number of working days lost during the year amounted to nearly eleven and a half million. Out of these the number of working days lost to the Cotton Mill industry amounted to eleven million. If Cotton Mills and Railway Workshops are again excluded the number of working days lost on account of industrial disputes in all other industries in the Presidency amounted to only 2,000 during the year. The following table shows the detailed figures by industries and localities:—

Number of Working Days Lost

Locality	Spinning and Weaving Mills	Railway Workshops	Railway Others	Others	Total
Bombay .. ..	10,924,734	..	..	984	10,925,718
Bandra .. ..	..	..	..	944	944
Ghatkopar .. ..	280	..	..	..	280
Ahmedabad .. ..	11,028	..	..	..	11,028
Viramgam .. ..	1,098	..	..	..	1,098
Broach .. ..	6,105	..	..	..	6,105
Surat .. ..	1,305	..	..	..	1,305
Baroda .. ..	..	977	..	..	977
Godhra .. ..	..	34	..	..	34
Amalner .. ..	52,189	..	..	..	52,189
Karachi (including Sukkur) .. ..	..	388,046	73	..	388,119
Total .. ..	10,996,739	389,057	73	1,928	11,387,797

With regard to the question of the causes of the disputes, 32 strikes were on account of pay and allowances and 21 on personal grounds. Disputes in connexion with pay and allowances included stoppages of work on account of alleged reductions in wages due to earnings in particular months not coming up to the levels of previous months. The most important disputes under this head were connected with actual reductions of wages by stated percentages. Disputes on personal grounds occurred mainly on account of sympathy with a dismissed Jobber or *naiikin* (woman jobber) or alleged ill-treatment. The disputes on account of all other causes put together amounted to 16 or 23 per cent. The following two tables show the causes of disputes by Localities and Classes of concerns :—

*Causes of Disputes by Localities*

Locality	Pay and allowance	Personal	Conditions of work, discipline, quantity of work, etc.	Fine	Others	Total
Bombay .. ..	11	6	3	..	..	20
Bandra .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Ghatkopar ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Ahmedabad ..	11	15	2	1	5	34
Viramgam ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Broach .. ..	4	..	..	2	..	6
Surat .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Baroda .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Godhra .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Amalner .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Karachi (including Sukkur) ..	1	..	1	..	..	2
Total .. ..	32	21	7	3	6	69

*Causes of Disputes by Classes of Industries*

Classes of Concern	Pay and allowance	Personal	Conditions of work, discipline, quantity of work, etc.	Fine	Others	Total
Spinning and Weaving Mills .. ..	29	20	4	3	5	61
Railway Workshops ..	2	..	1	..	..	3
Railway others .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Metal and Engineering Works .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Others .. ..	..	1	1	..	1	3
Total .. ..	32	21	7	3	6	69

Forty-four or 64 per cent. of the disputes resulted unfavourably to the workers and only 5 or seven per cent. showed results which were entirely favourable to the strikers. The two following tables show the results

classified according to localities and classes of industries :—

*Results by Localities*

Locality	Entirely favourable to workers	Mainly favourable to workers	Favourable	Entirely unfavourable to workers	Results unknown	Total
Bombay .. ..	2	1	..	14	3	20
Bandra .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Ghatkopar .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Ahmedabad .. ..	3	..	4	21	6	34
Viramgam .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Broach .. ..	..	..	1	5	..	6
Surat .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Baroda .. ..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Godhra .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Amalner .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Karachi (including Sukkur) ..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Total .. ..	5	2	8	44	10	69

*Results by Classes of Industries*

Classes of concerns	Entirely favourable to workers	Mainly favourable to workers	Favourable	Entirely unfavourable to workers	Results unknown	Total
Spinning and Weaving Mills .. ..	4	1	5	41	10	61
Railway Workshops ..	..	1	1	1	..	3
Railway others .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Metal and Engineering Works .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Others .. ..	1	..	1	1	..	3
Total .. ..	5	2	8	44	10	69

**Cotton Industry in Japan**

STATISTICS OF PRODUCTION

The attention of the Labour Office has been drawn to the fact that the figures in the last column of the table on page 348 of the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1925 are not equal to the totals of columns 2, 3 and 4. It is therefore necessary to explain that the figures given in the last column of the table referred to above show the quantities of the total imports of cotton (in bales of 400 lbs. each) into Japan from all countries of the world and are not the totals of columns 2, 3 and 4 although the figures given in these columns are included in the final figures. The figures in columns 2, 3 and 4 show the import of cotton into Japan from India, America and Egypt only, whereas a considerable amount of cotton is imported into Japan from China, Annam and Saigon, Korea and other countries.

### Working Class Cost of Living.

#### VARIATIONS IN BOMBAY DURING 1925

The Cost of Living Index Number remained fairly steady during the year and the price fluctuations were within very narrow limits. The index varied between 151 and 159, the minimum being reached in September and the maximum in March. The twelve-monthly average was 155, which showed a fall of 2 points as compared with the average for the previous year but a rise of one point as compared with the average for 1923. The index number figures for each of the last seven years will be found on page 410 of this issue.

The yearly averages since 1918 are as follows :—

July 1914 = 100							
1918	..	..	154	1922	..	..	164
1919	..	..	175	1923	..	..	154
1920	..	..	183	1924	..	..	157
1921	..	..	173	1925	..	..	155

Excepting the price of wheat, the prices of other food-grains included in the index, did not fluctuate so much as in the previous year. But the price level of food grains was distinctly higher than in 1924. The index number of food grains was 131 as compared with 129 in 1924. This rise was contributed largely by the rise in the price of wheat which soared very high and fluctuated greatly.

The "Other articles of food" included in the index registered a fall as compared with the previous year. The price of sugar (refined) fell heavily, the index number recording a fall of 65 points. The index number of the price of sugar (raw) however remained the same. One would have expected that with so great a fall in the price of refined sugar, and with no fall in the price of raw sugar the law of substitution would come into operation and thus cause a diminution in the demand for the latter and thereby cause a lowering of its prices. But obviously, this does not seem to have happened.

In the "fuel and lighting" group there was no change and prices showed almost a dull uniformity from month to month throughout the year.

As compared with 1924, there was a heavy fall in the price of clothing. There was a fall of no less than 29 points in the index number. The downward trend in the price of cloth had become evident in the last few months of 1924 but it became very pronounced since June 1925. The world wide trade depression and the want of demand for clothing owing to its high prices were certainly causes of the first magnitude which helped in bringing down the price; but the favourable report regarding cotton crops and the fall in the price of cotton must have accelerated this tendency. Besides this, it must be remembered that the fall in the price of clothing is only to be expected. Since 1917 the price of clothing has risen out of all proportion to the rise in the general level of prices and even in spite of the great fall to which reference has been made, of all the groups included in the cost of living index, the clothing group shows the highest percentage rise over July 1914.

The index number for house-rent was the same as in 1924. As no house-rent enquiry was conducted in 1925, the figure for 1924 has been used.

To sum up : In 1925, there was a fall of two points as compared with the year 1924 in the cost of living index number. Food grains rose by two points but this rise was more than counterbalanced by a fall in "Other articles of food" and "Clothing". Throughout the year except in the case of a few articles, prices ruled steady.

#### Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Commodities included in the Bombay Working Class Cost of Living Index Number.

July 1914 = 100

Article	Yearly average for 1924	Yearly average for 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in 1925 over 1924	Percentage rise in 1925 over 1924
Rice	132	131	-1	-0.8
Wheat	121	134	+13	+10.7
Jowari	136	132	-4	-2.9
Bajri	129	132	+3	+2.3
Cereals	130	132	+2	+1.5
Gram	120	128	+8	+6.7
Turdal	115	116	+1	+0.9
Pulses	119	124	+5	+4.2
Cereals and pulses	129	131	+2	+1.6
Sugar	248	183	-65	-26.2
Gul	176	176	..	..
Tea	201	198	-3	-1.5
Salt	171	153	-18	-10.5
Beef	159	156	-3	-1.9
Mutton	205	186	-19	-9.3
Milk	191	191	..	..
Ghee	196	198	+2	+1.0
Potatoes	183	166	-17	-9.3
Onions	313	307	-6	-1.9
Cocoanut oil	118	114	-4	-3.4
Other articles of food	189	183	-6	-3.2
All articles of food	151	150	-1	-0.7
Fuel and lighting	165	165	..	..
Clothing	226	197	-29	-12.8
House-rent	172	172	..	..
Cost of living	157	155	-2	-1.3

### Industrial Housing in Bombay

#### BRITISH LABOUR M. P.'s CRITICISM

Mr. Thomas Johnston, Labour M.P. for Dundee, on his return from a tour of India gave several interviews to the local papers and delivered public lectures on labour conditions in Bombay and Calcutta. In the course of one of the interviews he is reported to have referred to working class houses as "The modern black holes of Calcutta and Bombay". He condemned the housing conditions of workmen in Bombay and Calcutta as "unspeakable" and alluded to the housing accommodation of the workers

as "a standing disgrace to any Government, Imperial or Municipal which has anything to do with it". On a subsequent occasion Mr. Johnstone said that he was not of the opinion that the millowners were responsible for the bad housing conditions in Bombay and in fact he thought that housing was the business of the municipality and not of the employers of labour at all.

A reply to these criticisms was given on behalf of the Bombay Millowners' Association by Mr. H. P. Mody. He pointed out that the millowners not only contributed a large sum annually to the Development Department but several mills also built their own chawls for housing their employees for which only nominal rents were charged. The industry as a whole contributed twelve lakhs of rupees every year to the Government scheme for housing industrial workers. But, said Mr. Mody, in spite of the fact that the Development Directorate had built nearly 16,000 tenements, only about 4,000 were occupied. The rent charged, he pointed out, was not prohibitive, being on an average only Rs. 8 per month per room. The allegation that the Development chawls were more like dungeons than like dwellings, was, he said, not true. Finally he said, that the habits of the workers were very filthy and that is why they preferred to live in dirty chawls in preference to the Development chawls.

### Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER 1925

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

#### I. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue contain details of accidents reported during the month of December in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi, and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During December there were in all 210 factory accidents in Bombay City of which one was fatal, twelve serious and the remaining 197 minor accidents. Of the total, 41 or 20 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 169 or 80 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion in different classes of factories being 78 per cent. in workshops, 19 per cent. in textile mills and 3 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 25 accidents, all of which occurred in cotton mills. Out of these, 19 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Only three of these accidents were serious and the rest minor.

In Karachi there were in all seven accidents, two of which occurred in Railway and Port Trust Workshops, three in Engineering workshops and two in miscellaneous concerns. Of these, one was serious and six minor.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 41 out of which 17 occurred in textile mills and 12 each in workshops and miscellaneous concerns. 20 of these accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Two accidents were fatal, seven serious and the rest minor.

#### II. PROSECUTIONS

##### BOMBAY SUBURBAN

One match factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Indian Factories Act for breach of Section 26 in respect of employment of children outside the time fixed for their work. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 1,000 in all (Forty cases were taken out and fine of Rs. 25 in each case was imposed).

##### THANA

One match factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (h) of the Factories Act for breach of Section 35 for not maintaining a register of workers, required by Section 35. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 100 (one case).

The Manager was also prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (a) and he was convicted and fined Rs. 350 in all (Ten cases) were taken out for employing uncertified children. (A fine of Rs. 35 was imposed in each case.)

The Manager was further prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 26 for employing children after the hours specified in time-table. He was convicted and fined Rs. 350 in all (Ten cases were taken out and a fine of Rs. 35 was imposed in each case).

##### PANCH MAHALS

A ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (f) of the Factories Act for non-compliance with Section 18 and Rule 32. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 100.

### Workmen's Compensation

STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of December 1925. Information has not been received from 3 Commissioners. Out of 36 cases disposed of during the month, 34 were reported by the Commissioner for Bombay as against 20 during the preceding month. It should be remembered that this is not the number of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 23,608-15-2 was awarded as compensation as against Rs. 11,492-13-0 in November and Rs. 19,347 in October. Out of 36 accidents, 14 were fatal, 17 cases were of permanent partial disablement, 4 cases were of permanent total disablement and one case was of temporary disablement.

The number of compensation cases in cotton mills was 16 during the month under review as against 13 in the preceding month. No disease case has come up since January 1925.

Claimants for compensation were males over 15 in 34 cases and females over 15 in two cases.

Out of 36 cases in December, 23 were original claims and 13 registrations of agreement. Compensation was awarded in 21 cases, agreement was effected in 13 cases and two were dismissed.

## Industrial Disputes in India

### STATISTICS FOR JULY TO SEPTEMBER 1925

During the quarter ended September 1925 the number of industrial disputes in India was 29—of which 17 occurred in Bombay, 9 in Bengal, one in Bihar and Orissa and 2 in Burma. Fourteen of these disputes were due to the question of pay, 2 to bonus and the remaining 13 to personal and other grievances. Of the 26 disputes settled during the quarter, 5 terminated wholly and 3 partly in favour of the employees while the remaining 18 resulted in favour of the employers. The number of work-people involved in all these 29 disputes was 169,622 and the days lost amounted to 1,795,899. The province chiefly affected was, as usual, Bombay with 17 disputes involving 148,118 employees and a time loss of 1,558,054 working days. The large number of days lost was mainly due to the prevalence of the general strike in the Bombay textile mills. Bengal, which comes next, recorded 9 disputes involving 17,530 operatives with a loss of 153,947 days. The two disputes in Burma involved 3,854 employees with a time loss of 83,778 days.

Classified by trades, the number of industrial disputes was 17 in Cotton mills, 3 each in Jute mills, Engineering works, and Miscellaneous trades, 2 in Docks and one in Conservancy. Three of these disputes were in progress at the end of the quarter.

### Two More Bombay Mills to close

Two more mills, the B. D. Petit & Sons Co. and the Khatau Makanji & Co., have issued notices to their employees informing them that owing to trade depression the mills would be closed down with effect from 1st February 1926. Another mill contemplates sending out its surplus staff and it is believed in some quarters that other mills will follow suit.

The reasons assigned for closing down are the inability of the employers to sell their goods at profit and the almost total absence of demand for goods produced. Eleven mills in Bombay City employing 14,553 hands have closed in the past 12 months.

### The Bombay Textile Labour Union

#### NEW CENTRAL ORGANISATION IN BOMBAY

A meeting of the Trade Unionists in Bombay and others interested in Labour Organisation was held on Thursday, the 31st December 1925, in the Damodhar Thakersey Hall, Parel, to consider the steps to be taken to bring into existence a Central Labour Organisation of Textile Workers. Mr. R. S. Asawale was voted to the Chair. At a preliminary meeting of the same gentlemen held on December 11 it had been decided to form one Central Organisation of Textile Workers and to request the existing unions to amalgamate with the new organisation. In response to the latter part of the resolution, the following existing unions, the last six of which were

brought into existence during the relief operations of the Committee of Assistance to the Textile Workers during the last strike, have passed resolutions of amalgamation with the new union:—

(1) The Madanpura Textile Workers' Union; (2) The Sat-Rasta Girni Kamgar Sangh; (3) The Bombay Textile Workers' Union; (4) The Kurla Girni Kamgar Mandal; (5) The Dadar Mill Union; (6) The Tardeo Girni Kamgar Sangh; (7) The Chinchpokley Girni Kamgar Sangh; (8) The Poibavdi Labour Union; (9) The Fergusson Road Kamgar Sangh.

The meeting held on December 31 decided that a Central Labour Organisation of Textile Workers amalgamating in it the above nine unions should be formed on and from 1st January 1926 and that it should be named the *Bombay Textile Labour Union*. It was also agreed that a Committee consisting of Messrs. N. M. Joshi; F. J. Ginwala; R. S. Asawale; S. H. Jhabwala; R. R. Bakhale; Ranjit; A. V. Chitre and two representatives from each of the amalgamated Unions be appointed to form a constitution for the Union and do all its preliminary work until the election of its office bearers.

The members of the amalgamated Unions automatically became members of the new Union and their subscription for January will be recovered on their first pay day of this month. The Committee has also decided to take immediate steps to enlist as many new members as possible before the meeting of the General Body.

### Demands of Labour

#### BOMBAY PROVINCIAL TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

The Bombay Provincial Trade Union Conference organised by the Committee of the All-India Trade Union Congress was held on January 2 at the Damodar Thackersey Hall, Parel. Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer presided. In the course of his address he said:—

"The trade union movement has been progressing rapidly and although we have not been able to make as thorough an organisation as we desire, still we are proud of the progress we have made. In this Presidency we now have three federations, namely the Ahmedabad Liberal Union, the All-India Trade Union Board and the Central Labour Board, and as many as 47 unions scattered over the Presidency. The total number of textile workers and railway employees in the Presidency amounts to over four lakhs, and these are daily realising the importance of strengthening their unions. In the recent mill strike the men, by their firm and resolute stand and peaceful behaviour throughout the long struggle, achieved a victory which is unparalleled in the history of the trade union movement." The President also referred to the necessity of trade unions having the right of electing representatives in the Legislative Councils and the Central Legislature. The illegal system of imposing fines on textile workers should be regulated on the model of the Truck Act in England and consideration should also be given to the question of the housing of millhands and railway workers.

The conference at its meeting on the following day passed 35 resolutions dealing with general labour problems, etc. The more important are summarised below:—

- (1) Condemned the action of the Bombay Millowners' Association in cutting wages and expressed the opinion that the present wages were hardly enough to maintain the workers and their families and recommended an increase in the present scale;
- (2) Congratulated the textile workers for their successful strike;
- (3) Expressed its gratitude to the British and International Trade Union Movements for their assistance to the Bombay Textile Workers during the strike and also to the Municipal Corporation;
- (4) Asked for an enquiry into the whole position of the textile industry in Bombay city;
- (5) Demanded a restoration of the wage cut of 15 per cent. effected in the wages of the Ahmedabad textile workers in 1923;
- (6) Urged the Legislative Assembly to insist upon a public enquiry into the grievances of railway subordinate employees;
- (7) Urged the Government of India to amend the Indian Railways Act by inserting provisions for the constitution in India of a Central Wages Board for settling disputes concerning wages and conditions of service;
- (8) Urged upon all employers of clerical labour to introduce in all private offices the system of granting provident fund and gratuity; and also recommending that the hours of work for clerical employees in private offices be regulated by legislation, and overtime not allowed;
- (9) Expressed the opinion that organised labour in the Presidency should be given the right of electing labour representatives to the Assembly and the local councils;
- (10) Regretted the defeat in the Legislative Assembly of Mr. N. M. Joshi's Maternity Benefit Bill, and called upon the Government of India and the Government of Bombay to pass legislation making it compulsory upon employers to grant maternity benefits;
- (11) Strongly disapproved of the delay in passing legislation concerning arbitration and conciliation and requested the Government of Bombay to secure the sanction of the Government of India to introduce such legislation for the Bombay Presidency;
- (12) Called upon local authorities to provide better accommodation for working class families, rent not to exceed 10 per cent. of the monthly wages of the worker, and the loss to be borne by Government;
- (13) Urged upon Government the importance of an enquiry into the question of unemployment in India, and suggested that steps be taken to establish unemployment insurance, health insurance, and old age pensions for all workers in organised industries and commerce;
- (14) Urged Government to remove all liquor shops in industrial areas and to initiate legislation on the lines of local option;
- (15) Recommended that unclaimed wages of workers in the organised industries should be utilised in the interest, and for the welfare of the workers.

## The All-India Trade Union Congress

### RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE SIXTH SESSION

The sixth session of the All-India Trade Union Congress was held at Madras on 9th and 10th January 1926. It was presided over by Mr. V. V. Giri of Berhampur. About 100 delegates from the different provinces attended.

In the course of his speech, the President gave a short history of trade-unionism in India and pointed out how the Trade Union Congress was formed. He also gave a brief history of the activities of the various trade unions in the country.

Referring to agricultural labour the President said that since India was predominantly an agricultural country, it was necessary to organise agricultural labour and to educate the riots with respect to the rights, privileges and liabilities.

Speaking about the duties of labour associations, the President said that they must not only look after the economic welfare of the members but must also work for the social and moral uplift. He deplored the fact that vices like gambling and drinking prevailed among the workers and urged the necessity of starting such organisations as the "Purity Mission" in Bombay to eradicate these vices.

As regards labour associations taking part in politics, the President said that they should not get into the whirlpool of politics at the expense of the legitimate work but they should not keep away from politics altogether. For the political education of the masses it was necessary that the workers should take interest in politics at least in matters which concerned them. The President also said that a labour party should be formed within the Trade Union Congress.

Finally, the President pointed out that while capital was adequately represented both in the Provincial and the Central legislatures, labour had no elected representative at all. He therefore appealed to Government to adopt the recommendation of the Muddiman Committee in respect of labour representation but since a sufficient widening of the franchise to enable labourers to elect their own men was likely to take time, he suggested that until then the workers' organisations in India should be given special constituencies through which they could elect their own men to the legislatures.

After the presidential address, Mr. Graham Pole and Councillor W. McLellan addressed the gathering. Mr. Graham Pole said that trade unions in India should be considerably strengthened and when industrial disputes arose workmen should go on strike only as a last resort. Mr. McLellan said that he felt that the Indian labour movement had a great future before it. He asked Indian labour to work for national freedom and also to purify itself of vices that it might be imitating.

On the second day various resolutions were passed. The following is a summary of the more important resolutions passed at the congress:

The Congress resolved that all the South African Whites living in India be boycotted by the Indian working classes dealing with or serving under them, till the withdrawal or cancellation of the Anti-Asiatic Bill in South Africa. Further, the Congress recommended that all other Indians as

well should organise and practise similar boycott. At the same time, the Congress protested against the Anti-Asiatic Bill, as it destroyed the rights of ex-indentured Indian labourers in South Africa and was in contravention of the indenture agreement. The Congress urged the Government of the Union of South Africa to withdraw the Bill or at least to postpone its passing.

The Congress also protested against the attitude of South African Labour Party in supporting the Bill and appointed the Rev. C. F. Andrews as its representative to make representations to the South African Labour Party and the South African Government on matters pertaining to Indian labour.

The Congress asked for a Government inquiry into the causes of unemployment among the industrial classes in the country. It considered the duty of Government to introduce a system of health insurance and old age pensions for labourers. There should be employment bureaus established in all principal industrial and commercial towns. Untouchability should be banished from all trade unions.

The Congress urged on the Government of India and the Railway Administration that provident fund, pension and gratuity should be all treated as deferred pay and they should not be withheld from workers on any plea whatsoever. Even in the case of strike the workers should not be deprived of any of these. There should be legislation introduced prohibiting the exaction of work for more than 8 hours a day.

Many of the resolutions dealt with the grievances of workers in Madras, local housing conditions, etc.

The Congress resolved to transfer its head office from Bombay to Calcutta.

### Interim Report of the Indian Delegation

The Interim Report of the Delegation of India to the Sixth Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations has been published. The Indian Delegates were the Right Honourable Viscount Willingdon, His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala and Sir Atul Chandra Chatterjee with Sir Edward Chamier as substitute Delegate. After giving a brief account of the organisation of the league, the report refers to the most important questions discussed at this year's Assembly with special reference to those of special interest to India. The report concludes with the following paragraph:—

Our experience of the work of the Assembly has led us to consider that the best service can be done for India by its representatives if they approach the questions under discussion as far as possible from an impartial and international standpoint, and co-operate fully in the solution of them, rather than view them from a purely national aspect and refrain from the discussion of those which have no immediate interest to India. It must necessarily be the case that India's interests are little affected by many of the problems which the League has to solve. But India's representatives have everything to gain by familiarising themselves with the elements of these problems and taking part in the discussions upon them, while at the same time the League has much to learn from the store of legislative

and administrative experience accumulated in the public life of the great country which they represent. Such participation will only be rendered possible by thorough preparatory study and by securing the assistance of a larger staff at Geneva. We are convinced that the Indian Delegation can do far more in this way to improve India's position in the League than by criticism from a purely national point of view of the comparatively few questions which directly affect India's interests or by excessive insistence on the fact that India is not at present receiving an adequate return from the League for her large contribution towards its expenditure. In the course of the debates we tried to turn the general activities of the League into ways of benefit to India. Our observations on the Health Organisation, the proposed International Relief Union, the work of the League in social matters and our suggestion that a bureau of information should be established in India are instances of this endeavour. It remains for us to add that we ourselves have derived the utmost benefit from our intercourse with the many prominent statesmen and experienced administrators who represented their countries at this Assembly. Our relations with them in conference and in social intercourse have been most cordial. We have also to express our great appreciation of the assistance rendered to us by the secretariat staff of the League itself and of our own delegation.

### Labour Education in Belgium

In the November 1925 number of the *American Federationist*, there appears an article under the above heading, by Henri de Man, formerly head of the Belgian Workers' Education Movement. It is pointed out that the Belgian movement for adult workers' education is being recognised abroad as one of the most comprehensive and typical attempts of the workers of any country to supplement their own industrial, political and co-operative effort by a systematic endeavour at self-education. At present there is in Belgium a national residential Labour College, a net work of over 200 local and district committees for the organisation of courses and lectures, 68 local "labour colleges" with evening classes, numberless "summer schools" and "educational weeks" for specialized purposes that vary from the training of union leaders to the teaching of co-operative accountants, more than 300 public libraries at local labour headquarters, and a central scientific library with 40,000 volumes.

The most striking characteristic of the Belgian movement for labour education is that it is a joint undertaking of the Federation of Labour Unions, the Labour Party and the Union of Co-operative Societies. The L.E.C. (Labour Education Committee) is a joint body of delegates elected by the three "wings" of the labour movement—industrial, political and co-operative. It is being financed by these bodies through regular contributions according to membership to the extent of 75 per cent. of its total expenses, the rest of the income being derived from endowments and subsidies from the public funds.

The aim of the L.E.C. is essentially practical. It is, in the first place

"to form" leaders, officials, propagandists, administrators, and educators for the immediate and various purposes of the labour movement itself. In short, the principle of the movement is "Education of the workers, by the workers and for the workers". The L.E.C. aims at equipping men and women for work in the labour movement, that is, for a purpose of social service, not of individual economic advancement.

As regards the results produced by the L.E.C. the writer points out that these cannot be measured by statistical figures. But certain noteworthy changes have no doubt been obtained. First of all there is the fast development of the institutions themselves. The labour unions have benefited immensely and there is hardly a single national or local leader in the Belgian union movement who has not "gone through the mill" of the L.E.C. And there is a general belief among Belgian labour circles that owing to the work of the L.E.C. there has been a distinct and continuous rising of the general intellectual level of the movement and its leadership.

### Australian Labour Statistics

#### LARGE INCREASE IN TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP

We have received *Bulletin No. 101* giving the quarterly summary of Australian statistics for the quarter ending September 1925, published by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, Melbourne. This is an exceedingly valuable publication giving vital, agricultural, industrial, trade and financial statistics. But it is proposed in this note to deal only with the labour and industrial statistics.

As regards trade unions, there has been a fall in recent years both in the number of separate unions as well as in their branches. The membership, however, has increased considerably.

#### Classification of Trade Unions in Australia according to Number of Members at end of years 1920 to 1924

Classification	10,000 and over	5,000 and under 10,000	2,000 and under 5,000	1,000 and under 2,000	Number of Unions.						Total
					500 and under 1,000	300 and under 500	200 and under 300	100 and under 200	50 and under 100	Under 50	
1920	14	13	41	43	57	29	27	60	54	50	388
1921	15	15	37	41	55	26	30	57	53	53	382
1922	16	14	44	42	42	30	33	53	56	57	387
1923	17	13	41	42	51	36	27	55	47	54	383
1924	19	13	41	43	47	35	28	50	53	47	376
Membership.											
1920	314,437	101,801	136,587	60,324	40,464	10,751	6,451	8,391	3,763	1,481	684,450
1921	337,683	115,364	120,331	58,775	39,729	10,442	7,213	8,076	3,722	1,674	703,009
1922	338,689	104,299	138,492	57,115	30,834	12,019	8,150	7,602	3,987	1,751	702,938
1923	341,167	100,122	131,796	55,379	37,634	14,152	6,231	8,057	3,432	1,773	699,743
1924	379,009	95,892	127,120	59,847	33,303	14,517	6,878	7,303	3,857	1,429	729,155

The number of industrial disputes during 1924 was greater than in the two preceding years. But the number of working days lost and the loss in wages was smaller than in 1923.

#### Industrial Disputes—Number and Magnitude of Industrial Disputes (causing stoppage of work), 1920 to 1925 (2nd Quarter)

Periods	No. of Disputes	Number of establishments involved in Disputes.	No. of workpeople involved in disputes.			No. of working days lost—All Disputes.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages
			Directly	Indirectly	Total	New Disputes	Old Disputes	Total	
Year 1920	554	2,104	102,519	53,047	155,566	..	..	1,872,065	1,223,716
.. 1921	624	888	120,198	44,903	165,101	..	..	956,617	757,028
.. 1922	445	1,447	100,263	16,069	116,332	..	..	858,685	751,507
.. 1923	274	885	66,093	10,228	76,321	..	..	1,145,977	1,275,506
.. 1924	504	941	132,569	19,877	152,446	..	..	918,646	917,699
3rd Quarter, 1924	114	203	26,757	7,362	34,119	198,145	9,073	207,218	202,043
4th Quarter, 1924	127	136	36,152	2,121	38,273	150,563	29,093	179,656	200,933
1st Quarter, 1925	154	198	42,144	6,544	48,688	205,337	24,418	229,755	304,854
2nd Quarter, 1925	120	313	38,026	4,386	42,412	249,448	33,509	82,9572	232,056

As regards wages in the different States of the Commonwealth they appear to be the highest in Western Australia and the lowest in Tasmania. The weighted average of nominal weekly wages on 30 June 1925 was 94.8 for adult males. The average for all groups excepting shipping, pastoral and agricultural was 96.9. The average hourly wage was 2/0 $\frac{3}{4}$  and the average number of working hours per week was 46.66.

The following tables are of interest.

#### Wages—Adult Males—Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers, 30th June 1914, to 30th June 1925

Note.—Index Numbers based on the average wage for Australia in 1911 (51s. 3d.) as base (=1,000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Dates	N. S. W.	Vic.	Qld.	S. A.	W. A.	Tasmania	Australia	
							s. d.	s. d.
Rates of Wage.								
30th June 1914	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3	
31st December 1914	56 2	54 7	53 5	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 7	
31st December 1921	95 10	93 7	96 8	89 5	95 0	91 8	94 6	
30th June 1922	93 8	91 5	94 0	87 5	93 6	88 7	92 4	
31st December 1922	91 6	91 4	93 10	87 6	93 9	88 5	91 6	
30th June 1923	91 10	91 1	93 9	87 5	93 3	88 3	91 6	

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Dates	N. S. W.		Vic.		Qld.		S. A.		W. A.		Tas.		Australia
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
31st December 1923	94 6	95 7	94 2	90 9	94 2	94 2	92 4	94 4	94 4	92 7	92 4	94 4	94 4
30th June 1924	94 0	95 10	94 8	91 1	93 9	93 9	92 7	94 3	94 3	92 5	92 5	94 3	94 3
30th September 1924	93 11	95 6	95 9	91 4	93 10	93 10	92 5	94 4	94 4	92 6	92 6	94 4	94 4
31st December 1924	93 6	95 5	95 9	91 10	94 8	94 8	92 6	94 3	94 3	92 9	92 9	94 3	94 3
31st March 1925	93 8	95 3	95 10	92 0	95 0	95 0	92 9	94 4	94 4	92 9	92 9	94 4	94 4
30th June 1925	93 11	95 6	95 10	92 6	96 3	96 3	92 11	94 8	94 8	92 11	92 11	94 8	94 8
Index-Numbers.													
30th June 1914	1,091	1,059	1,030	1,060	1,225	1,225	1,026	1,029	1,029	1,026	1,026	1,029	1,029
31st December 1914	1,096	1,065	1,042	1,062	1,226	1,226	1,028	1,085	1,085	1,028	1,028	1,085	1,085
31st December 1921	1,869	1,826	1,886	1,745	1,853	1,853	1,788	1,844	1,844	1,788	1,788	1,844	1,844
30th June 1922	1,828	1,784	1,835	1,706	1,824	1,824	1,728	1,801	1,801	1,728	1,728	1,801	1,801
31st December 1922	1,785	1,783	1,830	1,708	1,829	1,829	1,726	1,785	1,785	1,726	1,726	1,785	1,785
30th June 1923	1,791	1,778	1,829	1,705	1,820	1,820	1,723	1,840	1,840	1,723	1,723	1,840	1,840
31st December 1923	1,844	1,865	1,837	1,770	1,838	1,838	1,802	1,840	1,840	1,802	1,802	1,840	1,840
30th June 1924	1,835	1,870	1,847	1,778	1,829	1,829	1,807	1,840	1,840	1,807	1,807	1,840	1,840
30th September 1924	1,832	1,863	1,868	1,783	1,831	1,831	1,803	1,840	1,840	1,803	1,803	1,840	1,840
31st December 1924	1,824	1,862	1,868	1,791	1,847	1,847	1,805	1,839	1,839	1,805	1,805	1,839	1,839
31st March 1925	1,827	1,858	1,869	1,795	1,853	1,853	1,809	1,840	1,840	1,809	1,809	1,840	1,840
30th June 1925	1,832	1,864	1,870	1,804	1,877	1,877	1,812	1,846	1,846	1,812	1,812	1,846	1,846

Wages—Adult Females—Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Wage Index-Numbers, 30th June 1914 to 30th June 1925

Note.—Index-numbers based on the average wage for Australia at 30th April, 1914 (27s. 2d.) as base (=1,000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Dates	N. S. W.		Vic.		Qld.		S. A.		W. A.		Tas.		Australia
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
30th June 1914	26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	37 4	25 10	27 2	27 2	25 10	25 10	27 2	27 2
31st December 1914	26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	37 4	25 10	27 5	27 5	25 10	25 10	27 5	27 5
31st December 1921	49 0	47 10	50 3	45 2	56 4	56 4	47 6	48 8	48 8	47 6	47 6	48 8	48 8
30th June 1922	48 4	47 10	48 2	44 6	56 4	56 4	47 6	48 1	48 1	47 6	47 6	48 1	48 1
31st December 1922	47 8	48 0	48 2	44 0	56 4	56 4	47 7	47 11	47 11	47 7	47 7	47 11	47 11
30th June 1923	47 6	48 0	48 2	44 0	56 4	56 4	47 7	47 10	47 10	47 7	47 7	47 10	47 10
31st December 1923	49 3	49 5	50 5	46 4	56 4	56 4	48 6	49 6	49 6	48 6	48 6	49 6	49 6
30th June 1924	49 3	50 2	51 3	46 9	56 8	56 8	50 7	50 0	50 0	50 7	50 7	50 0	50 0
30th September 1924	49 0	49 6	50 10	46 4	56 8	56 8	50 3	49 7	49 7	50 3	50 3	49 7	49 7
31st December 1924	49 1	49 7	50 10	46 6	56 11	56 11	50 3	49 7	49 7	50 3	50 3	49 7	49 7
31st March 1925	49 0	49 7	50 8	47 3	56 11	56 11	50 1	49 7	49 7	50 1	50 1	49 7	49 7
30th June 1925	49 0	49 9	50 8	47 5	57 2	57 2	50 1	49 8	49 8	50 1	50 1	49 8	49 8

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Dates	N. S. W.		Vic.		Qld.		S. A.		W. A.		Tas.		Australia
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
30th June 1914	984	1,008	993	885	1,373	1,373	950	1,000	1,000	950	950	1,000	1,000
31st December 1914	987	1,022	996	885	1,373	1,373	950	1,008	1,008	950	950	1,008	1,008
31st December 1921	1,803	1,761	1,849	1,661	2,074	2,074	1,749	1,790	1,790	1,749	1,749	1,790	1,790
30th June 1922	1,778	1,760	1,771	1,639	2,073	2,073	1,749	1,770	1,770	1,749	1,749	1,770	1,770
31st December 1922	1,754	1,767	1,771	1,620	2,075	2,075	1,751	1,763	1,763	1,751	1,751	1,763	1,763
30th June 1923	1,747	1,767	1,771	1,620	2,075	2,075	1,751	1,760	1,760	1,751	1,751	1,760	1,760
31st December 1923	1,812	1,819	1,855	1,704	2,075	2,075	1,785	1,821	1,821	1,785	1,785	1,821	1,821
30th June 1924	1,813	1,845	1,886	1,721	2,085	2,085	1,863	1,839	1,839	1,863	1,863	1,839	1,839
30th September 1924	1,804	1,823	1,872	1,706	2,085	2,085	1,851	1,824	1,824	1,851	1,851	1,824	1,824
31st December 1924	1,807	1,824	1,872	1,710	2,094	2,094	1,850	1,826	1,826	1,850	1,850	1,826	1,826
31st March 1925	1,803	1,825	1,865	1,738	2,094	2,094	1,843	1,826	1,826	1,843	1,843	1,826	1,826
30th June 1925	1,803	1,830	1,865	1,745	2,104	2,104	1,844	1,829	1,829	1,844	1,844	1,829	1,829

### Industrial Psychology and Fatigue

In the December 1925 number of the *Journal of Industrial Hygiene*, there appears an article entitled "The Human Side of how to do it best" by A. W. Sanders, B.Sc. The writer first of all refers to three kinds of fatigue: (1) Fatigue due to work done for which the worker is temperamentally not suited; (2) Fatigue due to making unnecessary motions, and (3) Fatigue caused by unsympathetic surroundings. The first is a kind of fatigue which is caused in our nerve centres and produces general fatigue, the second is local fatigue and the third is a kind of mental fatigue.

To avoid the first kind of fatigue and thus to economise the unnecessary waste of human energy, the author suggests the introduction of the system of vocational selection in industry. Such selection can be made by the application of psychological tests to find out the kind of concentration needed for a particular kind of work and whether the person doing the job is capable of such concentration. The remedy against the second kind of fatigue is to observe the motions of the workers and to find out whether the fatigue is due to some preventable cause. It often happens that the supply of a small thing like a footstool to workers diminishes fatigue and increases output. The third kind of fatigue is due to outside causes. Remedies are not always easy, because the conditions under which a process must be carried out are sometimes difficult to alter, while in many cases it cannot yet be said with certainty what effect the factors have on the worker individually.

The writer points out in conclusion that the aim of business being to sell at a profit and the problem of today being to lower the cost of production without decreasing wages, it is essential, if these objects are to be achieved, to take the help of industrial psychology. He further points out that the application of industrial psychology is the first step in humanising industry.

### The Labour Movement in the Balkans

Under the above heading there appears an article in the *International Trade Union Review* for October-December 1925 by Bogdan Krekitich, Secretary of the Yugoslavian Federation of Trade Unions. The writer first of all refers to the political history of the States and points out the detrimental effect on the economic organisation of the states of the political ambitions of its neighbours from far and near.

The writer points out that the Labour Movement in the Balkans is of comparatively recent origin. The strength of the movement was only about 40,000 in 1912. But though its numerical strength in proportion to the total population was insignificant, the movement was making its influence felt. The movement was all but destroyed by the war, but after its close, it was revived with tremendous energy. The belief gained ground that organisation into unions was a sure way to improve the conditions which had become very bad during the war. This remarkable revival can be seen from the following table:

Comparative Statistics of Pre-war and Post-war Trade Union Memberships

	1912	1920		1923	
		Soc.	Com.	Soc.	Com.
Yugoslavia .. ..	17,000	20,000	200,000	34,000	6,000
Bulgaria .. .. .	9,000	14,000	100,000	15,000	35,000
Rumania .. .. .	9,000	60,000	200,000	33,000	16,000
Greece .. .. .	....	....	150,000	....	....
Albania .. .. .	....	....	....	....	....
Turkey .. .. .	....	....	....	....	....
Total .. .. .	35,000	94,000	650,000	82,000	57,000

The great rise in the membership figures in 1920 was due largely to Bolshevik propaganda. But gradually as persons began to be disillusioned about the hopes held out by the Bolsheviks, membership began to fall until out of the 650,000 communist members in 1920 only 55,000 were left in 1923.

The writer says that "Peace" and "The Balkans for the Balkan Peoples" are now, as ever, the most important watchwords of the Labour Movement of the Balkans.

### Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Tasmania

We have received the Tenth Annual Report of the Industrial Department for the year 1924-25 on Factories, Wages Boards, Shops, etc., by the Chief Inspector of Factories, Tasmania. The report shows that there were 9,854 persons employed in factories as against 10,275 in 1924. Of these 7,741 were males and 2,113 females.

Under the Wages Boards Act of 1920, twelve meetings of the Wages Boards were held during the year in different parts of the state.

The Department secured the arrears of wages to the extent of £1,114 19s. 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. during the year. It issued 51 licenses, 17 for old age, 2 for slowness and 32 for infirmity.

The Department in addition to its other activities conducts a Labour Bureau. During the period ending 30th June 1925, 3,135 fresh applications were received by the Bureau. Out of these, employment was found for 2,523 persons and 913 were on the waiting list.

### Labour in Queensland

According to the report of the Director of Labour and Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops for the year ended 30th June 1925, the registrations of persons as unemployed workers increased from 83,806 in the previous year to 117,496 in the year under report. These figures show an enormous increase in unemployment. But actually this is not so, the figures for the previous year being for nine months only. As regards the State Labour Exchanges it is pointed out that private employers do not make full use of these, being under the impression that the workers registering there are principally unskilled. The report points out that this impression is erroneous, and that all classes of workers both skilled and unskilled including female labour are available at the State Exchanges.

The State Exchanges secured during the year employment for 13,095 persons. Rail fares to the value of £6,387 were issued to 6,318 persons and of this amount £3,810 were refunded to the Department while a further sum of £1,503 is likely to be recovered in connexion with these issues. As regards the working of the Factories and Shops Acts, the inspection of factories shows that sanitation and ventilation in factories is on the whole very satisfactory. The number of registered factories rose from 3,692 in 1924 to 3,915 in 1925. The number of employees also increased. The inspectors' reports indicate that generally the requirements of the Acts are well observed.

As regards the Industrial Arbitration Acts excepting in cases where breaches of awards appear wilful, or where they are detected after the issue of cautions, settlement by arbitration is effected as far as possible and prosecution is only resorted to as a rule when it becomes absolutely necessary. 117 prosecutions were instituted in the Metropolitan area and 228 in the remaining portion of the State making a total of 345 prosecutions out of which 337 were successful. Apart from prosecutions, arrears of wages amounting to £5,680 were secured to employees. The bulk of this amount must be regarded as having been short-paid through oversight or misunderstanding and in most cases adjustments have been readily made on the intervention of the Inspectors.

On the whole, the report shows that in Queensland labour conditions are improving.

### Hard Work and the Length of Life

It is a well-known fact that the age of the worker is an important factor in determining the extent to which his health is affected by difficult and insanitary conditions. According to the conclusions reached by an American professor after three years of study among 132 trades, the 40th year is a very critical one for the manual worker; from the 40th year onwards the death-rate increases very rapidly. From the 35th to the 44th year, according to this expert's calculations, the death-rate of persons doing hard manual work is 3.9 per cent. higher than that of persons doing light manual work. From the 45th to the 54th year the percentage increases to 12.8 and from the 55th to the 64th, to 18.6 per cent. The same proportion has been observed in women. Hard manual work, bringing with it as it does danger to health, is almost exclusively responsible for the higher death-rate. Other external working conditions do not play any conspicuous part; no difference can be observed in the death-rate figures of manual workers employed in the open air or in closed rooms. (From "Press Reports of the I.F.T.U.," Amsterdam, November 5, 1925.)

### Production Costs in Great Britain and Italy

An interesting analysis of comparative costs of production in Great Britain and Italy appears in the current monthly report of the General Confederation of Italian industries. The analysis has been prompted by the surprise evinced by foreign competitors at the comparative prosperity of the Italian cotton and woollen industries in a period of general depression, and by the opinion frequently expressed that this is mainly due to the low cost of labour as compared with that prevailing in competing countries. The report states that when all the different factors are taken into consideration, the wages paid in England per unit of cotton yarn produced are found to be one-third higher than those paid in Italy, and the same proportion holds good for the cotton-weaving industry. Expressed in terms of production, the difference is put as follows: The labour cost of producing one kilogramme of cotton yarn of 24 counts in Italy lies between Lire 1.30 and Lire 1.50. In England, the corresponding figure would be Lire 1.70 to Lire 2.00. Since the cotton yarn so produced sells at about Lire 24.50 per kilogramme, the heavier labour costs met by the English mill amounts approximately to 2 per cent. of the selling price. The conclusion is reached that the degree of success which Italy has attained is not due to low labour costs or cheap power, but to skilful business management and close attention to detail, and, above all, to the sacrifices made by manufacturers, who have been satisfied with a very low return for their services and their capital. How great these sacrifices have been will only be fully revealed when the currency has been definitely stabilised. It may then be found that Italian industries have for some time been running at a real loss, converted into a fictitious profit by currency depreciation. (From the "Statist," London, November 14, 1925.)

### Method of Payment of Wages

#### RESULTS OF ENQUIRY BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

At the end of the year 1924, the Labour Office held, on behalf of the Government of India, an extensive enquiry into the methods prevailing in connexion with the payment of wages in various types of industries in the different parts of the Bombay Presidency. The information was collected under three main heads:—(1) the period for which wages are normally paid; (2) the number of days elapsing between the end of the period by the work of which wages are earned and the date of payment; and (3) facilities, if any, given by employers to their employees in the form of advances or rations. The results of this enquiry for the Bombay Presidency were published in full detail in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for January 1925.

The Government of India, in the Department of Industries and Labour, have now published a special bulletin which consolidates similar information collected by all Provincial Governments for the whole of India. The tables contained in the bulletin summarise the different methods of payment prevailing in each Province in the same way as the details for the Bombay Presidency are summarised in Statement I published in the *Labour Gazette* referred to above. With regard to the details for individual Districts, the Bulletin states that the variations exhibited for the districts of the Bombay Presidency find a close parallel in other parts of India; and that "in consequence, all that can be attempted, in tables of any reasonable size dealing with the whole of India, is to show the general tendency; and while particulars of interesting departures from the common practice are given where possible, the statistics should not be regarded as including all the variations which occur".

There is no uniformity with regard to the periods by which payment is regulated. "It might reasonably have been expected, that in a particular industry, or in a particular district, wages would be paid on a uniform system: but this is not the case. In scarcely any industry is a single period adopted and in most districts wages vary with the industry. Different systems may even be found in establishments belonging to the same industry and the same district, and within the same establishment, different classes of workers are frequently paid on different periods. For example, in only 46 per cent. of the factories in the United Provinces from which enquiries were made was the period of payment the same for all employees".

"The most general system is that of payment on a monthly basis; the system of monthly payment, which is practically universal in its application to supervisory and clerical staffs, is generally adopted for the payment of labour involving any large degree of skill. The most important exceptions to this rule are furnished by the jute mills of Calcutta and the cotton mills of Ahmedabad. Unskilled labour is frequently paid on shorter periods, and the less regular the employment, the shorter is the period as a rule. But a considerable amount of unskilled or casual labour is paid through contractors or other intermediaries, when payment tends to be irregular. Payment on a period longer than a month is practically unknown. In a few cases of payment on piece rates, more especially where contract labour is concerned, the settlement of

wages may be delayed till the job is finished : but in such cases intermediate payments are generally made.

"The time which elapses between the end of the period by the work of which wages are earned and the date of payment, which in the tables is called the "waiting period", naturally varies widely. Even in the same establishment, the delay in payment may be far from constant. Such variations are of considerable importance to the worker, for irregularities in the date of payment may involve him in considerable difficulty. But their extent cannot be accurately shown in the statistics, which take account only of the limits within which the date of payment normally lies. It may be taken for granted that wide variations in the date of payment are common only in the smaller and less organised industries and that in the larger establishments regularity of payment is the rule. Small variations are made in most industries in consequence of the occurrence of holidays.

"It is only natural that, as a general rule, the longer waiting periods should be associated with the longer periods of payment. Monthly wages are not paid so promptly as fortnightly wages, weekly wages are withheld for still shorter periods and daily wages are nearly always paid on the day on which they are earned, or on the following day. In the majority of cases it is probably true to say that the waiting period lies between one-third and one-half of the period of payment, *i.e.*, that monthly payments are normally made 10 to 15 days after the close of the month, fortnightly payments within 5 days to a week after the close of the fortnight, and weekly payments in two to four days. This scale can at any rate be taken as indicating the average waiting period with a fair degree of accuracy.

"There are, of course, a number of factors operating to create wide departures from the normal. Generally speaking, the small establishment finds it easier than the large one to pay wages promptly. The system of payment is generally much simpler, and where every worker is known personally to the management a difficulty which is important in larger factories is removed. Consequently, the longer waiting periods tend to be associated with industries adapted to large establishments.

"Another factor of importance is the method of payment. Where workers are paid on piece rates, calculations are required to ascertain the amount due ; in consequence, piece wages cannot be paid so promptly as salaries to workers on fixed rates of pay. Where the calculations are of a simple character, no long delay need occur ; but where any intricate reckoning and accounting is involved, long waiting periods are the rule. In many establishments payments are made to different classes of workers on different days, although the period of payment is the same. In rare cases, workers of different classes are paid on non-coincident periods of identical length.

"Where wages are paid monthly, the worker has to maintain himself for a comparatively long period before he can expect to receive his first wages, and the system thus tends to increase indebtedness. But in a number of cases, relief is given in the form of advances. Occasionally the advances are on account of work which has not been done and are essentially loans ; more usually, they are limited to amounts calculated with

reference to the value of the work already done, and would be more correctly described as interim payments. In some cases, the advance is given in the form of rations, which may be charged against the wages when paid ; a favourable rate is usually allowed. Workers who are paid on periods of a fortnight or less stand in less need of such advances, and as the statistics show, the advance system is particularly associated with monthly payments.

"The particulars collected for the various establishments which are publicly owned have been included, as far as possible, under the industries to which they belong ; a separate table is given for municipal staffs. There is no wide difference in system between payment by Government and payment by private employers. The monthly system is even more general in State employment than in private employment and advances are less commonly given. On the other hand, the waiting periods tend to be slightly shorter, as a rule, than in the corresponding branches of private employment."

In the Jute Spinning and Weaving Mills in Bengal, a weekly period of payment obtains for textile workers and a monthly period for clerks, artisans and menials. The waiting period in the former case is seven days and in the latter fifteen. In Madras two Jute Mills pay wages on a monthly basis and two on a weekly basis, the waiting period amounting to ten to twelve days. No facilities are given for advances or for the purchase of rations. All the tables in the bulletin in which the Bombay Presidency is included in the different classes of industries for which data are given are reproduced in full below,—Cement works, Mines, Tea Gardens, Jute Spinning and Weaving Mills and Sugar Mills being omitted.

#### EXPLANATIONS OF ABBREVIATIONS IN THE TABLES

##### 1. In the second column :—

M—means that wages are paid monthly.

F—means that wages are paid fortnightly.

W—means that wages are paid weekly.

D—means that wages are paid daily.

Sp.—means that wages are paid on periods which are not months, fortnights, weeks or days. Details of the period are given in a footnote in such cases.

2. In the third column, the numbers given denote, the number of days in the waiting period, *i.e.*, the period normally elapsing between the close of the period by the work of which the wage is earned and date of payment, *e.g.*, where payment for a month is made on the 10th of the following month, the number 10 is entered, where payment for a week is made on the day following the close of the week, the number 1 is entered.

3. In all the first three columns, numbers in brackets denote the number of establishments concerned. Thus in column 3, the figures 5 (2), 10—15 (1) mean that in two establishments the waiting period is five days, and in one 10 to 15 days.

4. Where more than one period of payment is shown, and no other indication is given, the periods are arranged in order of frequency, the commonest system being given first.

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Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
ASSAM—	Brick Works F	3	
BALUCHISTAN—	M(3)	7	
BENGAL—	*	15	"Khoraki" is given weekly or at shorter intervals.
BIHAR AND ORISSA—	W D	1 none	
BOMBAY—	M(1) F(1) W(5)  D(4) Sp.(1)†	none 10 1 (1), 1-6 (1), none (3), ....	Advances are given in two cases.  Advances are given from time to time.
BURMA—	M(1)	4	
CENTRAL PROVINCES—			
Labourers and moulders under contract.	W	1	
Mukadams and burners ..	M	....	
DELHI—			
Contract system ..	Sp.‡	....	Advances are given fortnightly according to requirements.
MADRAS—			
	F W	5 §	In Malabar district rice is supplied on a month's credit in some factories and in some others rice is sold at cheap rates.

\* The concerns are small and numerous and work is seasonal. The period of payment varies with localities but never exceeds one month.

† In this case payment is made on the completion of the particular work being done.

‡ The final settlement of wages is made every two or three months.

§ Wages are paid on market day.

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Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
	Brick Works—(contd.)		
NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE—	W	1	
UNITED PROVINCES—	W F	1 1	
	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories		
AJMER-MERWARA—			
Permanent labour ..	M	7-10	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
Casual labour ..	W	....	
BENGAL—			
Permanent labour ..	M	15	"Khoraki" is given.
Casual labour ..	W	none	
BOMBAY—			
	M F W D	1-14 3-4(1) & 20(1). none, 1-2 none.	Advances are paid in a few cases if required.
BURMA—*			
	D M W	1 15 1	Free quarters, light, water, fuel, medical treatment and medicine are supplied in some cases.
CENTRAL PROVINCES—			
Skilled labour ..	M	7-10	In some factories weekly advances are given to skilled labourers.
Unskilled labour ..	W	1	
DELHI—			
	M	15	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.

\* Part of the establishment is imported from India under contract for a definite period; payment in such cases is usually delayed.

Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
<i>Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories—(contd.)</i>			
MADRAS—	M W Sp*	10 .... ....	
PUNJAB— ..	M	7—10	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
<i>Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills</i>			
UNited PROVINCES—			
Gin workers .. ..	D	....	
Others .. ..	M	15	
AJMER-MERWARA—			
	M	15	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
BENGAL—			
Permanent labour ..	M	15(3)	
Casual labour .. ..	W	25(1). 7	
BOMBAY—†			
Bombay Millowners' Association.	M	12—15	40 per cent. of the mills are conducting cheap grain shops where food grains are sold at wholesale market prices for cash, as well as on credit which is recovered on pay day. 56 per cent. of the mills advance money to their workmen in times of difficulty either against their Provident Fund or wages without interest or at a nominal rate, or through co-operative credit societies, where the rate of interest varies from 9 per cent. to 18½ per cent. per annum.

\* Every ten days.

† Almost all the mills at other centres in the Presidency are members either of the Ahmedabad or Bombay Millowners' Association. In all centres, if important holidays fall a day or two before pay day, payment is usually made earlier.

Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
<i>Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills—(contd.)</i>			
Ahmedabad Millowners' Association—			
Process operators .. ..	Sp.*	8	Advance of money known as "kharchi" is given according to deposit which varies from 8 to 15 days wages.
Others .. ..	M	15	
BURMA (1)—			
Employees .. ..	M	15	
Labourers .. ..	D	None	
Piece workers .. ..	Sp.†	....	
CENTRAL PROVINCES—			
	M	15—20	Advances in cash and kind (e.g., grain and cloth) are usually given and recoveries made from pay.
DELHI			
	M	15	Advances are given according to wages earned when required.
MADRAS—			
	M	10—15	The Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, the biggest concern in the Presidency, maintain stores for the supply of provisions. In two other factories rice is supplied at cheap rates.
	W	25(1) ....	
PUNJAB—			
	M	15	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
UNited PROVINCES—			
	Sp.(6)‡ M(2)	10 10	
<i>Engineering Works</i>			
ASSAM—			
Colliery engineering and building.	F	3—6	One company issues rice or <i>at'a</i> in some cases.
Other cases .. ..	M	5—15	

\* Payment is made by *haptas*. A *hapta* is a period which varies from 14 to 16 days, not according to the solar or lunar calendars, but according to the convenience of each particular mill; it may begin and end on any day in the month. In the majority of cases a *hapta* consists of 16 days.

† Piece workers are paid on completion of their jobs.

‡ Twice a month.

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Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
<i>Engineering Works—(contd.)</i>			
BALUCHISTAN—	M(2)	10	
BENGAL—			
Firms' employees ..	M	15	
Contractors' employees ..	*	....	
BIHAR AND ORISSA—	M	14—15	
	W	None.	
BOMBAY—	M(14)	14(11), 20—30	Advances are given in 3 cases.
	F(3)	(3) 7(2), 7—14(1)	
Contract labour ..	Sp.†	1—2	Advances are given if required except to daily wage earners.
BURMA—	M	15‡	
CENTRAL PROVINCES—	M	15—20	Two workshops sell grain, etc. at cheap rates at times of dearth and one pays advances to the extent of 75 per cent. of wages in case of emergency.
	W(1)	....	
DELHI—			
Direct employees ..	M	10	
Contractor's employees ..	F	3—4	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
MADRAS—			
	M	10—20	A co-operative stores is maintained in one factory. In another factory rice is supplied at cost price.
	F	6—12	
PUNJAB—			
	M	15	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
UNITED PROVINCES—			
	Sp.	10	
	M(1)	2 & 14¶	

\* The contractor is paid monthly. He is given intermediate advances as required.

† Paid on completion of jobs or according to terms agreed upon.

‡ In the majority of cases. Some establishments pay after 1—7 days and one pays as soon as the wages have been earned.

|| Twice a month.

¶ In this workshop direct employees are paid after two days and contractors' employees after 14.

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Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
<i>Flour Mills</i>			
BALUCHISTAN ..	M(1)	30	
BENGAL ..	M	15	
BIHAR AND ORISSA ..	M	1—5	
	F	3*	
BOMBAY ..			
	M(19)	1—10(15) 15(1), 7—30(1) 2—25(2)	Advances are paid in seven cases.
	W(5)	None (4), 10(1)	Advances are paid in one case.
	D(3)	None(2), 1(1).	
BURMA ..	M	1—7	
CENTRAL PROVINCES ..	W	None.	
DELHI ..	M	15	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
PUNJAB ..	M	10	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
UNITED PROVINCES ..	M	15	
<i>Printing Presses</i>			
AJMER-MERWARA—	M	15	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
ASSAM—			
Government Presses :—			
Salaried hands ..	M	7	
Piece workers ..	M	26	
Private Presses ..	Sp.†	7	
	W	7	
	M	10—30	Petty advances are paid in the Kamrup and Lakhimpur districts when required.
BALUCHISTAN—	M(3)	20	
BENGAL—			
Permanent hands ..	M	15 (33) 20 (4)	Advances are given in some concerns.
Casual hands ..	M	7	
BIHAR AND ORISSA ..	M	1—7	

\* This is the period of waiting in the case of the second fortnight only.

† Bi-weekly.

Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
<i>Printing Presses—(contd.)</i>			
BOMBAY—	M(21) F(2) W(1)	1—15, 20—60(1) 5—25(1) 10	
BURMA—	M W* D(1)	15 7	
CENTRAL PROVINCES—	M	5—20	Advances according to wages earned are given when required in one press.
DELHI— Piece workers .. Salaried employees ..	M M	15, 17(1) 1	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
MADRAS—	M F	1—20 3—6	Advances are paid within the limit of wages earned.
PUNJAB— Some salaried employees ..	M M	15 1	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
UNITED PROVINCES—	M Sp.†	15	
<i>Rice Mills</i>			
ASSAM—	M D(1)	1—7	In the Lakhimpur district the employees are allowed small advances in cash or kind to meet urgent demands.
BENGAL—	M F W D	10 7 2 none	Individual advances are paid in special cases.
BIHAR AND ORISSA—	W M M	1 5 10—14	

\* In a few cases only.

† Twice a month.

Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
<i>Rice Mills—(contd.)</i>			
BOMBAY—	M(10) W(4) D(4) F(1) Sp.*	1—7, 7—10(2), 10—15(1) 2 2(2), 1(2) none none	Advances are given in 4 cases. Advances are given in 1 case. Advances are given in 1 case.
BURMA— Regular mill hands .. Majority of labourers .. A few labourers ..	M W D	15	In a few cases mill hands can buy rice at wholesale rates, the cost being deducted from their wages. This privilege does not extend to labourers. In the case in which weekly payments are made, advances are given by the mistress.
CENTRAL PROVINCES (1) Skilled labour .. Unskilled labour ..	M W	5 2	Advances are given if required fortnightly and twice a week up to the amount earned.
MADRAS—	M W D	1—10	
PUNJAB— Permanent staff .. Contracted labour .. Temporary labour ..	M W D	10	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
<i>Iron and Steel Works</i>			
BENGAL—	M F W D	10 7 2 None	Individual advances are given in special cases.
BIHAR AND ORISSA—	M W	4—17 1—4	

\* Twice a week.

Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of ration
<i>Iron and Steel Works (contd.)</i>			
BOMBAY--	MO TU W	1-15 16-28	Advances are given in arrears to the extent of 1/2 of the pay.
DELHI--	M	10	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
MADRAS--	M F W	10 10	
PUNJAB--	M	7-10	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
<i>Tanneries</i>			
BENGAL--	M	15	Intermediate advances are given for food.
BIHAR and ORISSA--	M	15, 20	
BOMBAY--	MO TU W	5G, 10-15(1) 1	Advances are paid if required.
MADRAS--	M F	7 10-12	Rice is issued to labourers from rice stores in Madras and garden produce is sold below local rates.
PUNJAB--	M F	7-10	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
UNITED PROVINCES--	M Sp.†	15	

\* Contract labour. † Twice a month.

Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of ration
<i>Public</i>			
BENGAL--	Permanent labour Contract labour Casual labour	1-10 1-10 1-10	The Municipal Corporation is empowered to give to the labourers a concession in the price of rice. The Corporation is also empowered to give to the labourers a concession in the price of other articles.
BOMBAY--	Permanent labour Contract labour Casual labour	1-10 1-10 1-10	The Municipal Corporation is empowered to give to the labourers a concession in the price of rice. The Corporation is also empowered to give to the labourers a concession in the price of other articles.
MADRAS--	M	10	
<i>Municipalities</i>			
BOMBAY--	M	10	
MADRAS--	M	10	
BALUCHISTAN--	M	10	
BENGAL--	M	10	
BIHAR and ORISSA--	Choke Conservancy In a few cases	1-2 1-15 ---	

\* Every ten days.

† In one Municipality there is no fixed period for payment.

‡ The Calcutta Corporation is among those who pay in the second week.

Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations.
	<i>Municipalities—contd.</i>		
BOMBAY—	M(24) F(6) W(4)	1—15(13) 1—10(9), 2—20(1), 1—12(1), 1—10 1—8	Advances are given in one case.
BURMA—	M(3)	15(1), 1—2(1), 5(1)	
CENTRAL PROVINCES ..	M*	3—15	
DELHI—	M(1)	15	
MADRAS—	M	10	
PUNJAB—	M	3—4	Advances according to wages earned are given when required.
UNITED PROVINCES—	M	15	

Establishments	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Remarks
	<i>Railways</i>		
Drivers, shunters and firemen.	M	11	In these cases the figures are for a single State Railway but they may be taken as representing approximately the position on railways generally.
Office staff at central or district headquarters.	M	1	
Office staff outside headquarters	M	5—8	
Permanent Way Gangs ..	M	8(1), 12(1), 13(2), 14(1),	

\* One municipality pays weekly wages to unskilled labourers and monthly to skilled labourers

Establishments	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Remarks
	<i>Railways—contd.</i>		
Permanent Way Gangs—contd.	M	15(1), 17(1), 18(1), 21(1), 22(1), 24(3), 26(1),	Particulars were collected from 14 railways. The figures shown in the column "Waiting Period" give, for each of the 14 railways the average waiting period in each class of labour.
Station and Running (or train) staff.	M	8(2), 10(1), 11(3), 12(1), 14(3), 15(1), 16(2), 18(1),	
Workshop staff ..	M	7(1), 9(1), 10(1), 11(1), 12(1), 14(3), 15(1), 16(1), 17(3), 19(1).	

Province	Period of Payment	Waiting Period	Facilities provided for purchase of rations
	<i>Tramways</i>		
BENGAL—	M(1)	16—21	
BOMBAY—	M(2) F(1)	10 1—20	
BURMA—	M	1—15	
CENTRAL PROVINCES—	M	28	
DELHI—	M(1)	1—14	Advances on the occasions of festivals are given, if applied for.
MADRAS—	M	10	
UNITED PROVINCES—	M	10	

## Middle Class Families in Bombay City

### The Incidence of Taxation

#### HOW INCOMES BELOW Rs. 100 A MONTH ARE AFFECTED

In the course of the Labour Office Middle Class Family Budget Enquiry in Bombay City, 1,748 budgets were collected. Of these, 248 were for families with a monthly income below Rs. 100, and a further examination of these budgets has been made in order to ascertain, in so far as the available data permits, the extent of the burden of taxation on this section of the community, which is well below the income tax limit of Rs. 2,000 per annum. Details of the method employed, the articles considered, etc., are given below and the conclusions arrived at are striking.

Out of the fifteen important items that find a place in the budgets, on only one—entertainments—is any tax paid to Provincial Revenues. On six items the individual pays tax to the Central Revenues, and on seven items to the Local Authorities, i.e., the Municipality, and on one item (refined sugar) to both the Central and Local Authorities. Thus out of an annual taxation amounting to Rs. 41-14-2 the Government of India takes Rs. 10-14-1, the municipality Rs. 30-10-6, and the Government of Bombay only Rs. 0-5-7.

[The average monthly income of the class of the community studied was Rs. 81-5-2, and the annual income Rs. 975-14-0. The percentage which taxation on the items considered bears to the annual income is therefore 4·3.]

#### THE METHOD EMPLOYED

Even when an honest effort is made to secure very detailed and authentic budgets, it is not always possible to get reliable information on certain points owing to the inherent difficulties of the question. For instance, in spite of all the tact and skill of the Investigators, reliable figures of the consumption of and expenditure on liquor or on certain luxury articles such as watches cannot be obtained. Such items (important though they may be) have therefore to be omitted, and the final figure arrived at should therefore not be taken as the amount of taxation paid by the class of the community studied, but as the amount of taxation paid on the items considered.

As regards the method to be followed, there is a consensus of opinion amongst statisticians that for investigations like the present, the method most suitable is that of Herbert Samuel. This has been followed here so far as it was possible to do so. Another observation with regard to method which needs must be made here is that it is possible while working out the incidence of taxation to take either the pure figure of taxation or an assumed figure which one considers ought to be taken. By the 'pure figure' of taxation is meant the taking of the rate of duty on the manufactured article alone and not the various rates of duty on articles used for the manufacture of that article during the process of manufacture; while by an 'assumed figure' is meant the taking not only of the rate of duty on the manufactured article but the rate of duty on other articles used for

the manufacture of the same article. The merit of the former method lies in this that though one may be convinced that the final figure arrived at is an underestimate, one is saved from making too many assumptions, some of which may be warranted but most of which would turn out to be only guesses. Besides this, when a pure figure is taken in all cases, there is a consistency of principle underlying the working out of the figures which certainly is an essential element in arriving at a reliable figure of taxation. But this is purely a question of opinion, and while one school of thought believing more in the assumed figure on the ground of its supposed representative character will uphold its own method, others believing more in taking the data available and eschewing assumptions, will prefer the latter. This much therefore by way of introduction.

We can now proceed to find out the tax element contained in the annual expenditure incurred by the class of the community studied on various important items which find a place in their budgets.\*

#### Food-grains

The consumption of food-grains excluding wheat is 14·7 paylees per month. The proportion of the consumption of wheat to wheat flour is 3·03 to 0·65 as ascertained from the tabulation of 175 out of 1,748 budgets. Applying this proportion, the consumption of wheat would come to 2·06 paylees. Adding these 2·06 paylees to other food-grains the consumption is 16·76 paylees per month or 201·12 paylees per year. The rate of town duty is 6 annas per candy of 108 paylees. The duty, therefore, would come to 11 annas 2 pies.

#### Wheat flour

The monthly consumption of wheat flour is 0·44 Bombay seers, the annual consumption being 5·28 Bombay seers or 422 tolas. At 4 annas 6 pies for 22,400 tolas the town duty comes to 1 pie.

#### Sugar (refined)

The total monthly consumption of sugar (raw and refined) is 14·9 seers. The proportion of raw to refined sugar is 3·37 to 23·09. The

\* The following table shows the weights and measures used in the calculations:—

Article	Local weight or measure	Equivalent in	
		Tolas	Lbs. oz.
Rice .. .. .	Paylee .. .. .	212	5 7
Wheat .. .. .	" .. .. .	216	5 9
Jowari .. .. .	" .. .. .	200	5 2
Bajri .. .. .	" .. .. .	203	5 5
Gram .. .. .	" .. .. .	200	5 2
Turdal .. .. .	" .. .. .	208	5 5
Sugar (refined) .. .. .	Seer .. .. .	28	0 11
Raw sugar (gul) .. .. .	" .. .. .	28	0 11
Salt .. .. .	Paylee .. .. .	176	4 8
Ghee .. .. .	Seer .. .. .	28	0 11

Vide Labour Gazette for December 1925—juntri figures supplied by the Collector of Bombay.

consumption of refined and raw sugar therefore will be 13 and 1.9 seers respectively. This gives 156 seers or 1 cwt. per year. The tariff valuation varied between Rs. 16 and Rs. 17-8-0 per cwt. during the period of the enquiry. The average therefore comes to Rs. 16-12-0. At 25 per cent. import duty the tax is Rs. 4-3-0. The town duty is eight annas per cwt.

#### Sugar (raw)

Not much raw sugar is imported into Bombay. Whatever consumption there is of raw sugar can therefore be taken as the consumption of the home produce. The consumption is 1.9 seers per month or 22.8 seers per annum. The town duty is 8 annas per cwt. which would thus yield 1 anna 2 pies.

#### Ghee

The proportion of ghee to butter is 6 to 1. This gives 3.5 seers of ghee per month or 42 seers per annum. The town duty is 10 annas per maund of 40 seers.

#### Salt

The duty per Bengal maund is Rs. 1-4-0. The annual consumption is 44.4 Bombay seers equalling 1,953.6 tolas. The duty therefore comes to 12 annas 3 pies.

#### Firewood

The annual consumption is 13.44 maunds. The town duty is 2 annas per candy of 20 maunds. The tax is therefore 1 anna 4 pies.

#### Kerosene

At 2½ annas per gallon 17.88 gallons would fetch Rs. 2-12-9.

#### Matches

The duty is levied at Rs. 1-8-0 per gross of 144 boxes. For 94.68 boxes it would come to 15 annas 9 pies. There are no locally produced matches worth the name and all the consumption can therefore be considered to be of imported matches.

#### House-Rent

The monthly rent is Rs. 14-12-4. The annual rent is Rs. 177-4-0. The Municipality allows 10 per cent. reduction for repairs, etc. The rateable value therefore is Rs. 159-8-5. The house duty, halalkhore tax and water tax comes to 17.75 per cent. This gives Rs. 28-5-1. Water and halalkhore tax have been considered as taxes, because they are passed on to the consumer and are hardly ever paid by the landlord. It may be argued that the assumption that the whole of the tax on houses is paid by the consumer is not a safe one. But so far as Bombay City is considered where an enormous dearth of housing is noticeable, the possibility of the landlord not shifting the whole burden to the tenant is a very remote one except in so far as the Rent Act reduces the economic rent. In some cases rent is collected according to the Hindu year which gives one more month nearly every three years. No allowance has been made for this as the extent to which this practice is in vogue is not known.

#### Tobacco

The monthly expenditure is 8 annas 7 pies. The annual expenditure will be Rs. 6-7-0. It must be pointed out here that the information collected in the budgets regarding the consumption and expenditure on this item is not absolutely reliable. But, if anything, the figure is an underestimate. The real difficulty which this item presents is to ascertain the proportion between chewing tobacco and smoking tobacco. It can however be assumed that the lower middle classes do not chew tobacco to the same extent to which they smoke it. We can therefore take the proportion between chewing tobacco and smoking tobacco as 1 to 3; and we can also assume that the cost of tobacco in the price of *bidis*\* will be about one-third. If these assumptions are sound, then half of the total expenditure will be on tobacco leaf, that is Rs. 3-3-6. The retail price of tobacco per Bengal maund was about Rs. 75. The town duty per Bengal maund was Rs. 7-8-0. For tobacco worth Rs. 3-3-6, the duty would be 5 annas 2 pies.

#### Clothing

Clothing presents the greatest amount of difficulty in determining the element of taxation which it contains. In the first place, it differs from the other items considered here in this that it contains several varieties which differ very fundamentally in their nature. The second difficulty is one of finding out exactly whether the particular kind of cloth used is imported or home made. In determining this point the aid of statistics cannot be invoked because they are not available and all that we can do is to rely on experience. Finally, there is the great difficulty as regards the method to be followed in working out the element of tax contained in the consumption of the articles included in the clothing group.

To overcome the first difficulty, it is proposed to treat clothing not as one item, but as a group made up of several items. The quantity consumption of each variety is taken to arrive at the final result. Certain very minor items such as "mathabanas" and "baby caps" have been omitted.

The question as to whether middle classed families with an income below Rs. 100 per month use imported or home made goods is no doubt a very difficult one. But it can be safely assumed that dhoties, shirtings, coatings, suitings, hosiery, saris, and sheets used by this class of the community are in the majority of cases home-made, while socks and stockings and umbrellas are mostly imported.

To arrive at the figure of the tax on clothing it is possible to follow one of two methods. Either we can take the annual expenditure on clothing, deduct from it the wholesalers' and retailers' profit and then determine the tax element; or, we can take the quantity consumption, multiply it by the tariff valuation, find out the rate of duty and arrive at the result. In the former method there lie some great dangers. In the first place, this method prevents any discrimination between the various varieties of clothing used, and in the second place, we are required to make certain big and unsafe assumptions such as the proportion which wholesalers' and retailers' prices bear to the prices paid.

\* Only *bidis* have been taken because the consumption of cigarettes by the class of the community studied is not very extensive.

It has been pointed out at the beginning of this article that what is attempted here is to arrive at the pure figure of the tax element in an average budget. This must be repeated here because it is quite likely that the final figure arrived at from the two methods discussed in the beginning is likely to vary a great deal especially in the case of clothing. For instance, if only the pure figure were taken in the case of home made goods all that we shall be required to consider will be the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. excise duty. While those following the other method will consider not only the excise duty but the duty on machinery as also the duty on dyes, etc. The reasons why we prefer the former method have already been given. The following table shows the tax element in the clothing group :—

*Incidence of taxation on clothing of middle class families with monthly family income below Rs. 100.*

Serial No.	Item	Annual Consumption	Total No. of yards	No. of yards per lb.	Tariff valuation per lb.	Rate of duty	Duty Payable
1	Dhoties—Men's ..	4 No.	18	4.8	Rs. 1.4	3.5%	Rs. 0.184
2	Trousers—Men's ..	1.08 No.	3.25	4.75	4.2	1.2 Do.	0.047
	Boys' ..	1.50	7.5				
3	Shirts—Men's ..	12.0	19.5	4.5	1.5	..	0.228
	Boys' ..	7.5					
4	Coats—Men's ..	8.0	8.3	5.0	1.7	..	0.099
	Boys' ..	0.3					
5	Underwear—Men's ..	0.87 No.	1.7	4.5	1.2	..	0.056
	Women's ..	2.0	2.0				
	Children's ..	2.4	2.4				
6	Socks and Stockings—Men's ..	1.5 pairs	....	..	(1)	..	..
	Women's ..	.25 "	....	..	2.4	15%	0.053
7	Sarees—Women's ..	2.5 No.	21.25	5.0	1.7	3.5%	0.405
	Girls' ..	.5 No.	4.25				
	Blouses—Women's ..	8.0	8.0				
	Girls' ..	0.5	0.5	..	(2)	..	..
8	Umbrellas ..	0.75 No.	....	..	3.0	15%	0.337
9	Sheets ..	2.7 No.	6.75	5.0	1.6	3.5%	0.076
						Total ..	1.485
							or Rs. 1-7-9.

#### Soap

The expenditure on dhobie and soap is Rs. 1-11-10. Out of this, twelve annas can be taken as expenditure on soap alone while the remainder as the cost of the dhobie's services. But the element of taxation does not enter into the whole of the expenditure on soap. Half of the soap consumed is locally made while the other half is imported. This assumption is borne out both by experience and by the figures supplied by Sir Frederick Nicholson in an article published by him in the Industrial Hand Book published by the Indian Munitions Board in 1919. The expenditure of six annas on imported soap can be taken as expenditure on 2 cakes of

(1) Declared value per dozen pairs.

(2) Approximate declared value for each.

sunlight soap. The declared value of each cake of 10 oz. was Rs. 0-2-6.† For 24 cakes the value is Rs. 3-12-0. At 15 per cent. duty the tax is Rs. 0-9-0.

#### Toilet Requisites

Under this head have been taken toilet soap, hair oils, combs, brushes and face powder. Toilet soap and hair oils are mostly Indian made. One-third of the expenditure may be taken to be on imported goods. This would be 1 anna 5 pies per month or Rs. 1-1-0 per year. Allowing 40 per cent. for middle man's charges the duty at 15 per cent. would be 1 anna 7 pies.

#### Amusements

The monthly expenditure on amusements is Rs. 0-3-3. The annual expenditure would therefore be Rs. 2-7-0. The Bombay Entertainments Duties Act levies a duty of one anna on tickets worth more than four annas and less than 8 annas. The expenditure on amusements of the class of the community studied would be mostly on cinemas, though occasionally a theatre may be visited. It can be safely assumed that tickets worth more than four annas and less than eight annas are purchased. On an average six annas may be taken as the price of the ticket the tax on which would be one anna. Five annas and 7 pies would therefore be paid annually by way of taxation.

#### Others

There are some other items like medicine, liquor, stamps and stationery, luxury articles like watches and trinkets, etc., which yield taxation in one form or another. In the case of medicine it is a well-known fact that the price charged is 8 annas for a bottle containing three or four doses although the cost of medicine may be only a few pies. The actual expenditure on the medicine itself is small, and the large part of the price charged to the consumer is for the doctor's skill and ability. No attempt has therefore been made to arrive at the tax element in medicines. As for liquor, the middle class persons in Bombay regard the consumption of liquors and wines as indicating moral delinquency and those who drink are naturally averse to disclosing their real expenditure on this item. The expenditure on liquor therefore is either not stated at all or very much understated. Any attempt to deduce results from the data available would therefore be meaningless.

† The difference between the selling price and the declared value appears to be unduly low in this case. The final figure of the tax element in soap should therefore be regarded with caution.

Incidence of Taxation on a middle class family in Bombay City with an income below Rs. 100 per month.

Article on which tax is levied.	Monthly consumption.	Annual consumption.	Rate of Taxation.			Amount of tax.			Total.	Remarks.
			Central.	Provincial.	Local.	Central.	Provincial.	Local.		
1. Grains	16.76 paylees	201.12 paylees	.....	.....	Rs. a. p. 0-6-0 per candy of 108 paylees	.....	.....	Rs. a. p. 0 11 2	.....	
2. Wheat flour	0.44 B. seer	5.28 B. seer	.....	.....	0-4-6 per candy	.....	.....	0 0 1	.....	
3. Sugar (refined)	13.00 seers	156.00 seers	25 per cent.	.....	0-8-0 per cwt.	4 3 0	.....	0 8 0	Valuation Rs. 6,12.0 per cwt. 156 seers = 1 cwt.	
4. Sugar (raw)	1.90 seers	22.80 seers	Imported stuff not much used.	.....	0-8-0 per cwt.	.....	.....	0 1 2	.....	
5. Ghee	3.5 seers	42.00 seers	.....	.....	0-10-0 per maund.	.....	.....	0 10 6	.....	
6. Salt	3.70 seers	44.40 seers	Re. 1-4-0 per Bengal maund.	.....	.....	0 12 3	.....	0 12 3	.....	
7. Firewood	1.12 maunds	13.44 maunds	.....	.....	0-2-0 per candy	.....	.....	0 1 4	1 seer = 44 tolas. 1 maund = 3,200 tolas.	
8. Kerosene	1.49 gallons	17.88 gallons	Re. 0-2-6 per gallon	.....	.....	2 12 9	.....	2 12 9	20 maunds = 1 cwt.	
9. Matches	7.89 boxes	94.68 boxes	Rs. 1-8-0 per gross	.....	.....	0 15 9	.....	0 15 9	1 gross = 144.	
10. Clothing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 7 9	.....	1 7 9	.....	
11. House Rent	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28 5 1	.....	28 5 1	Price per maund Rs. 75.	
12. Tobacco	Re. 0-4-3.5	Rs. 3-3-6	.....	.....	Rs. 7-8-0 per Bengal maund	.....	.....	0 5 2	.....	
13. Toilet Requisites	Re. 0-1-5	Rs. 1-1-0	15 per cent.	.....	.....	0 1 7	.....	0 1 7	1/3 on imported stuff.	
14. Washing Soap	2 cakes of 10 ozs each.	24 cakes.	15 per cent.	.....	.....	0 9 0	.....	0 9 0	Declared value 0-2-6 per cake.	
15. Amusements	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 5 7	.....	0 5 7	.....	
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 14 1	.....	30 10 6	41 14 2	

Reviews of Books and Reports

*The Size and Distribution of Agricultural Holdings in the Punjab.*  
By H. Calvert, B.Sc., C.I.E., I.C.S., Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Punjab, 1925.

This is Rural Section Publication No. 4 of the Board of Economic Enquiry, Punjab. The Punjab is indeed fortunate in having its agricultural problems so carefully studied by men like Mr. Darling and Mr. Calvert. Mr. Calvert has already established for himself a reputation as an expert on Indian agricultural problems by his standard work "The Wealth and Welfare of the Punjab", and this little pamphlet on "The Size and Distribution of Agricultural Holdings" certainly adds to his reputation as a scientific investigator of a very difficult problem.

The present enquiry has been fairly wide in its scope and the sample taken has been a very representative one. It extended to 2,347 villages out of a total of 34,119 in the Province. The area involved was about 2,073,000 acres out of 29,000,000 cultivated acres in the Punjab.

The information collected has been tabulated in order to find out the size of the holdings and the ownership of the land. From the statistical tables published it is seen (a) that about 17.9 per cent. of the owners of cultivated land possess less than 1 acre of such land but the area thus owned is only 1 per cent. of the whole; (b) about 40.4 per cent. own from 1 to less than 5 acres, the land involved being about 11 per cent. of the whole; (c) about 26.2 per cent. of the owners possess from 5 to less than 15 acres and own about 26.6 per cent. of the land; (d) about 11.8 per cent. own from 15 to less than 50 acres and account for 35.6 per cent. of the land; (e) about 3.7 per cent. possess 50 and more acres and own at a rather rough estimate 25.7 per cent. of the land. It will thus be seen that the greater portion of the cultivated land in the Province is held in holdings of over 15 acres but that nearly 60 per cent. of the population have extremely small holdings, being usually below 5 acres.

From the material collected by the author he arrives at the conclusion that the one factor determining the size and distribution of the holdings in the Punjab has been the rainfall, though as he says artificial provision of water in the form of irrigated canals has also been a very strong influence.

This pamphlet can be recommended to any serious student of Indian agricultural economics.

*Annual Report of the Textile Labour Union, Ahmedabad, 1925*

We have received the *Annual Report of the Textile Labour Union, Ahmedabad* for the year ended 31st December 1924, which has recently been published.

The Labour Union is a federation of 5 unions. The membership in January 1924 was 6,220 but it rose to 12,030 by the end of the year. Income from subscription amounted to Rs. 25,821-10-9. The union fees are charged at a flat rate under three grades, namely As. 4, As. 2 and 1 anna per month. Subscriptions are collected on pay-days by representatives

of workmen in each mill but since August 1924 a supplementary organisation on a residential basis has been started for the purpose of collecting subscriptions.

Each union has its own council of representatives called the 'Pratinidhi Mandal' which consists of workmen elected by union members in each mill according to a given ratio of seats to membership. The attendance at these meetings was about 80 per cent. during the year. Several other meetings of the mill workers were held to keep the labourers in touch with the activities of the union and also to educate them in labour matters.

The year under report, it is pointed out, was uneventful and the work of the Union consisted mainly in combating the evil effects of the general strike of 1923. One of the most important activities of the Union is 'complaints work'. The Union attends to complaints received from its members with the sole desire to avoid undue friction between the employers and the employees and to avoid the possibility of a strike. In case the Union and an individual mill fail to come to an agreement, the matter is referred to the Millowners' Association. But if even the Association is unable to bring about a settlement, it is open to the Union to make a demand for arbitration which the Association is in honour bound to accept. The arbitration award is binding on both parties.

During the year 743 complaints were received and in addition there were 75 pending on the 1st of January 1924, thus making a total of 818. Of these, 471 were concluded successfully, 27 were compromised, 46 were rejected, 64 were unsuccessful, 133 were closed for other reasons and the rest remained pending.

The Union maintains a well-equipped hospital with 20 beds and two dispensaries. It gives cheap loans to its members and looks after their education by maintaining 11 night schools and 8 day schools, the former imparting instruction to 539 students and the latter to 580. During the year the total expenditure on education amounted to Rs. 22,254-8-4, Rs. 15,000 of which was the annual contribution of the Millowners' Association Tilak Swaraj Fund Committee. In addition, the Union maintains libraries and reading rooms, distributes free periodical literature and pays victimisation benefits to any Pratinidhi or workman who is dismissed from a mill for being a Pratinidhi or a member of the union. In the case of a Pratinidhi the benefit paid is for 3 months and in the case of an ordinary member for one month. 21 Pratinidhis and 5 workmen received the benefit during the year. The union also provides its members with legal aid and helps them to secure compensation in cases which come under the Workmen's Compensation Act. A union grain shop sells grains to members 10 per cent. cheaper than in the open market. In the matter of housing also the union is making efforts and has taken a chawl on 3 years' lease in which the rent charged per room is one rupee lower than that charged by the previous landlord.

In order to study the civic needs of the labouring population, to represent and to obtain redress of grievances, to influence elections to the municipality and watch its administration in the interests of labour, a Labour Voters' Association was formed early in the year. Through the efforts of this association already one working class person has been

elected to the municipality and the municipality, the report says, is attending sympathetically to the representations made by the association.

The Union started a Labour Research Department in February 1924. This department collected information regarding nearly 2,000 working class houses. The result shows that the average number of persons per room of the size of 12.5 x 9 x 8 feet was 4.5. The rent resolves itself into two groups: (1) Rs. 5 and (2) Rs. 3-12-0. About 20 mills have built their own chawls. Excepting a few these chawls are in no way an improvement on the other private chawls. The department also made a detailed study regarding sanitation, street lighting, water supply in working class localities. Recently the work of family budget collection has been taken up.

As regards the efficiency of the Ahmedabad labour, it is pointed out, that it admits of plenty of improvement. The remedy lies, the report says, in education and training of the labourers, in improving their health, raising their standard of life and in weaning them away from drink. But it is pointed out that the low output of the Ahmedabad worker is also due to depreciated machinery and oftentimes to the supply of bad raw material.

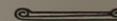
During the year there was no alteration in the general wage position. The average monthly earnings of an operative in the throstle, weaving and frame departments were Rs. 21-8-0, Rs. 37 and Rs. 23 respectively. But these figures do not represent the actual wages which the workers get. There are numerous deductions and forfeitures and the actual income is much less than these figures show.

As regards the conditions of work within the mills, the report points out that in many mills there is an insufficient supply of drinking water and that the mills charge a small fee for the supply of water. Dining sheds have been built by the mills but the supply is still inadequate. Beating of employees is gradually diminishing but bribe taking shows no signs of abatement. Strong steps against corruption are being taken by the mills and they are giving their very serious consideration to this subject.

As regards welfare work, excepting in one or two mills there is no properly constituted welfare department. But employers in Ahmedabad are gradually recognising the need of such work and some kind of welfare work is being done in about 15 mills.

In order to ameliorate the condition of workers outside the factories the Union has started a Social Betterment Department. This deals with the question of alcoholism and other social evils. The report particularly mentions the *Sathi* (companion) system in which boys of tender years are purchased by unscrupulous persons and made to work in more than one mill in spite of the factory law. Their wages are taken by their owners and they are kept in a condition of semi starvation. The report urges the necessity of investigation into this question and of applying a speedy remedy for the removal of this evil.

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## Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

**THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. IV, No. 8. (OFFICIAL MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR MOVEMENT, LONDON).**

- Special Articles:* (1) *The Settlement and Development of the British Commonwealth.* By Margaret G. Bondfield.—The settler's wife; women helpers wanted; social amenities; family settlement schemes; nomination; land settlement; cheaper passage rates; summary. pp. 342-345.  
 (2) *Banking Reform and the Postal Cheque System.* By Charles G. Ammon, M.P. pp. 346-347.  
 (3) *Inheritance, Inequality, and Taxation.* By Barbara Wootton. pp. 348-350.  
 (4) *Russia: Some Impressions and Some Guesses.* By Susan Lawrence. pp. 351-353.  
 (5) *The "Plot" Against Mussolini.* By Gaetano Salvemini (Professor of History at the University of Messina, Pisa, and Florence, 1902-1925). pp. 354-356.  
 (6) *Crisis in the Bombay Textile Industry.* By H. W. Lee. pp. 363-364.  
*Routine Matter.*—As in previous issues.

**INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VII, No. 83. (INDUSTRIAL WELFARE SOCIETY, LONDON).**

- Special Articles:* (1) *Personnel Management—II.* pp. 373-375.  
 (2) *Health and Production.* By E. L. Collis, M.A., M.D. (Mansel Talbot Professor of Preventive Medicine in the University of Wales, Member of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, etc.)—The Rules of Activity. pp. 375-377.  
 (3) *Pension and Superannuation Funds—IV.* By Bernard Robertson. pp. 378-379.  
 (4) *Dentistry and Industry, II—Industrial Dental Clinics at Work.* By J. Clark Yeoman, L.D.S. (Eng.). pp. 380-383.  
 (5) *Ambulance Room Equipment and Emergencies.* By Rose Bland. pp. 383-386.  
 (6) *A Complete Welfare Scheme, I.*—Girls' employment; men's sick club; convalescent homes; recreation; education. pp. 387-390.  
*Routine Matter.*—As in previous issues.

**INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VII, No. 84. (INDUSTRIAL WELFARE SOCIETY, LONDON).**

- Special Articles:* (1) *Personnel Management, III.*—Selection and placing of workers; requirements; co-operation; interviewing. pp. 408-410.  
 (2) *Dentistry and Industry, III.—Dental Health Education.* By J. Clark Yeoman, L.D.S. (Eng.). pp. 411-412.  
 (3) *Pension and Superannuation Funds, V.* By Bernard Robertson. pp. 413-414.  
 (4) *A Complete Welfare Scheme, II.*—Insurance society; savings fund; prosperity sharing scheme; suggestion scheme; works council; the staff association. pp. 416-420.  
 (5) *An Industrial Dental Clinic.* By A. Renwick Lambie, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.D.S. (Glas.).—The staff; compulsory treatment; voluntary treatment; provision of artificial dentures; propaganda; results. pp. 420-422.  
*Routine Matter.*—As in previous issues.

**THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VII, No. 12. (THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, BALTIMORE, U. S. A.)**

- Special Articles:* (1) *The Efficiency of the Oxygen-carbon Dioxide Treatment of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning.* By Cecil K. Drinker, M. D. (Professor of Physiology, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.)—Sources of data on the new treatment; evidence; discussion; summary. pp. 539-558.  
 (2) *The Human Side of How to do it Best.* By A. W. Sanders, B.Sc. (Industrial Psychologist to the British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott, Lancashire, England).—The problem of fatigue; methods of fatigue elimination in industry; fatigue elimination in the office; conclusion. pp. 559-566.  
 (3) *Photometric Methods for Studying and Estimating Suspensions of Dusts, Fumes, and Smokes.* By Philip Drinker, R. M. Thomson, and Jane L. Finn (Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.).—Tolman and Vliet's Tyndallmeter; the settling rates of dusts, fumes and smokes; discussion of photometric methods—the effect of moisture; the effect of particle size, concentration, and dispersion; a portable tyndallmeter; application of photometric methods; conclusions. pp. 567-575.  
*Routine Matter.*—As in previous issues.

**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XII, No. 6. (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA).**

*Special Articles:* (1) *The Visit to South America of the Director of the International Labour Office—Ratifications; the representation of the States at the conference; employer's organisations; workers' organisations; general information.* pp. 757-775.

(2) *Recent Development in Industrial Relations in the United States.* By Herbert Feis (Professor of Economics, University of Cincinnati, U. S. A.). pp. 776-798.

(3) *Minimum Wage Legislation in Norway.* By Fredrik Voss (Chairman of the Home Work Council and the Commercial Wages Council).—The home work act; the commercial wages act. pp. 799-819.

(4) *The Results of the Adoption of the Eight-Hour Day: The Eight-Hour Day and Technical Progress.* By Professor Edgard Milhaud.—Improvements in equipment—the stimulus of the eight-hour day; the limits imposed on improvements in equipment; improvements in the organisation of the work; organisation of work in general; punctual supply of material and tools; arrangement of premises, specialisation in manufacture; reduction in the number of lines manufactured; progress in the division of labour; selection and training of workers; reduction or elimination of lost time; stricter supervision and discipline. pp. 820-853.

*Routine Matter.*—As in previous issues.

**THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXV, No. 11. (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, CANADA).**

*Special Articles:* (1) *How the Federal of Dominion Employment Service Can Co-operate with the Provincial or State Employment Service.*—Employment service of Canada; co-ordination of service; interprovincial transfers; central information service; reduced transportation rate; employment service council; soldiers' civil re-establishment. pp. 1071-1074.

(2) *Equality of Treatment of Foreigners under Workmen's Compensation Laws in Canada and United States.* pp. 1075-1076.

(3) *Nova Scotia Coal Commission.*—The Commission's programme. pp. 1076-1077.

(4) *Work of the British Ministry of Labour.* pp. 1077-1078.

(5) *American Federation of Labour.*—Synopsis of the proceedings of the 45th Annual Convention; report of the committee on resolutions; A. F. of L. castigates Red Aggression; report of the committee on Executive Council's Report; report of committee on education; report of the committee on legislation; report of the committee on international labour relations; Samuel Compers memorial service; convention endorses miners' strike; election of officers for 1925-1926. pp. 1079-1086.

(6) *Group Insurance for Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees.* pp. 1092-1093.

(7) *League of Nations International Labour Organisation.*—Meeting of the governing body; Australia and the conventions; decisions of League of Nations Assembly affecting labour; recent ratifications; eight-hour day convention; migration movements, 1920-1923. pp. 1100-1102.

(8) *Fair Wages Conditions in Dominion Government Contracts.*—Labour conditions; department of public works; department of railways and canals; post office department. pp. 1128-1132.

(9) *Annual Census of Industry of Canada.*—Slaughtering and meat packing industry in 1924; leather industry in 1924; leather boot and shoe industry in 1924. pp. 1132-1133.

*Routine Matter.*—As in previous issues.

**THE QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. X, No. 11. (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, BRISBANE).**

*Special Articles:* (1) *The Industrial Arbitration Act Amendment Act of 1925.*—Short title and construction of Act; abolition of court; existing awards, etc.; constitution of board of trade and arbitration; disabilities; salary; term of office; tenure; appointment of deputy; functions; judicial functions; seal; amendment of s. 7; administrative functions; board to have powers of commission; collection of statistics; information to be supplied; power of one or more members; secrecy of the board; officers; all other functions judicial; consequential amendments—schedule. pp. 869-872.

(2) *Industrial Arbitration Act Amendment Bill.* pp. 873-881.

*Routine Matter.*—As in previous issues.

## Current Notes From Abroad

### UNITED KINGDOM

The Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for 1924 sets out the statistics of trade union membership in 1924 compared with previous years. The latest year's figures show that the continuous drop in membership which had been in progress since 1920 has now been checked. The course of the figures over recent years is traced below:

Year	Number of Trade Unions at end of Year	Membership at end of year (000's omitted)		
		Males	Females	Total
1900	1,323	1,868	154	2,002
1910	1,269	2,287	278	2,565
1915	1,229	3,868	491	4,359
1920	1,364	6,994	1,340	8,334
1921	1,251	5,618	1,004	6,622
1922	1,203	4,744	870	5,614
1923	1,161	4,597	813	5,410
1924	1,155	4,720	811	5,531

(From "Economist," November 28, 1925.)

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The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in November was 43. In addition, 29 disputes which began before November were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in November (involving workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 50,000; the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during November was about 575,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of approximately 43,000 workpeople involved and 440,000 days lost in the previous month. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, December, 1925.)

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The present low level of wages in the various unsheltered trades has been reached in different dates. In the engineering industry the last reduction occurred in the autumn of 1922; in shipbuilding wages were last reduced at the end of 1923, with an increase for certain classes in 1924; and in coal mining the present level was reached late in 1924. There are now indications that the minimum has been reached in the iron and steel trades. During the past year wages in these trades have shown a steady and appreciable decline, in correspondence with a fall in the selling prices of the manufactured products. In the last few weeks a further reduction has

become due in many districts, as a result of the latest price ascertainment, but in a large proportion of the cases it has been agreed that the reduction shall not be enforced. This has occurred in the case of blast furnace workers in Cleveland, Cumberland, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire. A similar decision has been made in regard to iron miners in Furness, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire, and to limestone quarrymen in Cumberland, whose wages are also regulated by the price of pig-iron, and in regard to steel workers in South-West Wales. The agreements which embody the conditions under which the sliding scales operate in these cases contain no provision as to the minimum level below which wages are not to fall, and the arrangements made for the suspension of the rules, which have been made as a result of negotiations between the employees and workers, are further evidence of the goodwill which has so long existed in this industry. (From "Economist," December 26, 1925.)

The following table gives a summary of the general position in towns in England and Wales as regards increases in inclusive working-class rents (where, as is usually the case, the landlord is responsible for repairs). The figures for rates include water charges, and relate to the first half of the financial year 1914-15, and to the second half of the financial year 1925-26.

#### Average for Towns in England and Wales (except London area)

Examples of Gross Rent (i.e., Rent plus Rates) at August 1914	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
.. .. .	4 0	5 0	6 0	7 0
Net Rent (i.e., Gross Rent less Rates) at August 1914	3 0½	3 9½	4 5	5 0
Permitted Increase for Rates, 1914 to 1925-26	0 9½	1 0	1 3½	1 6½
Permitted Increase of 40 per cent. on New Rent of 1914	1 2½	1 6½	1 9½	2 0
Total Permitted Increase in Gross Rent, 1914 to 1925-26	2 0½	2 6½	3 0½	3 6½
Permitted Increase Expressed as Percentage of Gross Rent of 1914	51%	50%	51%	50%

The figures given here show that the net rent was, on the average, nearly three-quarters of the gross rent in 1914, and the permitted increase of 40 per cent. on net rent is thus equivalent to nearly 30 per cent. of the gross rent of 1914. The average increase on account of higher rates and water charges is nearly 21 per cent. of the pre-war gross rent. The total permitted increases thus average a little over 50 per cent. of the gross rent of 1914.

London.—The rentals given in the illustrative table above are, of course, too low to represent London, but the increases permitted in London on account of the 40 per cent. addition to net rents average about 30 per cent. of the pre-war gross rents, and increases in respect of increased rates and water charges in London average about 15 per cent. of the gross

rents of 1914; the total permitted increase in London is thus about 45 per cent.

*Scotland.*—In Scotland the permitted increases average about 57 per cent. of the pre-war gross rents, about 19 per cent. being due to increases in occupiers' rates, about 5 per cent. to increases in owners' rates, and about 33 per cent. to the addition of 40 per cent. to the pre-war net rents.

On the basis of the foregoing figures it is calculated that the average permissible increase in urban working-class rents in Great Britain is a little over 49 per cent. of the gross rents of 1914. The permissible increases have not been put into force in all cases, but special inquiries in regard to the extent to which the permissible increases are actually being collected indicate that at the beginning of December, 1925, they were operative to the extent of about 97 per cent. and that the actual increase in the gross rents of urban working-class dwellings in Great Britain since July, 1914, average about 48 per cent. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," December, 1925).

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during November, 1925, was 201, as compared with 207 in the previous month and with 182 in November, 1924. Fatal accidents to seamen numbered 52 in November, 1925, as compared with 44 in the previous month; comparable figures for November, 1924, are not available. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," December, 1925.)

The President of the Board of Education and the Minister of Labour in Great Britain have appointed a Committee "to enquire into and advise upon the public system of education in England and Wales in relation to the requirements of trade and industry with particular reference to the adequacy of the arrangements for enabling young persons to enter and retain suitable employment." (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 21, 1925.)

#### OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The Polish Confederation of Intellectual Workers, which was recently admitted to the International Confederation of Intellectual Workers, has this year begun to publish a periodical organ. The first number comprises, among other things, a manifesto announcing the creation of the Confederation, an account of its constitution and rules, and a report of the Paris Congress of the International Confederation. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 14, 1925.)

The Czechoslovak Government has recently drafted a Bill whereby artists, writers and composers are eligible for participation in an old age insurance scheme, unless they are otherwise insured (e.g., as Government employees) or have other provision for old age (e.g., by private means). (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 14, 1925.)

On 12th November the Labour and Social Welfare Committee of the Diet met to conclude its discussion on the question of relief for the unemployed. Resolutions demanding the extension of existing unemployment relief, proposed by the Polish Socialist Party and the National Workers' Party, were rejected by a large majority, and the Committee adopted the following resolutions:

The Labour Committee considers unemployment as the social problem the solution of which is now most urgent. In view of the general situation of the country, the Committee is of opinion that the social policy of the Government, and especially the Government's attitude to the laws concerning hours of work and workers' holidays, should be based on the necessity of combating the causes and not only the consequences of unemployment, account being taken of the possibilities of industry and of the financial capacity of the country. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 14, 1925.)

On 10th November last, the new school or department of social culture attached to the Ministry of Labour in Madrid was formally inaugurated. The ceremony was presided over by Mr. Aunos, Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Labour, Commerce and Industry. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 14, 1925.)

The French Factory Inspectorate recently reminded employers of the regulations in force concerning weight lifting by young persons in various industries, including the food and drink trades. The following are the maximum weights permitted for carrying, pulling, or pushing:

*Weight lifting.*—Over 14 years of age; 10 kgs. (=22.05 lbs. =.2689 mds.); 14 to 16: 15 kgs. (=33.075 lbs. =.4034 mds.); 16 to 18: 20 kgs. (=44.1 lbs. =.5378 mds.).

*Carrying on Wheelbarrows.*—(a) This is prohibited for children under 14 years; (b) from 14 to 18: 40 kgs. (=88.2 lbs. =1.075 mds.) including the weight of the wheelbarrow.

*Handcarts.*—(a) Prohibited for children under 14 years; (b) From 14 to 18: 150 kgs. (=330.75 lbs. =4.034 mds.), including the weight of the handcart.

*Tricycles.*—(a) Prohibited for children under 14 years; (b) From 14 to 16 years: 50 kgs. (=110.25 lbs. =1.3445 mds.), including the weight of the tricycle; 16 to 18 years: 75 kgs. (=165.375 lbs. =2.017 mds.), including the weight of the tricycle.

*Trolleys.*—It is prohibited for children under 18 years to carry loads on trolleys.

The factory inspectorate have initiated proceedings against a number of employers for breach of these regulations. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 21, 1925.)

UNITED STATES

According to the Board, the iron and steel industry is a striking example of what progressive, modernised methods can do. While wage levels in the industry are now about 140 per cent. above the pre-war level, the average price of its products at present is only about 34 per cent. higher than in 1914. In other words, while the wages of iron and steel workers are only 2½ times as much as they were before the war, the prices of iron and steel products have risen only about a third.

Another illustration of this tendency of declining costs is the automobile industry, where wage levels are about 122 per cent. higher than before the war, while average prices of automobiles are given as 29 per cent. lower than in 1914, "an instance signally reflecting the improvement of industrial processes".

Similar conditions are said to obtain in the chemical, foundry, machine shop, rubber, and leather industries.

The concrete result of the increased industrial efficiency in the United States is reflected in the fact that the American workman to-day—if his earnings are measured in purchasing power in terms of the standard of living as prevailing in 1914, while the rise in retail prices is discounted—is 24 per cent. better off than at the beginning of the war and 5 per cent. better off than at the peak of wage earnings during the inflated period of 1920. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 14, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Prices of farm products at the farm for September and October, 1925, and October, 1924, as compared with average of August 1909 to July 1914 according to U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, are given below:—

Percentage of Increase in Prices Above Monthly Average from August 1909, to July, 1914.

Item	October 1925	September 1925	October 1924
Cotton .. .. .	73	81	86
Corn .. .. .	29	54	70
Wheat .. .. .	54	63	47
Hay .. .. .	5	5	6
Potatoes .. .. .	80	74	1*
Beef cattle .. .. .	21	21	6
Hogs .. .. .	54	59	31
Eggs .. .. .	75	45	78
Butter .. .. .	73	61	52
Wool .. .. .	9	12	10

\* Decrease.

(From "Industrial News Survey," New York, December 14, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

OTHER COUNTRIES

On 24th September last the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia passed a Bill to amend the Workers' Compensation Act, 1924, so as to exclude indentured labourers, while employed in pearl fishing in accordance with their indentures, from the operation of the Act. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 14, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The number of strikes and lockouts during October was ten, as compared with 14 in September. The time loss for the month was less than in October, 1924, being 12,065 working days, as compared with 127,763 working days in the same month last year.

Date	Number of Disputes	Number of Employees involved	Time loss in working days
October, 1925 .. .. .	10	714	12,065
September, 1925 .. .. .	14	1,703	14,145
October, 1924 .. .. .	7	8,023	127,763

(From "Labour Gazette," Canada, November 1925.)

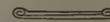
\* \* \* \* \*

The Trades and Labour Council of Edmonton, Alberta, recently sent out a circular letter to trade unions throughout Canada, pointing out that numerous industrial accidents are never reported either to the Government or even to the employers, on account of their apparent insignificance, but that many of these accidents nevertheless have serious results, such as blood poisoning, for which, as such accidents are not reported, the worker receives no compensation. It is suggested that the existing laws should be amended so as to require notification regarding all accidents, however trivial. (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, November 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The Committee on Freedom of Association set up by the Japanese Association for International Labour Legislation met on 20th October 1925 in Tokyo.

The Committee unanimously adopted following resolutions asking for (1) the removal from the existing law of obstacles to the workers' right of association, and (2) the revision of the Maintenance of Public Peace Act which might be interpreted or applied to the detriment of workers' associations. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 14, 1925.)



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## PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN DECEMBER 1925

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. General Strike, Bombay—						
(a) 15 Cotton Mills.	33,249	...	15 Sept.	3 Dec.	As a protest against Notice of 1½ per cent. cut in wages.	Virtually ended.
(b) 10 Cotton Mills.	18,367	...	16 Sept.			
(c) 6 Cotton Mills.	14,084	...	18 Sept.			
(d) 17 Cotton Mills.	33,360	...	19 Sept.			
(e) 3 Cotton Mills.	6,146	...	20 Sept.			
(f) 11 Cotton Mills.	19,319	...	21 Sept.			
(g) The Sassoon Alliance Silk Mills.	1,140	...	21 Sept.			
(h) The Chhoi Silk Mills.	400	...	22 Sept.			
(i) 5 Cotton Mills.	8,095	...	22 Sept.			
(j) 3 Cotton Mills.	3,437	...	23 Sept.			
(k) The Man-eckji Petit Mill, Tardeo.	4,621	...	24 Sept.			
(l) 3 Cotton Mills.	2,510	...	25 Sept.			
(m) The Bombay Dyeing Mill, Dadar.	600	...	30 Sept.			
(n) The Framji Petit Mill, Mazgaon.	2,051	...	1 Oct.			
(o) 2 Cotton Mills at Coorla.	4,607	...	6 Oct.	4 Dec.	"	Work resumed.
2. The Whittle Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Viramgam.	250	...	28 Nov.	5 Dec.	Decision of the Weaving Master to recover the cost of damaged cloth from the weavers responsible for the same.	Compromise.
3. The Aryodaya Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	150	...	30 Nov.	1 Dec.	Dismissal of a Jobber.	New men engaged.

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## PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN DECEMBER 1925—contd.

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
1925 1925						
4. The Indian Woollen Mill, Flaines Road, Bombay.	90	...	12 Dec.	21 Dec.	Alleged reduction in wages for November 1925.	Work resumed unconditionally.
5. The Ahmedabad New Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Kankaria, Ahmedabad.	300	...	17 Dec.	19 Dec.	The dismissal of a Jobber.	Work resumed.
6. The Ruby Mill, Dadar, Bombay.	100	...	17 Dec.	19 Dec.	Demand for increased rates of wages.	Work resumed unconditionally.

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ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING DECEMBER 1925  
1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925
	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills ..	398	26	259	13	12	1	36	3	609	35	657	30
Woolen Mills ..	5	1	5	..	..	..	1	..	9	1	10	1
Others ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..
Total ..	405	27	265	13	12	1	37	3	621	36	670	40
II Workshops— Engineering ..	23	2	193	21	1	..	7	..	208	23	216	23
Railway ..	34	5	1,243	132	3	..	7	..	1,267	130	1,277	137
Mint ..	3	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	5	..	5	..
Others ..	9	3	13	1	1	..	4	..	17	3	22	6
Total ..	69	10	1,452	154	5	..	19	8	1,497	156	1,521	164
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works ..	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Flour Mills ..	3	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	4	..
Printing Presses ..	6	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	6	..	6	..
Others ..	18	4	19	2	1	..	5	1	31	5	37	6
Total ..	27	4	27	2	3	..	8	1	43	5	54	6
Total, All Factories ..	501	41	1,744	169	20	1	64	12	2,161	197	2,245	210

## 2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925
	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton ..	162	19	85	6	5	..	63	3	179	22	247	25
Total ..	162	19	85	6	5	..	63	3	179	22	247	25
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory ..	13	..	3	..	..	..	4	..	12	..	16	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	1	..	(a) 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	3	..
Total ..	15	..	6	..	2	..	6	..	14	..	22	..
Total, All Factories ..	177	19	91	6	7	..	65	3	193	22	269	25

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

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ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING DECEMBER 1925—contd.  
3. Karachi

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925
	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925		
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust ..	6	..	18	2	..	..	5	..	19	..	24	2
Engineering ..	1	..	10	3	..	..	1	..	9	..	11	..
Total ..	7	..	28	5	..	..	6	..	28	..	35	2
II Miscellaneous ..	9	2	(a) 2	..	..	..	4	..	9	2	12	2
Total ..	9	2	2	..	..	..	4	..	8	2	12	2
Total, All Factories ..	16	2	30	5	1	..	10	1	36	6	47	7

(a) Two persons received minor injuries by one accident.

## 4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925
	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925	Jan to Nov 1925	Dec 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills ..	87	11	44	6	2	..	20	3	109	14	131	17
Others ..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	6	..
Total ..	92	11	45	6	2	..	20	3	115	14	137	17
II Workshops— Railway ..	13	2	122	9	..	..	6	..	129	11	135	11
Arms and Ammu- nition Works ..	4	..	5	..	..	..	1	..	8	..	9	..
Others ..	12	1	22	..	..	..	4	..	29	1	34	1
Total ..	29	3	149	9	1	..	11	..	166	12	178	12
I Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pres- sing Factories ..	15	1	17	5	9	1	2	1	21	4	32	6
Paint Works ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	2	..
Others ..	12	5	17	1	2	1	2	3	25	2	29	6
Total ..	27	6	34	6	11	2	4	4	46	6	61	12
Total, All Factories ..	148	20	228	21	14	2	35	7	327	32	376	41

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.

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DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNT  
(OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN  
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of November			8 months ended November		
		1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
		(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	6,410	6,054	939	49,326	43,892	39,910	
Nos. 11 to 20	17,483	19,635	6,841	137,451	143,328	127,302	
Nos. 21 to 30	11,607	12,821	4,876	95,445	105,379	90,661	
Nos. 31 to 40	1,562	1,189	747	8,887	10,027	8,322	
Above 40	319	537	261	1,760	3,466	3,029	
Waste, etc.	58	9	9	141	66	27	
Total	37,439	40,245	13,673	293,010	306,168	269,589	

## BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	5,684	5,338		44,769	38,686	34,046
Nos. 11 to 20	11,654	13,302		98,426	97,891	73,484
Nos. 21 to 30	7,079	8,002		63,389	65,177	50,729
Nos. 31 to 40	744	699		5,043	5,581	3,641
Above 40	159	336		890	2,008	1,499
Waste, etc.	51	2		68	22	22
Total	25,371	27,679		212,585	209,365	163,629

## AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	260	216	349	1,070	1,611	1,915
Nos. 11 to 20	3,188	3,264	3,818	19,082	24,652	30,122
Nos. 21 to 30	3,478	3,724	3,806	21,191	30,140	30,885
Nos. 31 to 40	652	372	608	2,821	3,304	3,389
Above 40	125	154	195	602	1,100	1,050
Waste, etc.	..	..	..	1	..	..
Total	7,703	7,730	8,776	44,767	60,807	67,361

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

Description	Month of November			8 months ended November		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	1,246	1,571	1,213	11,263	11,246	12,271
Khadi (a)	7,279	7,386	5,309	43,714	47,526	51,869
Chudders	788	667	201	6,480	7,541	6,160
Dhosis	68	44	27	274	480	384
Drills and jeans	610	465	258	2,962	2,645	1,846
Cambrics and lawns	9,867	8,635	5,213	61,193	64,290	63,186
Printers	1,172	1,130	732	8,223	8,180	8,173
Shirtings and long cloth	137	195	73	623	1,396	1,808
T. cloth, domestica, and sheetings	2,949	635	371	16,567	4,131	3,284
Tent cloth	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other sorts	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	24,418	23,117	14,441	151,220	157,773	157,724
Coloured piece-goods	10,304	10,065	5,215	63,336	69,421	63,362
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	150	129	96	1,326	1,240	1,683
Hosiery	25	25	13	129	119	146
Miscellaneous	119	230	29	789	1,222	1,272
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	11	19	35	100	63	364
Grand Total	35,027	33,575	19,879	216,900	229,646	224,571

## BOMBAY CITY

	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	1,156	1,456	248	7,112	6,722	6,722
Khadi (a)	955	1,283	353	7,377	7,103	8,054
Chudders	1,766	1,747	597	14,356	14,119	13,021
Dhosis	731	750	190	6,022	6,730	5,190
Drills and jeans	44	17	1	173	388	199
Cambrics and lawns	2	1	..	60	25	19
Printers	6,846	5,941	3,312	46,220	45,840	45,208
Shirtings and long cloth	822	862	302	6,802	6,599	5,714
T. cloth, domestica, and sheetings	57	40	16	392	533	625
Tent cloth	1,720	204	72	11,447	1,758	1,493
Other sorts	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	12,963	12,001	5,191	92,642	90,207	88,245
Coloured piece-goods	8,199	7,432	2,608	52,300	54,244	44,876
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	141	119	84	1,253	1,197	1,611
Hosiery	16	15	7	72	60	49
Miscellaneous	115	187	29	762	1,010	1,018
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	9	15	11	92	45	304
Grand Total	21,443	19,769	7,930	147,321	146,763	136,103

\* As defined under the Cotton Duties Act II of 1896.  
(a) Included under 'other sorts' prior to April 1921.

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of November			8 months ended November		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	412	127	..	..	2,338	704
Chudders	699	531	439	3,609	3,215	3,229
Dhotis	4,218	4,529	3,574	21,602	26,240	28,763
Drills and jeans	24	32	6	182	203	353
Cambrics and lawns	7	25	26	34	83	150
Printers	373	367	196	1,685	1,801	1,219
Shirtings and long cloth	1,948	2,107	1,859	10,651	14,819	14,252
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	328	254	377	1,316	1,451	2,240
Tent cloth	52	142	49	138	792	383
Other sorts	829	258	193	3,040	1,534	1,577
Total	8,478	8,657	6,846	42,257	52,476	52,870
Coloured piece-goods	993	1,470	1,605	5,175	8,355	11,393
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	1	2	4	6	8
Hosiery	9	11	6	57	59	95
Miscellaneous	4	19	45	26	168	211
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	2	3	24	5	6	51
Grand Total	9,487	10,161	8,528	47,524	61,070	64,628

\* As defined under the Cotton Duties Act II of 1896.

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

## 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
<b>1923</b>									
January	124	158	127	190	151	166	225	165	156
February	125	153	128	187	150	166	223	165	155
March	127	150	129	182	149	164	223	165	154
April	130	147	132	182	150	164	216	172	156
May	126	136	127	184	148	164	208	172	153
June	124	116	124	184	146	164	205	172	152
July	125	116	124	189	148	165	205	172	153
August	123	116	122	194	149	165	205	172	154
September	124	115	123	194	149	161	206	172	154
October	123	116	122	188	147	161	211	172	152
November	124	116	124	187	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
<b>1924</b>									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
<b>1925</b>									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	155
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
<b>1926</b>									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155



WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Dec 1924	Nov 1925	Dec 1925	July 1914	Dec 1924	Nov 1925	Dec 1925
<b>Cereals—</b>			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	60 0 0	60 12 0	59 4 0	100	154	156	152
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	..	31 8 0	47 8 0	51 0 0	51 12 0	100	151	162	164
.. red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	..	31 4 0	46 8 0	50 0 0	50 12 0	100	149	160	162
.. white	2% barley, 11% dirt	..	32 8 0	48 14 0	52 8 0	53 4 0	100	150	162	164
.. red	2% barley, 11% dirt	..	32 4 0	47 14 0	51 8 0	52 4 0	100	148	160	162
Jowari	Export quality	..	25 8 0	34 0 0	40 8 0	42 8 0	100	133	159	167
Barley	3% dirt	..	26 8 0	36 4 0	34 0 0	35 0 0	100	137	128	132
Index No.—Cereals	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	146	155	158
<b>Pulses—</b>										
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	29 8 0	38 8 0	42 0 0	100	100	131	142
<b>Sugar—</b>										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	17 0 0	15 4 0	15 0 0	100	186	167	164
..	.. brown	..	8 1 6	..	13 14 0	13 14 0	100	..	171	171
Index No.—Sugar	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	186	169	168
<b>Other food—</b>										
Salt	..	Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	100	79	79	79
<b>Oilseeds—</b>										
Cotton seed	3% admixture	Maund.	2 11 3	4 1 0	4 2 0	3 12 0	100	150	153	139
Rapeseed	Black 9% admixture	Candy.	51 0 0	68 8 0	72 4 0	71 0 0	100	134	142	139
Gingelly	..	..	62 0 0	86 0 0	83 0 0	83 0 0	100	139	134	134
Index No.—Oilseeds	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	151	143	137
<b>Textiles—</b>										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	68 8 0	71 8 0	71 4 0	100	239	207	200

<b>Textile Cotton</b>										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	455 0 0	462 0 0	462 0 0	100	..	184	184
..	Do.	..	222 0 0	..	..	..	100	205	..	..
..	Saw-ginned	..	230 0 0	..	..	..	100	220	..	..
..	Machine-ginned	..	205 0 0	450 0 0	..	..	100	201	..	..
..	Do.	..	198 0 0	397 0 0	..	..	100	..	..	..
Index No.—Cotton, raw	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	209	184	184
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 12 6	1 6 0	1 4 0	100	224	173	187
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	12 10 0	11 0 0	11 0 0	100	213	185	185
White mulls	6,000	..	4 3 0	8 8 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	100	203	213	213
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	..	10 6 0	25 4 0	22 10 0	22 10 0	100	243	218	218
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 5 0	1 2 0	1 1 6	100	221	189	184
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.	..	0 9 6	1 3 9	1 0 6	1 0 0	100	208	174	168
Index No.—Cotton manufactures	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	219	195	191
Index No.—Textile—Cotton	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	215	194	190
<b>Other Textiles—</b>										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	8 9 7	7 6 3	6 15 10	100	167	143	136
Do.	Mathow La	..	2 15 1	4 15 6	4 11 3	4 11 3	100	169	160	160
Index No.—Other Textiles	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	168	152	148
<b>Hides and Skins—</b>										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 14 11	1 14 7	1 13 1	100	167	165	157
Do. Buffalo	Do.	..	1 1 3	3 0 9	0 15 8	0 15 0	100	283	91	75
Skins, Goat	Do.	..	1 4 0	2 4 3	2 9 8	2 10 9	100	181	208	214
Index No.—Hides and Skins	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	210	155	149
<b>Metals—</b>										
Copper braziers	..	Cwt.	60 8 0	68 8 0	61 8 0	60 0 0	100	113	102	90
Iron bars	..	..	4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	100	175	175	175
Steel hoops	..	..	7 12 0	11 12 0	11 0 0	11 0 0	100	152	142	142
Galvanised sheets	..	..	9 0 0	15 10 0	14 0 0	14 8 0	100	174	156	161
Tin plates	..	Box	8 12 0	18 8 0	16 8 0	15 0 0	100	211	180	171
Index No.—Metals	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	165	153	150
<b>Other raw and manufactured articles—</b>										
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	24 2 0	22 2 0	21 14 0	100	164	150	146
Do.	Imported	..	19 11 6	29 1 3	26 0 9	22 9 6	100	147	132	115
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 10 6	7 7 0	7 7 0	100	175	170	170
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	100	185	185	185
Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	168	159	155
Index No.—Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	162	155	149
Index No.—Non-food	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	184	162	158
General Index No.	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	176	160	155

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1922														
December ..	129	105	216	266	170	135	185	220	192	122	186	181	178	175
1923														
November ..	125	90	228	365	189	138	303	235	187	161	174	158	185	186
December ..	125	91	243	375	194	141	286	229	187	146	167	162	185	188
1924														
January ..	127	92	244	340	188	138	273	236	182	157	166	160	189	188
February ..	125	88	236	348	187	136	248	234	173	158	174	160	188	188
March ..	123	84	220	263	165	129	244	238	235	140	171	164	190	181
April ..	122	84	217	279	167	127	258	237	229	146	169	166	187	184
May ..	125	88	212	293	171	131	258	236	191	149	168	170	192	181
June ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	158	190	185
July ..	143	98	211	260	174	150	265	232	187	150	166	166	189	184
August ..	146	97	198	262	173	146	260	235	203	150	170	161	190	184
September ..	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	167	188	181
November ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	146	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
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	156	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	161	153	159	164	160
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	184	203	153	151	154	159	164	160
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	184	195	152	155	153	159	164	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	184	191	148	149	150	158	162	160

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, light, clothing, etc.	Food, fuel, light, rent, household utensils and furnishing	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel and household utensils	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, tax, etc.	Food, heating and lighting	Food, fuel, light and rent	(f)	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	(e) 100	100	(e) 100	100	100	(g) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(d) 108	99	..	(d) 117	119	103	..	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	..	275	261	126	..	177
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	251	155	..	217
1921 ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	309	135	..	..
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	(f) 159	429	366	(d) 249	158	(i) 135	..	..
1923 ..	153	169	146	..	..	(h) 487	429	..	166	150	..	..
1924 ..	150	173	145	..	..	522	498	..	166	134	..	..
April ..	150	171	143	..	..	518	485	..	166	134	..	..
May ..	153	169	143	149	..	518	492	251	168	133	..	169
June ..	157	170	144	..	..	512	493	..	169	132	..	..
July ..	161	171	145	..	160	511	498	..	166	132	..	..
August ..	161	173	146	148	..	516	503	260	167	132	..	171
September ..	161	176	146	..	..	546	513	..	169	133	..	..
October ..	161	180	147	148	..	562	520	..	170	134	..	..
November ..	160	181	147	..	..	573	521	269	170	133	..	173
December ..	157	180	149	..	..	580	521	..	170	133	..	..
1925 ..	157	179	150	..	161	592	517	..	170	133	..	..
January ..	159	179	148	150	..	602	511	271	170	133	..	..
February ..	158	175	147	..	..	606	508	..	168	134	..	..
March ..	156	173	146	..	..	591	502	..	167	134	..	..
April ..	154	172	146	153	..	596	505	261	169	134	..	174
May ..	157	173	146	..	..	598	509	..	169	133	..	..
June ..	152	173	149	..	..	610	517	..	169	132	..	..
July ..	151	174	149	..	163	624	524	248	167	132	..	..
August ..	153	176	149	..	..	..	533	..	165	132	..	..
September ..	153	176	149	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
October ..	155	177	152	..	..	643	..	..	..	..	..	..
November ..	155	177	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
December ..	155	177	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1926 ..	155	177	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(e) From 1914 to 1922 figures relate to second quarter. (f) First half of 1914. (g) April 1914. (h) From 1915 to 1922 figures are given. (i) June 1914 = 100. (j) Expenditure of a family of four persons. (k) Average 1913 is the base. (l) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (m) Revised series from March 1922. (n) Revised figures. (o) Figures from 1915 to refer to August.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay) (6)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Netherlands (2)	Norway (2)	Sweden	Canada (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	43	56	151	51	92	24	150	45	48	93	47	236	325
1913 Average ..	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914 ..	100	95	..	..	106	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915 ..	97	..	..	..	147	102	..	102	105	(a) 100	116	103	98
1916 ..	117	..	..	..	138	124	..	188	222	(c) 159	145	109	101
1917 ..	148	..	..	..	153	169	..	262	286	233	185	151	127
1918 ..	236	196	..	..	178	207	..	339	392	341	244	179	177
1919 ..	222	239	..	..	228	299	..	356	297	345	339	199	194
1920 ..	216	260	150	203	228	299	..	326	322	322	330	209	226
1921 December ..	193	210	149	..	155	170	..	510	281	(c) 377	347	244	206
1922 ..	175	183	149	196	168	147	..	362	165	220	172	151	140
1923 ..	188	211	158	207	182	137	..	458	154	244	150	155	156
1924 January ..	188	211	157	205	182	133	..	494	156	250	152	157	151
.. February ..	188	208	160	205	180	135	..	544	158	260	153	157	152
.. March ..	181	206	158	204	175	136	..	499	155	266	154	154	150
.. April ..	184	207	154	205	174	134	..	450	154	267	156	151	148
.. May ..	181	205	154	..	173	135	..	459	154	263	151	151	147
.. June ..	185	200	152	..	171	131	..	465	151	264	149	149	145
.. July ..	184	199	152	..	171	131	..	465	151	264	149	149	145
.. August ..	184	200	149	..	169	143	..	481	151	271	148	153	147
.. September ..	181	207	149	..	170	148	..	486	158	274	152	157	150
.. October ..	181	215	153	..	171	156	..	508	170	275	153	154	149
.. November ..	176	214	155	..	171	156	..	503	161	276	162	157	152
.. December ..	176	214	157	..	173	156	..	508	170	277	162	158	153
1925 January ..	173	214	160	..	171	157	..	514	160	278	163	161	157
.. February ..	173	210	159	..	170	161	..	515	158	279	164	165	160
.. March ..	171	204	160	..	168	155	..	514	155	276	164	165	161
.. April ..	165	202	159	..	166	154	..	512	151	276	164	162	156
.. May ..	164	199	158	..	167	151	..	520	151	260	158	159	155
.. June ..	160	200	157	..	170	150	..	543	153	258	159	159	157
.. July ..	158	199	163	..	170	151	..	557	155	254	160	160	160
.. August ..	160	200	160	..	170	151	..	557	155	245	154	160	160
.. September ..	157	200	160	..	170	151	..	555	155	231	151	157	160
.. October ..	158	..	159	..	..	..	..	..	..	217	148	157	158
.. November ..	160	..	158	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.. December ..	155	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

\* July 1914=100 (a) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914=100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1913-1920 are for December. (d) Figures for 1913-1920 are for February. (e) Board of Trade. (f) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (g) Bureau of Labor.

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 (6)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (6)	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	20	Amsterdam	30	44	100	2
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(e) 100	(d) ..	100	100(a)	100	100	100	100
1915 ..	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	111	..	114	114	124	128	141	119
1916 ..	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	111	..	117	160	142	146	161	179
1917 ..	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	146	214	181	166	167	179
1918 ..	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	175	279	208	187	222	240
1919 ..	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	196	289	310	212	230	239
1920 ..	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	682	210	197	253	237	239
1921 ..	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180(a)	295	232	246	207
1922 ..	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	164	157
1923 ..	148	162	137	116	164	147	144	371	496	105	908	140	218	160	165	164
1924 April ..	143	162	137	123	150	150	138	380	519	114	1,000	139	241	159	..	168
.. May ..	147	160	133	122	151	150	138	370	518	120	1,004	136	240	158	..	168
.. June ..	151	162	134	117	149	149	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	..	168
.. July ..	151	162	134	117	149	149	140	360	507	125	1,088	146	257	163	..	166
.. August ..	156	164	137	117	147	146	141	366	514	127	1,089	155	261	165	..	166
.. September ..	156	166	139	120	147	148	146	383	543	135	1,120	150	264	172	..	170
.. October ..	157	179	141	122	147	148	147	396	567	140	1,127	150	269	172	..	169
.. November ..	156	180	142	121	148	150	148	404	579	140	1,129	150	274	172	..	168
.. December ..	156	180	142	121	148	150	148	404	590	141	1,100	150	277	170	..	168
1925 January ..	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	590	141	1,089	155	283	170	..	168
.. February ..	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	1,089	151	284	171	..	166
.. March ..	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	165
.. April ..	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	149	261	169	..	167
.. May ..	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	..	167
.. June ..	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	266	169	..	165
.. July ..	147	168	146	119	156	152	156	423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
.. August ..	147	168	146	118	156	153	158	433	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	163
.. September ..	148	172	147	118	156	156	..	444	649	..	..	..	228	166	..	163
.. October ..	149	172	151	..	156	156	..	..	..	..	..	..	223	165	..	163
.. November ..	151	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.. December ..	151	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1926 January ..	151	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Italy Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921=100. (e) Figures from 1914 to 1921 are annual averages. (f) The figures for (a) from July 1923 are for Milan.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1925

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
		Nov. 1925	Dec. 1925	Dec. 1925	Dec. 1925	Dec. 1925	Dec. 1925				
<i>Cereals—</i>											
Rice	Maund	7 3 9 <i>129</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 13 10 <i>154</i>	7 6 3 <i>132</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 13 10 <i>154</i>
Wheat	"	7 0 4 <i>126</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	7 7 1 <i>158</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>	7 7 9 <i>134</i>	7 0 6 <i>167</i>	8 0 0 <i>170</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>
Jowari	"	5 14 8 <i>136</i>	4 11 0 <i>129</i>	4 12 5 <i>125</i>	3 11 8 <i>130</i>	5 7 1 <i>159</i>	5 12 0 <i>132</i>	4 12 5 <i>131</i>	5 0 0 <i>131</i>	3 10 5 <i>127</i>	5 7 1 <i>159</i>
Bajri	"	5 11 0 <i>132</i>	4 15 5 <i>118</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 6 7 <i>125</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>	5 11 0 <i>132</i>	5 0 0 <i>119</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 3 3 <i>120</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		<i>131</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>150</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund	5 13 4 <i>136</i>	4 15 5 <i>130</i>	5 13 1 <i>145</i>	5 9 6 <i>130</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>	6 1 4 <i>141</i>	5 1 3 <i>133</i>	6 2 6 <i>154</i>	5 9 6 <i>130</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>
Turdal	"	7 3 5 <i>123</i>	6 15 4 <i>104</i>	8 6 9 <i>137</i>	7 0 9 <i>121</i>	7 11 8 <i>117</i>	7 5 11 <i>126</i>	7 5 8 <i>110</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	7 3 1 <i>123</i>	7 11 8 <i>117</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		<i>130</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>121</i>

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined)	Maund	12 8 0 <i>164</i>	10 7 10 <i>144</i>	11 6 10 <i>127</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	10 8 5 <i>113</i>	13 1 6 <i>172</i>	11 10 2 <i>160</i>	12 4 11 <i>137</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	11 9 6 <i>124</i>
Jagri (gul)	"	15 7 7 <i>181</i>	10 10 8 <i>153</i>	16 0 0 <i>180</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	13 3 7 <i>188</i>	15 7 7 <i>181</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	16 0 0 <i>180</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	14 0 7 <i>200</i>
Tea	Lb.	0 14 8 <i>188</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>	0 14 7 <i>187</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>
Salt	Maund	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 1 8 <i>140</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 3 4 <i>144</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>
Beef	Seer	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	0 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 4 0* <i>67</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	0 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 6 0* <i>100</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	"	0 13 2 <i>197</i>	0 12 0 <i>200</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 13 2 <i>197</i>	0 12 0 <i>200</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	10 0 0 <i>225</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	9 6 7 <i>212</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	"	100 0 0 <i>197</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	88 14 2 <i>200</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>	100 0 0 <i>197</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	75 4 8 <i>169</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes	"	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	7 8 6 <i>139</i>	8 0 0 <i>210</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	4 9 9 <i>137</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	6 2 6 <i>114</i>	8 6 9 <i>221</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 4 2 <i>136</i>
Onions	"	4 2 8 <i>268</i>	5 0 0 <i>275</i>	5 0 0 <i>250</i>	3 10 2 <i>145</i>	2 10 1 <i>131</i>	4 2 8 <i>268</i>	4 12 5 <i>263</i>	5 0 0 <i>250</i>	4 3 4 <i>168</i>	2 10 1 <i>131</i>
Cocconut oil	"	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	29 1 5 <i>118</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	29 1 5 <i>118</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		<i>179</i>	<i>183</i>	<i>175</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>178</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>193</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unrefined)</i>		<i>162</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>166</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>140</i>

\* Subject to correction.