

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY
BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Essential oil pulses	Meat and fish of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House- rent	Cost of living
1923									
September	124	116	123	196	149	161	206	172	154
October	123	116	122	196	147	161	211	172	152
November	124	116	118	187	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	120	199	152	161	219	172	157
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	180	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	120	180	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	122	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	132	190	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	189	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	187	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	181	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	193	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	187	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	186	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	131	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	139	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	138	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155

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[No. 2

The Month in Brief

MIDDLE CLASS UNEMPLOYMENT

The Labour Office is endeavouring to obtain statistics on this subject. A circular letter has been issued to all employers of clerical labour including Government offices asking them to enlist the services of their employees in obtaining information regarding individuals out of employment, and in filling up schedules specially prepared for the purpose. Colleges and schools are also being asked to assist.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of September 1926. The average absenteeism was 12.66 per cent. for Bombay City, 3.14 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 1.18 per cent. for Viramgaum, 12.77 per cent. for Sholapur and 9.27 per cent. for Broach.

In the Engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 13.70 per cent. in the Engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 21.59 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 10 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 9.20.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In October 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 155, the same as in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 153.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 149 for the month of September 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were three industrial disputes in progress during September 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 3778 and the number of working days lost 3558.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During September 1926, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 2.72 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for October 1926

INDEX REMAINS STATIONARY

(All articles .. 35 per cent.
Food only .. 53 per cent.)

Increase per cent. over July 1914

In October 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 was 155 both in September and October 1926. The general index was 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 the food group recorded a rise of 1 point during the month. There was a rise of 2 points each in jowari and turdal and of 6 points in gram. Wheat and bajri declined by 2 points each while the price of rice remained the same. Amongst other food articles sugar (refined) registered a decrease of 7 points but gul remained stationary. Tea went up by 4 points, mutton by 7 points and ghee by 3 points. Onions further advanced by 39 points but the price of potatoes showed no change. Coconut oil was cheaper by 3 points. The "other food" index was 180 as against 179 in September 1926.

The "Fuel and Lighting" index was stationary at 164, there being no change in any of the items included in that group. The clothing group registered a further fall of 1 point thus reaching the lowest level (159) in 1926.

All items: Percentage increase over July 1914

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	82	83	69	73	56	59	57	55
February ..	76	81	62	65	55	56	57	54
March ..	72	77	60	65	54	54	59	55
April ..	67	72	60	62	56	50	58	53
May ..	68	73	67	63	53	50	56	53
June ..	74	81	73	63	52	53	54	55
July ..	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	57
August ..	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	55
September ..	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	55
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	55
November ..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	53
December ..	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	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 prices on which the index is based are those collected between September 16 and October 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—OCTOBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Actual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price x Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	July 1914	Sept 1926	Oct 1926
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	Rs. 5 594	Rs. 7 547	Rs. 7 547	Rs. 391 58	Rs. 528 29	Rs. 528 29
Wheat	"	21	5 594	7 438	7 354	117 47	156 20	154 43
Jowari	"	11	4 354	5 698	5 781	47 89	62 68	63 59
Bajri	"	6	4 313	6 568	6 490	25 88	39 41	38 94
Total—Cereals						582 82	786 58	785 25
Index Numbers—Cereals						100	135	134
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4 302	6 417	6 682	43 02	64 17	66 82
Turdal	"	3	5 844	7 922	8 089	17 53	23 77	24 27
Total—Pulses						60 55	87 94	91 09
Index Numbers—Pulses						100	145	150
Other food articles—								
Mustard (ground)	Maund	2	7 620	14 287	13 693	15 24	28 57	27 39
Raw Sugar (Gul)	"	7	8 557	14 287	14 287	59 90	100 01	100 01
Tea	"	40 000	77 375	78 630	78 630	1 00	1 93	1 97
Salt	"	5	2 130	3 313	3 313	10 65	16 37	16 57
Desi	Seer	28	0 323	0 547	0 547	9 04	15 32	15 32
Mutton	"	33	0 417	0 682	0 714	13 76	22 31	25 56
Milk	Maund	14	9 198	17 583	17 583	128 77	246 16	246 16
Ghee	"	11	50 792	94 057	95 240	76 19	141 09	142 86
Tomatoes	"	11	4 479	7 141	7 141	49 27	78 55	78 55
Onions	"	3	1 111	5 359	5 953	4 66	16 08	17 86
Coconut Oil	"	4	25 396	28 573	27 974	12 70	14 29	15 59
Total—Other food articles						381 18	681 08	684 24
Index Numbers—Other food articles						100	179	180
Total—All food articles						1,024 55	1,555 60	1,560 38
Index Numbers—All food articles						100	152	153
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4 375	7 406	7 406	21 88	37 03	37 03
Fuewood	Maund	48	0 792	1 281	1 281	38 02	61 49	61 49
Coal	"	1	0 542	0 771	0 771	0 54	0 77	0 77
Total—Fuel and lighting						60 44	99 29	99 29
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						100	164	164
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0 594	0 969	0 969	16 04	26 16	26 16
Shirts	"	25	0 641	1 052	1 021	16 03	26 30	25 53
T. Cloth	"	36	0 583	0 906	0 906	20 99	32 62	32 62
Total—Clothing						53 06	85 08	84 31
Index Numbers—Clothing						100	160	159
House-rent	Per month.	10	11 302	19 440	19 440	113 02	194 40	194 40
Index Numbers—House rent						100	172	172
Grand Total						1,251 07	1,934 37	1,938 58
Cost of Living Index Number.						100	155	155

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in September and October 1926 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

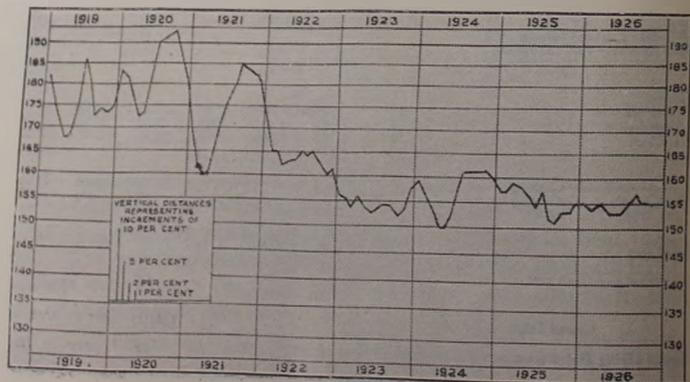
Articles	July 1914	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Oct 1926 over or below Sept 1926	Articles	July 1914	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Oct 1926 over or below Sept 1926
Rice	100	135	135		Salt	100	156	156	
Wheat	100	133	131	-2	Beef	100	169	169	
Jowari	100	131	133	+2	Mutton	100	164	171	+7
Bajri	100	152	150	-2	Milk	100	191	191	
Gram	100	149	155	+6	Ghee	100	185	188	+3
Turdal	100	136	138	+2	Potatoes	100	159	159	
Sugar (refined)	100	167	180	+13	Onions	100	345	384	+39
Raw sugar (gul)	100	167	167		Cocconut oil	100	113	110	-3
Tea	100	153	197	+44	All food articles (weighted average)	100	152	153	+1

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

Rice 26, Wheat 24, Jowari 25, Bajri 30, Gram 35, Turdal 28, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 49, Salt 36, Beef 41, Mutton 42, Milk 48, Ghee 47, Potatoes 37, Onions 74, Cocconut Oil 9.

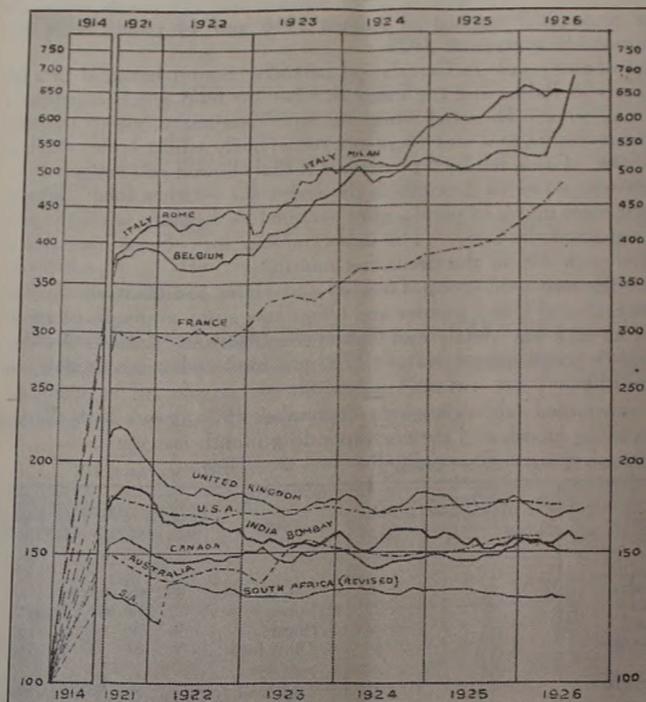
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 4 pies for all items and 10 annas 5 pies for food articles only.

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



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1921. 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 are the sources of the Index Nos : (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. 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

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A rise of one point

In September 1926, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 149 as against 148 in the previous month. As compared with August 1926, there was a rise of 3 points in the food group and of one point in the non-food group. The general index number was 114 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 14 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

A rise of two points in Cereals was partially counter-balanced by a fall of 3 points in Pulses and the index number for food grains registered a rise of one point. Rice and wheat remained stationary, jowari and bajri recorded increases of 7 and 16 points respectively whilst barley declined by 7 points. Gram fell by 5 points but turdal showed no change.

There was a rise of 2 points in the index for "Other food" articles. Turmeric went up by 12 points, ghee declined by 6 points, while the price of salt remained the same. The index number for "Sugar" was 156 as compared with 146 in the preceding month.

Under the non-food group, Oilseeds and Hides and skins advanced by 6 points each and Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles by 3 points each but Metals and Cotton manufactures recorded decreases of 1 and 5 points respectively. The non-food index advanced by one point to 150.

The sub-joined table compares September 1926 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :-

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay 100 = average of 1925*

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with Aug 1926	+ or - % compared with Sept 1925	Groups	Sept 1925	Dec 1925	Mar 1926	June 1926	Aug 1926	Sept 1926
1. Cereals ..	7	+ 1	+ 5	1. Cereals ..	96	100	99	101	99	101
2. Pulses ..	2	- 2	+25	2. Pulses ..	97	114	109	120	124	121
3. Sugar ..	3	- 7	- 2	3. Sugar ..	96	90	88	92	88	95
4. Other food ..	3	+ 1	-16	4. Other food ..	91	87	78	76	75	76
All food ..	15	+ 2	+ 1	All food ..	94	96	93	94	94	95
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 4	+ 3	5. Oilseeds ..	99	93	92	103	97	101
6. Raw cotton ..	5	..	-19	6. Raw cotton ..	97	84	76	75	79	79
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	- 3	-16	7. Cotton manufactures ..	99	92	90	88	86	84
8. Other textiles ..	2	+ 2	-14	8. Other textiles ..	101	96	94	85	84	86
9. Hides and skins ..	3	+ 5	- 5	9. Hides & skins ..	97	102	101	99	88	92
10. Metals ..	5	- 1	- 5	10. Metals ..	97	96	96	95	94	93
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+ 2	- 5	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	96	97	93	94	96
All non-food ..	29	- 1	- 9	All non-food ..	98	94	92	90	89	90
General Index No. ..	44	+ 1	- 5	General Index No. ..	96	94	92	92	91	91

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 200.

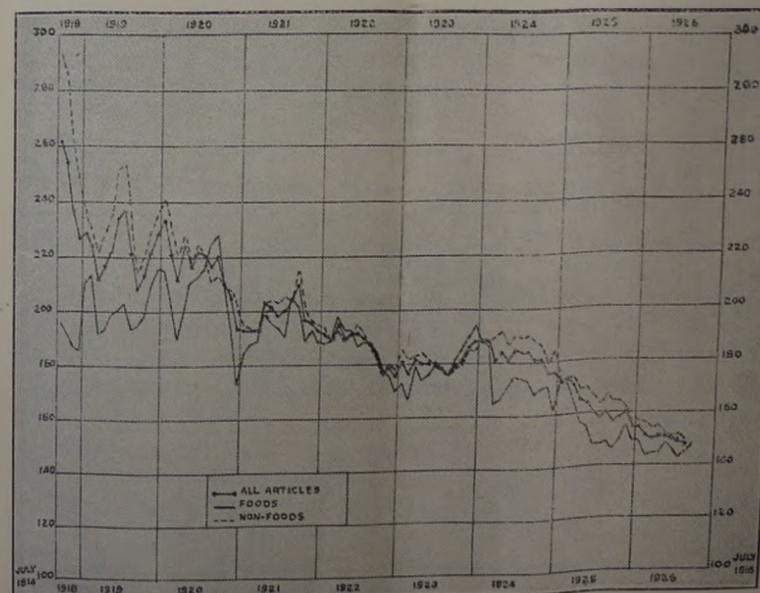
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :-

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
Nine-monthly .. 1926	.. ..	146	153	150

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

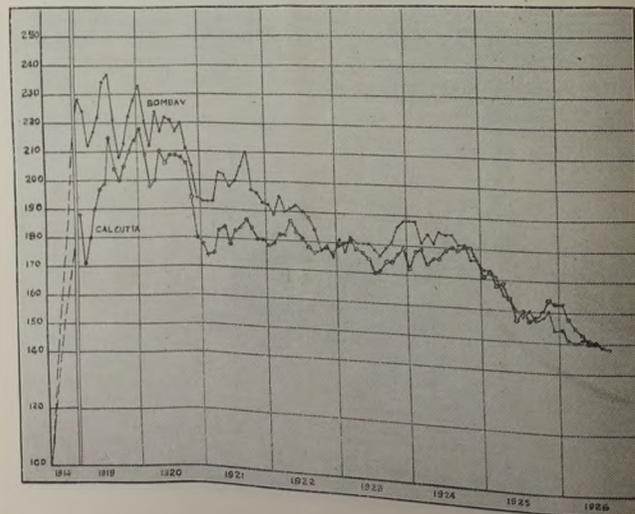


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE
PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

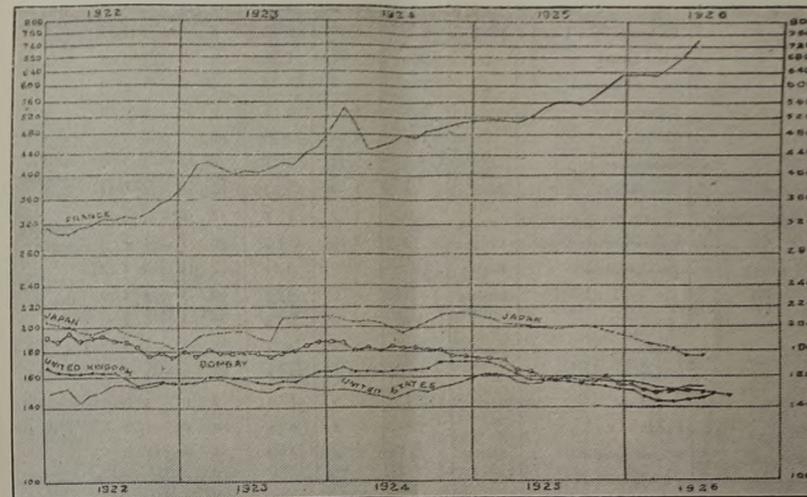
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, i.e., the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1922 and 1924 and during 1925 the two curves temporarily crossed. Since the middle of 1925 prices in Bombay have been lower than in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN
OTHER COUNTRIES

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



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

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

The Labour Office also keeps on record 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.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Unit	Rate per	Equivalent in 1914	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Sept. 1926 over or below				
				July 1914	Aug. 1926	Sept. 1926	July 1914	Aug. 1926
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice	Paylee	212	5 10	8 0	8 0	+ 2 2	....	....
Wheat	Paylee	204	5 10	7 9	7 7	+ 1 9	- 0 2	....
Jowari	Best	196	4 3	5 7	5 7	+ 1 4	....	....
Bajri	Chata	208	4 7	6 5	6 10	+ 2 3	+ 0 5	....
...	Dulhi	192	4 4	5 11	6 2	+ 1 10	+ 0 3	....
...	Cawnpore	204	5 11	8 0	8 1	+ 2 2	+ 0 1	....
...	Java, white	28	1 1	1 11	2 0	+ 0 11	+ 0 1	....
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Single, middle quality	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	....	....
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 2	15 1	+ 7 3	- 0 1
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	2 11	2 11	+ 1 2	....
Beef		Lb.	39	2 6	4 3	4 3	+ 1 9	....
Mutton		..	39	3 0	5 4	5 4	+ 2 4	....
Milk	Madrum	Seer	56	9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	....
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior	..	28	7 1	13 8	13 2	+ 6 1	- 0 6
Potatoes	Ordinary	..	28	0 8	1 1	1 0	+ 0 4	- 0 1
Onions	Navik	..	28	0 3	0 8	0 9	+ 0 6	+ 0 1
Cocconut 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. Udar—Udar Station Road. | 7. Fergusson Road. |
| 2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End). | 8. DeLisle Road. |
| 3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End). | 9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road. |
| 4. Elphinstone Road. | 10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road. |
| 5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawki. | 11. Grant Road. |
| 6. Parel—Poibawdi. | 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 September 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food-grains the price of bajri rose by 5 pies per paylee, turdal and gram recorded a rise of 1 and 3 pies respectively whilst wheat fell by 2 pies per paylee. Rice and jowari showed no change. Among other food articles, sugar (refined) advanced by 1 pie per seer but the price of gul remained the same. Tea was cheaper by 1 pie per lb. and ghee by 6 pies per seer. There was a rise of 1 pie in onions but potatoes registered a fall of 1 pie per seer. The other articles remained practically unchanged during the month.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 200 per cent. above their prewar level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent. and gul, salt and beef by more than 60 per cent. whilst the rise in the prices of food-grains is between 30 and 50 per cent. The price of cocconut oil is 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in August and September 1926 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in August and September 1926.—

Articles	Bombay prices in August 1926 = 100					Bombay prices in September 1926 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice ..	100	118	118	106	116	100	118	118	112	116
Wheat ..	100	81	96	89	105	100	82	98	91	108
Jowari ..	100	83	94	60	92	100	84	94	62	96
Bajri ..	100	108	108	78	97	100	104	102	75	95
Average—										
Cereals ..	100	98	104	83	103	100	97	103	85	104
Pulses—										
Gram ..	100	89	93	87	88	100	84	89	88	88
Turdal ..	100	102	127	97	113	100	102	126	93	112
Average—										
Pulses ..	100	96	110	92	101	100	93	108	91	100
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined) ..	100	85	97	102	109	100	83	93	93	91
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	81	93	70	71	100	80	93	70	74
Tea ..	100	103	103	118	125	100	103	103	118	109
Salt ..	100	60	69	108	86	100	75	69	105	86
Beef ..	100	109	69	57	69	100	103	69	57	69
Mutton ..	100	99	92	92	101	100	92	92	92	101
Milk ..	100	43	63	76	76	100	47	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	79	73	73	86	100	82	76	76	90
Potatoes ..	100	129	115	207	124	100	79	112	112	103
Onions ..	100	57	65	70	70	100	58	57	62	60
Cocconut oil ..	100	93	112	112	98	100	90	112	112	98
Average—										
Other articles of food ..	100	85	86	99	92	100	81	85	88	87
Average—										
All food articles ..	100	89	93	94	86	100	86	92	88	92

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles declined at all the four mofussil centres there being a drop of 3 points at Karachi, 1 point at Ahmedabad, 6 points at Sholapur and 4 points at Poona. Referring back to September 1925 it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles was steady at Poona and decreased by 5 points at Karachi, by 4 points at Ahmedabad and by 7 points at Sholapur.

Of individual articles the relative prices of rice recorded a rise at Sholapur. The relative prices of wheat and ghee were higher and of bajri, sugar (refined) and potatoes lower at all the four mofussil centres. Jowari was steady at Ahmedabad but advanced at the remaining centres. Turdal and onions decreased except at Karachi. Tea decreased at Poona and mutton and cocconut oil at Karachi whilst all three were steady at the other three centres. Salt showed a rise at Karachi, was stationary at Ahmedabad and Poona but was cheaper at Sholapur.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1926

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

RAINFALL DIVISION	JUNE				JULY				AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER					
	1st	8th	15th	22nd	7th	14th	21st	28th	4th	11th	18th	25th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th
I. BOMBAY PRESIDENCY	N	F	S	S	F	S	F	F	F	N	N	E	E	E	E	S	N	N	N	N
1 Sind (River Rainfall)	N	N	S	S	S	S	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	S	N	N	N	N
2 Gujarat	S	S	S	S	F	F	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	N	N	F	S	S
3 Deccan	S	S	N	N	N	E	F	S	N	E	F	F	E	S	N	E	N	S	S	S
4 Konkan	S	S	N	N	N	E	F	S	N	E	F	F	E	S	N	E	N	S	S	S
II. MADRAS PRESIDENCY	S	F	F	F	E	N	S	E	E	F	F	F	F	F	E	F	F	E	F	F
1 Malabar	S	N	S	S	E	F	N	F	E	F	F	F	F	F	N	F	F	S	N	F
2 Deccan	S	S	S	F	F	F	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	N	N	E	S	N	F
3 Coast North	F	S	S	E	F	F	F	F	F	S	S	N	N	E	N	E	S	F	N	E
4 South East	F	S	S	E	F	F	F	F	F	S	S	N	N	E	N	E	S	F	N	E
III. MYSORE	F	F	S	F	E	E	N	S	E	E	E	S	S	E	E	S	S	F	E	N
IV. HYDERABAD	S	S	F	S	E	E	E	N	F	E	E	E	S	F	S	E	F	F	S	S
1 North	S	S	F	S	E	E	E	N	F	E	E	E	S	F	S	E	F	F	S	S
2 South	S	S	F	S	E	E	E	N	F	E	E	E	S	F	S	E	F	F	S	S
V. CENTRAL PROVINCES	S	S	S	S	N	E	N	F	E	E	E	E	F	N	F	F	S	E	F	S
1 Berar	S	S	S	S	N	E	N	F	E	E	E	E	F	N	F	F	S	E	F	S
2 West	S	S	S	S	N	E	N	F	E	E	E	E	F	N	F	F	S	E	F	S
3 East	S	N	S	S	F	E	F	S	F	E	E	E	N	E	E	F	E	S	S	S
VI. CENTRAL INDIA	S	S	S	S	F	E	N	S	E	S	E	E	E	F	N	F	F	S	S	S
1 West	S	S	S	S	F	E	N	S	E	S	E	E	E	F	N	F	F	S	S	S
2 East	S	N	S	S	F	E	N	S	E	S	E	E	E	F	N	F	F	S	S	S
VII. BENGAL PRESIDENCY	N	F	F	F	F	N	F	E	N	E	F	F	E	E	S	N	S	E	N	S
VIII. ASSAM	F	F	E	N	E	E	E	N	E	N	F	F	N	F	S	F	F	N	E	F
IX. BHAR & ORISSA	F	S	S	F	S	N	F	E	N	E	S	N	F	E	E	F	F	E	F	S
1 Bihar	F	S	S	F	S	N	F	E	N	E	S	N	F	E	E	F	F	E	F	S
2 Orissa	F	S	S	F	S	N	F	E	N	E	S	N	F	E	E	F	F	E	F	S
3 Chota Nagpur	S	S	S	F	S	E	N	F	E	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	N	F	S	S
X. UNITED PROVINCES	S	S	S	F	S	F	F	E	N	E	E	F	F	N	F	E	E	F	F	S
1 East	S	S	S	F	S	F	F	E	N	E	E	F	F	N	F	E	E	F	F	S
2 West	S	S	S	N	S	S	E	N	E	E	F	F	N	N	N	N	F	F	S	S
XI. PUNJAB	S	S	S	F	S	S	E	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	F	F	S	S	S
1 East & North	S	S	S	F	S	S	E	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	F	F	S	S	S
2 South West	N	N	S	F	S	S	E	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	F	F	S	S	S
XII. NORTHWEST FRONTIER	S	S	S	E	S	S	E	S	S	N	N	E	S	E	E	S	S	S	N	N
XIII. RAJPUTANA	S	N	S	S	F	F	E	E	S	E	N	F	E	E	E	F	S	S	S	S
1 West	S	N	S	S	F	F	E	E	S	E	N	F	E	E	E	F	S	S	S	S
2 East	F	S	S	S	F	F	E	E	S	E	N	F	E	E	E	F	S	S	S	S
XIV. BURMA	N	K	E	E	N	E	N	N	N	N	N	E	N	F	F	E	N	E	E	E
1 Lower	N	K	E	E	N	E	N	N	N	N	N	E	N	F	F	E	N	E	E	E
2 Upper	N	F	N	N	N	F	S	E	E	F	N	F	F	E	E	F	F	E	E	E

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

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in September .. 3 Workpeople involved .. 3778

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during September 1926, 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 September 1926.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in September 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Sept 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Sept 1926
	Started before 1st Sept	Started in Sept	Total		
Textile	3	3	3,778	3,558
Transport
Engineering
Metal
Miscellaneous
Total	3	3	3,778	3,558

During the month under review the number of disputes was three all of which occurred in cotton mills in Ahmedabad. The number of workpeople involved in all these three disputes was 3778 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 3558.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results May to September 1926

	May 1926	June 1926	July 1926	August 1926	Sept 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs	4	9	4	7	3
Disputes in progress at beginning	....	2*	2	....	....
Fresh disputes begun	4	7	2	7	3
Disputes ended	4	7	4	7	3
Disputes in progress at end	....	2	....	....	....
Number of workpeople involved	3,149	1,281	384	6,900	3,778
Aggregate duration in working days	7,733	1,752	661	22,457	3,558
Demands—					
Pay	2	3	2	4	2
Bonus	....	....	....	....	....
Personal	1	4	1	2	1
Leave and hours	....	....	....	....	....
Others	1	2	1	1	....
Results—					
In favour of employees	....	....	....	....	....
Compromised	....	....	....	1	....
In favour of employers..	4	7	4	6	3

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

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

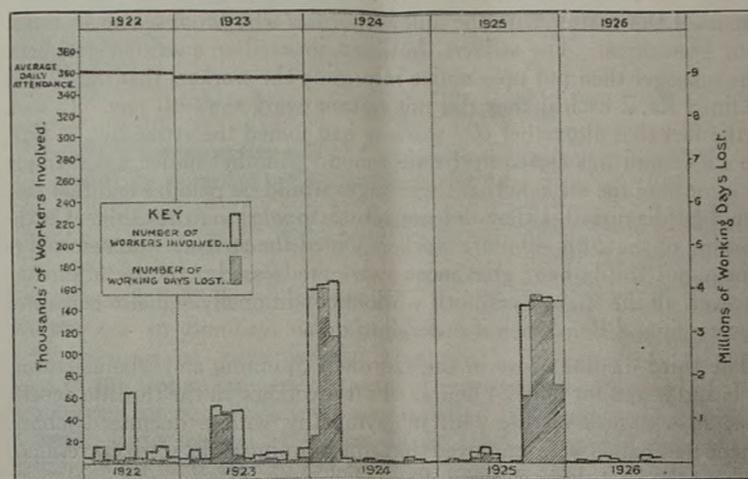
Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
October 1925	5	3,904,182	100	..	..
November ..	6	3,699,628	100	..	..
December ..	6	1,799,343	60	20	20
January 1926	4	460	75	25	..
February ..	5	5,817	75	25	..
March ..	9	3,161	67	22	11
April ..	3	13,088	67	33	..
May ..	4	7,733	100	..	..
June ..	9	1,752	100	..	..
July ..	4	661	100	..	..
August ..	7	22,457	86	..	14
September ..	3	3,558	100	..	..
Summary for the above twelve months.	54	9,461,840	86	10	4

* Revised figures.

† This table differs from the tables published till April 1926 in three respects. Firstly, the statistics compiled here are for 12 months instead of 13 months; secondly, the last three columns give the percentages of disputes settled only; and thirdly, the last column in the old table is omitted.

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

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

There were only three industrial disputes in progress during the month of September 1926. All of them occurred in cotton mills in Ahmedabad during the latter half of the month. The number of workers directly affected by the disputes amounted to 1124 while 2654 were affected indirectly. There was an aggregate loss of 3558 working days to the industry. Two of the disputes arose over questions of pay and allowances and the third was due to a personal grievance. The strikers were unsuccessful in all three cases.

AHMEDABAD

The weavers of the Motilal Hirabhai Spinning and Weaving mills requested the management of the mills on the 10th September to fix their wages at the same rates as those prevailing in the other mills. As the management had not made any announcement by the 16th September 350 weavers struck work immediately after the recess on that day. The weaving master then put up a notice informing the men that they would be re-employed and their demands, if reasonable, considered provided they returned to work before 3 p.m.. Those who did not resume work then would be paid off on the next day and might or might not be re-employed. On the 18th, 100 new hands were engaged and 50 strikers resumed work unconditionally. The rest were paid off and their services were dispensed with. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

On the 16th September, 25 spinners of the throstle department in the Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Mill struck work in the afternoon

complaining that they were being paid at the rates for small bobbins while work was actually done on big ones. They also complained that their wages suffered because the thread broke oftener on the bigger bobbins. On the afternoon of the 18th, 674 more spinners struck work in sympathy. Mr. Khandubhai K. Desai, the assistant secretary of the Labour Union, advised the strikers to resume work and, together with some 15 workers discussed the matter with the mill authorities who promised to look into their grievances. The strikers, however, insisted on a written statement. The manager then put up a notice informing the workers that they would be fined Rs. 2 each if they did not resume work the next day. In view of the fact that altogether 699 workers had joined the strike by the 19th, the whole mill was closed in the afternoon. Another notice was then put up informing the strikers that their wages would be paid off and that they would be dismissed if they did not return to work on the 20th. On the morning of the 20th, 40 more workers joined the strikers who resolved to remain out until their grievances were redressed. In the afternoon, however, all the strikers resumed work unconditionally and also consented to pay a fine of Rs. 2 each if ordered to do so.

The third dispute arose in the Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Mills and lasted for only 24 hours. Forty workers in the throstle department struck work on the 24th in sympathy with a dismissed jobber. Fifteen new hands were employed the same morning and 25 strikers resumed work on the next day.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

1. 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 September in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During the month of September there were in all 226 factory accidents in Bombay City, of which 2 were fatal, 25 serious and the rest minor. Of the total, 66 or 29 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 160 or 71 per cent. to "other causes." The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 72 in workshops; 27.5 in textile mills and .5 in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 49 accidents all of which occurred in Cotton mills. Of these 32 or 65 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 17 or 35 per cent. to "other causes." One of these accidents was fatal, three were serious and the rest minor.

In Karachi there were in all 9 accidents, 6 of which occurred in Railway and Port Trust workshops, 2 in Engineering workshops and one in miscellaneous concerns.

In the "other centres" of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 46 out of which 15 occurred in textile mills, 26 in workshops and 5 in miscellaneous concerns. Of the total number of accidents 18 were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 28 to other causes. Of these 7 were serious and the rest minor.

There were no prosecutions during the month under review.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and of Proceedings during September 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

The present article contains the Summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of September 1926. All Commissioners except two furnished information and out of a total of 33 cases disposed of during the month 32 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It should be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but only of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 10,768-5-0 was awarded as Compensation during the month under review as against Rs. 14,218-5-0 awarded during the previous month and Rs. 20,294-8-0 two months ago. Out of the 33 accidents for which Compensation was paid, six were fatal, four of permanent total disablement, 22 of permanent partial disablement and one of temporary disablement. The number of Compensation cases was 16 in textile mills and 17 in other industries. The corresponding figures for the month of August are 18 and 15. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925.

The claimants for compensation in all the cases were males over 15 years of age. Of the 33 cases disposed of during the month under review, 13 were original claims and 20 registration of agreements. One case of original claim was transferred to a District Commissioner. Compensation was awarded in eight cases and 20 agreements were registered. Simple distribution was effected in two cases and the other two were dismissed.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th October 1926 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture. "The position regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at this moment in the various divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows:—

Gujarat.—The position in this division, which was one of considerable anxiety at the time of the last report, owing to the excessive and continuous rains, has now appreciably improved owing to the break in rains since about the end of September. The standing crops are now doing well

generally and the prospects of the rabi (late) crops seem to be quite good.

Uttar Pradesh—Conditions in this division continue generally satisfactory. The standing crops both irrigated and unirrigated are showing a healthy development. The harvesting of the early crops has been started in places.

Deccan—In the North and West of the division, conditions are generally satisfactory and the crops are proceeding well. In the East, however, more rain is needed in many places for the young rabi crops to develop and also for completion of the rabi sowings.

Karnatak—The situation in the West of the Division is quite well. In the East, however, comprising the Northeast of the Dharwar District, a large part of the Bijapur District and some portion especially the Athni Taluka and the surrounding area in the Belgaum District, the situation is getting anxious owing to absence or deficiency of rains and if rain does not occur soon the situation is likely to be aggravated."

Employment Situation in September 1926

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 129 or 87·16 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of September 1926. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 129 returns amounted to 10·99 per cent. in September as against 9·75 in the preceding month.

In Bombay City all the 80 mills which were working in September furnished returns. Supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 12·66 per cent. in September as compared with 11·06 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 57 mills were working during the month of September. Information was supplied by 38 or 66·67 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism amounted to 3·14 per cent. in September as against 2·87 per cent. in August. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

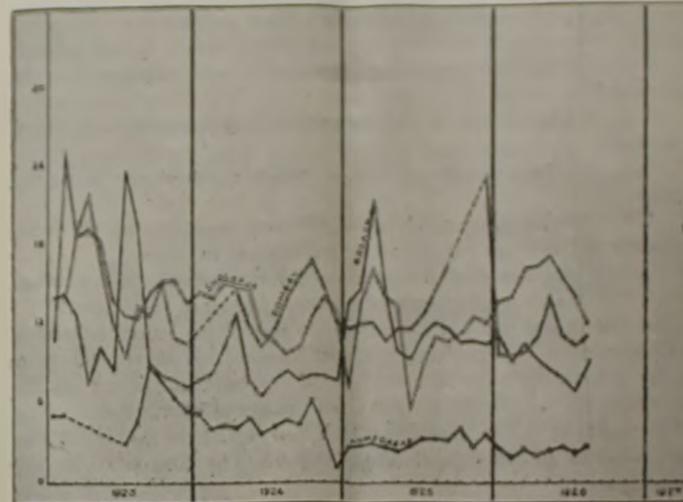
Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 1·18 per cent.

Returns were submitted by all the six mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 12·77.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 9·27 per cent. during the month under review as against 9·22 per cent. in the previous month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the cotton mill industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative Engineering workshops increased from 11·91 per cent. in August to 13·70 per cent. in the month under review. In the Bombay Reclamation Scheme of the Development Directorate absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 21·59 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust, both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 9·20 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during September 1926.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union have just published their Fourth Annual Report for the year 1925-1926 which states that during the year under report the Union has been able to carry out all the objects for which the Union was formed to the satisfaction of its members.

Owing to general trade depression a considerable number of employees were retrenched in all departments of the Bombay Port Trust, but in spite of this, the number of members of the Union showed a satisfactory increase. The total number of employees in the Port Trust Workshop is stated to be 597 and the total number of members on the membership

rolls of the Union whose subscriptions were regularly paid was 401. Many of the workers are temporary, and these do not join the Union.

The Managing Committee held eleven meetings in the course of the year under review. Among the matters dealt with were:—

- " 1. Complaints regarding non-payment of wages during sickness.
- " 2. Complaints regarding non-payment of compensation for accidents.
- " 3. Retrenchment in the staff without any regard to period of service.
- " 4. Reduction in the number of Indian appointments to superior jobs.
- " 5. Affixing proper Notices in different languages on the Notice Boards of the shops for the better guidance of the men.
- " 6. Compulsory leave to workmen or alternative terms and others.
- " 7. Discharge on account of Insolvency order of High Court."

The Union also made representation to the authorities on the question of time scales of pay pointing out that men started as apprentices on twelve annas a day even when they become efficient do not get anything more than Rs. 1-12-0 at the most up to the end of their service.

On receipt of this representation the Chairman of the Port Trust asked the Union to submit definite scales of pay. The rates asked for were as follows:—

	Rs.	Rs.
Turners	from 69	to 110
Fitters	69	110
Blacksmiths	69	110
Boiler Makers	65	100
Pattern Makers	69	110
Carpenters	65	100
Painters	45	86
Moulders	60	95
Coppersmiths	65	100

Special Grade Workmen from Rs. 110 to 125 (with ten posts in turning shop, ten posts in blacksmiths' shop, ten posts in boiler, eight posts in patternmakers' shop, four posts in carpenters' shop, two posts in moulding shop, two posts in coppersmiths' shop).

	Rs.	Rs.
Cooly	from 30	to 50
Mistries	125	175
Chargemen	175	250
Indian Assistant Foremen from Rs. 250 to Rs. 400.		

The whole question is under the consideration of the authorities and the Union hopes that it will soon be settled to the satisfaction of the employees.

The Managing Committee also submitted a representation to the Port Trust authorities asking that adequate provision should be made for housing employees.

The Port Trust authorities replied that the Trustees are only able to provide for such of their workmen as it is desirable to house in the neighbourhood of their work, owing to its nature, or so as to render them available for emergency duty. Certain of the workshop employees are so housed at present. For the majority of those employed in the workshops it is not necessary to reside in its vicinity, and financial stringency as well as the difficulty of finding sites for chawls prevent the Trustees from housing all their employees. The matter will, however, receive the attention of the Trustees.

The income of the union during the year amounted to Rs. 2,039-0-11, out of which Rs. 1,281-12-0 were realised by way of subscription.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union

REPRESENTATION TO GOVERNMENT

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union has submitted a memorial to Government requesting them to revise the scale of salaries paid to postmen. It is pointed out that while the starting salary of postal clerks has been raised from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per month, that of postmen has remained the same since 1920. Moreover postmen are required to be literate at least in three languages and are also burdened with pecuniary responsibilities. In spite of this, however, they are paid much less than bailiffs, bill-collectors and in some cases, bank peons. The Union has laid before Government the following propositions for their consideration:—

(1) that the postmen's duties are of a far more skilled character than those of the ordinary skilled millhand and involving in addition pecuniary responsibilities which the millhand has not to bear;

(2) that the plea advanced for the *status quo*, namely, that recruits are available on present scales of pay is by no means valid in as much as it has not been advanced against the revision of clerks' salaries though as a matter of fact qualified candidates for clerks' posts are easily available on Rs. 50 per month or even less;

(3) that the scale of salaries enforced for the postmen compare quite unfavourably with those of the employees who, in point of duties and responsibilities, can be compared with them;

(4) that if the relative position and the salaries of postmen and postal clerks in about the year 1900 is compared with the relative position as it exists to-day the postman is found to be decidedly worse off than he was in 1900 as regards his pay and prospects; and

(5) that it is a great injustice to the postman not to have revised his scale of salary along with that of clerks.

Finally the Union has requested Government to undertake immediately the revision of the scales of salaries of postmen in Bombay, but if Government find it impossible to do so only on the strength of the Union's representation, the Union suggests the appointment of a local Enquiry Committee with adequate representation of postmen and packers.

Report of the Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab, for the year 1925-26

The Board is divided into two sections, rural and urban. The report mainly deals with the activities of the former.

RURAL SECTION

During the year under review, this Section made steady progress. With a view to making village economic surveys, four investigators were appointed on the 1st January 1925 and were posted to villages in the Amritsar, Multan, Rawalpindi and Rohtak districts respectively. When it was seen that funds would permit two further inquiries were instituted in April 1925 in the Jullunder and Lyallpur districts. In anticipation of a further grant from Government, three more village inquiries were instituted on the 15th June 1925 in the Hissar, Sialkot and Dera Ghazi Khan districts. Two of these inquiries are making satisfactory progress while the third one was abandoned. Each one of these investigations is in charge of a responsible person. The Board is thus at present conducting eight inquiries and it is proposed to start eight more during the current year. If the work continues at this rate, the Board expects to produce one report on at least one village in every district of the Province.

One of the greatest difficulties experienced by the Board is of getting suitable investigators.

In addition to village surveys, several other inquiries were conducted by the Board. These were: (1) mortgage inquiries; (2) agricultural indebtedness inquiry; (3) Kangra inquiry and (4) miscellaneous inquiries.

Mortgage Inquiries

With the idea of securing reliable data on the amount of mortgage debt, an inquiry was conducted during the year in a Sikh tract in the Ferozepur district, and the results of this inquiry have now been published. Two similar inquiries were sanctioned during the year, one in the Rawalpindi and another in a dissimilar tract in the Ferozepur district. The first of these is now drawing to a close, and the results will be published during the present year. The latter inquiry has been postponed. The Board hopes to start one or two more such inquiries during the present year.

Agricultural Indebtedness Inquiry

The investigators in charge of village surveys were asked to collect additional information on the amount of indebtedness in their village, and particularly to supply information as to the amount of debt outstanding to agricultural and non-agricultural moneylenders respectively. One month was devoted to this work by each investigator. The survey was of much too limited a nature to admit of anything in the nature of general conclusions being drawn, but investigation along the same lines is now to form part of each village survey.

Kangra Inquiry

This is a very comprehensive survey of economic conditions in an area of the Kangra district. It is expected to publish the results of the inquiry during the present year.

Miscellaneous Inquiries

Besides supervising the above inquiries, some members of the Board did during the year a certain amount of honorary work and presented their results to the Board. For instance, Mr. Calvert conducted through district officers an inquiry into cultivators' holdings in the Province and Mr. Stewart conducted an inquiry into the expenses of cultivation under the Batai system in a village near Lyallpur.

Finance

In the beginning the work of the Board was greatly hampered by the lack of funds, and it was not until the year under review that the grant received from Government was sufficient to warrant the initiation of comprehensive schemes of investigation. During the year under review, the rural section received a Government grant of Rs. 23,000 in all. The Board tries to keep down the overhead charges to the minimum. All work done by members of the Board is honorary, and no payment other than travelling expenses is made to them for any services rendered. The work of organization is in the hands of the secretary. It appears, however, that the investigators are fully paid officers.

URBAN SECTION

The principal inquiry undertaken by this section during the year was one into the cost of education in the Attock district. Forms were drawn up in English and vernacular and the scope of the inquiry was limited to school children. The data is now being tabulated. The Board proposes to conduct three more inquiries during the present year. These are: (1) An Inquiry into the Housing Conditions in the more crowded parts of Lahore City; (2) An Inquiry into the Printing Trade in Lahore and (3) An Inquiry into the Unemployment amongst Graduates of the Province.

Labour in Ceylon

STANDARD WAGE FOR INDIAN EMIGRANTS

A comprehensive statement has been issued by the Education Department tracing the history of the negotiations with the Ceylon Government on the standard wage for Indian labourers in the colony, and announcing the decisions arrived at between the two Governments.

It was in October 1922 that the Ceylon Government were asked to institute an inquiry into the question of fixing a basic wage in accordance with the conditions on which the emigration of Indian labour to Ceylon was allowed. The Colonial Government appointed Mr. Jones Bateman, Assistant Director of Statistics, to conduct this inquiry, but his conclusions

did not satisfy the Government of India. The Ceylon Government then at the suggestion of the Indian Government appointed a committee of inquiry, whose report was forwarded to the Government of India in April 1925.

The committee accepted the principle of a standard wage and, assuming that an adult male or female labourer worked for twenty-four days and a working child for twenty days a month, suggested payment in low-country, middle-country and up-country respectively, of the following wage: For men 50, 52 and 54 cents; for women 40, 41 and 43 cents; for working children 30, 31 and 32 cents.

The Government of India, in consultation with the Standing Emigration Committee, urged an addition of 10 per cent. to the committee's scale to provide for a margin for sickness, etc. The Ceylon Government thereupon deputed Mr. Reid, Controller of Indian Immigrant Labour, to discuss the situation at Delhi. Mr. Reid claimed that a margin of 10 per cent. was provided for in the committee's scale in the difference between standard wages and actual cost of living, exclusive of dependents, and made the following further concession for non-working dependents, namely, the issue of one-eighth of a bushel of rice free every month to each working man and the same quantity of rice to each widow with a non-working child. These free issues are to be made irrespective of whether they worked the minimum number of days per month or not.

The Government of India accepted these proposals subject to the understanding that any revision in a standard wage would not take place until after six months' notification of such proposal within which period the two Governments could negotiate. The new arrangement is expected to take effect from 1st January 1927.

The Ceylon Government have also accepted a number of other subsidiary proposals regarding the payment of wages within a reasonable time, maternity benefits, improvement of medical and housing arrangements, educational facilities and legal provision regarding the issue of rice to Indian estate labourers. (From "Statesman," Calcutta, October 2, 1926.)

Industrial Fatigue Research

WORK OF BRITISH BOARD

Investigations in the Textile Industry

The Industrial Fatigue Research Board, which is a section of the Medical Research Council, carries out enquiries of a scientific nature with the object of promoting better knowledge of the relations of hours of labour and of other conditions of employment, including methods of work, to functions of the human body, having regard both to the preservation of health among the workers and to industrial efficiency. The Board also takes steps to secure the co-operation of industries in the fullest practical application of the results of this research work to the needs of industry. The sixth annual report of the Board has just been published by His Majesty's Stationery Office and contains much information of value both

to capital and to labour, for it gives the results of investigations into hours of labour, rest pauses, the effects of different systems of employment, atmospheric conditions, etc. Some of these enquiries are of particular interest to the cotton mill industry.

An investigation as to the relative sickness amongst weavers in sheds that are artificially humidified and in sheds that are not, is now being carried out by Dr. A. B. Hill under the direction of a special Committee, composed of representatives of the Statistical Committee and the Departmental Committee on Humidity.

Facilities for investigation have been obtained in 127 sheds situated in Blackburn, a town with only humid sheds; Nelson, a town with only dry sheds; and Accrington, Burnley and Preston, towns containing both dry and humid sheds. Thus each type of town is represented. The weavers employed in these sheds on 1st August 1925 numbered approximately 20,500 (9,500 were in dry and 11,000 in humid sheds).

Investigation is proceeding on the following lines:—

(1) For each weaver a card, giving certain particulars as to name, age, and Approved Society has been filled in by the employer concerned.

(2) In order to allow for unequal "exposure to risk" on the part of weavers ceasing work during the year of inquiry, the employers concerned have been asked to furnish quarterly lists of "exits" containing the name of each weaver concerned, the cypher number of his Approved Society, and the date of exit.

(3) At the expiry of twelve months (1st August 1925 to 31st July 1926), these cards will be placed in the hands of the appropriate Approved Societies, who have consented to supply, in respect of each weaver, the sickness experienced during the year of the inquiry.

With these data it is hoped to find evidence as to the existence or absence of any significant difference between the two classes of sheds in respect of the amount and nature of the sickness experienced.

In addition, arrangements have been made for the keeping of special hygrometer records during six months in both types of shed. With the help of these further data, an attempt will be made to analyse the sickness returns in relation to actual shed conditions in greater detail than the broad distinction between humid and dry sheds allows.

The Board have also collaborated in an investigation on possible methods of alleviating the discomfort arising during the hot months of the year from the artificial humidification of cotton weaving sheds. The experiment consisted in comparing the conditions in two parts of the weaving sheds, one of which was fitted with specially installed electric fans. The Report on the investigation indicates not only that the operatives enjoy the increased air movement during hot weather, but also that improvement in the physiological conditions is accompanied by a small but genuine increase in output.

The Estimation of Industrial Fatigue

The Report gives an account of an investigation into this subject. Cotton weaving was taken as the process to be investigated. This was

based chiefly on hourly records of output taken on a large number of looms for a period of one year. By arrangement with the employers concerned the looms were devoted throughout the investigation to the weaving of a standard cloth of uniform quality, thus approximating to constancy from the manufacturing point of view; further, the hours of employment during the experiment were normal and uniform.

Various conclusions were come to by the investigators such as that output is nearly always low both on Monday and at the end of the working week. The output is controlled by two opposing factors (a) increased efficiency, due to practice, which causes a rise in output, and (b) fatigue effects, which accumulate during the course of the week and tend to bring about a gradual fall in output. There is an increase of output during the weeks preceding the annual holidays culminating in a marked spurt in the second week before work ceases. There are also indications of a similar but smaller spurt before the shorter Easter and Whitsuntide holiday.

The effects of short time were also investigated in one weaving shed in which, owing to trade depression, work was limited to four days a week (Tuesday to Friday). The average hourly output during the short-time period was 370 units compared with 394 during full time under similar atmospheric conditions, a reduction of a little more than 6 per cent. An analysis of the daily output curves shows that this loss resulted not only from the lower level of the output curves generally, but also from the progressive decrease in output as the week advanced. On the significance of these results, Dr. Wyatt, the investigator, remarks:—

"The decreased working capacity of the operatives may be partly due to the disturbing effects of short time, which interferes with their usual habits and desires, but it may also represent a restriction of output caused by knowledge of the limited amount of work available, and a consequent attempt to postpone the advent of further unemployment. The fear of unemployment is always an obstacle to efficiency, and unless it can be entirely removed, maximum efficiency will never be attained."

Influence of Humidity on Fatigue

The influence of humidity and temperature on fatigue is clearly indicated in several of the Board's investigations into the textile industries. The report gives a table showing the results obtained by continuous observation of the number of loom stoppages and warp breakages between different temperature ranges and comparing these with the actual output. Both the stoppages and breakages diminish as the temperature rises with humidity constant, and *vice versa* owing to the favourable physical effect on the yarn, yet the output drops in the first case above a temperature of 75 degrees and in the second case above a relative humidity of 82.5. This implies that a longer time is unconsciously taken to deal with each stoppage or breakage owing to the adverse effects of higher temperatures and humidities on working capacity. The influence of lighting on production has also been studied and one investigator

concluded that under artificial illumination production falls, even if electric light of sufficient intensity is provided, and that the magnitude of this fall is of the order of 10 per cent. of the daylight value of the rate of output. Another observer in the textile industry concludes that the average loss of efficiency attributable to the effects of artificial light is of the order of 11 per cent.

Rather remarkable results were obtained as the result of an investigation into "Motion Study", i.e., an analysis of the workers' movements with the object of eliminating such as are wasteful or otherwise undesirable, and of adapting the performance of the work to the workers' natural rhythm. The two processes in a confectionery factory sweet dipping and chocolate covering were studied.

Sweet dipping (which is a completely manual process carried out by girls), consists in dipping a "centre" (an almond, walnut, etc.) in a basin of melted sugar with the left hand, covering it with the sugar by working it with a fork held in the right hand, and placing the finished article on the tray. On being photographed, the paths travelled over by the hands of several workers were found in most cases to assume roughly the form of straight lines, and to involve several reversals of direction. A method of doing the work was then introduced, in which the hand moved entirely in curves instead of in straight lines, the frequent changes of direction being thus avoided and the maximum momentum being utilised for the most tiring part of the work. The advantage of the new method was indicated by the fact that it had been unconsciously adopted in modified form by three of the most proficient workers in the factory. It was found impossible to induce the older workers to change their habits and to adopt the new method, but for the younger members of the department a training class was instituted and after a short course of instruction the output increased by 27 per cent.

More striking results were obtained in another room where the process was about to be started, and after three months work the workers were on the average producing 88 per cent. more than workers of the same standing, who were adopting the old method in the original room. This difference in output may, however, have been partly due to the better conditions in the new room.

Another investigation dealt with the operations involved in bobbin winding in the silk weaving industry. A number of weavers were closely observed, and the time required to attend to each stoppage (with the method adopted) was entered on a special form containing all possible causes of stoppages. From an analysis of these data, it was possible to show precisely in what respect a good weaver differs from a poor one, and so to indicate the more important personal factors in good weaving. The method of replacing "the pirns" in the shuttle, for instance, and the proper distribution of attention over the two looms were found to be important influences in proficiency.

A further point brought out in this investigation is the proof that an inefficient worker actually uses more energy for a given task than an efficient one. In each case the number of stoppages, that is the number of calls on the weaver's energies, is greater for the good weaver, whilst, the

time taken to deal with them (which may be taken as a rough measure of the energy expended), is very much less.

The relation of the posture of the operator to the position of his machine has also been investigated. Photographs are given in the report of two types of frames used in bobbin winding. One of these parts is the ring-yarn box which contains the tubes from which the yarn is wound on to the bobbin. In one type of frame the ring box was only 14½ inches from the floor, whereas in the other it was 20 inches from the floor. The disadvantage of the former is shown as being particularly uncomfortable for a short operative.

The report can be obtained from His Majesty's Stationery Office, London, at a cost of three shillings.

Report of the Ministry of Labour for the year 1925

The Minister of Labour has issued the second Annual Report* on the work of the Ministry dealing with the year 1925.

Industrial Relations (Conciliation and Arbitration).—During the year under review 257 disputes were settled with the assistance of the Ministry, as compared with 252 in 1924. Of these, 165 (including 101 in the railway service) were referred to the Industrial Court for arbitration, 8 were referred to single arbitrators, 8 to *ad hoc* Boards of Arbitration, and 9 were settled under the Conciliation Act, 1896; while in 64 cases agreement was reached with the assistance of officers of the Ministry. In three cases Courts of Inquiry were appointed under Part II of the Industrial Courts Act, to deal with disputes in connection with (i) steel houses, (ii) the coal-mining industry and (iii) railway shopmen on the London and North Eastern Railway (Great Central section) and on the Cheshire lines. A summary of the proceedings of these Courts of Inquiry so far as they fell within the year 1925, is given in the Report; also of the proceedings of two Courts of Investigation (consisting in each case of an independent chairman, appointed by the Minister, together with representatives of outside interests), which dealt with wages in the wool textile industry and in the Scottish shale oil industry, respectively.

Employment.—The number on the live registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month from January 1922 to December 1925 (inclusive) has never fallen below a million, and has varied from a maximum of 1,936,081 in January 1922, to a minimum of 1,009,444 in June 1924. In thirty-four months out of this period of four years it was between 1,100,000 and 1,400,000, including a consecutive period of seventeen months from August 1924 to December 1925.

It is pointed out in the Report that the personnel of the unemployed is constantly changing. There is a wide range in the spells of unemployment during which registration is maintained, varying from those of the skilled building trade operative, for example—whose name may appear on the register only for an hour or two—through the variety of intermittent periods of work inherent in such occupations as dock labourers and seamen, and the well-defined times of slack employment in seasonal trades,

*Cmd. 2736. H. M. Stationery Office; price, 3s. net.

to the long and continuous idleness which during these years has been endemic in certain industries and in the areas where those industries are chiefly placed. Industrially as well as socially, the term unemployment covers many differences of circumstances, and a simple generalisation from aggregate figures may involve a complex distortion of fact. Thus, registers of 5000 at a London Exchange and at an Exchange in a coal valley differ in many respects. The London register will cover a variety of trades and industries; its personnel changes, and the turnover, or rate of change is rapid. It will include a number who remain on the register for considerable periods, but the majority will be registered for short, though perhaps frequent, spells; despite the size of the register there may be appreciable trade activity in the area. In the coal valley, on the other hand, a register of this figure will consist almost entirely of colliery workers. It may rise from 50 or 60 to 5000 over the week-end, if two or three pits stop work. The personnel changes little, and the excess may disappear with equal suddenness. But if it remains it means that the whole economic life of the district is out of gear.

The total number of registrations in 1925 in Great Britain (including re-registrations of the same persons) was 12,728,238, as compared with 11,262,887 in 1924, 8,774,644 in 1923, and 8,819,523 in 1922. Of the registrations in 1925, 8,815,666 were men, 2,952,214 women, and 960,358 juveniles (under 18 years of age); the corresponding figures for 1924 were 7,526,355 men, 2,823,405 women, and 913,127 juveniles.

The trade groups in which the largest number of registrations of men were recorded during the last four years were:—engineering; building; transport; general labourers; shipbuilding; mining and quarrying; metal manufacture; cotton. The above is the order in which these various groups were affected in 1922; the order did not greatly differ in the other years, except that mining and quarrying rose to the second place in 1924 and to the first place in 1925. The corresponding groups for women were cotton; domestic service; dress; miscellaneous textiles commercial; food, tobacco, drink, etc.; woollen; paper, printing, etc.; engineering; transport; pottery, glass, etc. In each year the greatest number of registrations was in the cotton trade; next in magnitude comes domestic service, followed by dress in 1922, 1923 and 1924, and by woollen in 1925.

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

	Vacancies notified	Vacancies filled
1922	839,633	697,036
1923	1,056,970	893,713
1924	1,345,394	1,143,742
1925	1,480,820	1,279,292

The vacancies notified have been distributed between men, women and juveniles in the following proportions (taking the average of the last four years):—men, 54 per cent.; women, 28 per cent.; and juveniles, 18 per cent. The corresponding percentages for vacancies filled are men, 58; women, 24; juveniles, 18.

Another section of the Report deals with the national scheme for the employment of disabled ex-service men (the King's National Roll). Employers who give an undertaking to employ a stated percentage of disabled ex-service men (normally five per cent.) have their names entered on the Roll. The number of special local committees assisting in administering this scheme is now 253. The Minister of Labour announced in October 1925, that the Government proposed to ask Parliament to pass a resolution restricting Government contracts to firms on the Roll. This practice is also adopted by 544 local authorities.

Other subjects dealt with under the heading of employment include local employment committees; port labour; juvenile employment; oversea employment; duties under the Aliens Order, 1920, etc.

Unemployment Insurance.—The Report refers to the changes introduced by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1925, and to changes in the Unemployment Insurance Acts consequential on the Widows, Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act 1925. The terms upon which compliance with the first statutory condition for the receipt of benefit (which requires the payment of 30 contributions within the last two or three years) might be waived were revised during the year; a special investigation into the administration of unemployment benefit was initiated; and Lord Blanesburgh's Committee on Unemployment Insurance was set up. The rest of the chapter deals with the central and local administration of unemployment insurance under the headings of *contributions* (rates of contribution; amounts of contribution from employers, from workpeople, and from the State; method of collecting contributions, and enforcement of payment; issue and exchange of unemployment books; repayments at age 60, and compensatory payments in lieu thereof, etc.); the determination of *questions of insurability; benefit* (rates, periods, and conditions; waiting period; extended benefit; determination of claims; prosecution of fraudulent claimants; payment of benefit through associations, etc.); *special schemes* (in the banking and insurance industries); *cost of administration; finance of the scheme, etc.*

An appendix to this chapter gives the substance of certain specially important decisions of the Umpire, dealing with the trade dispute disqualification; with the questions whether applicants are "genuinely seeking work," or are "unable to obtain suitable employment," and with the application of Section 1 (4) of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924. Another appendix gives a summary of the general information obtained from special investigations.

Trade Boards.—The Report refers to the investigation made into the light refreshment and dining-room section of the catering trade, the meat distributive trade, the drapery and allied distributive trades, and the grocery trades, the results of which have since been published. The descriptions of certain trades were altered during the year; and a new Trade Board was established—the Drift Nets Mending Trade Board (Great Britain)—consequent upon the amendment of the Rope, Twine and Net Order, 1919. Two separate Trade Boards, for England and Wales and for Scotland, respectively, have been established in the retail

bespoke tailoring trade, in place of the one Board which previously covered the whole of Great Britain. Other sections of this chapter deal with Trade Board minimum rates, with the proceedings of Trade Boards, and with inspection and enforcement (including special inquiries).

Labour Statistics.—Statistics are given in the Report dealing with industrial disputes, employment exchanges, unemployment, changes in rates of wages, changes in cost of living, membership of trade unions, the work of Trade Boards, and various other subjects.

International Labour Division.—The Report mentions the leading events in the history of the International Labour Office during the year. There were five meetings of the Governing Body, and one session of the International Labour Conference; also an international conference of labour statisticians. The Report also states the present position as regards the ratification and acceptance of certain Conventions and Recommendations of the International Labour Conference.

Training of the Unemployed.—The Report refers to the courses of training for young unemployed men at Birmingham, Wallsend, Claydon (near Ipswich), and Brandon (Suffolk), which were opened at various dates between October 1925, and February 1926. The Report observes:—

"It is, of course, still too early to say how far this experimental scheme of training will achieve its objects, but the results obtained by the end of the year were encouraging. By 31st December 1925, over 550 men had already entered training at the Birmingham centre, more than 150 who started the course on 20th October having already left in order to take up employment. The improvement in the morale and the general bearing of the men undergoing training has been most marked. They have taken most readily, indeed enthusiastically, to their work, and the regular hours and discipline, with the new hope of employment which the training opens up, have changed their outlook on life. There was no difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of men likely to respond to the facilities offered to them and to give value for the money expended upon them."

The Report also gives an account of the proceedings during the year of the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment.

(From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September, 1926.)

Technical Education

A travelling manual training school has just been completed in the Ipswich workshops (Great Britain) to the order of the Department of Public Instruction, Queensland. This car is built in conformity with the principle established by the building of domestic science travelling schools and is intended to provide technical training in subjects such as woodwork, sheet metal-work and leather-work in outlying districts where tuition of this nature is at present unobtainable.

The training school comprises a specially built forty-foot car, fitted with backboards, work-benches, vices, forge (with blower) and anvil, material storage facilities, tool-lockers and cupboards for the complete equipment necessary to each trade.

It is intended that this vehicle will stay at each centre for about five weeks in order that classes of boys may be given a reasonable amount of tuition and instruction. It is proposed that the car should be accompanied by one of the travelling domestic science schools, and by temporarily suspending all other teaching in the fifth class of the local school during the time the travelling school is located at the railway station boys and girls of that standard will receive full-time vocational instruction covering what would normally be one year's work in the State school classes conducted at technical colleges. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 13, 1926.)

Employment in Lancashire

Employment was still bad, and worse than a year ago; but there was some improvement in August in most districts as compared with the previous month, partly owing to an increase in the available supplies of foreign coal, and partly to the further adaptation of plant to the use of oil fuel. In the American spinning section the mills as a rule were still only working alternate weeks or the equivalent, and in some cases even less; in the Egyptian spinning section the operatives were fairly well employed. In the weaving section the depression continued to be severe, and there were extensive stoppages during the month. The local trade holidays were prolonged by many firms.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 23.5 on the 23rd August, as compared with 28.2 on the 26th July 1926, and with 13.2 on the 24th August 1925.

In the Oldham, Ashton, Stockport and Stalybridge districts employment with spinners continued bad, and was much worse than a year ago; firms stopped for a week at a time, and in some cases for longer periods, partly owing to bad trade and partly to shortage of coal. There was, however, some decline in the number unemployed as compared with July. In the weaving departments in the Oldham district employment was also bad, and worse than a year ago.

At Bolton there was some improvement in the spinning section, though stoppages owing to the coal shortage were still prevalent; in the weaving section employment remained bad. At Leigh employment was described as good with spinners; at Chorley it was fair. At Bury a temporary improvement in the spinning section was reported; at Rochdale employment continued bad.

In all the principal weaving centres employment continued very depressed. At Burnley employment continued very bad; a large number

of mills were closed down pending the settlement of the coal dispute, and others were working alternate weeks.

At Blackburn the shortage and high price of fuel produced an exceptional amount of intermittent employment; but there was some decline in unemployment as compared with a month earlier. At Accrington a number of firms were closed down through fuel shortage; there was also, as for some time past, under-employment at a number of mills. At Darwen the partial solution of the fuel difficulties resulted in a considerable reduction in the number of unemployed; but alternate weeks were still being worked at several mills, and six mills were still closed down at the end of the month. At Nelson there was little change as compared with the previous month; much under-employment was still reported, weavers working two or three looms instead of four. At Preston the position, apart from the fuel shortage, was unsatisfactory, though there was an increase in the number of mills at work at the end of the month. At Todmorden, most of the weavers were working very irregularly, from one to three days a week. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.)

Ministry of Health's Report

The annual report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health for the year 1925 is, on the whole, an encouraging document. Sir George Newman, it is true, does not mince matters. We still need as a nation "fuller production and an enlarged and healthier life." He does not deal, of course, in detail with the first need, but he says, truly enough, "to possess potential physical capacity is one thing; to be willing, or to have the desire, to use it to productive ends is another. A nation cannot be efficient unless it both possesses and uses this capacity." All that might be done is not yet done to secure physical capacity. Apart altogether from terrible diseases such as cancer and tuberculosis, there is much preventable loss. It is saddening to think that with a falling birth-rate no fewer than 10,000 children died in 1925 from measles and whooping cough, maladies in which mortality is preventable; that in the same year maternal mortality was higher than the average of the previous decade, that 'general invalidity and physical incapacity cost us among insured persons only the equivalent of twelve months' work of half a million people.' In other words neglect, and largely neglect among young children, has in the year been more harmful than the direct effects of the prolonged coal strike. To what extent these appalling losses are due to negligence of local sanitary authorities it is not possible to estimate, but that there is such negligence in some cases Sir George Newman makes clear. He pleads for knowledge, co-operation, thorough inspection, and prompt and wise administration. Local authorities throughout the country will lay this advice to heart. Those attributes are already characteristic of many authorities. Sir George Newman urges the universal need of them. For instance, he points out that where maternity and

infant welfare centres are efficiently and comprehensively conducted, "the effect on the infant mortality and on child welfare generally has been astonishing." He goes on to declare that "an authority which does not provide for the protection of maternity and infancy in its area is directly negligent of its duty."

The chief medical officer takes the point that the five principal groups of disease are the "end-results of the reaction of the human body to the process of disease set up at an earlier stage." By sound nutrition and healthy living the body can be fortified against infection. A direct deduction from this principle is that the process of fortification must be begun early. Preventive medicine must play a direct part in school and pre-school life. One of the most cheering features of the report is that the low level of infant mortality in 1925 implies a better physical condition in children from one to five years of age "and a more enlightened understanding of personal and public hygiene." The school medical service preaches the doctrine of preventive medicine on all sides, but there is great variation still in the attitude of local authorities to the sermons preached. The weak point of our national health system is the neglect of the health of boys and girls after school life is ended. This particular aspect of the national health problem is not specially dealt with in this report, but there cannot be any doubt that much of the "general invalidity and physical incapacity" that is playing havoc with industrial efficiency has root in this neglect of juvenile life. It would be unsound to lay much stress on the fact that the number of deaths between the ages of fifteen and nineteen slightly increased in the year 1925, but the fact is not without significance. Yet the main wastage is impaired general health which leads to disaster in the battle of adult life.

The report, however, is one that inspires new hope. There has come into existence what Sir George Newman calls "a communal impulse for health." It stands for the triumph of the human spirit over preventable evils, and it is a force thrusting forward the whole community to new achievements. The chief medical officer lays great stress on the steady growth of the Insurance Medical Service in efficiency and in public utility and estimation, and on the wider social understanding of national health. The great health services are giving men and women the power to enjoy a new sense of security and health of life, and there is a steady development in the social consciousness of the value and significance of personal and national health. The truth is that preventive medicine is closely allied to a moral force in social life. Preventive medicine is impossible without co-operation, without the realization of the bonds that knit together all classes of the community. It is Christianity in action. To preventive medicine the slum, the slum mind, and the slum-owner are all equally intolerable. Good environment, good habits, social unselfishness are both the means and the goal of preventive medicine. In the great movement which has as its aim national, moral and physical health the school and the school teacher must play, and indeed are playing, a great part. (From "Times Educational Supplement," London, September 11, 1926.)

The British Trades Union Congress

The fifty-eighth annual Trades Union Congress was held at Bournemouth on 6th September 1926 under the Presidency of Mr. A. Pugh, Chairman of the General Council.

The number of delegates appointed to attend the Congress was 697; the number of organisations affiliated to the Congress (including those organisations, with a membership of about 100,000, which did not appoint delegates) was 174 with a membership of approximately 4,365,000.

The proceedings of the Congress opened with the address of the President after which the General Council's Report was discussed. There was little discussion on the sections of the Report dealt with on the first day, but resolutions were adopted, (i) calling upon the Government to extend the principle of Unemployment Insurance to the agricultural industry, and (ii) protesting against workers in one occupation being prevented from following other occupations, and in particular condemning "the attempts being made to keep farmworkers on the land by refusing them employment in sugar beet factories, and the indirect encouragement which is being given to these attempts by the Ministry of Labour." A composite resolution was also passed calling upon the Government to amend the Workmen's Compensation.

A resolution demanding that there should be no differentiation between the rates of unemployment insurance benefit paid to single men and to single women was lost.

The principal discussions of the second day were concerned with (i) Trade Union Organization; (ii) Education and (iii) the Emergency Powers Act. Two resolutions were also passed, the first urging upon parents and guardians the importance of exerting their influence to induce young people of their own families to join a trade union as soon as eligible and the second protesting against the decision of the Minister of Labour to abolish the Grocery and Provision Trade Boards and not to establish Trade Boards in the meat distributive, catering and drapery and allied trades.

On the third day a long discussion took place upon the section of the General Council's Report dealing with industrial disputes. On the fourth day a motion to refer back the Report of the General Council on account of the inadequacy of a paragraph relating to the mining situation and the National Strike was defeated by a very large majority.

A resolution calling upon Government to institute an International Convention for the purpose of fixing an international minimum wage standard as a necessary corollary to the forty-eight hours' convention, and, pending such convention, to prohibit the importation of goods produced abroad under unsatisfactory conditions, was lost. An emergency resolution was passed expressing appreciation of national and international financial assistance given to the unions.

Consideration of the Report of the General Council was completed on the fifth day. An emergency resolution was adopted on the right of the Civil Service Organisations to affiliate with outside industrial and political

bodies. Another emergency resolution protested against the Guardians Default Act, 1926.

The proceedings of the Congress on the sixth day included the adoption of an emergency resolution concerning the action of the British and the Japanese Governments in China.

The election of the General Council resulted in the return of all the old members, with two exceptions. Mr. W. M. Citrine, the Acting Secretary, was unanimously elected general secretary. (Abstracted from the "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.)

Hours of Work in Belgium

On 28th July last the Belgian Senate adopted the Bill for the unconditional ratification of the Washington Hours Convention. An analysis will be found below of the important debate which took place in the Senate during the discussion of this Bill. The debate was the result of considerable preparatory work, and it may be well, therefore, to give a detailed summary of the report, submitted on behalf of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Senate, by Mr. Lafontaine, on the subject of the Bill.

The report recalls the fact that a long discussion of the Bill took place in the Senate, dealing mainly with the question of the position of inferiority in which Belgian industries would be placed *vis-a-vis* Belgium's industrial competitors in the event of the ratification of the Convention.

Mr. Lafontaine's report endeavours to allay this fear by means of statistics showing that the Belgian Act 14th June 1921 on the Eight Hour Day has in no way reduced the industrial production of the country. This may be seen from the following figures showing the production of various essential Belgian industries in comparison with 1913 (1913=100).

	1921	1922	1923	1924
Coal	95.4	90.9	100.3	102.3
Coke	39.6	80.8	118.7	118.0
Pig-iron	35.1	64.9	88.0	113.0
Crude steel	29.9	63.7	93.1	115.5
Finished steel	45.0	72.4	95.2	128.0
Sheet glass	43.5	80.8	87.1	98.3
Mirror glass	61.4	106.7	159.3	137.6
Raw sugar	107.7	115.5	119.2	153.5
Refined sugar	94.5	141.0	118.9	116.7
Cotton	68.2	84.6	92.2	96.6

From these figures Mr. Lafontaine deduces that Belgian workers have shown their capability of adapting themselves to more intensive and rapid methods of production. He takes the view that it is for the chiefs of industry in the country to supply their workers with an equipment which will increase their average production and reduce cost prices. This is the policy which he recommends as an immediate necessity in order to produce a large quantity of reliable goods quickly and cheaply.

Mr. Lafontaine also emphasises the importance of the Conference of the Labour Ministers of Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and Italy which met in London in March last. He thinks that his meeting should be considered as an honourable undertaking entered into by the States represented at London not to delay the ratification of the Convention. In his view Belgium in honouring this undertaking, is doing no more than her duty and so setting the great industrial countries an example of loyalty and confidence which cannot but elevate her in that well-merited esteem in which she is already held in international public opinion.

Mr. Lafontaine also recalls the fact that the authors of Part XIII of the Treaty of Versailles have already recognised the fact that "the well-being, physical, moral and intellectual of industrial wage-earners is of supreme international importance" and adds that, from the practical point of view, the aim to be pursued is "to ensure every man a decent living, with work which does not exhaust him, and also such spare time as will allow him to devote himself to his family and give both him and his family access in some degree to the higher regions of art and culture."

The Foreign Affairs Committee pronounced unanimously, with the exception of one vote, in favour of the Bill adopted by the Chamber.

It was on the basis of the above report that the Senate had to take a decision.

In the course of the debate Mr. Wauters observed that at the moment of the Ruhr occupation the German authorities had imagined a nine and ten hour day to be a solution of all ills. Now, however, there were in Germany 2,000,000 unemployed. In Great Britain also, where the normal working week was not 48 hours, but often 44 and 45 hours, there had been for the last four or five years about 1½ million unemployed. In these circumstances it was very difficult to draw conclusions against the eight hour day from the standpoint of general economic development. Moreover, all those who had studied the question closely and those who had conducted impartial investigations in different countries had come to the conclusion that the reduction of working hours was a factor in economic progress. If there were certain industries which were merely struggling along or which were not giving such favourable terms as others, the real cause, said Mr. Wauters, was that they had not yet made any real attempts at organisation. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 13, 1926.)

Unemployment Among Young People

DECLINE OF APPRENTICESHIP

The Bristol Advisory Committee for Juvenile Employment, in presenting their annual report for 1925, which has just been published by H.M. Stationery Office, express serious concern at the long continued depression in trade and the consequent deterioration, through the lack of suitable employment, of young people.

Although matters seem to be slowly improving, they state that a problem of juvenile unemployment of formidable proportions still faces them. During the year over 10,000 applications for employment were received, and throughout the year the number of juveniles on the current register was between 600 and 800. Increased use of the Exchange was made both by employers and employed, and no fewer than 2,877 vacancies were filled during the year.

The slackness in the skilled trades and the decline of apprenticeship, and the fact that, even of those who had been fortunate to secure employment, a very large number were worthy of better and more promising posts, are features of the situation, described as disquieting. The prolonged depression in the engineering, furnishing, and other skilled trades and the increased tendency towards mass production on the American plan make the prospects in these trades very dubious for even a skilled man, and consequently there seems to be a growing feeling of distrust towards apprenticeship even when available, coupled with a serious dearth of apprenticeships for those willing to undertake them.

The question of oversea settlement has received the Committee's constant attention, the report states. No effort has been spared to bring the particulars of the schemes before boys registered at the Exchange and their parents. In most cases, however, the parents have a natural reluctance to allow their sons to go so far from home, and, on the whole, it cannot be said that any large number either of boys or their parents find the idea of oversea settlement attractive.

With regard to co-operation with public and secondary schools, the Committee refer to the difficulty of placing young people from good schools and state that it is extremely discouraging to parents who have perhaps sacrificed themselves in order to give their boy or girl a good education to find that there is no demand for the children's services. The fact remains that there are not sufficient good posts to absorb the young people leaving these schools, and it is extremely difficult to suggest any opening which can really give scope for their training and abilities. (*From "Times Educational Supplement," London, August 28, 1926.*)

Unemployment Insurance in Australia

NATIONAL SCHEME RECOMMENDED BY ROYAL COMMISSION

Establishment of an unemployment council for the Commonwealth, and a system of insurance against unemployment, are recommended in the second progress report of the Royal Commission on National Insurance.

The Commission states that, although it is not possible to obtain exact figures as to the volume and incidence of unemployment, sufficient evidence is available to indicate that unemployment is a prevalent factor at certain periods of the year. Secondary industries dependent to some extent on finance are subject to considerable unemployment; some are subject to the vagaries of industry and financial weather. Of the iron, steel and engineering industry it is said that, notwithstanding the measure of

protection provided, there is a fairly large percentage of unemployment. Fluctuations in industry would be considerably reduced if the monetary and banking system were so arranged as to lessen oscillations in the cost of living. Considerable areas of productive land were not yet used, or only put to limited use. On the other hand, agriculture was becoming less and less an avenue of employment because of the increasing use of machinery. A smaller number of men is required to produce the necessaries of life than formerly.

While the percentage of population engaged in the industrial group remained almost stationary from 1891 to 1921, the value of manufacturing production increased from £127,000,000 in 1921 to £132,000,000 in 1923-24. An abundance of raw materials now exported could be advanced several stages toward the finalised article here, especially in the woollen industry. More than three-quarters the value of the wool clip is paid away for imports of apparel, textiles and manufactured fibres alone. Owing to the importation of timber, which has been cut and milled by cheap foreign labour, the local mills in many cases have been unable successfully to compete against the imported article. From 1920 to 1924 (inclusive) it is estimated that 7,796,760 working days and £6,285,574 in wages were lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in industrial disputes in Australia. Under the Queensland unemployment insurance scheme, each insured employee contributes 3d. a week, the employer 3d., and the Government 3d. Of the total of 150,000 contributors, about 25,000 draw sustenance in one year. The fund at 30th June 1925 had an accumulated surplus of £168,962. The Act only claims to relieve distress without recourse to charity.

It should be possible, the report states, to regulate public works so that the heaviest demand for labour would be made in winter; a reserve of 10 per cent. on average annual construction expenditure would tend to level out fluctuations. Industries which provide seasonal employment should be organised and co-ordinated. For the co-ordination of employment agencies, to aid in the transfer of labour according to demand, Government control was desirable. It was essential that facilities for technical training and apprenticeship should be considerably extended.

A summary of the recommendations is as follows:—

(a) That an Unemployment Council, comprising representatives appointed by the Government, the employers' organisations, and the trade unions, be constituted—To establish and supervise a national system of employment bureaux throughout Australia; to regulate and supervise the existing private labour exchanges; to collect, tabulate, and analyse detailed statistical data as to the supply of, and demand for, employment in the various industries, throughout the year; to conduct special inquiries as to the incidence and causation of unemployment in the various industries; to co-operate with private employers, Government departments, and local authorities in an endeavour to provide avenues of employment and to regulate the demand for labour; to co-operate with the education departments in an endeavour to institute an effective and extensive system of technical training; to

co-operate with the immigration departments with respect to the employment of immigrants; and to regularly furnish detailed information as to the trend of employment.

(b) That a system of insurance against unemployment be instituted to meet those risks which are found to be unavoidable, and where assistance to necessitous cases is warranted.

The Commonwealth Statistician, it is reported by the Commission, has estimated that, on the basis of an average rate of 7 per cent. unemployment in Australia, the following rates of contribution would provide for the payment of unemployment benefit to insured members on the assumption that (a) the benefit started from the commencement of unemployment; (b) the right to benefit commenced at the date of insurance; (c) benefits were payable irrespective of the duration of unemployment:—

Unemployment benefit per week	Weekly contribution required when benefit is supplemented by child allowance of—	
	4s. per week	5s. per week
20s.	s. d. 1 10	s. d. 1 11
30s.	2 7	2 8
40s.	3 4	3 5

(From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, September 2, 1926.)

Italy's Economic Position

Of the regulations recently promulgated by the Italian Government for the purpose of increasing production and reducing the cost of manufactured goods, the most important is the one which abolishes the eight-hour day. Other regulations forbid the opening of new bars, cafés, taverns, tearooms, and cabarets. Until 30th June 1927, no new buildings may be commenced except public works, industrial and agricultural constructions, and houses for manual and middle class workers. Wine producers must supply to distilleries fixed quantities of wine for the extraction of alcohol. From 1st November next all petrol used for automobiles must be mixed with alcohol in a proportion to be fixed later. Daily newspapers must not consist of more than six pages. This is intended to restrict the imports of wood pulp, which have become formidable on account of the demands of the artificial silk trade. The idea of using alcohol extracted from the surplus wine production in order to reduce the consumption of petrol is obviously adapted to a country which produces a great deal of wine and no mineral oil. The regulation as to working hours means that overtime rates of pay will commence after nine hours have been worked instead of eight. Employers are free to avail themselves of this privilege or not, as they choose. (From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, September 9, 1926.)

Co-operation and Competition

Mr. Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, in his address before the Fourteenth meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce made the following remarks:

"There is a marked change during this last twenty-five years in the attitude of employers and employees towards wages and conditions of labour, especially in the larger units of production and service and the larger trade unions. It is not so many years ago that the employer considered it was in his interest to use the opportunities of unemployment and immigration to lower wages irrespective of other considerations.

"The lowest wages and longest hours were then conceived as the means to attain lowest production costs and largest profits. Nor is it many years ago that our labour unions considered that the maximum of jobs and the greatest security in a job were to be attained by restricting individual effort.

"But we are a long way on the road to new conceptions. The very essence of great production is high wages and low prices. It depends upon a widening range of consumption from high real wages and increasing standards of living. To-day the majority of employers in times of desperation exhaust every device to make ends meet before resorting to wage reduction.

"They turn to labour-saving machinery to constant research for better processes and better administrative methods. In turn, the pressure of high wages is forcing labour-saving devices and better administration to an extent which oft-times reduces labour costs per unit of production below even those of the cheaper labour abroad.

"There is no more profound proof of labour-saving than the fact we to-day use roughly 55,000,000 horsepower in industry where we used 13,000,000 a quarter of a century ago, and even that omits the increase in power for transportation. Nor are these labour-saving methods developing harder conditions of labour, for the hours of labour have been steadily lessened.

"Parallel with this conception there has been an equal revolution in the views of labour.

"No one will doubt that labour has always accepted the dictum of the high wage; but labour has only gradually come to the view that unrestricted individual effort, driving of machinery to its utmost, and elimination of every waste in production are the only secure foundations upon which a high real wage can be built, because the greater the production the greater will be the quantity to divide.

"Our original trade unions sprang from the Old World labour movement and naturally adopted its conceptions. But the demonstration of the enormous distance which our organised labour has travelled from the tenets of the Old World needs no further proof than the new vision of wages crystallised by the American Federation of Labour at its last annual meeting. The background of those proposals is an urge for improved methods, elimination of waste, increase of production, and participation by labour in the resulting gains.

"The acceptance of these ideas is obviously not universal. Not all employers, not all businesses, have these conceptions, nor has every union abandoned the fallacy of restricted individual effort as the basis of service. But the tendency for both employer and employee to think in terms of the mutual interest of increased production has gained greatly in strength.

"It is a long cry from the conceptions of the old economics. And it has all contributed profoundly to improvement in the whole basis of employer and employee relationship over a large area of industry, and to the constant growth of national efficiency.

"Another marked tendency of the last twenty-five years is the notable growth of a higher sense of co-operation in the whole community. It is true enough to say that the modern system of fine division of labour and specialisation in business is in essence co-operation itself; it is, however, unconscious co-operation. What I refer to is conscious co-operation.

"It is true also that a quarter of a century ago we were adept enough in combination for abuse in control of price and of production. But we have gradually evolved a co-operation that is of positive public service.

The central theme of the Fourteenth meeting was that private business should work out its own problems and raise its own ethical standards with a minimum of government interference and regulation. The closer co-operation between business needs and different countries was deemed essential for future peace and prosperity. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 6, 1926.)

Labour Conditions in Australia in 1925

COST OF LIVING AND WAGES—MANY INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

From the Commonwealth Statistician's Office the annual Labour Report for 1925 has been issued. The arrangement of the various sections has been altered somewhat, but the principal details are given on similar lines to those adopted in previous issues. The matter has been divided into four main chapters, covering information on prices, wages, employment and associations respectively. This arrangement will facilitate ready comparison of cognate matters. Thus all information dealing with comparisons of price levels is now gathered together in the one chapter instead of, as in the earlier issues, being given in various separated parts of the report.

Wholesale prices decreased during 1925 by 2.2 per cent. but retail prices increased by 3.1 per cent.

The cost of housing accommodation increased by 2 per cent., the combined increase of food, groceries, and housing accommodation being 2.7 per cent. The average cost of food, groceries, and rent of houses having five rooms was 4.9 per cent. greater in November 1925 than in November 1924.

Operations under Arbitration and Wages Boards Acts in the year resulted in the making of 320 awards or determinations. In addition, 182 agreements were arrived at by parties and later registered in the courts.

At the end of 1925 there were 1181 awards or determinations of wage-fixing tribunals, and 607 industrial agreements in force throughout the Commonwealth. Changes in rates of wage brought about by these awards, determinations and agreements in 1925 affected 1,262,209 persons, and resulted in an average increase of 1s. 11d. per week. The average nominal rate of wage at the end of December 1925 was for males 96s. 9d. and for females 50s. 7d. compared with 95s. 10d. and 50s. 2d. respectively for 1924.

While wage rates increased in 1925, the cost of food, groceries and housing also increased and at a slightly greater rate, consequently, effective or real wages were lower in 1925 than in 1924. There was a further decrease in the year in the average number of hours constituting a week's work as fixed by awards, etc. The average at the end of 1925 was 46.44 hours compared with 46.66 in 1924 and 48.93 in 1914. An international comparison of wages and cost of food shows that, on the basis therein described, real wages are highest in Philadelphia, followed in the order named by Ottawa, Melbourne, London, Copenhagen.

Industrial disputes to the number of 499 were recorded in 1925, involving directly and indirectly 1,128,570 workpeople, and resulting in an estimated loss in wages of £1,107,544. Interesting figures relating to industrial disputes are given for the years 1921 to 1925 from which the following is extracted:—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Number of disputes ..	624	445	274	504	499
Number of Workers involved ..	165,101	116,332	76,321	152,446	176,746
Working days lost ..	1,286,185	858,685	1,145,977	918,646	1,128,570
Loss in Wages ..	£970,475	£751,507	£1,275,506	£917,699	£1,107,544

From the above figures it is seen that over the five years dealt with, there were 2346 industrial disputes in Australia, 686,946 workers were directly or indirectly involved, and lost 5,338,063 working days. As a result of those disputes £5,022,731 was lost in wages alone. Tables are given showing the causes, methods of settlement and result of those industrial disputes. The average percentage of unemployment recorded by trade unions in 1925 was 8.8 compared with 8.9 for the immediately preceding year. While the number of trade unions in the Commonwealth was less in 1925 than in 1924, the membership increased from 729,155 to 795,722 of whom 699,399 were males and 96,323 females. The membership of employers' associations increased from 77,930 in 1924 to 103,350 in 1925. (From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, September 16, 1926.)

Labour Disputes in Sweden, 1905-1924

The Swedish Central Statistical Office has drawn up a report on labour disputes during the twenty-year period 1905-1924.

The total number of stoppages of work due to various causes was 5638 during this period. By far the largest number (5073) were due to strikes; 223 were due to lockouts, and 342 to disputes of a mixed nature.

During the twenty-year period 1,196,082 workers and 32,339 employers were involved in labour disputes. The total number of working days lost was as high as 54,209,226.

The strikes affected 769,327 workers and 23,904 employers, the lockouts 201,343 workers and 3853 employers, and the mixed disputes 265,384 workers and 4692 employers.

The majority of the disputes during the twenty-year period were due to wage questions, which were the cause of no less than 4118 out of the total. In 488 cases the dispute was due to question of organization, and in the remaining 1032 cases the causes were classified as unknown.

As regards the results of the disputes, the majority ended in a compromise (2498 cases). The employers' conditions were accepted by the workers in 1393 disputes in all, and the workers' demands were satisfied in 1089 cases. The other disputes during the period were settled in a manner unknown to the authorities. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 30, 1926.)

Wage Agreements in Germany

In comparison with 1922, the number of wage agreements in Germany has declined considerably. At the end of 1922 there were 10,768 agreements covering 890,237 concerns, and on 1st January 1925, only 7099 agreements, covering 785,945 concerns. At the end of 1922, 14,300,000 workers were covered by wages agreements, while at the end of 1924, the corresponding number was only 13,100,000. The decline in the number of agreements is principally due to (1) concentration in the centres of production; and (2) the trade slump: the decline in the number of workers covered by wages agreements is due to (1) large discharges of manual and non-manual workers in consequence of the use of labour-saving machinery; (2) the technical reconstruction of factories; (3) the dismissal of many non-manual workers who were needed only during the inflation period, etc.

The parties concluding the agreements are, in the case of workers, only associations, while in the case of employers there are single firms as well as organisations. But in general, there has been an increase in the number of agreements covering whole unions, so that on 1st January 1925, 86.7 per cent. of the workers coming under wage agreements were under union agreements. There has been a corresponding decline in the number of local agreements. Most numerous of all are the district agreements. Of the 11,900,000 workers officially registered on 1st January 1925, 11,660,000 (89.6 per cent.) were working under district or national wage agreements. The apprentice system was regulated in 16.5 per cent. of the wage agreements concluded in 1924. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, September 16, 1926.)

Employment and Earnings of Men and Women in the United States

From a communication issued by the New York State Department of Labor it would appear that the earnings of men in the New York State factories are about twice as high as those of women. This is the outstanding fact in a study of employment and earnings of men and women in manufacturing industries published, by direction of the Industrial Commissioner, Mr. James A. Hamilton. Women work in different trades and occupations from those of men; but, taking all places open to women and all those open to men in factories, the average earnings for men in 1924-1925 was 31.36 dollars a week and that for women was 17.45 dollars, or about 56 per cent. of the earnings received by the men.

The report stresses the narrow range of occupations open to women. There are few or no industries, even in the food and sewing groups, where men form less than 20 per cent. of the total number of workers; but there are many industries where women make up less than one per cent. of all the workers. Over 60 per cent. of all the women in factories are in either the clothing or the textile groups, and the food industries take ten per cent. more. Women are only slightly represented in the important metals group, and very few are at work on wood products or the manufacture of building materials like cement and brick, where employment has been unusually high in the last two years.

The report also emphasises the fact that irregular employment, either for seasonal or any other reasons, generally falls most heavily on women workers. Women are much more likely to feel the effects of seasonal unemployment than men. In the type of seasonal industry where the whole force is subject to irregular employment, as in the sewing trades, women are more likely than men to be unemployed. In other types of seasonal work, such as the sweet factories, where a steady force is maintained throughout the year and extra workers are hired for the busy season, these extra workers are almost entirely women.

Pay-rolls show, even more than employment, the irregularity to which women workers are subject. The difference in earnings between the slack and the busy season is much greater for women than for men.

In the matter of employment women furnish an unexpectedly large proportion of the workers in the irregular or subsidiary industries and in those where the development of highly industrialised organisation has been developed to only a slight degree. They furnish also a large share of the irregular forces in the more highly organised industries.

The study of the individual manufacturing industries, which constitutes the bulk of the report, shows clearly how greatly is the amount of unemployment which continues in good times and bad.

One of the most impressive facts brought out in the whole study is the large reserve of labour necessary to maintain the working force which appears on the pay-rolls of each industry. At all times, whether the volume of employment is increasing or decreasing, currents of labour are moving in both directions. The figures indicate only the net change;

but beyond that, the employment of a much larger number of people is affected. A few industries are always expanding their sphere of operations, and their demands are an offset to reductions in the volume of employment, but only by providing work for people previously unemployed. In other factories workers are constantly being discharged and help to form that reserve of surplus labour which persists through good times and bad. In this outer circle of the half-employed the proportion of women is relatively greater than that of men. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 20, 1926.)

Working Hours in Switzerland

FACTORY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

In the reports of the Federal Inspectors of Factories, which have just appeared, it is stated that the week of forty-eight hours has become the custom, but the proprietors and workers recognize that advantage may be taken to a large extent of the permission given by the law to prolong the working period to fifty-two hours when special reasons justify this course. These circumstances certainly exist to-day, when the struggle in the export markets with competing industries of countries having depreciated exchanges has become unequal.

In Switzerland there is some difficulty in establishing uniform conditions of work, because the application of the law is a matter of the Cantons, and there is a considerable difference in the interpretations which the various authorities give. The adoption of the fifty-two-hour week, provided by Article 41 of the Law, was almost equal in the two years 1924-1925, but applications for permits were more numerous in 1925 than in 1924. The improvement in business was partly responsible, and it is unquestionable that the permission given by Article 41 was a very great advantage to industry during the period when, owing to the sudden fall in prices, it was necessary to adjust values to the world level, to take account of the variations in exchange, and to effect quick deliveries. These conditions could not have been realized without an increase in working hours.

Permits have often been asked for a short period with the object of effecting quick delivery. The initial permit is only granted for twenty days at a time; for each renewal a charge must be paid, together with a supplementary wage of 25 per cent. to the workpeople. One fact which deserves notice is the opposition which certain manufacturers or groups of manufacturers are making to the return of a fixed forty-eight-hour week. In the whole of Switzerland there were 2783 extensions of working hours in 1922; 3668 in 1923; 4352 in 1924; and 4150 in 1925. The silk, secondary textile, clothing, machinery, and watch industries were among those which in 1925 extended their working hours compared with 1924. (From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, September 11 1926.)

Labour Conditions in Japan

ENFORCEMENT OF LEGISLATION

The Factory (Amendment) Act, the Minimum Age of Industrial Workers Act, and the Home Department Regulation amending the existing regulations relating to the conditions of work of miners came into force on 1st July 1926.

The two Acts mentioned were originally passed in 1923, and were brought into operation by Imperial Orders, accompanied by Departmental Regulations, promulgated on 7th June 1926.

A summary of the chief provisions of these Acts, Orders and Regulations is given below.

THE NEW FACTORY ACT

Scope

The previous Act applied only to factories in which fifteen or more persons were employed. The new Act applies, in principle, to factories employing ten or more persons.

Exemption was given from the previous Act, by the Order for its enforcement, to certain classes of industry, irrespective of the number of persons employed, provided that no mechanically driven machinery was used. The Imperial Order relating to the new Act removes from this list of exempted industries the following:—

The manufacture of confectionery, glucose (*ame*) and bread.

The manufacture of various kinds of *sake* (rice wine), vinegar, *shoyu* (sauce), and *miso* (soya bean paste).

The manufacture of wearing apparel and *tabi* (socks) and sewing of garments otherwise than by hand.

Under the previous Act, twenty branches of industry are scheduled as being dangerous or unhealthy. The new Act adds forty branches of industry to the list, bringing up to sixty the number of industries which come under the Factory Acts irrespective of the number of persons employed.

It is estimated that, as a result of the extension of the scope of the law in the above-mentioned directions, about 20,000 factories employing about 150,000 workers will come under its operation for the first time.

Women and Young Persons

The previous Act, in principle, gave special protection to women and young persons under 15 years of age, in respect of hours of work, holidays, rest periods, night work, etc. The new Act gives special protection to women and young persons under 16 years of age, but only after an interval of three years from the date of its enforcement.

Hours of Attendance

The previous Act provided that the maximum number of hours of attendance should be twelve a day. The new Act, in principle, reduces this number to eleven, of which one hour is to be a rest period.

The previous Act permitted, by way of exception to this principle, prolongation of hours of attendance, up to the end of August 1931 in the manufacture of silk yarn by machinery and in the manufacture of silk fabric for export. The new Act adds the cotton spinning industry to these two, and provides that, where no night work is done, the hours of attendance may be extended by one hour to twelve a day (including one hour's rest) in the three industries, until the end of August 1931.

Night work

The previous Act provided that the enforcement of the prohibition of night work of workers under special protection (women and young persons) might be deferred until the end of August 1931. The new Act reduces this period of delay to three years from the date of its coming into force (i.e., to the end of June 1929).

The previous Act defined "night" as from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. The new Act substitutes 5 a.m. for 4 a.m.

Workmen's Compensation

Under the previous Act, the employer was under no obligation to give compensation for injury or disease due to serious fault on the part of the worker. The new Act provides that the employer should be exempt from obligation only if it is recognised by the prefectural governor that the injury or disease actually had its origin in a serious fault of the worker. As regards other forms of compensation—cost of medical treatment, allowances to survivors, funeral expenses, and lump-sum settlements—these must be given regardless of the question whether there was fault on the part of the worker.

The previous Act provides that the payment in case of inability to work owing to injury or disease should be equivalent to one-half of the daily wage during the first three months, and one-third thereafter. The new Act fixes the amount at 60 per cent. of the daily wage for 180 days, and 40 per cent. thereafter.

The scale of compensation in other cases is amended as follows, the figures representing, unless otherwise indicated, the number of days wages payable:—

Disablement—	Previous Act	New Act
Helplessly maimed for life ..	170	540
Disabled for work for life ..	150	360
Disabled for former work ..	100	180
Other disablement ..	30	40
Compensation to family of deceased worker ..	170	360
Lumpsum settlement ..	170	540
Funeral expenses ..	10 yen	20 days (minimum, 20 yen)

Under the previous Act the only members of a bereaved family entitled to receive compensation for the death of the worker were the legal wife

or husband, the parents, the children, and other legal relatives. The new Act extends the right to the illegitimate wife or husband, who are not legal relatives but "who were supporting themselves from the income of the deceased worker at the time of his or her death," provided that such illegitimate wife or husband shall rank last in the order of those entitled to receive compensation.

Where, in case of injury or disease incurred in the performance of duty, a person receives an allowance under the Health Insurance Act (payments under which will begin in January 1927), no compensation will be payable under the Factory Act.

Notice of Discharge

The new Act provides that, in principle, an employer shall either give 14 days' notice prior to discharging a worker, or pay an indemnity of not less than 14 days' wages in lieu of notice.

Factory Rules

The new Act requires employers, in all factories in which more than 50 persons are employed, to draw up rules relating to conditions of employment for the information of the workers.

Protection of Motherhood

Under the previous Act, the work of a woman is prohibited, in principle, for five weeks after childbirth; provided that she may be employed after three weeks if a doctor agrees. The new Act prohibits, in principle, her employment for six weeks after childbirth, with a proviso that, with a doctor's consent, she may resume work after four weeks.

The new Act provides, for the first time, that a woman may be released from work for four weeks before childbirth at her own request.

A mother nursing her child may be given two rest periods of half an hour each, daily, for the purpose of feeding the child, if she so requests.

Reports of Accidents

The new Act prescribes the form of the report which should be made on accidents, injuries and deaths occurring in factories. Hitherto, the form of the report has been left to the discretion of the prefectural governors, and there has been no uniformity in the matter. The new Act also makes it compulsory on employers to report deaths or injuries involving more than three days' absence from work, and also on all accidents, irrespective of whether they result in injury or death.

MINIMUM AGE ACT

The Act fixing the minimum age for industrial workers, though technically a separate Act, is in effect a part of the new Factory Act.

Under the previous Factory Act, the minimum age for employment in industry was fixed, in principle, at 12 years, but the employment of children over 10 in light and easy work was permitted. The new Act raises the minimum, in principle, to 14 years, but permits as exceptions the employment of children over 12 who have completed the elementary

school course and also the continued employment of children of 12 and over who are already employed.

This Act applies not only to those factories which come under the Factory Acts, but to all factories, mines, engineering works, construction works and other industrial undertakings.

It was estimated that about 500 young workers would be prohibited from employment on the coming into force of this measure.

AMENDED MINES REGULATIONS

This Regulation is intended primarily to bring the existing mines regulations into conformity with the Acts described above.

Minimum Age

Section V of the previous Regulation, which prohibited the employment of children under 12 in mines, is deleted, in view of the new minimum age fixed in the Minimum Age Act, which applies to mines as well as other industrial undertakings.

Women and Young Persons

The age limit for miners under special protection is raised from 15 years to 16, as from 1st July 1929.

By the previous Regulation, the maximum number of hours of attendance for miners under special protection (women and young persons) was 12, including one hour of rest. The new Regulation reduces this maximum by one hour.

"Night" is defined as the hours between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. (instead of 4 a.m.).

When a woman or person under 16 is engaged in underground work in a place where the temperature exceeds 30 degrees Centigrade, the aggregate working hours are limited to eight a day. No such person may be employed in underground work where the temperature exceeds 35 degrees.

Protection of Motherhood

Under the previous Regulation, women workers were not protected in any way before childbirth. The new Regulation entitles a woman, on her own demand, to a rest of four weeks before childbirth.

The previous Regulation prohibited the work of women for 5 weeks after childbirth, except in cases where doctors authorised work after 3 weeks. The new Regulation extends these limits to 6 weeks and 4 weeks, respectively.

Provision is made for the first time for facilities for a mother to feed her child during hours of work.

Workmen's Compensation

The new Regulation amends the rates of compensation, extends the list of dependants, and provides for avoidance of duplication of benefit, in the same way as the Factory Act (Amendment) Act.

CONFERENCE OF FACTORY INSPECTORS

At the conference of factory inspectors held in Tokyo from 11th to 16th June to consider various questions arising out of the bringing into operation

of the above legislation, attention was drawn to the need for active measures to protect the health of workers who leave the factories and return to their homes. It was decided that the Bureau of Social Affairs should consult the list, kept in the office of the prefectural factory inspector, of workers discharged before they are fully recovered from illness, and communicate with the local police authorities of the districts to which such workers returned, with a view to enquiry into the condition of health of such workers and their families, and particularly those who are suffering from tuberculosis or beri-beri.

Reference was made to the practice sometimes followed by employers of making advance payments to women workers. It was declared that this practice tended to restrict the freedom of the women, and in some cases produced positive evil effects. For this reason, the opinion was expressed that this practice should be abolished.

Finally, it was suggested that efforts should be made to induce the education authorities to introduce into the text-books used in the primary schools at least one chapter devoted to labour legislation, in order to enlighten the general public on labour matters.

CONFERENCE OF MINES INSPECTORS

A conference of local mines inspectors was held from 15th to 17th June, at the Bureau of Social Affairs, to consider recent new legislation.

In the course of the conference, discussion took place on the question of the prohibition of underground and night work of women mine workers, and the limitation of hours of work underground. A report was made by the Bureau of Social Affairs on its enquiries into the subject, and, after an exchange of views, it was concluded that, although the prohibition of underground and night work of women should ultimately be imposed, Japanese industry was not yet in a position to permit of its immediate enforcement.

It was therefore decided that enquiry should be made into:—

(1) Means of improving methods of work, particularly the feasibility of the introduction of mechanical devices for transporting materials underground, work which is at present done by women;

(2) The shift system in relation to the night work of women and young persons, and in relation to cost of production.—in short, the question whether it would be best to prohibit night work altogether, or to limit hours of work by adopting the three-shift system, in place of the two-shift system; at present, the night work of women and young persons is, in principle, prohibited except when the two-shift system is worked; and

(3) Increased use of machinery for sorting coal.

The inspectors also called attention to numerous cases of non-payment of wages at mines, and the Bureau of Social Affairs was urged to take steps to put a stop to this abuse. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 23, 1926.)

Japan and the Hours Convention

PUBLIC OPINION SOUNDED

The debates on the question of working hours in India and Japan which have taken place at the International Labour Conference during the last two years have had a considerable influence on public opinion in Japan.

It will be recalled that the Japanese Association for International Labour Legislation decided recently to send out a questionnaire in order to sound public opinion as to the expediency of the ratification and enforcement in Japan of the Washington Hours Convention.

The questionnaire was sent out during June to employers' and workers' organisations, Government officials, University professors, publicists, and members of the Association. It dealt with the two following points—

(1) The probable effect upon Japan of the ratification and enforcement of the Hours Convention; reasons for or against ratification.

(2) Time and procedure to be adopted for the enforcement.

The covering letter to the questionnaire explained recent developments in connection with the Hours Convention and emphasised the necessity of considering it more seriously in Japan.

On receipt of the questionnaire, important employers' organisations, such as the Japanese Cotton Spinners' Association and the Japanese Industrial Club, began to discuss the question in plenary or committee meetings.

According to newspaper reports, the replies received up to the middle of July show that, generally speaking, workers, scholars, social students and employers in engineering and kindred industries are in favour of the limitation of working hours in accordance with the Convention, while Chambers of Commerce and employers in the textile industries are opposed. It should be noted, however, that many of those who oppose the Convention are unaware that it contains special provisions for Japan.

The reasons given for supporting or opposing ratification are summarised as follows:—

For Ratification

(1) Ratification will rescue the workers from exploitation resulting from international competition.

(2) Ratification will result in the enrichment of the social life of the workers.

(3) The raising of the standard of life of the workers, which ratification will promote, is bound to increase their industrial efficiency and affect favourably the national economy.

(4) Ratification will eventually ensure adequate labour protection in the neighbouring and competing country, China.

Against Ratification

(1) Considering the limited resources and the state of industrial development of Japan, trade competition in the world's markets is possible for Japan only if long hours are worked. It is therefore too soon to adopt even a 9½ hour day.

(2) The shortening of working hours does not increase the workers' efficiency. Japanese workers do not know how to utilise spare time, and they prefer longer hours with higher wages to shorter hours.

(3) Japan will be beaten by China in trade competition so long as China continues to produce under no restrictions, if Japan limits her working hours.

(4) Conditions of labour and industry must vary from one country to another according to the special circumstances of each country. The length of the working day should therefore be left to each country to decide for itself.

The Association for International Labour Legislation will, it is stated, shortly call a meeting of its Commission on General Problems to study the replies received, and will make representations to the Government on the basis of the results of the enquiry. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 20, 1926.*)

The Trade Union Bill in Japan

The Trade Union Bill, which was submitted by the Japanese Government to the 1926 Spring Session of the Diet and which aroused much comment, was finally set aside among a mass of unfinished business. The prime minister, however, Mr. Wakatsuki, and the ministers of Home Affairs and of Communications have recently expressed in public their regret that the Bill did not pass the Diet and have emphasised the urgent necessity of disposing of the question.

In these circumstances, it is believed that the Bill will be re-introduced in the Diet at its coming session, and public opinion is keenly interested in the question whether the Bill will be submitted in its original form or in a modified form, with amendments conceived in a more liberal spirit, taking account of public opinion and the views of the Commission of the House which discussed the original Bill.

Among the circumstances which justify the anticipation that the Bill when re-introduced will be considerably modified are the following:

1. Prior to the formal submission of the Bill to the Diet, the Bureau of Social Affairs published its unofficial drafts, which enjoyed a certain popularity. This popularity, however, was not lasting and the situation changed when the draft was radically modified by the Administration Investigation Board (*Gyosei Chosa Ka*);

2. After the Bill had been formally submitted, the trade unions opposed it vigorously, but intimated that they would welcome it if amendments could be made so as to restore it to the form in which it had originally been drafted by the Bureau of Social Affairs.

In the Diet Commission which discussed the Bill some members of *Seiyu-Honto*, an opposition party, took up the attitude that they would either support the Government's Bill or amend it in an even more conservative sense; but *Kensei-Kai*, the Party in power, was willing to accept certain more liberal amendments.

The anticipated amendments, which are considered to be essential, are on the following two points :

1. Federations of various trades unions should be legally recognised.
2. It should be optional for a union to decide whether or no it wishes to become a legal person.

The *Tokyo Asahi* of 12th July last adds that the Bureau of Social Affairs has expressed a wish to re-introduce the Bill in its original form, but some difficulty is anticipated because the final form in which the Bill was submitted by the Government differed from the draft prepared by the Bureau and the amendment can hardly be made by the Bureau alone. Furthermore, the attitude of the House of Lords is not known, since the Bill did not come before it at the last session, and this would appear to be another difficulty in the way of making a definite decision to revert to the original draft. The *Asahi* further reports that, if the trade unions really insist on the necessity of such a step, the introduction of the Bill in the original form drafted by the Bureau of Social Affairs may not be altogether impossible. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 13, 1926)

The Present Situation of Japanese Labour Unions

Japan is one of the few countries where, in spite of the bad trade situation, the number of organised workers is showing a steady and rather rapid increase. Investigations made by the Bureau of Social Affairs give the following figures for industrial workers in respect of the last four years :—

Year	Number of Unions	Total Membership
1922	387	137,491
1923	432	125,551
1924	447	175,454
1925	490	234,000

Besides these industrial workers there is the Japan Farmers' Union, which included in its membership 70,000 families at the beginning of 1926.

The Industrial and Labour Research Institute, supported by the labour movement and conducted by Mr. Nosaka, recently made an investigation into the numerical status of the Japanese labour movement, and published the results as a booklet entitled "The Present Situation of the Labour Union Movement in Japan." The report of the Institute was based chiefly on material given in the publications of the Bureau of Social Affairs and data presented by various unions in October 1925. Extracts from this publication are given below.

The following figures are given for the approximate number of Japanese workers. The information was obtained chiefly from the "Outline of

Labour Statistics" prepared by the Statistical Section of the Bureau of Social Affairs :—

Industrial group	Number of workers
Factory workers	2,006,000
Mine workers	310,000
Transport workers	923,000
Electrical workers	55,000
Casual labourers in construction and engineering works	810,000
Commercial employees	1,109,000
Agricultural workers :	
Wage Earners	373,000
Others, including tenant farmers.	2,744,000
Fishery workers	789,000
Forestry workers	715,000
Salt-field workers	46,000
Total	9,880,000

In order to ascertain the total number of organisable wage-earners, from this total should be deducted 6,238,000. This figure is made up of agricultural, forestry, fishery, and salt-field workers (4,670,000); workers employed under the feudalistic system in commercial undertakings (1,100,000); and persons engaged in old-fashioned transport—carters (376,000), omnibus drivers (6000), and rickshawmen (86,000). Thus 3,642,000, or 37 per cent. of the total number of workers, may be considered as organisable wage-earners.

The above figures were derived from investigations made by various government departments at different periods. The Bureau of Social Affairs, on the other hand, reported the number of industrial wage earners as 4,350,000 at the end of June 1925. This total is made up as follows :—

Industrial group	Males	Females	Total
Factory workers :			
Factories under state and municipal management	107,639	41,659	
Under Factory Act	71,637	25,588	
Not under Factory Act	36,002	16,071	
Factories under private management ..	908,839	948,675	
Under Factory Act	641,889	821,368	
Not under Factory Act ..	266,950	127,307	
Total, factories under Factory Act	713,526	846,956	
Total, factories not under Factory Act ..	302,952	143,378	
Total	1,016,478	990,334	2,006,812
Mine workers ..	235,345	75,436	310,781
Other workers ..	1,640,586	390,522	2,031,118
Total	2,892,409	1,456,302	4,348,711

According to the census of 1st October 1925, the population of Japan proper at that time was 59,736,000. Thus the total number of workers is 16 per cent. and the number of organisable wage-earners 7 per cent., of the total population.

The investigation made by the Bureau of Social Affairs shows that at the end of June 1925 the number of labour unions was a little over 490, and their total membership over 234,000, while according to the investigation made by the Industrial and Labour Research Institute the figures on 1st October of the same year were 209 for the number of unions, and more than 240,000 for their total membership. The author of the report of the Institute, in stating his views regarding the difference between these two sets of figures, says that the higher number of unions presented in the investigation of the Bureau of Social Affairs is due to the fact that such unions are included as the mutual aid societies in factories and mines, or unions organised for the convenience of the employers, which, in his opinion, cannot be regarded as proper trade unions, and that the investigation of the Bureau of Social Affairs gives a comparatively small number of members of unions because its investigation was carried on in ignorance of the actual state of the unions, and in addition was conducted by factory owners or policemen, both unsympathetic towards labour unions.

The report gives the following figures regarding organised workers in October 1925 :—

	Males	Females	Total
Total population	30,012,820	29,723,884	59,736,704
Organisable workers	2,892,409	1,456,302	4,348,711
Organised workers :			
Number	231,753	9,196	240,949
Per cent. of population	0.77	0.03	0.40
Per cent. of organisable workers	8.0	0.6	5.5

Detailed figures for the total number of workers and the number of organised workers in October 1925, classified by industry, are as follows :—

Industry	Number of Workers	Organised workers	
		Number	Per cent. of total workers
Metals	320,374	92,040	28.7
Textiles	938,842	11,525	1.2
Chemicals	173,881	6,229	3.4
Food and drink	169,539	4,553	2.5
Printing	40,354	8,584	21.4
Miscellaneous	67,169	15,284	22.7
Transport	923,000	92,490	10.0
(c) Land	761,900	25,850	3.4
(b) Marine	162,000	66,640	41.0
Mining	310,000	2,943	0.9
Electricity	55,000	1,976	3.5
Building and construction	736,800	4,901	0.6
Commercial	1,109,000	423	0.03

The figures showing the change in the number of unions and their membership, classified according to industries, are as follows :—

Industry	October 1924		October 1925	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
Metals	51	85,200	51	92,040
Textiles	8	10,000	11	11,525
Chemicals	10	3,200	19	6,229
Food and drink	6	3,200	8	4,553
Printing	12	4,100	15	8,584
Miscellaneous	31	8,600	53	15,284
Transport	18	69,400	30	92,490
Mining	4	3,300	5	2,943
Building	6	2,600	12	4,901
Electricity	4	1,500	3	1,976
Commercial			2	423
Total	150	191,300	209	240,949

This table shows that in only one industry, the electricity industry, was there any decrease in the number of unions, and that the membership of the unions increased in all industries except mining.

The 209 unions with 240,949 members in October 1925 may be classified as follows according to the size of their membership :—

Membership of each organisation	Number of organisations	Membership of group	
		Number	Per cent. of total
Less than 1,000	3 Federations	1,357	
	24 Unions	8,511	
		9,868	4
1,000 to 5,000	6 Federations	15,700	
	5 Unions	13,218	
		28,918	12
5,000 to 10,000	4 Federations	24,961	
	2 Unions	14,220	
		39,181	16
More than 10,000	5 Federations	111,999	
	2 Unions	50,983	
		162,982	68
Total	51	240,949	100

The memberships of the five federations and two unions each having more than 10,000 members are as follows:—

Federations	Membership
Federation of Workers in Naval Arsenals ..	42,513
General Federation of Japanese Labour ..	23,305
Council of Japanese Labour Unions ..	18,693
General Federation of Japanese Transport Workers.	13,923
General Federation of Workers in State Undertakings	13,565

Unions

Japan Seamen's Union ..	37,000
Kaiyo Toitsu Kyokai (a seamen's association) ..	13,983

(From "International Labour Review," Geneva, August 2, 1926.)

National Maternity Council in Chile

The Chilean Sickness and Invalidity Insurance Act of 8th September 1924 provides for medical care for women workers during pregnancy, confinement, and the post-confinement period, financial aid, and a nursing benefit equal to one-fourth of the mother's wages to be paid to her so long as she nurses her child.

The Act is administered by the Central Compulsory Insurance Fund, and in order to carry it out effectively the fund has decided to establish a National Maternity Council. Plans for the work of the Council provide for the organisation of pre-natal, maternity and infancy consultation centres, maternity homes, dispensaries for the treatment of venereal diseases, and a system of home visiting. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 20, 1926.)

Census of Population

PRELIMINARY REPORT

The Preliminary Report of the first Census of Population of Saorstát Éireann, prepared by the Statistics Branch of the Department of Industry and Commerce, was issued on Monday, the 23rd August, eighteen weeks after the date of the Census. It shows that in the fifteen years from the 2nd April 1911, to the 18th April 1926, the populations of:—

- All Ireland decreased from 4,390,219 to 4,229,124—a decrease of 161,095 or 3·7 per cent.
- Saorstát Éireann decreased from 3,139,688 to 2,972,802—a decrease of 166,886 or 5·3 per cent.
- Northern Ireland increased from 1,250,531 to 1,256,322—an increase of 5,791 or 0·5 per cent.

The report extends to 28 pages—16 pages of text and summary tables, and a tabular appendix of 12 pages. (From "Irish Trade Journal," Dublin, September 1926.)

Industrial Hygiene in Japan

Since the introduction of the Factory Act in 1916, sanitary conditions in Japanese factories have been considerably improved. The factory inspectors and assistant supervisors number at present 343, 7 of whom are trained medical officers. The duties of medical inspectors comprise:—

- (1) supervision of the observance of laws relating to the equipment of factories and working conditions;
- (2) supervision of the observance of laws dealing with compensation for accidents and occupational disease;
- (3) investigations in regard to industrial hygiene and pathology and prevention of occupational diseases; and
- (4) propagation of necessary information in relation to hygiene amongst employers and workers.

The duties of inspectors comprise, further, advice to employers in relation to improvements to be effected, education of workers in regard to the prevention of disease and the use of sanitary equipment provided, and publicity in regard to general improvement of working conditions. Considerable improvement in the field of industrial hygiene as affecting factories and mines in Japan has resulted from the establishment of the inspection system.

The majority of industrial establishments in Japan are textile factories, which were the earliest to develop. Out of some 20,000 factories 52 per cent. belong to the textile industries, which employ 64 per cent. out of a total number of 1,400,000 workers. Women form 60 per cent. of the total number of workers and 81 per cent. of the total number of workers employed in the textile industries. Female labour in these industries is usually drawn from agricultural districts and it has been necessary to provide boarding accommodation for these workers, 90 per cent. of whom are unmarried.

Boarding-houses attached to the larger factories are mostly well equipped with good ventilation, heating, water supply, and sanitary conveniences. Dining rooms and bathrooms are also provided, and the latter are regularly used and appreciated by the workers. Certain large factories provide houses for their married workers. These are built of wood and consist of two or more rooms with the exclusive use of a kitchen and lavatory for each family.

Houses provided for miners are usually apartment houses, one room, or now more usually two or three rooms, being allotted to each family.

Diet in these boarding-houses was formerly criticised, but has now been improved. From 2500 to 2800 calories are provided for men and from 2300 to 2500 calories for women. All larger factories now employ one or more factory doctors and large factories and mines have well-equipped hospitals. The doctors, in addition to treating workers, act as sanitary advisers to the employers and discuss hygienic amelioration of installations with the state factory inspectors. Periodical returns submitted by factory owners provide mortality statistics, but, pending the inauguration of a system of health insurance, not much reliance can be placed on the statistics available

and the same is true in respect of statistics relative to the incidence of disease, though it has been definitely established that diseases of the digestive system, followed by those of the respiratory system, are the most frequent in industry.

Statistics collected in 1925 show a morbidity rate for men and women workers of 275 per cent. and a ratio of injuries of 42 per cent. Other disease rates quoted are tuberculosis 11 per cent., phthisis 8 per cent., all respiratory diseases 220 per cent., diseases of the digestive system 203 per cent., beri-beri 55 per cent., and trachoma 19 per cent.

Present legislation in regard to compensation is rather indefinite, the worker being entitled to compensation for "illness arising out of his employment." The interpretation of this law in relation to industrial accidents is simple but much less so in regard to occupational disease, more especially as information as to the harmful effects of certain occupations is lacking. Many cases of industrial poisoning have not been accounted for, but investigation in relation to these is now being carried out. The inspectors' report for 1923 refers to 22 cases of lead poisoning amongst the employees of a storage-battery factory, a case of carbon monoxide poisoning in a chemical factory, one case of aniline poisoning and cases of skin disease in chemical factories. No cases of anthrax are reported as affecting workers handling wool and hair for upholstery, or horns and hoofs, but two or three cases have been notified as occurring in a bone manure factory where imported bones were handled. Investigation has in consequence been undertaken in regard to the disinfection of bones. Hookworm is prevalent in the coal mines of Western Japan, and the application of preventive measures is urgently required in relation thereto. (From "International Labour Review," Geneva, August 1926.)

A Cost of Living Enquiry in Japan

In the last number of *Industrial and Labour Information* it was stated that the Japanese Government intended to institute an enquiry into the cost of living, to be conducted during the period 1st September 1926 to 31st August 1927.

It is intended to secure information from the families of various categories of workers in different localities, including the families of non-manual workers and of manual workers in the chief occupations. The families will be selected with the collaboration of government and municipal offices, chambers of commerce, employment exchanges and employers and workers' organisations.

It is hoped to secure data from over 7000 families. The families selected will consist of from two to seven members. Only those families for which more than half the total income is provided by the head of the household are to be included.

The information requested will include the composition of the family, and details as to its income and expenditure, together with the nature of the housing accommodation. The selected families should be capable of keeping detailed records for the year covered by the enquiry. (From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 163.)

Unemployment in Russia

The unemployment question continues to cause much concern in Russian Government and trade union circles and recently formed the subject of a lively discussion at the plenary meeting of the all Russian Central Council of Trade Unions.

The number of unemployed which, since 1922, had been steadily increasing, reached its culminating point in July 1924. At that time a general re-organisation of the employment exchanges was carried out, and from then until February 1925 unemployed other than industrial workers were not permitted to register with the exchanges, the result being that the total number of registered unemployed was considerably reduced. But in July 1925, the number again increased, and this increase has been since maintained.

The fluctuations in the number of registered unemployed since 1923 may be seen in the following table, which covers 250 employment exchanges:—

Date	Total number of registered unemployed	Principal categories of unemployed (percentage)		
		Skilled workers	Intellectual workers	Labourers
1st Jan. 1923	641,000	22.0	46.6	20.0
1st July 1923	1,050,000	24.9	33.7	25.9
1st Jan. 1924	1,240,000	25.0	33.7	25.0
1st July 1924	1,344,300	26.4	30.7	28.2
1st Jan. 1925	901,600	29.1	31.8	23.4
1st July 1925	1,100,000	28.8	23.3	36.1
1st Oct. 1925	1,055,000			
1st May 1926	1,091,000	18.3	18.0	42.0

The actual number of unemployed is greater than that shown in the above table as, although on 1st January 1926 there were 1,029,000 registered unemployed members of trade unions, that number represented about half only (55 per cent.) of the total number of unemployed, which would thus appear to be about two million. It should also be remembered that registration with an unemployment exchange is not compulsory, and a certain number of the unemployed prefer to look for work without passing through the registers of the exchanges. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 30, 1926.)

Large Scale Production

For manufacturing establishments in the United States with an annual product of £200,000 or more, the National Industrial Conference Board of America reports a striking advantage in productivity over smaller establishments, measured by workers employed. If the annual *per capita*

Standard of Living of Cotton Mill Workers in Sholapur

Criminal Tribes

In an article in the August 1926 issue of the *Labour Gazette* the preliminary results of the family budget investigation in Sholapur were discussed and it was pointed out that in addition to the 943 budgets for ordinary families 154 family budgets of cotton mill workers residing in the Criminal Tribes Settlement were also collected. It is proposed in this article to deal with the results of this investigation and wherever possible to compare them with those obtained from the larger enquiry.

There are two criminal tribes settlements in Sholapur, one known as the Kalyanpur Settlement and another the Umedpur Settlement. According to the latest report of the Criminal Tribes Settlement Officer, on 31st March 1926 the number of persons in these two settlements was 4215. The Umedpur Settlement does not fall within the Municipal limits of Sholapur and was therefore not visited for purposes of this enquiry. All the budgets collected were from families living in the Kalyanpur Settlement only.

The method of enquiry was the same as in the case of the larger enquiry, but the difficulties met with in collecting reliable budgets were more numerous. For instance, no systematic plan of sampling could be adhered to and the budgets were therefore collected at random, although care was taken to see that all castes and income groups were fairly represented in the enquiry.

These 154 budgets have been analysed according to income groups in order to ascertain roughly the economic position of the community studied. The following table gives an analysis of the budgets by income and compares the distribution of the families by income groups with that of the other workers in Sholapur City:—

1—Number of Families of Cotton Mill Workers in Sholapur by Income Classes

Income group	Number of families of cotton mill workers in	
	Sholapur proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement*
Below Rs. 20	75 7.95	27 17.53
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30 ..	207 21.95	63 40.91
.. 30 40 ..	231 24.49	34 22.08
.. 40 50 ..	185 19.62	14 9.09

* Owing to the very small number of budgets (16 only) in the last five income groups, only a combined number has been given. The number of budgets in the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth groups were 10, 3, 1, 1 and 1 respectively.

Income group	Number of families of cotton mill workers in	
	Sholapur proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement
Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60 ..	99 10.50	
.. 60 70 ..	49 5.20	
.. 70 80 ..	28 2.97	16 10.39
.. 80 90 ..	28 2.97	
.. 90 and over	41 4.35	
	943 100.00	154 100.00

It will be seen that more than 80 per cent. of the families have a monthly income of less than Rs. 40 while only 54 per cent. of the other families in Sholapur fall within these income groups. It is of course true that owing to errors in the sample, to which reference has already been made, the distribution of families according to income groups may not be an accurate index of their economic position. But allowing for small errors, it seems obvious that as compared to the other workers in Sholapur the criminal tribe families have a smaller income.

Size of the family

The average criminal tribe family consists of 4.97 persons with 1.54 men, 1.60 women and 1.83 children under 14 years of age. The average Sholapur family* consists of 4.84 persons only. Out of these 4.84 persons 0.11 are dependents living away from the family. In the case of the criminal tribes, there are no dependents living away from the family.

The feature common to most family budget enquiries in this Presidency that as the income increases the size of the family also increases is to be seen even here. Of course, the true significance of this phenomenon can be realized only after an analysis of the composition of the families and of the relationships of the inmates of the households to the head of the family. This it is proposed to do in the final report.

Another feature of the following table is that while the average number of men in the Settlement enquiry is smaller than that in the Sholapur enquiry that of women is very nearly the same, while the number of children per family is much higher.

* The expression "Sholapur family" is used in the absence of a more suitable one to denote the family of a cotton mill worker in Sholapur studied by the Labour Office in the larger investigation covering 943 budgets.

The following table gives the number of persons in the family in Sholapur and in the Criminal Tribes Settlement.

II—Average number of persons in the Family

Income Classes	Sholapur					Total
	Persons living in the family				Dependents living away from the family	
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total		
Below Rs. 20	1.00	1.08	1.12	3.20	0.03	4.23
20 and below Rs. 30	1.17	1.26	1.30	3.73	0.07	
30 and below Rs. 40	1.44	1.45	1.46	4.35	0.13	
40 and below Rs. 50	1.73	1.55	1.43	4.71	0.09	
50 and below Rs. 60	1.99	1.73	1.61	5.33	0.09	
60 and below Rs. 70	2.63	2.21	1.53	6.37	0.12	
70 and below Rs. 80	2.36	2.25	1.71	6.32	0.39	
80 and below Rs. 90	2.79	2.79	2.10	7.68	0.29	
90 and over	3.12	2.78	2.30	8.20	0.27	
All incomes	1.67	1.59	1.47	4.73	0.11		4.84

Income Classes	Criminal Tribes Settlement					Total
	Persons living in the family				Dependents living away from the family	
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total		
Below Rs. 20	1.07	1.07	1.52	3.66	0.00	3.66
20 and below Rs. 30	1.13	1.32	1.87	4.32	0.00	
30 and below Rs. 40	1.85	1.88	1.65	5.38	0.00	
40 and below Rs. 50	2.21	1.93	2.29	6.43	0.00	
50 and below Rs. 60						
60 and below Rs. 70						
70 and below Rs. 80	2.69	2.69	2.18	7.56	0.00	
80 and below Rs. 90						
90 and over						
All incomes	1.54	1.60	1.83	4.97	0.00		4.97

Income and Expenditure

The average monthly income of the families in the Settlement is Rs. 31-8-4 and the average monthly expenditure Rs. 29, thus leaving a credit balance of Rs. 2-8-4. In the case of the Sholapur workers the average monthly income is Rs. 42-15-2 and the average monthly expenditure Rs. 40-0-11. It will thus be seen that compared with the Settlement family the Sholapur family gets more and spends more. The monthly expenditure of the Sholapur family is higher in spite of the smaller size of the family which points clearly to the higher standard of life prevailing among the ordinary worker as compared with the Settlement worker.

The following table gives a detailed analysis of the income and expenditure of families in Sholapur and those in the Settlement according to income classes:—

III—Income and group Expenditure of Families of Cotton Mill workers in Sholapur Proper and in the Criminal Tribes Settlement

Income Groups	Average monthly income		Average monthly expenditure on										Average monthly excess (+) or deficit (-) of income over expenditure			
	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Food		Fuel and Lighting		Houses-rent		Clothing		Furniture and Household effects			Miscellaneous		Total monthly expenditures
			Shols. per fam.	Cr. Tribes Settlement	Shols. per fam.	Cr. Tribes Settlement	Shols. per fam.	Cr. Tribes Settlement	Shols. per fam.	Cr. Tribes Settlement	Shols. per fam.	Cr. Tribes Settlement		Shols. per fam.	Cr. Tribes Settlement	
Below Rs. 20	18 3 11	18 3 10	2 8 7	2 8 10	0 10 9	0 10 9	2 7 5	1 15 9	0 4 1	0 4 1	3 13 7	3 13 7	19 7 1	19 7 1	-1 4 0	
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	25 7 7	25 1 2	2 13 7	2 13 2	0 10 1	0 10 1	3 2 8	2 9 8	0 4 5	0 4 5	5 3 2	5 3 2	24 15 6	24 15 6	-1 4 6	
Rs. 30 and below Rs. 40	35 2 2	34 9 5	3 5 2	3 5 0	0 11 0	0 11 0	4 0 9	3 13 4	0 5 2	0 5 2	6 0 2	6 0 2	31 8 5	31 8 5	-1 0 3	
Rs. 40 and below Rs. 50	44 9 4	42 15 10	3 9 7	3 9 7	0 9 11	0 9 11	4 15 7	4 6 8	0 4 8	0 4 8	6 2 1	6 2 1	35 9 6	35 9 6	-7 6 4	
Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60	54 3 7	54 3 7	4 6 2	4 6 2	2 10 2	2 10 2	5 12 6	5 12 6	0 7 2	0 7 2	11 1 6	11 1 6	40 0 0	40 0 0	+5 3 7	
Rs. 60 and below Rs. 70	64 4 4	64 4 4	5 1 6	5 1 6	3 5 2	3 5 2	6 14 8	6 14 8	0 8 9	0 8 9	11 15 1	11 15 1	55 6 8	55 6 8	-8 13 6	
Rs. 70 and below Rs. 80	75 3 5	72 14 8	4 13 10	4 13 10	0 14 6	0 14 6	7 6 11	6 5 0	0 9 11	0 6 3	11 7 0	11 7 0	60 13 6	60 13 6	-13 1 2	
Rs. 80 and below Rs. 90	85 3 10	85 3 10	5 13 11	5 13 11	8 6 10	8 6 10	10 15 6	10 15 6	0 10 5	0 10 5	24 6 5	24 6 5	10 13 7	10 13 7	+10 13 7	
Rs. 90 and over	109 6 7	109 6 7	6 8 3	6 8 3	10 15 6	10 15 6	22 5 0	22 5 0	0 11 11	0 11 11	28 2 1	28 2 1	20 4 6	20 4 6	+20 4 6	
All incomes	42 15 2	31 8 4	3 2 8	3 2 8	0 10 30	0 10 30	4 12 4	3 4 10	0 4 4	0 4 4	5 14 0	5 14 0	29 6 0	29 6 0	+2 14 3	

It will be seen from the above table that the expenditure on food and fuel and lighting is almost identical for both kinds of families in the first four income groups. This indicates that the expenditure on these groups is inelastic. On both these groups, the minimum expenditure has to be incurred and it is therefore not surprising that the expenditure returned should be very nearly the same. When we come to the third group, however, we begin to notice differences. The average monthly rent paid by the Sholapur family is Rs. 2-7-6 while the Settlement enquiry shows the figure of only Re. 0-10-10. This difference is due to the fact that while the bulk of the Sholapur workers live in houses built with brick and roofed over by tiles, the families in the Settlement live in huts. The Settlement authorities lease out plots on which the families erect their own huts. The rent charged is nominal.

As regards clothing, at least in the first four income groups the Settlement families seem to spend a little less than the Sholapur families. The observation of the Labour Office Lady Investigators however shows that though the men in the Settlement are not so well dressed as others, the women are usually very neat and tidy.

Except in the first two income groups the expenditure on miscellaneous items of the Settlement families is comparatively lower than that of others. This is due to two reasons: firstly, there is little margin left to spend on miscellaneous items and secondly, the criminal tribes which are in a semi-barbarous state have no idea of a higher standard of life. It is however remarkable that of the amount spent on miscellaneous items (Rs. 5-14 for the 154 budgets) Re. 1-4-1 is spent on liquor and Rs. 1-13-6 by way of interest on debts.

The following table shows the distribution of expenditure on the various groups among the Settlement and Sholapur workers.

IV—Expenditure on groups by Cotton Mill Workers in Sholapur

Groups	Sholapur proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement
Food	49-71	54-08
Fuel and Lighting	9-39	10-92
House-rent	6-16	2-33
Clothing	11-91	11-39
Bedding and Household Necessaries	0-99	1-02
Miscellaneous	21-84	20-26
	100-00	100-00

Workers and Dependents

It has already been pointed out that the average number of persons in the Settlement family is 4-97 while in the Sholapur family the figure is 4-73 only. One would have expected that with a larger number in the family the number of earners would also rise. But it is seen that while in the Sholapur family there are 2-02 earners and 2-71 dependents, in the Settlement family there are 1-96 earners and 3-01 dependents. It

is not possible in the absence of any direct evidence to assign any reason for this seemingly curious phenomenon but *probably* it is due to the fact that while in the Sholapur family (in spite of its smaller size) there are 3-26 adults, there are only 3-14 in the Settlement family.

The following table gives the number of earners and dependents in the Sholapur and the Settlement families:—

V—Average number of Workers and Dependents in Families of Cotton Mill Workers in Sholapur

Income group	Sholapur proper				Average number of dependents	Total family
	Average number of workers in family					
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total		
Below Rs. 20	1-00	0-04		1-04	2-15	3-20
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	1-11	0-46	0-02	1-59	2-14	3-73
.. 30 40	1-35	0-46	0-07	1-88	2-47	4-35
.. 40 50	1-62	0-38	0-05	2-05	2-65	4-71
.. 50 60	1-84	0-47	0-06	2-37	2-96	5-33
.. 60 70	2-37	0-55	0-06	2-98	3-39	6-37
.. 70 80	2-22	0-32	0-14	2-68	3-64	6-32
.. 80 90	2-54	0-75	0-03	3-32	4-36	7-68
.. 90 and over	2-66	0-56	0-02	3-24	4-96	8-20
All incomes	1-54	0-43	0-05	2-02	2-71	4-73

Income group	Criminal tribes settlement				Average number of dependents	Total family
	Average number of workers in family					
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total		
Below Rs. 20	1-00	0-07		1-07	2-59	3-66
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	1-06	0-51	0-05	1-62	2-70	4-32
.. 30 40	1-59	0-73	0-03	2-35	3-03	5-38
.. 40 50	2-00	0-50		2-50	3-93	6-43
.. 50 60						
.. 60 70						
.. 70 80	2-38	1-06	0-06	3-50	4-06	7-56
.. 80 90						
.. 90 and over						
All incomes	1-39	0-54	0-03	1-96	3-01	4-97

It will be seen from the above table that in both the enquiries the number of earners rises with the income.

The following table gives the number of men, women and children workers for 100 families —

VI—Number of Cotton Mill Workers per 100 Families in Sholapur

Income group	Sholapur proper				Criminal tribes settlement			
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total
Below Rs. 20	100	4		104	100	7		107
Rs. 20 and below								
Rs. 30 ..	111	46	2	159	106	51	5	162
Rs. 30 and below								
Rs. 40 ..	135	46	7	188	159	73	3	235
Rs. 40 and below								
Rs. 50 ..	162	38	5	205	200	50		250
Rs. 50 and below								
Rs. 60 ..	184	47	6	237				
Rs. 60 and below								
Rs. 70 ..	237	55	6	298				
Rs. 70 and below					238	106	6	350
Rs. 80 ..	222	32	14	268				
Rs. 80 and below								
Rs. 90 ..	254	75	3	332				
Rs. 90 and over	266	56	2	324				
All Incomes	154	43	5	202	139	54	3	196

The settlement enquiry shows only 196 workers for 100 families as compared with 202 in the Sholapur enquiry. In the Settlement there are fewer men and child workers but a larger number of female workers as compared with the Sholapur enquiry.

Third International Conference of Labour Statisticians

A third Conference of Government Labour Statisticians is to be opened in Geneva on 18th October under the auspices of the International Labour Organisation. The objects of these Conferences, of which the first was held in 1923 and the second in 1925, are to discuss the best methods of compiling labour statistics and to agree upon certain uniform methods which would render international statistics more comparable. Statistics of wages, hours of labour, cost of living, unemployment, industrial accidents and industrial classification have been discussed at previous Conferences. The forthcoming Conference will discuss the methods of statistics of industrial disputes, statistics of collective agreements, methods of conducting family budget enquiries, and will also consider a draft of industries suitable for international comparisons. (From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," No. 172 of 1926.)

Reviews of Books and Reports

Twenty-second Annual Statistics of the City of Tokyo, 1926, issued by the Statistical Bureau of the Municipal Office of Tokyo

This valuable statistical publication is divided into sixteen parts and contains 1543 pages. Except the introduction, every part contains numerous statistical tables. Part X which deals with industries is of particular interest.

In addition to the tables the publication contains four very interesting coloured charts.

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Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of factories and workshops for the year 1925 (Great Britain and Northern Ireland)*

The report begins with a brief summary of the industrial situation. It is pointed out that certain trades were consistently busy throughout the year, while others suffered from acute depression. Towards the end of the year a distinctly more hopeful feeling was noticeable which was reflected in a gradual diminution in the number of unemployed persons.

Four new codes of Regulations for dangerous trades came into operation; the first extended and strengthened the existing code applying to the manufacture of Electric Accumulators; the second extended and strengthened the code relating to Docks; the third regulates the lifting of heavy weights in the woollen textile industry and the fourth applies to the grinding of metals in miscellaneous industries. In addition to these, three other codes applying to building, shipbuilding and vehicle painting with lead paint were issued in draft.

During 1925, there were 159,693 accidents (including 944 fatal) showing a decrease of 10,000 on the figures for 1924. This decrease is attributed to the depression in the iron and steel and shipbuilding industries. The relatively small number of accidents sustained by women and girls is noticeable from the statistics given.

It is stated that in a few districts the 'Safety First' movement made no progress and in some cases even enthusiasm was waning. But in most instances interest is being maintained and in certain areas there has been substantial progress. On the whole, however, the reports on the subject of "Safety First" are somewhat contradictory.

It is stated in the report that factories in which sixty hours of employment prevails are becoming rare and the forty-eight-hour week is becoming universal. But in spite of the wide margin existing between the usual hours of work and those allowed by statute, several cases of illegal employment were discovered. In a number of factories the system of working a five-day week has been introduced.

Statutory Welfare Orders are at present in force in fourteen industries. But while statutory welfare is rather limited in extent, there is virtually

* Cmd. 2714. H. M. Stationery Office, London; price 2s. 6d. net.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW VOL XXII, NO. 4. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Average Wage Rates Keeping Pace with the Increased Cost of Living*, by E. Herbert Stewart (United States Commissioner of Labor Statistics).—Iron and steel industry; railroad section men. pp. 1-4.

(2) *The Longshoreman and Accident Compensation*, by Lindley D. Clark, of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.—Nature and scope of maritime law as affecting personal injuries; localized employments summary. pp. 5-18.

(3) *Physical Examinations in Industry*, by Frank L. Rector, M.D. (Secretary of American Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons, and Editor of the Nation's Health). pp. 18-23.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXII, NO. 5. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Vacations with Pay for Wage Earners*.—Length of service required; season of vacation; eligibility for vacations; rate of pay and cost of vacations; vacation information; results of giving paid vacations; other studies of vacation plans; vacations given as a result of collective agreements; vacations with pay in foreign countries. pp. 1-7.

(2) *Family-Allowance Systems in Foreign Countries*.—Beginning of the movement; family allowances in public employment; family allowances in private industry; number of persons employed under family-allowance systems; methods of granting family allowances; family allowance funds; family allowances in agriculture; relation to the population problem; conclusions. pp. 7-13.

(3) *International Statistics of Working Population*.—Sources of information; numerical strength of the working class; distribution by principal occupational groups. pp. 13-18.

(4) *Effects of Use of Radioactive Substances on the Health of Workers*.—Known cases of death and disease; conditions of employment in dial-painting plants; nature and preparation of radium and radium emanation; study of physical condition of persons engaged in measuring radium preparations in the bureau of standards; other studies of results of use and handling of radioactive substances; study of five cases of necrosis of the jaw by Dr. Drinker; investigation of cases of necrosis by Frederick L. Hoffman; study of the dangers in the use and handling of radioactive substances by Doctors Martland, Conlon and Knef. pp. 18-31.

(5) *Need for Free Legal Aid*, by Williams Howard Taft (Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court). pp. 32 and 33.

(6) *Growth of Legal Aid Work in the United States*.—Small claims court; conciliation tribunals; industrial accident commissions; wage payment legislation; the defender in criminal cases; legal aid organizations; need for consolidation and co-operation. pp. 33-39.

(7) *Simplified Procedure in the Administration of Justice: The Danish Conciliation System*, by Reginald Heber Smith.—American experiments; early origin of Danish system; law of 1795; litigation prohibited until conciliation has been attempted; work of conciliation commissions, 1871-1915; problems resulting from development of urban life; act of 1916; maritime and commercial cases; success of the "Lay" commissions in rural communities; success of judicial conciliation in Copenhagen; conclusions. pp. 40-49.

(8) *Report of English Coal Commission*.—Present position of the industry; methods of reorganization; relation between employers and employees; immediate measures; transfer labor; conclusion. pp. 52-56.

(9) *Plans of Operators and of Miners for Meeting the English Coal Crisis*.—Plan of the operators; miners' proposals.—wastes of present system, unified ownership and operation. pp. 56-58.

(10) *Hours of Earnings in Slaughtering and Meat Packing, 1917-1925*.—Wage rates; hours of labor; guaranteed hours of pay; overtime; work on Sundays and holidays. pp. 60-79.

(11) *Unemployment in Foreign Countries*.—Summary for Europe; Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Ireland, free state of; Germany; France; Belgium; Netherlands; Switzerland; Italy; Denmark; Norway; Sweden; Finland; Latvia; Estonia; Lithuania; Free City of Danzig; Poland; Czechoslovakia; Hungary; Austria; Spain; South Africa, Canada. pp. 151-164.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

By letter of 12th August 1926, the Secretary-General of the League of Nations informed the International Labour Office that the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs had communicated to him the formal ratification by his Government of the Draft Convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment, adopted by the First Session of the International Labour Conference (Washington, 1919). Ratification was registered on 7th August 1926.

The Convention is not to apply to Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kwantung and the South Sea Islands under Japanese mandate. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 30, 1926.)

UNITED KINGDOM

At 1st September the average level of retail prices of all commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 72 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 70 per cent. a month ago and 74 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 62, 61 and 70 respectively.

The rise in the index-number at 1st September, as compared with a month earlier, was due to increases in the prices of coal, eggs and milk, which were partly counterbalanced by decreases in the prices of potatoes. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.)

The general stoppage of work in the coal mining industry, which began on 1st May, involved about one million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 21 million working days in August. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 87 million to the end of August.

Apart from the coal mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in August was sixteen; in addition, 19 disputes which began before August were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these thirty five disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2,000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in August was about 18,000 working days. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.)

Employment in August showed a slight improvement, partly due to increased supplies of imported fuel, but remained bad on the whole, most of the principal industries still being seriously affected by the coal-mining stoppage. The industries in which some improvement was recorded

included cotton, jute, pottery, wool and worsted, iron and steel, tinplate, and railway service. In the engineering, ship-building, printing and tailoring trades there was a decline. In the building trades employment continued good with skilled workers. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.)

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A statistical return issued by the Registrar of Friendly Societies gives details of the membership, income, expenditure, and funds of registered trade unions with 10,000 or more members in the years 1924 and 1925. At the end of 1925 railwaymen were in the strongest position with a membership of 398,600 and funds of £1,911,500. Next in numbers come the Transport and General Workers with 376,300 members, but the funds amounted to only £486,500. The Amalgamated Engineering Union, with a membership of 234,300, had funds of £1,835,600, expenditure during the year amounting to £1,158,700, including unemployment benefit of £473,900. The expenditure of the Boilermakers amounted to no less than £1,399,600, of which £1,154,000 was for unemployment benefit. These two unions received refunds of National Unemployment insurance benefits of £395,900 and £1,213,300 respectively. The Miners had funds at the end 1925 of £1,155,400, as against £1,149,400 at the end of the preceding year. The General and Municipal Workers had at the end of last year a membership of 314,000 and funds of £429,400. (From "Economist," London, August 28, 1926.)

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UNITED STATES

The Consumers' League of the City of Cincinnati has recently caused a survey to be made of the holiday schemes in force in the various factories, shops, etc., of their city. The results of this enquiry show that of 256 firms, including 52 factories, 50 shops, and 9 miscellaneous establishments, 145 have no scheme of paid holidays, while 111 give holidays to all or part of their staff. Out of 23,729 persons employed, 15,948 are in receipt of paid holidays. Sixty-seven firms grant holidays to the whole of their staff, and 44 firms to only part of their staff.

The usual length of holidays given is one week, although in some cases two weeks are granted. The minimum period of service required in order to qualify for a holiday ranges from one week to ten years, only 13 firms requiring a minimum service of more than one year. Thirty-two firms stated that they had a graduated scale, in 25 cases the minimum being one week, and in seven less than one week, whereas the maximum was two weeks in 30 cases. In the two remaining cases four weeks holiday was granted to male staff after service of ten years or more, and six weeks to female staff.

In general, holidays have to be taken during the summer months, and several firms report a "shutdown" period. One firm which had tried a "shutdown" period for two years had decided to discontinue this system.

With regard to the practice of giving pay for public holidays, 54 companies reported that they paid for from three to seven legal holidays in

addition to the personal holidays. Four reported that no pay was given for legal holidays, and in the 53 remaining cases the number of holidays paid for was not specified.

The greater number of firms did not express an opinion with regard to the results of giving holidays, but a certain number stated that they considered them useful in reducing turnover and in improving the morale and health of the workers, the quality of the work, and loyalty to the firm. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 27, 1926.)

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OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

A Decree of the Polish Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, dated 20th May last, abolishes unemployment allowances for the following categories of unemployed:

(1) Workers who are unemployed as a result of illness, throughout the period during which they benefit by sickness insurance. When sick pay is exhausted the unemployed person loses his right to unemployment allowance only if the illness prevents him from accepting an offer of employment made to him by the public employment exchange.

(2) Persons unemployed as a result of invalidity, throughout the period of such invalidity. The right to an allowance is resumed if the unemployed person again becomes capable of work to an extent which allows him to accept an offer of employment made by the public employment exchange.

The industrial accident insurance institute or, if the worker is not insured, the district medical officer or factory inspector, are entrusted with the duty of determining whether or not the unemployed person has recovered his capacity to work.

(3) Persons unemployed as a result of a strike, throughout the duration of the strike in the undertaking where they were employed. Unemployed persons of this class recover their right to an allowance if, when the strike is settled, they are still without employment.

The right to an allowance is not lost when the strike is due to the fault of the employer, duly noted by the factory inspector.

(4) The allowance is abolished in the case of unemployed persons who have lost their employment as the result of any fault or action which, under existing legislation, authorises the employer to dismiss a worker without previous notice.

The Order came into force on 11th June last and supersedes that of 30th March 1925 on the same subject. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 30, 1926.)

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The Spanish Government recently published in the *Gaceta de Madrid* the text of a new Labour Code, drawn up by the Committee appointed for that purpose by Royal Order of 22nd February 1924.

In connection with the publication of the Code, Mr. Aunos, Minister of Labour, Commerce and Industry, made a statement to the press on the work accomplished by the Committee and on the scope and importance of the codification of labour legislation.

He pointed out that an essential feature, namely, the definition of the labour contract, had hitherto been lacking in Spanish labour legislation. The Committee, whose labours had been shared by the employers' and workers' representatives on the Council of Labour and by representatives from the War Office and the Admiralty, had defined the labour contract, and, what was still more important, had made provision in the new Code for the recognition of the collective agreement, thus putting an end to the controversy which had raged round this subject for some time past.

The Minister also emphasised the importance of the inclusion of regulations concerning indentures of apprenticeship and certain amendments to industrial courts' procedure. He added that, as the Labour Code contained only laws of a permanent character, all other laws would form the subject of a special collection in which would be included legislation on night work, Sunday rest, inspection, and other measures of an administrative character. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 27, 1926.)

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OTHER COUNTRIES

The Ontario Office Superintendents of the Employment Service of Canada, at their recent annual convention, discussed suggestions for dealing with an alleged prejudice on the part of some employers of labour in Canada against British workmen. It was stated that the Employment Offices were often asked by railway managers, contractors lumber and steel companies and other employers to supply non-English speaking workmen to the exclusion of British and Canadian workmen. As proof of the injustice of such a prejudice it was pointed out that British workers were able in their own country to carry on heavy work such as is required in Canada without the assistance of foreigners. Moreover in Canada British workmen commonly engage in city labour at wages similar to those paid in the occupations in which preference is now given to foreigners. In former years, it was stated, railway tract labour was all done by English, Irish and Scotch workmen. The opinion was further expressed that competent British workmen are still available if provision should be made for wages, sanitary sleeping quarters, foremen of British stock, and fair living conditions. The married British workman, it is found, usually prefers to remain at home, but it was thought that there were sufficient unmarried men for the "long distance jobs" to be filled. In order to remedy these conditions it was recommended (1) that the Provincial Government should be asked to provide the same sanitary standards in connection with bunk cars and construction camps as are now followed in lumber camps; (2) that the manager of railways and other industries be invited to give English speaking workers equal opportunities of employment; (3) that the Employment Officers should use their best judgment in sending out men who are reasonably certain to prove successful; (4) that the Dominion Government should only admit immigrants of a good type, and return unfit immigrants to the country of their origin.

It was further stated at the meeting that the problem of the assimilation of new arrivals, particularly those unable to speak English, was not confined to Ontario. In Saskatchewan, for instance, the new comers tend to settle

in isolated racial groups, and passively resist efforts to establish them as Canadians. (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, July 1926.)

* * * * *

The question of the employment of women underground in Japanese mines was considered recently by the Commission on General Problems of the Japanese Association for International Labour Legislation, and the following resolutions were passed:

"(1) This Association, prompted by humanitarian motives, having regard to the importance of protecting mothers, and taking into consideration the general tendency in foreign countries on this question, recognises the necessity of prohibiting women from working underground in mines, even though this involves some sacrifice on the part of industry.

We further recognise that the most effectual method of effecting such prohibition would be by the prompt establishment by law of the principle of prohibition. As a transitional measure, however, we believe that it is proper to allow those women who are at present working underground in mines to continue their work for three years.

(2) In order to achieve the object set out in the above resolution, this Association shall take the following steps:

(a) With a view to arousing the interest of public opinion, the gist of the report of the women members of the Commission shall be published in leaflet form, and distributed to those who may be interested in the question. If it is found desirable, public lectures on the question may also be organised.

(b) The attention of labour and women's organisations shall be called to the matter, and their co-operation invited.

(c) Representations shall be made to the Government and the attention of the Imperial Diet shall be called to the question.

(d) The attention of the employers shall also be directed to it.

(e) The Association for the Investigation of Working Conditions in Mines (*Kozan Rodo Jijo Chosa Kai*) shall be urged to take more vigorous measures.

(f) If necessary, the matter may be brought before the International Labour Conference." (From "International Labour Office, Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 166.)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN SEPTEMBER 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
1. The Manki Dhabha Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Elga Road, Ahmedabad.	350		16 Sept.	19 Sept.	Demand for better wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. The Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	739	2,654	16 Sept.	20 Sept.	Demand for better rates for working on big bobbins.	Work resumed ^{was} conditionally.
3. The Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	35		24 Sept.	25 Sept.	In sympathy with a dismissed jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING SEPTEMBER 1926
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 Aug 1926	Sept 1926	
	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926			
	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	
I Textile Mills—													
Cotton Mills ..	363	43	214 ^b	16	3	2	85	17	491	40	579	59	
Woolen Mills ..	3	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	5	..	5	2
Others ..	5	1	2	..	..	..	2	..	5	1	7	1
Total ..	371	45	218	17	3	2	87	17	501	43	591	62	
II Workshops—													
Engineering ..	20	5	249	25	..	..	12	1	257	29	269	30
Railway ..	106	14	1,225 ^c	118	3	..	55	7	1,294	144	1,332	132	
Mint ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Others ..	14	1	40	..	1	..	3	..	50	1	54	1	
Total ..	141	20	1,516	143	4	..	52	8	1,602	155	1,658	163	
III Miscellaneous—													
Chemical Works ..	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	4	..
Flour Mills ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	4	..
Printing Presses ..	5	1	7	..	..	..	..	..	12	1	12	1
Others ..	9	..	38	..	1	..	6	..	40	..	47	..	
Total ..	17	1	50	..	2	..	7	..	58	1	67	1	
Total, All Factories ..	529	66	1,784	160	9	2	146	25	2,161	199	2,316	226	

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 Aug 1926	Sept 1926	
	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926			
	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	
I Textile Mills—													
Cotton ..	177	32	84	17	2	1	29	3	230	45	261	49	
Total ..	177	32	84	17	2	1	29	3	230	45	261	49	
II Miscellaneous—													
Match Factory ..	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	2	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	5	..
Total, All Factories ..	179	32	87	17	3	1	29	3	234	45	266	49	

Explanations:—"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.
^b 3 persons affected by one accident.
^c 2 persons affected by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING SEPTEMBER 1926—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 Aug 1926	Sept 1926
	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926		
I Workshops— Keweenaw and Port Trust Engineering ..	2 2	1 1	17 13	5 1	1 ..	.. ..	1 ..	1 ..	17 14	6 2	19 15	6 2
Total ..	4	2	30	6	1	..	2	..	31	8	34	8
II Miscellaneous—	2	1	9	..	..	..	1	..	10	1	11	1
Total ..	2	1	9	..	..	..	1	..	10	1	11	1
Total, All Factories ..	6	3	39	6	1	..	3	..	41	9	45	9

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 Aug 1926	Sept 1926
	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills Others ..	75 4	8 ..	66 3	6 1	4 ..	.. ..	20 3	2 ..	117 4	12 1	141 7	14 1
Total ..	79	8	69	7	4	..	23	2	121	13	148	15
II Workshops— Railway Arms and Ammunition Works .. Others ..	28 3 9	5 1 2	152 4 19	16 1 1	.. .. 1	.. .. 1	12 1 4	2 1 ..	168 6 23	19 1 3	180 7 28	21 2 3
Total ..	40	8	175	18	1	..	17	3	197	23	215	26
III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pressing Factories .. Paint Works .. Others ..	5 11	.. 2	13(a) 10(b)	.. 3	2 4	.. ..	8 4	.. 2	11 15	.. 3	21 23	.. 5
Total ..	16	2	23	3	6	..	12	2	26	3	44	5
Total, All Factories ..	135	18	267	28	11	..	52	7	344	39	407	46

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.
(a) 4 persons affected by one accident.
(b) 3 persons affected by one accident.

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

Count or Number	Month of August			Five months ended August		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds (000)					
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	6,227	7,851	7,762	26,446	33,772	35,063
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	19,388	19,984	19,768	88,543	99,709	93,042
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	13,602	13,107	13,563	67,759	71,179	75,563
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	1,201	1,099	1,667	6,662	5,895	8,480
Above 40 ..	475	425	905	1,955	2,199	4,123
Waste, etc. ..	11	90	99	58	227	565
Total ..	40,904	42,556	43,764	191,423	212,981	216,836

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Month of August			Five months ended August		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds (000)					
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	5,492	7,111	6,871	23,497	30,372	31,248
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	13,842	13,041	13,643	60,792	65,815	62,961
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	8,846	8,163	8,242	42,247	46,129	46,905
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	697	640	848	3,590	3,246	3,923
Above 40 ..	311	253	361	1,048	1,335	1,554
Waste, etc. ..	2	81	90	15	183	514
Total ..	29,190	29,289	30,055	131,189	147,080	147,105

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Month of August			Five months ended August		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds (000)					
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	184	221	208	958	1,088	1,053
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	3,098	3,980	3,372	15,094	19,061	16,682
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	3,361	3,814	3,780	19,280	19,365	20,962
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	342	307	646	2,280	1,762	3,593
Above 40 ..	118	109	427	699	586	1,984
Waste, etc. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,103	8,431	8,433	38,311	41,862	44,274

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

Description	Month of August			Five months ended August		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000) 1,489	(000) 1,335	(000) 1,097	(000) 4,998	(000) 5,286	(000) 5,921
Khadi	1,321	1,557	1,728	5,586	6,688	7,961
Chudders	6,493	6,311	7,787	29,115	32,660	30,766
Dhotis	870	850	816	5,169	4,861	4,661
Drills and jeans	40	29	23	327	298	116
Cambrics and lawns	401	140	132	1,557	1,086	852
Printers	8,047	6,623	9,609	41,062	39,825	52,306
Shirtings and long cloth						
I. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,274	1,060	1,291	4,899	5,078	3,852
Tent cloth	332	141	130	871	626	286
Other sorts	443	383	324	2,550	2,573	2,728
Total	20,610	18,929	23,737	96,174	98,581	118,943
Coloured piece-goods	9,807	8,108	9,457	39,780	38,703	46,412
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	169	220	219	810	1,260	1,385
Hosiery	12	22	20	61	93	119
Miscellaneous	215	262	237	678	801	1,182
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	7	40	98	25	265	813
Grand Total	30,820	27,581	33,768	137,528	140,103	166,854

BOMBAY CITY

Description	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	1,060	1,318	1,676	3,444	4,258	5,289
Khadi	804	1,420	1,293	3,374	4,682	5,761
Chudders	2,186	2,240	2,549	9,036	11,087	12,065
Dhotis	760	663	747	4,686	4,257	4,254
Drills and jeans	29	14	5	270	195	23
Cambrics and lawns	9	1	—	24	13	—
Printers	5,907	4,961	7,265	29,362	29,838	40,578
Shirtings and long cloth						
I. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,077	840	887	3,898	3,797	4,056
Tent cloth	92	95	120	401	461	232
Other sorts	188	208	166	1,128	1,136	1,266
Total	12,112	11,760	14,708	55,623	59,717	73,556
Coloured piece-goods	8,000	6,350	6,918	30,920	28,270	32,732
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	165	209	214	783	1,203	1,342
Hosiery	5	5	5	29	26	24
Miscellaneous	194	151	187	604	639	960
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	6	38	93	18	249	503
Grand Total	20,482	18,513	22,122	87,977	90,109	109,117

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of August			Five months ended August		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000) 382	(000) 58	(000) 36	(000) 1,117	(000) 272	(000) 131
Khadi	4-6	319	328	1,772	1,564	1,680
Chudders	3,647	3,261	4,226	15,762	16,198	21,832
Dhotis	29	74	20	138	293	140
Drills and jeans	12	15	18	51	89	90
Cambrics and lawns	216	72	59	1,007	593	453
Printers	1,746	1,345	1,773	9,592	7,816	8,853
Shirtings and long cloth						
I. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	175	203	317	881	1,180	1,380
Tent cloth	234	40	2	438	131	9
Other sorts	151	121	89	951	1,001	537
Total	7,038	5,508	6,868	31,729	29,137	35,105
Coloured piece-goods	948	1,038	1,503	5,119	6,570	8,878
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	1	1	3	5	6
Hosiery	7	16	15	32	65	95
Miscellaneous	21	94	41	75	138	211
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	..	3	9	2	14	303
Grand Total	8,015	6,660	8,437	36,560	35,929	44,598

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Sept 1925	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	July 1914	Oct 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 5	6 6 10	6 11 7	6 12 7	100	102	108	108
Wheat	Do.	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 5 3	8 5 0	8 1 6	100	102	104	105
Do.	Do.	Candy	45 0 0	71 0 0	72 8 0	77 8 0	100	102	104	105
Do.	Do.	Mauud	40 0 0	55 6 0	55 8 0	50 8 0	100	102	104	105
Jowari	Do.	Do.	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 7 1(1)	4 10 6(1)	100	102	104	105
Barley	Do.	Do.	3 4 6	4 7 1	4 8 10	4 5 5	100	102	104	105
Bairi	Do.	Do.	3 4 6	4 15 7	5 8 1	6 0 6	100	102	104	105
Pulses—	Index No.—Cereals	....	....	....	....	....	100	104	106	106
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd year)	Mauud	4 3 9	4 7 1	5 8 1	5 4 8	100	105	105	105
Turdal	Cawnpore	....	5 10 5	5 13 1	7 9 11	7 9 11	100	103	105	105
Index No.—Pulses	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	104	103	100
Index No.—Food grains	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	134	145	146
Sugar—	Index No.—Sugar	....	....	....	....	....	100	159	146	156
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	14 13 0	16 0 0	16 2 0	100	145	144	146
Do.	Java, white	....	10 3 0	12 14 10	10 9 10	10 3 3	100	164	135	129
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Mauud	7 14 3	....	....	....	100	159	146	156
Other Food—	Index No.—Other food	....	....	....	....	....	100	176	146	148
Turmeric	Rajpuri	Mauud	5 9 3	10 1 1	7 1 2	7 12 1	100	180	127	139
Chee	Deahi	....	45 11 5	88 9 2	80 0 0	77 2 3	100	104	175	169
Salt	Bombay (black)	....	1 7 6	2 4 0	1 0 0	2 0 0	100	153	136	136
Index No.—All Food	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	146	145	148
Oilseeds—	Index No.—Oilseeds	....	....	....	....	....	100	156	134	140
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	12 15 0	10 14 0	10 12 0	100	145	122	121
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	....	8 0 0	11 8 0	11 4 0	11 5 0	100	144	141	141
Poppy seed	White	10 14 0	13 10 0	15 0 0	14 14 0	100	125	138	137
Gingelly seed	11 4 0	14 11 0	18 0 0	100	133	160

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Textile Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	462 0 0	350 0 0	350 0 0	100	184	149	149
Oomra	Do.	....	222 0 0	....	341 0 0	341 0 0	100	....	154	154
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	....	230 0 0	....	360 0 0	360 0 0	100	....	157	157
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	....	205 0 0	....	308 0 0	308 0 0	100	....	150	150
Bengal	Do.	....	198 0 0	....	291 0 0	291 0 0	100	....	147	147
Index No.—Cotton, raw	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	184	149	149
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 8 0	1 3 6	1 1 6	100	188	153	137
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	11 8 0	9 8 0	9 4 0	100	194	160	156
White mulls	6,000	....	4 3 0	10 12 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	100	257	233	233
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	....	10 6 0	22 12 0	19 6 0	19 0 0	100	219	187	183
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 2 3	1 0 3	1 0 0	100	192	161	168
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.	....	0 9 6	1 1 3	0 15 6	0 15 6	100	181	163	163
Index No.—Cotton manufactures	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	205	176	173
Index No.—Textile—Cotton	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	202	165	162
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	7 10 7	5 13 7	6 2 5	100	149	113	119
Do.	Mathow Lari	....	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 4 10	4 5 4	100	160	146	147
Index No.—Other Textiles	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	155	130	133
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 11 4	1 5 9	1 6 7	100	148	118	122
Do. Buffalo	Do.	....	1 1 3	0 12 11	0 12 4	0 15 3	100	75	72	88
Skins, Goat	Do.	....	1 4 0	2 7 11	2 6 7	2 6 3	100	210	193	191
Index No.—Hides and Skins	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	141	128	134
Metals—										
Copper braziers	....	Cwt.	60 8 0	62 8 0	57 0 0	57 0 0	100	103	44	44
Iron bars	....	....	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	175	168	168
Steel hoops	....	....	7 12 0	11 0 0	10 0 0	9 14 0	100	141	129	127
Galvanised sheets	....	....	9 0 0	14 0 0	13 14 0	13 14 0	100	156	154	154
Tin plates	....	Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	189	194	194
Index No.—Metals	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	153	147	146
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	Bengal 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	22 14 0	21 0 0	21 9 0	100	155	147	147
Do.	Imported	....	19 11 6	24 6 11	18 14 7	21 5 4	100	124	....	168
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 6 6	7 6 0	100	170	169	164
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 6	9 8 6	100	185	186	186
Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	160	148	151
Index No.—Food	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	146	145	148
Index No.—Non-food	100	164	149	150
General Index No.	100	157	148	149

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality.

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WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers				
			July 1914	Sept 1925	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	July 1914	Sept 1925	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	
Cereals—											
Wheat, white	Larkana No. 3 1% barley, 3% dirt, 92%	Candy	39 0 0	40 12 0	42 12 0	43 12 0	100	136	134	140	132
" red	"	"	31 8 0	43 8 0	42 8 0	43 8 0	100	136	135	136	130
" white	2% barley, 14% dirt	"	32 8 0	44 12 0	43 12 0	42 12 0	100	136	135	135	132
" red	2% barley, 11% dirt	"	32 4 0	43 12 0	42 12 0	41 12 0	100	135	134	134	127
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	40 0 0	39 4 0	39 15 0	100	125	140	136	136
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	35 0 0	37 0 0	36 0 0	100	125	140	136	136
Index No.—Cereals			....	....	....	....	100	141	145	141	141
Pulses—											
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	34 0 0	40 0 0 ⁽¹⁾	40 8 0 ⁽²⁾	100	115	136	137	137
Sugar—											
Sugar	Jess white	Cwt.	9 2 0	14 5 0	15 1 0	15 10 0	100	157	165	165	165
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	....	14 2 0	15 2 0	100	157	175	175	175
Index No.—Sugar			....	....	....	....	100	157	170	170	170
Other food—											
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	2 0 0	100	79	79	86	86
Oilseeds—											
Cotton seed	3% admixture	Maund	2 11 3	3 6 0	3 10 0	3 8 0	100	125	134	129	129
Rapeseed, bold	Black 9% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	72 0 0	....	....	100	141	....	....	....
Gingelly	"	"	62 0 0	85 0 0	....	....	100	157	....	....	....
Index No.—Oilseeds			....	....	....	....	100	154	154	159	159
Textiles—											
Jute bag	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	69 8 0	50 0 0	55 8 0	100	162	191	188	188

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Textiles—Cotton											
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund.	20 4 0	42 12 0	35 8 0	34 0 0	100	211	191	191	191
(b) Cotton manufactures	Pepperill Liesmann's	Piece.	10 3 6	21 0 0	18 12 0	18 12 0	100	205	191	191	191
Drills	"	"	10 2 0	22 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	100	211	191	191	191
Shirtings	"	"	....	....	....	....	100	211	182	188	188
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			....	....	....	....	100	211	182	188	188
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton			....	....	....	....	100	211	182	188	188
Other Textiles—Wool	Kanjahar	Maund.	28 0 0	47 0 0	34 0 0	32 0 0	100	166	121	132	132
Hides—											
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56	56
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56	56
Index No.—Hides			....	....	....	....	100	64	56	56	56
Metals—											
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	68 0 0	58 0 0	58 0 0	100	113	96	96	96
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 0 0	5 14 0	6 0 0	100	168	152	155	155
" Plates		"	4 6 0	7 2 0	5 0 0	5 12 0	100	163	126	131	131
Index No.—Metals			....	....	....	....	100	148	129	127	127
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton	16 0 0	23 0 0	21 4 0	21 4 0	100	144	127	133	133
Kerosene	Chatter Brand	5 Tons	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	183	163	163	163
"	Elephant	"	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 4 0	7 4 0	100	165	163	163	163
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			....	....	....	....	100	164	160	160	160
Index No.—Fuel			100	134	142	143	143
Index No.—Non-fuel			100	153	156	156	156
General Index No.			100	146	139	140	140

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

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	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1923					182	136	211	115	196	149	177	162	178	179
September ..	124	85	209	354										
1924					168	148	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
September ..	142	95	197	250										
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	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					173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
January ..	153	102	174	267										
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	145	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	167
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	159	167	157
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	155	163	158
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	160
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a) 191	203	153	151	154	159	164	157
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	162	160
1926					149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
January ..	147	119	148	172										
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a) 144	186	145	147	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	155	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	151	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149

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

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and miscellaneous items
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100(f)	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(h) 108	99	117	116	146	103	105(m)
1916 ..	108	148	102	115	117	116	116	116	140	106	118
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	146	146	146	190	114	142
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	197	253	261	118	174
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	205	275	261	126	199
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	302	155	238 (n)
1921 ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	200
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	130	174
1923 ..	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	(i) 135	170
1924 ..	157	170	144	(a) 149	(l) 160	493	493	(d) 251	169	(p) 302	173
1925										(q) 366	(r) 173(m)
February ..	157	179	150	150	160	592	517	170	133	386	174
March ..	159	179	148	150	160	602	511	170	133	386	174
April ..	158	175	147	150	160	600	506	168	134	386	174
May ..	156	173	146	153	160	591	502	167	134	386	174
June ..	154	172	146	153	160	596	505	169	133	386	174
July ..	157	173	146	153	160	598	509	169	133	386	174
August ..	152	173	149	155	163	610	517	167	132	386	174
September ..	151	174	149	155	163	624	525	167	132	401	178
October ..	153	176	149	155	163	643	533	165	132	401	178
November ..	153	176	152	156	163	643	534	165	132	401	178
December ..	155	177	154	156	163	640	534	165	131	421	178
1926											
January ..	155	175	155	156	162	665	527	167	131	451	178
February ..	154	173	154	156	162	661	526	165	131	451	178
March ..	155	172	154	156	162	654	521	167	131	451	178
April ..	153	168	153	156	162	642	529	160	132	451	178
May ..	153	167	152	156	162	652	528	162	131	451	178
June ..	155	168	150	156	163	650	529	162	130	451	178
July ..	157	170	150	156	163	649	637	162	130	451	178
August ..	155	170	150	156	163	681	681	162	130	451	178
September ..	155	172	150	156	163	681	681	162	130	451	178
October ..	155	172	150	156	163	681	681	162	130	451	178

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1913 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (j) Revised figures. (k) Figures from 1913 to 1914 refer to August. (l) Figures from 1913 to 1914 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1913 to 1914 refer to August. (n) Figures from 1913 to 1914 refer to August. (o) Figures from 1913 to 1914 refer to August.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100	(a) 100	100(f)	100	100
1914	100	96	..	..	106	(e) 100	102	102	109	(e) 115	116	102	98
1915	97	..	..	..	147	102	140	146	159	145	145	102	101
1916	117	..	..	..	138	124	188	224	233	185	185	132	127
1917	149	..	..	..	153	169	262	276	341	244	244	179	177
1918	236	..	..	..	178	207	339	373	345	339	339	199	194
1919	222	..	..	..	189	226	356	304	322	331	331	209	206
1920	216	..	..	..	228	299	509	292	(e) 377	347	347	244	226
1921	199	..	..	..	175	180	345	182	298	211	211	172	147
1922	187	..	..	..	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923	181	..	..	..	176	179	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924	182	..	..	..	176	173	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
.. September	181	..	..	..	177	170	167	486	158	275	153	154	149
.. October	181	..	..	..	175	171	156	497	161	276	162	157	152
.. November	176	..	..	..	173	171	158	504	161	277	162	158	153
.. December	176	..	..	..	173	156	170	507	160	278	163	161	157
1925	173	..	..	..	177	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	160
.. January	173	..	..	..	177	170	161	515	158	281	164	165	161
.. February	171	..	..	..	179	168	151	514	155	276	164	162	161
.. March	171	..	..	..	175	170	151	513	151	267	160	157	160
.. April	165	..	..	..	166	154	166	513	151	267	160	157	156
.. May	164	..	..	..	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
.. June	160	..	..	..	173	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
.. July	158	..	..	..	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
.. August	160	..	..	..	176	170	151	557	155	245	154	160	160
.. September	157	..	..	..	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	152
.. October	(b) 158	..	..	..	175	171	153	572	154	221	148	157	158
.. November	(b) 160	..	..	..	174	173	145	605	154	217	150	161	158
.. December	(b) 154	..	..	..	173	168	140	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926	(b) 154	..	..	..	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
.. January	(b) 151	..	..	..	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
.. February	(b) 151	..	..	..	170	168	134	632	145	204	145	160	152
.. March	(b) 150	..	..	..	167	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
.. April	151	..	..	..	163	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
.. May	151	..	..	..	165	133	144	632	143	196	145	157	152
.. June	150	..	..	..	159	129	129	738	144	195	143	156	152
.. July	149	..	..	..	159	169	129	838	141	196	143	156	151
.. August	148	..	..	..	157	159	169	889	..	..	143	..	149
.. September	149	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914-1921 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (f) Board of Trade. (g) Ministry of Commerce. (h) Ministry of Labour Statistics. (i) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100. † The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1913 to 104 in September 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (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	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)	119(i)
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917	114	204	157	128	126	122	143	183	137	..	..	..	142	214	181	166
1918	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	..	176	279	268	178
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	..	210	289	310	212
1920	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	..	..	211	319	297	245
1921	174	220	146	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	982	1,278	180	295	232	236
1922	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e) 184	157
1923	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	136	218	160	(e) 188	166
1924	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e) 200	170
1925	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	1,089	155	283	170	..	168
.. March	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	415	624	136	1,119	151	284	171	..	168
.. April	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
.. May	151	167	141	123	154	149	148	418	599	125	1,059	149	265	169	..	165
.. June	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	210	167
.. July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	..	167
.. August	147	168	146	119	156	152	157	423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
.. September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
.. October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	148	228	166	..	163
.. November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
.. December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	177	163
1926	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	..	216	162	..	167
.. January	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	163
.. March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	..	205	159	..	..
.. April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	..	198	158	..	..
.. May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	..	1,041	..	195	157	..	159
.. June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	..	1,052	..	194	157	..	159
.. July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	..	..	1,067	..	196	156	..	159
.. August	153	161	..	..	..	150	..	587	..	..	1,116	..	..	..	..	..
.. September	152	162	..	..	..	148	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.. October	153	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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

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RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1926

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	Solepur	Punjab	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Solepur	Punjab
		August 1926	August 1926	August 1926	August 1926	August 1926	Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926	1926	Sept. 1926	1926
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
<i>Cereals—</i>											
Rice	Maund ..	7 8 9 <i>135</i>	8 14 3 <i>133</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 0 4 <i>152</i>	8 12 8 <i>152</i>	7 8 9 <i>133</i>	8 14 3 <i>133</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 12 8 <i>152</i>
Wheat	" ..	7 9 7 <i>136</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	6 12 6 <i>131</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>	7 7 0 <i>133</i>	6 1 6 <i>145</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	6 12 6 <i>131</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>
Jowari	" ..	5 11 2 <i>131</i>	4 11 4 <i>130</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 7 1 <i>120</i>	5 3 10 <i>153</i>	5 11 2 <i>131</i>	4 12 5 <i>131</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 8 2 <i>122</i>	5 7 1 <i>159</i>
Bairi	" ..	6 2 9 <i>143</i>	6 10 8 <i>158</i>	6 10 8 <i>142</i>	4 12 10 <i>137</i>	6 0 1 <i>146</i>	6 9 1 <i>152</i>	6 12 11 <i>162</i>	6 10 8 <i>142</i>	4 15 2 <i>141</i>	6 4 2 <i>153</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		<i>136</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>153</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund ..	6 2 7 <i>143</i>	5 7 6 <i>144</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 6 1 <i>125</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>	6 6 8 <i>149</i>	5 6 9 <i>142</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 10 2 <i>131</i>	5 10 9 <i>117</i>
Turdal	" ..	7 13 6 <i>134</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	7 10 2 <i>131</i>	8 14 3 <i>135</i>	7 14 9 <i>136</i>	8 1 7 <i>121</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	7 5 8 <i>126</i>	8 14 3 <i>135</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		<i>139</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>126</i>
<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined)..	Maund ..	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	11 10 2 <i>160</i>	13 5 4 <i>167</i>	13 14 7 <i>139</i>	14 15 3 <i>160</i>	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	11 13 8 <i>163</i>	11 5 4 <i>167</i>	11 5 4 <i>133</i>	12 15 3 <i>134</i>
Jaggi (gul) ..	" ..	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 10 2 <i>167</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	10 0 0 <i>129</i>	10 3 1 <i>145</i>	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	10 0 0 <i>129</i>	10 8 5 <i>150</i>
Tea	Lb. ..	0 15 2 <i>194</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 15 1 <i>193</i>	0 11 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 0 5 <i>200</i>
Salt	Maund ..	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 9 5 <i>161</i>	2 13 5 <i>151</i>	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 7 8 <i>189</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 7 6 <i>156</i>	2 13 5 <i>151</i>
Beef	Seer ..	0 8 9 <i>169</i>	0 9 6 <i>190</i>	0 6 0 <i>100</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 9 <i>169</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 6 0 <i>100</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	" ..	0 10 11 <i>164</i>	0 10 9 <i>179</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 11 0 <i>183</i>	0 10 11 <i>164</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 11 0 <i>183</i>
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	11 0 7 <i>221</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	8 3 3 <i>185</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	" ..	97 9 11 <i>192</i>	77 9 4 <i>182</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>	94 0 11 <i>185</i>	77 9 4 <i>182</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes	" ..	7 11 10 <i>173</i>	10 0 0 <i>184</i>	8 14 3 <i>234</i>	16 0 0 <i>400</i>	9 9 9 <i>285</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	5 9 10 <i>104</i>	8 0 0 <i>210</i>	8 0 0 <i>200</i>	7 5 2 <i>217</i>
Onions	" ..	4 12 2 <i>307</i>	2 11 2 <i>148</i>	3 1 3 <i>154</i>	3 5 4 <i>133</i>	3 5 4 <i>166</i>	5 5 9 <i>245</i>	3 1 6 <i>170</i>	3 1 3 <i>154</i>	3 5 4 <i>133</i>	3 3 10 <i>162</i>
Cocconut oil ..	" ..	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	25 9 7 <i>104</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		<i>182</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>184</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>158</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i>		<i>166</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>153</i>

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