

Securities Index Numbers

	Fixed interest Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.	Cotton spinning and pressing companies.	Electric undertakings.	All Industrial Securities	General average (1924 Securities)	1924 June	Fixed interest Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.	Cotton spinning and pressing companies.	Electric undertakings.	All Industrial Securities	General average (1924 Securities)
1914 July	100	100	100	100	100	100	1924 June	74	180	121	137	143	138
1915 ..	96	97	94	90	101	100	.. July	74	176	121	133	140	135
1916 ..	87	114	102	122	130	127	.. Aug.	74	192	124	130	148	143
1917 ..	73	138	118	128	158	151	.. Sep.	72	203	124	131	153	147
1918 ..	74	212	131	139	194	184	.. Oct.	72	197	127	127	148	143
1919 ..	77	216	126	237	216	206	.. Nov.	72	198	128	127	149	143
1920 ..	65	438	168	246	313	296	.. Dec.	72	196	128	128	147	142
1921 ..	65	450	158	212	311	295	1925 Jan.	72	205	129	141	152	147
1922 ..	63	406	163	175	267	253	.. Feb.	72	204	131	157	154	148
1923 June	71	222	145	126	176	168	.. Mar.	72	197	131	154	150	145
.. July	72	229	147	136	176	169	.. April	73	192	131	147	146	141
.. Aug.	73	216	153	138	168	161	.. May	73	173	121	146	137	133
.. Sep.	73	225	133	133	166	159	.. June	73	167	119	142	134	130
.. Oct.	72	213	133	131	163	157	.. July	74	169	118	140	134	130
.. Nov.	71	216	122	135	163	156	.. Aug.	74	161	118	135	130	126
.. Dec.	71	215	122	131	160	154	.. Sep.	74	156	118	133	128	124
1924 Jan.	71	196	122	126	151	146	.. Oct.	74	158	121	136	129	125
.. Feb.	73	192	122	127	148	143	.. Nov.	74	156	121	139	128	125
.. Mar.	74	189	122	128	146	141	.. Dec.	74	165	118	149	134	130
.. Apr.	74	188	119	130	145	140	1926 Jan.	74	163	118	156	133	129
.. May	74	179	120	137	143	138	.. Feb.	74	169	114	166	136	132

\* Also included in "Industrial Securities."

# LABOUR GAZETTE

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## The Month in Brief

### EMPLOYMENT—THE COTTON INDUSTRY

The supply of labour was equal to the demand in the City of Bombay. The statistics regarding employment for the month ended 12th April 1926 showed an average absenteeism of 9.9 per cent. as compared with 9.6 per cent. in the month ended 12th March 1926.

In **AMMEDABAI**, the supply of labour was reported to be quite adequate during the month under review. Detailed reports of absenteeism received from representative mills in this centre showed an average of 2.5 per cent. as compared with 1.9 per cent. last month and 2.5 per cent. two months ago.

In **SHOLAPUR**, the supply of labour was adequate and absenteeism showed a further increase. The average was 16.2 per cent. as compared with 14.1 per cent. last month and 1.8 per cent. two months ago.

In **BROACH**, absenteeism was 10.5 per cent. as compared with 9.4 per cent. in the last month. The supply of labour in this centre was adequate.

On the whole therefore the supply of labour in all the abovementioned centres of the industry was adequate during the month but absenteeism increased in all the above four centres for which returns have been received.

### THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average of absenteeism in representative engineering workshops (based on the returns from three large establishments) showed an increase; the figure being 15.0 per cent. as compared with 14.6 per cent. last month and 10.4 per cent. two months ago.

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

The supply of unskilled labour employed for loading, removing, storing and unloading cargo in the docks by the Bombay Port Trust was equal to the demand. The percentage absenteeism was 13.63 as compared with 14.65 in the preceding month and 13.6 two months ago. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average absenteeism decreased from 9.9 per cent. in the last month to 9.2 per cent. in the month under review. The percentage of absenteeism based on the attendance of monthly paid workers employed in the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust was 7, the same as in the preceding month.

**WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING**

In April 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index number was 153 or two points below the level of the previous month. The average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the Cost of Living Index for Bombay City (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 153 for all articles and 150 for food articles only. There was a fall of 5 points as compared with this time last year and of 40 points from the high water mark (October 1920) in the cost of living index. The index number for all food articles decreased by one point during the month. Food grains decreased by one point owing to a fall of 3 points in Pulses. The other food articles decreased by 2 points, there being a fall of 7 points in sugar, 4 points in tea, 4 points in salt, 3 points in beef, 6 points in ghee and 39 points in onions. Clothing recorded an increase of one point and Fuel and lighting remained stationary. The house-rent index number was taken to be 172, i.e., equal to the weighted average for the year 1923-24.

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

**THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER**

In March 1926, the general index of wholesale prices in Bombay was 150, thus showing a fall of 2 points as compared with the previous month. The index number of All-food rose by 1 point and that of Non-food decreased by 5 points. The index number for food-grains only was 140 against 137 during the previous month. This shows a rise of 3 points, which was due to a rise of 5 points in cereals.

The general index of all the articles is a mean of the price relatives of all the articles included in the index and is obtained by dividing the sum of the index numbers of articles for which quotations are available and not by finding the mean of the group index numbers for food and non-food articles. The fluctuations in the prices of foods, non-foods and all articles will be seen in the following table :—

—	Number of items	Increase per cent. over July 1914				
		November 1925	December 1925	January 1926	February 1926	March 1926
		Foods	55	49	49	43
Non-foods	62	58	58	58	53	
All articles	60	55	55	52	50	

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

**SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER**

In March 1926, the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number was 130 as compared with 132 during the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities advanced by 3 points during the month. There was a rise of 2 points in Banks, 1 point in Railway Companies and a fall of 2 points in Cotton Mills, 2 points in Electric Undertakings, 5 points in Miscellaneous Companies and 14 points in Cement and Manganese Companies. Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies remained stationary. This resulted in decreasing the index number of Industrial Securities by 2 points.

**INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES**

There were nine industrial disputes in progress during March 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 1,320 and the number of working days lost 3,161.

**COTTON MILL PRODUCTION**

Cotton Mill production in February 1926 and in the eleven months ended February, 1926, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two preceding years is shown in the following two tables.

*(1) Month of February*

—	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	February			February		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Bombay City	1	28	27	6	16	19
Ahmedabad	8	7	8	8	7	12
Other centres	4	5	5	3	3	3
Total, Presidency	13	40	40	17	26	34

## (2) Eleven months ending February

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Eleven months ending February			Eleven months ending February		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Bombay City	266	299	233	186	201	181
Ahmedabad	69	84	94	71	85	96
Other centres	49	51	54	31	31	34
Total, Presidency.	384	434	381	288	317	311

The Bombay Millowners' Association quotations at the end of March 1925 and February and March 1926 are as follows:—

	Net rate per lb. in annas		
	March 1925	February 1926	March 1926
Long Cloths ..	20½	17½	18
T. Cloths ..	19½	16	16
Chudders ..	19½	16	16½

During the month under review, the production of woven goods showed an increase in Bombay as well as in Ahmedabad, while that of yarn showed a slight decrease in Bombay and a slight increase in Ahmedabad. In other centres production remained on the same level.

**THE OUTLOOK**

The fluctuations in the price of raw cotton were within narrow limits. The tone of the market was steady and spot demand increased considerably during the second week. Purchases by Japanese firms were small at first while in the last week a leading Japanese firm made heavy purchases. European buyers were out of the market and the local mills purchased only from hand to mouth.

Business in English yarn was discouraging. There was hardly any liveliness in the market owing to very poor demand. A tendency to cut down prices was visible due to increasing stocks. The condition of the local yarn market was also not encouraging. Demand was on a restricted scale and the local mills were anxious to sell. There was thus an all round lowering of prices by about ½ an anna per lb. in the second week, and towards the close of the month prices showed a further tendency to decline.

Business in Manchester piecegoods was not active. Only during the second week was there some retail demand. Fresh business was not possible as buyers were expecting easier prices. The local piecegoods market was also not very brisk. There were no big contracts but only ordinary demand. Dealers were inclined to watch and wait while the local mills were keen on selling. Consequently prices which remained steady became easier towards the end of the month under review.

The financial situation continued to be easy this month also. The cash balances of the Imperial Bank increased by Rs. 255, 454 and 12 lakhs respectively in the first three weeks whereas in the last week they declined by Rs. 406 lakhs due to the withdrawal of Rs. 3 crores from Government deposits for transfer to the Home Treasury through Paper Currency Reserve. Call money was available at 5 to 5½ per cent. during the month, and the Government Security market remained firm.

The Working Class Cost of Living Index decreased by 2 points in April. The wholesale prices index declined by 2 points as compared with February 1926. The fall in Industrial Securities was of 2 points.

The bank rate continued at 6 per cent. from 3rd December 1925. The rate of exchange in Bombay on London on 1st April 1926 was 5½d., as against 1s. 6½d. on 1st March 1926.

**THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 20th APRIL**

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

The position regarding crops and rainfall, as it appears to-day in the various divisions of the Bombay Presidency, may be briefly summarised as follows:—

*Gujarat.*—Excepting a few drops which were received in parts of the Ahmedabad district in the second week of April there was practically no rain anywhere in the division during the period under review. The picking of cotton is in progress while the harvesting of *rabi* crops such as wheat, barley, etc., continues in places. The standing crops are being helped with irrigation wherever possible and such crops are generally doing well.

*Konkan.*—The situation in this division is generally the same as reported last time. The standing crops are generally in good condition. The harvesting of the *rabi* crops is in progress in places of the division while the cutting of sugarcane continues in parts of the Kanara district. Preparation of lands for the ensuing season has been undertaken almost everywhere in the division.

*Deccan and Karnatak.*—Excepting a few drops of rain in parts of the East Khandesh and Dharwar districts there has been no rain anywhere in either of the two divisions. The harvesting of *rabi* crops continues generally while the crushing of sugarcane is in progress in the canal and other sugarcane areas. Lands are being prepared for the next season. The garden crops are doing well nearly everywhere in both the divisions. The picking of cotton continues in parts of the Karnatak.

OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The working class cost of living index number compiled by the Ministry of Labour stood at 172 at 1st March 1926. In February there were in all 62 industrial disputes involving stoppages of work. The estimated aggregate duration of these disputes was 366,000 working days. There was a slight diminution in unemployment during February but this was of the same magnitude that is to be expected at this time of the year.

The index number of securities and wholesale prices showed a decline. The import and export trade showed no improvement.

There was an improvement in the output of the Iron and Steel Industry. It is expected that the prosperous condition of the industry will continue in view of the fact that there is a large demand for railway work and ship plate business.

The condition of the textile industry did not improve. The section of the cotton industry spinning American cotton suffered. The producers of cotton textiles are finding that though they have reduced prices, demand is not increasing. This is attributed to the fact that retailers are charging high prices, in many cases twice as much as is paid to the producers. A group of manufacturers in Lancashire is thinking of copying the example set in other industries of opening shops in different towns for the sale of their production.

In the United States activity in manufactures and trade was on a moderate level. The general trend of commodity prices was downward.

In the cotton trade there was almost a deadlock. The recent reductions in the price of piece-goods, failed to arouse increased buying. Stocks of yarn accumulated.

There was increased firmness in the money market at the end of February and the beginning of March, but this was probably the normal seasonal development.

It is expected that the business outlook in the United States will improve and that the settlement of the Anthracite Coal Strike will exert a favourable influence everywhere.

In Germany there was a rise in prices. The official index of wholesale prices stood at 119 in mid-February. Practically all branches of industry reported bad business and the easiness of the money market only indicated the curtailment of the volume of production. Unemployment increased and at the end of January the number of fully unemployed persons rose to 2,030,000 representing an increase of 35 per cent. since the end of November and of about 250 per cent. in the last twelve months.

The business outlook in Belgium was far from encouraging. The industrial depression was spreading and the iron and steel industry suffered most.

The Canadian prices showed very erratic movements. Wholesale prices rallied from somewhat violent reaction of January. Business activity though not dull was not very great.

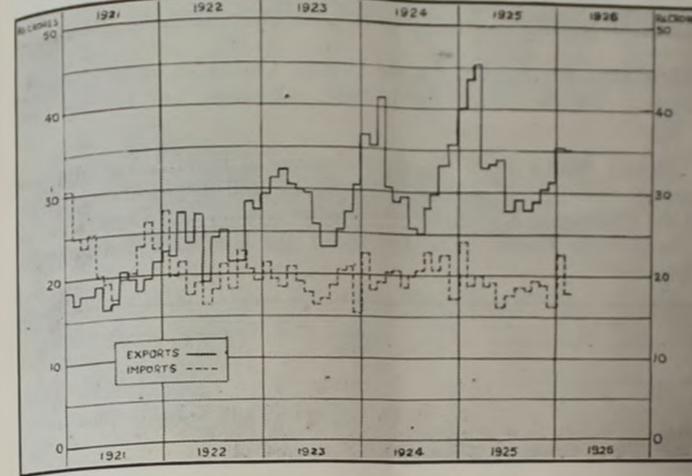
THE BALANCE OF TRADE

During March 1926, the visible balance of trade, including Securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 10,06 lakhs.

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

	India		Bombay		Karachi	
	February 1926	March 1926	February 1926	March 1926	February 1926	March 1926
	(In lakhs of rupees)		(In lakhs of rupees)		(In lakhs of rupees)	
Exports (private merchandise)	35.05	37.90	12.01	10.21	3.80	4.43
Imports (private merchandise)	18.03	22.30	5.41	7.43	1.94	2.27
Balance of Trade in merchandise	+ 17.05	+ 15.60	+ 6.60	+ 2.78	+ 1.86	+ 2.16
Imports of treasure (private)			4.25	5.25	2	3
Exports of treasure (private)			62	38	1	1
Balance of treasure (private)	- 3.86	- 5.70	- 3.63	- 5.37	- 1	- 2
Visible balance of trade including securities	+ 9.62	+ 10.06				

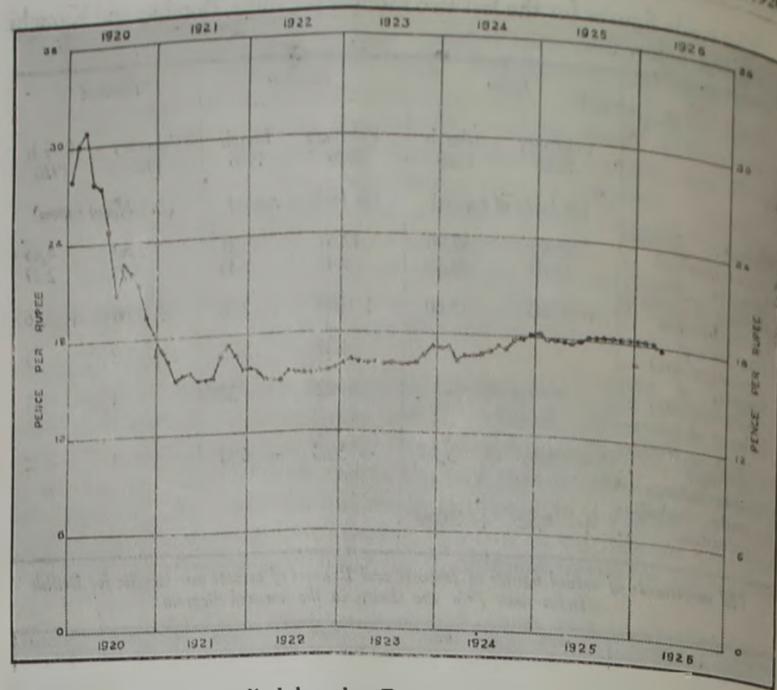
The movements of actual figures of Imports and Exports of private merchandise for British India since 1921 are shown in the annexed diagram



BUSINESS CONDITIONS

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

		s	d.			s	d.
May 1925	..	..	1 5 13/16	November 1925	..	..	1 6 5/32
June	..	..	1 5 31/32	December	..	..	1 6 5/32
July	..	..	1 6 1/16	January 1926	..	..	1 6 5/32
August	..	..	1 6 3/32	February	..	..	1 6 5/32
September	..	..	1 6 5/32	March	..	..	1 6 1/8
October	..	..	1 6 5/32	April	..	..	1 5 7/8



These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 23rd April 1926, exchange on London was 1s. 5<sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub>d.

During March 1926, the Bank clearings in Bombay, Calcutta and Rangoon recorded an increase of Rs. 1, 15 and 2 crores respectively and the clearings in Karachi were approximately on the same level as in the previous month. The figures for the last three months are as follows:—

	January 1926	February 1926	March 1926
	Rs. (in Crores)	Rs. (in Crores)	Rs. (in Crores)
Bombay	35	32	33
Karachi	3	3	3
Calcutta	92	71	86
Rangoon	11	11	13
Total	141	117	135

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of March 1926 was 55.46 as against 55.09 in February and 54.96 in January 1926.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—APRIL

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price x Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Mar. 1926	April 1926	July 1914	Mar. 1926	April 1926
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	Rs. 5.594	7.469	7.893	Rs. 391.58	522.83	517.37
Wheat	"	11	4.354	5.333	5.417	117.47	155.53	155.53
Jowari	"	6	4.313	5.771	5.771	47.89	58.66	39.59
Maize	"	6	4.313	5.771	5.771	25.88	34.63	34.63
Total—Cereals						607.82	771.31	757.13
Index Numbers—Cereals						100	132	132
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4.302	6.000	5.833	43.02	60.00	58.33
Turdal	"	3	5.844	7.531	7.370	17.53	22.59	22.11
Total—Pulses						60.55	82.59	80.44
Index Numbers—Pulses						100	136	133
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	7	7.620	14.287	13.693	53.54	100.01	97.89
Raw Sugar (Gul)	"	7	8.557	14.287	14.287	59.90	100.01	100.01
Tea	"	5	40.000	79.057	77.76	200.00	395.28	388.80
Salt	Seer	28	2.130	3.412	3.313	10.65	17.96	16.57
Beef	"	33	0.323	0.510	0.500	9.04	14.28	14.00
Mutton	"	33	0.417	0.781	0.792	13.76	25.77	26.14
Milk	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Ghee	"	14	50.792	101.182	98.214	76.19	151.77	147.52
Choco	"	11	4.479	7.141	7.141	49.27	78.55	78.55
Potatoes	"	3	1.552	4.766	4.167	4.66	14.30	12.50
Cocoa	"	1	25.396	46.573	28.573	12.70	14.29	14.29
Coconut Oil	"	1	25.396	46.573	28.573	12.70	14.29	14.29
Total—Other food articles						381.18	692.74	684.87
Index Numbers—Other food articles						100	182	180
Total—All food articles						1,029.55	1,546.98	1,532.41
Index Numbers—All food articles						100	151	150
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4.373	7.438	7.438	21.88	37.19	37.19
Firewood	Maund	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal	"	1	0.542	0.797	0.797	0.54	0.80	0.80
Total—Fuel and lighting						60.44	99.48	99.48
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						100	165	165
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0.594	1.000	1.047	16.04	27.00	28.27
Shirtings	"	25	0.641	1.172	1.141	16.03	29.30	28.53
T. Cloth	"	36	0.583	1.000	1.000	20.99	36.00	36.00
Total—Clothing						53.06	92.30	92.80
Index Numbers—Clothing						100	174	175
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	1,933.16	1,919.11
Cost of Living Index Numbers						100	155	153

## The Cost of Living Index for April 1926

### A FALL OF TWO POINTS

All articles .. 53 per cent. Food only .. 50 per cent.

In April 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 showed a decrease of 2 points as compared with the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 155 in March and 153 in April 1926. This is 40 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and 2 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for all food articles decreased by 1 point which was due to a fall of 1 point in food grains and 2 points in other food articles. A fall of 2 points in rice was counterbalanced by a rise of 2 points in jowari. Pulses went down by 3 points as a result of a fall of 3 points each in gram and turdal. As regards other articles of food, sugar (refined) fell by 7 points, tea by 4 points, salt by 4 points, beef by 3 points, ghee by 6 points and onions by 39 points. There was a rise of 3 points in mutton. The other items remained unchanged during the month under review.

The fuel and lighting group has remained constant, being 165 since March 1925. Clothing increased by 1 point.

#### All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
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	
June ..	74	81	73	63	52	53	54	
July ..	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	
August ..	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	
September ..	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	
November ..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	
December ..	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	
Yearly average ..	75	83	73	64	54	57	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in March and April 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 :—

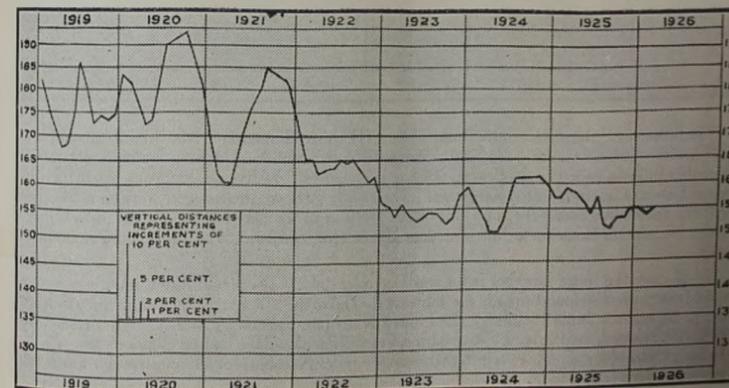
Articles	July 1914	Mar. 1926	Apr. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Apr. 1926 over or below Mar. 1926	Articles	July 1914	Mar. 1926	Apr. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Apr. 1926 over or below Mar. 1926
Rice ..	100	134	132	- 2	Salt ..	100	160	156	- 4
Wheat ..	100	132	132	..	Beef ..	100	158	155	- 3
Jowari ..	100	122	124	+ 2	Mutton ..	100	187	190	+ 3
Bajri ..	100	134	134	..	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	139	136	- 3	Ghee ..	100	199	193	- 6
Turdal ..	100	129	126	- 3	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	..
Sugar (refined) ..	100	187	180	- 7	Onions ..	100	307	268	-39
Raw sugar (gul) ..	100	167	167	..	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	198	194	-4	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	151	150	- 1

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

Rice 24, Wheat 24, Jowari 19, Bajri 25, Gram 26, Turdal 21, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 48, Salt 36, Beef 35, Mutton 47, Milk 48, Ghee 48, Potatoes 37, Onions 63, Cocoanut Oil 12.

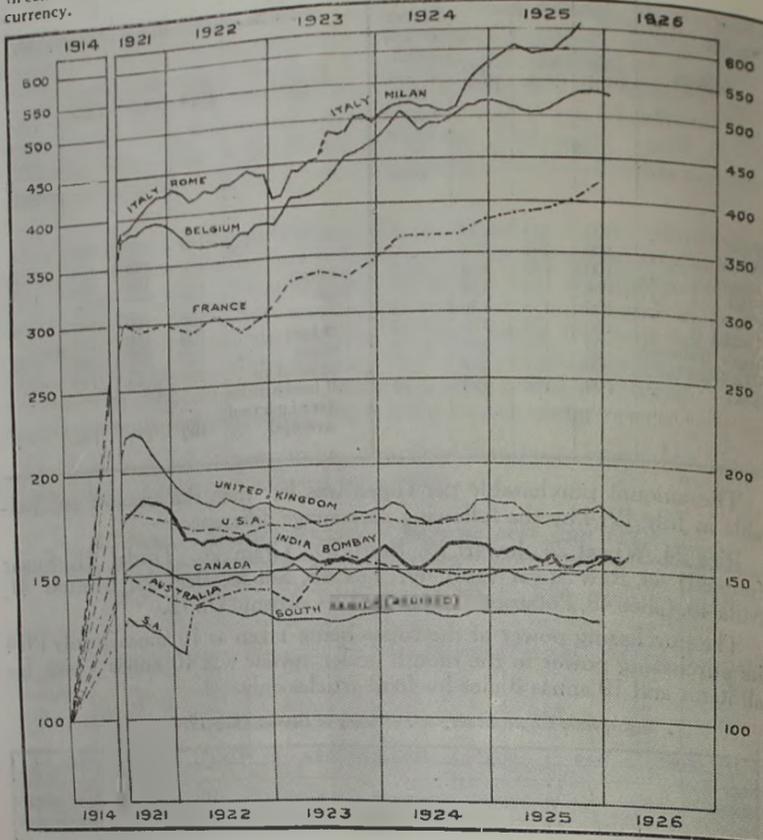
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 5 pies for all items and 10 annas 8 pies for food articles only.

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 1920. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



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

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 FALL OF TWO POINTS

In March 1926, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay was 50 per cent. above the level in July 1914. The food average advanced by one point while both the non-food and the general averages declined by 5 and 2 points respectively. The general index has fallen by 113 points from the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and is 13 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The rise of 3 points in the index number for food grains was mainly due to a rise of 18 points in wheat and 7 points in jowari, though there was a fall of 10 points in the price of barley. Cereals recorded a rise of 5 points while Pulses remained steady during the month.

The index number for Other food decreased by 6 points, there being a fall of 9 points each in turmeric and salt. Under sugar the decrease of 23 points in Java (white) and 4 points in gul was greatly compensated by the appearance of Mauritius sugar for the first time after August 1925.

The non-food index fell from 158 to 153. There was a fall of 2 points in Oilseeds, 43 points in Raw-cotton†, 2 points in Other textiles, 6 points in Hides and skins and 1 point in Metals. Other raw and manufactured articles and Cotton manufactures showed no change during the month.

The subjoined table compares March 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 Feb 1926	+ or - % compared with Mar. 1925	Groups	Mar. 1925	Jun. 1925	Sep. 1925	Dec. 1925	Feb. 1926	Mar. 1926
1. Cereals ..	7	+ 4	- 4	1. Cereals ..	103	95	96	160	96	99
2. Pulses ..	2	..	+ 18	2. Pulses ..	93	95	97	114	109	109
3. Sugar ..	3	- 1	- 17	3. Sugar ..	106	97	96	90	90	88
4. Other food ..	3	- 4	- 31	4. Other food ..	113	93	91	67	81	78
All food ..	15	+ 1	- 12	All food ..	106	95	94	96	92	93
5. Oilseeds ..	4	- 2	- 7	5. Oilseeds ..	99	103	99	93	93	92
6. Raw cotton ..	3	- 23	- 33	6. Raw cotton ..	109	99	96	96	96	73
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	..	- 12	7. Cotton manufactures ..	102	101	99	92	90	90
8. Other textiles ..	2	- 1	- 9	8. Other textiles ..	104	94	101	96	95	94
9. Hides and skins ..	3	- 4	+ 1	9. Hides & skins ..	99	97	97	102	105	101
10. Metals ..	5	- 1	- 7	10. Metals ..	103	100	97	96	97	96
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	..	- 8	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	105	59	101	98	97	97
All non-food ..	27	- 3	- 12	All non-food ..	104	100	98	95	95	92
General Index No. . .	42	- 1	- 12	General Index No. . .	105	98	96	95	93	92

\* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 808

† This figure should be regarded with caution owing to the change in the source of the quotations used.

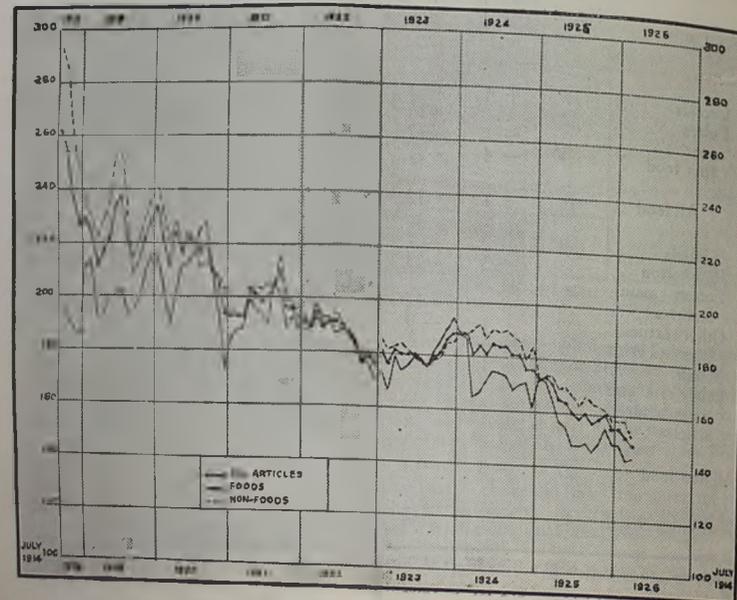
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices —

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
Three monthly " 1926 .. ..	145	156	152

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

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

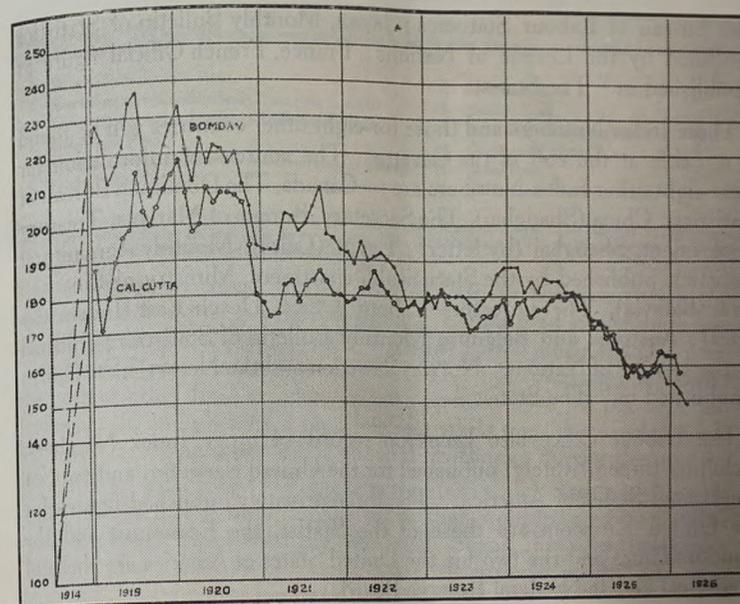


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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

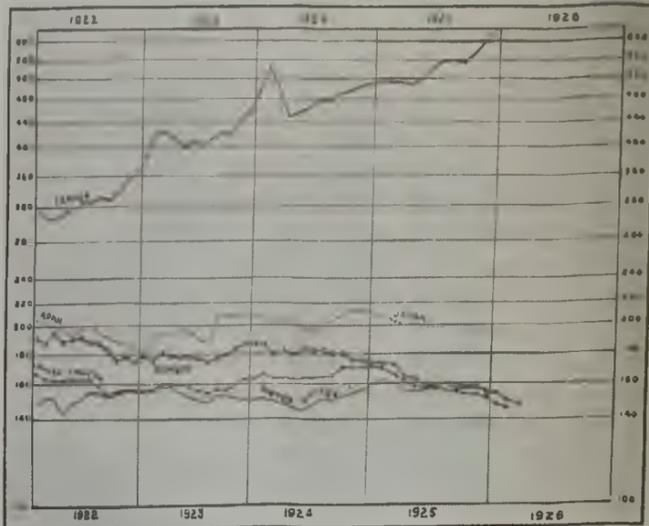
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay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

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



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

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



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

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

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

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	1926			Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Mar 1926 over or below		
				July 1914	Feb 1926	Mar 1926	July 1914	Feb 1926	
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	
	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	5 10	7 10	7 11	+ 2 1	+ 0 1	
	Pissi Seoni	"	216	5 10	8 2	8 0	+ 2 2	- 0 2	
	Best Sholapuri	"	200	4 3	5 5	5 4	+ 1 1	- 0 1	
	Ghati	"	208	4 7	5 10	6 0	+ 1 5	+ 0 2	
	Delhi	"	200	4 4	6 0	6 0	+ 1 8	....	
	Cawnpore	"	208	5 11	7 9	7 10	+ 1 11	+ 0 1	
	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	1 11	2 0	+ 0 11	+ 0 1	
	Sangli, middle quality	"	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	....	
	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 2	15 5	+ 7 7	+ 0 3	
	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	3 0	3 0	+ 1 3	....	
	"	Lb.	39	2 6	4 0	4 0	+ 1 6	....	
	Mutton	"	39	3 0	6 2	6 1	+ 3 1	- 0 1	
	Milk	Medium	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	....
	Belgaum, Superior	"	28	7 1	13 11	14 2	+ 7 1	+ 0 3	
	Ordinary	"	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+ 0 8	....	
	Nasik	"	28	0 3	0 8	0 8	+ 0 5	....	
	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+ 0 5	....	

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

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

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

The variations in prices during March 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food grains there was a rise of 1 pie in rice, 2 pies in bajri, 1 pie in turdal and a fall of 2 pies in wheat and 1 pie in jowari per paylee. The price of gram was steady. In the case of other food articles, sugar advanced by 1 pie per seer, tea by 3 pies per lb. and ghee by 3 pies per seer while mutton recorded a fall of 1 pie per lb. The other items showed no change during the month.

As compared with July 1914, there is no item which does not show an increase. Mutton and onions have more than doubled in price. Tea and ghee are nearly twice their pre-war level. Sugar, raw sugar (gul), salt and beef are more than 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. The rise in the prices of food grains has been comparatively less.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

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

Bombay prices in Feb. 1926 = 100					Bombay prices in Mar. 1926 = 100						
Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
<b>Cereals—</b>						<b>Cereals—</b>					
Rice ..	100	108	120	109	120	Rice ..	100	107	119	103	119
Wheat ..	100	93	106	96	104	Wheat ..	100	93	108	100	106
Jowari ..	100	92	92	67	100	Jowari ..	100	94	94	66	102
Bajri ..	100	98	110	74	104	Bajri ..	100	107	107	76	101
<b>Average—</b>						<b>Average—</b>					
Cereals ..	100	98	107	87	107	Cereals ..	100	100	107	86	107
<b>Pulses—</b>						<b>Pulses—</b>					
Gram ..	100	89	103	90	87	Gram ..	100	89	103	89	91
Turdal ..	100	107	119	104	101	Turdal ..	100	106	125	90	105
<b>Average—</b>						<b>Average—</b>					
Pulses ..	100	98	111	97	94	Pulses ..	100	98	114	90	98
<b>Other articles of food—</b>						<b>Other articles of food—</b>					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	87	95	97	87	Sugar (refined) ..	100	86	93	93	102
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	80	93	90	81	Jagri (Gul) ..	100	80	93	86	65
Tea ..	100	103	103	118	125	Tea ..	100	101	101	116	123
Salt ..	100	59	67	94	87	Salt ..	100	59	67	94	87
Beef ..	100	110	98	61	74	Beef ..	100	110	67	61	74
Mutton ..	100	79	79	79	71	Mutton ..	100	80	80	80	72
Milk ..	100	47	45	76	76	Milk ..	100	43	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	80	72	80	85	Ghee ..	100	79	70	79	83
Potatoes ..	100	70	86	86	84	Potatoes ..	100	71	86	102	84
Onions ..	100	95	84	84	58	Onions ..	100	93	84	76	63
Cocoa nut oil ..	100	93	124	118	98	Cocoa nut oil ..	100	93	124	118	98
<b>Average—</b>						<b>Average—</b>					
Other articles of food ..	100	82	86	89	84	Other articles of food ..	100	81	84	89	84
<b>Average—</b>						<b>Average—</b>					
All food articles ..	100	88	94	80	91	All food articles ..	100	88	93	89	91

Actual relative prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. As compared with the previous month the relative average for all food articles fell by 1 point each at Ahmedabad and Sholapur. The Karachi and Poona averages remained steady. Referring back to March 1925 it is found that in relation to Bombay the Karachi and Poona averages were each 1 point higher and the Ahmedabad average 3 points higher while the Sholapur average was 2 points lower than in that month.

Of individual articles the relative prices of rice and tea have decreased and that of mutton has increased at all the four mofussil centres. The relative prices of sugar are lower except at Poona but of jowari higher except at Sholapur. Beef is steady except in Ahmedabad while salt and cocoanut oil are unchanged at all centres. Both the differences between different centres at any given date and the fluctuations of those differences are surprisingly high, and it is not at the moment apparent why an article not locally produced (like tea and refined sugar) should sometimes be dearer and sometimes cheaper at any mofussil centre than at Bombay.

Securities Index Number

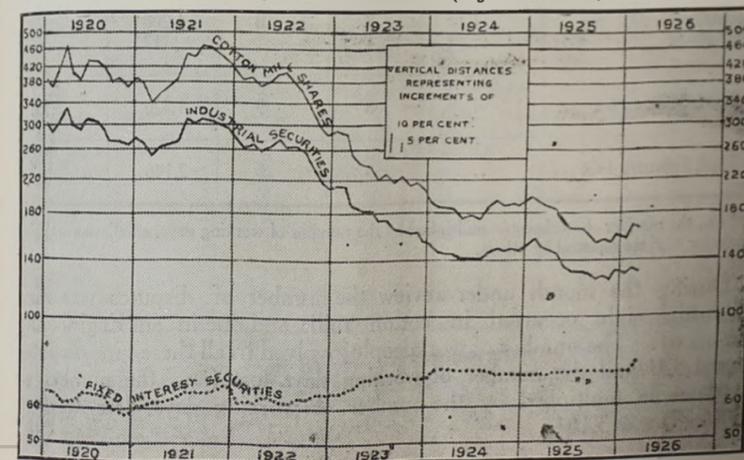
A FALL OF TWO POINTS

In March 1926 the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number was 130 as compared with 132 during the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities advanced by 3 points, Banks by 2 points and Railway Companies by 1 point. Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies remained stationary while there was a fall of 2 points in Cotton mills, 2 points in Electric Undertakings, 5 points in Miscellaneous Companies and 14 points in Cement and Manganese Companies. The index number of Industrial Securities declined from 136 during the previous month to 134 in March.

The Construction of the Index

No.		July 1914	March 1926		
			Total numbers	Total numbers	Average
1	Government and Corporation Securities ..	7 Index Nos. ..	700	539	77
2	Banks ..	6 " " ..	600	819	137
3	Railway Companies ..	10 " " ..	1,000	1,111	111
4	Cotton Mills ..	42 " " ..	4,200	7,032	167
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies ..	8 " " ..	800	914	114
6	Cement and Manganese Companies ..	5 " " ..	500	572	114
7	Electric Undertakings ..	2 " " ..	200	327	164
8	Miscellaneous Companies ..	22 " " ..	2,200	1,943	88
9	Industrial Securities ..	95 " " ..	9,500	12,718	134
10	General average ..	102 " " ..	10,200	13,257	130

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



## Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

### Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in March .. 9      Workpeople involved .. 1,320

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

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in March 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in March 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in March 1926*
	Started before 1st March	Started in March	Total		
Textile	1	7	8	1,200	2,803
Engineering	..	1	1	112	358
Total, March 1926	1	8	9	1,320	3,161
Total, February 1926 ..	..	3	3	2,146	5,817

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

During the month under review the number of disputes was nine of which eight occurred in cotton mills and one in an Engineering Company. The number of workpeople involved in all these nine disputes was 1,320 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 3,161.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results November 1925 to March 1926

	November 1925	December 1925	January 1926	February 1926	March 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs	6	6	4	5	9
Disputes in progress at beginning	2	3	..	..	1
Fresh disputes begun	4	3	4	..	8
Disputes ended	3	5	4	..	9
Disputes in progress at end	3	1	..	..	..
Number of workpeople involved	154,864	152,876	405	2,146	1,320
Aggregate duration in working days	3,699,628	1,799,343	460	5,817	3,161
Demands—					
Pay	3	4	1	2	2
Bonus	..	..	..	..	..
Personal	2	2	2	2	1
Leave and hours	..	..	..	..	..
Others	1	..	1	1	4
Results—					
In favour of employees	..	1	1	1	2
Compromised	..	1	..	..	1
In favour of employers	3	3	3	3	6

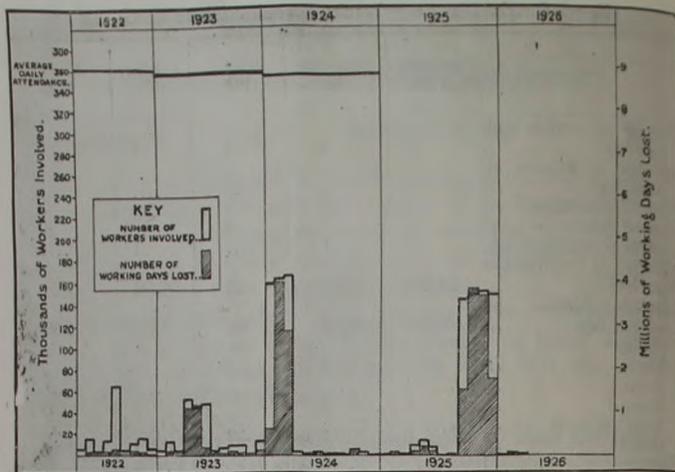
The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

III.—Industrial Disputes

Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs	Aggregate duration in working days	Disputes settled			In progress (Per cent.)
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)	
March 1925	7	9,962	72	14	14	..
April	11	70,672	46	9	27	18
May	16	202,683	44	13	37	6
June	2	138,459	100	..	..	..
July	4	1,543	100	..	..	..
August	9	4,884	56	..	11	33
September	7	1,551,927	72	14	..	14
October	5	3,904,182	60	..	..	40
November	6	3,699,628	50	..	..	50
December	6	1,799,343	50	16	17	17
January 1926	4	460	75	25	..	..
February	5	5,817	60	20	..	20
March	9	3,161	67	22	11	..
Totals or Average (cols. 4 to 7) ..	91	11,392,721	66	10	9	15

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

## Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



## GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

During March 1926 there were nine industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency as compared with five in the preceding month but the number of workpeople involved was only 1,320 as against 2,146. Of these nine disputes seven were due to personal and other grievances while the remaining two were due to the question of pay. Six of these disputes terminated in favour of the employers, two in favour of the employees and one was compromised.

## BOMBAY CITY

In Bombay City there were three industrial disputes in the month under review, two of which occurred in cotton spinning and weaving mills and one in an Engineering company—the former ending in favour of the employers and the latter in favour of the employees. The dispute in the Omiar Founding and Engineering Co. arose over the question of delay in payment of wages. On the 10th March 1926 all the workers attended the workshop as usual but demanded immediate payment of their wages for January before resuming work. The Manager told them that their wages would be paid on the 13th March. This did not satisfy them and 112 workers out of 135—the total strength of the concern—went away without resuming work. The strike continued for three days and on the 13th March the strikers were paid off their wages for January. Ninety of the strikers returned to work on the 14th March and the remaining 22 followed suit on the 15th.

The dispute in the Rachel Sassoon mill was due to the introduction of a change in the system of winding. On the 14th March the Manager introduced cheese winding on a large scale in place of hank winding. 145 colour winders struck work as a protest against this introduction and demanded the continuance of the old system of hank winding. The Manager refused to accede to their demand and the strikers refused to

resume work. On the 17th March the strikers became rowdy and began to throw about bobbins. They had, therefore, to be removed from the premises with the assistance of the Police. On the 19th March all the strikers resumed work unconditionally.

The cause of the dispute in the Victoria Mill was the demand for an increase of wages. On the 16th March the operatives of the Frame Department demanded an increase of half an anna per hank in their piece rates of wages. This was refused by the Carding and Spinning Master whereupon 50 Frame tenters struck work. On the 18th March the Manager engaged five new hands and put up a notice to the effect that if the strikers did not resume work by the next day their outstanding wages would be forfeited and that new hands would be engaged. Thereupon 15 of the strikers resumed work unconditionally the same day and the rest the next day.

## AHMEDABAD

There were six disputes in Ahmedabad during the month under review, one of which had been in progress since the 27th February 1926. All the strikes occurred in cotton mills. Four of these terminated in favour of the employers, one in favour of the employees and one was compromised. The cause of the dispute in the Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., which began on the 27th February 1926 was due to the supply of bad yarn. On the 2nd March the remaining 200 weavers of the mill joined the strike thus increasing the total number of strikers to 800. Ten strikers interviewed the Manager in connexion with the strike and requested him to redress their grievances. The Manager told the men that their grievances would not be looked into until they returned to work and that if they did not resume work at once he would be compelled to engage new hands. On the 3rd March when the Secretary of the Labour Union saw the Manager on behalf of the strikers the Manager again stated that he would redress their grievances only after the strikers resumed work. Thereupon the Secretary asked the strikers to return to work which they did—200 men joining up the same day and the rest the next day. This strike may, therefore, be considered to have ended in favour of the employees.

On the 2nd March, 13 Blow-room labourers of the Ahmedabad New Edward Manufacturing Co., Ltd., struck work demanding the reinstatement of a Mukadam who was dismissed because of his unsatisfactory work. The management put up a notice the same day to the effect that the strikers should resume work immediately and that if they did not, their wages would be forfeited. The strikers, however, did not return to work and new men were subsequently engaged.

Thirty weavers of the Vivekanand Mills Co., Ltd., downed tools on the 15th March in sympathy with a dismissed jobber. The next day two strikers returned to work unconditionally and 28 new hands were engaged. The strikers were paid off and the strike came to an end.

A jobber in the Shri Lakshmi Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., was dismissed on the 15th March whereupon 40 weavers struck work the next day demanding his reinstatement and their wages. The Agent promised to pay them off in the evening and engaged new hands the same day.

All the above three strikes which were due to personal grievances ended in favour of the employers.

The remaining two strikes in Ahmedabad occurred in the Maneklal Harilal Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd.—one on the 16th and the other on the 17th March—and the causes of these two disputes appear to be the same, viz., the alleged negligence of the management to pay any attention to the complaints of their workers. On the 16th March about 30 workers complained that they did not get enough work to do and that the bonus paid to them was less than that paid in other mills. They declared the management did not pay any attention to their complaints and struck work. The next day the agent promised to look into their grievances and asked them to return to work immediately which they did the same afternoon. The first strike thus terminated in a compromise. The immediate cause of the second strike in the same mill was due to the supply of bad yarn. On the ground that their complaints did not receive any attention from the management, 300 throstlemen came out on the 17th March. The Assistant Secretary of the Labour Union saw the agent of the mill on the same day on behalf of the strikers and was told that the workers should resume work first and that their grievances would be looked into later. On the 18th March, as the Throstle Department was on strike the Management stopped the working of the whole Mill as a result of which 850 more workers who had nothing to do with the strike were thrown out of employment—the total strength of the mill being 1,150. On the 19th March the Assistant Secretary after consultation with the agent informed the strikers that their grievances would be looked into only if they resumed work and that no useful purpose would be served by continuing the strike. The strikers thereupon returned to work and the strike thus ended partly in favour of the employers.

## Accidents and Prosecutions

### STATISTICS FOR MARCH 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

#### 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 March in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During March there were in all 351 factory accidents in Bombay City, of which 22 were serious and the remaining 329 minor accidents. Of this total 96 or 27 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 255 or 73 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion in different classes of factories being 74 per cent. in workshops, 24 per cent. in textile mills and 2 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad, there were 42 accidents, 41 of which occurred in cotton mills and one in a match factory. Out of the total number of accidents, 17 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. One accident was fatal, two serious and the rest minor.

In Karachi, there were in all 8 accidents, 5 of which occurred in engineering workshops and 3 in miscellaneous concerns. All of these were minor.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 53, out of which 25 occurred in textile mills, 26 in workshops and 2 in miscellaneous concerns. Of these accidents, 21 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Two accidents were fatal, seven serious and the rest were minor.

#### II. PROSECUTIONS

##### BOMBAY

The Manager of an iron works was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 22 for employing certain persons on Sunday, a declared holiday. He was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in one case and Rs. 5 in each of five cases.

##### DHULIA (WEST KHANDESH)

The Manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 in respect of employing women at night. He was convicted and fined Rs. 30 in each of ten cases.

## Workmen's Compensation

*Details of compensation and of proceedings during March 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923).*

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of March 1926. Information has not been received from 6 Commissioners and of the 23 cases disposed of during the month under review, 21 were reported by the Commissioner of Bombay as against 41 during the preceding month. It should be remembered that this is not the number of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners, but of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 14,987-12-5 was awarded as compensation against Rs. 21,914-6-0 in the month of February and Rs. 17,423-10-0 in the month of January. Out of 23 accidents, 11 were fatal and 12 cases were of permanent partial disablement.

The number of compensation cases in textile mills was 3 during the month under review as against 16 in the preceding month. No occupational disease case has come up since January 1925.

Claimants for compensation were males over 15 in 21 cases and females over 15 in 2 cases. Out of 23 cases in March, 15 were original claims and 8 registrations of agreement. Compensation was awarded in 15 cases and agreement was effected in 8 cases.

### Labour News from Ahmedabad

As was stated in a previous issue, the Labour Union is considering the formulation of proposals to the Millowners for the restoration of the wage cut of 1923. In the event of the employers accepting the representation of the Union the men's leaders have decided to utilise the increased wages of the men in a distinctly novel manner. The Labour Union estimates that the restoration of the wage cut will enhance the wages bill of the cotton mill industry in Ahmedabad by about 2½ lakhs of rupees per month and they propose that this sum should be utilised to carry out housing schemes for the benefit of the workers. The fund will be administered by trustees nominated by the Labour Union and the Millowners' Association with a majority of the workers' nominees. The Labour Union feels that better use could be made of the money in a lump sum than by it being distributed amongst the many thousands of workers in the mills. It is proposed to build houses on the cottage model with sufficient space for a small garden attached to each cottage. The dwellings will be constructed in groups of 50 and each group will have a playground, reading room and library, etc. It is estimated that each tenement will cost about Rs. 1,000, so that the housing programme would provide for about 3,000 cottages per annum. The scheme will probably be submitted to the Millowners in the near future.

The Labour Union has recently been devoting a great deal of attention to an anti-drink campaign and they are prepared to devote a considerable portion of the subscriptions from the workers to this kind of work. It is the object of the Union to mobilise public opinion against drink and also, because they believe that the vice is due to the environment of the workers, they propose to agitate for a change in the conditions under which the workers live. The plan of campaign as drawn up by the Labour Union includes the following items:—

At first the Union will concentrate its energy on Jamalpur ward. A Central Committee is to be formed consisting of the executive of the Union, leaders of the workmen who are also workers, and influential members of the communities of the workers who are not themselves workers but are interested in their welfare. Some paid staff as well as voluntary workers are to be engaged for propaganda and other work connected with the campaign. Two Drink Enquiry forms have been drawn up and printed—one for the family and the other for the drinker. In the first form information is to be collected about family earnings, expenditure on drink, history of deaths in the family with special reference to drink as a cause, sanitary condition of the house, drink at the time of ceremonies and festivals, debt and the reason therefor, etc., etc. The second form refers to the individual, number of children dead and alive, his personal health, habits of life, use of leisure, growth of drink habit, the supposed advantages from drink, work in the mill, the disadvantages from drink as experienced by himself, difficulties in the way of giving up drink, willingness to give a pledge for abstention all at once or by stages, extent of consumption of Indian and foreign drink on different occasions, etc., etc. The forms are somewhat elaborate and are intended to serve as propaganda as well as for the collection of information. The Secretary of the Union hopes to devote a

large portion of his time to house-to-house visits and to filling in the important portions of the forms. A paid staff and voluntary workers also will be engaged on this work. An Association called Majur Samaj Sudhar Sangh is to be formed. Membership is to be open to all workmen who are total abstainers on payment of one pice per month. With the aid of this nominal sum a journal is to be started. Clubs are to be formed in different localities as part of the Sangh. The usual features of lectures, magic lantern slides, group conversations, etc., will not be neglected. Later on restaurants will be opened and facilities will be offered for decent club life with indoor games, etc. Children's clubs will be organised to bring boys and girls under positive influences against drink and activities similar to those in the Boys Scouts' movement will be introduced.

One more activity of the Labour Union should be mentioned. It is conducting an enquiry into the housing conditions of the workers and hopes to cover all the working class tenements in Ahmedabad.

*The Postal Union.*—The Ahmedabad District Post and R. M. S. Union resolved to request the Honourable Sir B. N. Mitra to consider the case of Ahmedabad and include it in the list of other cities, viz., Karachi, Allahabad, Amritsar, etc., which will get some revision, as the living in Ahmedabad is equally if not more dear than these places.

*Baby Week.*—The local Sanitary Association organised a Baby Week during the second week of March 1926. Magic lantern and cinema shows and lectures were some of its special features. A Sanitary Workers' Conference also was held during the week when subjects like the Milk problem, Maternity Homes and Health and Welfare of the Labourers were discussed. A special centre was organised at Saraspur for the benefit of the labourers.

### Questions in the Legislature

#### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. B. DAS : (a) Will the Government be pleased to state if any nominations by the Indian Commercial Chambers were received after the 15th January 1926, in connection with the representation of employers and workers' interests at the Eighth and Ninth Labour Conferences to be held at Geneva?

(b) If so, were they taken into consideration in composing the personnel of the Indian delegation?

Reply by the Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA :  
(a) Yes. (b) No.

Mr. B. DAS : (a) Will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that important matters affecting Indian shipping interests are to be discussed at the Ninth Session of the next International Labour Conference at Geneva?

(b) Is it a fact that representatives of British shipping interests in India have been nominated as the employers' delegates and advisers to the Ninth Conference? If so, why were the claims of representative Indians not considered?

(c) Is it a fact that Mr. Narottam Morarjee refused nomination to the Eighth Conference because it is concerned with matters which do not directly bear upon the development of Indian shipping?

Reply by the Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA : (a) The subjects on the agenda of the Ninth Session of the International Labour Conference are :—

(i) International codification of rules relating to seamen's articles of agreement.

(ii) General principles for the inspection of the conditions of work of seamen.

(b) I think the Honourable Member is under a misapprehension which appears to be shared by a certain section of the public at large. The Government of India have not a free hand in making these nominations. They are bound by the provisions of Article 389 of the Treaty of Versailles, which compels them to nominate in such cases "in agreement with the industrial organizations if such organizations exist, which are most representative of employers or workpeople, as the case may be in their respective countries". The claims of all the representatives suggested were considered, but the Government of India came to the conclusion that, had they selected as delegates any other nominee than Sir Arthur Froom on this occasion, they would have failed to comply with the provisions of the Treaty. As a matter of fact, they approached Mr. Narottam Morarjee with a view to his attending the Ninth Conference as Adviser, but he was not willing to act in this capacity.

(c) Mr. Narottam Morarjee refused a nomination to the Eighth Session, but the ground for his refusal was not as given by the Honourable Member. As a matter of fact, neither Conference deals with matters which directly bear on the development of Indian shipping as such.

Mr. CHAMAN LALL : Are Government prepared to institute an inquiry into the working of the system of factory inspection with a view to its improvement?

The Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA : Government see no reason to take the action suggested.

Mr. CHAMAN LALL : Will Government place on the table a detailed statement showing the number of prosecutions, the fines levied in each case and the punishments awarded under the Indian Factories Act for the twelve months ending the 1st October 1925?

The Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA : The latest available statistics are for the year ending December 31st, 1924, during which 625 convictions were obtained. The Government of India have not been furnished with full particulars regarding the fines obtained in each of these cases, and the Honourable Member is referred to the Provincial Factory Reports for further information.

Mr. CHAMAN LALL : Will Government state if they have taken any action on the report regarding humidification submitted to them sometime ago?

The Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA : The Government of India consulted local Governments on all the questions involved in a letter issued on the 26th April, 1924, which was subsequently published

for general information. On receiving the replies of local Governments, the questions were re-examined, and the conclusions of the Government of India were conveyed to local Governments in a letter dated the 11th December 1925, of which a copy is being sent to the Honourable Member. As he is aware, most of the recommendations made in the report relate to matters lying within the authority of local Governments, but the Government of India have included in the Bill to amend the Indian Factories Act, 1911, which is now before the Assembly, clauses designed to carry out the recommendations in respect of the reduction of excessive temperatures in factories.

Mr. CHAMAN LALL : (a) Will Government state whether they gave any assistance to the millhands of Bombay in 1925 by way of relief or unemployment doles?

(b) Do Government propose to institute an inquiry into the state of unemployment in India?

(c) Is it the policy of the Government to help the unemployed capitalist by way of inquiries, subsidies and doles but not the workers and peasants?

The Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA : As far as the Government of India are concerned, the reply to all three parts of the question is in the negative.

Mr. CHAMAN LALL : Will Government inform the House whether they intend to make an inquiry into the conditions of life and labour of the workers engaged in the following industries, viz., Cotton, Jute, Coal and Tea?

The Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA : The answer is in the negative.

Mr. DEVAKI PRASAD SINHA : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to an article on Labour legislation in India, written by Lady Chatterjee in the "Asiatic Review" of September or October 1925? If so, what steps do Government propose to take to give effect to the suggestions contained therein?

(b) How many prosecutions have taken place under the Indian Factories Act since that Act has been on the statute book? How many industries or factories have been exempted from the operation of certain clauses of the Indian Factories Act?

(c) How many Indians are employed as Inspectors of Factories in each of the provinces of India? What steps do Government propose to take for the Indianisation of the service?

(d) Is it a fact that not a single woman is employed as a Factory Inspector, even where there is a large number of women employed in underground work? When do Government propose to employ women as Factory Inspectors?

(e) Are Government aware that the Iron and Steel Factory at Jamshedpur, contrary to the provisions of the Indian Factory Act, never grants a weekly holiday to its employees? If so, has any step ever been taken to prosecute the employers for this breach of the law?

(f) Do Government propose introducing some form of Truck Act for India?

The Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA : (a) Yes. Many of the suggestions, including those on which the Honourable Member has based parts (b), (c) and (d) of his question, relate to matters which are not primarily the concern of the Government of India. If the Honourable Member will indicate more precisely the points on which he requires information, I shall endeavour to provide it.

(b) The number of persons convicted during the years 1894 to 1924 is 2,380. The number of factories in which the majority of operatives are exempted from the provisions of certain sections was, in 1924, as follows :—

Sec. 21 .. .. .	1,458
.. 22 .. .. .	1,474
.. 27 .. .. .	1,096
.. 28 .. .. .	45

(c) So far as the Government of India are aware, there are 15 Indian Inspectors of Factories. As the appointments are made by local Governments, the Indianization of the service is not primarily the concern of the Government of India.

(d) The answer to the first part is in the negative. The Government of India understand that there is one lady inspector of factories, employed by the Bombay Government. The question of the further employment of women as inspectors is primarily the concern of local Governments.

(e) So far as the Government of India are aware the provisions of the law are not infringed by the Iron and Steel Factory at Jamshedpur.

(f) The Honourable Member is referred to the answer given to Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan's Question No. 233, on 26th January 1925.

Mr. GAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Government kindly state if they propose to consult the Legislative Assembly before selecting India's representative at the next International Labour Conference ?

The Honourable Sir BHUPENDRA NATH MITRA : The answer is in the negative.

The Honourable Sir DINSHAW E. WACHA : Has the Japanese Government failed hitherto to give legislative effect to certain resolutions of the Geneva Labour Conference, passed some time since, regarding shorter hours of labour, non-employment of children and women at night and other kindred matters ; if so, do Government propose drawing the attention of the coming Labour Conference to this failure ?

The Honourable Mr. A. H. LEY : The Honourable Member is presumably referring to the draft Conventions adopted at the first session of the International Labour Conference held at Washington in 1919, relating to hours of work, night-work for women, and night-work for young persons. As considerable misapprehension appears to exist on the subject of these Conventions and the obligations involved in them, I am glad to have this opportunity of explaining the position. No country is obliged to enforce any draft Convention adopted by an International Labour Conference unless and until it has ratified that Convention, and the question whether a Convention shall or shall not be ratified is a matter for the authorities within the country to decide. Should the competent authority

decide that the Convention shall not be ratified, no legal obligation rests on that country to secure the enforcement of the Convention. If a member fails to secure the effective observance of any Convention which it has ratified, any other member ratifying that Convention is entitled to file a complaint with the International Labour Office under Article 411 of the Treaty of Versailles. As however Japan has not ratified any of the Conventions to which I have referred, no question of such a complaint can arise.

The Honourable Rai Bahadur LALA RAM SARAN DAS : Is it a fact that the Japanese Government has not ratified the conventions and recommendations passed by the International Labour Conference ?

The Honourable Mr. A. H. LEY : Japan has ratified 6 of the 17 Conventions approved at International Labour Conferences up to the end of 1924. Recommendations are not capable of ratification.

### The Hours of Labour Conference

A very important conference, attended by the Ministers of Labour of Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Belgium, was opened on 15th March by Mr. Baldwin. The Conference has been summoned to deal with various problems connected with the practical application of the Eight-Hour Day Convention drawn up in 1919 by the Washington Conference. The Convention lays down, subject to an inevitable number of exceptions and reservations, a general limit of 48 hours of labour a week and eight hours a day. But what promised to be straightforward and plain sailing in the somewhat rarefied atmosphere of Washington in 1919 has since proved a path beset with all the pit-falls of divergent interpretation. As a result of these difficulties, the Convention, which was enthusiastically received by the delegates at Washington, has not yet been ratified by any of the important European Powers. The principal reason advanced for non-ratification has always been the fear that trade rivals would either not ratify the Convention at all, or, in the event of general ratification, that their interpretations might be unduly liberal and allow of the permanent employment of labour during hours in excess of the stipulated maximum. Opposition to ratification has also been forthcoming, especially in this country, from workers' associations whose members benefit from high rates of remuneration for "overtime" work. This objection is, however, wholly subsidiary to the difficulties arising out of the various interpretations of the Convention. This was made clear last year as the result of an exchange of views between the principal Governments concerned, which owed its origin to the initiative of our own Minister of Labour. The Conference now sitting in London is, therefore, primarily concerned with the elimination of these differences. It is intended to clear the stage for a more ambitious conference to be held under the auspices of the International Labour Organisation. The consensus of opinion in this country must be overwhelmingly in favour of the aims of the Conference, and, ultimately, of general ratification of the Eight-Hour Day Convention. The depression in many of our industries is to

were extant attributable to lower costs of production, due to unjustifiably longer hours of labour in the industries of many of our foreign competitors. Socially and economically, a wide application of the Convention is desirable not only for Great Britain but for every European country. Mr. James in his opening speech, put the case for general ratification admirably. "There can be no instance in Europe of any country attaining prosperity at the expense of another country. Each one of us can prosper best and can make the greatest progress in material well-being when prosperity is the joint property of all countries, and when that progress can be made advancing altogether. . . . . The unfettered competition of which the world has seen so much is, in these days, a grave national danger, a danger which taxes all of us, and of which statesmen and industrialists alike should be aware". (From "Statistic," London, March 20, 1926.)

### Cotton Trade Hours

On 10 March 1926 there was some surprise in Lancashire trade circles when it was announced that the Short Time Organisation Committee of the Master Spinners' Federation had decided to recommend strongly an increase in the working hours in the mills using American cotton. Since January 25th the official scheme of the federation has been for the factories to run only 30½ hours per week as compared with full time of 48 hours. It is now recommended that the schedule should be increased to 35 hours. This action was unexpected, as in recent weeks trade, instead of improving, if anything has become worse. It is understood, however, that the object of the federation is to bring all the members into line. The fact of the matter is that the week of 30½ hours has not been loyally observed, and according to private estimates the mills at the moment are working on an average 34 to 35 hours a week. A ballot on this proposal is to be taken, and the voting papers have to be returned not later than March 30th, the new hours to come into operation on April 5th. An important feature of the circular sent out by the Masters' federation is the statement that if the recommendation does not receive the support of the requisite percentage, viz., 80 per cent., the Short Time Committee will take it as a vote of confidence, and for the time being the Committee will cease to issue any further recommendations. In trade circles it is expected that the scheme will be approved. In connection with the numerous suggestions for the relief of the trade depression, an important development is to take place next week, as the committee of the Master Spinners' Federation has invited representatives of the trade unions to a joint conference to discuss the state of trade. It is being urged in some quarters that an attempt should be made to get the operatives to accept a reduction in wages in order to reduce the costs of production, but it is agreed that action of this kind is not desirable. Attention is constantly being drawn to the increasing competition of Japan, and, of course, in that country the industrial conditions are much worse than in Lancashire, and the unfair competition is keenly resented. (From "Economist," London, March 13, 1926.)

### Report of Royal Commission on National Health Insurance

The Commissioners appointed, by Royal Warrant of the 11th July 1924, to inquire into the scheme of National Health Insurance established by the National Health Insurance Act, 1911, and to report what, if any, extensions, or developments should be made in regard to the scope of that scheme and the administrative, financial, and medical arrangements set up under it, have presented a Majority Report, signed by the Chairman (Lord Lawrence of Kingsgate) and eight other Commissioners, and a Minority Report, signed by four Commissioners.

The Report of the Majority expresses the opinion that national health insurance has established its position as a permanent feature of the social system in this country, and should be continued on its present compulsory contributory basis, subject to various changes which they recommend. They also recommend that, in view of the financial burden of the various social services at the present time, no extensions of benefits involving substantial additional expenditure should be contemplated now or in the immediate future, but that any immediate changes in the scheme should be limited to such as are possible within its present financial resources. For the same reason they recommend that there should be no increase at the present time in the rates of contribution or in the scale of *Factageur*

The Majority Commissioners also recommend the retention of the Approved Society system, though this may have to be considered "in the event of fundamental changes being made in the system of social insurance". Various suggestions are, however, made for the improvement of the system, including a recommendation that the Minister of Health should be empowered to reduce the allowance for administration expenses to a society or branch which does not conform to a reasonable standard of efficiency.

The following are among the principal changes recommended in the Majority Report:—

**Abolition of Insurance Committees.**—It is recommended that Insurance Committees should be abolished and their powers and duties handed over to committees of the appropriate Local Authorities, with possibly a co-opted element.

**Classes of Persons included.**—To the persons at present required to be insured as employed contributors should be added certain classes (tree fellers, hay cutters, stone breakers, market porters, etc.) who are not at present covered, as not being employed under the ordinary relationship of master and servant. No change is recommended either in respect of the age limit or the rate of remuneration test or otherwise of the classes now insured.

**Benefits.**—The Majority recommend the removal of the limitation under which medical benefit is confined to general practitioner service; and they suggest various improvements in maternity benefit as soon as funds are available. The extensions of statutory benefits, to be made as and when funds are available, should be placed in the following order

of priority: (a) extension of scope of medical benefit; (b) provision of allowances to dependants; (c) improved provision for pregnancy and childbirth; (d) provision of dental treatment as a normal benefit.

*Partial Pooling of Future Surpluses.*—The Report does not recommend that any surplus which has accrued prior to the change of system should be subject to pooling, but suggests that in future one half of any surplus which may accrue between one valuation and another should be pooled, and the fund constituted by the pooled half-surpluses distributed among the benefit funds of all societies at a uniform rate per head of membership.

Among the other recommendations of the Majority Report, one of the most important is "that it is desirable to make permanent provision which will protect an insured person from incurring any loss or penalty by reason of arrears due to genuine certified unemployment".

Two of the Majority Commissioners append a reservation, in which, *inter alia*, they draw attention to the lack of co-ordination in the social services of the country and to the fact that the employer's contribution to the Health Insurance Fund is on a flat-rate basis, roughly proportioned to his wages bill, but bearing no necessary relation to his profits.

The four Commissioners who sign the Minority Report state that the evidence convinces them that it is undesirable to retain Approved Societies as the agencies for the distribution of cash benefits to insured persons, and that Local Authorities could and should take the place of Approved Societies as the bodies through whom sickness and disablement benefits should be administered. They also express the view "that it is neither necessary nor proper to confine the developments of the national health insurance scheme to such as can be paid for within the present financial resources of the scheme," and recommend various new benefits and various extensions or increases of existing benefits. (From "*Ministry of Labour Gazette*," London, March 1926.)

### Agricultural Wages

The Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act was passed in August 1924, and came into practical operation in the following October, when the District Wages Committee and the Central Board were constituted. The Act provided that an annual report should be presented to Parliament and a report on the first year's proceedings was recently published by the Ministry of Agriculture. The Report shows that, on the whole, the Act has worked satisfactorily and without friction and difficulty. The powers of the Central Board are practically limited to action in case of default by the local authorities, and it appears that no occasion arose for their intervention, although at the outset one or two committees seemed disposed to be dilatory and were only spurred into action by the threat of intervention. The Central Board has therefore been restricted to the duty of making formal orders to carry out the decisions of the committees, without having any power to modify or even criticise the decisions so long as they were in conformity with the Act. The duty of administering and enforcing the Orders, with which the old Wages Board was charged, is now entrusted to the Ministry of Agriculture. It is curious to note that

the local committees have followed, almost slavishly, the general lines laid down by the first Wages Board in regard to definition of hours of work, rates for special classes of workers, allowances in lieu of wages, weekly half-holiday, permits of exemption, etc.; indeed, in all those particulars for which the Wages Board was so much criticised. As regards rates of wages, the Report indicates that in the period immediately following the abolition of the old Wages Board the Conciliation Committee brought the general level of wages down to 25s. in many areas, and when the new Act came into force the average for the whole country was not more than 28s. The rates fixed by the new Agricultural Committee represented an advance in nearly every area, the increase in some cases being as much as 5s. in the counties where wages were lowest. It is observed that "the tendency to level up the lower paid areas to a general standard is, however, not quite so noticeable as under the previous Wages Board system." (From "*Economist*", London, March 13, 1926.)

### Labour in Canada

The Annual Report of the Department of Labour for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1925, has recently been published. It shows that the year under report was not as favourable as the previous one. There was an increase in unemployment and the index number of employment showed a fall of nearly two points. Wages rose slightly in practically all trades, except steam railways which remained unchanged, and coal mining which declined. Industrial disputes did not show as good a record as in 1923. Although there were fewer disputes and not quite so many employees involved as in either of the two preceding years, the time loss in man working days was much greater than in 1923 and nearly as great as in 1922. Strikes of coal miners were largely responsible for this situation, 87·8 of the total time loss being charged to the coal mining industry, and one strike alone, that of 7,000 coal miners in Alberta and southeastern British Columbia, which lasted from April to October, causing a time loss of over one million working days.

From the inception of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act on March 31, 1907, down to the close of the fiscal year 1924-25, there were referred under its provisions 638 disputes, in each of which the applicants for a Board of Conciliation and Investigation had stated under oath that a strike or lockout was believed to be imminent and that further negotiations of a direct character were useless. Boards were established in 450 cases. In all but 37 of the cases dealt with, either a direct working agreement was effected or the situation as between the employer and the workers was so modified as to obviate the danger of the threatened strike and no cessation of work occurred.

At the close of the fiscal year sixty-five employment offices were operating under the Employment Offices Co-ordination Act. Applications for employment registered at these offices during the year totalled 501,574 and the aggregate number of persons placed in employment was 340,819.

### Stabilisation of Wages

An agreement has been arrived at whereby wages rates in the pottery trades are to be stabilised for a year. Such agreements are somewhat rare though it might be expected that in these days, when wages generally are showing little movement, employers would find it to their advantage to remove any uncertainty as to wages for a few months ahead. A little over a year ago there appeared to be a tendency towards an extension of agreements of this nature, but the anticipation has not been realised. During the last twelve or fifteen months stabilisation agreements in several industries, including cotton, printing, gas supply, electrical contracting and domestic engineering, have lapsed, and have not been renewed. The question of extending the period of stabilisation does not appear to have been considered, in the absence of any pressure on the part of the trade unions. At present there are agreements maintaining the present wage rates for a few months in the wool textile trade, the building industry, except in regard to bricklayers, masons and plasterers, and in the vehicle building industry. In certain other industries, such as the railway service and the boot and shoe trade, wages are virtually stabilised until the cost of living index number shows a fairly appreciable movement, and as recently mentioned in these columns, the wages of a large number of iron and steel workers appear to have reached a minimum level pending an improvement in iron and steel prices. In general, however, employers seem to be following a policy of *laissez-faire*, in view of the fact that a period of stabilisation is probable without the trouble of negotiating definite agreement. The unions, on the other hand, with one or two exceptions, are holding back demands for increased wages until an improvement in trade presents them with a reasonable argument in favour of their claims. (From "Economist," February 27, 1926.)

### Cotton Industry

Employment in the Lancashire cotton industry continued slack during February. It showed no marked change as compared with January, the increase in the numbers unemployed occurring almost entirely in the numbers on temporary stoppage; but it was rather worse than in February of last year in all departments and in most of the principal districts.

In the section spinning American cotton the recommendations of the Short Time Committee of the Master Cotton Spinners' Federation to work short time to the extent of 17½ hours a week was reported to be fairly well supported during February. On the 10th March, however, the Committee announced that the movement was not being fully supported, and that they proposed to take a ballot on a recommendation to work 35 hours a week in this section. There was no organised short time in the section spinning Egyptian cotton and operatives were fairly well employed. In the weaving department there was no marked general change. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 9·3 on the 22nd February 1926 as compared with 8·2 on the 25th January and with 6·8 on the 23rd February 1925.

In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment in the spinning section continued very slack, except with spinners of fine counts suitable for dhootie weaving; it was about the same as in January, and was not so bad as in February of last year. In the manufacturing section in the Oldham district employment remained slack. At Stalybridge and Hyde there was an improvement. Employment with spinners at Bolton and Leigh was good, and about the same as in January; it was also fairly good with weavers in the Bolton area; but with cardroom workers it was bad and worse than in January. It was bad with spinners at Bury.

In the principal weaving districts (except Burnley) employment showed little change; firms engaged in weaving dhooties were well employed, but weavers of coarse cloths were slack. As compared with February of last year employment showed a decline in almost all districts. At Burnley employment declined further, and was very bad; many winders were unemployed or on short time, and many weavers were tending a reduced number of looms or were played off indefinitely. At Blackburn the improvement noted in previous months was not quite maintained; there was much under-employment. At Preston there were extensive stoppages towards the end of the month; in addition, many weavers were tending a reduced number of looms. There was a slight improvement at Colne, Darwen and Great Harwood; at the last named centre a shortage of weavers was reported. At Nelson, on the other hand, there was a decline.

In the Yorkshire towns (except Brighouse) there was an improvement, though a large number of cotton operatives were still working only 36 hours a week.

There was an improvement in the spinning section in the Glasgow district, many women having resumed full time working. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March, 1926.)

## Trade Unions in the Presidency

### Returns for First Quarter 1926

#### AN INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

(Continued from page 638 of March Labour Gazette)

*The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.*—This Society was hitherto considered by the Labour Office as a Quasi Union. Full details in connexion with the constitution, financial position and the working of the Society and the various Benefit Fund Societies conducted by it have been given in the article on "Quasi-Labour Unions in Bombay" which was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for February 1926. It is not considered necessary therefore to cover the same ground, either wholly or even partly, in this article.

The number of members standing on the rolls of the Society on the 1st March 1926 amounted to 2,241, and showed, in comparison with the previous month, an increase of 50 members. The Society is not in a position to give the correct distribution of its membership over all the Railways in India for any month during the following month on account of the fact that its various branches are not able to get away their monthly returns regularly in time; but at the special request of the Labour Office it has compiled the following statement showing the distribution of its members as on the 31st January 1926:—

Railway Administration	Class of members					Total number of members
	A	B	C	D	E	
C. I. P. Railway ..	766	54	35	27	26	908
M. & S. M. Railway ..	29	32	28	143	80	312
B. B. & C. I. Railway ..	54	7	8	17	20	106
N. C. S. Railway ..	28	23	31	102	12	196
S. I. Railway ..	24	4	9	3	3	43
N. W. Railway ..	73	5	10	15	..	103
E. I. Railway ..	159	3	2	17	..	181
O. & R. Railway ..	14	9	..	..	..	23
Total ..	1,147	137	123	324	141	1,872
Head Office ..	209	26	31	32	21	319
Grand Total	1,356	163	154	356	162	2,191

The numbers of members of different classes shown against each Railway are members who definitely belong to one or the other of the 47 branches of the Society which are scattered over the whole of India. It often

happens, however, that there are only a few members at stations at which the Society does not consider it necessary to undergo the expense of opening up branches. Such members are included in the Head Office Branch and the above table shows that the society had 319 unaffiliated members in different parts of India on the 31st January 1926. As the majority of these members belong to one or the other of the Railways included in the table the Society has now been asked to make an endeavour to include the Head Office Members in the regular table according to the different Railway Administrations under which they may be serving. The number of members on the rolls of the Voluntary Legal Defence and Protection Fund amounted to 1,481 as on the 1st March. The Voluntary Sick Benefit Fund had 100 members and the Family Benefit Fund 440 members on the same date. The average monthly income during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 2,500 and the expenditure also amounted to the same figure. The total income of the Society for the ten months ending 31st January 1926 amounted to Rs. 22,420 and the expenditure during the same period amounted to Rs. 24,561 which shows an excess of Rs. 2,141 but this excess is covered by the contributions to be received for office expenses from the three other Benefit Societies which are conducted by the parent Society.

*The Indian Seamen's Union.*—The name of this union is somewhat misleading, as membership of the union is more or less confined to the steamer saloon staff and the majority of its members are Goans. There are however a few Mangalorian and Cochin Christians who are also members of this union. During the past year the activities of the union have been curtailed owing to a dispute with the Government Shipping Brokers regarding the channels through which men should be engaged for the Shipping Companies. The union contend that the Brokers agreed not to engage saloon staff except through the union, but the Brokers deny this, although they used to engage a certain number of men through the union.

In 1926, the Government Shipping Brokers began to become more independent of the union in engaging saloon crews owing to more non-unionists being available and the number of orders sent to the union declined. The officers of the union retaliated by refusing to allow any unionists to accept employment through the Brokers. This "strike" is reported to have cost the union nearly Rs. 20,000 which the officers of the union state was spent in giving relief doles to unemployed members but this explanation of the diminution of the funds is not accepted by many of the members. The position at present is that the Government Shipping Brokers are not forwarding any orders at all to the union and are engaging all the necessary staff they require from both non-unionists and the members of the union who are acting against the mandate of the President of the union not to accept employment offered by the Brokers. There exists a very considerable amount of dissatisfaction among the members themselves and practically no members are paying their subscriptions to the union. The members of the union held a meeting on the 15th March at which various questions in connexion with the reorganisation of the whole union were discussed. About 500 members, however,

declined to agree to continue as members under the existing management and they decided to start a new union under the name of the Seamen's Union. The new union has opened its office at 262, Frere Road. Up to the moment of writing (15th April) about 1,200 old members of the Indian Seamen's Union have joined this union. The actual constitution of the new union has not yet been decided upon but it is understood that the management is to be vested in a Directorate of 15 members and that there will be no President or Secretary. Further particulars and details in connexion with this union will be given in the next quarterly Review which will be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926.

In view of the fact that it was not possible to procure the latest figures of the progress of the Indian Seamen's Union from the union officers on the present occasion the figures given in Tables II and III in respect of this union are the same as those published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1925.

*The B.B. & C.I. Railwaymen's Union.*—The number of members of this union increased from 934 to 962 during the quarter under review. The union is now engaged in the formulation of a scheme for carrying on a more intensive propaganda for recruiting new members. No official recognition has yet been accorded to this union by the B. B. & C. I. Railway Administration and this union is therefore having a very difficult time in keeping together the members which it has so far been successful in enrolling.

*The G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments).*—The membership of this union increased from 979 in the previous quarter to 1,357 during the quarter under review or by 38·5 per cent. This large increase is reported to be due to the proposed introduction, by the G.I.P. Railway Administration, of Staff Councils into its workshops. The operatives have put up to the authorities several vigorous representations against the introduction of these councils into the workshops as they believe that this is a move intended to undermine and break their union. They state that instead of introducing these councils into the workshops the Railway Administration should recognise their union. The authorities are reported to have refused to do this and the non-unionists are therefore joining the union in large numbers as a mark of protest against the action taken.

The union is actively engaged at present in the work of re-organising its various activities and reconstructing its rules so as to be in a position to register the union as soon as the Trade Union Act receives the assent of His Excellency the Viceroy and is placed on the Statute Book. During the quarter under report the union took a considerable part in the work of the Purity Mission Committee of the Central Labour Board in organising and delivering lectures on temperance and sanitation. It has also started a vigorous anti-gambling campaign to prevent workmen in general from attending and betting at the Races.

Seventy-five members of the union have now joined its Co-operative Credit Society. Interest is charged on all loans given at 2 pies per rupee per month. The membership fee is Re. 1 per month and interest at 9 per cent. per annum is paid to all members who have subscribed more than Rs. 10. The subscriptions collected are returnable at retirement less

Rs. 1 per member for entrance fee. Loans are only given to subscribing members who have paid in not less than Rs. 10 in monthly fees and who bring two sureties each for one half of the amount required. The amount of the cash in hand in the books of the society on the 1st February 1926 was Rs. 750-9-0. Entrance fees and subscriptions brought in Rs. 43 and returns of loans Rs. 107-5-0. Interest paid on loans outstanding amounted to Rs. 10-3-11. The total amount on hand at 1st March 1926 amounted to Rs. 911-1-11. At a meeting of the Managing Committee of the Society held on the 3rd March further loans amounting to Rs. 320 in all were sanctioned.

*The Port Trust Workshop Union.*—The number of members of this union fell from 450 in the previous quarter to 393 in the present quarter as the result of which there has been a fall in its revenue. The union has therefore stopped publishing its paper called the *Kamgar Udaya* which has now been taken over by the Central Labour Board. The members of the Union are endeavouring to get the workmen of other big engineering firms in Bombay to form unions of their own and it has so far succeeded in forming a Union of the employees of Messrs. Alcock Ashdown & Co. The details in connexion with this new union will be reported in the next Quarterly Review to be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926. A co-operative credit society for the benefit of the members of the Port Trust Workshop Union has now been started on the same lines as that of the G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union. In addition to this, it has formed a Debating Society which will hold meetings every Sunday from April next. It has also formulated schemes for retirement and Death Benefits. Death Benefits will be paid at double the amount of the total union membership fees received from a deceased member less 25 per cent. of such total for expenses; but provided that the member in respect of whom the benefit is claimed has been a regular paying member for a continuous period of at least three years. In the same way, Retirement Benefits amounting to 50 per cent. of the total subscriptions received from a retiring member will be given if the member who claims the benefit has paid his subscriptions regularly every month for three years.

*The Clerks' Union.*—This union is now reported as being on its last legs because its organisers cannot get persons of the clerical classes to become members. The number of paying members has decreased from 150 to 100 and subscriptions are not being received regularly even from the members who are now on its rolls.

*The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Chinchpokli Mandal).*—Complete details in connexion with the formation and the growth of this union out of the remains of the Girni Kamghar Sangha were given in the article on Quasi-Unions in Bombay published in the February 1925 issue of the *Labour Gazette*. The membership of the Chinchpokli Mahamandal stands at 179 and the fee per member is Re. 1 per year.

*The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal).*—Particulars of this union were given in the February issue. On the 1st March 1926, the number of persons who had been enrolled as members amounted to 618.

*The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Colaba Mandal).*—This union is more or less a branch of Mr. Mayekar's Prabhadevi Mandal but in view of

the fact that it has got its own separate President, Secretary and Treasurer, it must, as far as the Labour Office is concerned, be considered as a separate union. Of the four Girmi Kamgar Mahamandals, the Colaba Mandal has the best membership,—the number of members enrolled by the 1st March 1926 amounting to 720.

*The Girmi Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal).*—The remarks made regarding the formation and the standing of the Colaba Mandal also apply to this union. All these four Unions are Unions of Textile Workers in Bombay City. They are controlled and managed entirely by the cotton mill workers themselves and no outsiders have any voice in connexion with their management. The number of members standing on the rolls of this union on the 1st March 1926 was 205. Although all these four unions have started work and have their own offices, no regular constitutions or sets of rules for their conduct have been drawn up. The officers of the unions are not educated men and they are waiting to see how their individual memberships progress before deciding the question of the appointment of full time paid Secretaries who will be entrusted with the work of framing the rules and regulations of each union.

*The Bombay Currency Association.*—This Association was formed in the year 1923 and is a union of the clerks and the peons of The Bombay Currency Office. The membership of the union now stands at 219. The union has recently made several representations to the Government of India in connexion with the granting of house allowances to the Currency Office Clerks, the revision of the pay of shroffs employed in that office and the revision of the pay of the menial establishment. The Government of India have refused to accede to the first and the second representations and, in connexion with the third representation have stated that the question "should not be considered unless and until the Local Government take similar action in respect of their offices". The main grievances of the employees of the Currency Office are (1) that the Time Scale introduced in Currency Offices in the year 1920 was less than that allowed in other Government offices in the Bombay Presidency; (2) that the excessive cost of living during the period immediately following the end of the war, and for the meeting of which no relief was given, brought about a state of considerable indebtedness among the members of the staff; (3) that retrospective effect was not granted to the Currency Office Employees when revisions were effected as was done in the Post Offices and in several other Government Departments; (4) that no extra increments were given as was also done in many offices in order to relieve previous indebtedness; (5) that the amount of the increments are not in line with those allowed to men doing similar work in other offices; and (6) that the scales of pay allowed are not in keeping with the responsible nature of the work that the employees of a Currency Office have to perform.

The Union has recently started a Co-operative Credit Society of which the Deputy Controller of Currency is the Chairman. Two Gazetted Officers of the Currency Office are also members of the committee. The paid-up share capital of the Society amounts to Rs. 3,000. The value of each share is Rs. 10 payable in three equal monthly instalments. Interest at 9 per cent. per annum is charged on loans given by the society to its

members and the share holders receive about 7½ per cent. per annum on the capital invested. As most clerks of the Currency Office have to deposit a certain amount as security before they can get employment in the office, the currency officer holds a considerable sum of money from securities thus deposited. The Treasurer of the Currency Office has now agreed to place a part of the amount of the securities received from temporary Shroffs on Fixed Deposit with the Co-operative Credit Society at five per cent. interest. The total funds at the disposal of the society for the purpose of granting loans therefore amounts to over Rs. 13,000.

*The Bombay Postmen's Union.*—The officers of this union have been actively engaged during the last three months with the formation of the Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union full particulars in connexion with which have been given above under the heading of "Federations of Trade Unions". The membership of the union has increased from 1,164 to 1,172 during the quarter under review. The financial position of the Union continues to be sound and the average income of the Union, in spite of heavy extraordinary expenditure in connexion with the Broach and Lahore Conferences, has been larger than the average expenditure.

*The Bombay Postal Union.*—The total membership of this union increased from 1,354 during the last quarter to 1,398 during the quarter under review out of which 1,301 members belonged to the clerical classes and 97 to other classes. The financial statement of this union for the quarter ending 31st December 1925 shows that the balance of the cash in hand at the beginning of the quarter amounted to Rs. 15,947-5-6. Collections of subscriptions realised Rs. 1,281-14-0 and the Reserve Fund amounted to Rs. 1,920. Miscellaneous Revenue realised Rs. 184-0-0. Working expenses amounted to Rs. 919-8-0 and contributions to the Provincial Association Rs. 976-0-0. An amount of Rs. 15,374-0-0 was placed to the credit of the "Reserve" account and Rs. 20,063-11-6 was kept in current accounts. The total assets as at 1st January 1926 amounted to Rs. 17,347-11-6.

*The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.*—This union has its head office in Bombay with members scattered at various stations on the line. There are no branch unions at the various stations and subscriptions are collected and forwarded to the Head Office by voluntary workers. In the last quarterly review of Trade Unions published in the December 1925 issue of the *Labour Gazette* it was stated that the officers of the Union when approached for the latest information regarding the strength of this union were not able to give any information regarding the increase or decrease in the numbers of members at the various stations. It was reported that the Railway authorities had recently effected a drastic reorganisation in the various commercial and transportation departments at different stations and that as a consequence of this, several transfers of union members had been effected from one station to another. Several hundreds of union members have also been retrenched during the last one year. It was not found possible, therefore, to make an exact tally of the number of members at each recording station and subscriptions had also fallen hopelessly

into arrears. The transferred members have now settled down and the latest information regarding the numerical strength of the members at the various stations shows that the total membership of this union has fallen from 5,475 as reported for the third and fourth quarters of the year 1925, to 1,839 during the quarter under review. The distribution of these members by stations is as follows:—

Wadi Bunder (Bombay) ..	388	Poona ..	121
Sholapur ..	200	Dhond ..	288
Bhopal ..	60	Ahmednagar ..	130
Administrative office			
Bombay and Kalyan ..	244	Itarsi ..	77
Bhusawal ..	150	Jhansi ..	111
		Jubbulpore ..	70
		Total ..	1,839

The amount realised in subscriptions during the current quarter was Rs. 307 and expenditure amounted to Rs. 280. The union has no surplus assets of any kind whatever and no statements of accounts have been published for the last two years. At present the officers of the union are engaged in the work of reconstruction and reorganisation.

*The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.*—The name of this Union has been changed since the 1st January 1926 from The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union to The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union in order to include in the Union as many Telegraph peons as possible from all parts of the Bombay Presidency. During the quarter under review the Union made a representation to the Government of India and to all Local Governments requesting an early reconsideration of the various disabilities regarding the pay and the pension of Telegraph Peons in India but up to the moment of writing no replies have been received to the representations made. The membership of the Union fell from 275 to 259. The average expenditure for the quarter under review was Rs. 11 per month in excess of the average monthly income. Ten more members of the Union joined its Loan and Thrift Society.

*The Bombay Government Peons' and Menials' Union.*—This Union was started in the month of February 1926 by Messrs. Ginwalla and Jhabwalla. The constitution of the Union has not yet been framed but it is reported that about 300 Government peons and menials have already joined this Union.

#### AHMEDABAD

The activities of the six unions of cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad which are under the control of the local Labour Union have been fully dealt with under the heading of *Federations of Trade Unions*. The Labour Office has not received any statements of accounts showing the financial position of the individual unions. The details in connexion with the average monthly income and the average monthly expenditure are given in Table III on page 793. The membership of The Weavers' Union rose

from 3,600 to 4,000, that of the Throstle Union from 5,890 to 6,320, of the Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union from 2,650 to 2,950 and of the Drivers' Oilmen and Firemen's Union from 300 to 500.

*The B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Association.*—No particulars in connexion with the membership or the work of this Union are available because the officers in charge of this Union have not supplied any information. Mention of this Union is continued in the *Labour Gazette* because it is a Union known to be in existence and the membership figure continues to be given by the Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad at the last known figure, viz., 5,000.

*The Ahmedabad Postal and R.M.S. Union.*—In its report for the year 1925, the Union states that in its relations with the Postal authorities it has reached the stage of negotiation from that of petitioning. The Union interviews officials and members of the legislatures from time to time for the redress of the grievances of its members, deals with individual complaints regarding leave, etc., and passes resolutions inviting the attention of the authorities to their disabilities. The membership shows no great variation from that of the last quarter. The Railway Mail Service Staff do not take as active a part in the affairs of the Union as is desired by the Postal Staff. The postmen are divided in their allegiance between this Union and the nominally existing Post and Railway Mail Service Association which has already been stated as existing now as a mere Strike Committee. As a result of this the number of postmen in this union is rather small.

The Union has decided to agitate for a compensatory allowance of Rs. 15 for all selection grade officials in view of the alleged high prices and rentals in Ahmedabad, and has requested the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs to compare the prices of the necessaries of life in Bombay, Ahmedabad, Karachi and Poona and to consider the case of Ahmedabad along with certain other important stations for which the Finance Committee of the Government of India have decided to consider the revision of time-scales of pay. The financial position of the Union at the end of 1925 stood as follows:—

Receipts		Expenditure	
	Rs. as. p.		Rs. as. p.
Opening Balance ..	731 3 9	Remittance to Presidency Association ..	303 11 0
Subscriptions ..	1,109 8 0	Office Expenses ..	181 12 6
Reserved Fund		Excess of income over expenditure ..	2,069 15 6
contributions ..	694 15 0		
Miscellaneous ..	19 12 3		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	2,555 7 0		2,555 7 0

The above statement of account shows that the affairs of the Union are being managed economically and that the financial position of the Union is strong. The 12 per cent. contribution to the Reserve Fund has been fully paid by 47 members and partly paid by 50. About 80 more members

have still to pay their contributions. In view of the hardship involved by the collection of this contribution for the Reserve Fund, the fees for the first six months of the year 1926 have been remitted.

#### REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

In view of the fact that considerable prominence has been given in the present review to the activities of the Labour Unions in Bombay and Ahmedabad it is not possible, for want of space, to deal with all the remaining Unions in the Rest of the Presidency in the same way. The remarks made in connexion with the general activities of the two Postal Federations and the Postal Unions at Ahmedabad and Bombay apply more or less to almost all the other Postal and R. M. S. and the Postmen's Unions in the other Districts of the Presidency. The next review which will be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926 will, however, give preferential prominence to the work done by the Unions in the Bombay Presidency outside the cities of Bombay and Ahmedabad.

## Clerical Wages in Bombay City

### Preliminary Results of the Labour Office Census

GENERAL INCREASE OF 76 PER CENT. OVER 1914

#### III

The first and second instalments of a series of four articles giving the preliminary results of the Labour Office Census of Clerical Wages in Bombay City were published in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for February and March 1926. The present article continues the detailed examination of the complete results of the enquiry for the numerically more important occupations, and will give, in addition (1) summary tables showing the average monthly earnings separately for men and women for each occupation in all offices for those offices which furnished returns for July 1914 and for all the offices which furnished returns for July 1924; (2) summary tables showing the final results of the Census for all clerks in all offices; (3) the monetary equivalents of the average monthly wages for each type of clerk, at the rates of July 1924, in rupees, sterling, dollars and yen (conversion at the Demand Selling rates of exchange as at 1st April 1926) and (4) a summary table showing the frequency distribution of earnings in July 1924 for each class of offices and for all the offices combined together.

#### BILL CLERKS (OFFICE)

##### 1. Numbers returned

The number of Office Bill Clerks returned for the enquiry amounted to 78 for the year 1914 and 170 for the year 1924. Out of the numbers returned for 1924, 118 were returned in the First Group of offices and 52 in the Second Group. The distribution of the returns according to different classes of offices is set out in the following table:—

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 by offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by all offices
Railways, etc. ..	7	8		8
Semi-Government ..	7	6		6
Banks ..	12	35	12	47
Solicitors' Firms ..	8	16	2	18
Commercial ..	41	48	38	86
Miscellaneous ..	3	5		5
All offices ..	78	118	52	170

##### 2. Average Monthly Earnings

The term "Bill Clerks (Office)" includes persons doing various kinds of clerical work. In Banks, Office Bill clerks are mostly engaged in work connected with Bills of Exchange and Drafts. In Commercial Offices,

Office Bill Clerks may have to record in special ledgers the dates on which Bills of Exchange have to be paid and also to prepare ordinary bills demanding payment for goods supplied or services rendered. In Solicitors' Offices, they have to prepare memoranda of legal costs and are generally expected to be conversant with the proper rates at which different kinds of legal services have to be assessed. The remuneration of Office Bill Clerks must therefore vary considerably in different classes of offices according to the intelligence and experience which each type of work demands. As against average monthly earnings amounting to Rs. 49-2-4 in July 1914 and Rs. 89-3-7 for all offices in the Commercial group in July 1924, the earnings of similar clerks in Solicitors' Offices amounted to Rs. 96-4-0 and Rs. 165 respectively, or nearly twice as much. In Banks, Office Bill Clerks earned Rs. 60-10-8 per head per month in 1914 and Rs. 107-0-8 in 1924. The general averages for All Offices are Rs. 55 per head in 1914 and Rs. 102 in 1924. The details are given in the following table:—

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Railways, etc.	39 0 0	92 12 0	92 12 0	92 12 0
Semi-Government	57 4 7	114 2 8	114 2 8	114 2 8
Banks	60 10 8	115 0 5	83 12 0	107 0 8
Solicitors' Firms	96 4 0	166 14 0	150 0 0	165 0 0
Commercial "	49 2 4	91 2 1	86 13 1	89 3 7
Miscellaneous	36 5 4	63 0 0	63 0 0	63 0 0
All offices	55 1 3	108 9 3	88 8 7	102 7 2

### 3. Percentage Increase in Wages

The following table gives the percentage increases in the earnings of Office Bill Clerks for each group of offices according to classes of offices and shows that the wages of these clerks were 86 per cent. higher in July 1924 as compared with July 1914:—

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	138	—	138
Semi-Government	99	—	99
Banks	90	38	76
Solicitors' Firms	73	56	71
Commercial "	85	77	82
Miscellaneous	73	—	73
All offices	97	61	86

## COLLECTING BILL CLERKS (COLLECTORS)

### 1. Numbers Returned

The total number of Collecting Bill Clerks returned for the enquiry amounted to 61 for the year 1914 and 114 for All Offices in 1924. Commercial Offices returned 59 per cent. of the total number for 1914 and 57 per cent. for 1924. The distribution of the numbers returned by each group of offices is shown in the following table:—

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 by offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by all offices
Railways, etc.	6	20	—	30
Semi-Government	11	19	—	19
Banks	—	3	—	3
Solicitors' Firms	7	7	—	7
Commercial "	36	46	19	65
Miscellaneous	1	—	—	1
All offices	61	95	19	114

### 2. Average Monthly Earnings

If the figure for the earnings of one Collecting Bill Clerk returned by Miscellaneous Offices is omitted, we find that the average monthly earnings of this type of clerk in 1914 were lowest in Commercial Offices and highest in Solicitors' Offices. In 1924 the highest rates are still found to prevail in Solicitors' Offices but the lowest rates are in Semi-Government Offices. The average monthly earnings for All Offices amounted to Rs. 34-6-10 in 1914 and Rs. 65-2-0 in 1924. The following table gives the detailed figures:—

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Railways, etc.	37 8 0	61 12 0	61 12 0	61 12 0
Semi-Government	33 10 2	60 0 0	60 0 0	60 0 0
Banks	—	65 0 0	65 0 0	65 0 0
Solicitors' Firms	50 11 5	84 4 7	84 4 7	84 4 7
Commercial "	29 12 11	64 8 8	68 2 11	65 9 9
Miscellaneous	77 0 0	—	—	77 0 0
All offices	34 6 10	64 8 3	68 2 11	65 2 0

### 3. Percentage Increase in Wages

The highest increases in the wages of Collecting Bill Clerks are found in "Commercial Offices." The results for all offices which supplied

information for 1924 shows that the earnings of clerks in the various groups have increased by 120 per cent in the group of offices. This is attributed to the demand for increased work done by most firms having progressively employed with the normal auxiliary of higher pay. The combined figures show that the average pay of Collecting Bill Clerks was 87 per cent higher in 1924 than in 1914. The variations in different types of offices are shown in the following table :-

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	65	.....	55
Semi-Government	78	.....	78
Banks	66	.....	66
Subsidiary Firms	117	129	120
All offices	87	98	89

**FILING CLERKS**

**1. Numbers Returned**

Two hundred and thirty three Filing Clerks were returned for 1924 against 22 for 1914. Semi-Government Offices returned about equal numbers for both years but Commercial Offices returned 97 for 1924 in comparison with 22 for the base year. Filing is now an important branch of the office administration in most offices in Bombay owing to the introduction of up-to-date filing systems and the persons engaged on this work would appear to be able to earn somewhat better remuneration than ordinary junior clerks. The following table gives the figures by different types of offices :-

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 by offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by all offices
Railways, etc.	14	81	.....	41
Semi-Government	46	49	.....	49
Banks	3	13	.....	18
Subsidiary Firms	9	20	.....	26
Commercial	22	58	51	97
Miscellaneous	1	1	1	2
All offices	15	182	51	233

**2. Average Monthly Earnings**

There is a wide variation in the earnings of individual filing clerks between office and office. One filing clerk returned by an office classed

as Miscellaneous Offices in the First Group earned Rs. 120 per month. The average monthly earnings for all offices amounted to Rs. 45-4-2 per month in 1914 and to Rs. 47-5-3 in 1924. In Semi-Government Offices the average earnings of 89 such clerks returned for 1924 amounted to Rs. 65-11-9 per head per month which is to be expected in view of the large amount of work that has to be done in offices employing several hundreds of clerks. The normal wages for an average Filing Clerk in Commercial Offices to-day are Rs. 75 per month. The averages for different types of offices in the various groups are shown in the following table :-

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
Railways, etc.	Rs. 11 9	Rs. 4 4	Rs. 4 4	Rs. 11 9
Semi-Government	45 4 2	47 5 3	47 5 3	47 5 3
Banks	41 5 4	65 11 9	65 11 9	65 11 9
Subsidiary Firms	53 1 0	64 8 0	62 0 0	62 0 0
Commercial	45 15 3	72 4 2	75 0 0	75 0 0
Miscellaneous	65 0 0	120 0 0	75 0 0	75 0 0
All offices	45 4 2	47 5 3	72 2 18	61 8 3

**3. Percentage Increase in Wages**

The increase of 118 per cent in wages of filing clerks in the First Group and of 18 per cent in the Second Group in Miscellaneous Offices is an encouraging sign for the retention of only one man in each group. Taking all the filing clerks returned for the enquiry the final average shows that there has been an increase of 85 per cent in their earnings during the ten years separating the base year and the latest year. The figures of individual increases for different types of offices are shown in the table given below :-

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	104	.....	104
Semi-Government	121	.....	121
Banks	87	99	87
Subsidiary Firms	95	100	100
Commercial	76	61	76
Miscellaneous	150	18	118
All offices	85	69	85

## DESPATCHING CLERKS

## 1. Numbers Returned

Almost every office which made returns for this enquiry returned one or more despatching clerks for the year 1924. The total numbers returned amounted to 213 for 1924 as against 94 for the basic year. The distribution according to classes of offices is given in the following table:—

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 by offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by all offices
Railways, etc.	16	30	...	30
Semi-Government	19	27	...	27
Banks	5	15	5	20
Solicitors' Firms	6	10	3	13
Commercial ..	46	70	49	119
Miscellaneous	2	3	1	4
<b>All offices</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>213</b>

## 2. Average Monthly Earnings

The earnings of Despatching clerks generally do not vary according to the volume of inward and outward correspondence which has to be handled but according to the responsibility of the work that has to be done. For instance, despatching clerks in Banks have to handle large sums of money in inward and outward remittances of currency notes. The wages of such clerks in Banks would therefore tend to be higher than those paid to men who have not such large responsibilities. This observation is borne out by an examination of the final results which show that despatching clerks in Banks earned Rs. 57-0-0 per head per month in 1914 as against the general average of Rs. 40-15-0 for all offices, and Rs. 88-10-8 in 1924 as against the general average of Rs. 77-9-9 per head. Despatching clerks in Commercial Offices receive on the average about the same wages to-day as Filing Clerks, viz., Rs. 75 per month although a few men have been returned with a monthly salary of Rs. 200 per month—but this is exceptional. The following table shows the averages in different classes of offices:—

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Railways, etc.	39 12 4	75 3 2	...	75 3 2
Semi-Government	39 9 3	85 3 0	...	85 3 0
Banks ..	57 0 0	88 3 7	90 0 0	88 10 8
Solicitors' Firms	46 10 8	93 0 0	60 10 8	85 8 7
Commercial ..	39 7 4	73 7 5	74 8 10	73 14 7
Miscellaneous	40 0 0	73 5 4	74 0 0	73 8 0
<b>All offices</b>	<b>40 15 0</b>	<b>78 8 5</b>	<b>75 2 6</b>	<b>77 9 9</b>

## 3. Percentage Increase in Wages

In the previous section it was shown that the wages of Filing Clerks had risen by 88 per cent. in 1924 over 1914. The general all round increase in the wages of Despatching clerks amounts to about the same figure—90 per cent. In Commercial Offices the increase is 87 per cent. The variations in the percentage increases in the earnings of these clerks are shown in the following table:—

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	89	...	89
Semi-Government	115	...	115
Banks	55	58	56
Solicitors' Firms	99	30	83
Commercial	86	89	87
Miscellaneous	83	95	84
<b>All offices</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>90</b>

## TELEPHONE OPERATORS

## 1. Numbers Returned

Except in cases where offices have large telephone installations with 6 or more connecting lines, the main office telephone is generally attended to by the Despatching Clerk or a Junior Clerk who does all the Miscellaneous work in an office. The installation of large systems is a very recent innovation in Bombay and as a consequence the number of Telephone Clerks returned is comparatively small. Railways and Semi-Government Offices returned 12 operatives for 1914 and 22 for 1924. Commercial Houses returned 25 in the latest year as against 5 in the basic year. The table given below shows the actual distribution.

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 by offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by all offices
Railways, etc.	12	11	...	11
Semi-Government	...	11	...	11
Banks	...	1	...	1
Solicitors' Firms	...	...	...	...
Commercial ..	5	17	8	25
Miscellaneous ..	...	...	...	...
<b>All offices</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>48</b>

## 2. Average Monthly Earnings.

In view of the general observations already made in the previous articles in connexion with the earnings of Telephone operators in the year 1924

as compared with their earnings in 1914, no further remarks appear to be necessary here. The final averages show that the earnings of all Telephone operators in Bombay are generally on a par with the earnings of the average filing and despatching clerks in Commercial Offices. The actual differences in the average earnings in different classes of offices will be seen in the following table

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Railways, etc.	35 3 2	76 14 2	..	76 14 2
Semi-Government	....	90 14 7	..	90 14 7
Banks ..	....	70 0 0	..	70 0 0
Solicitors' Firms ..	....	....	..	....
Commercial ..	31 0 0	70 4 3	60 10 0	67 2 11
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..
All offices	33 15 5	77 12 1	60 10 0	74 14 5

### 3. Percentage Increase in Wages

The percentage increases in the wages of Telephone operators for the different groups of offices are given in the following table, and show that in comparison with July 1914, the earnings of all Telephone operators returned for the enquiry for the year 1924 have risen by 121 per cent.

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	118	..	118
Semi-Government	..	..	..
Banks	..	..	..
Solicitors' Firms	..	..	..
Commercial ..	127	96	117
Miscellaneous	..	..	..
All offices ..	123	78	121

### STOREKEEPERS

#### 1. Numbers Returned

The general observations made in the first article of this series published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for February 1926 in connexion with the returns of men in occupations other than those against which they should have been returned, apply more to the occupation now under discussion than to any other. For instance one firm returned a clerk

having Rs. 51 per month as a Storekeeper. No doubt this clerk was a Storekeeper in that firm but for the purposes of this enquiry it is necessary to deal with this person as an Assistant Storekeeper because the salary earned by him is not only very much smaller than that earned by Storekeepers in the larger offices, but in many cases much smaller than the salaries earned even by Assistant Storekeepers in such offices. As a consequence of several similar entries it was necessary for the Labour Office to make personal enquiries at various offices to ascertain the salaries earned by these two classes of Storekeepers and as a result of those enquiries a considerable number of transfers had to be effected from the one occupation to the other and vice versa. The following table shows the numbers of persons who have been considered as Storekeepers in the different classes of offices which furnished information for the Enquiry

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 by offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by all offices
Railways, etc. ..	6	17	..	17
Semi-Government ..	..	2	....	2
Banks ..	1	2	..	2
Solicitors' Firms ..	..	..	....	..
Commercial .. ..	34	41	45	86
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..
All offices ..	41	62	45	107

#### 2. Average Monthly Earnings

The average monthly earnings of the clerks considered to be Storekeepers in the different types of offices are shown in the table given below. Semi-Government offices did not return any Storekeepers for the year 1914 and Solicitors' offices and Miscellaneous offices returned no Storekeepers at all. The average monthly earnings of Storekeepers in Railways and Allied offices were Rs. 174-12-0 per head in 1914 or more than double the earnings of similar men in Banks and Commercial offices. The average monthly earnings of Storekeepers in the Third Group, i.e., for all offices which furnished information for 1924 irrespective of the fact whether figures for 1914 were given or not, amounted to about Rs. 240 per head in Railways, Rs. 210 per head in Semi-Government offices, Rs. 180 per head in Banks and about Rs. 155 per head in Commercial offices. The final averages for all offices show that the monthly wages

of Storekeepers were about Rs. 170 in July 1924 as against about Rs. 160 in July 1914.

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Railways, etc.	174 12 0	238 11 6	238 11 6	238 11 6
Semi-Government	.. ..	210 0 0	210 0 0	210 0 0
Banks	80 0 0	180 0 0	180 0 0	180 0 0
Solicitors' Firms	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Commercial ..	87 3 9	160 5 11	149 7 10	154 10 10
Miscellaneous	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
All offices	99 13 10	184 1 5	149 7 10	160 8 7

3. Percentage Increase in Wages

Storekeepers in Banks appear to have received larger increases in their pay than those in other offices, while in Railways the average rate is only 37 per cent. higher than in 1914. Both these figures may, however, be considerably biased on account of the smallness of the numbers returned for the base year. The final results show a general increase in the wages of all Storekeepers returned amounting to 70 per cent. The general observations made in previous articles with reference to percentage increases apply particularly, it is suggested, to the figures given in the following table:—

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	37	.. ..	37
Semi-Government	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Banks	125	.. ..	125
Solicitors' Firms	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Commercial ..	84	71	77
Miscellaneous	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
All offices ..	84	50	70

ASSISTANT STOREKEEPERS

1. Numbers Returned

From the total number of clerks returned as Storekeepers and Assistant Storekeepers for the whole Enquiry, 77 men were classed as Assistant Storekeepers for the year 1914, and 203 for the year 1924. The

distribution according to different classes of offices is shown in the following table:—

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
Railways, etc.	36	70	.. ..	70
Semi-Government	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Banks	2	9	.. ..	9
Solicitors' Firms	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Commercial ..	38	76	46	122
Miscellaneous	1	1	1	2
All offices	77	156	47	203

2. Average Monthly Earnings

As in the case of Storekeepers the wages of Assistant Storekeepers in Railways and Allied Offices are much higher than the wages of similar men in other classes of offices. The average monthly earnings in 1924 of Assistant Storekeepers in Railways were about Rs. 110 per head as against Rs. 57 in 1914. The general averages for All Offices were Rs. 86-13-8 and Rs. 48-10-5 respectively. The variations in the different groups are given in the following table:—

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Railways, etc.	57 0 0	110 14 1	.. ..	110 14 1
Semi-Government	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Banks ..	37 8 0	88 5 4	.. ..	88 5 4
Solicitors' Firms	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Commercial ..	40 12 3	68 15 9	79 13 3	73 1 2
Miscellaneous	70 0 0	90 0 0	70 0 0	80 0 0
All offices	48 10 5	89 0 7	79 9 10	86 13 8

3. Percentage Increase in Wages

All the Assistant Storekeepers returned for the enquiry earned 79 per cent. more in 1924 in comparison with 1914. The percentage

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increases in the earnings of these men in the different types of offices considered are set out in the following table.

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	95		
Semi-Government			95
Banks	136		
Solicitors' Firms			136
Commercial	69	96	79
Miscellaneous	29		14
All offices	83	64	79

### C. Final Results for All Offices by Occupations

The tables published on pages 647 and 648 in the issue of the Labour Gazette for March 1926 gave the complete results of the Enquiry for all year 1924 for those offices which supplied figures for both these years. The following tables give, separately for men and women, the complete figures for 1914 were supplied or not, i.e., the complete final results of the whole enquiry. In view of the observations made in the two previous articles it is not considered necessary to make any further comments on the figures given in the tables reproduced below:—

#### MEN

Occupations	July 1914		July 1924		Increase per cent. in July 1924 over July 1914
	No. of men	Average monthly earnings	No. of men	Average monthly earnings	
Assistants	63	Rs. a. p. 264 9 4	125	Rs. a. p. 390 12 1	48
Managing Clerks	14	253 3 5	35	344 0 0	36
Senior Superintendents	8	192 8 0	13	300 0 0	56
Head Clerks	157	156 4 1	317	256 0 11	64
Junior Superintendents	6	122 2 8	22	175 7 3	44
Assistant Managing Clerks	15	74 0 0	30	144 2 8	95
First Grade Clerks or Senior Clerks	394	90 3 9	1,305	154 6 11	71
Second Grade Clerks or Junior Clerks	1,428	48 6 6	3,337	87 12 3	81
Third Grade Clerks or Temporary or Probationary Junior Clerks	643	32 1 9	1,212	58 2 9	81
Clerks of the above three grades	2,465	50 13 5	5,854	96 8 0	90
Head Shroffs	3	388 5 4	9	605 7 1	56
Accountants	12	224 5 4	33	405 6 9	81
Cashiers	89	122 10 4	198	216 13 6	77
Head Bookkeepers	59	127 1 8	135	212 1 4	67

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Occupations	July 1914		July 1924		Increase per cent. in July 1924 over July 1914
	No. of men	Average monthly earnings	No. of men	Average monthly earnings	
Paying and Receiving Shroffs	33	Rs. a. p. 86 4 4	74	Rs. a. p. 138 5 8	60
Saving and Checking Shroffs	12	38 2 8	14	107 5 9	181
Collecting Shroffs	111	43 15 7	160	104 1 2	137
Assistant Cashiers	142	59 2 7	216	112 12 8	91
Cash Writers	9	73 5 4	48	93 6 8	27
Bookkeepers or Ledger Clerks	216	59 14 2	523	103 10 1	73
Invoice Clerks	41	56 7 5	144	93 7 11	66
Bill Clerks (office)	78	55 1 3	170	102 7 2	86
Bill Clerks (collectors)	61	34 6 10	114	65 2 0	89
Expert Salesmen	14	356 12 7	20	475 4 0	33
Salesmen	61	153 12 4	147	228 9 3	49
Apprentice Salesmen	27	65 5 11	47	96 11 7	48
Warehouse Superintendents	2	253 0 0	14	366 12 7	45
Warehouse Keepers	14	84 2 3	50	124 0 0	47
Assistant Warehousekeepers	14	52 8 0	8	107 8 0	105
Shed Superintendents	16	131 14 0	25	217 0 0	65
Assistant Shed Superintendents	56	73 8 3	18	158 14 3	116
Storekeepers	41	99 13 10	107	169 8 7	70
Assistant Storekeepers	77	48 10 5	203	86 13 8	79
Store Purchasers	2	92 8 0	6	110 13 4	20
Head Customs Clerks	7	135 0 0	21	206 7 10	53
Customs Clerks	61	51 6 10	117	86 3 7	68
Confidential Stenographers	7	118 9 2	29	226 13 10	91
Office Stenographers	65	78 5 10	312	135 15 10	74
Typists	114	45 10 10	361	83 0 5	82
Head Filing Clerks	1	92 0 0	4	197 12 0	115
Filing Clerks	95	43 4 2	233	81 3 3	88
Despatching Clerks	94	40 15 0	213	77 9 9	90
Parcel Despatch Clerks	6	42 8 0	6	75 8 0	78
Yard Clerks	4	27 4 0	5	69 12 10	156
Timekeepers	8	58 10 0	11	107 14 7	84
Telephone Operators	17	33 15 5	48	74 14 5	121
Copying Clerks	17	48 3 9	27	77 6 6	60
Court Clerks	5	63 0 0	6	95 13 4	52
Counter attendants or Showmen	16	70 0 0	23	84 14 7	21
Clerks of all Occupations	4,435	66 5 11	10,295	116 14 7	76

#### WOMEN

Occupations	July 1914		July 1924		Increase per cent. in July 1924 over July 1914
	No. of women	Average monthly earnings	No. of women	Average monthly earnings	
Confidential Stenographers	..	Rs. a. p. 255 0 0	5	Rs. a. p. 157 8 5	124
Office Stenographers	..	70 7 3	44	95 4 9	70
Typists	..	56 0 0	27	124 0 0	..
Filing Clerks	..	..	10	60 0 0	..
Despatching Clerks	..	..	2	94 13 9	112
Telephone Operators	..	44 12 0	14	140 13 4	..
Other Lady Clerks	..	..	6	132 8 4	114
Clerks of all Occupations	..	61 11 2	108	..	..

### D. Summary of Final Results for All Occupations in All Offices

The complete and final results of the Labour Office Census of Clerical Wages in Bombay City are summarised in the six tables reproduced below :—

#### MEN

##### 1. Numbers Returned

The total number of male clerks of all occupations returned in the Census amounted to 4,435 for the year 1914, 8,585 for 1924 in the First Group, 1,710 in the Second Group and 10,295 by all offices which supplied information. Miscellaneous Offices returned only 98 men for 1924 as against 3,835 men returned by Commercial Offices, 2,359 by Railways and Allied Offices, 2,329 by Semi-Government Offices, 1,334 by Banks and 340 by Solicitors' Offices. The actual distribution according to groups is shown in the table given below :—

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 by offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by all offices
Railways, etc.	815	2,359		2,359
Semi-Government	1,392	2,329		2,329
Banks	408	1,138	196	1,334
Solicitors' Firms	167	274	66	340
Commercial "	1,604	2,418	1,417	3,835
Miscellaneous "	49	67	31	98
<b>All offices</b>	<b>4,435</b>	<b>8,585</b>	<b>1,710</b>	<b>10,295</b>

##### 2. Average Monthly Earnings

The final results of the Census show that the average monthly earnings of all types of clerical labour returned in the Census amounted to Rs. 116-14-7 per head in July 1924 as compared with Rs. 66-5-11 per head in July 1914. If the averages for 1924 in the Third Group of offices are compared with the averages for 1914 in each of the six classes of offices into which the offices which supplied information are divided, it will be seen that wages were highest in both these years in Miscellaneous Offices and lowest in Railways and Allied Offices. Wages in Semi-Government Offices were practically on the same level in 1914 as in Railways and Allied Offices and amounted in both cases to a shade over Rs. 58 per month. In 1924, clerks in Semi-Government Offices earned about Rs. 5 per month more than the clerks employed in Railways and Allied Offices where the average monthly earnings amounted to Rs. 101-4-4. The position of the clerks in Banks, Solicitors' Offices and Commercial Houses shows a rather striking similarity for both 1914 and 1924—the variation in each case amounting to less than Rs. 6 in the average monthly earnings per head. A feature of considerable interest is that the scale of wages earned by all clerks in each of the different types of offices for both the basic and the

latest year increases in almost the same order, i.e., wages in both years are lowest in Railways and Allied offices, are higher in Semi-Government offices as compared with Railways, are higher in Banks as compared with Semi-Government offices, and with one exception for the year 1924 are highest in both years in Miscellaneous offices.

The following table gives the averages of the monthly earnings of all clerks in all offices for the three groups considered by different classes of offices :—

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Railways, etc.	58 2 8	101 4 4		101 4 4
Semi-Government	58 6 7	106 5 8		106 5 8
Banks	72 8 11	130 12 2	126 4 3	130 1 8
Solicitors' Firms	76 14 9	134 3 7	126 10 5	132 12 1
Commercial "	74 3 10	124 10 4	129 6 8	126 6 6
Miscellaneous	83 13 5	129 13 4	156 5 8	138 3 7
<b>All offices</b>	<b>66 5 11</b>	<b>114 6 8</b>	<b>129 7 0</b>	<b>116 14 7</b>

##### 3. Percentage Increase in Wages

The final results of the Enquiry show that the Wages of clerks in Bombay City had risen in 1924 by 76 per cent. in comparison with 1914. The highest increase is to be found in Semi-Government offices and amounts to 82 per cent. and the lowest increase in Miscellaneous offices amounting to 65 per cent. The maximum variation between the percentage increases in different types of offices therefore amounts to 17 points. The details for each group according to classes of offices are shown in the table given below :—

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	74		74
Semi-Government	82		82
Banks	80	74	79
Solicitors' Firms	74	65	73
Commercial "	68	74	70
Miscellaneous	55	86	65
<b>All offices</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>76</b>

WOMEN

1. Numbers Returned

The total number of women clerks returned for the Census amounted to 20 for July 1914 and 108 altogether for July 1924. 89 or more than 44 per cent. of these were employed in Commercial Offices. The distribution according to groups and classes of offices is shown in the following table:—

Class of offices	Number of clerks returned for			
	July 1914	July 1924 by offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 by all offices
Railways and Allied Offices	6	10	....	10
Semi-Government Offices ..	1	2	..	2
Banks ..	..	1	2	3
Solicitors' Firms ..	2	3	..	3
Commercial ..	10	26	63	89
Miscellaneous ..	1	..	1	1
<b>All offices ..</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>108</b>

2. Average Monthly Earnings

The average monthly earnings of all women clerks returned for the enquiry amounted to Rs. 61-11-2 per head in July 1914 and to Rs. 132-8-4 per head in July 1924. The details showing the earnings in different classes of offices will be found in the following table:—

Class of offices	Average monthly earnings in			
	July 1914	July 1924 for offices giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for offices not giving figures for July 1914	July 1924 for all offices
Railways, etc.	Rs. a. p. 66 10 8	Rs. a. p. 128 6 1	Rs. a. p. ....	Rs. a. p. 128 6 1
Semi-Government	54 0 0	120 0 0	....	120 0 0
Banks ..	..	100 0 0	150 0 0	133 5 4
Solicitors' Firms	60 0 0	133 5 4	..	133 5 4
Commercial ..	62 0 0	127 3 10	135 8 11	133 2 0
Miscellaneous	40 0 0	..	140 0 0	140 0 0
<b>All offices</b>	<b>61 11 2</b>	<b>126 15 3</b>	<b>136 1 0</b>	<b>132 8 4</b>

3. Percentage Increase in Wages

The following table shows that there has been a general increase in the wages of women clerks amounting to 114 per cent. compared with 76 per cent. for men:—

Class of offices	Increase per cent. in 1924 over 1914		
	for offices giving figures for July 1914	for offices not giving figures for July 1914	for all offices
Railways, etc.	93	..	93
Semi-Government	123	..	123
Banks ..	..	..	..
Solicitors' Firms	122	..	122
Commercial Firms	105	119	115
Miscellaneous	..	250	250
<b>All offices</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>114</b>

E. Monetary Equivalents of Clerical Wages in Bombay in British, American and Japanese Currencies

In view of the fact that there are many British, American and Japanese firms in Bombay, it was considered that it would be both useful and interesting from the point of view of the Foreign readers of the *Labour Gazette*, if the wages earned by different types of clerical labour in Bombay were shown in the equivalents of the foreign currencies of a few important countries. The following table therefore gives the monetary equivalents of the average monthly earnings in July 1924 of different types of clerks in all offices in Bombay City, firstly in Indian Currency and secondly in sterling, dollars and yen. The conversions have been effected at the Selling Rates of Exchange for Demand Drafts in Bombay as on the 1st April 1926. This procedure presupposes that there has been no change in the general level of clerical wages during the last two years:—

Occupations	Average monthly earnings in Bombay in July 1924 in (Conversion at rates of exchange as at 1st April 1926)			
	Rs. a. p. (India)	£. s. d. (Britain)	Dollars. (U. S. A.)	Yen. (Japan)
<b>Men:—</b>				
Assistants ..	390 12 1	29 2 1	142 09	310 12
Managing Clerks ..	344 0 0	25 12 5	125 09	273 02
Senior Superintendents ..	300 0 0	22 6 11	109 09	238 10
Head Clerks ..	256 0 11	19 1 5	93 11	203 22
Junior Superintendents ..	175 7 3	13 1 4	63 80	139 25
Assistant Managing Clerks ..	144 2 8	10 14 9	52 42	114 42
First Grade Clerks or Senior Clerks ..	154 6 11	11 10 0	56 16	122 57
Second Grade Clerks or Junior Clerks ..	87 12 3	6 10 9	31 91	69 66

average monthly earnings in London in July 1924 in (Conversion at rate of exchange as at 1st April 1926.)

Occupations	No. in India	No. in Britain	Dollars (U.S.A.)	Yen (Japan)
Third Grade Clerks or Temporary Clerks	58 2 9	4 6 8	21 15	46 17
Clerks of the above three grades	96 8 0	7 3 9	35 09	76 59
Head Shroffs	605 2 1	45 1 10	220 16	480 51
Accountants	405 8 9	30 3 11	147 43	321 76
Cashiers	216 13 6	16 3 0	78 00	172 10
Head Bookkeepers	212 1 4	15 15 11	77 12	168 32
Paying and Receiving Clerks	138 5 8	10 6 1	50 31	109 80
Sorting and Checking Shroffs	107 5 9	7 19 11	39 04	85 21
Collecting Shroffs	104 1 2	7 15 0	37 84	82 60
Assistant Cashiers	112 12 8	8 8 0	41 02	89 52
Cash Writers	93 6 8	6 19 2	33 97	71 14
Bookkeepers or Ledger Clerks	103 10 1	7 14 4	37 08	82 25
Invoice Clerks	93 7 11	6 19 3	34 00	74 20
Bill Clerks (Office)	102 7 2	7 12 7	37 25	81 31
Bill Clerks (Collectors)	65 2 0	4 17 0	23 68	51 69
Expert Salesmen	475 4 0	35 7 11	172 82	377 18
Salesmen	228 9 3	17 0 6	83 12	181 41
Apprentice Salesmen	96 11 7	7 4 1	35 17	76 77
Warehouse Superintendents	366 12 7	27 6 4	133 38	291 10
Warehousekeepers	124 0 0	9 4 9	45 09	98 41
Assistant Warehousekeepers	107 8 0	8 0 2	39 09	85 32
Shed Superintendents	217 0 0	16 3 3	78 91	172 22
Assistant Shed Superintendents	158 14 3	11 16 8	57 78	126 10
Storekeepers	169 8 7	12 12 6	61 65	134 31
Assistant Storekeepers	86 13 8	6 9 5	31 58	68 93
Store Purchasers	110 13 4	8 5 1	40 30	87 96
Head Customs Clerks	206 7 10	15 7 7	75 09	163 88
Customs Clerks	86 1 7	6 8 5	31 35	68 41
Confidential Stenographers	226 13 10	16 17 11	82 50	180 05
Office Stenographers	135 5 10	10 2 7	49 45	107 91
Typists	83 0 5	6 3 8	30 19	65 80
Head Filing Clerks	197 12 0	14 14 7	71 91	156 94
Filing Clerks	81 3 3	6 1 0	29 53	64 41
Despatching Clerks	77 9 9	5 15 7	28 22	61 39
Parcel Despatch Clerks	75 8 0	5 12 6	27 45	59 92
Yard Clerks	69 12 10	5 4 0	25 38	55 40
Timekeepers	107 14 7	8 0 9	39 24	85 64
Telephone Operators	74 14 5	5 11 7	27 24	59 45
Copying Clerks	77 6 6	5 15 4	28 15	61 43
Court Clerks	95 13 4	7 2 9	34 85	76 06
Counter Attendants or Showmen	84 14 7	6 6 6	30 88	67 39
Clerks of all occupations—men	116 14 7	8 14 2	42 51	92 79
Women :-				
Confidential Stenographers	255 0 0	18 19 10	92 73	202 38
Office Stenographers	157 8 5	11 14 8	57 28	125 02
Typists	95 4 9	7 1 11	34 65	75 63
Filing Clerks	124 0 0	9 4 9	45 09	98 41
Despatching Clerks	60 0 0	4 9 5	21 82	47 62
Telephone Operators	94 13 9	7 1 4	34 49	75 29
Other Lady Clerks	140 13 4	10 9 9	51 21	111 77
Clerks of All occupations—women	132 8 4	9 17 5	48 19	105 18

F. Frequency Distribution according to Limits of Earnings in July 1924

The following table gives the frequency distribution according to limits of earnings in July 1924 in each class of offices and for all offices combined

together. Earnings up to Rs. 200 per month have been grouped according to five rupee variations, from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 according to ten rupee variations, and over Rs. 300 according to twenty rupee variations. The final averages and group percentages will be published in the Report now under preparation.

Limits of Earnings	Number of persons engaged in clerical work returned according to limits of earnings shown in						
	Railways and allied offices	Semi-Commercial offices	Banks	Solicitors' offices	Commercial offices	Miscellaneous offices	All offices
35 and below	17	2	..	5	28	..	33
36-40	44	..	1	2	60	..	81
41-45	110	41	18	2	43	..	90
46-50	64	67	28	17	129	..	315
51-55	161	145	42	10	98	2	269
56-60	318	200	14	15	189	5	557
61-65	118	101	21	13	148	7	700
66-70	234	213	38	20	207	3	470
71-75	78	138	37	20	240	7	752
76-80	213	84	33	13	176	4	453
81-85	110	87	49	11	170	2	515
86-90	138	65	26	5	186	6	449
91-95	68	131	73	27	87	1	322
96-100	44	37	30	27	232	8	599
101-105	55	279	36	5	48	1	165
106-110	47	74	25	14	140	5	529
111-115	61	66	29	8	64	2	220
116-120	27	76	29	7	122	3	288
121-125	21	99	76	12	126	2	319
126-130	22	49	14	6	96	4	240
131-135	43	55	17	1	50	..	139
136-140	21	30	9	8	88	2	205
141-145	13	40	8	5	37	..	101
146-150	24	11	5	11	176	3	278
151-155	32	31	16	5	22	1	63
156-160	25	36	9	5	59	1	144
161-165	6	19	20	1	36	1	108
166-170	15	10	5	2	32	4	83
171-175	16	8	9	9	48	1	88
176-180	20	6	7	7	58	..	98
181-185	4	11	4	1	25	1	60
186-190	2	5	5	..	23	3	45
191-195	37	6	9	8	10	1	23
196-200	13	10	12	..	108	1	169
201-210	32	16	8	2	25	..	60
211-220	17	6	5	34	..	4	96
221-230	9	3	8	64	2	..	94
231-240	15	11	3	18	..	2	44
241-250	3	6	4	78	..	..	117
251-260	4	6	15	9	..	..	22
261-270	13	3	2	15	..	..	40
271-280	2	..	4	27	..	..	49
281-290	10	3	4	6	..	..	12
291-300	2	3	7	44	..	..	73
301-320	10	8	..	8	..	..	21
321-340	7	..	3	25	..	..	44
341-360	..	..	3	34	..	..	45

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Limits of Earnings in Rupees	Number of persons engaged in clerical work retained according to limits of earnings shown in					
	Railways and allied offices	Semi-Government offices	Banks	Solicitors' offices	Commercial offices	Miscellaneous offices
361-380	8	8	1	3	12	33
381-400	4	3	1	5	23	39
401-420	3	2	1	1	7	16
421-440	5	3	1	1	12	20
441-460	2	2	1	1	2	10
461-480	2	3	1	6	10	3
481-500	..	..	..	..	1	22
501-520	..	..	..	..	1	1
521-540	2	..	..	2	1	2
541-560	..	..	..	..	7	12
561-580	..	..	..	..	1	1
581-600	..	..	..	..	4	5
601-620	2	..	..	..	..	2
621-640	..	..	..	..	..	1
641-660	..	..	..	..	..	3
661-680	..	..	..	..	..	1
681-700	..	..	..	..	2	4
Over 700	..	..	2	..	..	..

The fourth and the last article in this series which will be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for May 1926 will deal with various miscellaneous questions in connexion with the employment of clerks such as Caste Distribution, hours of work, holidays, leave, commissions to salesmen and bonus.

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## Industrial Disputes in India during the Year 1925

The Government of India, in the Department of Industries and Labour, recently published a bulletin containing the statistics of Industrial Disputes in British India for the year 1925. These statistics show that the total number of disputes reported amounted to 134 as against 133 in the preceding year. The number of workers involved in these disputes was 270,423 as against 312,462 in 1924, and the number of working days lost was 12,578,129 as against 8,730,918. The following two tables show the general effect of the disputes; firstly by Provinces; and secondly by classes of Industries.

### General Effect of Disputes by Provinces

Province	No. of disputes	No. of workers involved	Days lost
Bombay	69	175,214	11,382,509
Bengal	43	60,385	511,279
Madras	4	1,279	5,229
United Provinces	6	5,923	88,366
Punjab	1	11,487	175,234
Bihar and Orissa	2	170	170
Central Provinces	6	4,311	55,365
Burma	3	11,854	153,278
Total	134	270,423	12,578,129

Out of a total of 134 disputes in the whole of British India 69 or 51 per cent, occurred in the Bombay Presidency. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 175,214 or 65 per cent. of the total number affected for the whole of India. With regard to the number of working days lost, 11,382,509 out of a total of 12,578,129 or 90 per cent were lost in the Bombay Presidency. This large figure is due to the general strike in the cotton mills in Bombay City, over the question of a reduction in wages, which lasted for over 3 months and which alone was responsible for a loss of more than ten million working days. With the exception of Bombay and Bengal, no Province in India reported more than 6 disputes during the year.

### General Effect of Disputes by Classes of Industries

Class of Industry	No. of disputes	No. of workers involved	Days lost
Cotton Mills	68	173,339	11,054,132
Jute mills	15	45,487	246,082
Engineering Works	7	5,067	154,111
Railways (including Railway workshops)	6	21,356	824,032
Woollen Mills	1	1,185	8,295
Paper Mills	2	923	17,268
Transport Services	2	169	3,396

Class of Industry	No. of disputes	No. of workers involved	Days lost
Printing Works	1	179	109
Conservancy	4	1,361	1,000
Dock Workers	4	4,151	1,000
Miscellaneous	24	17,206	1,000

As will be seen from the figures given in the above table, 68 out of the total number of disputes occurred in cotton mills and 15 in jute mills. The next important classes are Engineering works and Railways (including Railway workshops) which accounted for 7 and 6 disputes respectively. As would be expected, the number of workpeople involved and the time loss are greatest in cotton mills.

#### CAUSES OF DISPUTES

Sixty-five or nearly 50 per cent. of all Industrial Disputes in British India during the year 1925 occurred over the question of pay. "Personnel" occupied the next predominant position with 35 disputes. "Personnel" includes disputes over demands for dismissal of particular individuals and demands for the reinstatement of individuals dismissed from service by employers. Such disputes are very common in Industrial concerns in India and are believed to be without parallel, as far as numbers are concerned, in any other part of the world. A significant feature regarding Industrial Disputes in India during last year is that no disputes were reported on the question of Leave and Hours of Labour. The following two tables show the causes of the Disputes tabulated firstly by Provinces and secondly by classes of industries.

#### Causes of Disputes by Provinces

Province	Pay	Bonus	Personnel	Leave and hours	Others
Bombay	33	1	24	..	11
Bengal	19	3	9	..	12
Madras	3	..	..	..	1
United Provinces	3	2	1	..	..
Punjab	..	..	1	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	1	..	..	..	1
Central Provinces	4	..	..	..	2
Burma	2	..	..	..	1
Total	65	6	35	..	28

#### Causes of Disputes by Classes of Industries

Class of Industry	Pay	Bonus	Personnel	Leave and hours	Others
Cotton Mills	33	2	24	..	9
Jute Mills	4	3	4	..	4
Engineering Works	3	..	2	..	2
Railways (including Railway workshops)	3	..	1	..	2
Woolen Mills	1	..	..	..	..
Paper Mills	1	1	..	..	..

Class of Industry	Pay	Bonus	Personnel	Leave and hours	Others
Transport services	..	..	..	..	2
Printing Works	..	..	..	..	1
Conservancy	3	..	..	..	1
Dock workers	3	..	..	..	1
Miscellaneous	14	..	4	..	6
Total	65	6	35	..	28

#### RESULTS OF DISPUTES

Only 17 or about 13 per cent. of the disputes resulted entirely in favour of the employees. 27 or 20 per cent. were partially successful. One dispute was in progress at the end of the year. The remaining 89 or 66 per cent. of the total number of disputes were unsuccessful. Taking the Provinces individually, the figures for the United Provinces and Bihar and Orissa show that 50 per cent. of the total number of disputes in each of these two provinces resulted entirely in favour of the employees. In the former Province only one out of 6 disputes was unsuccessful. The following two tables show the results of disputes in the same way as in the two preceding sets of tables.

#### Results of Disputes by Provinces

Province	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful	In progress
Bombay	8	15	46	..
Bengal	5	5	32	1
Madras	..	3	1	..
United Provinces	3	2	1	..
Punjab	..	..	1	..
Bihar and Orissa	1	..	1	..
Central Provinces	..	1	5	..
Burma	..	1	2	..
Total	17	27	89	1

#### Results of Disputes by Classes of Industries

Class of Industry	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful	In progress
Cotton Mills	9	14	45	..
Jute Mills	1	1	13	..
Engineering works	1	..	6	..
Railways (including Railway workshops)	1	2	3	..
Woolen Mills	..	1	1	..
Paper Mills	..	1	..	..
Transport services	..	..	2	..
Printing Works	..	..	1	..
Conservancy	1	..	3	..
Dock workers	..	1	3	..
Miscellaneous	4	7	12	..
Total	17	27	89	1

## SUMMARY OF DISPUTES ACCORDING TO MONTHS

The following table gives the progress and the general effects of the disputes according to months:—

Progress and Effects of Disputes according to Months

Months	No. of disputes in progress at beginning	No. of fresh disputes begun	No. of disputes ended	No. of disputes in progress at end	No. of work people affected	No. of working days lost
January	1	15	15	1	14,130	43,483
February	1	7	6	1	2,926	11,022
March	1	15	13	2	13,653	56,213
April	1	21	17	4	19,362	165,770
May	1	22	22	7	29,149	543,105
June	1	9	9	1	22,051	437,164
July	1	10	10	1	6,253	51,657
August	1	11	9	1	1,544	5,315
September	1	7	7	1	161,825	1,738,927
October	1	10	10	1	163,953	4,018,837
November	1	6	7	1	155,882	3,704,723
December	1	6	8	1	153,476	1,801,843
Whole Year	1	133	133	1	270,423	12,578,129

The following table shows the results of the disputes according to months:—

Results of Disputes according to Months

Months	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful
January	4	4	7
February	2	2	4
March	2	1	10
April	1	6	10
May	2	7	13
June	1	1	8
July	2	1	7
August	1	2	6
September	2	2	5
October	1	2	7
November	2	1	7
December	2	1	5
Whole Year	17	27	89

### Quinquennial Review of Industrial Disputes in the Bombay Presidency

On page 424 of the *Labour Gazette* for January 1926 it was mentioned that the above review would be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for April. In view of the inclusion of the Review of Industrial Disputes in India during the year 1925 in the present issue, the Quinquennial Review will be published in the next issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

## Reviews of Books

*Economic Life in a Malabar Village*, by S. Subbarama Aiyar,  
(The Bangalore Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd.)  
1925, pp. 168, Price Re. 1.

This little book deals with the social and economic conditions of the village of Nelluvaya in Cochin State. The subject matter of the book consists of the results of the personal investigations made by the author. The treatment is partly statistical and partly descriptive.

The families in the village have been analysed according to caste, occupation, etc. and an attempt has been made to estimate the income and the expenditure of the village. Expenditure has been arrived at by fixing a minimum necessary for maintenance and then working out its cost. Working on the basis of these calculations, the author comes to the conclusion that the village income is barely sufficient to meet the necessary personal expenditure of the families and is not enough to bear the interest charges.

The causes of poverty are fully discussed and the following remedies are suggested for the amelioration of the conditions of the rural classes: (1) more intense cultivation of land; (2) encouragement of minor industries; and (3) emigration. The author himself does not believe in the efficacy of the first though by the adoption of the other two, he thinks, the problem of poverty will at least be partially solved.

The value of the book, useful though it is, would have been considerably increased if its style had been a little less discursive and its matter more definitely germane to the subject under enquiry.

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*Directory of Social Work in the City and Island of Bombay*, by D. S. Savardekar, The Social Service League, Bombay, 1926, pp. 100, price Rs. 1-8-0

This is the third volume in the series of Directories of social work published by the Social Service League, Bombay. It is intended to serve as a book of reference of organized charitable institutions in Bombay to social workers.

The Social Service League is to be congratulated upon satisfying a long-felt want by the publication of this important volume. Only those who have experience of this kind of work can realize the amount of industry and patience required for such a compilation.

It is not possible in the compass of a review to discuss in detail the merits and demerits of the work. But a few defects may here be pointed out. The classification in the Directory itself is alphabetical and not according to subjects which makes ready reference difficult. Another noticeable omission is that, in several cases, the addresses are not given at all, and in many cases they are incomplete.

No doubt these defects will be removed in subsequent editions and thereby increase the usefulness of what otherwise is a very valuable addition to the extant literature on the subject.

## Current Periodicals

### Summary of titles and contents of special articles

#### INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, No. 86. (THE INDUSTRIAL WELFARE SOCIETY, LONDON.)

Special Articles: (1) *The New Pensions Act*. By T. S. Newman, A.C.I.S., F.F.I. pp. 39—43.

(2) *Health and Production*. By E. L. Collis, M.A., M.D. (Mansel Talbot, Professor of Preventive Medicine in the University of Wales, Member of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, etc.). pp. 44—45.

(3) *Personnel Management—V. Working Conditions*. pp. 46—48.

(4) *Pension and Superannuation Funds—VII*. By Bernard Robertson. pp. 48—50.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### MONTHLY LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XXI, No. 4. (U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, WASHINGTON.)

Special Articles: (1) *Work of the International Association of Industrial Accidents Boards and Commissions*. By O. F. McShane, (Chairman, Industrial Commission of Utah and past president, I.A.I.A.B.C.)—Formation and purposes of the Association; work accomplished by the Association; reduction of accidents; standardization of medical service; industrial rehabilitation; standardization of computing costs; standardization of administrative practice; improvement of legislation; standardization of statistics; other problems; conclusion. pp. 1—7.

(2) *Unemployment as a Result of Overdevelopment of Industry*. By James J. Davis, (United States Secretary of Labor)—Over-development in certain industries; remedies; selective immigration. pp. 8—12.

(3) *Problem of the Automobile 'Floater'*. By Louise F. Shields, of Oregon. pp. 13—15.

(4) *Hours and Earnings in the Paper Box-Board Industry, 1925*. pp. 55—58.

(5) *Workmen's Compensation Legislation of 1925*. By Lindley D. Clark, of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.—Alaska; Arizona; California; Colorado; Connecticut; Georgia; Idaho; Illinois; Indiana; Iowa; Maine; Michigan; Minnesota; Missouri; Montana; Nevada; New Jersey; New York; North Dakota; Ohio; Oregon; Pennsylvania; South Dakota; Utah; Vermont; West Virginia; Wisconsin; Wyoming. pp. 106—121.

(6) *Conciliation Work of the Department of Labor in August 1925*. By Hugh L. Kerwin, Director of Conciliation. pp. 177—179.

(7) *Recent References on Convict Labor*, compiled by Edna L. Stone, of the United States Department of Labor Library. pp. 181—200.

(8) *Statistics of Immigration for July 1925*. By J. J. Kunna, Chief Statistician, United States Bureau of Immigration. pp. 201—206.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### MONTHLY LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XXI, No. 5. (U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, WASHINGTON.)

Special Articles: (1) *Jurisdictional Disputes*. By James J. Davis, Secretary of Labor. pp. 1—3.

(2) *Work of United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for Year ending October 1, 1925*. By Ethelbert Stewart, (United States Commissioner of Labor Statistics).—Bulletins published; projected studies; Monthly Labor Review. pp. 4—7.

(3) *Labor Conditions in Japan*. By Ta Chen, Tsing Hua College, Peking.—Trade unionism, and the activities of influential unions; federation of printers' unions; general federation of labor of Japan; federation of laborers of Government enterprises; Japan seamen's union; Japan farmers' union; recent labour movement—general situation since the World War, socialism and the trade-union movement; women and the labor movement; workers' education, labor problems. pp. 8—19.

(4) *Cost of Preparation for Teaching, and Salary Return*. By Elma B. Carr.—Cost of preparation for teaching; income of students—fellowships; salary return in the teaching profession; conclusion. pp. 20—27.

(5) *Conciliation Work of the Department of Labor in September 1925*. By Hugh L. Kerwin, (Director of Conciliation). pp. 252—254.

(6) *Statistics of Immigration for August 1925*. By J. J. Kunna, Chief Statistician, United States Bureau of Immigration. pp. 257—262.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVI, No. 2. (THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, CANADA.)

Special Articles: (1) *Annual Report of the Department of Labour of Canada*.—Industrial Disputes Investigation Act; conciliation work; fair wages; statistics; publications; combines investigation

act; employment offices co-ordination act; technical education act; Government annuities; international labour organisation. pp. 113—116.

(2) *Labour Legislation in Saskatchewan at Recent Session*.—An act respecting the investigation of industrial disputes within the province. pp. 119—121.

(3) *The Contribution of Labour Unions*.—Social policy; workmen's compensation; insurance; education; fear of unemployment. pp. 131—133.

(4) *Industrial Relations on Canadian National Railways*.—The personnel problem; Canadian national railways plan; Canadian national railway shops at Transcona. pp. 133—136.

(5) *Association of Canadian Building and Construction Industries*.—Builders' problems; safety fundamentals; vocational training in industry; apprentice honour certificates; officers for 1926. pp. 138—140.

(6) *Factors in Organizing for Future Accident Prevention*.—Importance of sound statistics; safety education; definite organization; profession of factory inspector; safety engineers; uniform safety codes. pp. 146—148.

(7) *Are Accidents Increasing?—The Accident Record*.—Accidents in manufacture; lesson for safety movement. pp. 148—150.

(8) *League of Nations' International Labour Organization*.—Ratifications of draft conventions; eight and ninth sessions of the International Labour Conference; family budgets; collective agreements; a conference of labour statistics; freedom of association; bibliography on unemployment; Great Britain and conference decisions; workers' organizations; a charter for forced labour; Great Britain and the 8-hour day conventions. pp. 150—151.

(9) *Recent Development in Industrial Relations in the United States*.—Increased rate of production; effect on wages; trade union membership; social legislation; new management policies; joint management; shop committees; co-partnership; labour banking and insurance; conclusions. pp. 152—156.

(10) *Annual Census of Industry in Canada*.—The sugar refining industry, 1924; the linseed oil industry, 1924; the cordage, rope and twine industry, 1924. pp. 156—158.

(11) *Report of the Employment Service of Canada for the period October to December 1925*. pp. 172—174.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### THE NEW SOUTH WALES INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. XXIX, No. 1 (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRY, SYDNEY.)

Special Note from Routine Articles: (1) *Workmen's Compensation—Departmental Advisings*.—"Accident" arising out of and in the course of employment—New cause of Injury intervening. pp. 46—47.

Other Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### THE QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. XI, No. 2. (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, BRISBANE.)

Special Articles.—(1) *An Act to Aid in the Prevention and Settlement of Strikes and Lockouts in Mines and Industries connected with Public Utilities—Canada*.—Preliminary; interpretation; Application of Act—administration; Board of Conciliation and Investigation—constitution of boards; procedure for reference of disputes to boards; functions, powers, and procedure of boards; remuneration and expenses of boards; duties of the registrar; strikes and lockouts prior to and pending a reference to a board illegal; special provisions; miscellaneous. pp. 159—166.

(2) *Commonwealth Institute of Science and Industry*.—Elimination of waste. pp. 179—180.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

## Current Notes From Abroad

### UNITED KINGDOM

In connection with the British Trades Union Congress this year there is to be a big conference of trade union women. Invitations to the conference are to be sent to the wives of the delegates attending congress, and, in addition to delegates from affiliated organisations, the local Trades Council will be asked to supply a list of societies which may be interested in the conference, with a view to invitations being sent to them. Representation at the congress is not to be restricted, and it is hoped that every union will be adequately represented.

A gold badge, with a suitable inscription on the reverse side, is to be presented to the woman trade unionist who has rendered the best service of the year. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, March 11, 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

At 1st March the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 72 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 73 per cent. a month ago and 79 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 65, 68, and 76 respectively. The decline in the figures since 1st February was mainly due to reductions in the prices of eggs. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in February was 36. In addition, 26 disputes which began before February were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in February (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 22,000; the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during February was about 366,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of approximately 26,000 workpeople involved and 412,000 days lost in the previous month. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1926.)

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### OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

During 1925 the number of strikes in Czechoslovakia was 280, of which 211 affected individual undertakings and 69 were collective strikes.

The total number of undertakings affected was 818 involving 186,048 workers, of whom 135,692 were strikers and 2,862 were unemployed as a result of the strike. For strikers the number of days lost amounted to 1,080,960 and the amount of wages lost to 31,339,400 Czechoslovak crowns.

Corresponding figures for involuntary unemployment were, respectively, 37,700 days and 1,178,394 Czechoslovak crowns. The total number of days lost was 1,118,660 and the wages lost 32,517,794 Czechoslovak crowns.

In 44 instances the strikers obtained satisfaction, in 54 cases they were unsuccessful and in 43 cases there has so far been no solution of the question.

The number of lockouts in 1925 was 14, of which 5 were individual lockouts in the stone, clay and glass industries, 7 collective lockouts in the metal industry, and 2 individual lockouts in the textile industry. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 8, 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

In 1925, according to official statistics, there were in Belgium 108 strikes which terminated during the year, and 4 lock-outs.

The strikes affected 84,217 workers, of whom 81,422 were strikers and 2,795 were involuntarily unemployed. The lock-outs affected 566 workers. The strikes affected 733 undertakings, and the lock-outs 52 undertakings. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 15, 1926.)

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The Provisional Government of Ecuador has issued a Decree setting up a Ministry of Social Welfare and Labour, which will also act as the central statistical department of the country.

The new Ministry will contain departments dealing with demographic, emigration and immigration statistics, colonisation, public education, hygiene, hospitals and welfare institutions, agriculture, transport, industrial and commercial undertakings, etc.

It will be the duty of the civil and military authorities of the Republic, and of all industrial organisations and companies, to transmit periodically to the Ministry any important statistics which they may have collected. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 1, 1926.)

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According to a census undertaken by the Labour Section of the Bulgarian Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour, the total number of workers and employees in Bulgaria, excluding workers in public service and undertakings (railwaymen, postal workers, etc.) was 114,747 in 1924, divided by trades as follows:—

	No. of workers.	Percentage.
Industry .. .. .	61,321	53·4
Arts and Crafts .. .. .	30,274	26·5
Commerce .. .. .	14,286	12·4
Miscellaneous .. .. .	8,866	7·7
Total .. .. .	114,747	100

From the point of view of the number of undertakings, the division is as follows:—

	No. of Undertakings.	Workers.		Total of Workers
		Men.	Women.	
Large scale industries (minimum 5 horse power or 10 workers) ..	1,604	35,600	20,294	55,894
Small-scale industries (less than 5 horse power or 10 workers) ..	2,732	4,174	1,253	5,427
Arts and Crafts (5 workers or over) ..	1,226	7,399	1,135	8,534
Arts and Crafts (less than 5 workers) ..	20,263	21,026	714	21,740
Commerce ..	15,637	12,692	1,594	14,286
Miscellaneous ..	3,522	7,889	977	8,866
Total ..	44,984	88,780	25,967	114,747

The above tables show that more than half (53·4 per cent.) of the workers were engaged in industry. Men workers were three times as numerous as women workers. In 1924 the total number of workers engaged in private undertakings was 23·7 per cent. of the total population of the country. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 1, 1926.)

The Polish Socialist Party has introduced in the Diet a Bill for the establishment of a Committee for the purpose of estimating the costs of production in industry, such Committee to be presided over by the Minister of Industry and Commerce and the Minister of Labour and Social Assistance, and composed of five representatives respectively from the workers' and employers' organisations and technical experts nominated by the Council of Ministers. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 22, 1926.)

The Polish Council of Ministers has adopted an Order, dated 10th February 1926, concerning the regulation of prices of articles of first necessity, notably flour, bread, meat, fats, pork butchers' goods, foot-wear and clothing. The Order states that prices may be fixed by the municipal authorities in all towns of over 15,000 inhabitants, but that in towns of lesser importance the permission of the *voievodie* is required. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 22, 1926.)

With the object of relieving unemployment during the winter, an Act was passed in Denmark on December 1, 1925, for the granting of State loans to municipalities and private undertakings to enable them to carry out work planned to begin before June 1, 1926. The Ministry of Social Affairs is authorised to expend eight million kroner (over two million dollars)

for this purpose. The greater part of this sum will be used for building, repairs and other work of public utility. Private firms may participate to the extent of 2 million kroner out of the total of eight millions for work of an approved nature which admittedly cannot be more suitably undertaken by the municipalities.

Loans granted to the municipalities are to bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum and must be repaid within thirty years. The necessary sums will be advanced from the Central Unemployment Fund, which will receive corresponding amounts of 5 per cent. State bonds from the Ministry of Finance. These State bonds are to be redeemed within thirty years, repayments of the loans being received by the Treasury for accumulation in a separate fund intended for the cancellation of the bonds within that period.

The Act further provides that in addition to the grants made under an Act of 1924 in aid of expenditure for wages on relief works, grants may be made to help to defray the cost of materials for relief works which are to be put in hand before June 1, 1926. Such grants may not exceed 20 per cent. of the cost of these materials which must be of Danish origin or manufacture. For this purpose the Central Unemployment Fund is to set aside a sum not exceeding 1 million kroner. (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, February 1926.)

A petition concerning the protection of expectant mothers working in the textile industry has, during the course of the last twelve-month, been submitted by the German union of textile workers to the Diets of the various German States. This petition describes in detail the dangers to which women workers in the textile industry are exposed.

At a session held on 21 January 1926, the Diet of Brunswick discussed the petition and, in spite of some opposition, adopted a resolution requiring the Minister of State to present to the Government of the Reich the following proposals:—

- (1) That no women be permitted to work during the four weeks preceding childbirth; and
- (2) That sick funds recognise all illnesses resulting from pregnancy as illnesses in the sense of the Federal Sickness Insurance Order.

The resolution also requires the State of Brunswick, in the interests of national health, to adopt, as from 1 April 1927 and as an experiment, a scheme guaranteeing the payment of full wages to working mothers during the four weeks preceding childbirth. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 22, 1926.)

The German Act relating to the unemployment insurance of intellectual workers provides that the Minister of Labour shall determine by special Decree what classes of workers shall be subject to compulsory insurance.

The Decree in question, which was issued on 4 January last, subjects the following classes of intellectual workers to compulsory unemployment insurance:

(1) persons carrying out administrative and supervisory functions, such as chiefs of departments, engineers, technical experts, works chemists, builders, supervisors, foremen, etc., provided that in practice they direct technical work and that they are responsible for such work ;

(2) persons carrying on office work, accounting work, etc.,

(3) salesmen and saleswomen, provided that they have received secondary or occupational education ; also cash desk clerks, the staff in chemists' and drug shops, and commercial travellers ;

(4) the staff in hospitals and dental or veterinary establishments, doctors' and dentists' assistants, etc., provided that they possess a diploma ;

(5) musicians, actors, prompters and scene painters ;

(6) persons connected with education ;

(7) journalists ;

(8) persons employed in the merchant marine, such as captains, mates, engineer officers, etc.

Further, a Decree of the Minister of Railways dated 19 December 1925 provides for a 50 per cent. reduction in third class fares for unemployed intellectual workers, if they are registered with the public employment exchanges and if they are seeking employment in some other locality than that in which they reside. (From "Industrial and Labour Information" Geneva, March 1, 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The unemployment crisis in Germany continued to develop during the first weeks of 1926.

From 1-15 January 1926 the number of unemployed in receipt of relief rose from 1,497,516 to 1,762,305, of which number 1,550,706 were men and 211,599 women. To this figure should be added 2,092,958 persons who are receiving allowances as members of the families of unemployed persons in receipt of relief.

Parliament has recently decided to undertake important relief works. One of these works is the canalisation of the Isar and will involve an expenditure of 29 million marks. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 1, 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

On July 11 last Mr. Durafour, French Minister of Labour, Hygiene and Social Welfare, submitted to the Chamber of Deputies a Bill for annual holidays for workers. The most important provisions of the Bill are as follows :

Every wage earner whose labour agreement is for a period of a year or more is entitled to an uninterrupted holiday of at least eight working days. If the agreement is for two years and over, he is entitled to at least fifteen working days. If on June 1 of any given year he has worked uninterruptedly for six months in the same undertaking, he is entitled to four working days.

The holidays mentioned above are extended to twelve, twenty-two and six days respectively for persons working in unhealthy or dangerous industries (to be determined by Decree) and also for wage earners 16 years of age.

For each of the days of his holiday the worker receives an allowance equivalent to an average day's wage, account being taken of any subsidiary remuneration in kind which he would not continue to receive during the period of his holiday. In the case of workers who are paid wholly or partly by a lump sum, the allowance is calculated on the basis of the average daily wage earned during the preceding month.

If the contract of service is cancelled by the employer before the worker has had the annual holiday to which he is entitled, such cancellation not having been brought about by grave misconduct on the part of the worker, the worker shall have the right to a holiday proportionate in length to the period of his service with the employer, or, if he has been in that service for more than a year, to the period since his last holiday.

If the contract of service is cancelled by the worker, or if its cancellation is brought about by grave misconduct on the part of the worker, the worker shall lose his right to a holiday.

The time at which the wage earner takes his holiday is fixed by agreement between him and his employer, with due regard to the nature and necessities of the work of the undertaking and, as regards rotation between the wage earners themselves, to their seniority and family circumstances.

Holidays granted for sickness, maternity or any other reason other than the free choice of the wage earner, must not be counted as annual holidays.

Employers are forbidden to substitute any material compensation for the regular holidays or to cause wage earners during the holidays to do any supplementary work for the undertaking. The penalties for infringement are those provided in Book II of the Labour Code, Section 158 *et seq.* (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva March 1, 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

#### UNITED STATES

The second Women's Industrial Conference was held in Washington, under the auspices of the American Department of Labor, from 18-21 January. Miss Mary Anderson, Chief of the Women's Bureau of the Labor Department, was in the chair.

The conference was attended by representatives of the principal women's organisations of the United States, 107 national groups and 136 state branches being represented by 291 delegates from 41 States and three territorial jurisdictions. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 22, 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

#### OTHER COUNTRIES

On 9th December last, the Japanese Government published the results of the unemployment census taken on 1 October 1925 in leading industrial cities and three important mining centres, and their respective suburbs, in Japan.

While the total number of these workers was estimated to be 11,502,954, the number of people who were unemployed was 2,375,000. The following table shows the general classification of the force.

Category	Number	per cent.
Industrial workers	634,412	5.5
Manual	1,502,954	13.2
Casual	217,730	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,375,000</b>	<b>20.6</b>

The total number of unemployed was estimated to be 2,375,000, this being divided as follows among the cities:

Tokyo and suburbs	39,000
Osaka	13,000
Yokohama	9,000
Kobe	8,100
Nagoya	4,000
Kyoto	3,000
Other cities	23,595

The above figures may be subdivided into three groups, namely, salaried workers, manual workers, and casual workers. This gives the following results:-

Salaried workers	20,178
Manual workers	44,065
Casual workers	41,352

Thus, of the total number of salaried workers, manual workers and casual workers respectively, 3.2 per cent, 2.9 per cent, and 1.9 per cent were unemployed. (From "Industrial and Labour Information" C March 1, 1926)

The Trade Union Bill drafted by the Japanese Bureau of Social Affairs, amended by the Administrative Investigation Committee and by the Cabinet, is reported to have provoked widespread opposition.

Leading papers in Tokyo express strong disapproval of the changes made in the original draft, on the ground that the Bill has become "boneless".

Both the employers' and the workers' organisations are opposed to the bill, the workers' organisations being opposed to it because of the amendments, while the employers are opposed to it in spite of the amendments. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 1, 1926)

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE DOMRAI PRESIDENCY

Code	Social number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for the year for which returns are available	Sum paid for members	Average monthly expenditure for the year for which information available
Banker City	1	The Banker Trade Union	Rs. 1,200	Rs. 200 month	Rs. 200
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.	2,500	Rs. 1,600 for 12 months	2,500
	3	The Indian Railwaymen's Union	1,000	Rs. 1 per year	1,250
	4	The S. S. & C. Railwaymen's Union	250	Rs. 2 for 12 months	167
	5	The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments)	540	Rs.	158

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available.	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available.
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay contd.	City	6 The Port Trust Workshop Union.	110	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	90
		7 The Clerks' Union.	20	As. 4 per month ..	15
		8 Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Chinchpokli Mandal).	15	Re. 1 per year ..	10
		9 The Bombay Postmen's Union.*	329	As. 4 per month for Postmen (overseers, readers, sorting postmen and postmen); As. 2 per month for Packers (Runners, Local Peons, Boy Messengers and Packers).	294
		10 Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal).	155	As. 4 per month ..	60
		11 The Bombay Currency Association.	50	Rs. 3 for clerks and Re. 1 for menials per year.	30
		12 Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Colaba Mandal).	180	As. 4 per month ..	30
		13 Bombay Postal Union.	420	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior employee.	474
		14 Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal).	51	As. 4 per month ..	30

\* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay contd.	City	15 The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	78	Four annas for every twenty-five rupees or portion thereof on the pay for one month payable once a year only.	70
		16 The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.	85	As. 4 per month ..	96
		17 The Bombay Government Peons' and Menials' Union.	40	Do. ..	15
Ahmedabad	..	18 The Weaver's Union.	900	Do. ..	175
		19 The Winder's Union.	..	As. 2 per month ..	....
		20 The Throstle Union.	1,250	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker per month.	500
		21 The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	650	As. 4 per month ..	225
		22 The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union.	125	As. 6 per oilman; As. 8 per driver or fireman per month.	15
		23 The Jobbers and Mukadam's Union.	..	(Not yet decided.)	....

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TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Ahmedabad— contd	24	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employee's Association.		Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month, and Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100, Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	
	25	Ahmedabad Postal and R.M.S. Union.	22	As. 8 per clerk, As. 2 below clerk per month.	61
Sukkur	26	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	431	Subscription at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	176
Karachi	27	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	200	Do.	100
Poona	28	The Press Worker's Union.	4	As. 2 to As. 3 per month.	About 2
	29	Poona Postal and R. M. S. Union.	87	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	113
	30	Poona District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	51	As. 4 per month ..	25†
Broach	31	The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union.	90	Do.	Nil.‡
	32	The Saraswati Mill Labour Union.	90	Do.	Nil.‡
	33	Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	23	Do.	10†

\* Not reported.

† Approximate.

‡ Except some casual printing charges.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Ahmednagar	34	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	46	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	102
Belgaum	35	Belgaum Postal Union.	39	Do.	61
	36	Belgaum R. M. S. Union.		Do.	....
	37	Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	34	As. 4 per month ..	10
Dharwar	38	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	38	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	6
Jalgaon	39	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	42	Do.	11
Nasik	40	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	36	Do.	8
	41	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	18	As. 4 per month ..	10*
Ratnagiri	42	Ratnagiri Postal Union.	18	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	13
Satara	43	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	63	Do.	33
Surat	44	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	23	Do.	33
	45	Surat District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	21	As. 4 per month ..	10*
Baroda	46	Baroda Postal Union.	151	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	361
	47	Baroda R. M. S. Union.	..†	Do.	....†

\* Approximate.

† Not reported.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concl.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available.	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Baroda—contd	48	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	10	As. 4 per month ..	10 *
Bhavnagar	49	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	.. †	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	.. †
Rajkot	50	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	1	Do.	1
Karwar	51	Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	8	As. 4 per month ..	8 *

\* Approximate.

† Not reported.

## PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MARCH 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Trades</i>						
1. The Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	600	...	27 Feb.	3 Mar.	Objection to the supply of bad yarn.	Work resumed on promise of redress.
2. The Ahmedabad New Edward Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Saraspur Road, Ahmedabad.	13	...	2 Mar.	3 Mar.	Dismissal of a Mukadam.	New hands engaged.
3. The Rachel Sassoon Mill, Chinchpokli, Bombay.	145	...	14 Mar.	19 Mar.	Introduction of cheese winding on a large scale.	Work resumed unconditionally.
4. The Vivekanand Mills Co., Ltd., Gontipur, Ahmedabad.	30	...	15 Mar.	16 Mar.	Dismissal of a jobber.	Work resumed by 2 men only. New men engaged in place of the rest.
5. Shri Laxmi Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Gontipur, Ahmedabad.	40	...	16 Mar.	16 Mar.	Demand for reinstatement of a dismissed jobber.	New men employed.
6. The Maneklal Harilal Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., outside Sarangpur, Ahmedabad.	30	...	16 Mar.	17 Mar.	Want of enough work and increased bonus.	Work resumed on a compromise.
7. The Victoria Mill, Gamdevi, Bombay.	50	...	16 Mar.	19 Mar.	Demand for increase in the rates of wages.	Work resumed unconditionally.
8. The Maneklal Harilal Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., outside Sarangpur, Ahmedabad.	300	...	17 Mar.	19 Mar.	Introduction of cheese winding on a large scale.	Work resumed unconditionally.
<i>Engineering</i>						
9. The Omkar Founding and Engineering Co., Love Lane Cross Lane, Byculla, Bombay.	112	...	10 Mar.	15 Mar.	Delay in payment of wages.	Payment on 13th. Work resumed.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING MARCH 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 and Feb 1926	Mar 1926
	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Woolen Mills .. Others ..	75 .. .. ..	64 .. .. ..	58 .. .. ..	19 .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	2 .. .. ..	17 .. .. ..	131 .. .. ..	66 .. .. ..	133 .. .. ..	83 .. .. ..
Total ..	75	65	58	19	..	..	2*	18	131	66	133	84
II Workshops— Engineering .. Railway .. Mint .. Others ..	2 9 .. 3	5 23 1 ..	51 356 .. 10	30 196 .. 5	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. 4 .. ..	2 1 .. ..	53 361 .. 12	33 218 .. 5	53 365 .. 13	35 219 .. 5
Total ..	14	29	417	232	..	..	5	4	426	257	431	261
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works .. Flour Mills .. Printing Presses .. Others ..	1 1 2 1	.. .. 1 1	1 .. 4 7	.. .. .. 4	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	1 .. 6 6	.. .. 1 5	.. .. 1 8	.. .. 1 5
Total ..	5	2	12	4	2	..	1	..	14	6	17	6
Total, All Factories ..	94	96	487	255	2	..	8	22	571	329	581	351

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926
	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton ..	37	17	18	24	..	..	11	2	44	38	55	41
Total ..	37	17	18	24	..	..	11	2	44	38	55	41
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory .. Flour Mills .. Oil Mills .. Engineering .. Others ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	1 .. .. .. ..	1 .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	1 .. .. .. ..	1 .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..
Total ..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	3	1	3	1
Total, All Factories ..	38	17	20	25	..	..	11	2	47	39	58	42

Explanation:— "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.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING MARCH 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 and Feb 1926	Mar 1926
	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926		
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust .. Engineering ..	1 ..	.. ..	1 7	2 3	.. 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 2	2 3
Total ..	1	..	8	5	1	..	..	..	8	5	9	5
II Miscellaneous—	1	..	1	3	..	..	1	..	1	3	2	3
Total ..	1	..	1	3	..	..	1	..	1	3	2	3
Total, All Factories ..	2	..	9	8	1	..	1	..	9	8	11	8

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926
	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926	Jan and Feb 1926	Mar 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Others ..	18 ..	13 3	16 ..	7 2	.. ..	1 ..	2 ..	2 ..	32 ..	17 3	34 ..	20 5
Total ..	18	16	16	9	..	1	2	4	32	20	34	25
II Workshops— Railway .. Arms and Ammunition Works .. Others ..	7 2 3	3 .. 1	33 .. 6	19 2 ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	4 1 ..	1 .. ..	36 1 9	21 2 9	40 2 9	22 1 3
Total ..	12	4	39	22	..	..	5	2	46	24	51	26
III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pressing Factories .. Paint Works .. Others ..	.. .. 1	.. .. 1	10(a) .. 3(b)	.. .. 1	2 .. 1	.. .. 1	6 .. 1	.. .. 1	5 .. 5	.. .. 5	13 .. 6	.. .. 2
Total ..	1	1	13	1	3	1	6	1	10	..	19	2
Total, All Factories ..	31	21	68	32	3	2	13	7	88	44	104	53

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 COUNT (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Month of February			11 months ended February		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	804	5,013	6,961	62,100	62,950	59,369
Nos. 11 to 20	5,983	20,221	18,433	181,588	206,404	178,428
Nos. 21 to 30	5,365	12,549	12,856	125,120	146,018	125,804
Nos. 31 to 40	651	960	1,395	12,267	13,070	12,058
Above 40	140	419	594	2,609	3,281	4,776
Waste, etc.	8	9	84	172	115	535
Total	12,951	39,973	40,323	383,876	433,846	380,970

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	221	5,237	6,236	55,552	55,833	50,695
Nos. 11 to 20	218	14,350	12,536	124,425	142,458	104,486
Nos. 21 to 30	469	7,959	7,924	78,206	90,664	70,255
Nos. 31 to 40	39	522	631	6,475	7,405	5,229
Above 40	8	268	284	1,305	2,971	2,209
Waste, etc.	..	1	80	73	29	446
Total	955	28,337	27,691	266,036	299,360	233,380

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	207	157	211	1,755	2,202	2,804
Nos. 11 to 20	3,070	3,053	3,383	28,833	33,976	41,256
Nos. 21 to 30	3,803	3,608	3,713	32,776	42,117	42,684
Nos. 31 to 40	487	346	583	4,345	4,519	5,119
Above 40	85	98	243	895	1,476	1,821
Waste, etc.	..	..	..	1	..	..
Total	7,652	7,262	8,133	68,605	84,290	93,684

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

Description	Month of February			11 months ended February		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	917	1,129	1,129	14,592	14,655	12,505
Khadi (a)	747	864	1,129	14,592	14,655	15,533
Chudders	5,526	5,663	8,692	61,063	65,391	73,532
Dhotis	149	1,275	1,673	8,247	11,056	9,386
Drills and jeans	20	27	32	404	555	504
Cambrics and lawns	428	309	272	4,241	3,823	2,613
Printers	4,848	7,068	9,853	80,766	89,924	88,535
Shirtings and long cloth	..	..	..	..	..	..
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	476	923	1,124	9,955	10,990	11,015
Tent cloth	28	154	112	915	1,976	1,447
Other sorts	893	541	612	22,084	5,833	5,533
Total	13,115	18,341	24,658	202,267	218,579	220,603
Coloured piece-goods	4,689	7,086	9,336	83,193	94,298	86,157
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	12	129	212	1,649	1,716	2,245
Hosiery	10	15	20	169	175	227
Miscellaneous	5	85	72	999	1,577	1,543
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	..	20	82	146	119	565
Grand Total	17,231	25,676	34,380	288,423	316,464	311,340

BOMBAY CITY

	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	690	884	884	10,037	8,989	8,989
Khadi (a)	304	430	619	8,684	9,067	9,756
Chudders	994	1,587	2,217	18,700	19,148	19,700
Dhotis	74	1,162	1,454	7,686	9,965	7,874
Drills and jeans	6	18	4	252	427	214
Cambrics and lawns	..	..	..	65	33	19
Printers	2,510	5,521	6,935	58,672	64,157	62,122
Shirtings and long cloth	..	..	..	..	..	..
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	237	721	778	7,965	8,811	7,499
Tent cloth	5	107	90	552	835	892
Other sorts	300	264	277	14,727	2,588	2,299
Total	4,430	10,500	13,258	117,303	125,068	119,364
Coloured piece-goods	2,078	4,941	5,932	66,401	72,547	58,194
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	8	127	205	1,564	1,654	2,146
Hosiery	6	7	8	94	85	70
Miscellaneous	..	63	67	954	1,271	1,223
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	..	19	56	135	99	440
Grand Total	6,522	15,657	19,526	186,451	200,724	181,437

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

APRIL, 1926

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of February			11 months ended February		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	..	134	84	..	3,101	1,071
Chudders	..	334	344	..	4,649	4,331
Dhotis	..	3,577	3,025	..	31,991	42,780
Drills and jeans	..	35	23	..	263	110
Cambrics and lawns	..	11	8	..	82	243
Printers	..	298	164	..	110	633
Shirtings and long cloth	..	1,931	1,682	..	2,565	2,624
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	..	217	176	..	16,261	20,797
Tent cloth	..	20	42	..	1,619	1,970
Other sorts	..	347	174	..	257	1,042
Total	6,770	5,772	9,216	62,418	72,493	77,632
Coloured piece-goods	9.4	1,364	2,303	8,106	12,419	17,858
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	1	1	8	8	11
Hosiery	4	8	13	75	90	156
Miscellaneous	5	21	4	45	256	272
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	..	..	26	9	8	115
Grand Total	7,774	7,166	11,563	70,601	85,274	96,044

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

APRIL, 1926

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
April	130	147	132	182	150	164	216	172	156
May	126	136	127	184	148	164	208	172	153
June	124	116	124	184	146	164	205	172	152
July	125	116	124	189	148	165	205	172	153
August	123	116	122	194	149	165	205	172	154
September	124	116	123	194	149	161	206	172	154
October	123	116	122	188	147	161	211	172	152
November	124	116	124	187	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices at the month-end				Index numbers			
			July 1914	March 1925	Feb 1926	March 1926	July 1914	Mar 1925	Feb 1926	Mar 1926
<b>Cereals—</b>			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 12 7	6 4 11	6 4 11	100	144	134	134
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 14 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	159	152	152
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	64 0 0	70 0 0	70 0 0	100	185	156	163
Do.	Jubbulpore	..	40 0 0	65 0 0	54 8 0	54 8 0	100	163	136	163
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 7 1	3 14 8	3 14 8	100	163	124	131
Barley	..	..	3 4 6	4 5 5	4 8 10	4 8 10	100	152	139	129
Bajri	Ghati	..	3 4 6	4 15 7	5 4 8	5 4 8	100	152	161	161
<b>Pulses—</b>										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 0 4	4 12 2	4 12 2	100	154	143	148
Turdal	Cawnpore	..	5 10 5	5 13 1	6 14 1	6 14 1	100	95	112	112
Index No.—Pulses							100	103	122	122
Index No.—Food grains							100	99	117	117
<b>Sugar—</b>										
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	18 0 0	17 2 0	15 8 0	100	142	137	140
Do.	Java, white	..	10 3 0	18 4 0	17 2 0	15 8 0	100	196	174	169
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	11 13 5	9 8 5	9 4 0	100	179	121	117
Index No.—Sugar							100	150	121	117
<b>Other Food—</b>										
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	18 1 6	8 10 3	8 2 7	100	175	148	146
Ghee	Deshi	..	45 11 5	85 11 5	80 0 0	80 0 0	100	324	155	146
Salt	Bombay (black)	..	1 7 6	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	100	168	175	175
Index No.—Other food							100	145	145	150
Index No.—All Food							100	219	158	152
<b>Oilseeds—</b>										
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	13 6 0	10 15 0	10 5 0	100	164	143	144
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	..	8 0 0	10 9 0	11 1 0	10 7 0	100	150	173	176
Poppy seed	..	..	10 14 0	14 8 0	13 0 0	13 7 0	100	132	138	130
Ginzeily	White	..	11 4 0	14 6 0	15 3 0	15 10 0	100	133	120	121
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	128	135	130

<b>Textile Cotton</b>										
(a) Cotton										
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	492 0 0	462 0 0	358 0 0	100	186	184	163
Do.	Do.	..	222 0 0	458 0 0	..	325 0 0	100	..	..	164
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	..	230 0 0	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	..	205 0 0	448 0 0	..	290 0 0	100	216	..	161
Bengal	Do.	..	198 0 0	427 0 0	..	..	100	216	..	161
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	..	..	161
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Twist	80S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 10 0	1 4 6	1 3 0	100	174	161	149
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	12 12 0	9 10 0	10 0 0	100	171	171	168
White mulls	5,000	..	4 3 0	8 5 0	10 4 0	9 10 0	100	198	176	176
Shirtings	Litton's 1,500	..	10 6 0	24 2 0	20 12 0	20 12 0	100	181	200	200
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 4 6	1 1 6	1 2 3	100	216	164	161
Chudders	34" x 5 yds.	..	0 9 6	1 3 3	1 0 0	1 1 0	100	203	168	168
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	112	186	186
Index No.—Textile—Cotton							100	211	184	168
<b>Other Textile—</b>										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	8 1 0	6 13 8	6 11 6	100	156	133	133
Do.	Mathow Lari	..	2 15 1	4 13 5	4 11 3	4 11 3	100	164	160	160
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	160	..	165
<b>Hides and Skins—</b>										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 12 1	1 13 9	1 10 4	100	162	161	161
Do. Buffalo	Do.	..	1 1 3	0 14 3	0 15 5	0 15 5	100	162	161	161
Skins, Goat	Do.	..	1 4 0	2 7 9	2 9 9	2 10 1	100	166	166	166
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	165	153	161
<b>Metals—</b>										
Copper braziers	..	Cwt.	60 8 0	65 0 0	60 0 0	58 8 0	100	155	155	155
Iron bars	..	..	4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	100	155	155	155
Steel hoops	..	..	2 12 0	12 0 0	10 4 0	10 0 0	100	155	155	155
Galvanised sheets	..	..	9 0 0	14 12 0	14 6 0	14 6 0	100	164	164	164
Tin plates	..	Box	8 12 0	18 8 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	164	164	164
Index No.—Metals							100	162	162	161
<b>Other raw and manufactured articles—</b>										
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Iberis	Ton	14 12 0	23 10 0	21 10 0	22 10 0	100	969	147	150
Do.	Imported	..	19 11 6	28 9 2	21 9 6	20 10 9	100	145	145	145
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 8 6	7 7 0	7 7 0	100	145	145	145
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	100	145	145	145
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	145	145	145
Index No.—Food							100	145	145	145
Index No.—Non-food							100	145	145	145
General Index No.							100	145	145	145

LABOUR GAZETTE  
APRIL 1926

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers				
			July 1914	Mar 1925	Feb 1926	Mar 1926	July 1914	Mar 1925	Feb 1926	Mar 1926	
			Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.					
<b>Cereals—</b>											
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy.	39 0 0	60 0 0	59 4 0	60 4 0	100	154	152	154	
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	"	31 8 0	54 0 0	50 0 0	48 3 0	100	171	159	154	
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 4 0	53 0 0	49 0 0	47 8 0	100	170	157	152	
" white	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 8 0	55 10 0	51 8 0	50 0 0	100	171	158	154	
" red	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 4 0	54 10 0	50 8 0	49 0 0	100	169	157	152	
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	43 12 0	42 8 0	41 8 0	100	172	167	163	
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	35 0 0	32 8 0	31 0 0	100	132	123	117	
Index No.—Cereals							100	163	153	149	
<b>Pulses—</b>											
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	33 0 0	41 0 0	38 0 0	100	112	139	129	
<b>Sugar—</b>											
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	16 15 0	15 14 0		100	186	174	185	
"	" brown	"	8 1 6			15 0 0	100				
Index No.—Sugar							100	186	174	185	
<b>Other food—</b>											
Salt		Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 0	1 10 6	1 10 6	100	76	78	78	
<b>Oilseeds—</b>											
Cotton seed		Maund.	2 11 3	3 13 0	3 8 0	3 5 0	100	141	129	123	
Rapeseed	3% admixture	Candy.	51 0 0	70 8 0			100	138	142	148	
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	84 8 0	88 0 0	91 8 0	100	136	142	148	
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	138	136	136	
<b>Textiles—</b>											
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags.	38 4 0	67 0 0	64 0 0	58 0 0	100	175	167	152	

<b>Textiles—Cotton</b>										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sindh	Maund	20 4 0	45 8 0	30 10 0	29 5 0	100	225	151	145
<b>(b) Cotton manufactures</b>										
Drills	Pepperill	Piece	10 3 6	22 6 0	20 0 0	19 15 0	100	247	207	207
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	25 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100			
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2				100			
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	233	202	201
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton							100	230	185	182
<b>Other Textiles—Wool</b>	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	48 0 0	41 0 0	36 0 0	100	171	146	129
<b>Hides—</b>										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	20 8 0	13 8 0	13 0 0	100	96	61	61
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	20 8 0	13 8 0	13 0 0	100	96	61	61
Index No.—Hides							100	96	61	61
<b>Metals—</b>										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	69 0 0	61 0 0	60 8 0	100	114	101	100
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 8 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	100	168	161	161
" Plates		"	4 6 0	7 4 0	6 2 0	6 2 0	100	166	140	140
Index No.—Metals							100	149	134	134
<b>Other raw and manufactured articles—</b>										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	23 0 0	21 8 0	21 0 0	100	144	134	131
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	167	165	163
"	Elephant	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 6 6	7 5 0	7 5 0	100	167	165	165
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	165	161	160
Index No.—Food							100	151	146	144
Index No.—Non-food							100	162	141	140
General Index No.							100	138	145	147

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1924 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
<b>1923</b>														
December ..	125	91	243	375	194	141	286	229	187	146	167	162	185	188
<b>1924</b>														
January ..	127	92	244	340	188	138	273	236	182	157	166	160	189	188
February ..	125	88	236	348	187	136	248	234	173	158	174	160	188	188
March ..	123	84	220	263	165	129	244	238	235	140	171	164	190	181
April ..	122	84	217	279	167	127	258	237	229	146	169	170	192	184
May ..	125	88	212	293	171	131	258	236	191	149	168	166	187	181
June ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	158	190	185
July ..	143	98	211	260	174	150	265	232	187	150	166	166	189	184
August ..	146	97	198	262	173	146	260	235	203	150	170	161	190	184
September ..	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	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
<b>1925</b>														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	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	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	184	203	153	151	154	159	163	158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	184	195	152	153	159	162	160	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	184	191	148	149	150	155	158	155
<b>1926</b>														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	184	186	149	155	151	158	158	155
February ..	143	117	146	152	144	127	181	186	145	147	151	158	158	152
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	141	186	145	147	151	158	158	149

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Milan)	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, etc.	Food, fuel, light, rent, household utensils and furnishing	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and household utensils	Food, clothing, fuel, light, etc.	Food, heating and lighting	Food, fuel, light and rent	(f)	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	(e) 100	100	(e) 100	100	100	(g) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(d) 108	99	..	(d) 117	119	103	..	105
1916 ..	108	148	116	117	116	..	..	146	140	106	..	118
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	146	..	190	180	114	..	142
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	253	229	118	..	174
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	..	275	261	126	238	177
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	..	453	302	155	..	217
1921 ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	..	379	302	209	..	..
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	(f) 159	429	..	366	249	158	(h) 135	..
1923 ..	153	169	146	..	..	(h) 429	..	429	..	166	..	..
1924 July ..	157	170	144	..	..	511	..	498	..	169	..	..
September ..	161	171	145	..	160	516	..	503	260	162	..	171
October ..	161	176	146	..	..	546	..	518	..	169	..	..
November ..	161	180	147	..	..	562	..	520	..	170	..	..
December ..	160	181	147	148	..	573	..	521	269	170	377	173
1925 January ..	157	180	149	..	..	580	..	521	..	170	..	..
February ..	157	179	150	..	161	592	..	517	..	170	..	..
March ..	159	179	148	..	..	602	..	511	271	170	386	..
April ..	158	175	147	..	..	600	..	506	..	168	..	..
May ..	156	173	146	..	..	591	..	502	..	167	..	..
June ..	154	172	146	153	..	596	..	505	261	169	390	174
July ..	157	173	146	..	..	598	..	509	..	160	..	..
August ..	152	173	149	..	163	610	..	517	..	167	..	..
September ..	151	174	149	155	..	624	..	525	248	167	..	201
October ..	153	176	149	..	..	643	..	533	..	165	..	..
November ..	153	176	152	..	..	643	..	534	..	165	..	..
December ..	155	177	154	..	..	649	..	534	234	165	421	178
1926 January ..	155	175	155	..	..	..	..	527	..	..	..	..
February ..	154	173	154	..	162	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
March ..	155	172	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
April ..	153	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) From 1914 to 1922 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) 1913 = 100. (e) 1913 = 100. (f) Figures from 1912 to 1922. (g) Figures from 1912 to 1922. (h) Figures from 1912 to 1922.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	(Bombay) (a)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	India (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (III)	France	Nether- lands (b)	Norway (b)	Sweden	Canada (b)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	43	56	151	11	92	21	150	10	10	93	47	236	325
1913 Average	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	107
1915	117	117	117	117	117	117	117	117	117	117	117	117	117
1916	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148
1917	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236
1918	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222
1919	216	216	216	216	216	216	216	216	216	216	216	216	216
1920	193	193	193	193	193	193	193	193	193	193	193	193	193
1921	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175
1922	188	188	188	188	188	188	188	188	188	188	188	188	188
1923	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208
1924	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206
1925	204	204	204	204	204	204	204	204	204	204	204	204	204
1926	155	155	155	155	155	155	155	155	155	155	155	155	155
1927	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
1928	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150

\* July 1914 = 100 (a) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100 (b) Revised series—1921 = 100. (c) Figures from 1914 to 1921 are annual averages. (d) February 1913 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Economic Warfare. (4) Bureau of Labor.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United King- dom	Canada	France	Australia	United States of America	Japan	Sweden	Den- mark	Norway	Switzerland	Netherlands	Poland	Den- mark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	37	37	31	31	31	31
No. of stations	Bom- bay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	Amster- dam	30	44	100	2	
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	95	114	100	100	100	100	100
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	111	117	100	100	100	100	100
1917	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	146	100	100	100	100	100
1918	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	175	100	100	100	100	100
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	196	100	100	100	100	100
1920	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	982	100	100	100	100	100
1921	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	100	100	100	100	100
1922	166	180	138	116	138	144	139	297	459	87	100	100	100	100	100
1923	148	167	137	116	164	142	144	371	496	105	100	100	100	100	100
1924	151	162	134	117	149	149	140	360	508	124	100	100	100	100	100
1925	156	164	137	117	147	146	141	366	507	125	100	100	100	100	100
1926	156	166	139	117	146	145	144	374	514	127	100	100	100	100	100
1927	156	172	139	120	147	146	146	383	543	135	100	100	100	100	100
1928	157	179	141	122	147	148	147	396	567	140	100	100	100	100	100
1929	156	180	142	121	148	150	149	404	579	140	100	100	100	100	100
1930	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	590	141	100	100	100	100	100
1931	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	100	100	100	100	100
1932	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	415	624	136	100	100	100	100	100
1933	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	100	100	100	100	100
1934	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	100	100	100	100	100
1935	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	100	100	100	100	100
1936	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	100	100	100	100	100
1937	147	168	146	119	156	152	156	423	621	137	100	100	100	100	100
1938	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	100	100	100	100	100
1939	148	172	147	118	157	153	158	433	646	144	100	100	100	100	100
1940	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	100	100	100	100	100
1941	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	100	100	100	100	100
1942	151	171	157	116	154	161	161	480	681	142	100	100	100	100	100
1943	150	168	155	115	153	153	153	495	681	142	100	100	100	100	100
1944	151	165	155	115	152	152	152	495	681	142	100	100	100	100	100

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

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN FEBRUARY 1926 AND MARCH 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	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		Feb. 1926	Mar. 1926	Mar. 1926	Mar. 1926	Mar. 1926	Mar. 1926				
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
<b>Cereals—</b>											
Rice	Maund ..	7 6 3 <i>132</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 4 3 <i>144</i>	8 0 4 <i>152</i>	8 13 10 <i>154</i>	7 7 6 <i>134</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	7 10 6 <i>145</i>	8 13 10 <i>154</i>
Wheat	" ..	7 8 11 <i>135</i>	7 0 6 <i>167</i>	8 0 0 <i>170</i>	7 4 1 <i>141</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>	7 6 6 <i>132</i>	6 14 1 <i>163</i>	8 0 0 <i>170</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>
Jowari	" ..	5 6 8 <i>124</i>	4 15 5 <i>137</i>	5 0 0 <i>131</i>	3 9 10 <i>126</i>	5 7 1 <i>159</i>	5 5 4 <i>122</i>	5 0 0 <i>138</i>	5 0 0 <i>131</i>	3 8 2 <i>122</i>	5 7 1 <i>159</i>
Bajri	" ..	5 9 9 <i>130</i>	5 8 9 <i>131</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 2 6 <i>118</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>	5 12 4 <i>134</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 5 9 <i>124</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>
Index No.—Cereals	" ..	<i>130</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>150</i>
<b>Pulses—</b>											
Gram	Maund ..	6 0 0 <i>139</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	6 2 6 <i>154</i>	5 6 9 <i>126</i>	5 3 6 <i>107</i>	6 0 0 <i>139</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	6 2 6 <i>154</i>	5 5 6 <i>124</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>
Turdal	" ..	7 7 3 <i>128</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	7 12 3 <i>133</i>	7 8 2 <i>114</i>	7 8 6 <i>129</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	9 6 7 <i>153</i>	6 12 11 <i>117</i>	7 15 1 <i>120</i>
Index No.—Pulses	" ..	<i>134</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>111</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>121</i>	<i>116</i>

<b>Other articles of food—</b>											
Sugar (refined)	Maund ..	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	11 13 8 <i>163</i>	13 0 2 <i>145</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	11 9 6 <i>124</i>	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	12 4 11 <i>169</i>	11 5 4 <i>148</i>	13 5 4 <i>181</i>	14 9 9 <i>156</i>
Jagri (gul)	" ..	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	12 12 10 <i>165</i>	11 9 6 <i>165</i>	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	12 4 11 <i>158</i>	9 3 7 <i>141</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 5 <i>198</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>
Salt	Maund ..	3 6 7 <i>160</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 3 4 <i>144</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>	3 6 7 <i>160</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 1 4 <i>144</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>
Beef	Seer ..	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 8 0 <i>133</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 5 6 <i>92</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	" ..	0 12 8 <i>190</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 12 6 <i>187</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	8 5 0 <i>187</i>	8 0 0 <i>160</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	" ..	99 6 6 <i>196</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>	101 2 11 <i>199</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes	" ..	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	5 0 0 <i>92</i>	6 2 6 <i>162</i>	6 2 6 <i>154</i>	6 0 3 <i>179</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	5 0 8 <i>93</i>	6 2 6 <i>162</i>	7 4 4 <i>182</i>	6 0 3 <i>179</i>
Onions	" ..	4 12 2 <i>307</i>	4 8 1 <i>248</i>	4 0 0 <i>200</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	2 12 2 <i>138</i>	4 12 3 <i>307</i>	4 6 7 <i>243</i>	4 0 0 <i>200</i>	3 10 2 <i>145</i>	3 0 1 <i>150</i>
Cocanut oil	" ..	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
Index No.—Other articles of food	" ..	<i>183</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>184</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>154</i>
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)	" ..	<i>165</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>147</i>	<i>166</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>148</i>

## Securities Index Numbers

	1923						1924					
	Fixed Interest Securities	Cotton Mill Shares	Cotton spinning and processing securities	Electric undertakings	All Industrial Securities	General average (100 Securities)	Fixed Interest Securities	Cotton Mill Shares	Cotton spinning and processing securities	Electric undertakings	All Industrial Securities	General average (100 Securities)
1914 July..	100	100	100	100	100	100	1924 July 74	126	121	133	140	135
1915 .. ..	96	97	94	90	101	100	.. Aug. 74	192	124	130	148	143
1916 .. ..	87	114	102	122	130	127	.. Sep. 72	203	124	131	153	147
1917 .. ..	75	138	118	128	150	151	.. Oct. 72	197	122	127	148	143
1918 .. ..	74	212	131	139	194	184	.. Nov. 72	198	120	127	149	143
1919 .. ..	77	216	126	237	216	206	.. Dec. 72	196	128	128	147	142
1920 .. ..	65	438	168	246	313	296	1925 Jan. 72	205	129	141	152	147
1921 .. ..	65	450	158	212	311	295	.. Feb. 72	204	131	157	154	148
1922 .. ..	63	406	163	175	267	253	.. Mar. 72	197	131	154	150	145
1923 July	72	229	147	136	176	169	.. April 73	192	131	147	146	141
.. Aug.	73	216	153	138	168	161	.. May 73	173	121	146	137	133
.. Sep.	73	225	133	133	166	159	.. June 73	167	119	142	134	130
.. Oct.	72	213	133	131	163	157	.. July 74	169	116	140	134	130
.. Nov.	71	216	122	135	163	156	.. Aug. 74	161	118	133	130	126
.. Dec.	71	215	122	131	160	154	.. Sep. 74	156	118	133	128	124
1924 Jan.	71	196	122	126	151	146	.. Oct. 74	158	121	136	129	125
.. Feb.	73	192	122	127	148	143	.. Nov. 74	156	121	139	128	125
.. Mar.	74	189	122	128	146	141	.. Dec. 74	165	118	149	134	130
.. Apr.	74	188	119	130	145	140	1926 Jan. 74	163	118	156	133	129
.. May	74	179	120	137	143	136	.. Feb. 74	169	114	166	136	132
.. June	74	180	121	137	143	138	.. Mar. 77	167	114	164	134	130

\* Also included in "Industrial Securities".

# LABOUR GAZETTE

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

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[No. 9

## The Month in Brief

### BOMBAY AND THE GENERAL STRIKE IN ENGLAND

Messages of sympathy were sent by Labour Organizations in Bombay to the British workers' organizations and Mr. N. M. Joshi, on May 7th to the amount of £200 and on May 10th £300 to the British Trade Union Congress for the strike fund.

The strike had no appreciable effect on the Bombay market.

### EMPLOYMENT—THE COTTON INDUSTRY

IN BOMBAY CITY, a large majority of the mills sending in returns reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The statistics regarding employment for the month ended 12th May 1926 in representative mills in Bombay showed an average absenteeism of 11.1 per cent. as compared with 9.9 per cent. in the month ended 12th April 1926 and 0.6 per cent. in the month ended 12th March 1926.

IN AHMEDABAD, the supply of labour was reported to be adequate during the month under review. The average absenteeism in representative mills was 2.0 per cent. as compared with 2.5 per cent. last month and 1.9 per cent. two months ago.

IN SHOLAPUR, the supply of labour was reported as adequate but absenteeism showed a further increase owing to the Mahomedan holidays. The average was 16.4 per cent. as compared with 16.2 per cent. last month and 14.1 per cent. two months ago.

IN BROACH, absenteeism was 9.4 per cent. as compared with 10.5 per cent. in the previous month. The supply of labour in this centre was also adequate.

On the whole, therefore, the supply of labour in the above mentioned centres of the industry was adequate during the month under review but absenteeism increased in Bombay and Sholapur.

### THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average of absenteeism in representative engineering workshops (based on the returns from three large establishments) showed a slight decrease—the figure being 14.5 per cent. as compared with 15.0 per cent. last month, and 14.6 per cent. two months ago.

On the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate the average absenteeism was 5 per cent.

The supply of unskilled labour employed for loading, removing, storing and unloading cargo in the docks by the Bombay Port Trust was equal to

the demand. The percentage absenteeism was 14·16 as compared with 13·63 last month and 14·65 two months ago. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average absenteeism increased to 9·6 per cent. as compared with 9·2 per cent. last month. The percentage of absenteeism based on the attendance of monthly paid workers employed in the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust was 7·7, as compared with 7·0 in the last two months.

#### WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING

The Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 153, both in April and in May 1926. The average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the Cost of Living Index for Bombay City (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 153 for all articles and 150 for food articles only. The final index showed a fall of 3 points as compared with May 1925 and of 40 points as compared with October 1920 when the maximum height was reached. The average for all food articles remained unchanged when compared with the previous month. A rise of one point in Cereals and 5 points in Pulses increased the index of food grains by one point. There was a fall of 3 points in other food articles. Gul, salt, beef and ghee declined by 7, 9, 3 and 4 points respectively while tea advanced by 3 points. Clothing decreased by 5 points owing to decreases in the prices of all the articles included in the group. Fuel and lighting fell by one point only.

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

#### EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING

In April 1926, the European Cost of Living Index Number stood at 158, on the same level as in the two previous quarters but 4 points below April 1925 (162). As compared with January 1926, the food index showed a rise of one point chiefly due to a rise in "Food Stores". Beef (selected), cheese, mutton, fowls, onions and tomatoes declined in price whilst kidneys went up by 311 points. The index number for fuel and lighting declined from 114 to 108. The fall in the clothing group was due to a fall in the price of shoes, whilst that in the case of conveyance was due to decreases in oil, tyres and inner tubes. There was a rise in passages and school-fees on account of a fall in the rate of exchange. Household necessaries remained unchanged at 136. The average for the miscellaneous group was 158, the same as in January 1926.

#### THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER

In April 1926, the general index of wholesale prices in Bombay was 151, i.e., one point above the level of the previous month. The average for food articles remained the same, but the non-food group registered a

rise of two points. The index number for food grains was 138 as against 140 in the preceding month. Cereals fell by 4 points while Pulses advanced by 2 points.

The general index of all the articles is a mean of the price relatives of all the articles included in the index and is obtained by dividing the sum of the index numbers of articles for which quotations are available and not by finding the mean of the group index numbers for food and non-food articles. The fluctuations in the prices of foods, non-foods and all articles will be seen in the following table:—

	Number of items	Increase per cent. over July 1914				
		December 1925	January 1926	February 1926	March 1926	April 1926
Foods ..	15	49	49	43	44	44
Non-foods ..	27	58	58	58	53	55
All articles ..	42	55	55	52	50	51

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

#### SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

The shares of three companies which had gone into liquidation were removed from the list of securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number. The general index number, now based on 99 shares and securities, was 131 in April 1926. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities advanced by 6 points, Banks by 5 points, Railway Companies by 2 points, Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies by 1 point and Electric Undertakings by 6 points. Cotton Mills decreased by 5 points and Cement and Manganese Companies by 12 points. The index number for Industrial Securities was 135.

#### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were three industrial disputes in progress during April 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 5,075 and the number of working days lost 13,088.

## COTTON MILL PRODUCTION

Cotton Mill production in March 1926 and in the twelve months ending March, 1926, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two preceding years is shown in the following two tables :—

## (1) Month of March

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	March			March		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Bombay City ..	4	28	29	8	19	19
Ahmedabad ..	7	8	9	8	9	10
Other centres ..	4	4	4	4	3	2
Total, Presidency..	15	40	42	20	31	31

## (2) Twelve months ending March

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Twelve months ending March			Twelve months ending March		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Bombay City ..	270	327	262	194	220	200
Ahmedabad ..	76	92	103	79	94	106
Other centres ..	53	55	58	35	34	36
Total, Presidency..	399	474	423	308	342	342

The Bombay Millowners' Association quotations at the end of April 1925 and March and April 1926 are as follows :—

	Net rate per lb. in annas		
	April 1925	March 1926	April 1926
Long Cloths ..	20½	18	17¾
T. Cloths ..	19½	16	15½
Chudders ..	19½	16½	16½

As compared with the corresponding month of the previous year, the production of yarn during the month under review showed a slight increase in Bombay and Ahmedabad. The production of woven goods remained stationary in Bombay while it recorded a small increase in Ahmedabad.

## THE OUTLOOK

The fluctuations in the price of raw cotton were within narrow limits. The tone of the market which was weak at first became steady later on. Export trade was meagre throughout the month, and the local mills bought only sparingly. During the first week under review most of the Broach contracts were covered by a Japanese export house while in the third week purchases by Japanese firms decreased considerably. The prices of hedge-contracts declined by Rs. 13 to 19 per candy during the second week but improved by about Rs. 5 per candy during the next week.

Business in English yarn was by no means encouraging. Sales in retail quantities were fair and prices easy. In spite of the cheaper prices of imported goods business neither improved nor was it remunerative. The local yarn market fared no better. Even at low prices business was possible only on a restricted scale. Dearth of demand was keenly felt except in the lower counts. The decline in cotton prices aggravated the situation.

Business in Manchester piecegoods was not very encouraging. Although there was no great demand miscellaneous enquiry was reported. Prices were steady except in the first week. Trade was to some extent remunerative though the margin of profits was not quite satisfactory. The local piecegoods market showed no improvement. There was only the usual selling and buying and no big contracts or sales.

The financial situation continued easy. Trade demand fell off considerably during the month and the cash balances of the Imperial Bank of India increased by Rs. 355 and 89 lakhs in the second and third weeks respectively while in the last week they declined by Rs. 125 lakhs. Call money was available at 5 to 3½ per cent. during the month, and the Government Security market was active and steady.

The Working Class Cost of Living Index remained stationary in May. The wholesale prices index number advanced by 1 point in April as compared with March 1926.

The bank rate continued at 6 per cent. from 3rd December 1925. The rate of exchange in Bombay on London on 1st May 1926 was 1s. 5¼d. as against 1s. 5¾d. on 1st April 1926.

## THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 20th MAY

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

*Gujarat.*—Except some light to fair rain which was received during the third week of April in places, there has been practically no rain in the division during the period under review. The harvesting of *rabi* crops such as wheat, barley, etc., is now completed while the preparation of land for the next season is in full swing generally. The irrigation of the *jowari* crop continues in places. The condition of the irrigated crops is generally satisfactory.

*Konkan.*—Since the submission of the last report there has been practically no rain anywhere in the division. The reaping of the late crops is now over. Lands are being prepared for the ensuing *kharif* season. The progress of garden crops is satisfactory.

Deccan and Karnatak—Light to fairly heavy rain was received during the first week of May in parts of the Karnatak and the South. The harvesting of the rabi crops is finished everywhere though the threshing of the crops is still in progress in places. Cultivators are engaged in preparing their lands for the coming season. The condition of the irrigated crops is, on the whole, fairly satisfactory.

**OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES**

In the United Kingdom at 1st April, the average level of retail prices taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour was approximately 68 per cent. above that of July 1914 as compared with 72 per cent. during the previous month. The number of trade disputes reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in March was 25. In addition to these 28 disputes which began before March were still in progress. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in March was about 37,000 and the estimated duration of these disputes was about 460,000 working days.

In the cotton textile industry, the position of the yarn trade remained unchanged. The cloth market was very dull. The religious troubles in Calcutta and the coal strike in England reduced the sales of cloth very considerably.

The crisis in the coal industry had a paralysing effect on the iron and steel industry. In all branches of iron and steel both buyers and sellers showed marked disinclination to negotiate and sales were confined to transactions to satisfy urgent needs only.

The index number of industrial securities which attained a maximum (191) at the end of December has fallen continuously since then and was only 177 in mid-April.

In the United States, industrial stock prices showed pronounced weakness during the greater part of March. In textiles there was an improvement, the demand for grey cotton goods being brisk. Buying in the woollen goods market was very disappointing and a tendency to offer goods at reduced prices was noticeable.

The National Bank of Belgium reduced its discount rate from 7½ per cent. to 7 per cent. from 23rd April 1926. There was considerable industrial activity in Belgium during the month. There was a keen demand for industrial coal. Glass manufacturers did exceedingly well. The demand for lime increased, especially for qualities suitable for agricultural purposes.

In Germany there was a marked improvement in April in the critical financial situation of the textile trade.

In Italy normal business activity prevailed throughout the month and conditions remained satisfactory. The cotton mills continued working on full time and had orders in hand sufficient to keep them employed for some months ahead.

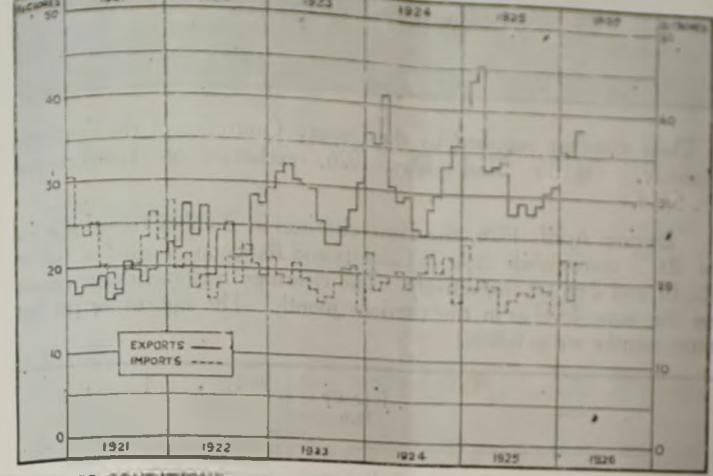
**THE BALANCE OF TRADE**

During April 1926, the visible balance of trade, including Securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 3,76 lakhs.

The trade figures for the last two months for India, Bombay and Karachi are given below (in lakhs of rupees):—

	India		Bombay		Karachi	
	Mar 1926	April 1926	Mar. 1926	April 1926	Mar. 1926	April 1926
Exports	37.90	38.16	10.21	6.68	4.43	2.79
Imports	22.30	24.41	7.43	7.11	2.27	2.44
Visible balance of trade	+ 15.60	+ 7.53	+ 2.78	+ .57	+ 2.16	+ .35
Balance of trade			5.75	3.59	3	..
Balance of services			38	6	1	..
Public balance of trade	- 5.70	- 3.79	- 5.37	- 3.33	- 2	..
Balance of trade including securities	+ 10.06	+ 3.76				

The movements of actual figures of Imports and Exports of private merchandise for British India since 1921 are shown in the annexed diagram



**BUSINESS CONDITIONS**

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

Month	Year	Rate	Month	Year	Rate
June	1925	1 5 31/32	December	1925	1 6 5/32
July	..	1 6 1/16	January	1926	1 6 5/32
August	..	1 6 3/32	February	..	1 6 5/32
September	..	1 6 5/32	March	..	1 6 1/8
October	..	1 6 5/32	April	..	1 5 7/8
November	..	1 6 5/32	May	..	1 5 13/16

\*Exclusive of the value of Railway materials imported direct by State Railways working under company management, which was not paid for in the ordinary way and not therefore taken into account in arriving at the balance of trade.



# The Cost of Living Index for May 1926

PRICES REMAIN STATIONARY

All articles 53 per cent. Food only 50 per cent.

In May 1926 the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was the same as in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914 the general index number was 153 both in April and in May 1926. This is 40 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and 2 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for the "Food" group remained the same. There was a rise of 2 points each in rice and jowari; of 3 points each in bajri and turdal, and of 5 points in gram. Raw sugar (gul) fell by 7 points but sugar (refined) showed no change. The price of tea advanced by 3 points. Salt, beef and ghee recorded decreases of 9, 3 and 4 points respectively. Onions increased by one point whilst mutton, milk, potatoes and cocoanut oil remained stationary during the month.

The "Fuel and Lighting" group recorded a fall of one point owing to decreases in the prices of kerosene oil and coal. The fall of 5 points in clothing was due to decreases in the prices of all the articles included in the group.

All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
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	
July ..	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	
August ..	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	
September ..	77	92	85	65	54	61	51	
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	
November ..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	
December ..	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	
Yearly average ..	75	83	73	64	54	57	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in April and May 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 :-

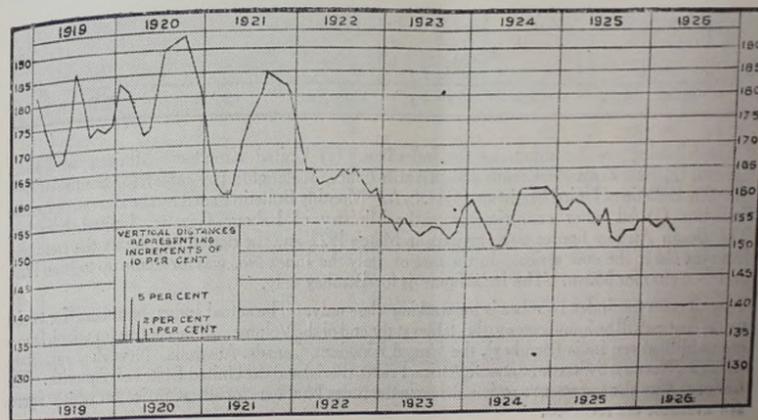
Articles	July 1914	Apr. 1926	May 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in May 1926 over or below Apr. 1 1926	Articles	July 1914	Apr. 1926	May 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in May 1926 over or below Apr. 1 1926
Rice ..	100	132	134	+ 2	Salt ..	100	156	147	- 9
Wheat ..	100	132	132	..	Beef ..	100	155	152	- 3
Jowari ..	100	124	126	+ 2	Mutton ..	100	190	190	..
Bajri ..	100	134	157	+ 3	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	136	141	+ 5	Ghee ..	100	193	189	- 4
Turdal ..	100	126	129	+ 3	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	..
Sugar (refined) ..	100	180	180	..	Onions ..	100	268	269	+ 1
Raw sugar (gul) ..	100	167	160	- 7	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	94	197	+ 3	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	150	150	..

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

Rice 25, Wheat 24, Jowari 21, Bajri 27, Gram 29, Turdal 22, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 38, Tea 49, Salt 32, Beef 34, Mutton 47, Milk 48, Ghee 47, Potatoes 37, Onions 63, Cocoanut Oil 12.

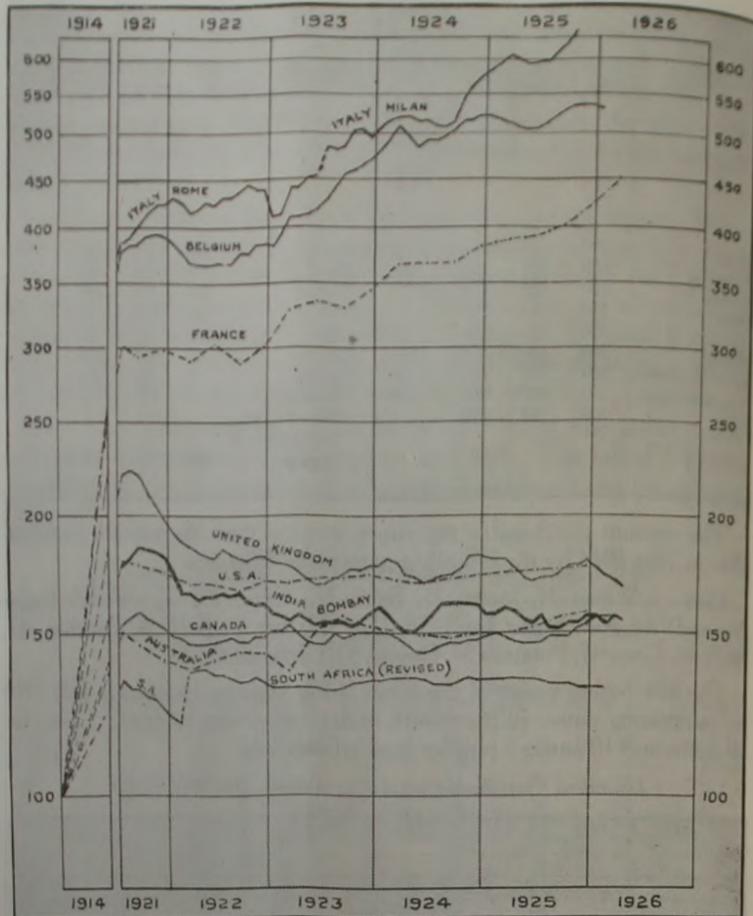
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 5 pies for all items and 10 annas 8 pies for food articles only.

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 Labour Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. The South African figures were revised in March 1922 and the dotted line shows the transition from the old to the new series. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

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

### Wholesale and Retail Prices

#### 1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY—A RISE OF ONE POINT

The index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 151 in April 1926, which was 112 points below the highwater mark (263) reached in August 1918 and 12 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925. As compared with March 1926, the non-food index showed a rise of 2 points but the food index was stationary at 144.

The average for food grains fell from 140 to 138, the fall of 4 points in Cereals being only partially counter-balanced by a rise of 2 points in Pulses. Rice, barley and gram increased by 3 points each while jowari, bajri and turdal were steady. The average for wheat dropped by 15 points mainly as a result of the heavy fall in the price of Jubbulpore wheat.

The "Other Food" average was 156 or 4 points above the level for March. Turmeric registered a rise of 13 points. Ghee declined by 3 points and salt remained unchanged. The index number for sugar increased from 146 to 150.

Under the non-food group, Oilseeds and Hides and skins advanced by 4 and 24 points respectively. There was a fall of 3 points each in Raw cotton, Cotton manufactures, and Other raw and manufactured articles and of 2 points in Other textiles. Metals remained steady at 151. The non-food index was 155 in April as against 153 in the previous month. The quotations for raw cotton are obtained regularly from the East India Cotton Association.

The subjoined table compares April 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 Mar. 1926	+ or - % compared with April 1925	Groups	Apr. 1925	July 1925	Oct. 1925	Jan. 1926	Mar. 1926	Apr. 1926
1. Cereals	7	- 3	- 3	1. Cereals	100	95	99	99	99	97
2. Pulses	2	+ 2	+ 14	2. Pulses	97	95	104	111	109	111
3. Sugar	3	+ 3	- 15	3. Sugar	107	96	92	90	88	91
4. Other food	3	+ 3	- 19	4. Other food	99	95	92	89	78	80
All food	15	...	- 8	All food	101	95	96	96	93	93
5. Oilseeds	4	+ 3	- 4	5. Oilseeds	99	101	94	92	92	95
6. Raw cotton	3	- 2	- 31	6. Raw cotton	104	95	96	96	73	72
7. Cotton manufactures	6	- 2	- 13	7. Cotton manufactures	102	100	98	90	90	88
8. Other textiles	2	- 1	- 9	8. Other textiles	103	94	99	97	94	93
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 16	+ 17	9. Hides & skins	100	95	103	106	101	117
10. Metals	5	...	- 6	10. Metals	102	97	98	96	96	96
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	- 2	- 7	11. Other raw and manufactured articles	101	98	101	100	97	95
All non-food	27	+ 1	- 8	All non-food	101	98	95	92	93	
General Index No...	42	+ 1	- 8	General Index No.	101	97	97	95	92	93

\* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 920.

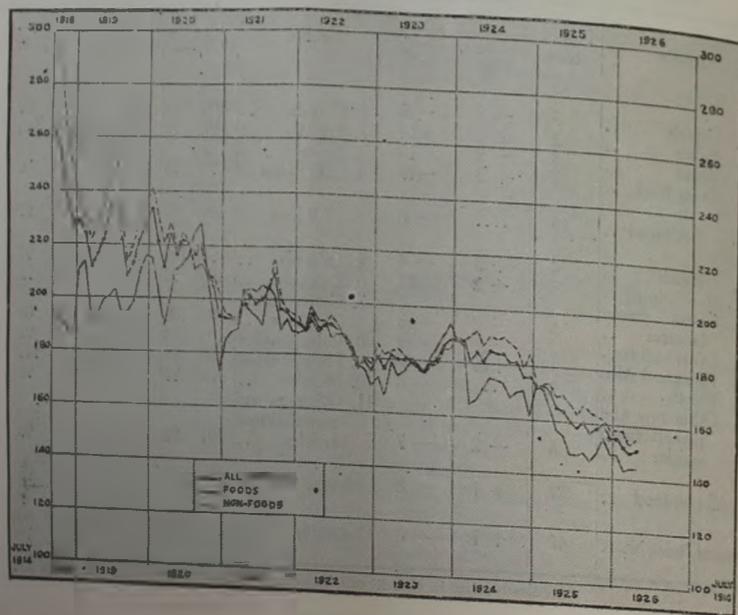
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices

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
Four-monthly 1926	145	155	152

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

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

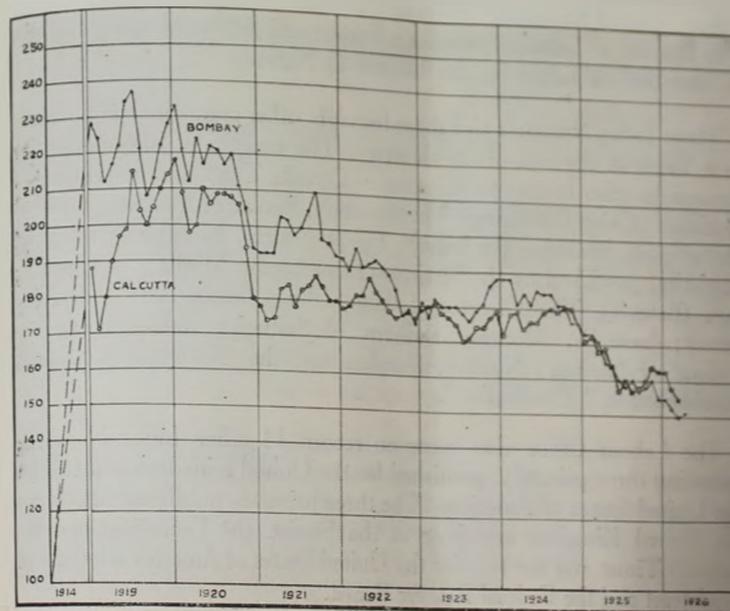


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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

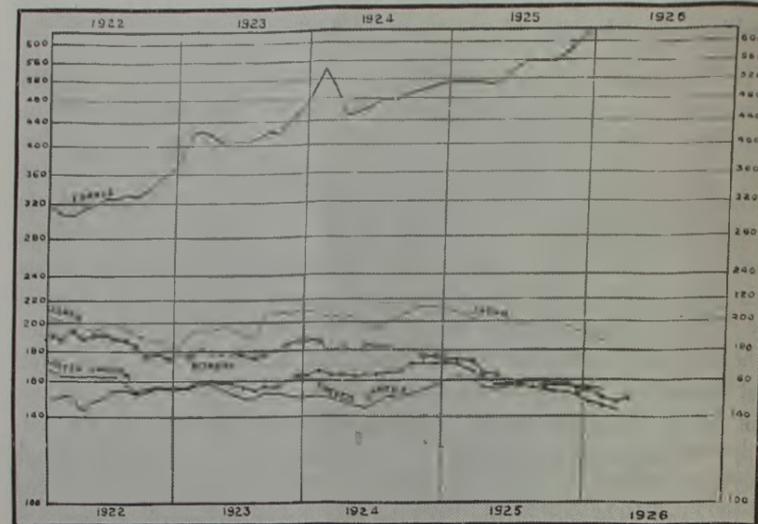
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-row (3 items), jute-manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay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

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



### COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

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



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, The Board of Trade ; United States of America, The Bureau of Labour Statistics ; 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), The Secretary, Bureau of Markets, Treasury Department, Shanghai (by letter) ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), The Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands, figures republished in "The Statist".

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

### 2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiv- alent in tolas	July 1914			Increase (+) or decrease (-) in April 1926 over or below	
				July 1914	Mar. 1926	April 1926	July 1914	Mar. 1926
Rice	.. Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	As. p. 5 10	As. p. 7 11	As. p. 7 10	+ 2 0	- 0 1
Wheat	.. Piasi Seoni	..	216	5 10	8 0	8 0	+ 2 2	....
Jowari	.. Best Sholapuri	..	200	4 3	5 4	5 5	+ 1 2	+ 0 1
Bajri	.. Ghati	..	208	4 7	6 0	6 0	+ 1 5	....
Gram	.. Delhi	..	200	4 4	6 0	5 10	+ 1 6	- 0 2
Turdal	.. Cawnpore	..	208	5 11	7 10	7 8	+ 1 9	- 0 2
Sugar (refined)	.. Java, white	.. Seer	28	1 1	2 0	1 11	+ 0 10	- 0 1
Raw Sugar (Gul)	.. Sangli, middle quality	..	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	....
Tea	.. Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 5	15 2	+ 7 4	- 0 3
Salt	.. Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	3 0	2 11	+ 1 2	- 0 1
Beef	..	Lb.	39	2 6	4 0	3 11	+ 1 5	- 0 1
Mutton	..	..	39	3 0	6 1	6 2	+ 3 2	+ 0 1
Milk	.. Medium	.. Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	....
Ghee	.. Belgaum, Superior	..	28	7 1	14 2	13 9	+ 6 8	- 0 5
Potatoes	.. Ordinary	..	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+ 0 4	....
Onions	.. Nasik	..	28	0 3	0 8	0 7	+ 0 4	- 0 1
Cocoonut oil	.. Middle quality	..	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+ 0 5	....

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

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

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

With the exception of slight variations, the prices in April 1926 compare satisfactorily with those in the previous month. Among food grains, only jowari increased by 1 pie per paylee. Wheat and bajri were steady whilst rice declined by 1 pie and gram and turdal by 2 pies each per paylee. In the case of other food articles, mutton advanced by 1 pie per lb. milk and potatoes were steady and all other articles recorded a fall in price—there being a fall of 3 pies per lb. in tea, 5 pies per seer in ghee and 1 pie each in salt (per paylee) beef, (per lb.) and onions (per seer).

As compared with July 1914, there is no item which does not show an increase. Mutton and onions are more than 100 per cent. above their prewar level whilst tea and ghee have risen by 94 per cent. each. Sugar, raw sugar (gul) and milk are more than 70 per cent. higher whilst food grains have advanced by nearly 30 to 40 per cent. only. The rise in the price of cocoonut oil has been only 12 per cent.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in March 1926 and April 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 April 1926—

Bombay prices in March 1926 = 100

Bombay prices in April 1926 = 100

Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
<b>Cereals—</b>						<b>Cereals—</b>					
Rice ..	100	107	119	103	119	Rice ..	100	108	120	97	120
Wheat ..	100	93	108	100	106	Wheat ..	100	50	108	88	106
Jowari ..	100	94	94	66	102	Jowari ..	100	90	94	61	95
Bajri ..	100	107	107	76	101	Bajri ..	100	103	109	71	101
<b>Average—</b>						<b>Average—</b>					
Cereals ..	100	100	107	86	107	Cereals ..	100	98	108	79	106
<b>Pulses—</b>						<b>Pulses—</b>					
Gram ..	100	89	103	89	91	Gram ..	100	88	106	77	93
Turdal ..	100	106	125	90	105	Turdal ..	100	106	136	84	111
<b>Average—</b>						<b>Average—</b>					
Pulses ..	100	98	114	90	98	Pulses ..	100	97	121	81	102
<b>Other articles of food—</b>						<b>Other articles of food—</b>					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	86	93	93	102	Sugar (refined) ..	100	88	93	93	103
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	80	93	86	65	Jagri (Gul) ..	100	80	93	71	69
Tea ..	100	101	101	116	123	Tea ..	100	103	103	118	125
Salt ..	100	59	67	94	87	Salt ..	100	60	69	108	89
Beef ..	100	110	67	61	74	Beef ..	100	113	69	63	75
Mutton ..	100	80	80	80	72	Mutton ..	100	79	79	79	71
Milk ..	100	43	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	43	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	79	70	79	83	Ghee ..	100	81	72	72	76
Potatoes ..	100	71	86	102	84	Potatoes ..	100	75	86	81	79
Onions ..	100	93	84	76	63	Onions ..	100	97	96	80	67
Cocoa nut oil ..	100	93	124	118	98	Cocoa nut oil ..	100	93	124	112	98
<b>Average—</b>						<b>Average—</b>					
Other articles of food ..	100	81	84	69	84	Other articles of food ..	100	83	86	87	84
<b>Average—</b>						<b>Average—</b>					
All food articles ..	100	88	93	89	91	All food articles ..	100	88	95	84	91

Actual relative prices at these centres are given at the end of the Gazette. The relative average for all food articles advanced by 2 points at Ahmedabad and fell by 5 points at Sholapur when compared with the previous month. The Karachi and Poona averages were stationary. As compared with April 1925 it is found that in relation to Bombay, the Karachi and Ahmedabad averages were 3 and 5 points higher, and the Sholapur and Poona averages 7 and 1 points lower.

Among individual articles the relative prices of tea, salt, beef and onions have increased, and that of mutton has decreased at all the four mofussil centres as compared with the previous month. Milk is steady everywhere. Wheat, jowari, bajri and gram have fallen at Karachi and Sholapur. Rice has gone up except at Sholapur. Ghee has risen at Karachi and Ahmedabad by 2 points and fallen at other centres by 7 points. Coconut oil remained unchanged except at Sholapur. Sugar has gone up at Karachi and Poona. Potatoes have fallen at Sholapur and Poona and have advanced at Karachi. Gul was steady at the first two centres but has fallen at Sholapur and risen at Poona.

Securities Index Number

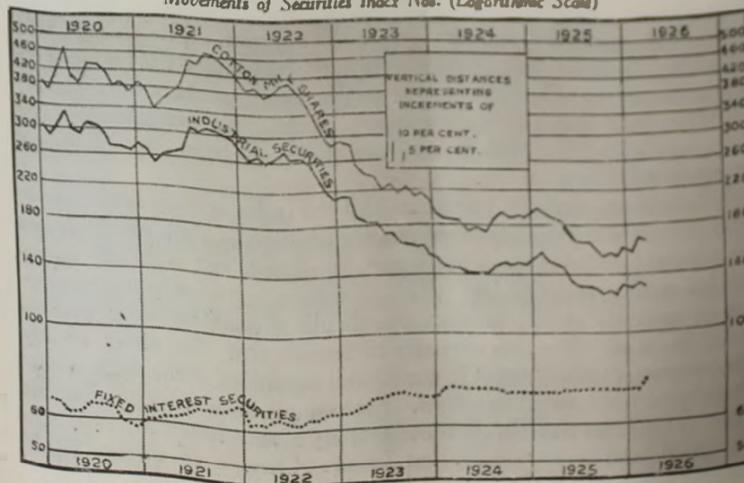
A RISE OF ONE POINT

Out of 102 shares and securities hitherto included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number, the securities of three companies have now been removed from the miscellaneous group—these having gone into liquidation. The general index number based on 99 shares and securities was 131 in April 1926. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities further advanced by 6 points, Banks by 5 points, Railway Companies by 2 points, Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies by 1 point and Electric Undertakings by 6 points. Cotton Mills decreased by 5 points and Cement and Manganese Companies by 12 points.

The Construction of the Index

No.	Description	Index No.	July 1914		April 1926	
			Total numbers	Total numbers	Average	
1	Government and Corporation Securities	7	700	578	83	
2	Banks	6	600	850	142	
3	Railway Companies	10	1,000	1,127	113	
4	Cotton Mills	42	4,200	6,794	162	
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies	8	800	923	115	
6	Cement and Manganese Companies	5	500	512	102	
7	Electric Undertakings	2	200	340	170	
8	Miscellaneous Companies	19	1,900	1,855	98	
9	Industrial Securities	92	9,200	12,401	135	
10	General average	99	9,900	12,979	131	

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



# European Cost of Living Index

PRICES REMAIN STATIONARY

All items 10 per cent Food only 10 per cent

A description of the scope and method of construction of the index relating to families living in Bombay in European style was published on pages 13-15 of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1924. Certain changes which were subsequently carried out were described on page 10 of the *Labour Gazette* for August 1924. In computing the index number from October 1924 it was found necessary to utilize a new source of information for certain price quotations as the old firm could not furnish comparable data. Care has however been taken to see that the quotations obtained from the new firm are comparable with those of the old one.

The items shown in the Tables now presented are samples of articles and services. The prices in the prices columns are quoted for the "Unit of Quantity" in column 2. The prices are then multiplied by the figures in column 3 "Annual number or quantity required" in order to give to the various articles their relative importance. The resulting expenditure figures for the sample articles are shown in the last three columns. The group and general index numbers are the index numbers of the figures in the last three columns, and are not simple index numbers of the simple prices.

It is important to emphasize that the figures presented are not intended to be a complete budget. They are merely samples of articles and services, selected mainly because it was possible to get information for their price movements. The idea underlying the whole enquiry is that these samples are fair samples, and that the index number obtained from them would approximate to the index number which would be obtained on any given individual budget, were it possible to ascertain the past and present prices of every particular article or service appearing in that budget.

The newspaper criticism on the index previously published attacked especially the rates for "Servants' wages" and "Rents". These two items were made the subject of special enquiries. The changes with regard to "Servants' wages" referred to in the November 1924 issue of the *Labour Gazette* have been carried out and the index numbers since January 1924 have been changed. In regard to "Rents" no change seems to be necessary before the 1924-25 data are collected from the Municipal Assessment Ledgers.

It is necessary again to emphasize that the index is only applicable to cases where the standard of living remains unaltered. As a matter of fact the standard of living does not remain unaltered, but normally moves upward in all strata of society. This movement is probably not measurable in arithmetic terms, but allowance should be made for it by persons using the index. It is also necessary to remark that the effect of any deterioration or improvement in quality and durability of the same article for different years cannot be shown. For example, shoes may possibly last a shorter time now than the same trade variety of shoe lasted in 1914. On the other hand tyres possibly last longer. Changes of quality would however affect mainly the factor "Annual number or quantity required."

and their effect on the index number would be small, especially if some changes are in one direction and others in the opposite direction.

As compared with January 1925, the general index number in April 1926 showed no change. The general index number in four months since the level in April 1925.

### Group Fluctuations

The main changes by groups are shown in the table below (1925 = 100) as at July 1926.

Group of items	Month and Year			
	July 1925	Jan 1926	Apr 1926	July 1926
I. Food—				
Bazaar .. .. .	36	92	100	100
Stores .. .. .	26	100	100	100
All food .. .. .	28	100	100	100
II. Fuel and lighting .. .. .	150	170	170	170
III. Clothing .. .. .	100	100	100	100
IV. Home-rent .. .. .	132	100	100	100
V. Miscellaneous—				
Servants .. .. .	100	100	100	100
Conveyance .. .. .	152	100	100	100
School-fees, etc. .. .. .	110	100	100	100
Passages .. .. .	123	100	100	100
Income-tax .. .. .	210	100	100	100
Household necessities .. .. .	100	100	100	100
Others .. .. .	100	100	100	100
All miscellaneous .. .. .	100	100	100	100
General Index No. .. .. .	157	162	162	162

In April 1926, the food index advanced by one point as a result of a rise of 4 points in "food-stores" which was partially counterbalanced by a fall of one point in "food-bazaar". There was a fall in the prices of cheese, beef (selected), mutton, fowls, onions and tomatoes but kidneys showed a rise of 311 points. "Fuel and lighting" recorded a decrease of 6 points and "Clothing" of one point owing to a fall in the prices of coal and shoes respectively. Decreases in the price of oil, tyres and inner tubes resulted in bringing down the "Conveyance" index by 5 points. Passages and school-fees increased on account of a fall in the rate of exchange. A fall in the price of "Medicines" decreased the index for "Others" by 17 points. The average for the Miscellaneous Group remained unchanged at 158.

### General Index Numbers

The following are the general index numbers for certain months in the years 1920, 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926—

Month and Year	July 1914 = 100		
	Index No.	Month and Year	
October 1920 .. .. .	157	April 1925 .. .. .	162
July 1923 .. .. .	167	July 1925 .. .. .	166
April 1924 .. .. .	167	October 1925 .. .. .	158
October 1924 .. .. .	162	January 1926 .. .. .	158
January 1925 .. .. .	163	April 1926 .. .. .	158

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price x Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	Jan 1926	April 1926	July 1914	Jan 1926	April 1926
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<b>Food-Bazaar</b>								
<b>Meat</b>								
Beef (selected)	Pound	132	0.250	0.438	0.406	33.00	57.82	53.59
Beef (for soup and stewing)	"	720	0.125	0.125	0.125	90.00	90.00	90.00
Mutton	"	192	0.250	0.469	0.438	48.00	90.00	84.10
Kidneys	Each	96	0.047	0.073	0.219	4.51	7.01	21.02
Suet	Pound	36	0.313	0.438	0.438	11.27	15.77	15.77
<b>Poultry</b>								
Chickens	Each	48	0.375	0.750	0.750	18.00	36.00	36.00
Fowls	Dozen	24	1.000	1.375	1.250	24.00	33.00	30.00
Eggs	Dozen	360	0.375	0.594	0.594	135.00	213.84	213.84
<b>Dairy</b>								
Milk	Seer	900	0.250	0.500	0.500	225.00	450.00	450.00
Butter	Pound	96	0.750	1.250	1.250	72.00	120.00	120.00
Bread	"	360	0.094	0.146	0.146	33.84	52.56	52.56
<b>Vegetables</b>								
Potatoes	Seer	360	0.063	0.078	0.078	22.68	28.08	28.08
Onions	"	120	0.021	0.047	0.047	2.52	5.64	5.64
Tomatoes	"	60	0.094	0.156	0.141	5.64	9.36	8.46
<b>Fruit</b>								
Bananas	Dozen	24	0.188	0.313	0.313	4.51	7.51	7.51
<b>Total</b>						729.97	1,216.64	1,214.65
<b>Index No.</b>						100	167	166
<b>Food-Store</b>								
Coffee	Pound	12	1.625	2.375	2.375	19.50	28.50	28.50
Tea	"	12	0.938	1.875	1.875	11.26	22.50	22.50
Rice	"	36	0.313	0.375	0.375	11.27	13.50	13.50
Flour	7 lb tin	6	1.000	1.750	1.750	6.00	10.50	10.50
Sugar	Pound	240	0.125	0.250	0.250	30.00	60.00	60.00
Salt	2 1/2 lb.	4	0.438	1.063	1.063	1.75	4.25	4.25
Cheese	Pound	24	1.000	2.250	2.125	24.00	54.00	51.00
Jam	"	48	0.438	0.750	0.750	21.02	36.00	36.00
Sauce	1/2 Bottle	12	1.625	2.125	2.000	19.50	25.50	24.00
Biscuits	2 lb. tin	12	1.438	3.250	3.250	17.26	39.00	39.00
Oats	"	24	0.625	0.875	0.875	15.00	21.00	21.00
Soda-water	Per dozen	96	0.375	0.750	0.938	36.00	72.00	72.00
Cigarettes	50	72	1.250	1.875	1.875	90.00	135.00	135.00
Cheroots	50	12	1.500	1.625	1.625	18.00	19.50	19.50
<b>Total</b>						320.56	541.25	554.80
<b>Index No.</b>						100	169	173
<b>All-Food Total</b>						1,050.53	1,757.89	1,769.45
<b>Index No.</b>						100	167	168
<b>Fuel and lighting</b>								
Coal	Ton	12	18.000	21.875	19.500	216.00	262.50	234.00
Electricity	Unit	768	0.250	0.250	0.250	192.00	192.00	192.00
Matches	Dozen	36	0.094	0.250	0.250	3.38	9.00	9.00
Kerosene oil	Tin	6	2.185	3.719	3.719	13.11	22.31	22.31
<b>Total</b>						424.48	485.81	457.31
<b>Index No.</b>						100	114	108
<b>Clothing Men</b>								
Shirts	Each	1 dozen	3.000	4.500	4.500	36.00	54.00	54.00
Vests	"	1/2 "	1.375	2.750	2.750	8.25	16.50	16.50
Socks	Pair	9 pairs	2.500	3.542	3.542	22.50	31.88	31.88
Collars (stiff, white 4 fold)	Dozen	1 dozen	7.500	12.500	12.500	7.50	12.50	12.50
Collars (soft white)	"	1 "	7.500	12.500	12.500	7.50	12.50	12.50
Cotton suit	Each	1/2 "	15.000	35.000	35.000	90.00	210.00	210.00
Coat, Sports	"	1/2 "	35.000	39.500	39.500	23.33	26.33	26.33
Pyjamas, Suits	Pair	4 pairs	15.000	27.000	27.000	60.00	108.00	108.00
Hats	Each	1	12.500	10.500	10.500	12.50	10.50	10.50
Shoes	Each	1 pair	18.000	40.000	38.000	18.00	40.00	38.00
Lounge suit	Each	1/2 "	65.000	110.000	110.000	32.50	55.00	55.00
Rain coat	"	1/2 "	65.000	97.500	97.500	13.00	19.50	19.50
Ties	"	4	2.750	4.375	4.375	11.00	17.50	17.50
<b>Total</b>						342.08	614.21	612.21
<b>Index No.</b>						100	180	179

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX—contd.

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price x Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	Jan 1926	April 1926	July 1914	Jan 1926	April 1926
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<b>Clothing—women and children</b>								
Muslins	Yard	12 yards	0.750	1.000	1.000	9.00	12.00	12.00
Prints	"	12 "	0.625	1.500	1.500	7.50	18.00	18.00
Silk for dresses	"	12 "	7.500	13.750	13.750	90.00	165.00	165.00
Crêpe de Chine	"	12 "	5.500	5.250	5.250	66.00	63.00	63.00
Woolens, Satin	"	18 "	0.375	7.500	7.500	6.75	135.00	135.00
Stockings	pair	9 pairs	10.500	0.375	0.375	94.50	13.50	13.50
Vests	vest	4	7.500	14.000	14.000	30.00	56.00	56.00
Shoes, walking	pair	2 pairs	14.000	10.500	10.500	28.00	21.00	21.00
<b>Total</b>						318.25	454.00	454.00
<b>Index No.</b>						100	143	143
<b>All-clothing Total</b>								
<b>Index No.</b>						660.33	1,081.21	1,081.21
<b>Index No.</b>						100	162	161
<b>House-rent</b>								
<b>Index No.</b>						150.000	244.500	244.500
<b>Index No.</b>						100	163	163
<b>Miscellaneous</b>								
<b>Services</b>								
Butler	"	1	19.880	36.970	36.970	19.88	36.97	36.97
Cook	"	1	22.700	38.300	38.300	22.70	38.30	38.30
Harald	"	1	15.900	27.300	27.300	15.90	27.30	27.30
Ayah	"	1	17.400	38.300	38.300	17.40	38.30	38.30
Dhobi	"	1	13.800	23.800	23.800	13.80	23.80	23.80
<b>Total</b>						1,076.16	1,976.04	1,976.04
<b>Index No.</b>						100	184	184
<b>Chauffeur</b>								
Petrol	Gallon	360	45.000	82.000	82.000	16.200	29.520	29.520
Oil	"	12	0.937	1.344	1.344	11.24	16.13	16.13
Tyres	Set of 4 covers	1	272.000	273.000	226.000	272.00	273.00	226.00
Inner tubes	Set of 4	1	67.000	49.000	42.000	67.00	49.00	42.00
<b>Total</b>						1,258.50	1,649.84	1,792.84
<b>Index No.</b>						100	147	148
<b>School fees</b>								
Passages	One return passage	1	124.531	159.174	161.078	124.53	159.17	161.08
Income-tax	Per month	12 months	55.000	110.000	110.000	660.00	1,320.00	1,320.00
<b>Total</b>						1,494.37	1,910.09	1,940.14
<b>Index No.</b>						100	123	123
<b>House-hold necessaries</b>								
Forks, table	Dozen	1	27.500	45.000	43.000	27.50	45.00	43.00
Spoons, table	"	1	27.500	45.000	43.000	27.50	45.00	43.00
Knives, table	"	1	19.500	45.000	45.000	19.50	45.00	45.00
Tumblers, 1/2 pint.	"	1	5.000	9.750	9.750	5.00	9.75	9.75
Tea-set	Set 40 pieces	1	29.000	52.750	52.750	29.00	52.75	52.75
Dinner-service	Set 93 pieces	1	91.000	124.000	124.000	91.00	124.00	124.00
Towels	Pair	One dozen	5.000	8.500	8.500	60.00	102.00	102.00
Sheets	"	6	18.500	20.000	20.000	111.00	120.00	120.00
<b>Total</b>						198.78	270.57	270.17
<b>Index No.</b>						100	136	136
<b>Others</b>								
Stationery	5 quires (paper)	4	0.563	1.000	1.000	2.25	4.00	4.00
Medicine	12 months	1	8.625	18.292	16.792	86.25	182.92	167.92
<b>Total</b>						105.75	223.50	205.50
<b>Index No.</b>						100	211	205
<b>Miscellaneous Total</b>						5,552.56	8,781.67	8,757.82
<b>Index No.</b>						100	158	158
<b>All items Total</b>						9,487.91	15,027.58	14,984.79
<b>General Index No.</b>						100	158	158

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Prices per unit of quantity			Prices - Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	Jan 1926	April 1926	July 1914	Jan 1926	April 1926
<b>Foodstuffs</b>			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Meat	Pound	132	0 250	0 458	0 410	33 00	57 02	93 50
Bread (soft white)	Dozen	720	0 125	0 125	0 125	90 00	90 00	90 00
Milk	Dozen	192	0 250	0 469	0 434	48 00	84 10	84 10
Mutton	Each	96	0 047	0 073	0 219	4 51	21 02	21 02
Kulnava	Each	24	0 313	0 436	0 436	11 27	15 77	15 77
Butter	Pound	48	0 375	0 750	0 750	18 00	36 00	36 00
Chicken	Each	24	1 000	1 375	1 250	24 00	30 00	30 00
Eggs	Dozen	360	0 375	0 594	0 594	135 00	213 04	213 04
Dairy	Dozen	360	0 250	0 500	0 500	90 00	180 00	180 00
Milk	Dozen	360	0 750	1 250	1 250	270 00	450 00	450 00
Butter	Pound	96	0 094	0 146	0 146	33 64	52 56	52 56
Vegetables	Dozen	360	0 063	0 078	0 078	22 68	28 08	28 08
Potatoes	Dozen	120	0 021	0 047	0 031	2 52	5 64	5 64
Onions	Dozen	60	0 094	0 156	0 141	5 64	9 36	8 46
Tomatoes	Dozen	24	0 188	0 313	0 313	4 51	7 51	7 51
<b>Total</b>						729 97	1,216 54	1,214 65
<b>Index No.</b>						100	163	166
<b>Non-foodstuffs</b>								
Coffee	Pound	12	1 625	2 375	2 375	19 50	28 50	28 50
Tea	Pound	36	0 313	0 375	0 375	11 27	13 50	13 50
Rice	7 lb. tin	6	1 000	1 750	1 750	6 00	10 50	10 50
Flour	24 lb. tin	240	0 125	0 250	0 250	30 00	60 00	60 00
Sugar	Pound	4	0 438	1 063	1 063	1 75	4 25	4 25
Salt	24 lb. tin	4	1 000	2 125	2 125	24 00	54 00	51 00
Cheese	Pound	48	0 438	0 750	0 750	21 02	36 00	36 00
Jam	Bottle	12	1 625	2 125	2 000	19 50	25 50	24 00
Sauce	2 lb. tin	12	1 438	3 250	3 250	17 26	39 00	39 00
Biscuits	Dozen	24	0 625	0 875	0 875	15 00	21 00	21 00
Oats	Dozen	96	0 375	0 750	0 938	36 00	72 00	90 05
Soda-water	Per dozen	72	1 250	1 875	1 875	90 00	135 00	135 00
Cigarettes	50	12	1 500	1 625	1 625	18 00	19 50	19 50
Cheroots	50	12	1 500	1 625	1 625	18 00	19 50	19 50
<b>Total</b>						320 56	541 25	534 96
<b>Index No.</b>						100	167	173
<b>All-Food Total</b>						1,050 53	1,757 89	1,749 65
<b>Index No.</b>						100	167	168
<b>Food and lighting</b>								
Coal	Ton	12	18 000	21 875	19 500	216 00	262 50	234 00
Electricity	Unit	768	0 250	0 250	0 250	192 00	192 00	192 00
Matches	Dozen	36	0 094	0 250	0 250	3 38	9 00	9 00
Kerosene oil	Tin	6 tins	2 185	3 719	3 719	13 11	22 31	22 31
<b>Total</b>						424 45	485 81	457 31
<b>Index No.</b>						100	114	108
<b>Clothing Men</b>								
Shirts	Each	1 dozen	3 000	4 500	4 500	36 00	54 00	54 00
Vests	Each	9 pairs	1 375	2 750	2 750	8 25	16 50	16 50
Socks	Pair	9 pairs	2 500	3 542	3 542	22 50	31 88	31 88
Collars (stiff, white)	Dozen	1 dozen	7 500	12 500	12 500	7 50	12 50	12 50
Collars (soft white)	Dozen	1 dozen	7 500	12 500	12 500	7 50	12 50	12 50
Cotton suit	Each	1	15 000	35 000	35 000	90 00	210 00	210 00
Coat, Sports	Each	1	35 000	39 500	39 500	23 33	26 33	26 33
Pyjamas, Suits	Pair	4 pairs	15 000	27 000	27 000	60 00	108 00	108 00
Hats	Each	1	12 500	10 500	10 500	10 50	10 50	10 50
Shoes	Pair	1 pair	18 000	40 000	38 000	18 00	40 00	38 00
Lounge suit	Each	1	65 000	110 000	110 000	32 50	55 00	55 00
Rain coat	Each	1	65 000	97 500	97 500	13 00	19 50	19 50
Ties	Each	4	2 750	4 375	4 375	11 00	17 50	17 50
<b>Total</b>						342 08	614 21	612 21
<b>Index No.</b>						100	180	179

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX—contd.

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Prices per unit of quantity			Prices - Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	Jan 1926	April 1926	July 1914	Jan 1926	April 1926
<b>Outfitting—men and women</b>			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Collar	Yard	12 yards	1 100	1 100	1 100	12 00	12 00	12 00
Waistcoat	Yard	12 yards	7 625	1 100	1 100	9 00	12 00	12 00
Trousers	Yard	12 yards	1 100	1 100	1 100	12 00	12 00	12 00
Shirt	Yard	12 yards	5 625	1 100	1 100	12 00	12 00	12 00
Suit for dress	Yard	12 yards	4 625	1 100	1 100	12 00	12 00	12 00
Coat of Cheong	Yard	12 yards	0 375	1 100	1 100	4 50	12 00	12 00
Blouse, Suit	pair	9 pairs	10 500	1 100	1 100	9 00	9 00	9 00
Shirts	vest	4	7 500	1 100	1 100	30 00	4 50	4 50
Vests	pair	2 pairs	14 000	27 500	27 500	28 00	55 00	55 00
Shoes, walking	pair	2 pairs	14 000	27 500	27 500	28 00	55 00	55 00
<b>Total</b>						318 25	454 00	454 00
<b>Index No.</b>						100	163	163
<b>Alcohol</b>								
<b>Total</b>						640 33	1,030 21	1,030 21
<b>Index No.</b>						100	162	162
<b>House-rent</b>								
<b>Total</b>						150 000	344 500	244 500
<b>Index No.</b>						100	163	163
<b>Miscellaneous</b>								
Servants	1	1	19 800	30 075	26 970	238 56	443 64	443 64
Butler	1	1	18 000	30 000	28 000	216 00	400 00	400 00
Cook	1	1	17 000	27 000	27 000	204 00	327 00	327 00
Household	1	1	15 000	25 000	25 000	180 00	300 00	300 00
Arab	1	1	15 000	25 000	25 000	180 00	300 00	300 00
Dhabi	1	1	15 000	25 000	25 000	180 00	300 00	300 00
<b>Total</b>						1,078 56	1,870 64	1,870 64
<b>Index No.</b>						100	164	164
<b>Carriage</b>								
Chauffeur	Gallon	360	45 000	82 000	82 000	162 00	304 80	304 80
Petrol	12	12	0 937	1 344	1 344	11 24	16 12	16 12
Oil	1	1	3 500	5 000	5 000	42 00	60 00	60 00
Tires	Set of 4 covers	1	272 000	275 000	275 000	2,176 00	2,200 00	2,200 00
Inner tubes	Set of 4	1	67 000	49 000	47 000	536 00	392 00	392 00
<b>Total</b>						2,247 24	1,694 84	1,702 84
<b>Index No.</b>						100	167	167
<b>School fees</b>								
Passage	One return passage	1	124 531	107 114	161 078	1,000 00	1,910 00	1,000 00
Income-tax	Per month	12 months	55 000	110 000	110 000	660 00	1,320 00	1,320 00
<b>Household necessaries</b>								
Tea, table	Dozen	6	27 500	45 000	45 000	165 00	270 00	270 00
Spoons, table	Dozen	6	27 500	45 000	45 000	165 00	270 00	270 00
Knives, table	Dozen	6	19 500	45 000	45 000	117 00	270 00	270 00
Tumblers, 1 pint.	Dozen	6	5 000	9 750	9 750	30 00	58 50	58 50
Tea-set	Set 40 pieces	1	29 000	52 750	52 750	232 00	423 00	423 00
Dinner-service	Set 10 pieces	1	91 000	124 000	124 000	819 00	1,092 00	1,092 00
Towels	Pair	6	5 000	8 500	8 500	30 00	51 00	51 00
Sheets	6	6	18 500	20 000	20 000	111 00	120 00	120 00
<b>Total</b>						2,247 24	270 57	270 17
<b>Index No.</b>						100	136	136
<b>Others</b>								
Stationery	5 quires (paper)	4	0 563	1 000	1 000	2 25	4 00	4 00
Medicine	Month	12 months	8 625	18 292	16 792	103 50	219 50	201 50
<b>Total</b>						103 75	223 50	205 50
<b>Index No.</b>						100	137	137
<b>Miscellaneous Total</b>						1,078 56	1,870 64	1,870 64
<b>Index No.</b>						100	158	158
<b>All items Total</b>						9,487 91	15,827 58	14,984 79
<b>General Index No.</b>						100	158	158

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

Disputes in April .. 3      Workpeople involved .. 5,075

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

I—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in April 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in April 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in April 1926*
	Started before 1st April	Started in April	Total		
Textile .. ..	....	3	3	5,075	13,088
Transport .. ..	....	....	....	....	....
Engineering .. ..	....	....	....	....	....
Metal .. ..	....	....	....	....	....
Miscellaneous .. ..	....	....	....	....	....
<b>Total .. ..</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5,075</b>	<b>13,088</b>

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

During the month under review the number of disputes was three, all of which occurred in cotton mills. The number of workpeople involved in all these three disputes was 5,075 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 13,088.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.  
II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results December 1925 to April 1926

	December 1925	January 1926	February 1926	March 1926	April 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs .. ..	6	4	5	9	3
Disputes in progress at beginning .. ..	3	....	....	1	....
Fresh disputes begun .. ..	3	4	5	8	3
Disputes ended .. ..	5	4	4	9	3
Disputes in progress at end .. ..	1	....	1	....	....
Number of workpeople involved .. ..	5,075	405	2,146	1,320	5,075
Aggregate duration in working days .. ..	13,088	460	5,817	3,161	13,088
Causes:					
For .. ..	4	1	2	2	2
Personal .. ..	2	2	2	3	....
Leave and hours .. ..	....	....	1	4	1
Others .. ..	....	....	....	....	....
Results:					
In favour of employees .. ..	1	1	1	2	....
Compromised .. ..	1	....	....	1	1
In favour of employers .. ..	3	3	3	6	2

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

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months\*

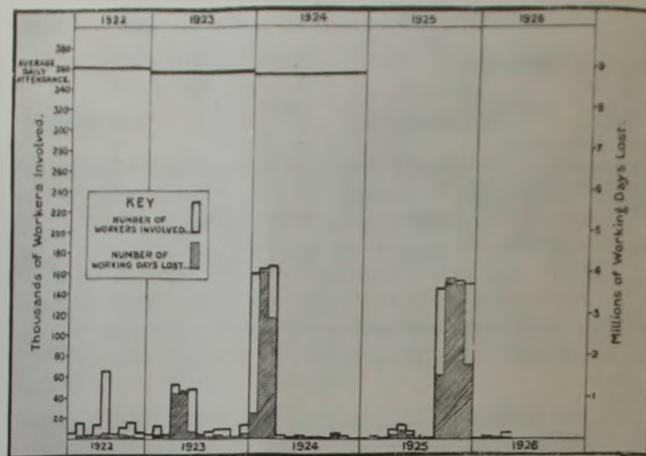
Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
May 1925 .. ..	16	202,683	67	13	40
June .. ..	2	138,459	100	..	..
July .. ..	4	1,543	100	..	..
August .. ..	9	4,884	83	..	17
September .. ..	7	1,551,927	83	17	..
October .. ..	5	3,904,182	100	..	..
November .. ..	6	1,799,141	100	..	..
December .. ..	6	1,799,141	60	20	20
January 1926 .. ..	4	460	75	..	..
February .. ..	5	5,817	75	25	..
March .. ..	9	3,161	67	22	11
April .. ..	3	13,088	67	33	..
<b>Summary for the above twelve months.</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>11,325,175</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>

\* 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

It is noteworthy that during the month of April 1926 there were only three industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency as compared with nine in the previous month. The number of industrial disputes in any one month has never been so small since June 1925. Although the number of disputes was only three the number of workpeople involved was 5,075 as against 1,320 in the previous month. Of the three disputes, two were due to the question of pay and one to the partial stoppage of work by a mill. Two disputes were settled in favour of the employers and one was compromised.

#### BOMBAY CITY

In Bombay City there were two industrial disputes during the month under review and both of these occurred in cotton spinning and weaving mills. The dispute in the Colaba Land Mills was due to the stoppage of sixty looms on account of general trade depression. The closing of these looms threw 40 weavers out of employment. On the 16th April these weavers approached the management and made enquiries as to when they would be re-employed. Not feeling satisfied with the reply given to them all the remaining weavers of the mill struck work in sympathy and demanded that the looms which had been stopped should be restarted and that the dismissed weavers should be reinstated. The management promised to restart the looms as early as possible but the strikers demanded an assurance in writing which was refused. During the recess the strikers became rowdy and caused some damage to the mill buildings by breaking a few windows. The intervention of the police was necessary for the restoration of order. On the 17th the management declared a lock-out for two days

as a punishment for the breach of discipline of the previous day. On the 18th the owners put up a notice stating that all the 220 looms in the New Weaving Shed would be stopped and that the workpeople employed on these looms would be discharged forthwith. On the 19th 196 strikers in the old shed resumed work unconditionally and 42 more followed on the 20th. The strike thus terminated in favour of the employers. The other dispute in Bombay occurred in the Khatau Makanj Spinning and Weaving Mills. 750 weavers of the mill suspended work on the 21st April demanding unspecified increases in piece rates of wages in respect of certain kinds of cloth for the manufacture of which yarn of 16 counts had been introduced. The strikers made a representation to the Agent who asked them to resume work first and promised to give them a reply on the 26th. Not being satisfied with this answer all the weavers in the mill struck work and the workpeople from the other departments joined them in sympathy. The owners, therefore, declared a lock-out. On the 24th, 50 operatives of the Mechanics' and Engineering Departments resumed work. In the afternoon of the same day the management posted a notice granting increases ranging from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 pies per lb. in respect of piece rates of wages for certain kinds of cloth. On the 25th, the weavers again approached their employers and told them that they were willing to resume work provided that the operatives of the spinning and carding departments were also given increments in their rates of wages. In reply to this, the management put up a notice on the same day to the effect (1) that no further increments in the rates of wages would be given and (2) that those workers who failed to resume work by the 26th would be discharged and paid off on the 28th. By the afternoon of the 26th, 400 weavers resumed work. The strikers held a meeting at the Madanpura Settlement in the evening when Mr. N. M. Joshi and other labour leaders advised them to resume work and to fight constitutionally for their demands. A majority of strikers accordingly turned up for work on the 27th, but after working for a few hours they again struck work. On hearing of this, Mr. Bakhale, the General Secretary of the Bombay Textile Labour Union, went to the mill and asked the workers to put their grievances before the Manager. On receiving a promise from the Manager that their grievances would be sympathetically looked into, most of the strikers returned to work. On the 28th all the remaining strikers resumed work. This strike thus ended in favour of the employees.

#### CHALISGAON

On the 17th April, 70 operatives of the Laxmi Narayan Mills demanded an increment in wages. When this was refused they struck work and demanded their arrears of pay. On the 19th the owner of the mill fined the strikers Rs. 2 each on the ground that they had not given one month's notice as required by the rules. On being given their arrears of pay, the strikers left the service of the mill. This strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

## Accidents and Prosecutions

### STATISTICS FOR APRIL 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

#### I. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency published at the end of this issue contain details of accidents reported during the month of April in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During April there were in all 308 factory accidents in Bombay City, of which one was fatal, 10 were serious and the remaining 297 minor accidents. Of this total 73 or 24 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 235 or 76 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion in different classes of factories being 71 per cent. in workshops, 28 per cent. in textile mills and 1 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 34 accidents all of which occurred in cotton mills. Out of the total number of accidents, 22 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Five of these accidents were fatal and the rest minor.

In Karachi there were in all 9 accidents, 7 of which occurred in Railway and Port Trust Workshops and two in miscellaneous concerns. All of these accidents were minor.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 51, out of which, 19 occurred in textile mills, 28 in workshops and 4 in miscellaneous concerns. Of these accidents, 15 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. One accident was fatal, 6 serious and the rest were minor.

#### II. PROSECUTIONS

##### BOMBAY

The Manager of an oil mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (j) for breach of Section 34 in not reporting an accident. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

The Manager of a metal stamping works was also prosecuted under Section 41 (j) for similar breach of the Act in not reporting an accident. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

The Manager of a printing press was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 22 in respect of employment of certain persons continuously for more than ten days without a holiday. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20 in one case and Rs. 10 in each of five cases.

##### AHMEDABAD

The Manager of a match factory was prosecuted under Section 41(a) for breach of Section 26 for employing certain persons of the day shift during the night work. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of six cases.

The Occupier and the Manager of a cotton ginning factory were prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 (a) for employing women in contravention of Rule 75. The Occupier was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of twelve cases. The manager was also similarly convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of twelve cases. The Manager was further convicted and fined Rs. 20 under Section 41 (h) for breach of Section 35.

The Manager of an oil and ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 (a). He was convicted and fined Rs. 30 in each of six cases. The Manager was further convicted and fined Rs. 20 under Section 41 (h) for breach of Section 35.

##### SURAT

The Manager of a match factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (a) for employing uncertified children. He was convicted and fined Rs. 40 in each of six cases and Rs. 45 in each of three cases.

##### PACHORA, EAST KHANDESH

The Manager of a cotton ginning and pressing factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 in respect of employment of women before the hours prescribed by Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of ten cases.

The Manager of another cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for similar breach of Section 24 for employing women before the hours prescribed by Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of ten cases.

The Manager of a third ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 for employing women before the hours fixed by Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of ten cases.

##### NANDGAON, NASIK

The Manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 for employing women before the hours prescribed by Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of ten cases.

The Manager of another ginning and pressing factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 for employing women before the hours prescribed by Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of ten cases.

##### HYDERABAD

The Occupier of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 read with Section 51. He was convicted and fined Rs. 50 in each of four cases.

##### NAWABSHAH

The Manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (h) for breach of Section 35. He was convicted and fined Rs. 65.

The Occupier and the Manager of a cotton ginning factory were prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 for employing women after the hours prescribed by Rule 75. They were convicted and fined Rs. 110 jointly in each of six cases.

### Workmen's Compensation

*Details of compensation and of proceedings during April 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923).*

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of April 1926. Information has been received from all Commissioners and of the 45 cases disposed of during the month under review, 41 were reported by the Commissioner of Bombay, as against 23 during the preceding month. It should be remembered that this is not the number of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners, but of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 19,625-6-6 was awarded as compensation as against Rs. 14,987-12-5 in the month of March and Rs. 21,914-6-0 in the month of February. Out of 45 accidents, 10 were fatal, 1 case was of temporary disablement and 34 cases were of permanent partial disablement.

The number of compensation cases in textile mills was 25 during the month under review as against 3 in the preceding month. No occupational disease case has come up since January 1925.

Claimants for compensation were males over 15, in all the cases, besides two females over 15 and a male below 15 in one case. Out of the 45 cases in April, 22 were original claims and 23 registrations of agreement. Compensation was awarded in 21 cases, agreement was effected in 23 cases and the remaining one case was dismissed.

### Labour News from Ahmedabad

#### THE MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., visited Ahmedabad on April 10, 1926. He inspected some of the local mills in the morning and was shown some of the activities of the Labour Union in the afternoon. The same evening he met the members of the Millowners' Association. The subjects discussed included the Indian Factories Amendment Bill, the Trade Union Bill, the Maternity Benefits Bill, etc., and Japanese competition. In regard to the much discussed clause 5 of the Indian Factories Amendment Bill it was pointed out that the proposal to authorize Provincial Governments to frame rules regarding "reasonable temperature" was calculated to result in differential treatment of this question in different provinces and was not acceptable to the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association. The Association expressed pleasure at the fact that the Trade Union Bill had been placed on the Statute Book but disapproved of the policy of the Government of India in giving effect to the various recommendations of the Geneva Labour

Conference which, they remarked, put a handicap on Indian industries. The Association expressed its satisfaction at the action of Government in not supporting the Maternity Benefits Bill for such legislation should not be undertaken by Government so long as voluntary efforts were forthcoming in ample measure.

The Honourable Member in his reply regretted that he could only offer some general remarks as he had not received their statement in sufficient time to be prepared with facts and figures. He did not agree that the Central Government had passed any legislation which was in advance of the times and pointed out that the reason for not supporting the Maternity Benefits Bill was not that it was in advance of the times but because it was an ill-conceived measure and because of the difficulty of securing proper machinery for the distribution of maternity and other benefits. Such legislation, however, would support the beneficent activities of those who participated in welfare work and would compulsorily rouse to action those who have not awakened to a sense of their responsibility.

#### THE POSTAL AND R. M. S. UNION

The Honourable Member granted an interview to the President of the Union on the evening of the 11th April at the bungalow of Sheth Kasturbhai. The question of the revision of the scale of pay in comparison with the sister departments of Governments and the question of the house rent allowance were freely discussed. The hardships of the staff were fully narrated by the President and the Honourable Member promised to collect information on the points raised and to ascertain whether there was a good case for the revision of the scale of pay or some such measure of relief for the postal staff to be put before the Finance Committee.

#### THE LABOUR UNION

The *Majur Sandesh* has for some time past been publishing a series of articles on 'the right of labour to form unions and the method of action adopted by the Labour Union'. These articles have been published as the result of a letter from a labourer complaining that the Labour Union was rather timid in its dealings with the millowners—so much so as to be thought pro-capitalist in its sympathies—and demanding the publication of the names of the mills which are opposed to the Labour Union. The article in the issue dated the 3rd May 1926 divides the mills into five classes, (a) those who give all possible help to the union in organising members, etc., (b) mills which are actively sympathetic and helpful, (c) those that give no special assistance but do not place any obstacle in the way of the union, (d) those that tend to be antagonistic and to hinder the work of enrolling members and (e) those who behave like 'inveterate foes'. These articles are said to have had a good effect in improving the relations between certain mills and the union.

#### PRICES AND WAGES

A petition has been submitted to the Collector complaining that the charges made by tailors, barbers, dhobies, etc., continue at war-time rates

although prices have since fallen and requesting him to fix the rates on an equitable basis. The Collector refused to interfere in the matter as he has no power to enforce any decision that may be arrived at.

On 13th April 1926 the local sugar merchants protested against under-selling by Jamnagar merchants which is said to result from the difference in taxation between British ports and the ports of Native States.

#### THE SANITARY ASSOCIATION

The monthly sanitary round was gone through on 11th April 1926 when the Jamalpur and Raikhad wards were visited. About 25 citizens of Raikhad presented the President and Members of the Association with a petition drawing their attention to certain important sanitary needs of their ward. Two of these complaints regarding construction of *nalas* in certain places where water accumulates during the monsoon were investigated and the attention of the Municipality was drawn to them.

#### CITY CLEANLINESS

The local Municipality resolved last year to cleanse the whole city, and the Sanitary Committee has entrusted the work to Dr. Hariprasad V. Desai. The work commenced on 5th September 1925 and lasted for seven months and twelve days. All the sweeping staff of the Municipality was requisitioned for the purpose and six to seven *pols* were thoroughly cleansed in a day. In this way all the *pols* within Municipal limits which are estimated to number about 1,500 were cleansed and about 30,000 tons of rubbish removed. Forty-five thousand handbills were distributed showing what should be done to keep the *pols* clean. Dr. Hariprasad conducted his inspection between 4 and 8-30 p.m. daily. At night, in 48 different places in all, lectures were delivered on the advantages of cleanliness and the elementary principles of sanitation. Nearly 25,000 people attended these lectures and Dr. Hariprasad hopes that the death-rate and the incidence of disease during the succeeding months will show a fall.

#### Co-operative Societies in the Bombay Presidency

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies in the Bombay Presidency has just published his 21st Annual Report on the working of these Societies for the twelve months ending 31st March 1925. The Co-operative movement made satisfactory progress during the year under review. There was a good increase both in the number of members and in the working capital which now stand at 392,163 and Rs. 711,66,611 respectively. The total number of societies in the Presidency is now 4,126. Compared with last year the societies show an increase of 383; the number of members, of nearly 35,000; and the working capital of about Rs. 92 lakhs. The increase is noticeable chiefly on the credit side of the movement, especially agricultural credit, due to greater propaganda and better supervision. We regret that owing to want of space in the present issue we cannot give a fuller review of this Report—this will be done in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926.

#### Cotton Industry (Statistics) Act, 1926

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for March 1926 we published the *Statement of Objects and Reasons* attached to the Bill to provide for the regular submission of returns of quantities of cotton goods and cotton yarn produced in British India. This Bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 7th March 1926 and was passed *pari passu* with the Finance Bill.

In view of the fact that the Labour Office has received several enquiries from time to time for copies of the Cotton Industry (Statistics) Act it was considered that it would be useful if the Act was reproduced in the *Labour Gazette*. The following is the text of this Act.

#### ACT No. XX OF 1926

An Act to provide for the regular submission of returns of quantities of cotton goods manufactured and cotton yarn spun in British India.

WHEREAS it is expedient, notwithstanding the repeal of the Cotton Duties Act, 1896, to provide for the regular submission of returns of the quantities of cotton goods manufactured and cotton yarn spun in British India; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title and extent. 1. (1) This Act may be called the Cotton Industry (Statistics) Act, 1926.

(2) It extends to the whole of British India.

#### Definitions.

2. For the purposes of this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

(a) "cotton goods" or "goods" includes all tissues and other articles (except yarn and thread) woven, knitted or otherwise manufactured wholly or partly from cotton yarn;

(b) "Cotton yarn" or "yarn" means yarn wholly or partly composed of cotton fibres;

(c) "mill" means any building or place where cotton goods are woven, knitted or otherwise manufactured, or where cotton yarn is spun, by machinery moved otherwise than by manual labour, and includes every part of such building or place;

(d) "owner", in relation to any mill, includes the managing agent or other principal officer of the mill; and

(e) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act.

3. (1) The owner of every mill shall each month prepare and deliver, or cause to be prepared and delivered, to the prescribed officer a return of all cotton goods manufactured and all cotton yarn spun in the mill during the preceding month by machinery moved otherwise than by manual labour, and shall subscribe a declaration of the truth of the return at the foot thereof.

(2) Save as may be otherwise prescribed, every such return shall state, in respect of each description of goods and of yarn, the quantity manufactured during the period to which the return relates, and shall contain such further information, and be in such form and be subject

to such conditions as to verification and otherwise, as may be prescribed.

(3) Every such return shall be delivered to the prescribed officer or posted to his address within seven days after the end of the month to which it relates.

4. (1) Any officer authorised by the Local Government by order in writing in this behalf shall have free access at all reasonable times during working hours to any mill and may at any time, with or without notice to the owner, examine and take copies of, or extracts from, the records of the mill for the purpose of testing the accuracy of any return made under section 3, or of informing himself as to any particulars regarding which information is required for the purposes of this Act or any rules made thereunder:

Provided that no officer not especially empowered by the Local Government in this behalf shall be entitled to inspect any record containing the description or formulæ of any trade process.

(2) All copies and extracts and all information acquired by any officer in the inspection of any mill under this section shall be treated as strictly confidential.

5. The Governor General in Council shall, from the returns delivered under section 3, cause to be compiled and published in such form as he may direct, statements showing for each month the total quantities of goods manufactured and of yarn spun in mills in British India.

6. (1) The Governor General in Council may, by notification in the *Gazette of India*, make rules consistent with this Act to carry out the purposes thereof.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

(a) the form of any return required under this Act, the particulars to be contained therein, and the manner in which the return shall be verified;

(b) the nature of the records to be maintained by the owners of mills;

(c) the powers and duties, in regard to the inspection of mills under this Act, of the officers authorised to make such inspections; and

(d) any other matter which may be or is to be prescribed.

Penalties.

7. (1) Any person who—

(a) knowingly falsifies any record of manufacture or production kept in a mill, or

(b) being required to deliver a return under section 3, knowingly delivers a false return, or

(c) omits to make any return required by section 3, or refuses to sign or complete the same, or

(d) knowingly does any act, not otherwise punishable under this Act, in contravention of the provisions of any rule made under this Act, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

(2) Any person who discloses any particulars or other information acquired by him in the inspection of any mill under this Act shall be punishable with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees:

Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall apply to the disclosure—

(a) of any such particulars or information for the purpose of a prosecution under section 193 of the Indian Penal Code or under this Act, in respect of any return kept or record made for the purposes of this Act, or

(b) of any such particulars or information to any person acting in the execution of any duty imposed upon him by this Act, where the disclosure is necessary for the purposes of this Act.

8. The Governor General in Council may, by notification in the *Gazette of India*, exempt from the operation of this Act or of any specified provision thereof any mill or class of mills, or any goods or class of goods, specified in the notification.

9. No suit or other legal proceeding shall be instituted against any person in respect of anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

## Wages and Production

### PROBLEM OF PIECEWORK SYSTEMS

Many references are being made to the important effect on the rate of production of the use of piecework and similar systems, emphasis being laid upon the desirability of maintaining piecework rates even when large earnings are shown. To some extent such statements are justified, but from some of them it might be imagined that piecework systems with guaranteed job rates would prove to be the remedy for most, if not all, of our industrial troubles. Nothing can be wider of the mark.

That the cutting of job rates, whatever system of payment may be in use, is the most certain way of discouraging efficient production needs no argument; that piecework with guaranteed job rates would help to increase production is undoubtedly true; but merely to introduce piecework with the guarantee that job rates shall not be cut is to do little better than to go back 30 or 40 years. High wages need frighten no firm, but they are safe only when output is correspondingly high, actually and not merely apparently so.

The reason why job rates have often been cut in this country is traceable not so much to the bad faith or greediness of employers as to economic pressure, the ill-effects of which have been intensified by a faulty basis of fixing job rates. An illustration may be of use.

Two firms A and B manufacture a similar article. They decide to introduce a piecework system and to base their job rates on their existing rates of production. This means that their labour costs of production would be stabilized in the form of piecework rates which presumably they would promise not to cut. Actually the rate of production in A's works is much higher than in those of B, consequently the former's piecework rates would be lower. The exigencies of competition call for the most efficient production. Both firms feel this, but A would be in a much better position to meet that competition than B in proportion as A was more efficient than B when the piecework systems were introduced. To give this illustration point the writer may say that he has seen in more than one works variations in output of 300 per cent.

There is another danger—an old one—which can follow a too ready acceptance of the infallible rule of piecework. Based on the existing rate of output the policy would stabilize not only existing costs in the form of piecework rates but also the individual rates of output of the different workmen, which may vary to an almost unbelievable degree. Cases have been known of workmen whose outputs on the same operation under precisely similar conditions varied as much as ten to fifty hours for the same job, and one of the causes of complaints from workmen with reference to piecework is not merely that piecework prices have been cut, but that, owing to their variation, earnings have not reflected skill and energy so much as opportunity. Such an experience is inevitable when piecework rates are so based, and the writer has seen cases where men had to "hang their time out" in order not to make more than "time and a half" while others have "had to go all out" for little more than time wages. These are factors which no firm desirous of harmony or production at economical cost can afford to ignore.

There can be no doubt that the most effective policy is, first, the pursuit of efficiency and the ascertainment of the possibilities of production. The weaknesses of organization having thus been discovered and eliminated, piecework or any other system of payment by results could be introduced with reasonable chance of success and a minimum of risk. Then a high rate of earnings need cause no fear; rather the earnings of large piecework wages could be held out as a necessary qualification for individual advances in wages.

In introducing any system of payment by results it is essential, if efficiency of production at economical cost is to be possible, that a requisite number of men should be trained to estimate rates of production. Truly efficient men are comparatively rare even yet, although the position is better today than 20 years ago. This is an aspect of the question of payment by results to which employers' associations could, with profit to their members, turn their attention. (From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, April 10, 1926.)

## The Problem of Industrial Relations

The question of relations between employers and employees has been thrust into special prominence by the imminence of the attempts that are to be made to grapple with the problem of the coal industry. Public interest has also been stimulated by the publication of an able report on American conditions, written by two British engineers, in which the authors claim to have discovered that the secret of the high wages obtaining in America is to be found mainly in the peculiar relationship that exists between employers and workers on the other side of the Atlantic. There is, therefore, a happy timeliness about the publication of a *Survey of Industrial Relations*, which is the form taken by the second intermediate report of the Committee on Industry and Trade. Apart from this topical interest, however, its reception would have been assured by reason of the quality of the first report of this Committee, the *Survey of Overseas Markets*.

The recently-published volume is a monumental work (it occupies nearly 500 pages) of statistical information bearing on the subjects of industrial remuneration, conditions and relationships in Great Britain and, where the information was available, in certain foreign countries. The Committee draw no conclusions from the facts they have presented. This penultimate task can only be accomplished when the whole of the evidence laid before the Committee by the representative bodies of employers and workpeople has been taken into account. The nature of the volume is designed to be solely descriptive, and it must be admitted that this objective has been admirably attained. The report should prove an invaluable work of reference. What is more, by affording trustworthy information on the questions at issue it should help considerably to dispel ignorance, and consequently suspicion, in future negotiations between parties to threatening industrial disputes.

The survey is exclusively concerned with the aspects and conditions of efficiency in production dependent upon labour and industrial relationships. It sets about its task with the human observation that the workmen's expenditure of effort and the conditions affecting it must be regarded not only as means to the creation of material wealth, but as ends in themselves; in other words, that these efforts and the conditions under which they are made, should not be judged exclusively from the point of view of output, but that account should be taken of their reactions on the life and welfare of the workman who has made them. The investigations into the principal factors in industrial relations, namely, wages, hours of labour, welfare, unemployment, sundry other factors affecting continuity of work and the machinery for industrial negotiations, are prefaced by some observations on the growth and distribution of population in Great Britain. The most important relevant fact brought out in the course of this prefatory section concerns the effect of the war, and still more of the continuous decline in the margin between births and deaths on the age distribution of the population. Practically the whole of the increase between 1913 and 1926 in the number of men of employable age in Great Britain (about 1,000,000) took place in the older-age groups, i.e., in those above 45. The relative decline in the number of men of the most efficient ages has an evident

bearing on questions of productive costs and unemployment. The report foresees a continuation of this process, and states that, over the next few years, there will be a further increase in the proportion of the male population aged 65 and upwards, and a decrease in the proportion of adolescents. (From 'Statist,' London, April 3, 1926.)

### Prices and Wages in United States

#### INTERESTING COMPARISONS

A banker who has the reputation of being an unusually shrewd judge of business affairs, Colonel Leonard P. Ayres, vice-president of the Cleveland (Ohio) Trust Company, recently expressed the opinion that the disparity in prices between the United States and other countries would prove to be the most important factor in determining the course of business in this country during the remainder of the year.

Prices in other important commercial countries, he said, were relatively lower than in the United States, and they had been falling rapidly during the last year while American prices had remained high. American prices were now so much higher than corresponding prices in other countries that foreign goods were beginning to flow in over America's tariff barriers. A movement to reduce the difference, however, was well under way, and it seemed likely that it would continue for several months to come. If that expectation were realized, general business would moderate its rapid pace, industrial profits would tend to be rather less than in 1925, and the recent decline in the stock market would be justified by developments in trade and manufacturing. But just now, said Colonel Ayres, building construction, iron and steel manufacturing, and the automobile business stood as the supporting pillars of the current prosperity in general business, and all three were operating at close to record levels.

#### REAL EARNINGS IN U.S.A. AND ABROAD

Workers in the United States still have a very considerable advantage over wage earners in every other country in the matter of "real wages"; that is, the purchasing power of their earnings in buying food and shelter is higher than that of workers abroad. But in the last year there has been a consistent narrowing of the gap. Increased money wages abroad, or lowered price levels, or both, have brought the real wages of many foreign workers rather closer to the American level. For example, a London worker on July 1, 1925, was receiving a little more than half the equivalent of the American "real" wage, whereas only six months before his "real" wage was markedly less than half. Canadian and Australian wages, too, advanced considerably in 1925.

A study made by the National Industrial Conference Board of New York of data collected by the International Labour Office of the League of Nations covers the first nine months of 1925. It shows index figures for a number of different cities abroad in comparison with index figures for Philadelphia. These indexes are based on wages and prices of food

and shelter, and take into account the working class standard of food consumption in each city named. The figures are as follows:—

Real Wages in Foreign Countries and the United States, January to October, 1925

City	October 1925	July 1925	January 1925
Philadelphia	100	100	100
Utah	76	77	78
London N. W.	64	55	51
Copenhagen	53	45	45
Oslo	52	46	47
Amsterdam	46	46	47
Stockholm	46	46	46
Paris	40	40	41
Berlin	35	34	35
Lodz	33	33	33
Brussels	31	32	32
Prague	31	30	30
Warsaw	28	28	28
Rome	27	27	27
Vienna	26	26	26
Milan	26	27	27

\*Paris figures for July and October not available. Home figures for October available.

It will be noticed that between July and October London, suffering a slight decline, was moved from third to fourth place by Copenhagen. In the latter city the purchasing power of wages was greatly increased by the decline in the cost of living, following the increase in the value of the Danish kroner during the summer months. Norwegian "real" wages, as the Conference Board's report observes, likewise advanced considerably through the advance of the Norwegian krone. (From 'Times Trade and Engineering Supplement,' London, April 3, 1926.)

### International Hours of Labour

The agreement reached last week by the Ministers of Labour of Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, and Italy on the interpretation of the Eight Hours Day Convention marks a further stage towards the effective establishment of an international labour standard of substantial importance, though the aspirations of the Washington Conference of 1919 have not yet been realised. The story is one of considerable interest. Before the war the International Association for Labour Legislation had manfully struggled, by moral suasion, to establish international labour standards. After the war, however, the Treaty of Peace recognised the need for some permanent organisation to deal with labour questions, and it was laid down in the preamble to Part XIII of the Treaty that "whereas . . . peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice; and whereas conditions of labour exist involving such injustice, hardship, and privations to large numbers of people as to produce unrest so great that the peace and harmony of the world are imperilled, and an improvement of those conditions is urgently required; as, for example, by the regulation of hours of work,

including the establishment of a maximum working day and week (etc.)... the High Contracting Parties, moved by sentiments of justice and humanity...agree" to the establishment of the International Labour Organisation.

The Labour Charter laid down in the Treaty (Part XIII, Article 427) specified that among the "methods and principles" for "regulating labour conditions which all industrial countries should endeavour to apply," "the adoption of an eight-hour day or a 48-hour week" was included as "of special and urgent importance."

The first International Labour Conference was held at Washington in 1919, and adopted six draft Conventions and six Recommendations. The most important Convention was that which limited the hours of work in industrial undertakings to eight in the day and 48 in the week. The Convention was framed in terms which permitted of certain exceptions with a view to meeting special difficulties and special circumstances, but which it became clear had not removed them all. The earliest countries to ratify this Convention were Greece (November, 1920), Roumania (June, 1921), India (July, 1921), and Bulgaria (February, 1922). None of these countries, however, was amongst the industrial nations. The States which took a leading part in the discussion on the Hours Convention were those which were reluctant subsequently to ratify it. This country, which has adopted many International Labour Conventions, failed to ratify the one concerned with hours of labour, and her tardiness in this matter has led to delay or a qualified acceptance on the part of other countries. Thus, Austria has ratified the Convention subject to the proviso that it shall not become operative until it has been ratified by Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Belgium, and the States immediately bordering on Austria. Italy has ratified, but her ratification will only take effect when the Convention has been ratified without reservations or other conditions by Great Britain, Belgium, France, Germany and Switzerland.

The truth is that the industrialised nations of Western Europe have been waiting upon one another, and principally upon Great Britain. Attempts have been made as between these nations to secure an understanding as to the interpretation of the Agreement—a point on which difficulties had arisen in this country, particularly as regards its application to the railways.

On July 14, 1924, however, the Labour Government in this country introduced a Bill for the ratification of the Convention, and within a week a similar Bill was introduced by the French Government. In the meantime, the whole question had been discussed at the sixth session of the International Labour Conference held at Geneva in June and July, as a consequence of which the Labour Ministers of Great Britain, France, Germany, and Belgium met at Berne early in September, 1924, to consider how the ratification of the Convention by these States could be facilitated. From these discussions, it appeared that a policy of common ratification of the Convention by the four countries concerned was possible.

In July, 1925, the French Chamber of Deputies unanimously adopted a Bill which had been introduced by the French Government in July of the previous year. The Bill provided that ratification should only take

effect in France when the Convention had been ratified by Germany. An amendment was moved in favour of the unconditional ratification of the Convention, but this was defeated. The Government declared that whilst it had no intention of going back upon the principle of the Convention, it could not withdraw from the position it had taken up regarding the simultaneous ratification of the Convention by the German Government.

At the International Labour Conference at Geneva last year, it was made clear that the German Government "successfully desired simultaneous ratification by the principal industrial states," whilst Belgium declared that she was "ready to ratify the Hours Convention, but it could not take such action in isolation. If the great industrial nations which were competitors of Belgium in the world's markets would adopt a similar attitude, there would be no further need for a debate on the question of ratification."

The main excuse made in this country to justify inaction was the fact that the negotiated agreement in operation on the railways did not appear to conform literally to the Convention. But the prolonged depression and the difficulties of restoring normal trade recalled attention to the problem of varying hours of labour in industrial countries, and the Government were last year approached jointly by the Engineering Employers' Federation and the unions on the necessity for steps "under the Peace Treaty, or otherwise, to secure an arrangement whereby the working hours of competitive nations on the Continent" should be brought into "reasonable relation to the working week in this country," whilst in June, 1925, the Minister of Labour declared that "it was very vital... that we should aim at getting hours of work to decent length and really endeavour to get similar hours of work adopted in those countries which competed against us."

Since then the British Government has had discussions with the various interests concerned in this country before the further gathering of Ministers of Labour convened by Great Britain which was held in London last week. The real difficulty of securing a uniform and acceptable interpretation of the Convention is illustrated by the protracted nature of last week's Conference. The Prime Minister pointed out that this country will not ratify the Convention "until we are convinced that we all mean the same thing."

Though it would be optimistic to believe that the five Ministers of Labour have got a precisely similar view as to the implications of the Convention, it is at any rate certain that a larger measure of agreement has been reached than previously.

It is not easy to attempt a summary of the conclusions reached by the Conference. It has been agreed that the Hours Convention applies to all industrial undertakings, except those in which only members of the same family are employed. On the definition of working hours, it is understood that they are "the time during which the persons employed are at the disposal of the employer," and, therefore, do not include recognised rest periods. The term "essentially intermittent work" is duly to be understood in a restrictive service to include only such occupations as those of shopkeepers, watchmen, etc. It was agreed that

the maximum limit to the number of additional hours that may be worked under the Convention is "within the competence of national law." The obligation as to the minimum additional rate for overtime (25 per cent.) is to apply only to the additional hours contemplated by the Convention.

It was agreed that "railways are covered by the Convention," and that in so far as Articles V and VI (a) (which (a) authorise the acceptance of joint agreements regarding the weekly hours of labour, provided that the average number of hours worked per week over the period covered by such agreements does not exceed 48, and (b) deal with "essentially intermittent work") are not sufficient for the needs of the railways, the necessary overtime is permissible under Article VI (b), to which reference is made above in connection with overtime rates and temporary exceptions.

It is agreed that hours of labour may be distributed in each week over five days, or in two weeks over 11 days, so long as the average does not exceed 48 per week. Further, it is agreed that in cases where a State allows hours to be worked in excess of 48 per week in order to make up time lost by reason of holidays (other than national holidays or holidays with pay), such hours must be included in the maximum number of hours overtime rates laid down in the Convention.

Special difficulty arose regarding Article XIV of the Convention—"the operation of the provisions of this Convention may be suspended in any country by the Government in the event of war or other emergency endangering the national safety." The interpretation arrived at on this point (and only provisionally agreed to by Great Britain) is that "use can only be made of Article XIV in case of a crisis which affects the national economy to such an extent that it threatens the existence of the life of the people. An economic or commercial crisis, however, which concerns only special branches of industry cannot be regarded as endangering the national safety within the meaning of Article XIV, so that in this case the suspension of the Convention would not be justified." It is understood that the British Government's view is that only war or some comparable catastrophe should provide a sufficient reason for abrogating the Eight Hour Day, but that the Continental view was that political or industrial conditions which menaced a particular industry should be sufficient justification for suspending the operation of the Convention.

The question remains now as to the action to be taken by the five nations concerned. None of the Ministers present at the Conference appears to have definitely committed his Government to legislation, as, no doubt, their Governments will wish to consider the agreed interpretation of the Convention. Some little time will elapse, therefore, before the various States embody the terms of the Convention in national legislation, even if no further points arise on the interpretation of the various articles. Moreover, each of the States which have been parties to the recent Conference will naturally scrutinise carefully the terms of any legislation proposed by the other States, and delays may conceivably arise through reference of disputed points to the International Labour Organisation. But, at any rate, the general acceptance of the Washington Hours Convention has been brought a stage nearer. (From "Economist," London, March 27, 1926.)

## Clerical Wages in Bombay City

### Preliminary Results of the Labour Office Census

#### IV

##### CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CLERICAL LABOUR WORKS

The first, second and third instalments of a series of four articles giving the preliminary results of the Labour Office Census of Clerical Wages in Bombay City were published in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for February, March and April 1926. In addition to the enquiry into earnings, the Census covered enquiries into Caste Distribution, Hours of Work, Holidays, Leave Conditions, Payments of Bonus and Commission and Rates for Overtime Work. The first three articles dealt with earnings: the present article deals with caste distribution and summarises the information collected in connexion with the conditions under which clerical labour works in different types of offices in Bombay City to-day.

##### DISTRIBUTION OF CLERKS RETURNED ACCORDING TO CASTE

No information was called for in connexion with the caste distribution of the clerks employed in various offices for the year 1914. The enquiry concerning this as well as for the other matters for which information was asked for in Part II of the form was restricted to the year 1924. Several offices which supplied figures in Part I of the form omitted entirely to fill up Part II. In the case of some of the larger offices such forms were returned with a request that the omission should be rectified, but in most cases it was not deemed absolutely necessary to return the forms for this purpose because it would have meant not only unnecessarily prolonging the enquiry but also considerable additional trouble both to the offices concerned and to the Labour Office.

The number of male clerks returned by all offices which furnished information for the year 1924 amounted to 10,295. The caste distribution of 9,114 or 88·5 per cent. of the total number returned was given. The following table shows the distribution for each type of offices and for All Offices combined together:—

Caste Distribution of Male Clerks returned for 1924

Types of offices	Christians	Jews	Parsees	Mahomedans	Hindus	Others	Total
Railways and Allied Offices	305	31	112	47	899	..	1,394
Semi-Government Offices	466	63	246	82	1,538	..	2,395
Banks	212	11	359	7	730	..	1,319
Solicitors' Offices	40	2	51	8	142	..	243
Commercial ..	702	50	744	112	2,037	20	3,665
Miscellaneous Offices	25	..	16	1	54	2	98
All Offices	1,750	157	1,528	257	5,400	22	9,114

The following table presents the figures given in the above table in the form of the percentages of the clerks of each caste to the total of all clerks returned in this classification:—

Types of offices	Christians		Parsees		Mahomedans		Hindus		Others	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Railways and Allied offices.	21.9	2.2	8.0	3.4	64.5					100.0
Semi-Government Offices..	19.5	2.6	10.3	3.4	64.2					100.0
Banks	16.1	0.8	27.2	0.5	55.4					100.0
Solicitors' Offices	16.5	0.8	21.0	3.3	58.4					100.0
Commercial "	19.1	1.4	20.3	3.1	55.6	0.5				100.0
Miscellaneous Offices	25.5		16.3	1.0	55.1	2.1				100.0
<b>All Offices</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>				<b>100.0</b>

Considering the figures given in the two preceding tables on the basis of percentages it will be seen that almost three-fifths of all male clerks engaged in clerical work in Bombay City belong to the Hindu community. In Railways and Semi-Government Offices the proportion of Hindus to all other castes put together is nearly 2 to 1. Excluding Hindus, we find that Christians predominate in Miscellaneous Offices and Parsees in Banks. There are, comparatively, very few Mahomedans employed in Banks and Miscellaneous Offices. The actual number of Mahomedan clerks employed in All Offices in Bombay City as compared with the total is in the proportion of 1 to 35. Speaking generally, we find that for every 100 male clerks returned for this classification there were 59 Hindus, 19 Christians, 17 Parsees, 3 Mahomedans and 2 persons from all the other castes put together.

Out of 108 women returned for the Census for the year 1924, caste distribution was given for 101 or nearly 94 per cent. The following table shows the actual distribution:—

Caste Distribution for Women Clerks returned for 1924

Types of offices	Christians	Jews	Parsees	Mahomedans	Hindus	Others	Total
Railways and Allied Offices.	5						5
Semi-Government "	2						2
Banks	3						3
Solicitors' Offices	2					1	3
Commercial "	82	2	1			2	87
Miscellaneous Offices	1						1
<b>All Offices</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>101</b>

As will be seen from the above table there were no Hindu and Mahomedan Women Clerks returned. The predominant position is occupied by Christians who formed 94 per cent. of the female clerical labour force.

**HOURS OF WORK**

In Railways and Allied Offices, the hours for clerical work are generally from 10-30 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. In one case, work begins from 9-30. There

is no general uniformity in Semi-Government Offices. Only one returned hours of work from 10-30 to 5-30. One office begins and ends work half an hour earlier, one begins work half an hour later and another an hour later, but in no case is work prolonged later than half past five in the evening and in no cases are hours of work more than seven hours per day including the luncheon interval. In Solicitors' Offices, work generally begins at 11 o'clock and ends either at 6, 6-15 or 6-30. In two cases only was work reported to begin at 10-30 and in both these offices the hour of closing up was at 6 p.m. or after. In the case of Banks, three offices reported 10 to 6, two 10-15 to 5-30, two 10-30 to 6, one 10-30 to 7, and one 10-45 to 6, but in all other cases the hours of work were from 10-30 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. Miscellaneous Offices mostly follow general office hours, i.e., 10-30 to 5-30, but in 5 cases the hour of stopping work varied between 6 p.m. and 6-30 p.m. Only in one case was work reported to begin at 9-30.

Among the Commercial group, 22 offices reported hours of work from 10-30 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. and 35 offices reported 10-30 a.m. to 6 p.m. One office returned hours of work as 12 hours per day from 8-30 in the morning to 8-30 at night. In 8 cases work begins at 9 o'clock and ends at 6. Sixteen offices start at 11 a.m. but close at 5-30 in 3 cases, at 6 in 10 cases, at 6-30 in 2 cases and at 5 in one case. No office reported start of work after midday but one office returned the hours of work as from noon to 7 p.m.

Some offices distinguished between slack seasons and busy seasons. During the latter, work begins and ends about half an hour earlier and later than the hours observed in the slack season. A few offices did not specify the actual time but simply stated that hours of labour were about 8 hours per day or 8 to 9 hours per day. One office reported that "hours vary according to volume of work on hand".

If the details for hours of work for week days are summarised it is found that in the majority of cases clerks have to work for about 7 to 7½ hours a day (including the luncheon interval) and that the hours of work are generally from 10-30 in the morning to 5-30 or 6 p.m. in the evening.

In the case of Saturdays, 41 out of 82 offices simply stated that office remained open for half a day. With regard to the 41 offices which gave actual timings, nine reported work from 10-30 to 2 and seven from 10-30 to 2-30. Offices which begin work at 11 o'clock close either at 3-30 or 4 and those which start at 10 or earlier generally close before 2 p.m.

**HOLIDAYS**

Almost all the offices which made returns for the Enquiry close on Sundays. Railways and Allied Offices, Banks, Semi-Government and Miscellaneous Offices observe all Bank Holidays, but in one case half holidays as sanctioned by the Head of the office are given in addition. Solicitors' Offices either close on Bank Holidays or observe Court Holidays, i.e., holidays fixed by the Bombay High Court. One office closes completely on Saturdays during Court vacations. Out of 169 Commercial offices which furnished particulars in this connexion, 128 reported a general observance of Bank Holidays. Three follow the rules laid down

in this connexion by the Motor Trades Association. One office closes on all Hindu Holidays, and gives half days off for Parsee holidays.

The offices of large retailers usually give, in addition to Sundays, 2 days each for Xmas and Easter, one day each for New Year, King's Birthday and the Coconut Festival and, in most cases, follow the holidays laid down by the Presidency Trades Association which include one or two days off for Divali and a day each for Dasera and Ganesh Chaturthi, Mahasivratri and Gokul Ashtami. A firm of Auctioneers observes only three Parsee holidays. One firm follows Cotton Calendar Holidays. Out of all the offices which made returns for this Enquiry only one office reported that no holidays were given during the year, whereas a few others stated that holidays were given "entirely according to circumstances of current work."

In addition to the above, several offices give half holidays on Shravan Mondays and Ashada Ekadasi and Kartiki Ekadasi. The majority of offices also allow to all clerks their specific sectional holidays. On the whole, the holidays on full pay enjoyed by clerical labour in offices in Bombay City seem to be liberal.

#### LEAVE CONDITIONS

Semi-Government Offices generally follow the Leave Rules as laid down by the Government of India in the Fundamental Rules and the Supplementary Rules framed by Provincial Governments from time to time. The ordinary leave rules under the Fundamental Rules for Government servants in the Provincial and Subordinate Services allow 20 days' casual leave in a year and a total of two months' leave, one month on full average pay and one month on half average pay, or three months' leave if taken on half average pay for every 11 months' service. The maximum amount of leave which can be taken at any one time is limited to four months on full pay. When leave is asked for under medical certificate or for the purpose of going out of India, the maximum amount of leave which may be taken at any one time, on full average pay, is raised to 8 months, subject to a maximum of one year during the whole period of service for all such leave in excess of one month for every eleven months' active service. Whilst the general principles of leave in Government Service are more or less adopted in Semi-Government Offices, minor departures are found to exist. In two cases furlough is allowed up to 5 years for 30 years' service.

In Railway Offices, all employees get one month's privilege leave on full pay for every year of duty, 10 days' casual leave also on full pay, and sick leave on medical certificate on half pay for one month per year in the case of indoor staff and for two months per year in the case of outdoor staff. Privilege leave can be accumulated for 3 months and sick leave for six months. The total period of sick leave that is allowed is limited to 3 years for the whole period of service. In the case of a large Engineering firm included in this group of offices, the amount of full pay leave is restricted to 15 days in a year which may be extended to 3 weeks in cases where an employee's home is situated at a long distance from Bombay.

There are no fixed rules with regard to leave in Banks; and in the case of some of the biggest Banks, the question of granting leave rests entirely

with the head of the Department concerned. The returns from Banks show that one month per year on full pay is given in three cases, a fortnight to 3 weeks per year in two cases, 2 weeks per year in three cases, and 3 weeks in one case. One Bank gives, in addition to 15 days' privilege leave on full pay, ten days' casual leave without any deduction of pay and 15 days' sick leave on half pay for each year of service. In one case 3 weeks' leave is granted at the end of one year's service and if this leave is not taken, 5 weeks are allowed at the end of two years.

In Solicitors' firms, no leave, except sick leave, is generally given during Court days and leave for periods varying from two or three weeks is only allowed during Court vacations. A reasonable amount of sick leave is generally permitted as necessity arises. One big firm gives leave on full pay for periods up to six months to those who have put in ten or more years of approved service and in one case leave on full pay was allowed for two years.

In Commercial Firms leave for one month on full pay is allowed in 38 offices out of about 120 which supplied information in this part of the form. In 43 cases leave on full pay is only given for 2 weeks. Eight firms give 3 weeks per year and in the majority of the remaining firms the amount of leave varies between 2 to 3 weeks per annum. In one case, only sick leave is allowed and in two cases 20 days' casual leave only is permitted. Speaking generally, there are no hard and fast rules governing leave in Commercial Houses and all leave rests, more or less, entirely at the discretion of the employers.

In Miscellaneous Offices there is a general uniformity of one month's leave on full pay for each year of service.

#### EXTRA ALLOWANCES FOR OVERTIME WORK

No extra allowances are given for overtime work in Railways and Semi-Government Offices. In the case of one large engineering firm, overtime is paid for at the same rates as those prevailing for ordinary work. Four Banks give such allowances. In two cases the rates are fixed on scales similar to those for ordinary work. In one case clerks who receive up to Rs. 50 per month are paid one rupee, those getting between Rs. 50 and Rs. 80, two rupees; and those drawing more than Rs. 80 receive three rupees for each day's additional work they are asked to do. In the remaining case, the rates vary from 8 annas to one rupee per hour.

Overtime rates are more generally found in Solicitors' Offices. In most cases, however, there are no set scales laid down and the extra allowances given are discretionary and depend upon the outturn and quality of the work put through. In Commercial Offices payments for overtime work were reported in 24 cases. In 8 offices these were based on daily rates of pay. In 4 cases, overtime was stated as given but no fixed standards were followed. One office pays one rupee after 6 p.m. up to 7-30 and Rs. 1-8-0 after 7-30. An extra half day's work is remunerated at Re. 1 per head and a full day's work at Rs. 1-8-0 per head. Another office pays Rs. 1-8-0 for an additional hour and a half's work before or after office hours to clerks drawing below Rs. 100 per month and Rs. 2 in the case of clerks drawing over Rs. 100. During Sundays and

holidays the allowances are Rs. 3 and Rs. 5 respectively. One office pays Rs. 3 per head for dinner and conveyance charges home. In two cases double the usual rates of pay are given for work done on holidays. A large firm of caterers gives one month's additional pay for extra work done during Christmas.

If the whole question is summarised it may be said that the payment of overtime allowances is an exception rather than a rule in the majority of offices in Bombay.

#### BONUS

No Bonuses are reported to have been paid to clerks in Railway Offices during the year 1924 but one department of a big Railway Office stated that men in the permanent cadre who are members of the Provident Fund receive a month's salary every year as bonus. One organisation in this group paid one month's bonus to all its employees for the year 1924.

Clerks in Semi-Government Offices do not receive any bonus but in one case one month's additional salary is given every year to all employees as an "Examination Allowance".

The returns, which were for July 1924, showed that the majority of Banks were giving bonuses to their staffs. The most frequent rate was ten per cent. of the total yearly salary. One Bank gave 16 per cent. One month's pay was given in two cases, one and a half months' pay in another and two months' pay in a third. One Bank paid one to two and a half months' pay to all its employees according to the responsibilities and the merits of the work of each.

In Solicitors' Firms bonuses are generally paid according to merit. Where a bonus is paid annually to the whole staff, the general rate is a half month's pay. In Miscellaneous Offices, a bonus was paid in 4 cases. In the Offices of the bigger clubs, included in this group, the amount of bonus payable was determined by the amount of contributions received for this purpose from members. One club was able to give one month's pay as bonus to all its employees whereas another gave two months' pay. In the offices of Employers and Commerce Associations the question of bonus is determined according to revenue and if the revenue justifies the payment of a bonus a half month's to one month's pay is given.

In Commercial Offices the question of the payment of a bonus is determined entirely according to profits. Where profits are large, handsome bonuses, amounting in some cases to an equivalent of three months pay, have been given. In many cases a lump sum is allocated for the purpose and a distribution is made on a basis of percentages of the amount earned by each individual during the year to the total annual salary bill of the office. In Indian firms, bonus is often added to the present given at the time of the annual ceremony of "Vhai Puja" during the Diwali (Hindu New Year) Festival. This ceremony is often held even in the offices of the Japanese and European Houses which follow the system of Indian book-keeping. The object of the ceremony is to invoke the blessings of the deities of Wealth and Commerce at the opening of the New Year's books. It is generally held on the evening of the last day of the Hindu Year. New silver rupees are washed in a mixture of milk, honey, ghee, sugar, ground turmeric, etc., and are placed in the office safe.

After the ceremony is over, presents in new silver rupees are given to all members of the staff.

In many European Houses the bonus is included in the "Xmas Box" often given to each member of the office staff. Generally a bonus is paid immediately after the annual accounts have been balanced. In 16 cases one month's salary was given and in five cases a half month's pay. Several firms stated that a bonus was paid but the specific nature of the method of distribution was not explained.

#### COMMISSION TO SALESMEN

The question of Commission to Salesmen only arises in Commercial Offices and no commissions were reported as paid to any of the employees in the other five groups of offices. The rates vary from 1/32nd per cent. to 5 per cent.; but as the rates proceed higher, the conditions under which commissions are paid alter considerably. The most usual rates are a quarter per cent. and a half per cent. These are generally allowed on F. O. B. values. In cases where the margin of profit is greater the rates of commission are one or even two per cent. Any rate higher than this generally indicates a commission on profits and not commission on F. O. B. value of order. Retail establishments give rates varying up to 10 per cent. on actual sales over the counter. Speaking generally there is no great uniformity in the rates of commission allowed.

#### Payment of Wages in Wet Weather

An interesting account of how a London firm of builders has recognized the genuine hardships of workers in the building trade in being "put off" in wet weather is given in the *Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers' Journal* for December, 1925. To ensure payment of wages in wet weather, the firm, which employs some 100 men, opened a "wet weather and wages fund" in 1922 to which the men contributed 6d. and the firm 3d. per week. After two years working of the scheme, it has been found that the men's contributions have remained unspent, and that the whole cost of payment of wages in wet weather has been met out of the 3d. per week paid by the firm. This is shown in the balance sheet given hereunder:—

Amount paid in upto 7th March 1925—

	£	s.	d.
Employees, 6d. per week per man	..	159	11 2
Firm, 3d. per week per man ..	..	79	15 7
		<hr/>	
		239	6 9
Amount paid out upto 7th March 1925—	£	s.	d.
Wet weather wages	..	54	14 10
Holidays	..	166	2 4
		<hr/>	
		220	17 2
Balance in hand ..		<hr/>	
		18	9 7

(From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, April 1926.)

## Quinquennial Review of Industrial Disputes in the Bombay Presidency

### Loss of 24 million working days in the last five years

The Labour Office of the Government of Bombay has now been in existence for five years during which period full and accurate statistics have been collected and published dealing with industrial disputes in this Presidency. The present article summarises these statistics and gives a general survey of the principal reasons for strikes, the manner of their ending and their effect on industry for the five years from the 1st April 1921 to 31st March 1926. The figures relate to the whole of the Bombay Presidency with the exception of Baroda State. The word "dispute" in the official sense means an interruption of work involving 10 or more persons and of not less than 24 hours' duration. In the statistics presented below, no distinction is made between strikes and lock-outs.

The total number of disputes amounted to 492. Of these 14 were strikes affecting more than one industrial concern as shown in the table below:—

#### 1.—Strikes affecting more than one establishment, industry or locality

Description	Number of factories and concerns affected.
1. Strike in Ahmedabad (7th Oct. 1921)	6 Spinning and Weaving Mills.
2. Do. do. (19th Oct. 1921 to 29th Oct. 1921.)	47 do. do.
3. Do. do. (27th Jan. 1922 to 28th Jan. 1922.)	13 do. do.
4. Do. Sholapur (2nd March 1922 to 24th March 1922.)	6 do. do.
5. Do. Karachi (10th March 1922 to 11th March 1922.)	5 Firms.
6. Do. Bombay (1st Aug. 1922 to 2nd Aug. 1922.)	34 Spinning and Weaving Mills.
7. Do. Surat (3rd Oct. 1922 to 23rd Oct. 1922.)	4 do. do.
8. Do. Ahmedabad (10th Nov. 1922 to 17th Nov. 1922.)	29 do. do.
9. Do. do. (1st April 1923 to 4th June 1923.)	56 do. do.
10. Do. Karachi (16th April 1923 to 26th April 1923.)	6 Firms.
11. Do. do. (25th May 1923)	6 do.
12. General strike in Bombay (17th Jan. 1924 to 25th March 1924.)	75 Spinning and Weaving Mills, 2 Silk Mills, 2 Woollen Mills, 2 Dyeworks.
13. Strike in Sind (17th April 1925 to 30th June 1925.)	Carriage and Loco Shops and Running Shed, Karachi; Fitting Staff, Kotri; Railway and Loco Carriage Shop and Engine Shed, Sukkur.
14. General Strike in Bombay (15th Sept. 1925 to 3rd Dec. 1925.)	76 Cotton Mills, 2 Silk Mills, 2 Dyeworks.

It is not intended in this article to examine these strikes in great detail for full particulars in connexion with them have been given in the tables

and articles published every month in the *Labour Gazette*. The following short summaries give the main features of each of these disputes.

(1) On the 7th October 1921, 289 mukadams and oilmen from six cotton mills in Ahmedabad struck work demanding a bonus equal to one month's pay. The managements of the mills affected immediately paid Rs. 36 to each striker drawing under Rs. 40 per month, Rs. 40 to those earning Rs. 40 per month and promised to give one month's pay to those who earned more than Rs. 40 per mensem. The workmen resumed work the same day and the result was completely successful from the view point of the employees.

(2) With the success of the above strike it was natural that a demand similar to that made by jobbers and mukadams would also be made by the general body of workmen employed in the Ahmedabad Cotton Mills. On the 19th October 1921, the workmen of nine cotton mills demanded a bonus amounting to 1½ month's pay, and when this demand was refused all the operatives of these nine mills went on strike. By the 26th October the strike had spread to 47 mills in all, of which 31 had completely closed down and 16 remained partially closed. Mr. M. K. Gandhi represented the case of the workers and Mr. Mangaldas that of the owners. When these two arbitrators failed to arrive at a satisfactory agreement, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya was asked to act as an umpire. Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya published his award on the night of the 28th October 1921 recommending (1) that to every one whose salary was below Rs. 75 per month a bonus equal to one month's average salary plus a sum of Rs. 15 should be given; the maximum not to exceed Rs. 75. In calculating the salary or the wages earned by time-workers or piece-workers the bonus earned for regular attendance or good work should be included. In the case of half-timers the bonus should be one month's salary plus Rs. 7-8-0; (2) that to every one whose salary was Rs. 75 or more a bonus of Rs. 75 should be given; (3) that the method of calculating the period of service of each employee should be the same as was adopted at the time of the settlement of the last bonus dispute; (4) that in calculating the period of service absence due to child-birth and accidents in the mills should be counted in such period. Other recommendations included suggestions for the removal of minor grievances. The strikers accepted the award of the umpire and normal working was resumed in all mills on the morning of the 29th October 1921. Although the result of this strike has been considered as a compromise it must be admitted that it was a very satisfactory conclusion from the view point of the workmen.

(3) Thirteen cotton mills in Ahmedabad were affected by a strike on the 27th January 1922 owing to the Mahomedan millhands demanding the weekly holiday on Friday instead of on Sunday. The number of workpeople affected amounted to 3,672. The Secretary of the Labour Union issued a mandate to the strikers to resume work until the question was decided by the Ahmedabad Millowners. The men accordingly resumed work unconditionally on the next day. This strike therefore ended unfavourably to the employees.

(4) On the 25th February 1922 the workpeople of all the six cotton mills in Sholapur made a joint representation by distributing leaflets

printed in Marathi to the Managers of their respective mills, demanding (1) that all workpeople who had been dismissed during the 1920 strike should be reinstated; (2) that the newly formed labour union should be recognised by the Sholapur millowners; and (3) that all representations of workers' grievances made through the Union should receive proper recognition. The operatives threatened that if these demands were not acceded to within 8 days, they would go on strike. The men, however, did not wait till the period of the expiry of the notice and 18,000 operatives struck work on the 2nd March 1922. Two mills which attempted to re-start on the next day found that it was not possible to continue work on account of the rowdyism of the strikers. The owners consequently declared a lock-out which continued up to the 16th March. On the 17th, 3,500 men resumed work unconditionally and 3 mills began partial working. By the 24th March normal working had been resumed.

(5) About 150 daily wage labourers engaged in sewing up filled gunny bags for shipment in five commercial firms at Karachi struck work on the 10th March 1922 demanding an increase of 4 annas per head in their daily rates of wages. The firms affected were Messrs. Ralli Bros., Messrs. Strauss & Co., Messrs. Louis Dreyfus & Co., Messrs. Sanday Patrick & Co., and Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co. The Jamedars and the contractors of these companies carried on the work in the absence of the coolies, but on the next day the strikers in the first three firms resumed work as their wages were increased. The men in the other two firms did not return to work as their employers no longer required their services. This strike thus resulted favourably to the employees of the first three firms and unfavourably to those of the other firms.

(6) The strike which occurred in the cotton mills of Bombay in August 1922 can hardly be termed a dispute according to the accepted meaning of this term. 61,000 odd strikers in 34 cotton mills in Bombay struck work on the 1st August 1922 on account of the second anniversary of the death of Mr. B. G. Tilak. On the next day all the strikers returned to work peacefully. The question whether the result of this strike was favourable or otherwise to the employees does not arise because the strike was organised only for abstention from work for one day in honour of a departed national leader.

(7) The strike of October 1922 in the cotton mills of Surat was due to the demand for the payment of the usual annual bonus. 2,296 out of 2,765 workers in the 4 cotton mills of Surat went on strike on the 3rd October and elected a committee of 20 representatives from their ranks to negotiate with the owners on their behalf. The owners proposed to give bonuses calculated on varying percentages of the previous year's bonus except one mill which was to give no bonus. The strikers refused to accept this offer and made a counter offer of their own, asking for a bonus equivalent to 42½ per cent. of the average monthly pay for the last 12 months but agreeing to work for one day without wages as a punishment for going on strike without notice. On the 11th the operatives of the Surat Weaving Mills submitted a petition to the Collector and District Magistrate to arbitrate with the owners on their behalf. The workmen of the Surat Spinning and

Weaving Mills presented their case to the Collector through a local pleader. On the 12th and 13th all the operatives of the Hatim Mills and Surat Weaving Mills resumed work. The men of the Surat Spinning and Weaving Mills resumed work on the 14th in accordance with the settlement arrived at in that mill as a result of the intervention of the Collector. The men of the Industrial Mills refused to accept a bonus of 25 per cent. which was offered to them by the Management and decided to have their wages paid up. There was no change in the situation in this mill till the 19th when 370 men returned to work unconditionally. Of the remaining employees, 171 hands were paid off on the 20th and the rest on the 23rd. The result of this dispute was on the whole not successful to the employees.

(8) The next big strike which occurred in the Ahmedabad Cotton Mills in November 1922 also arose over the question of the payment of the annual bonus. The arbitrators elected by the Millowners' Association and the Labour Union gave their award on the 1st October. Whilst the negotiations in connexion with the question as to the payment of this bonus were in progress between the Association and the Union, the Association put forward certain proposals to reduce the "Moghware" (dearness) allowance granted to spinners whilst high prices prevailed. The throstlemen in 29 cotton mills, however, impatient at the delay in the payment of the bonus, struck work on the 10th November 1922. The President of the Millowners' Association promised to give a sympathetic hearing to the case of the workers if work was resumed. The operatives of 10 mills accordingly resumed work on the 12th November, of 13 mills on the 13th, of 5 mills on the 14th and of 1 mill on the 17th November. The result of this strike was mainly favourable to the employees in all the mills except one where some new hands were engaged and some were admitted only on payment of a fine of Rs. 3 each.

(9) The strike in the cotton mills in Ahmedabad of the year 1923 was by far the larger and the most disastrous from the workers point of view that has ever occurred in that city. It affected 56 out of 61 working mills in that locality, involved 43,113 workpeople and resulted in a total time loss of 2,370,933 working days. It began on the 1st April 1923 and continued till the 4th June 1923. The reasons for the strike were (1) the announcement that the millowners in Ahmedabad would reduce wages by 20 per cent. with effect from 1st April 1923; and (2) the alleged non-payment by many mills of the bonus on the precise terms agreed on by the arbitrators to whom the settlement of this question was referred. The strike lasted for 64 days and the men were almost completely defeated. On the 4th June a compromise was arrived at by the terms of which (1) wages were to be reduced by 15.58 per cent. instead of by 20 per cent.; and (2) the question of the interpretation of the last bonus award was to be again referred to arbitration. The President of the Millowners' Association also gave an assurance that wages would not be reduced again for at least six months from the date of the compromise.

(10) The strike of 650 employees out of a total number of 2,000 labourers employed by six commercial firms in Karachi which occurred in April 1923 has a close parallel to the similar strike in Karachi of the year 1922.

In the present case these workers went on strike on the 16th April 1923 demanding enhanced wages and the removal of certain grievances such as extortion by tindals. During the first week of the strike the men unsuccessfully endeavoured to persuade the Pathan labourers in the Karachi Docks to join them as well. On the 26th April work was resumed on a promise being made to the effect that the employers would favourably consider the question of an increase in wages. This strike thus ended in favour of the employees.

(11) The six firms referred to in the above dispute were again affected by another strike on the 25th May 1923. On this occasion the cause was a demand for the payment of Rs. 2 per day instead of Rs. 1-12-0 as was hitherto paid. 160 sack sewers were affected. The increase of 4 annas demanded was immediately granted and work was resumed forthwith.

(12) The general strike of 1924 in the cotton mill industry in Bombay City had its origin in the no-bonus decision of the millowners of Bombay. The men had been paid bonus regularly for five years and had come to regard its payment as an annual affair. The bonus was usually paid in the middle of January in each year along with the pay due for the month of December. When the bonus was not paid at pay-time in January, the operatives of one mill demanded the payment of bonus on the 17th January and on its being refused went on strike. The strike-fever soon spread and in about a week almost all the cotton mills in Bombay had to close down. On the 22nd February 1924, His Excellency the Governor of Bombay appointed a Committee of Enquiry with the Honourable Sir Norman Macleod, Kt., Chief Justice of the High Court in Bombay, as Chairman to enquire into the dispute. The terms of reference were (1) to consider the nature and basis of the bonus which was granted to the employees in the cotton mills of Bombay since 1919 and to declare whether the employees had established any enforceable claim, customary, legal or equitable; and (2) to enquire into the profits made in each year since 1917 with a view to comparing these profits with the profits made in the year 1923, and to report on the contention of the millowners that the grant of a bonus such as was given in previous years was not justified by the profits of the mill industry as a whole in 1923. The findings of the Committee on these points were submitted to Government on the 11th March and were (1) that the mill workers had not established any enforceable claim, customary, legal or equitable to the annual payment of a bonus; and (2) that the results of the working of the mill industry as a whole for the year 1923 were such as to justify the contention of the millowners that the profits did not admit of the payment of a bonus. The strike, however, did not terminate till the 25th March when work was resumed in almost all the mills although with considerably reduced staff due to the fact that there was an almost general exodus of all up-country workers to their homes before the strike ended.

(13) The N. W. Railway strike of 1925 is the only important Railway strike which has occurred in the Bombay Presidency during the last five years. The remote cause of the dispute was the secession from the N. W. Railway Union of Mr. J. B. Miller who in conjunction with Messrs. Hall and M. A. Khan started agitation against the recognised union. In

addition to indeterminate demands for increases in pay the men's demands included an eight hour day, reinstatement of men dismissed in 1922, 50 per cent. increase of pay when no free quarters were given, no one who had served more than five years to be dismissed, all retrenched employees to be reinstated, all union fees to be recovered by the Railway administration from the pay of the men and credited to the union, etc.

The unrest was originally confined to the Punjab but spread to the Bombay Presidency on the 17th April when 2,223 workmen of the N. W. Railway Carriage and Loco Shops and the Running Shed at Karachi struck work in sympathy with the strikers at Rawalpindi and other stations on the N. W. Railway line in the Punjab. 154 railwaymen at Kotri and 742 men from the Loco and Carriage Shops and Engine Shed at Sukkur joined the strike on the 20th. By the 7th June the total number of workmen affected at Karachi, Kotri and Sukkur amounted to 6,186. The Punjab strikers resumed work on the 19th June from which date the railwaymen affected in the Bombay Presidency also started resuming work in increasingly larger numbers until conditions had become normal on the 30th June. No settlement was reported in the case of this strike, but it would appear that the employees failed completely in getting any of their grievances redressed.

(14) The last big strike in the Bombay Presidency was the general strike in the cotton mills in Bombay City and Kurla at the end of the year 1925. This dispute may be considered as by far the biggest and the most important industrial dispute that has ever occurred in India. Full details in connexion with the progress of this dispute of which a summary is given below have been published from time to time in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* from October 1925 to January 1926.

The strike had its origin in the decision arrived at by the Bombay Millowners' Association in July 1925 to reduce the wages of all workpeople in the mills affiliated to the Association by eleven and a half per cent. with effect from the 1st September 1925. The millowners stated that they were forced to reduce wages on account of the severe and unprecedented depression which had overtaken the cotton mill industry in India during the year 1925 on account of (1) high prices ruling for cotton; (2) increased costs of production due principally to the high standard of wages paid to workpeople and generally to increased prices of coal and stores and heavier interest charges; (3) Japanese competition; (4) the maintenance of an excise duty of three and a half per cent. on cotton manufactures; and (5) unprecedented accumulations of cloth and yarn due to the demand for cloth not keeping pace with production. Several representations were made to the Government of India urging them to abolish the Excise Duty entirely or, alternatively, to suspend the collection of this duty for the remainder of the current financial year. The millowners maintained that the non-collection of the duty would afford relief to the industry to the extent of nearly a crore of rupees which would help to tide over an exceptionally critical period. Proposals were also put before Government to afford protection to the industry either by increasing the import duty on Japanese cotton manufactures and/or by the levy of an export duty on raw cotton purchased by Japan in India. His Excellency the

Viceroy in his reply to the address presented to him by a joint deputation of the Bombay and the Ahmedabad Millowners' Associations said that it was impossible to remove the excise duty in the middle of the financial year before the commitments and the prospects of the next year were fully known, and that it would only be at the time of the next budget that the situation could be thoroughly reviewed and a proper estimate formed. His Excellency pointed out (1) that the remission of Provincial Contributions to the Central Exchequer was the first charge on the consideration of the Government of India; (2) that the position of the industry could not be considered at that juncture to be so exceedingly critical as to justify the abolishing of the duty; and (3) that the duty would be abolished as soon as financial considerations permitted.

The millowners stated that in view of the very unsatisfactory reply received from the Government to their various representations regarding the abolishing of the Excise Duty they had no other alternative left open to them except to call on their workpeople to share the burden of the bad and difficult times through which the industry was passing and to consent to a cut in their wages.

The workpeople refused to agree to any reduction in their wages. They stated (1) that they had obtained the increases granted to them in the shape of dearness allowances on their pre-war wages as the result of several hard and bitter struggles during which they lost very heavily owing to loss of wages for the periods for which they were on strike; (2) that the present rates of wages received by them were insufficient to provide for a decent standard of living; and (3) that the millowners ought to hold an enquiry with a view to effecting a decrease in the cost of production by retrenchment in other directions. Labour leaders, after consulting the workpeople, offered to meet the millowners half way by agreeing to follow the example of Lancashire and to work shorter hours with a view to lessening the evils of over-production. The millowners contended that if the working hours were reduced by one day's work in a week the wages of the workmen would be reduced by  $16\frac{2}{3}$  per cent. instead of by  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. as proposed by the owners; and that the proposal for going on short time was not feasible in view of the fact that the cost of production would go up by five-eighths of an anna per lb. of cloth which would only result in still further increasing the prices of cloth and making it more difficult to sell the products of the mills in the home market against competitive Japanese goods. The millowners therefore adhered to their decision to cut wages and the men went out on strike.

As is usual with strikes in India, no warning was given of the threatened strike. 33,249 workpeople from 15 mills suddenly downed tools on the 15th September and by the 2nd of October there was a complete stoppage of work in all the mills in the city. The two cotton mills at Kurla, employing a total number of 4,600 workpeople and which are usually the last to be affected by a strike in the Bombay mills, were also compelled to close down on the 6th October. The total number of workpeople involved in the general strike therefore amounted to 151,986.

Several meetings were arranged between the owners and the representatives of the men, and His Excellency the Governor received frequent deputations from time to time from both parties with a view to formulating some basis for a compromise. Several discussions also took place on the subject in the Legislative Assembly and in the Bombay Legislative Council. The only point on which there appeared to be a general unanimity was the necessity for the immediate suspension of the Excise Duty. His Excellency the Governor and the Government of Bombay made representations to the Government of India to suspend the duty and the Press in India constantly demanded its total abolition. Both the parties to the dispute remained quite firm in the respective standpoints which they had taken up and the strike dragged on till the end of November, when, at length, His Excellency the Viceroy suspended, by Special Ordinance, the collection of the Excise Duty with effect from the 1st December 1925.

In view of the repeated assurances given by the Bombay Millowners' Association that the old rates of wages would be restored in the event of the Excise Duty being removed, the strike virtually ended as soon as the Ordinance was published. The mills started their engines from the 3rd December onwards according as sufficient numbers of workpeople offered themselves for employment; but the strike cannot be considered to have terminated on that date in view of the almost complete exodus of upcountry workers to their homes. On the 7th December only 44,584 or nearly 30 per cent. of the workpeople had returned to work and on the 13th December 88,388 or nearly 60 per cent. The total number of working days lost as a result of the strike amounted to nearly eleven millions. If the average daily earnings of all workpeople in the mills in Bombay City be taken as Re. 1-4-2 according to the figure published by the Labour Office in its second Report on an Enquiry into Wages and Hours of Labour in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Bombay Presidency in August 1923, the workpeople lost 137 lakhs of rupees in wages during this strike.

#### *General Effects of all Disputes*

Out of the 14 strikes described above which have occurred in the Bombay Presidency during the last five years, 4 disputes were on account of a demand for the payment of bonus; and of these 4 only 1 resulted entirely favourably to the employees. Seven disputes arose over questions of increase or reduction in rates of wages, out of which one resulted unfavourably to the workers. Of the remaining three disputes one was over the question of a change in the day for the weekly holiday, one on personal grounds and the third was due to a political cause. In the first two the men were not successful. In the last case neither success nor failure can be registered although it may be considered to have terminated unfavourably to the workers on account of the loss of pay suffered.

The general effects of all the 492 disputes which have occurred in the Bombay Presidency during the quinquennium under review are shown

in the two following tables (1) by localities, and (2) by classes of concerns:—

### II.—General Effects of Disputes by Localities

Locality	Total number of disputes in 5 years from April 1921 to 31st March 1926	Total number of work-people affected		Total number of working days lost
		Directly	Indirectly	
Bombay	249	528,616	57,265	20,259,372
Ahmedabad ..	167	120,202	1,430	2,579,411
Gujarat (excluding Ahmedabad)	39	16,534	—	162,337
Deccan	19	32,078	—	442,144
Sind	18	12,282	94	403,066
Total	492	709,712	58,789	23,846,330

As will be seen from the above table 249 or over 50 per cent. of the total number of disputes occurred in Bombay City; 167 or 40 per cent. occurred in Ahmedabad; 39 or 8 per cent. in Gujarat (excluding Ahmedabad City), 19 in the Deccan and 18 in Sind. Out of 709,712 workpeople directly affected in these disputes 528,616 or nearly 75 per cent. were involved in Bombay City and 120,202 or 17 per cent. in Ahmedabad City. By far the greater majority of the workpeople indirectly involved in these disputes is to be found in Bombay. The total number of working days lost amounted to 23,846,330 out of which the time loss for Bombay City alone amounted to 20,259,372 working days or 85 per cent.

### III.—General Effect of Disputes by Industries concerned

Class of Industrial Concern	Total number of disputes in 5 years from April 1921 to 31st March 1926	Total number of workmen affected		Total number of working days lost
		Directly	Indirectly	
Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills	385	647,542	57,405	22,509,743
Woollen (Hosiery, etc.) Mills	2	286	610	3,796
Silk Mills	3	1,605	—	2,938
Flour and Oil Mills ..	6	1,389	180	7,982
Metal and Engineering Works—private	16	2,430	—	6,399
Railway workshops ..	14	29,204	594	763,221
Railway Others	14	3,591	—	17,745
Printing Presses and allied concerns	7	1,340	—	18,422
Harbour and Docks ..	4	8,950	—	437,728
Government and Public concerns.	9	1,071	—	7,050
Municipalities	6	4,515	—	12,807
Others ..	26	7,789	—	58,499
Total ..	492	709,712	58,789	23,846,330

If the statistics given in the first table are re-classified according to industries concerned, it will be seen that cotton spinning and weaving mills are responsible for 78 per cent. of the total number of disputes. The percentage of workpeople directly affected in the disputes in cotton spinning and weaving mills was 91.2 per cent. of the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes. With regard to the amount of time loss more than twenty-two and a half million working days were lost to the cotton mill industry alone. The percentage of time loss in the cotton industry to the total time loss for the whole Presidency is 94.4. Railway workshops were affected to the extent of about three quarters of a million working days and Harbour and Docks to about sixty thousand short of half a million.

### Causes of Disputes

The causes which most frequently lead to industrial disputes in the Presidency may be classified under the following seven main heads:—

1. Pay and allowances
2. Hours of work and leave conditions
3. Dismissal or reinstatement of particular individuals
4. Bonus
5. Conditions of work, Discipline, etc.
6. Political
7. Others.

The first four heads are self-explanatory. "Conditions of work" relates very largely to the alleged supply of bad yarn or insufficiency of work. The term "Political" mainly refers, in the case of the present review, to the cases in which workers demanded a day off on account of the anniversary of the death of Mr. B. G. Tilak. The following table summarises the causes of disputes by localities:—

### IV.—Causes of Disputes by Localities

Locality	Number of disputes assignable to the following causes							
	Pay and allowances	Hours of work and leave conditions	Dismissal or reinstatement of individuals	Bonus	Conditions of work, Discipline, etc.	Political	Others	Total
Bombay	140	12	43	12	17	19	6	249
Ahmedabad ..	42	7	58	28	25	1	6	167
Gujarat (excluding Ahmedabad)	21	1	3	9	5	—	—	39
Deccan	8	—	2	4	1	—	4	19
Sind	11	—	4	—	2	—	1	18
Total	222	20	110	53	50	20	17	492
Percentage Total	45.1	4.1	22.3	10.8	10.2	4.1	3.4	100.0

Disputes regarding remuneration occupied the predominant position and accounted for more than 45 per cent. of the total number of disputes in the Presidency. The next important position is occupied by disputes on account of "personnel," i.e., demands for the dismissal of a particular individual, generally a jobber or a Mukadam; and the reinstatement of individuals also mostly jobbers and Mukadams. These disputes amounted to 22.3 per cent. of all disputes. The disputes on account of demands for payment of bonus and Conditions of work, Discipline, etc., amounted to a little more than ten per cent. in each case. The number of disputes on account of Hours of work and Leave conditions is 20 or slightly more than 4 per cent. The disputes under this head were generally confined to questions concerning leave rules.

The following table classifies the statistics presented in the preceding table according to Classes of Concerns:—

#### V.—Causes of Disputes by Industries Concerned

Class of Industrial Concern	Number of disputes assignable to following causes						
	Pay and allowances	Hours of work and leave conditions	Dismissal or reinstatement of individuals	Bonus	Conditions of work, Discipline, etc.	Political	Others
Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills	165	15	93	45	38	16	13
Woollen (Hosiery, etc.) Mills	1		1				
Silk Mills				1			
Flour and Oil Mills		1			1		
Metal and Engineering Works—private	7	2	2		1	3	
Railway Workshops	3		6		5		
Railway—Others	9		3		2		
Printing Presses and allied concerns	2		2		1		1
Harbour and Docks	3						
Government and Public Concerns	9						
Municipalities	4			1			1
Others	15	2		2	2		2
Total	222	20	110	53	50	20	17

This table brings out several interesting features. Firstly, if cotton spinning and weaving mills are excluded, every industry shows one or more disputes connected with the question of Pay and allowances. Secondly, there were no disputes in connexion with Hours of Work and Conditions of Leave in Woollen and Silk Mills, Printing Presses, Municipalities, Railways, Harbour and Docks and Government and Public Concerns. Thirdly, disputes over the question of demands for dismissal or reinstatement of particular individuals are largely found to occur in cotton mills. Out of 110 disputes under this head, 93 or nearly

85 per cent. occurred in Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills. Fourthly, if we exclude the 45 disputes which occurred in cotton mills over the question of "Bonus", the remaining eight disputes under this head are almost equally distributed under seven other classes of industries. As has already been pointed out above, the disputes on account of Conditions of Work are generally due to the alleged supply of poor material. It is therefore natural to expect that more than 75 per cent. of such disputes would be found in cotton mills. Apart from three disputes in Metal and Engineering Works which arose on political grounds, all the remaining 17 disputes under this head occurred in Textile Mills.

#### General Effects of Disputes by Causes of Disputes

The following table summarises the statistics in connexion with the number of workpeople affected on account of different causes of disputes in each centre in the Presidency:—

#### VI.—Workers Involved by Causes of Disputes

Causes of disputes	Total number of workpeople involved in 5 years from 1st April 1921 to 31st March 1926					
	Bombay	Ahmedabad	Gujarat*	Deccan	Sind	Total
Pay and allowances	212,467	60,683	8,701	7,645	7,916	296,812
Hours of work and leave conditions	12,812	6,694	337			19,843
Dismissal or reinstatement of individuals	17,907	8,018	341	850	3,702	30,818
Bonus	176,701	38,486	6,205	3,263		224,655
Conditions of work, Discipline, etc.	19,672	4,866	950	500	164	25,852
Political	81,740	275				82,015
Others	7,317	1,180		20,720	500	29,727
Total	528,616	120,202	16,534	32,078	12,182	709,712

\*Excluding Ahmedabad.

The predominant position is occupied by the numbers affected over disputes in connexion with Pay and allowances. Taking the totals for the whole Presidency we find that 296,812 workers, or 41.8 per cent. of the total number of persons affected, were involved in strikes and lock-outs which arose over the question of remuneration excluding demands for bonus. "Bonus" was responsible for affecting 224,655 workers or 31.65 per cent. of the total. Under the remaining heads, no other cause of disputes with the exception of "Political" involved more than 31,000 persons during the quinquennium under review. If remuneration is considered to include bonus we find that 389,168 or 55 per cent. of the total number of workers affected were connected with disputes under this head in Bombay City and 99,169 or 14 per cent. in Ahmedabad. The

following table summarises the statistics in connexion with the time loss in the same way—

VII.—Working Days lost by Causes of Disputes

Causes of disputes	Total number of working days lost in 5 years from 1st April 1921 to 31st March 1926					
	Bombay	Ahmedabad	Gujarat*	Deccan	Sind	Total
Pay and allowances, Hours of work and leave conditions ..	11,829,287	2,411,039	105,800	102,904	388,635	14,837,665
Dismissal or reinstatement of individuals ..	53,561	15,798	2,359			71,718
Bonus ..	236,363	34,275	2,911	7,850	13,696	295,095
Conditions of work, Discipline, etc. ..	7,702,210	101,526	46,585	37,403		7,887,724
Political ..	328,581	12,418	4,682	800	235	346,716
Others ..	94,321	1,075				95,396
	15,049	3,280		293,187	500	312,016
Total ..	20,259,372	2,579,411	162,337	442,144	403,066	23,846,330

\* Excluding Ahmedabad.

If the figures for the time lost in connexion with disputes over the questions of Pay and allowances and Bonus are totalled, we find that 95·3 per cent. of the total number of working days lost on account of the disputes in the Bombay Presidency during the last five years were lost through disputes regarding remuneration. Considering the different centres individually we find that there are only 3 figures for numbers of working days lost which go over a million: (1) 11,829,287 under "Pay and allowances" in Bombay; (2) 2,411,039 under the same head in Ahmedabad; and (3) 7,702,210 under "Bonus" in Bombay. The predominance of these three figures is due to the three big general strikes which occurred in the Cotton Mill Industry in 1923, 1924 and 1925.

Duration of Disputes

The following table sets out the details in connexion with the duration of disputes:—

VIII.—Duration of Disputes by Localities

Locality	Number of disputes lasting					
	1 Day	2—5 Days	6—15 Days	16—30 Days	31—60 Days	Above 60 days
Bombay .. .. .	58	100	71	10	6	4
Ahmedabad .. .. .	52	77	31	3	3	1
Gujarat (excluding Ahmedabad) .. .. .	8	10	12	5	4	....
Deccan .. .. .	3	6	5	4	1	....
Sind .. .. .	4	9	4	..	..	1
Total .. .. .	125	202	123	22	14	6

The figures given in this table are given in terms of calendar days and not working days; or, in other words, holidays are not excluded. For example, if a dispute begins on the 10th of a month and lasts till the 24th of the same month (both days inclusive) and there are two holidays during the period covered, the duration of the dispute for the purposes of this table would be given as 15 days whereas the number of days which would enter into the calculations for time loss would be the number of actual working days only, i.e., 13. It will be seen that 125 or 25 per cent. of the total number of disputes lasted for one day only. 450 or 91 per cent. were settled within a fortnight. The most common duration is two to five days and the most frequently recurring period is four days. Six disputes however lasted for over two months.

Results of Disputes

The statistics in connexion with the results of disputes have been classified under the following five heads:—

- (1) Entirely favourable to workers
- (2) Mainly favourable to workers
- (3) Mainly unfavourable to workers
- (4) Entirely unfavourable to workers and
- (5) Results unknown.

The following table shows by causes of disputes, the manner in which the disputes resulted from the point of view of the workers:—

IX.—Result by Causes of Disputes

Disputes assignable to following causes	Entirely favourable to workers	Mainly favourable to workers	Mainly unfavourable to workers	Entirely unfavourable to workers	Results unknown	Total
Pay and allowances .. .. .	29	37	1	145	10	222
Hours of work and leave conditions .. .. .	2	2	1	14	1	20
Dismissal and reinstatement of individuals .. .. .	10	5		92	3	110
Bonus .. .. .	19	9		24	1	53
Conditions of work, Discipline, etc. .. .. .	10	7		32	1	50
Political .. .. .	..	1	..	18	1	20
Others .. .. .	1	3	..	10	3	17
Total .. .. .	71	64	2	335	20	492
Percentage to Total .. .. .	14·4	13·0	0·4	68·1	4·1	100·0

Out of a total of 492 disputes during the period covered, 335 or 68·1 per cent. ended entirely unfavourably to the workers and only 135 or 27·4 per cent. ended either entirely favourably or mainly favourably. The number of disputes in which the workers had complete success amounted

to 71 or 14·4 per cent. The only cause of disputes in which more than half the strikes ended favourably to the strikers was "Bonus," but it must be remembered that since the complete failure of the great bonus dispute which occurred in Bombay at the beginning of 1924, there have been no disputes anywhere in the Bombay Presidency mainly on this issue; but a demand for a bonus has been coupled with various other demands for increased pay and removal of grievances in several strikes since April 1924. Disputes relating to "Dismissal or reinstatement of individuals" ended unfavourably to the strikers in by far the greater number of cases and the same remark applies to disputes assignable to "Conditions of work, Discipline, etc." Of the 20 political strikes, 18 ended entirely unfavourably. The meaning of this is simply that having demanded a holiday on political grounds and been refused, the strikers absented themselves from work but received no pay for the day in question.

#### Month of Commencement of Disputes

The following table shows the month in which each dispute commenced:—

#### X.—Disputes according to Months of Commencement by Localities.

Locality	Disputes commencing in											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Bombay	18	28	12	21	27	19	20	31	25	16	12	20
Ahmedabad..	11	10	15	17	14	5	9	13	9	24	33	7
Gujarat (ex- cluding Ahmed- abad)	4	2	4	2	1		5	4	2	7	6	2
Deccan	4	1	2	1	2		3			2	2	2
Sind	1		3	4	1	1	1	2		1	2	
Total ..	38	41	36	45	45	25	38	50	36	52	55	31

This table was compiled with a view to ascertaining whether the season of the year has any influence on industrial unrest, it having been observed that in many countries the proletariat is more liable to spasmodic outbursts of passion in hot weather than in cold. A careful perusal of the figures in the above table will show that there is no ground for deducing a climatic influence in the case of the disputes under review. The smallest number of disputes will be found to have occurred in the month of June and the largest number in the month of November. Considering the Presidency as a whole, June is one of the hottest months in the year and November one of the coldest. The periods of big festivals such as *Naral Purnima*, *Ganesh Chaturthi*, *Divali* and *Holi* which generally occur in August, September, November and March also do not appear to have had any appreciable effect on causing industrial disputes, because the months

in which the largest number of disputes occurred are April and May each with 45, August, October and November. February also shows 41 disputes. The figures therefore do not reveal any specific tendency to show that industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency are more likely to begin in any particular month or months during the year. The slight predominance of the disputes in October and November may, however, be partially attributed to the harvesting season in agriculture, but the series of figures given do not justify this conclusion being drawn from them.

#### Subsistence Wage Experiments

The attempts which are being made in the iron and steel industry to adjust wage rates in accordance with the ability of the industry to pay and at the same time to ensure the payment of a reasonable subsistence amount to the workers, are producing a somewhat chaotic position from the point of view of the statistician who desires to measure relative wage levels, but they have much interest for the student of the various wage theories. Normally, of course, wages in the industry are adjusted by the simple process of varying the percentage addition to basis rates at regular intervals in correspondence with movements in the selling prices of iron and steel. The modifications which have been made in this arrangement in recent months are of two main types. In the first place, special bonuses were granted to the lower-paid workers, in addition to the wages as determined by the normal method. More recently there has been a widespread application of arrangements whereby reductions in wages warranted by a fall in prices have been postponed or waived. The combination of these two types of modification with the normal method of wage regulation has produced somewhat confused, but interesting results. Two examples may be quoted. In the steel-smelting shops in the North of England, a bonus varying in amount according to earnings, has been paid for some time to the lower-paid men. Under arrangements recently made, the last reduction in the percentage addition to basis rates, due under the sliding scale, has been postponed in the case of the workers who are in receipt of the bonus. The lower-paid men thus receive 6½ per cent. more on their basis rates than the higher-paid workers, and also a bonus of anything up to 7s. a week. At the Cumberland blast furnaces the position is still more complicated. The percentage addition to basis rates has ceased to fluctuate, pending a rise in selling prices, but the percentage addition to output bonus earnings continues to be varied at two-monthly intervals. The lower-paid workers, in this case also, receive a flat-rate bonus of the subsistence type, which is subject to the provision that no man shall receive less than 41s. a week. These arrangements are all of a temporary nature, but they establish a precedent for the recognition of the principle of the subsistence wage, and they illustrate certain methods by which the principle can be applied in cases of exceptional economic conditions, without undue interference with the normal method of wage regulation. (From "Economist," London, April 3, 1926.)

## Middle Class Unemployment in Bombay City\*

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An enquiry into the problem of Unemployment of the Middle Classes, particularly the lower middle class, in Bombay City has been engaging the attention of the public for some time past and members of Legislative Councils in Bombay and elsewhere are pressing for the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the problem and suggest solutions. The senior statistics students of the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics selected this subject for a statistical investigation this year with a view primarily to get practical training in their statistical studies and also incidentally to collect data which might throw some light on this important question of the day. There are always some difficulties in investigations of this nature when carried out by college students. The work can only be carried on during their leisure hours. Student-investigators lack the status, training and experience which are valuable assets of the trained and qualified investigators of organised statistical departments like the Bombay Labour Office for example, and there cannot be a uniform standard of accuracy attained by the different student-investigators. Besides, the problem itself is difficult to investigate. There are so many factors involved,—and several of these are incommensurable,—that it is difficult to feel satisfied with the results achieved. The unemployed middle class person is difficult to get at and it is harder still to get from him the data that one desires to collect. The investigation obviously therefore cannot be regarded as thorough in any sense and the results cannot be regarded as conclusive. I present here however the main results of the enquiry in the hope that they will contribute something to the analysis of middle class unemployment in Bombay and furnish data which may help to suggest some solution.

The term 'lower middle class' can have no clear cut limits of income. Status and the standard of living help to determine the middle class but the income too is a factor which cannot be ignored. The term was therefore defined so as to include persons of the middle class whose monthly incomes ranged from Rs. 50 to Rs. 250. Less than Rs. 50 per mensem, it was recognised, would reduce the middle class man almost to the level of the working classes while more than Rs. 250 per mensem would elevate him to the ranks of the upper middle class. Another term that needed clarification was 'unemployment'. It was held that a person thrown out of employment need not be taken as 'unemployed' until he has remained unemployed for at least three months and that a person seeking employment for the first time need not be included in the ranks of the unemployed till six months at least have elapsed since he left off studies to earn a living.

In all, 192 schedules were collected. This is certainly far too small a number on which to base reliable conclusions and the schedules cannot,

\* The views expressed in this article are Professor Kaji's own.—Ed., "Labour Gazette."

of course, be regarded as in any sense representative of the community studied.

Table I—Distribution by Religion

Religion	Number of cases	Percentage to total
Hindu	128	66.51
Parsi	32	16.77
Christian	26	13.61
Jain	5	2.62
Total	191	100.00

It would appear at first sight from the above table as if (a) unemployment were greater among the Parsis and the Christians, for the percentage of their cases to the total is higher than the percentages of these communities to the general population in the city, and (b) that unemployment is not so marked among Mahomedans. But, in the absence of correct random sampling, and in view of the fact that the student-investigators got the schedules filled in when and where they could get hold of an unemployed lower middle class person, such conclusions would not obviously be warranted. The Parsis and the Christians frequent public libraries to scan the 'Wanted' columns of the dailies in greater numbers relatively than the others do; moreover it is possible that the Mahomedan middle class may, unlike the other communities, be found largely in the category of small employers and shopkeepers. The utility of this table would appear to be in its indication that the number of cases investigated among the Jains, and particularly the Mahomedans, are too few to warrant any useful deductions therefrom.

Table II—Academic Qualifications and Religions

Academic Qualifications.	Religion				
	Hindu	Parsi	Christian	Jain	Total
Non-matriculantes ..	65	21	21	5	112
Matriculantes ..	42	10	4	..	56
Under-Graduates ..	10	1	1	..	12
Graduates ..	11	..	..	..	11
Total ..	128	32	26	5	191

The distribution of the unemployed by academic qualifications and religion brings out clearly the fact that unemployment is more common, as may be expected, among the less qualified sections of the communities. 51 per cent. of the Hindu cases are those of non-matriculantes; the Parsi percentage is 66, and among the Christians it is 81. It is however peculiar

that unemployed persons with the better qualifications are in greater evidence among the Hindus and that among the unemployed graduates, all are Hindus. This may have been due to insufficient sampling, but it may also be due either to the greater efficiency, usefulness and adaptability of the Parsi and Christian under-graduates and graduates which keep them longer out of the retrenchment lists, or to the greater facilities for re-employment, because of the higher class consciousness of these communities. It is however a pity that 41 per cent. of the unemployed should belong to the fairly educated sections of the people, and it is but a sad commentary on the system of education that obtains in this country that even persons who have completed their secondary education and persons who have entered colleges and obtained a University degree too should be thus 'unemployed'. Education certainly is not to be assessed in terms of rupees, annas and pies; but it should certainly be expected to equip persons with such knowledge as would make their entry into the ranks of the unemployed, if not impossible at least a remote contingency. Unemployment among the manual workers, the working classes, one can understand; but unemployment among the educated middle class persons, unemployment of the brain workers, one cannot but view with alarm, indicating as it does, something wrong with the educational system.

Table III—Distribution by age and religion

Age groups	Hindus		Parsis		Christians		Jains	
	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
Under 20 years	4	3.1			3	11.5		
20-25	49	38.3	4	12.5	10	38.6	2	40
25-30	38	29.7	9	28.1	5	19.3	2	40
30-35	14	10.9	8	25.0	3	11.5	1	20
35-40	11	8.6	2	6.25	1	3.8		
40-45	8	6.3	4	12.5	1	3.8		
45-50	3	2.3	3	9.4	2	7.7		
50 and over	1	.8	2	6.25	1	3.8		
Total	128	100.0	32	100.0	26	100.0	5	100

Whether it is a case of being thrown out of employment or of being unable to find employment, it is natural that the younger people should form the great majority. Table III shows that 68 per cent. of the Hindu unemployed fall in the age-group 20-30; the corresponding percentage among the Parsis is 40.6, and among the Christians, 57.9. The distress of unemployment becomes however more acute when the persons affected belong to the higher age groups. 25 Hindus, 10 Parsis, and 4 Christians are between 30-40 and these 39 cases, forming 20 per cent. of the total of these communities, are clearly hard ones. The lot of the 12 Hindus, 9 Parsis, and 4 Christians, all above the age of 40 is indeed miserable and pitiable. By thirty, a man is usually married, and the needs of men above this age are much greater. To the

maintenance of himself is now added maintenance of wife and children and possibly of parents, the father in all probability being then in an advanced age and not an earning member. The young man under thirty is in a position to adjust his standard of life to the exigencies of the moment, the man over thirty and more particularly the man over forty has a settled standard of life not capable of much adjustment. Higher and greater responsibilities, a fixed standard of living, more items of expenditure, a complex family budget, all these vastly increase the difficulties of the man over thirty and much more those of the man over forty. In a normal society, cases of unemployment from 30 onwards ought to be rare, by that time, people settle down and their employers know pretty well their qualifications, ability and usefulness, and retrenchment ought to affect chiefly those who are temporary hands or those who are but juniors in service; people above thirty and certainly people above forty should be free from fear of retrenchment. It is, therefore, peculiar to find in this investigation as many as 13 per cent. in the unfortunate position of being driven to seek employment at an advanced age with all its attendant disadvantages.

In this connection, it would be useful to study the question of unemployment from the point of view of the number of dependants the unemployed have to maintain. Table IV sets forth the facts as obtained. 40 per cent. of the Hindu cases had no dependants to maintain, while among the Parsis and Christians, the percentages were respectively 47 and 62.

Table IV—Dependants

Adults	Children											
	None				1			2		3		
	Hindus	Christians	Parsis	Jains	Hindus	Christians	Parsis	Jains	Hindus	Christians	Parsis	Jains
None	51	16	15	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
1	19	4	9	..	5	2	2	..	5	..	2	3
2	8	1	1	..	5	..	..	1	2	..	1	1
3	9	1	..	1	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
4	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
5 and over	5	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Total	93	23	25	2	14	2	2	2	10	..	4	1

Table IV—Dependants—contd.

Adults	Children										Total			
	4				5 and over				Total					
	Hindus	Christians	Parsis	Jains	Hindus	Christians	Parsis	Jains	Hindus	Christians		Parsis	Jains	Religions
None	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52	16	16	1	85
1	1	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	35	7	14	..	56
2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	1	2	2	21
3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	1	..	2	17
4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3
5 and over	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	8	1	..	..	9
Total	4	..	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	128	26	32	5	191

This is what one would generally expect from the greater prevalence of the joint family system among the Hindus, the earlier age of marriage and the greater development of the individualistic tendency among the two other communities,—the Parsis and Christians,—who figure prominently enough in the cases collected by the student investigators. One adult dependant—the wife, is natural; but the Hindus even in this small collection show 32 per cent. with more than one adult dependant; whereas the others have a much smaller proportion, and reveal the persistence of the joint family system among the Hindus. A greater number of children, largely because of early marriage, is also in evidence among them. The percentage of the Hindus with no children is 73, that for the Parsis is 78, and that for the Christians is 89. Though the number of cases collected is not large enough, it appears from this and from the other tables that the data obtained in the investigation is far from unsatisfactory or unreliable, inasmuch as it largely supports conclusions which are generally accepted as correct. The number of dependants has not been correlated with the age of the unemployed persons; but it would be safe to assume that there is distinct correlation between these two and that, as a result the greater the number of dependants, the greater is the age, and the distress of the unemployed persons of thirty years and over. One wonders whether employers consider this aspect when they retrench or dismiss some of their employees.

It is interesting to study the figures of the salary last earned presented in Table V. The distress to which any unemployed person is subject, whether with or without dependants, can be gauged with reasonable accuracy by taking into account the salary which he has ceased to draw, because in the majority of instances the standard of living is determined by this factor except when it is supplemented by annual income from ancestral property. The higher the salary last earned, the greater is the

distress, every other thing being equal, when one is thrown out of employment. The higher salary also, not infrequently, denotes advanced age and more dependants—adults and children.

Table V—Salary last earned

Salary in Rs.	Hindus	Parsis	Christians	Jains	Total
50—75	57	10	11	2	80
75—100	21	11	7	3	42
100—125	12	4	..	..	16
125—150	7	..	3	..	10
150—175	5	5	..	..	10
175—200	..	..	1	..	1
200—225	2	..	1	..	3
225—250	4	1	1	..	6
Total	108	31	24	5	168

The table shows that out of those thrown out of employment, 73 per cent. were receiving pay between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100. The other 27 per cent. used to get a salary ranging from Rs. 100 to Rs. 250. There are nine cases where the salary was Rs. 200—Rs. 250 and these must be regarded as the cases most hardly hit.

The problem may now be viewed in connection with the length of service the unemployed have put in, not necessarily in their last employment but in all their previous employments. The data collected are presented in Table VI. Out of a total of 192, 23 only were "freshers" seeking employment and not finding any.

Table VI—Length of Service

Length of service	Frequency	Length of service	Frequency
Nil	23	2 years to 3 years	13
Under 3 months	10	3 " 4 "	19
3 months to 6 months	19	4 " 5 "	9
6 " 9 "	8	5 " 6 "	8
9 " 12 "	16	6 " 7 "	..
Total under 1 year	53	7 " 8 "	1
12 months to 15 months	34	8 " 9 "	1
15 " 18 "	6	9 " 10 "	..
18 " 21 "	6	10 " & over	11
21 " 24 "	6	Total	64
Total	52	Grand Total	192

53 had put in less than twelve months and 52 more than one year but less than two. Sixty-four persons had served for more than two years and out of these, 23 had put in more than 5 years. Their cases deserve sympathy,



Table IX—Nature of last employer's business—contd.

Nature of employment		
I. Commercial Firms—contd.		
(d) Electricians	..	4
(e) Mineral Oil merchants	..	3
(f) Others ..	..	5
	Total ..	45
II. Professions—		
(a) Printers and publishers	..	6
(b) Newspapers	..	4
(c) Teachers	..	4
(d) Solicitors and lawyers	..	6
(e) Others ..	..	4
	Total ..	24
III. Banking—		
(a) Banks ..	..	8
(b) Stock Exchange	..	6
(c) Insurance	..	2
	Total ..	16
IV. Industries—		
(a) Cotton ..	..	11
(b) Iron	..	11
(c) Jewellers	..	2
(d) Others ..	..	4
	Total ..	28
V. Transport—		
(a) Railways	..	7
(b) Shipping	..	9
	Total ..	16
VI. Public Administrative Services—		
(a) Government offices..	..	13
(b) Bombay Port Trust..	..	6
(c) Military	..	6
(d) Tramways	..	3
(e) Telephone	..	3
(f) Others ..	..	2
	Total ..	33
VII. Miscellaneous		
	Total ..	6
	Total ..	168

It is curious however to find that unemployment among the professions, such as those of Teacher, Solicitor, Printer and Publisher, is not negligible, being about 14 per cent. What is still more curious is that Railways and Shipping Offices should have found it necessary to create unemployment in 16 of the cases examined (10 per cent.). Government,

the Port Trust, Tramways and the Telephone Companies have been between them responsible for 33 cases (20 per cent.) and have been instrumental in aggravating the situation in the matter of unemployment.

I have so far analysed the cases investigated by age and religion, by academic qualifications, by dependants, by the salary last earned, the actual years of service, the reasons for leaving their last employment, the period of unemployment and the nature of the employment, from which they have been thrown out. I now analyse them from the point of view of their native district.

Table X—Native Districts

	Hindus.	Christians.	Parsees.	Jains.	Total.
I. BOMBAY CITY	4	8	23	..	35
II(A). GUJARAT— Surat, Navsari, Balsinor, Baroda, Nadiad, Patan, Broach ..	29	..	8	1	38
II(B). GUJARAT-KATHIAWAR— Bhavnagar, Mangal, Junagad, Jamnagar ..	14	..	..	4	18
II(C). GUJARAT-CUTCH ..	2	..	..	..	2
Total, Gujarat ..	45	..	8	5	58
III. MAHARASHTRA— Kalyan, Thana, Ratnagiri, Kolaba, Satara, Nasik, Dhulia, Poona, Sewantwadi	30	3	1	..	34
IV. KANARA-KARNATAK— Mangalore, Canara, Belgaum, Karwar	15	9	..	..	24
V. TAMIL SPEAKING AREAS— Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Tinnevely, Palghat, Coimbatore ..	13	..	..	..	13
VI. MALABAR— Travancore, Cochin	11	2	..	..	13
VII. MYSORE STATE	2	..	..	..	2
VIII. GOA (Portuguese)	1	4	..	..	5
IX. HYDERABAD ..	1	..	..	..	1
X. BENGAL	1	..	..	..	1
XI. CENTRAL PROVINCES ..	5	..	..	..	5
Total ..	128	26	32	5	191

80 per cent. of the total come from the Gujarati speaking tracts. In the last industrial boom, following the War, there was a large immigration of Gujaratis into Bombay, these immigrants being rapidly absorbed in the many commercial and industrial concerns that were then growing in the City in large numbers. Many were employed by the Stock Exchange and Banking concerns. But, these apparently have been thrown on the market with the bursting of the bubble and the failures of several business men. The enterprising Gujarati having been lured to Bombay during the days of trade prosperity is now swelling the ranks of the unemployed in times of depression. Maharashtra contributes 34 (18 per cent.) and the Karnatak 24 (13 per cent.) and these are generally to be found associated with clerical jobs in public offices, only a few being absorbed in trade. Bombay, the great industrial and commercial metropolis of India, also attracts a great many people in search of work from the other provinces and presidencies of the country. The Tamil speaking people furnish us with 13 cases, the Malayalis with 13 more, and Mysore with 2, thus making a total of 28 (15 per cent.), for the type of people usually known in Bombay as the Madrasi, who, probably because of worse conditions in Madras and South India generally, pour in here and accentuate the problem of unemployment in Bombay.

I shall now examine how these lower middle class people who are out of employment manage to live during their enforced rest. Table XI sets out the facts relating to the income and expenditure of these persons. It must be stated that the collection of data on these points has not been an easy task, because of the natural unwillingness of the people to reveal their true position especially when their questioners are young students. The data is bound therefore to be defective and not quite reliable. Still, they will be doubtless of some value in understanding the position of the unemployed.

Table XI—Income and Expenditure during unemployment

Income	Expenditure											
	Nil			0-25			25-50			50-75		
	Hindus	Christians	Paria	Hindus	Christians	Paria	Hindus	Christians	Paria	Hindus	Christians	Paria
Nil	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	26	4	7
0-25	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
25-50	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
50-75	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
75-100	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
100 and over	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	5	5	5	8	5	5	31	9	2	34	7	9

Table XI—Income and Expenditure during unemployment—contd.

Income	Expenditure—contd.											
	75-100			100 and over			Total					
	Hindus	Christians	Paria	Hindus	Christians	Paria	Hindus	Christians	Paria			
Nil	9	3	2	10	2	1	20	5	3			
0-25	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	3	3			
25-50	5	1	1	3	1	1	10	3	2			
50-75	4	2	1	1	1	1	7	5	3			
75-100	3	2	1	1	1	1	8	5	3			
Total	22	10	6	26	7	6	54	21	14			

It is obvious that a great majority of the persons will have no income at all, they have no savings from which they could hope to get some income, the lower middle class cannot be expected to possess any property, beyond a house in their native place, from which any income can be expected, they do not have any subsidiary part-time occupation, from which some addition to their usual income may be obtained. 120 persons (63 per cent.) have then no income at all. They must either live on their accumulated savings, if any, or they must borrow for their current needs. The 10 cases where the expenditure is also nil, meaning that the persons have parents or elder brothers alive, able and willing to maintain them, are but exceptional. The model expenditure seems to range from Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 per mensem, and if unemployment were to affect some for say a year, it would mean an expenditure of about Rs. 750 and in the absence of any income to meet this expenditure it would mean in the large majority of cases, indebtedness to that extent, inasmuch as the rise in prices unaccompanied by a proportionate rise in salaries preclude the chances of the lower middle class being able to save. There are cases, however, where though unemployed, people have been able to earn something, by taking up some part-time work, by accepting job work, and so forth. The majority of these earn between Rs. 25-50, but there are a few exceptional cases where the unemployed people manage to earn Rs. 100 and more, from subsidiary occupations and from ancestral property.

Such is the position of unemployment in the lower middle classes in Bombay. The distress is sufficiently grave and acute to arrest the attention of Government. Madras and Bihar and Orissa have appointed committees to inquire into the whole matter and make recommendations and it would be but proper for Bombay to follow suit and appoint a similar committee.

The peculiarity of our educational system is such that the educated congregate in large towns and cities, do not believe in the dignity of labour and seek absorption in the large army of clerks and office workers. The son of the small producer and the agriculturist does not become a trained artisan or a skilled farmer, but becomes a clerk. Our educational system formulated by urban brains is clearly at fault.

### Protection of National Labour in France

#### CONTROL OF FOREIGN WORKERS

The French Government has recently introduced a Bill amending the provisions of the Labour Code concerning the employment of foreign workers in France.

Mr. Mazerand, who acted as Reporter for the Bill before the Chamber, recalled the fact that, under the Act of 8 August 1893, which was incorporated in section 64 of the Labour Code, it was merely forbidden to employ knowingly any foreigner who was not provided with an entrance permit.

This system, said the Reporter, did not allow of immigration being controlled in accordance with the state of the labour market. Even frontier control, to be effective, must be completed by control within the country, in order to prevent a foreign worker from declaring at the frontier for a given occupation and a given district, and then entering an occupation or a district where his presence is undesirable.

With a view to strengthening the control system, an amendment to section 64 is proposed, providing that every foreigner shall be supplied with an identity card describing him as "a worker," and containing, at the time of its delivery to him, an indication of the nature and date of the labour agreement into which he has entered.

Section 64 (a) forbids the employment of the holder of such a card in any other occupation before the lapse of a year, or failing the delivery to him by an employment exchange of a special certificate, account being taken of the state of the labour market and of his occupational qualifications.

Section 64 (b) punishes the engagement, directly or indirectly, of a foreign worker before the expiration of his labour agreement.

In support of the Bill Mr. Mazerand observed that it had been approved by the accredited representatives of the employers' and workers' organisations. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," April 5, 1926.)

## Indian Factories During the Year 1924

### An Increase of Seven Per Cent.

#### NEARLY 1½ MILLION WORKERS EMPLOYED

##### I

The Government of India, in the Department of Industries and Labour, have just published their annual Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, in the factories subject to the Act, during the year 1924. The prefatory note to a series of very interesting tables points out that the progress made during the year in bringing the conditions of work in Indian factories into line with the intention of the Legislature especially in connexion with the certification of children and the prevention of evasions of the Act by Factory Owners has been remarkable.

#### INCREASE IN NUMBER OF FACTORIES

The total number of factories increased from 5,985 in 1923 to 6,406 in 1924 or by 7 per cent. Factories subject to the Indian Factories Act are divided into two classes: (1) any premises wherein, or within the precincts of which, on any one day in the year not less than twenty persons are simultaneously employed and steam, water or other mechanical power or electrical power is used in aid of any process for, or incidental to, making, altering, repairing, ornamenting, finishing or otherwise adapting for use, for transport or for sale any article or part of an article; and (2) any premises wherein, or within the precincts of which, on any one day in the year not less than ten persons are simultaneously employed and any such process is carried on, whether any such power is used in aid thereof or not which have been declared by the Local Government, by notification in the local official Gazette, to be a factory. Out of 6,406 factories, 6,346 or 99·06 per cent. belonged to the first or the ordinary group of factories and 60 or ·94 per cent. to the second or the "notified" group of factories. Notified factories are chiefly to be found in the Central Provinces and Berar and in the Bombay Presidency. The number in the Central Provinces is 23 or 38·3 per cent. of the total number of such factories and that in Bombay 18 or 30 per cent. The table on the next page shows the numerical distribution of each kind of factory in the various Provinces, a comparison of the total number of factories in 1924 with the total for 1923 and the percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1924 as compared with the previous year.

## Number of Factories

Province	Number of Factories in 1924 belonging to the class of—			Total number of factories in 1923	Increase (+) or decrease (—) per cent. in 1924 as compared with 1923
	Ordinary Factories	Notified Factories	Total number of factories		
Madras	1,040	4	1,044	986	+ 5.9
Bombay	1,193	18	1,211	1,120	+ 8.1
Bengal	1,065	—	1,065	1,008	+ 5.7
United Provinces	256	1	257	240	+ 7.1
Punjab	434	—	434	399	+ 8.8
Burma	858	—	858	855	+ 0.4
Bihar and Orissa	206	8	214	218	- 1.8
Central Provinces and Berar	595	23	618	574	+ 7.7
Assam	579	—	579	478	+ 21.1
North West Frontier Province	15	—	15	14	+ 7.1
Baluchistan	6	—	6	8	- 25.0
Ajmer-Merwara	30	—	30	29	+ 3.4
Delhi	60	—	60	56	+ 7.1
Bangalore and Coorg*	9	6	15	—	—
Total	6,346	60	6,406	5,985	+ 7.0

\*Statistics for Bangalore and Coorg have been incorporated only since 1924.

As will be seen from the above figures, all Provinces, with the exception of Bihar and Orissa and Baluchistan, registered substantial increases in the number of factories. These increases are due, not so much to the erection of new factories, as to the inclusion of small factories which were not subject to the old Act. The decrease in Bihar and Orissa is attributed to the giving up of indigo manufacture by some planters.

The statistics in the Report under review do not show the number of "notified" factories in the year 1923. The previous Report, however, gives the figure of such factories at 11. The large increase is due to the greater use that is being made by Local Governments of the powers conferred on them under section 2 (3) (b) of the Act. In the Bombay Presidency it was found that owners of small hand-match factories were, utilising the services of children of six years of age and over in dangerous processes. Government promptly intervened and stopped the abuse by "notifying" these factories. In the Central Provinces where persons were erecting small ginning factories in order to secure freedom from control, a similar notification made all such factories subject to the Act. In Bihar and Orissa some small saw mills which were in a dangerously unsafe condition were also "notified."

## CLASSES OF FACTORIES

The number of Government and Local Fund factories decreased from 245 in 1923 to 241 in 1924. The number of Textile factories increased from 385 to 390. Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills improved their strength from 269 to 273 and Jute Mills from 87 to 89. Two Woollen Mills and one Hosiery Mill closed down during the year. In the Engineering Industry there was an increase of 33 factories during the year under

report—the principal increase being registered in Metal Stamping factories the number of which increased from 3 to 27. The total number of factories in the Engineering Industry stood at 486 at the end of the year.

The number of factories classed under the "Minerals and Metals" group showed little change as compared with 1923—the figures being 139 for 1923 and 142 for 1924. There were, however, considerable changes in the different classes of factories included in this group—the number of Foundries increased from 79 to 101 and "Miscellaneous" fell from 41 to 22. Lead Smelting and Lead Rolling mills, Mica factories and Petroleum Refineries neither increased nor decreased in numbers.

The most noticeable increase is to be found in the group of factories included under the head "Food, Drink and Tobacco". The number of these factories rose from 2,006 to 2,252 due very largely to the big increase in tea factories from 657 to 817. Rice Mills increased in number by 11 and showed a total strength of 1,115. Tobacco factories remained steady at 17. Another noticeable increase is that in the number of Sugar factories which rose from 38 to 51. The group "Chemicals, Dyes, etc." also registered an appreciable increase in number and rose from 344 to 358. Indigo factories fell from 57 to 37 and the number of oil mills increased from 171 to 179. There was an important increase in the number of Printing Presses and Book-binding concerns, the total number of which rose from 197 to 234. This increase is largely responsible for the rise in the group "Paper and Printing" from 206 to 246.

In the group "Gins and Presses," Cotton Ginning, Pressing and Baling factories showed an increase of 58 over the number registered in 1923. The total number of such factories in India to-day stands at 1,750. The number of Jute Presses practically remained steady—111 in 1923, 112 in 1924. The number of tanneries and leather and shoe factories fell from 36 to 32. "Miscellaneous" factories increased from 46 to 56.

## AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED

The average daily number of persons employed in all factories in India subject to the Indian Factories Act amounted to 1,455,592 in the year 1924 as compared with 1,409,173 in 1923—an increase of 3.3 per cent. The number employed in Government and Local Fund Factories was 98,442 as compared with 111,137 in the previous year. 323,724 or 22 per cent. of the total were employed in Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills and 339,147 or 23 per cent. in Jute Mills. The total number employed in factories in the Engineering Industry was 180,531 or nearly one-eighth of the total factory labour force. Railway Workshops gave employment to about 57 per cent. of the total number employed in the Engineering Industry and to 7 per cent. of the total number employed in all factories. As compared with 1923 there was an increase of nearly 13,000 workpeople employed in this industry during the year 1924. The position with regard to the "Minerals and Metals" group was almost stationary,—63,429 in 1923 and 63,302 in 1924. In the factories included in the "Food, Drink and Tobacco" group the average daily number of persons employed increased from 142,597 to 160,589 or by nearly 13 per cent. The number returned for this group for 1924 formed 11 per cent. of the total average daily number employed in all factories. The following table shows the

average daily numbers of workpeople employed in all factories in each Province in India during the years 1923 and 1924 and the percentage increase or decrease in 1924 as compared with the year 1923 :—

*Average Number of Persons Employed—By Provinces*

Province	Average daily number employed in the year		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1924 as compared with 1923
	1923	1924	
Madras .. .. .	115,158	121,114	+ 5.2
Bombay .. .. .	356,480	354,853	— 0.5
Bengal .. .. .	523,635	543,123	+ 3.7
United Provinces .. .. .	73,906	77,202	+ 4.5
Punjab .. .. .	49,110	50,842	+ 3.5
Burma .. .. .	86,642	91,210	+ 5.3
Bihar and Orissa .. .. .	67,951	70,015	+ 3.0
Central Provinces and Berar .. .. .	64,067	67,385	+ 5.2
Assam .. .. .	43,649	49,451	+ 13.3
North West Frontier Province .. .. .	794	924	+ 16.4
Baluchistan .. .. .	2,065	1,846	— 10.6
Ajmer-Merwara .. .. .	15,771	14,321	— 9.2
Delhi .. .. .	9,945	10,479	+ 5.4
Bangalore and Coorg* .. .. .	.....	2,827	.....
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>1,409,173</b>	<b>1,455,592</b>	<b>+ 3.3</b>

\* Statistics for Bangalore and Coorg have been incorporated only since 1924.

It will be seen that with the exception of Bombay, Ajmer-Merwara and Baluchistan, every other Province in India shows an increase in the daily number of persons employed in factories subject to the Indian Factories Act. The slight fall in Bombay is attributed to general trade depression. The following table shows the statistics presented in the above table re-classified according to Classes of Industries and a few of the more important sub-heads such as Cotton Mills, Jute Mills, etc.

*Average Number of Persons Employed—By Classes of Industries*

Class of Industry	Average daily number employed in the year		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1924 as compared with 1923
	1923	1924	
Government and Local Fund Factories*	111,137	98,442	— 11.4
Textiles .. .. .	660,795	674,733	+ 2.1
Cotton (Spinning and Weaving and other) Factories .. .. .	322,764	323,724	+ 0.3
Jute Mills .. .. .	326,707	339,147	+ 3.8
Engineering .. .. .	167,862	180,531	+ 7.5
Railway Workshops .. .. .	88,784	103,202	+ 16.2
Minerals and Metals .. .. .	63,429	63,302	— 0.2

\* "Government and Local Fund Factories" include all classes of factories.

*Average Number of Persons Employed—By Classes of Industries contd*

Class of Industry	Average daily number employed in the year		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1924 as compared with 1923
	1923	1924	
Food, Drink and Tobacco .. .. .	142,597	161,589	+ 12.6
Chemical, Dyes, etc. .. .. .	30,226	34,273	+ 13.4
Paper and Printing .. .. .	26,318	27,228	+ 3.5
Processes relating to Wood, Stone and Glass .. .. .	33,807	34,861	+ 3.1
Processes connected with skins and hides .. .. .	6,212	6,443	+ 3.7
Gins and Presses .. .. .	160,936	168,027	+ 4.4
Cotton Ginning and Baling .. .. .	129,139	133,091	+ 3.1
Miscellaneous .. .. .	5,854	7,161	+ 22.3
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>1,409,173</b>	<b>1,455,592</b>	<b>+ 3.3</b>

With the exception of Government and Local Fund Factories in which the average daily number of persons employed fell from 111,137 in 1923 to 98,442 in 1924 or by 11.4 per cent. and in the Minerals and Metals Group where there was a slight fall of 127 in the average daily attendance, the average daily numbers of workpeople engaged in all other industries shown in the above table increased during the year under review. The largest percentage increase is found in Miscellaneous Factories and the lowest in Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills.

The following table gives, by Provinces, the figures of average daily attendance in the year 1924 in factories of all industries, classified according to age and sex, and also a comparison with 1923 for totals only :—

*Average Number of Persons Employed—By Provinces and Age and Sex Groups*

Province	Average daily number employed in all factories					
	Adults			Children		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Madras .. .. .	88,573	25,429	114,002	4,722	2,390	7,112
Bombay .. .. .	272,395	72,679	345,074	7,528	2,251	9,779
Bengal .. .. .	436,424	71,659	508,083	32,168	2,872	35,040
United Provinces .. .. .	70,375	5,448	75,823	1,346	33	1,379
Punjab .. .. .	43,657	6,204	49,861	926	55	981
Burma .. .. .	81,988	8,244	90,232	712	266	978
Bihar and Orissa .. .. .	61,960	6,234	68,194	1,703	118	1,821
Central Provinces and Berar .. .. .	41,685	23,760	65,445	1,733	207	1,940
Assam .. .. .	23,831	12,793	36,624	8,808	4,019	12,827
North West Frontier Province .. .. .	855	66	921	3	..	3

Average Number of Persons Employed—By Provinces and Age and Sex Groups—contd.

Province	Average daily number employed in all factories					
	Adults			Children		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Baluchistan ..	1,812	.....	1,812	34	..	34
Ajmer-Merwara ..	12,877	1,234	14,111	134	.. 76	210
Delhi ..	9,474	625	10,099	380	..	380
Bangalore and Coorg ..	1,823	957	2,780	43	.. 4	47
Total for 1924* ..	1,147,729	235,332	1,383,061	60,240	12,291	72,531
Total for 1923* ..	1,113,508	221,045	1,334,553	61,841	12,779	74,620
Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1924 as compared with 1923 ..	+3.1	+6.5	+3.6	—2.6	—3.8	—2.8

\*As statistics for Bangalore and Coorg have been incorporated only since 1924 a comparison with the figures for 1923 will be slightly affected.

The figures in the above table present some exceedingly interesting features. It will be seen that no women and girls are returned for factories in Baluchistan and that no girls are employed in factories in Delhi and the North-Western Frontier Province. The total number of women employed increased from 221,045 in 1923 to 235,332. This increase is stated to be probably due to some extent to the restrictions placed on child labour and to the employment of women on a larger scale in jute mills and in tea factories. For a comparison of the actual figures it is necessary to refer to the Report for the year 1923. This comparison shows that the number of women employed in all Jute Mills in India increased from 50,096 to 52,531 and that the number of women employed in all factories in Assam increased from 10,887 to 12,793. The actual increase in the number of all persons employed in tea factories in Assam was from 38,972 to 45,188. In Bengal the number of women workers employed in all factories rose by 4,828 from 66,831 to 71,659, whereas the actual increase in the number of women workers in the Jute Mills of Bengal only amounted to 3,306. This shows that the reasons assigned for the increase in the female factory labour force are, more or less, correct.

The total number of children employed fell from 74,620 in 1923 to 72,531 in 1924 or by 2.8 per cent. This decrease is attributed to the final exclusion of all children under 12 years of age from work in factories as the result of the introduction of more rigorous methods of certification and also to the prevention of children being employed in more than one factory on any one day.

The following table shows the age and sex classification of workers in Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills in the same way as in the preceding table :—

Average Number of Persons Employed in Cotton Mills—By Provinces and Age and Sex Groups

Province	Average daily number employed					
	Adults			Children		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Madras ..	20,667	4,538	25,205	2,802	1,599	4,401
Bombay ..	178,397	48,452	226,849	5,836	1,687	7,523
Bengal ..	8,993	1,675	10,668	1,401	137	1,538
United Provinces ..	21,085	1,018	22,103	528	9	537
Punjab ..	1,193	111	1,304	98	1	99
Burma ..	329	126	455	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa ..	512	..	512	..	..	..
Central Provinces and Berar ..	13,556	3,197	16,753	1,566	183	1,749
Ajmer-Merwara ..	1,384	182	1,566	38	..	38
Delhi ..	2,953	127	3,080	226	..	226
Total for 1924 ..	249,069	59,426	308,495	12,495	3,616	16,111
Total for 1923 ..	248,245	57,308	305,553	13,982	4,105	18,087
Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1924 as compared with 1923 ..	+0.3	+3.7	+1.0	—10.6	—11.9	—10.9

The number of men employed in all cotton mills in India rose by 824 during the year under review whereas the number of women increased by 2,118. The total number of children employed fell from 18,087 in 1923 to 16,111. As compared with 1920 when 24,910 children were employed in the Cotton Mill Industry, the number to-day shows that there has been a remarkable fall of over 35 per cent. during the period 1920-1924. No children were employed in 1924 in the cotton mills of Burma and Bihar and Orissa, and no girls were employed in the cotton mills of Ajmer-Merwara and Delhi. The one cotton mill which exists in Bihar and Orissa is included in the group "Government and Local Fund Factories", and this mill employs only adult male labour. In the Bombay Presidency the number of women cotton mill employees rose from 46,848 in 1923 to 48,452 in 1924 or by 3.5 per cent. and the total number of children employed fell from 9,740 to 7,523 or by 23 per cent.

The next instalment of this article, which will deal with Hours of Labour, Rest Intervals, Holidays, Exemptions, Accidents, Prosecutions, Convictions and Inspections will appear in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926.

## Current Periodicals

### Summary of titles and contents of special articles

#### INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, No. 87. (THE INDUSTRIAL WELFARE SOCIETY, LONDON.)

- Special Articles: (1) *Women's Welfare at Exhibitions.* By Gladys M. Shackleton. p. 75.  
 (2) *The New Pensions Act—II.* By T. S. Newman, A.C.I.S., F.F.I. pp. 76—78.  
 (3) *Personnel Management—VI.* pp. 78—80.  
 (4) *Pension and Superannuation Funds—VIII.* By Bernard Robertson. pp. 80—83.  
 (5) *Education and Training for Commerce and Industry.*—Midland Industrial Welfare Association pp. 83—85.  
 (6) *Miners' Welfare—The Housing of Workmen.* By J. T. Pringle Assoc. I.M.E. pp. 87—93.  
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. IV, No. 12. (OFFICIAL MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR MOVEMENT, LONDON.)

- Special Articles: (1) *What the Coal Report means to the Miners.* By Herbert Tracey. pp. 531—534.  
 (2) *Can the Bolsheviks "Consolidate"?* By I. Tseretelli.—Problems at the Congress of the Russian Communist Party. pp. 538—542.  
 (3) *Memories and Reflections.* By "Propagandist". pp. 543—545.  
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XIII, No. 3. (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA.)

- Special Articles: (1) *The Influence of Machinery on Agricultural Conditions in North America.* By W. A. Riddell, Ph.D. (Dominion of Canada Advisory Officer to the League of Nations).—Machinery which can replace human labour—the self binder, the gang plough; the flax puller; the force behind the machine: steam power and motor power; the saving of labour; lay-out, construction and building; the rewards of a wise use of labour. pp. 309—326.  
 (2) *The New Wage Act in South Africa.*—Analysis of the new act; previous legislation; purpose and possible consequences of the new act. pp. 327—343.  
 (3) *Pre-Apprenticeship and Vocational Guidance in France.*—Pre-apprenticeship—pre-apprenticeship schools, opinions on the value of pre-apprenticeship; vocational guidance—legislation on vocational guidance, vocational guidance and the public employment exchanges; private initiative; present position of vocational guidance. pp. 344—360.  
 (4) *The New British Pensions Act: I.*—The system of social insurance before 1926; scope of the act; beneficiaries and benefits; the nature of the benefits; the scale of the benefits; qualifications of beneficiaries; beneficiaries under the Retrospective regime; beneficiaries under the transitional regime; beneficiaries under the normal regime; statistics of the number of insured persons and beneficiaries. pp. 361—381.  
 (5) *Industrial Diseases: analysis of factory inspection reports, 1920-1922—II.*—Lead.—Austria; Belgium; France; Germany; Great Britain; Netherlands; Switzerland; United States; Massachusetts. pp. 382—410.  
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XIII, No. 4. (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA.)

- Special Articles: (1) *The American Labour Movement and Scientific Management.* By Paul Devinat. pp. 461—488.  
 (2) *The Compilation of Wages Statistics.* By Umberto Ricci.—Wages as the price of work—the unit of work, apparent and effective wage rates; wages as the worker's income—the nominal wage and the real wage; wages for constant work and variable work; the time element; additional information which should accompany wage statistics. pp. 489—505.  
 (3) *The New British Pensions Act: II.*—Financial resources—sources of income, the contributions of insured persons and employers; the state subsidy; administrative organisation—collection of contributions, examination of claims; authorisation and payment of benefits, auditing and provision for administration costs. pp. 506—522.  
 (4) *Industrial Inspection in Germany in 1923 and 1924.*—The staff of the inspectorate; statistics of inspection; number of workers employed, by age and sex; other activities of the inspectors; hours of work; breaks; Sunday work; night work in bakeries; works councils;—women in works councils, works councils of salaried employees, home workers' councils; employment of women; employment of young persons and children; apprenticeship; home work; housing; other matters. pp. 523—540.

(1) *Industrial Diseases analysis of factory inspection reports, 1920-1922—III.*—Arsenic—Austria; Belgium; France; Germany; Great Britain; Netherlands; Switzerland; Zinc—Austria; Germany; Great Britain; Netherlands; Arsenic—Germany; Great Britain; Phosphorus—Austria; Germany; Great Britain; Chrome—Austria; Germany; Great Britain; Netherlands; Various Metals—Germany. Carbon Monoxide, Carbonic Acid, Ozone Lighting Gas, and Other Foreign Gases—Austria; Belgium; Germany; Great Britain; Netherlands; Switzerland. pp. 541—563.  
 Routine Matters.—As in previous issues.

#### MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXI, No. 6. (U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, WASHINGTON.)

- Special Articles: (1) *Old-age and disability retirement law for railway employes in Brazil.* By James A. Rowan of Rio de Janeiro—Scope; revenues; benefits; administration of funds. pp. 1—4.  
 (2) *Children in Street Trades in the United States—A List of References.* By Laura A. Thompson, Librarian U. S. Department of Labor. pp. 81—92.  
 (3) *Accident Experience of the Iron and Steel Industry to the End of 1924.* By Luxon W. Chaney, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. pp. 142—146.  
 (4) *Present Status of Minimum Wage Legislation.* By Lindley D. Clark, of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. pp. 157—159.  
 (5) *Condition of Labor Banks, June 30, 1925.* pp. 167—168.  
 (6) *Forty-fifth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor.* pp. 194—196.  
 (7) *Conciliation work of the Department of Labor in October, 1925.* By Hugh L. Kerwan (Director of Conciliation). pp. 199—201.  
 (8) *Statistics of immigration for September 1925.* By J. J. Kunna. (Chief Statistician, United States Bureau of Immigration). pp. 204—209.  
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, No. 3. (THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, BALTIMORE, U.S.A.)

- Special Articles: (1) *The Treatment of Accidental Wounds.* By R. J. DeMotte, M.D. (Chief Surgeon, Pullman Car and Manufacturing Corporation, Chicago, Ill.).—Principles underlying rational treatment; application of principles; practical considerations; summary. pp. 89—93.  
 (2) *Researches in Mental Hygiene in Industry: Part IV. Psychiatric Case Studies in Department Store and Factory.* By Henry B. Elkind, M.D., (Medical Director, Massachusetts Society for Mental Hygiene, Boston, Mass.) Case 1. Psychoneurosis: Type? Case 2. Compensation Neurosis? Malingering? Case 3. General Paresis. Case 4. Psychoneurosis; Psychasthenic Type. Case 5. Manic-Depressive Psychosis: Depressed Phase; Case 6. Psychoneurosis; Neurasthenic Type? Compensation Neurosis. Summary. pp. 94—102.  
 (3) *Health Hazards in the Rubber Industry.* By R. S. Quinby, M.D. (Hood Rubber Company, Watertown, Mass.)—Toxic Chemicals; lead; aniline; benzol; hexamethylenetetramine; antimony; benzene; carbon disulphide; carbon tetrachloride; sulphur chloride; para-nitrosodimethylaniline; para-phenylenediamine; thiocarbonyl; summary. pp. 103—112.  
 (4) *A Study of Lead Poisoning among Oxyacetylene Welders in the Scrapping of Naval Vessels.* By Lieutenant Commander E. W. Brown, (MC), U. S. N. (Medical Research Division, Chemical Warfare Service, Edgewood Arsenal, Edgewood, Md.)—Introduction; general statistics—incidence of plumbism; clinical findings—basophilia; red blood cell count and hemoglobin; blood pressure; blue line on the gums; urinary findings; microscopic; pathologic; lead; path of absorption of lead in oxyacetylene cutting—examination of the lead fume, absorption from the gastro-intestinal tract versus the respiratory tract; symptomatology—case histories, distribution of symptoms; preventive measures; summary. pp. 113—139.  
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, No. 4. (THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, BALTIMORE, U.S.A.)

- Special Articles: (1) *Occupational Diseases reported to the Ohio State Department of Health for the five-year period ending June 30, 1925.* By Emery R. Hayhurst, M.D., Ph.D., (Professor of Hygiene, Ohio State University, and Consultant in Industrial Hygiene, Ohio State Department of Health.) and Daniel J. Kindel, B.S., M.D. (Chief, Division of Industrial Hygiene, Ohio State Department of Health).—Introduction; Ohio Department of Health, Columbus; Instructions for filling out certificate; An Act to require the reporting of occupational diseases—(as amended, February 4, 1920).—statistics of occupational diseases reported during the five-year period ending June 30, 1925—cases of lead poisoning, dermatitis among rubber workers; results of efforts to secure complete reporting; commercial significance of health control; summary. pp. 143—164.  
 (2) *The Estimation of Zinc in Biologic Material.* By Lawrence T. Fairhall, A.M., Ph. D. (From the Department of Physiology, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.)—General discussion of methods suitable for the determination of small amounts of zinc—gravimetric method, turbidimetric

method, colorimetric method, ashing; purification of reagents and preparation of standard solutions; ashing procedure; analytic method; conclusion. pp. 163-176.

(3) *The Normal Occurrence of Zinc in the Rat, Cat, and Man.* By Robert E. Lutz, Ph.D. (From the Department of Physiology, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.).—Introduction; Review of the literature—A. sources of zinc, B. occurrence of zinc in plant life, C. occurrence of zinc in animal life; *Study of the normal distribution of zinc in the rat, cat, and man*—A. analytic methods; B. distribution of zinc in the rat; C. distribution of zinc in the cat; D. distribution of zinc in human tissue; E. comparison of the zinc concentrations in rat, cat, and man; F. conclusion; summary. pp. 177-205.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

#### THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVI, No. 3. (THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, CANADA.)

Special Articles: (1) *Dominion Government Policy on Unemployment Relief*—Text of Order in Council. p. 232.

(2) *Workmen's Compensation in Quebec*.—Application; compensation; medical treatment; contributory negligence; insurance; miscellaneous provisions. pp. 234-235.

(3) *Juvenile Immigration in 1924-25.* pp. 235-236.

(4) *League of Nations International Labour Organisation*.—Thirtieth session of the Governing Body; Great Britain and the eight-hour day convention. pp. 241-242.

(5) *Utilization of Workers' Spare Time*.—Recommendation of International Labour Conference on this Subject brought before the Dominion Parliament and Provincial Governments; text of recommendation; text of order in council. pp. 243-248.

(6) *Annual Census of Industry of Canada*.—Starch and Glucose Industry, 1924; Wine Industry, 1924; leather glove and mitt industry, 1924; harness and saddlery and miscellaneous leather goods, 1924; pp. 260-262.

(7) *Mineral Industry in Canada in 1925.* pp. 262-263.

(8) *Fair Wages Conditions in Dominion Government Contracts*.—Department of public works—contracts containing schedule of wages and hours; Contracts containing the general Fair Wages clause; post office department. pp. 276-277.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

## Current Notes From Abroad

### INTERNATIONAL

The Seamen's Section of the International Transport Workers' Federation met at Amsterdam on 30th March last to consider what attitude the organisations affiliated to the Federation should adopt towards the International Labour Conference which is to be held in Geneva at the beginning of June. The seamen's organisations of Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain and the Netherlands, and the General Council of the Federation were represented at the meeting, and delegates were also present from the International Association of Mercantile Marine Officers.

The Seamen's Section reserved its right to determine its policy in the event of the Conference not pronouncing in favour of the inclusion of the question of hours of work in the mercantile marine in the agenda of the 1927 Conference.

At a previous meeting, held at Amsterdam on 18th and 19th January last, the Seamen's Section protested against the decision of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office not to include the question of hours of work in the agenda of the 1926 Conference. The seamen wished the Governing Body to reconsider its decision and, at the January meeting, they drew up a definite programme for the regulation of hours of work on board ship.

In view of the fact that it is now impossible to modify the agenda of the 1926 Conference, the Seamen's Section affiliated to the International Transport Workers' Federation, in agreement with the International Association of Mercantile Marine Officers, proposes to have submitted a resolution to the 1926 Conference in favour of the insertion of the question of hours of work in the agenda of the 1927 Conference. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 12, 1926.)

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### UNITED KINGDOM

As anticipated, the members of the Master Cotton Spinners' Federation in Lancashire have supported the recommendation of the committee that the working hours in the mills using American cotton should be increased from the beginning of this week from 30½ to 35 per week. The ballot on this proposal resulted in the owners of 83·36 per cent. of the spindles being in favour, with 4·78 per cent. against, there being no replies from 11·86 per cent. It should be pointed out that this alteration is really nominal. Since the week of 30½ hours was decided upon at the end of January it has not been very loyally carried out, and the recommendation to return to 35 hours a week was taken to bring members into line and put the short time scheme on a uniform basis. Amongst the operatives there is a certain amount of unrest owing to the present

unsatisfactory position of the industry and the limited earnings available. As a result of pressure from some of the branches the Oldham Operative Spinners' Association has called a mass meeting of members, to be held on Monday next. It is understood that the committee of the association will not give any lead to the meeting, the idea being to allow a free discussion. Two or three weeks ago there was a joint conference between the Master Spinners' Federation and representatives of all the trades unions in the industry, when the employers made a lengthy statement giving their reasons for the necessity of short time working in the mills. The conference was adjourned to allow the trade union officials to consider their position, but so far no further meeting has been arranged. (From "Economist," London, April 10, 1926.)

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The number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during March 1926, was 234, as compared with 227 in the previous month and with 241 in March 1925. Fatal accidents to seamen numbered 68 in March 1926, as compared with 175 in the previous month; comparable figures for March, 1925, are not available. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April, 1926.)

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The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, received the Royal Assent on the 22nd December 1925, and comes into operation on the 1st May 1926. It is a consolidating measure, and accordingly does not apply in cases where the accident happened before the 1st January, 1924, i.e., the date on which the amending Act of 1923 came into force. As regards such cases existing rights under the earlier Acts are preserved by section 50 of the new Act. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, January 1926.)

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OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

A National Association for the Prevention of Industrial Accidents has recently been created by the Italian Government and put under the supervision of the Ministry of National Economy.

The Association will be administered by representatives of the manufacturers and the farmers and will have separate departments of industry and agriculture. All undertakings subject to compulsory insurance will be compelled to form part of the Association.

The new Association replaces the former "Association for the Prevention of Accidents", which was founded by the manufacturers, but was not compulsory. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 19, 1926.)

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The following statistics, grouping the population of Poland according to occupations, were recently published in the Polish press. With the exception of the data for Upper Silesia and Vilna, for which the figures for 1907 and 1897 respectively have been used, the information was collected at the general census taken on 30th November 1921.

Territory	Total population	Agriculture and Forestry	Mining and Industry	Commerce and Transportation	Other
Poland	27,186 (100%)	17,481 (64.3%)	4,705 (14.9%)	2,708 (9.5%)	1,292 (11.3%)
Population according to census of 30th September 1921, including military census	25,705 (100%)	16,856 (65.6%)	3,530 (13.7%)	2,447 (9.5%)	2,872 (11.2%)
Upper Silesia ..	979 (100%)	282 (28.8%)	476 (48.6%)	88 (9.0%)	137 (14.0%)
Territory of Vilna, Vilna-town, and districts of Iłki, Oszmiana, and Świeciany ..	502 (100%)	343 (68.4%)	52 (10.3%)	37 (7.3%)	70 (14.0%)

(From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 29, 1926.)

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The Berlin "Vorwärts" draws attention to the anticipated decline in the number of apprentices, resulting from the fewer births of boys during the war years and says among other things that it should be the duty of the Trade Unions to turn this shortage to good account by formulating demands for the improvement of the conditions of apprentices and for better training, etc.

Delsinne quotes the above in the Brussels "Peuple" and uses the occasion for some remarks about conditions as they exist in Belgium. He writes as follows:—

"Undoubtedly we have some industries in which there are large numbers of young workers deliberately employed at low wages on work which would otherwise be done by adults. It is however a question of industries of less importance. What appears to me to be most threatening is that as a result of the lack of apprentices, the training which is already far from good will become entirely unsatisfactory, and the employers will in still greater measure strive after a premature specialisation, even if that means that the vocational training of a whole generation is injured. There is one means of meeting this danger; that is compulsory vocational training!" (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, April 15, 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The eighth ordinary Congress of the Czechoslovakian Federation of Trade Unions will be held from the 4th to the 6th of June. The Agenda dealt with the following matters:—

The Report on the Activities of the Trade Union National Centre (Fixing of contributions); International policy and the way to unity for the Trade Union movement; the economic tasks of the Trade Unions; works councils and economic democracy; united wages' movements and trade union funds; organisation and labour conditions in the public services and social policy, (a) labour law, (b) social insurance. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, April 15, 1926.)

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On March 28th and 29th the 8th ordinary Congress of the Hungarian Federation of Trade Unions was held in Budapest with 105 delegates and 34 Organisations represented. The Congress concentrated mainly on the four following points:—The Trade Union Centre's Report on Activities; the protection of the workers; Social Insurance; and the right of free meeting and association. On all these matters resolutions submitted by the Centre were unanimously adopted. In the resolution on Activities the following demands were included:—

- (1) Recognition of the Trade Unions with the same rights as are enjoyed by the employers' organisations.
- (2) The encouragement of Productive co-operative societies founded and maintained by the workers.
- (3) The formation of a statistical bureau for the collection and preparation of material on economic matters, in co-operation with the Trade Unions. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, April 15, 1926.)

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The Third General Meeting of the All-Russian Central Council of Trade Unions, which was elected at the Sixth Pan-Russian Congress of Trade Unions, took place at Moscow from 6 to 11 February, 1926.

In opening the meeting, Mr. Tomsky, Chairman of the Central Council, stated that it was the business of the General Meeting to put into practice the decisions taken at the Fourteenth Congress of the Communist Party, concerning trade union questions. The Congress had laid down the main lines to be followed, and it was for the General Meeting to analyse and define the various aspects of trade union work in connection with which greater precision was required. Mr. Tomsky laid special emphasis on the following questions:—

- (a) work in the country;
- (b) economy and improvements in the handling of trade union funds;
- (c) elections of trade union officials;
- (d) trade union and communist education and propaganda work;
- (e) workers' co-operation; and
- (f) wage policy.

This last, he said, was perhaps the most important practical question before the meeting. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 29, 1926.)

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#### UNITED STATES

The Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company lately introduced at its factories at Pittsburgh group system of wage payment, the purpose of this system being to correct the faults associated with the individual incentive plan. The new policy is described in an article contributed by officials of the company to *Industrial Management* (New York). The fault of most incentive plans of wage payment, it is stated, is that they often stimulate individual effort on the part of the employed at the expense of co-operative team work. "Although the results obtained from incentive systems have been remarkable, there are at the same time some disadvantages which occur from having a number of workers concentrating only on their own individual production. Each worker realizes that he is paid only for what he produces, and it is but natural that he should strive to increase his own output, regardless of all else. The group system is designed to meet this difficulty. Generally workers on the same class of work possess different abilities, and the greater producer is not willing to enter into an agreement with the lesser producer. Groups are therefore organized by the management and a payment system devised whereby each man shares in the earnings of the group in proportion to the amount of time he works in the group, and in proportion to his ability. A "group" is thus formed of a number of workers doing the same class of work, who pool their entire output, and the method of distributing the earnings of the group among the workers is known as the Group System of Wage Payment. (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, March 1926.)

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#### OTHER COUNTRIES

The time loss due to industrial disputes in Canada in February was greater than during January 1926, but less than in February 1925. There were in existence during the month 11 disputes, involving 2,433 employees, and resulting in a time loss of 22,966 working days, as compared with six disputes in January, involving 357 workpeople and resulting in a time loss of 9,102 working days. In February 1925, there were recorded 14 disputes involving 3,066 workpeople, and a time loss of 27,013 working days. Three of the strikes and lockouts commencing during February, terminated during the month. At the end of the month, therefore, there were eight strikes and lockouts affecting 368 workpeople, not including those strikes and lockouts in which employment conditions were reported to be no longer affected but which had not been formally called off. (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, March 1926.)

\* \* \* \* \*

It is expected that weekly rest and holidays will be dealt with by the new Turkish Labour Code which is now being drafted. There is, however,

a special law in force at the present moment concerning rest on Fridays, though it is proposed to change that day for Sunday. Certain religious feasts are still observed as holidays in spite of the Government's policy of laicisation. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 19, 1926.)

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The Bureau of Social Affairs of the Municipality of Tokyo has been for some time considering the question of education of the factory workers in that city. The enquiry, which was completed a short time ago, revealed some interesting facts.

The enquiry covered 93,574 men and women workers employed in 184 factories, in dyeing, machine and tool works, chemical works, the food and drink trades, and other miscellaneous industries.

In these factories it was found that more than 40 per cent. of the workers had completed the elementary school course. Those with the highest education were found in the machine industry, where 6 per cent. had completed the secondary school course; while the workers with a lower degree of education were found in the dyeing works, where as many as 35 per cent. had not completed their elementary school course. The proportion of illiteracy was very low, being only about 3,000 out of nearly 94,000 workers.

In general, the men were found to be better educated than the women. Most of them had finished their elementary school course and a considerable number of them had begun, but not completed the secondary school course. About 4.5 per cent. of them had graduated from the secondary schools. Among women, the majority had finished their elementary school course. Only 0.3 per cent. of them had graduated from the secondary schools.

An interesting fact is that schools are run by some of the factories. As many as 19 factories had their own schools, and 14 had training or study courses with lectures and lessons. Of the dyeing works, 12 had schools because of the large number of women workers employed. One machine factory was found to possess a secondary school; but this must be regarded as an exception. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 29, 1926.)

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A commission to study the problem of Sunday labour in the Province of Quebec was appointed under an order in Council signed by the Lieutenant Governor on March 3. The commission will commence its investigations at once, and will report the results to the Lieutenant Governor in Council. It may be noted that the Lord's Day Act of the Dominion provides in section 17 that "no action or prosecution for a violation of this Act shall be commenced without the leave of the Attorney General for the province in which the offence is alleged to have been committed, nor after the expiration of sixty days from the time of the commission of the alleged offence". (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, March 1926.)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN APRIL 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Trades.</i>			1926	1926		
1. The Colaba Land and Mill Co., Bombay.	300	2,106	16 Apr.	20 Apr.	Protest against the stoppage of pay bonus.	Work resumed immediately.
2. The Laxmi Narayan Mills, Chalisgaon.	69	..	17 Apr.	19 Apr.	Demand for an increase in wages.	Strikers left the service of the Mill.
3. The Khatau Makanji Spinning and Weaving Co., Bombay.	2,900	..	23 Apr.	28 Apr.	Demand for increase in the rates of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employees.



ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING APRIL 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 Mar 1926	April 1926
	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Woolen Mills .. Others ..	139 .. .. ..	59 1 2 ..	77 .. .. ..	24 .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	19 .. 1 ..	9 .. 1 ..	197 .. .. ..	74 1 1 ..	216 1 1 ..	83 .. .. ..
Total ..	140	62	77	24	..	..	20	10	197	76	217	86
II Workshops— Engineering .. Railway .. Mint .. Others ..	7 32 1 3	2 6 .. 2	81 552 1 15	33 170 .. 5	.. .. .. ..	.. 1 .. ..	2 5 .. 1	.. .. .. ..	86 579 1 17	35 175 .. 7	88 584 .. 18	35 176 .. 7
Total ..	43	10	649	208	..	1	9	..	683	217	692	218
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works .. Flour Mills .. Printing Presses .. Others ..	1 1 3 2	.. .. .. 1	1 .. .. 11	1 .. 2 ..	1 .. .. 1	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. 1	.. .. .. ..	1 7 .. 11	1 2 7 1	2 7 13 1	1 1 7 1
Total ..	7	1	16	3	2	..	1	..	20	4	23	4
Total, All Factories ..	190	73	742	235	2	1	10	10	500	297	532	308

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 Mar 1926	April 1926
	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton ..	54	22	42	12	1	..	13	5	82	29	96	34
Total ..	54	22	42	12	1	..	13	5	82	29	111	34
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory .. Flour Mills .. Oil Mills .. Engineering .. Others ..	.. .. .. 1 ..	.. .. .. .. ..	2 .. .. .. 1	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	2 .. .. 1 1	.. .. .. .. ..	2 .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..
Total ..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	..
Total, All Factories ..	55	22	45	12	1	..	13	5	86	29	115	34

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.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING APRIL 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 Mar 1926	April 1926
	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926		
Workshops— Railway and Port Trust Engineering ..	1 .. ..	.. .. ..	3 .. 10	7 .. ..	.. .. 1	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..
Total ..	1	..	13	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	10	7
II Miscellaneous—	1	..	4	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	2
Total ..	1	..	4	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	2
Total, All Factories ..	2	..	17	9	1	..	1	..	..	..	17	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 Mar 1926	April 1926
	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926	Jan to Mar 1926	April 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Others ..	31 5	10 ..	23 2	8 1	1 ..	.. ..	4 2	2 ..	49 3	16 1	54 5	18 1
Total ..	34	10	25	9	1	..	6	2	52	17	59	19
II Workshops— Railway Arms and Ammunition Works Others ..	10 2 4	3 .. 1	52 1 8	21 .. 3	.. .. ..	.. .. 1	5 1 1	1 .. 1	57 2 11	23 .. 3	62 .. 12	24 .. 4
Total ..	16	4	61	24	..	1	7	2	70	25	77	28
III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pressing Factories .. Paint Works .. Others ..	.. .. 2	1 .. ..	10(a) .. 4(b)	2 .. 1	2 .. 1	.. .. ..	6 1 1	1 .. 1	5 .. 5	2 .. ..	13 .. 8	3 .. 1
Total ..	2	1	14	3	4	..	7	3	16	2	21	4
Total, All Factories ..	52	15	100	36	5	1	13	5	112	44	157	51

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 March			12 months ended March		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds (000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ..	1,091	5,986	6,968	63,191	68,944	66,337
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ..	6,456	19,838	18,737	188,044	226,242	197,165
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ..	6,089	13,034	14,529	131,209	159,052	140,333
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ..	842	1,106	1,518	13,129	14,176	13,576
Above 40 .. ..	190	401	646	2,799	5,682	5,422
Waste, etc. .. ..	8	81	83	180	196	618
Total .. ..	14,676	40,446	42,481	398,552	474,292	423,451

## BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds (000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ..	570	5,331	6,286	56,122	61,164	56,981
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ..	1,485	13,692	12,473	125,910	156,150	116,959
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ..	1,332	8,290	8,859	79,538	98,954	79,114
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ..	130	556	656	6,605	7,961	5,885
Above 40 .. ..	33	241	234	1,338	3,212	2,533
Waste, etc. .. ..	..	72	74	73	101	520
Total .. ..	3,550	28,182	28,582	269,586	327,542	261,962

## AHMEDABAD

	Pounds (000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ..	137	192	212	1,892	2,394	3,016
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ..	2,554	3,288	3,527	31,387	37,264	44,783
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ..	3,661	3,686	4,366	36,437	45,803	47,050
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ..	535	430	647	4,860	4,949	5,766
Above 40 .. ..	110	120	305	1,005	1,596	2,126
Waste, etc. .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Total .. ..	6,997	7,716	9,057	75,602	92,006	102,741

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

Description	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds (000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a) .. ..	945	867	..	15,521	15,943	13,372
Chudders .. ..	930	1,286	1,069	15,521	15,943	16,002
Dhotis .. ..	5,368	6,646	7,373	66,431	72,037	66,300
Drills and jeans .. ..	146	1,429	1,261	8,393	12,685	10,667
Cambrics and lawns .. ..	36	38	16	440	..	720
Printers .. ..	431	298	424	4,672	4,121	3,017
Shirtings and long cloth .. ..	6,213	10,183	9,263	86,979	100,107	97,736
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings .. ..	620	1,100	802	10,575	12,090	11,817
Tent cloth .. ..	28	162	126	943	2,138	1,575
Other sorts .. ..	1,038	54	702	23,122	6,373	6,235
Total .. ..	14,810	22,629	21,865	217,077	248,288	242,466
Coloured piece-goods .. ..	4,662	8,268	8,389	87,795	102,566	94,546
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods .. ..	23	203	269	1,672	1,919	2,514
Hosiery .. ..	11	10	16	180	185	243
Miscellaneous .. ..	39	82	63	1,038	1,659	1,606
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool .. ..	7	16	88	153	135	653
Grand Total .. ..	19,492	31,203	30,690	307,915	347,672	342,030

## BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds (000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a) .. ..	..	772	734	..	10,809	9,723
Chudders .. ..	366	780	652	9,050	9,847	10,408
Dhotis .. ..	746	1,968	2,155	19,446	21,116	21,855
Drills and jeans .. ..	85	1,366	1,145	7,771	11,311	9,019
Cambrics and lawns .. ..	21	20	9	273	447	223
Printers .. ..	..	..	219	65	33	238
Shirtings and long cloth .. ..	3,287	7,687	6,743	61,959	71,844	68,865
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings .. ..	393	681	520	8,358	9,692	8,019
Tent cloth .. ..	9	96	87	561	931	979
Other sorts .. ..	462	207	368	15,169	2,795	2,667
Total .. ..	5,369	13,757	12,632	122,672	138,625	131,596
Coloured piece-goods .. ..	2,322	5,615	5,235	68,723	78,162	63,429
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods .. ..	21	197	263	1,585	1,651	2,409
Hosiery .. ..	2	6	6	96	91	76
Miscellaneous .. ..	36	77	58	990	1,348	1,281
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool .. ..	5	16	28	140	115	468
Grand Total .. ..	7,755	19,668	18,222	194,206	220,392	199,659

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

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	519	421	325	5,168	3,201	1,100
Chudders	3,690	3,374	4,331	35,681	39,536	4,826
Dhotis	43	25	34	306	268	47,111
Drills and jeans	13	13	5	95	123	667
Cambrics and lawns	292	168	169	2,857	2,812	219
Prints	2,413	1,975	1,920	18,674	22,772	1,883
Shirtings and long cloth						
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	197	190	212	2,016	2,160	3,313
Tent cloth	12	63	30	209	1,105	499
Other sorts	390	233	238	4,921	2,346	2,486
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,569</b>	<b>6,562</b>	<b>7,293</b>	<b>69,987</b>	<b>79,075</b>	<b>84,925</b>
Coloured piece-goods	1,235	1,820	2,266	9,341	14,239	20,124
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	1	2	9	9	13
Hosiery	9	4	10	84	94	166
Miscellaneous	3	6	4	48	262	276
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool			59	9	8	174
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8,817</b>	<b>8,413</b>	<b>9,634</b>	<b>79,478</b>	<b>93,687</b>	<b>105,678</b>

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

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	Housing	Cost of living
<b>1923</b>									
July	126	136	127	164	148	164	20	172	154
June	124	116	124	164	146	164	20	172	154
July	125	116	124	164	146	164	20	172	154
August	123	116	122	164	148	165	20	172	154
September	124	116	123	194	149	165	20	172	154
October	123	116	122	194	149	161	20	172	154
November	124	116	124	188	147	161	21	172	152
December	132	116	130	187	147	161	25	172	153
<b>1924</b>									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	22	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	22	172	159
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	22	172	156
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	22	172	154
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	22	172	154
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	22	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	22	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	22	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	22	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	22	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	21	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	21	172	160
<b>1925</b>									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	20	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	21	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	20	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	20	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	20	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	19	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	19	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	19	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	18	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	146	165	19	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	18	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	17	172	155
<b>1926</b>									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	17	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	17	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	17	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	17	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	17	172	153

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	April 1925	March 1926	April 1926	July 1914	April 1925	Mar 1926	April 1926
<b>Cereals—</b>			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 1 2	6 4 1	6 6 10	100	129	134	137
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 6 9			100	151		164
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	75 8 0	74 0 0	100	156	168	168
Do.	Jubbulpore		40 0 0	60 0 0	65 0 0	55 0 0	100	150	163	138
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 7 1	4 2 0	4 2 0	100	141	121	131
Barley			3 4 6	4 15 7	4 3 9	4 5 5	100	152	129	132
Bajri	Ghati		3 4 6	5 4 8	5 4 8	5 4 8	100	161	161	161
<b>Pulses—</b>										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 7 1	4 12 2	4 13 11	100	149	148	144
Turdal	Cawnpore		5 10 5	5 13 1	6 14 1	6 14 1	100	165	112	115
							100	163	122	122
<b>Sugar—</b>										
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	18 0 0	15 8 0	15 14 0	100	196	169	173
Do.	Java, white		10 3 0	18 4 0	15 6 0	16 0 0	100	179	151	157
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	12 3 11	9 4 0	9 8 5	100	155	117	121
<b>Other Food—</b>										
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	14 4 7	8 2 7	8 13 6	100	256	146	159
Chee	Deshi		45 11 5	85 11 5	80 0 0	78 9 2	100	188	175	172
Salt	Bombay (black)		1 7 6	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	136	136	136
<b>Oilseeds—</b>										
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	13 6 0	10 5 0	10 7 0	100	150	116	117
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)		8 0 0	11 6 0	10 7 0	11 12 0	100	142	130	147
Poppy seed			10 14 0	13 8 0	13 2 0	13 2 0	100	124	121	121
Gingelly	White		11 4 0	14 10 0	15 10 0	15 12 0	100	130	139	140
<b>Index No.—Cereals</b>							100	149	148	144
<b>Index No.—Pulses</b>							100	104	117	119
<b>Index No.—Food grains</b>							100	139	140	138
<b>Index No.—Sugar</b>							100	177	146	150
<b>Index No.—Other food</b>							100	193	152	156
<b>Index No.—All Food</b>							100	157	144	144
<b>Index No.—Oilseeds</b>							100	137	127	131

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LABOUR GAZETTE

MAY, 1926

<b>Textile Cotton—</b>										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	483 0 0	358 0 0	348 0 0	100	191	143	139
Oomra	Do.		222 0 0		325 0 0	319 0 0	100		146	146
Dharwar	Saw-ginned		230 0 0				100		141	134
Khandesh	Machine-ginned		205 0 0		290 0 0	284 0 0	100	207	133	129
Bengal	Do.		198 0 0	410 0 0	263 0 0	256 0 0	100	159	141	138
<b>Index No.—Cotton, raw</b>							100	159	141	138
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 10 0	1 3 0	1 3 0	100	204	149	149
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	12 10 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	213	168	168
White mulls	6,000		4 3 0	8 5 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	198	240	230
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500		10 6 0	24 2 0	20 12 0	20 0 0	100	233	200	193
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 4 6	1 2 3	1 1 9	100	216	192	187
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.		0 9 6	1 3 3	1 1 0	1 0 3	100	203	179	171
<b>Index No.—Cotton manufactures</b>							100	211	168	163
<b>Index No.—Textile—Cotton</b>							100	208	168	163
<b>Other Textiles—</b>										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	7 12 9	6 11 6	6 7 3	100	181	130	123
Do.	Mathow Lari		2 15 1	4 13 5	4 11 3	4 11 3	100	166	160	160
<b>Index No.—Other Textiles</b>							100	158	145	143
<b>Hides and Skins—</b>										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 15 10	1 10 4	1 12 8	100	172	142	140
Do. Buffalo	Do.		1 1 3	1 3 11	0 15 5	1 7 9	100	115	89	88
Skins, Goat	Do.		1 4 0	1 14 3	2 10 1	2 11 10	100	151	210	219
<b>Index No.—Hides and Skins</b>							100	146	147	171
<b>Metals—</b>										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	64 0 0	58 8 0	59 0 0	100	106		
Iron bars			4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	100	175	175	175
Steel hoops			7 12 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	155	138	129
Galvanised sheets			9 0 0	15 8 0	14 6 0	14 6 0	100	122	160	160
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	194	194	194
<b>Index No.—Metals</b>							100	160	151	151
<b>Other raw and manufactured articles—</b>										
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	23 10 0	22 10 0	19 0 0	100	110	133	129
Do.	Imported		19 11 6	23 4 0	20 10 9	22 12 6	100	110	115	116
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 8 6	7 7 0	7 7 0	100	185	185	170
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	100	185	185	185
<b>Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles</b>							100	157	164	164
<b>Index No.—Food</b>							100	169	151	151
<b>Index No.—Non-food</b>							100	165	150	151
<b>General Index No.</b>							100	165	150	151

MAY, 1926

LABOUR GAZETTE

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WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	April 1925	Mar 1926	April 1926	July 1914	April 1925	Mar 1926	April 1926
<b>Cereals—</b>			Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy.	39 0 0	61 10 0	60 4 0	58 4 0	100	158	154	149
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	"	31 8 0	51 0 0	48 8 0	48 0 0	100	162	154	152
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 4 0	49 0 0	47 8 0	47 0 0	100	157	152	150
" white	2% barley, 1% dirt	"	32 8 0	52 8 0	50 0 0	49 8 0	100	162	154	152
" red	2% barley, 1% dirt	"	32 4 0	50 8 0	49 0 0	48 6 0	100	157	152	150
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	40 4 0	41 8 0	43 0 0	100	158	163	169
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	37 0 0	31 0 0	31 0 0	100	140	117	117
Index No.—Cereals							100	156	149	148
<b>Pulses—</b>										
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	33 12 0	38 0 0	35 8 0	100	114	129	120
<b>Sugar—</b>										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	16 5 0		15 6 6	100	179	185	169
"	" brown	"	8 1 6		15 0 0		100			
Index No.—Sugar							100	179	185	169
<b>Other food—</b>										
Salt		Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 3	1 10 6	1 11 0	100	77	78	79
<b>Oilseeds—</b>										
Cotton seed		Maund.	2 11 3	3 11 0	3 5 0	3 8 0	100	136	123	129
Rapeseed	3% admixture	Candy.	51 0 0	73 8 0			100	144		
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	86 0 0	91 8 0	95 0 0	100	139	148	153
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	140	136	141
<b>Textiles—</b>										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	64 8 0	58 0 0	59 8 0	100	169	152	156

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LABOUR GAZETTE

MAY, 1926

<b>Textiles—Cotton</b>										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund.	20 4 0	42 8 0	29 5 0	26 4 0	100	200	198	196
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill	Piece	10 3 6	22 0 0	19 15 0	20 0 0	100	215	195	197
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	24 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100			
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2				100			
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	226	201	202
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton							100	221	182	178
<b>Other Textiles—Wool</b>	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	45 0 0	36 0 0	34 0 0	100	161	129	121
<b>Hides—</b>										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	20 0 0	13 0 0	13 4 0	100	94	61	67
"	Punjab	"	21 4 0	20 0 0	13 0 0	13 4 0	100	83	61	63
Index No.—Hides							100	94	61	67
<b>Metals—</b>										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	69 0 0	70 8 0	60 8 0	100	114	100	100
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 8 0	6 4 0	6 6 0	100	168	161	165
" Plates		"	4 6 0	7 6 0	6 2 0	6 1 0	100	169	140	139
Index No.—Metals							100	150	134	135
<b>Other raw and manufactured articles—</b>										
Coal	1st Class (Punjab)	Ton.	16 0 0	22 8 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	141	131	131
Kerosene	1st Class (Punjab)	Case.	4 5 0 0	9 6 8	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	164	165	165
"	Elephant	2 Tons.		7 6 6	7 5 0	7 5 0	100	167	165	165
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	164	160	160
Index No.—Food							100	146	144	141
Index No.—Non-food							100	159	140	140
General Index No.							100	154	142	140

MAY, 1926

LABOUR GAZETTE

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WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1923														
December ..	125	88	243	375	194	141	286	229	187	146	167	162	185	188
1924														
January ..	125	88	236	348	187	136	248	234	173	158	174	160	188	188
February ..	123	84	220	263	165	129	244	238	235	140	171	164	190	181
March ..	122	84	217	293	167	127	258	237	229	146	169	170	192	184
April ..	125	88	212	293	171	131	258	236	191	149	168	166	187	181
May ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	166	190	185
June ..	143	98	211	260	174	146	260	232	181	145	167	166	189	184
July ..	146	97	198	262	173	150	265	232	187	150	166	166	190	184
August ..	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	235	203	150	170	161	190	184
September ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	232	178	156	169	167	188	181
October ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	186	181
November ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	229	168	210	165	168	179	176
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	229	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	166	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	157	167	160
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	208	144	139	153	155	163	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	160
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	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	184	203	153	151	154	159	163	158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	184	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	184	191	148	149	150	155	158	155
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	184	186	149	155	151	158	158	155
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	184	186	147	153	151	158	158	152
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	141	186	145	147	151	153	153	150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	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, etc.	Food, fuel, light, rent, household utensils and furnishing	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscel-laneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and house-hold utensils	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, tax, etc.	Food, heating and lighting	Food, fuel, light and rent	(f)	Food, clothing, heating and light-ing, rent and miscel-laneous items
1913	100	100	100	(a) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	(f) 100	100	100	(g) 100
1915	104	125	97	119	(h) 108	116	99	117	119	103	106	105
1916	108	148	102	115	117	116	100	117	119	103	106	105
1917	118	180	130	116	128	146	100	117	119	103	106	105
1918	149	203	146	118	144	197	100	117	119	103	106	105
1919	186	208	155	132	157	205	100	117	119	103	106	105
1920	190	252	190	154	182	313	100	117	119	103	106	105
1921	177	219	152	152	178	379	100	117	119	103	106	105
1922	165	184	147	140	(i) 159	429	100	117	119	103	106	105
1923	153	169	146	..	(j) 487	429	100	117	119	103	106	105
1924	161	171	145	..	160	511	100	117	119	103	106	105
August ..	161	173	146	148	..	516	100	117	119	103	106	105
September ..	161	176	147	..	..	546	100	117	119	103	106	105
October ..	160	180	147	..	..	562	100	117	119	103	106	105
November ..	160	181	147	148	..	573	100	117	119	103	106	105
December ..	157	180	149	..	..	580	100	117	119	103	106	105
1925	157	179	150	..	161	592	100	117	119	103	106	105
January ..	159	179	148	150	..	602	100	117	119	103	106	105
February ..	158	175	147	..	..	600	100	117	119	103	106	105
March ..	156	173	146	..	..	591	100	117	119	103	106	105
April ..	154	172	146	..	..	596	100	117	119	103	106	105
May ..	157	173	146	..	..	598	100	117	119	103	106	105
June ..	152	173	149	..	163	610	100	117	119	103	106	105
July ..	151	174	149	..	..	624	100	117	119	103	106	105
August ..	153	176	149	155	..	643	100	117	119	103	106	105
September ..	153	176	149	..	..	643	100	117	119	103	106	105
October ..	155	177	154	..	..	640	100	117	119	103	106	105
November ..	155	175	153	156	..	665	100	117	119	103	106	105
December ..	154	173	154	..	..	661	100	117	119	103	106	105
1926	153	168	154	..	..	..	100	117	119	103	106	105
January ..	153	168	154	..	..	..	100	117	119	103	106	105
February ..	153	168	154	..	..	..	100	117	119	103	106	105
March ..	153	168	154	..	..	..	100	117	119	103	106	105
April ..	153	168	154	..	..	..	100	117	119	103	106	105
May ..	153	168	154	..	..	..	100	117	119	103	106	105

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

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay) (a)	India (Calcutta) (b)	India (Madras) (c)	India (Batavia) (d)	Australia	France (Paris) (e)	United Kingdom (f)	Germany (g)	Italy (h)	Norway (i)	Sweden	Canada (j)	United States of America (k)
No. of articles	43	56	151	51	92	24	150	48	93	47	236	325	
1913 Average	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	100	95	100	100	106	100	102	102	105	(a) 100	100	105	106
1915	117	117	117	117	147	102	140	140	155	(e) 159	145	139	101
1916	148	148	148	148	138	124	188	222	233	185	181	127	127
1917	222	222	222	222	153	169	262	286	341	244	179	177	177
1918	236	236	236	236	178	207	339	379	445	339	199	194	194
1919	222	222	222	222	189	226	356	397	472	332	209	206	206
1920	216	260	150	203	228	299	307	510	281	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 December	193	210	149	155	170	168	170	326	165	269	172	151	140
1922	175	183	149	196	168	147	156	362	155	220	155	153	150
1923	188	211	158	207	182	137	164	458	154	244	150	154	151
1924 February	188	208	160	205	180	135	167	544	158	260	153	157	152
March	181	206	158	204	175	136	165	499	155	266	154	154	150
April	184	207	154	205	174	134	165	450	154	267	156	151	148
May	181	205	154	205	173	135	164	459	153	263	151	151	147
June	185	200	152	202	171	131	163	465	151	264	149	152	145
July	184	195	152	202	171	132	163	481	151	271	148	153	147
August	184	200	149	202	169	143	165	477	151	274	152	157	150
September	181	207	149	202	170	148	167	486	158	275	153	154	149
October	181	213	153	202	171	156	170	497	161	276	162	157	152
November	176	214	155	202	171	158	170	503	161	277	162	158	153
December	176	214	157	202	171	156	170	508	160	278	163	161	151
1925 January	173	214	160	178	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	160
February	173	210	159	177	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	161
March	171	204	160	176	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
April	165	202	159	177	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
May	164	199	158	177	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
June	160	200	157	170	170	150	158	543	155	258	159	156	152
July	158	199	163	170	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	160
August	160	200	160	170	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
September	157	201	160	170	170	152	156	536	155	231	151	157	160
October	158	200	159	170	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
November	160	197	158	173	145	154	155	615	154	217	150	164	156
December	155	194	158	168	140	153	633	555	318	149	161	158	158
1926 January	155	192	164	168	134	151	634	553	314	150	164	156	156
February	152	188	163	168	134	149	636	549	211	148	162	155	155
March	150	164	164	168	134	144	636	549	211	148	162	155	155
April	150	164	164	168	134	144	636	549	211	148	162	155	155

\* July 1914 = 100 (a) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100 (b) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100 (c) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100 (d) Board of Trade (e) Board of Trade (f) Board of Trade (g) Board of Trade (h) Board of Trade (i) Board of Trade (j) Board of Trade (k) Board of Trade

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 (Paris)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (l)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	20	Amsterdam	30	44	100	2
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	95	..	114	108	100	128	120	119
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	111	..	117	106	128	142	146	129
1917	114	204	152	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	146	214	181	166	179	179
1918	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	175	229	208	187	212	212
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	188	260	207	212	230	230
1920	188	258	227	197	147	167	215	373	318	..	682	210	319	297	253	299
1921	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,279	180	265	212	246	267
1922	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	100	1,105	140	233	179	184	159
1923	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	1,088	140	216	163	180	164
1924 August	156	164	137	117	147	146	141	366	307	125	1,088	146	217	163	180	166
September	156	166	139	117	146	145	144	374	314	127	1,089	155	201	165	180	166
October	156	172	139	120	147	146	146	383	343	135	1,120	150	204	172	180	166
November	157	179	141	122	147	148	147	396	367	140	1,127	150	206	172	180	166
December	157	189	142	121	148	150	149	404	379	140	1,126	150	204	172	180	166
1925 January	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	390	141	1,100	150	207	170	180	166
February	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	410	139	1,099	155	205	170	180	166
March	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	415	424	136	1,119	151	204	171	180	166
April	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	420	130	1,099	150	206	170	180	166
May	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	399	125	1,099	150	205	169	180	166
June	149	166	141	122	153	149	152	422	398	131	1,067	149	201	169	180	166
July	152	167	141	120	156	151	150	421	402	133	1,107	152	205	169	180	166
August	147	168	146	119	156	152	150	423	421	137	1,082	151	204	169	180	166
September	146	170	146	118	156	153	150	431	443	141	1,149	148	201	168	180	166
October	148	172	147	118	157	153	150	433	446	144	1,179	148	201	168	180	166
November	149	172	151	117	156	156	148	444	449	144	1,130	148	203	165	180	166
December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	460	147	1,108	148	201	164	180	166
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	450	451	142	1,082	148	201	164	180	166
February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	455	456	142	1,076	149	201	164	180	166
March	151	165	154	117	155	152	158	455	456	142	1,076	149	201	164	180	166
April	150	159	154	117	155	151	158	455	456	142	1,076	149	201	164	180	166
May	150	159	154	117	155	151	158	455	456	142	1,076	149	201	164	180	166

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

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN MARCH AND APRIL 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	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		Mar. 1926	Mar. 1926	Mar. 1926	Mar. 1926	Mar. 1926	April 1926	April 1926	April 1926	April 1926	April 1926
<i>Cereals—</i>		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.
Rice ..	Maund ..	7 7 6 <i>134</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	7 10 6 <i>145</i>	8 13 10 <i>154</i>	7 6 3 <i>132</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	7 2 10 <i>136</i>	8 13 10 <i>154</i>
Wheat ..	" ..	7 6 6 <i>132</i>	6 14 1 <i>163</i>	8 0 0 <i>170</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>	7 6 6 <i>132</i>	6 10 8 <i>158</i>	8 0 0 <i>170</i>	6 8 3 <i>126</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>
Jowari ..	" ..	5 5 4 <i>122</i>	5 0 0 <i>138</i>	5 0 0 <i>131</i>	3 8 2 <i>122</i>	5 7 1 <i>159</i>	5 6 8 <i>124</i>	4 13 7 <i>133</i>	5 1 3 <i>133</i>	3 5 1 <i>116</i>	5 1 11 <i>149</i>
Bajri ..	" ..	5 12 4 <i>134</i>	6 2 6 <i>130</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 5 9 <i>124</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>	5 12 4 <i>134</i>	5 14 10 <i>141</i>	6 4 5 <i>133</i>	4 1 11 <i>111</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i> ..		<i>131</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>148</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram ..	Maund ..	6 0 0 <i>139</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	6 2 6 <i>154</i>	5 5 6 <i>124</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>	5 13 4 <i>136</i>	5 1 11 <i>134</i>	6 2 6 <i>154</i>	4 8 1 <i>105</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>
Turdal ..	" ..	7 8 6 <i>129</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	9 6 7 <i>133</i>	6 12 11 <i>117</i>	7 15 1 <i>120</i>	7 5 11 <i>126</i>	7 12 11 <i>117</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	6 2 8 <i>106</i>	8 2 11 <i>124</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i> ..		<i>134</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>121</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>106</i>	<i>118</i>

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<i>Other articles of food—</i>		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund ..	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	12 4 11 <i>169</i>	13 5 4 <i>148</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	14 9 9 <i>156</i>	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	12 1 2 <i>166</i>	12 12 10 <i>142</i>	12 12 10 <i>128</i>	14 0 7 <i>150</i>
Jagri (gul) ..	" ..	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	12 4 11 <i>158</i>	9 3 7 <i>131</i>	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	10 7 10 <i>135</i>	9 14 6 <i>141</i>
Tea ..	Lb. ..	0 15 5 <i>198</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>	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>
Salt ..	Maund ..	3 6 7 <i>160</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 3 4 <i>144</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>	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 15 5 <i>158</i>
Beef ..	Seer ..	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 5 6 <i>92</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 0 <i>155</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 5 6 <i>92</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton ..	" ..	0 12 6 <i>187</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 12 8 <i>190</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>
Milk ..	Maund ..	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	11 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>
Ghee ..	" ..	10 1 2 11 <i>199</i>	8 0 0 0 <i>187</i>	7 1 1 9 <i>160</i>	8 0 0 0 <i>142</i>	8 4 3 4 <i>163</i>	9 8 1 5 <i>193</i>	8 0 0 0 <i>187</i>	7 1 1 9 <i>160</i>	7 1 1 9 <i>127</i>	9 4 6 8 <i>164</i>
Potatoes ..	" ..	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	5 0 8 <i>93</i>	6 2 6 <i>162</i>	7 4 4 <i>182</i>	6 0 3 <i>179</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	5 6 1 <i>99</i>	6 2 6 <i>162</i>	5 12 1 <i>144</i>	7 4 10 <i>167</i>
Onions ..	" ..	4 12 3 <i>307</i>	4 6 7 <i>243</i>	4 0 0 <i>200</i>	3 10 2 <i>141</i>	3 0 1 <i>150</i>	4 2 8 <i>268</i>	4 0 10 <i>223</i>	4 0 0 <i>200</i>	3 5 4 <i>131</i>	4 1 11 <i>140</i>
Cocconut oil ..	" ..	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i> ..		<i>184</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>179</i>	<i>168</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>180</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i> ..		<i>166</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>148</i>

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