

## Securities Index Numbers

	Fixed interest Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.*	Cotton ginning and pressing companies.*	Electric undertakings.*	All Industrial Securities.	General average (102 Securities).		Fixed interest Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.*	Cotton ginning and pressing companies.*	Electric undertakings.*	All Industrial Securities.	General average (102 Securities).
1914 July..	100	100	100	100	100	100	1923 Dec.	71	215	122	131	160	154
1915 .. ..	96	97	94	90	101	100	1924 Jan.	71	196	122	126	151	146
1916 .. ..	87	114	102	122	130	127	.. Feb.	73	192	122	127	148	143
1917 .. ..	73	138	118	128	158	151	.. Mar.	74	189	122	128	146	141
1918 .. ..	74	212	131	139	194	184	.. Apr.	74	188	119	130	145	140
1919 .. ..	77	216	126	237	216	206	.. May	74	179	120	137	143	138
1920 .. ..	65	438	168	246	313	296	.. June	74	180	121	137	143	138
1921 .. ..	65	450	158	212	311	295	.. July	74	176	121	133	140	135
1922 Nov.	65	298	163	144	221	210	.. Aug.	74	192	124	130	148	143
.. Dec.	65	283	163	142	210	201	.. Sep.	72	203	124	131	153	147
1923 Jan.	65	292	163	149	216	206	.. Oct.	72	197	127	127	148	143
.. Feb.	65	288	166	152	214	204	.. Nov.	72	198	128	127	149	143
.. Mar.	67	255	142	140	193	185	.. Dec.	72	196	128	128	147	142
.. Apr.	68	241	142	133	186	178	1925 Jan.	72	205	129	141	152	147
.. May.	71	235	142	133	183	176	.. Feb.	72	204	131	157	154	148
.. 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

\* Also included in "Industrial Securities."

# LABOUR GAZETTE

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## The Month in Brief

### EMPLOYMENT—THE COTTON INDUSTRY

For the City of Bombay, detailed statistics regarding the supply of labour and absenteeism have not been received from a number of representative cotton mills in view of the general strike in this industry. Returns were received from seven mills only showing absenteeism for the days these mills were working during the month under review. Based on such a small number of returns, however, the figures of absenteeism are not strictly comparable. The average absenteeism for these seven mills was 16·7 per cent.

IN AHMEDABAD, the supply of labour was reported to be adequate during the month under review. Detailed reports of absenteeism received from representative mills in this centre showed an average of 3·1 per cent. during the month as compared with 3·2 per cent. last month and 3·3 per cent. two months ago.

IN SHOLAPUR, the supply of labour was adequate and absenteeism showed a decrease. The average was 10·7 per cent. as compared with 11·1 per cent. last month and 9·0 per cent. two months ago.

IN BROACH, absenteeism was 11·6 per cent. as compared with 12·1 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 principal centres of the industry during the month was adequate and absenteeism decreased in all the centres except in Bombay City where it showed an increase from 14·8 per cent. to 16·7 per cent. But these figures are not strictly comparable because of the general strike.

### 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 workshops) showed an increase, the figure being 14·5 per cent. as compared with 13·8 per cent. last month and 13·2 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 month.

There was no absenteeism on the construction of chawls (tenements) at Naigaum, Worli and Sewree during the month. The supply of unskilled labour employed for loading, removing, storing and unloading cargo in the docks by the Bombay Port Trust was equal to the demand. The percentage absenteeism was 15.1 as compared with 13.8 in the preceding month and 15.8 two months ago. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply of labour was equal to the demand, but a slight rise in absenteeism was recorded. The average absenteeism increased from 10.7 per cent. in the last month to 10.8 per cent. in the month under review. The percentage of absenteeism based on the attendance of monthly paid workers employed in the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust was 9, as compared with 12, in the preceding month.

#### WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING

In October 1925, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 153, 2 points above 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 148 for food articles only. There was a fall of 8 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 rise of 2 points in the general index is mainly due to an increase of 2 points in the food index and 4 points in clothing. Cereals rose by 3 points owing to a rise of 4 points in rice and 3 points in wheat. There was no change in the prices of jowari and bajri. Pulses also rose by 3 points. In other food articles, gul, salt, beef and coconut oil advanced and tea, ghee and onions declined in price, while sugars, mutton, milk and potatoes remained stationary. The index number for fuel and lighting was the same as in the previous month. The house-rent index number was taken to be 172, i.e., equal to the weighted average for the year 1923-24.

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

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

#### THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER

In September 1925, the general index of wholesale prices in Bombay was 157, 3 points below the level of the previous month. There was a fall of 3 points each in the food group and the non-food group. The index number for food grains only was 134, being one point lower than in the previous month. 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				
		May 1925	June 1925	July 1925	August 1925	September 1925
Foods ..	15	55	48	48	49	46
Non-foods ..	27	70	67	63	66	64
All articles ..	42	64	60	58	60	57

The work of revising the list of commodities for the Wholesale Prices Index Number, mentioned in the October 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 this office.

#### SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

In September 1925, the general level of quotations of 102 shares and securities was 124, thus showing a fall of 2 points as compared with the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities and Cotton ginning and pressing companies remained stationary. Banks rose by one point. Cotton mills declined by 5 points, Cement and manganese companies and Electric undertakings by 2 points each and Miscellaneous companies and Railway Companies by 1 point each. Industrial Securities declined by 2 points during the month under review. The diagram printed elsewhere shows the movements of security prices since 1919.

#### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were seven industrial disputes in progress during September 1925. The number of workpeople involved was 146,425 and the number of working days lost 1,551,927.

#### COTTON MILL PRODUCTION

Cotton Mill production in August 1925 and in the 5 months ended August 1925, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two

preceding years, is shown in the following two tables. During the month of August the production of yarn in Bombay City and Ahmedabad was slightly larger as compared with the corresponding months of the two preceding years, while the production of woven goods in Bombay city and Ahmedabad showed a decrease as compared with the production in the corresponding month of the previous year.

## (1) Month of August

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	August			August		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	29	29	29	17	21	18
Ahmedabad ..	8	7	8	6	8	7
Other centres ..	5	4	6	2	2	2
Total, Presidency..	42	40	43	25	31	27

## (2) Five months ending August

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Five months ending August			Five months ending August		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	135	131	147	82	88	90
Ahmedabad ..	22	38	42	21	37	36
Other centres ..	21	22	24	12	13	14
Total, Presidency..	178	191	213	115	138	140

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

	Net rate per lb. in annas		
	September 1924	August 1925	September 1925
Long Cloths .. ..	22½	18½	18½
T. Cloths .. ..	21	17½	17½
Chudders .. ..	21	17½	17½

## THE OUTLOOK

The fluctuations in the price of raw cotton were within narrow limits. The tone of the market was by no means bleak. Japanese firms purchased moderately. The extent of business transactions with European countries was very limited.

Business in English yarn was dull in the beginning, improved slightly in the middle and fell again towards the close of the month under review. The local yarn market showed considerable improvement this month. The general mill strike induced dealers to purchase in large lots in anticipation of demand. Consequently the price increased by ½ an anna per lb. during the second week. Towards the end of the month, however, prices became easier owing to decline in cotton prices. It is expected in business circles that with a good harvest and increased production, prices will again come down.

Business in Manchester piecegoods was not encouraging. There was some retail demand but neither the rates nor the clearances were satisfactory. The tone of the local piecegoods market was more hopeful. Large sales were possible, and dealers took this opportunity to clear their stocks, selling even at reduced rates. During the third week under report, the stocks were reduced by nearly 10 to 12 thousand bales. Prices of piece-goods advanced by one to two annas per lb.

The financial situation was not easy this month. The cash balances of the Imperial Bank of India declined by 204,372 and 8 lakhs during the first three weeks respectively. Call money was available at ½ per cent. in the first, 1 per cent. in the second and from 1½ to 1¾ per cent. in the third week of the month. The Government security market was steady.

The Working Class Cost of Living Index was 2 points higher in October as compared with the previous month. The wholesale prices index, on the other hand, fell by 3 points in September. The decline in cotton mill shares was of 5 points.

The bank rate increased to 5 per cent. from 24th September 1925. The rate of exchange in Bombay on London on 2nd October 1925 was 1s. 6½d., the same as on 1st September 1925.

## THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 19th OCTOBER

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

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

**Gujarat.**—The situation in this division especially in North Gujarat is one of considerable anxiety at this moment. Owing to continued absence of rain and owing to the prevailing intense heat the standing crops are getting scorched and withering away in many places while there seems little possibility of making rabi sowings on an extensive scale. The water in irrigation sources is just enough at present and is being fully utilised to help the crops wherever possible but if the water supply is not replenished by good rains soon it is likely that it may go short later on. Similarly, there seems a great likelihood of fodder scarcity being felt acutely later on in the season. The irrigated crops in the division are on the whole doing well. The early crops like bajri, sesame, early maize, etc., are being harvested.

**Konkan.**—Fairly good rain was received in this division early in October and this is reported to have been very useful wherever it was received. The rain has not however been general and more is still needed in the coastal talukas of the Thana district and in the above-ghat talukas of Kanara and in parts of the Ratnagiri district. The garden crops are doing very well while the other crops are reviving as a result of the rains noted above. On the whole, the situation in this division is fairly satisfactory.

*Deccan.*—Here, as a result of the good rains received at the end of September and early in October the situation has considerably improved almost throughout the eastern portion and in consequence in the districts of Ahmednagar, Sholapur and the eastern parts of Poona and Satara, the standing crops have appreciably revived and *rabi* sowings are now in full swing. In Khandesh and Nasik and in parts of the Poona district however more rain is urgently needed for *rabi* sowings and to help the standing crops. The early crops are being harvested nearly everywhere. The irrigated crops and those in the vicinity of the ghats are doing well.

*Karnatak.*—There has been good rain all over this division at the end of September and early in October. In some places this rain has been very heavy and has washed away bunds but except for this it has been very beneficial and it is anticipated that on account of this rain the area under *rabi* jowar will increase in the Bijapur district. The cotton crop is reported to have been seriously attacked by caterpillars in parts of the Dharwar district but except for this the crop is doing well. The situation, in this division, has on the whole been considerably improved owing to the good recent rains and the position seems to be quite hopeful at the present time.

#### OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

In the United Kingdom on 1st September the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour was approximately 74 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 73 per cent. at the beginning of August. For food alone the corresponding percentages were 70 and 68 respectively. The number of trade disputes at the beginning of August was 39, and 36 disputes which began before August were still in progress during the month.

Wholesale prices of materials were nearly stationary but a slight fall took place between the middle of August and the beginning of September. The prices of some foods rose. Depression in the textile, coal, iron and steel industries continued. A great deal of short time was worked in Lancashire. In the cotton industry the spinners did worse than the weavers. There was a substantial diminution in the volume of enquiry for yarn and neither agents nor manufacturers offered any business except at very low prices. Production of yarn was considerably curtailed.

The United States Bureau of Labour Wholesale Prices Index Number for August was slightly higher than in July, being 160.4. Farm products advanced above the July level. Employment in the manufacturing industries increased by 0.8 per cent. in August as compared with July, in selected industries for which statistics are available.

A state of monetary ease existed all over the United States during the month. The continued absence of the speculative spirit in the goods markets was the predominating feature of the commercial situation as also of the credit situation.

In France and Germany business outlook remained almost the same as in the previous month. In the former country, however, a great deal of optimism was noticeable among the farmers owing to the very large estimated yield of wheat. It is reported that the yield of wheat this year will be 89,561,086 quintals as compared with 76,525,130 quintals in 1924.

In Canada, according to the 22nd Annual Estimate of Grain Crops at Manitoba and Alberta recently published, it is expected that the total for 1925 would be 788,062,646 bushels. This compares very favourably with the figures for some years past.

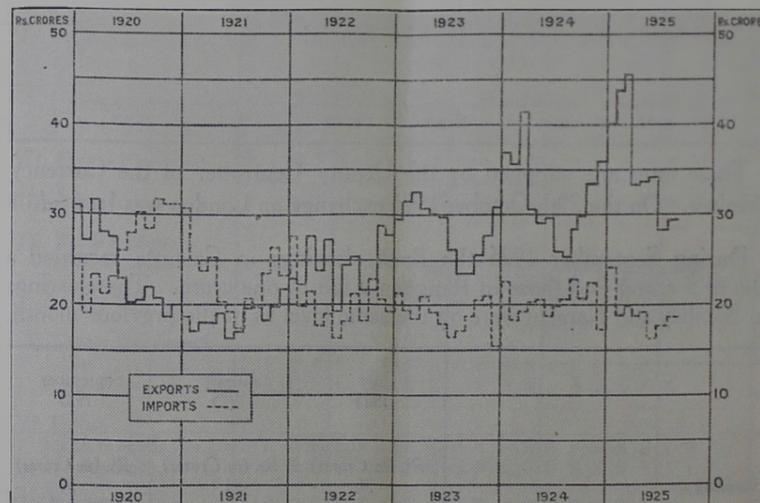
#### THE BALANCE OF TRADE

During September 1925, the visible balance of trade, including Securities, against India amounted to Rs. 383 lakhs.

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

—	India		Bombay		Karachi	
	August 1925	September 1925	August 1925	September 1925	August 1925	September 1925
	<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>		<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>		<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>	
Exports (private merchandise) ..	29.24	28.11	5.57	4.61	2.25	2.05
Imports do. ..	18.83	18.53	6.38	6.76	2.27	2.55
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 10.44	+ 9.58	— 81	— 2.15	— 2	— 50
Imports of treasure (private) ..			3.29	4.64	3	2
Exports of treasure (private) ..			9	40	..	1
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	— 3.38	— 4.62	— 3.20	— 4.24	— 3	— 1
Visible balance of trade including securities ..	+ 1.84	— 3.83				

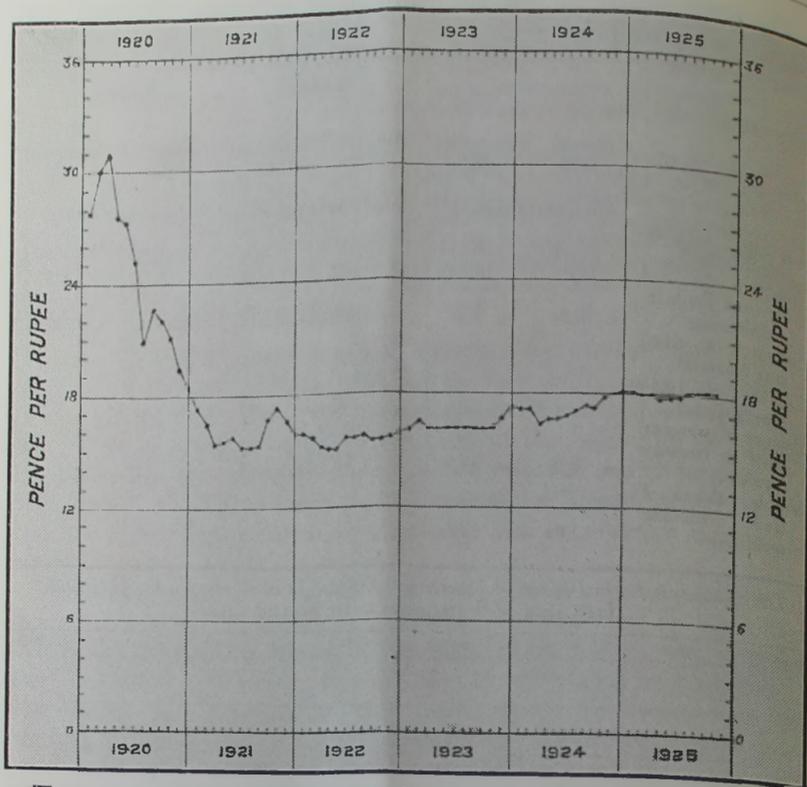
The movements of actual figures of Imports and Exports of private merchandise for British India since 1920 are shown in the annexed diagram



#### BUSINESS CONDITIONS

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

	s.	d.		s.	d.
November 1924 ..	..	1 5 31/32	May 1925 ..	..	1 5 13/16
December ..	..	1 6	June ..	..	1 5 31/32
January 1925 ..	..	1 6 1/16	July ..	..	1 6 1/16
February ..	..	1 5 15/16	August ..	..	1 6 3/32
March ..	..	1 5 31/32	September ..	..	1 6 5/32
April ..	..	1 5 13/16	October ..	..	1 6 5/32



These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 29th October 1925 exchange on London was 1s. 6<sup>5</sup>/<sub>32</sub>d.

During September 1925 the Bank clearings in Calcutta recorded a rise of 3 crores and those in Rangoon a fall of one crore. The clearings in Bombay and Karachi were on the same level as in the previous month.

	July 1925	August 1925	September 1925
	Rs. (in Crores)	Rs. (in Crores)	Rs. (in Crores)
Bombay .. .. .	36	31	31
Karachi .. .. .	4	3	3
Calcutta .. .. .	80	79	82
Rangoon .. .. .	11	8	7
Total .. .. .	131	121	123

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of September 1925 was 59.31 as against 59.03 in August and 58.12 in July 1925.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1925

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

RAINFALL DIVISION	JUNE			JULY				AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER									
	3rd	10th	17th	24th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	5th	12th	19th	26th	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th	7th	14th	21st		
<b>I. BOMBAY PRESIDENCY</b>																							
1 Sind (River)	S	N	N	N	E	E	N	N	F	E	E	E	S	F	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
1 Sind (Rainfall)	E	N	S	F	E	E	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2 Gujarat	E	E	F	F	E	E	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
3 Deccan	E	F	S	E	E	E	S	S	F	F	F	F	N	N	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	
4 Konkan	E	N	S	E	F	F	E	F	S	E	F	F	N	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	
<b>II. MADRAS PRESIDENCY</b>																							
1 Malabar	E	S	S	E	E	S	N	N	E	F	E	E	F	N	S	S	S	S	S	F	F	F	F
2 Deccan	F	S	S	E	S	F	E	E	E	N	E	S	N	F	S	S	S	S	S	F	F	F	F
3 Coast North	E	S	S	E	E	S	S	S	E	E	E	E	N	F	N	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F
4 South East	F	F	E	E	F	S	N	N	E	N	E	S	S	S	F	N	S	S	S	F	F	F	F
<b>III. MYSORE</b>																							
	S	S	F	F	E	S	F	E	S	E	N	N	F	F	S	S	N	E	S	F	S	S	S
<b>IV. HYDERABAD</b>																							
1 North	E	S	S	N	S	S	E	N	F	S	E	N	N	F	S	S	E	S	F	E	F	F	F
2 South	E	S	S	E	S	S	E	N	E	F	E	N	F	F	S	S	E	N	F	E	F	F	F
<b>V. CENTRAL PROVINCES</b>																							
1 Berar	E	N	F	N	E	E	F	N	F	E	E	F	F	S	F	S	S	F	S	S	S	S	
2 West	E	F	F	N	N	E	E	F	N	E	N	E	F	F	S	F	S	F	S	S	S	S	
3 East	E	S	F	N	E	E	E	N	E	N	E	F	E	N	S	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	
<b>VI. CENTRAL INDIA</b>																							
1 West	E	E	S	E	F	S	N	N	E	F	N	S	F	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
2 East	E	E	S	N	F	E	N	N	E	N	S	F	N	F	E	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
<b>VII. BENGAL PRESIDENCY</b>																							
	F	N	F	F	E	S	N	E	F	F	N	N	S	N	N	E	F	F	S	E	E	E	
<b>VIII. ASSAM</b>																							
	F	N	F	F	N	N	N	E	E	F	E	N	N	N	N	E	E	F	S	F	E	E	
<b>IX. BIHAR &amp; ORISSA</b>																							
1 Bihar	N	E	F	F	F	S	F	E	E	N	E	E	N	E	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
2 Orissa	N	S	S	F	E	E	N	N	F	F	E	E	N	E	F	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
3 Chota Nagpur	F	N	S	N	E	N	N	E	E	S	F	E	N	E	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
<b>X. UNITED PROVINCES</b>																							
1 East	E	E	F	E	E	E	E	N	E	N	E	S	S	N	E	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
2 West	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	N	E	N	E	S	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
<b>XI. PUNJAB</b>																							
1 East & North	E	E	E	E	E	N	N	E	E	E	N	F	S	S	F	S	S	S	S	S	F	S	
2 South West	N	N	S	E	F	N	S	S	E	E	S	E	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	E	N	
<b>XII. NORTHWEST FRONTIER</b>																							
	E	S	S	E	F	S	F	F	E	E	S	N	S	S	E	S	S	S	S	S	E	N	
<b>XIII. RAJPUTANA</b>																							
1 West	E	S	E	N	E	S	S	E	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	F	S	
2 East	E	E	F	E	N	S	N	E	N	N	S	S	S	S	F	S	S	S	S	S	F	S	
<b>XIV. BURMA</b>																							
1 Lower	E	E	F	F	N	E	N	E	F	F	N	F	S	F	E	E	N	F	F	F	N	F	
2 Upper	N	F	E	E	F	F	N	E	F	F	N	F	S	F	E	E	F	F	F	F	F	E	

NOTES— Blank entries are used for weeks before and after the usual cultivating period, i.e., when the rainfall is of less importance. "Excess" means more than 120% of the normal; "Normal" from 80 to 120%; "Fair" from 40 to 80%; and "Scanty" below 40%. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Calculation is made in his office on the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Division, excluding Hill Stations. The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—OCTOBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price x Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Sept. 1925	Oct. 1925	July 1914	Sept. 1925	Oct. 1925
<b>Cereals—</b>								
Rice .. ..	Maund	70	Rs. 5.394	Rs. 6.995	Rs. 7.234	Rs. 391.58	Rs. 489.65	Rs. 506.30
Wheat .. ..	"	21	5.94	6.792	6.943	117.47	142.63	145.80
Jowari .. ..	"	11	4.354	5.583	5.583	47.89	61.41	61.41
Bajri .. ..	"	6	4.313	5.609	5.609	25.88	33.65	33.65
<b>Total—Cereals ..</b>						582.82	727.34	747.24
<b>Index Numbers—Cereals ..</b>						100	125	128
<b>Pulses—</b>								
Gram .. ..	Maund	10	4.302	5.167	5.333	43.02	51.67	53.33
Turdal .. ..	"	3	5.844	6.573	6.729	17.53	19.72	20.19
<b>Total—Pulses ..</b>						60.55	71.39	73.52
<b>Index Numbers—Pulses ..</b>						100	118	121
<b>Other food articles—</b>								
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	2	7.620	13.693	13.693	15.24	27.39	27.39
Raw Sugar (Gul) ..	"	7	8.557	14.880	15.474	59.90	104.16	108.32
Tea .. ..	"	36	40.000	76.922	75.641	1.00	1.92	1.89
Salt .. ..	"	5	2.130	3.412	3.505	10.65	17.06	17.53
Beef .. ..	Seer	28	0.323	0.500	0.510	9.04	14.00	14.28
Mutton .. ..	"	33	0.417	0.771	0.771	13.76	25.44	25.44
Milk .. ..	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Ghee .. ..	"	14	50.792	101.787	100.000	76.19	152.68	150.00
Potatoes .. ..	"	11	4.479	7.141	7.141	49.27	78.55	78.55
Onions .. ..	"	3	1.552	4.167	3.573	4.66	12.50	10.72
Cocoanut Oil .. ..	"	4	25.396	28.573	29.167	12.70	14.29	14.58
<b>Total—Other food articles ..</b>						381.18	694.15	694.86
<b>Index Numbers—Other food articles ..</b>						100	182	182
<b>Total—All food articles ..</b>						1,024.55	1,492.88	1,515.62
<b>Index Numbers—All food articles ..</b>						100	146	148
<b>Fuel and lighting—</b>								
Kerosene oil .. ..	Case	5	4.375	7.438	7.438	21.88	37.19	37.19
Firewood .. ..	Maund	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal .. ..	"	1	0.542	0.839	0.839	0.54	0.84	0.84
<b>Total—Fuel and lighting ..</b>						60.44	99.52	99.52
<b>Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting ..</b>						100	165	165
<b>Clothing—</b>								
Chudders .. ..	Lb.	27	0.594	1.078	1.125	16.04	29.11	30.38
Shirtings .. ..	"	25	0.641	1.240	1.245	16.03	31.00	31.13
T. Cloth .. ..	"	36	0.583	1.094	1.125	20.99	39.38	40.50
<b>Total—Clothing ..</b>						53.06	99.49	102.01
<b>Index Numbers—Clothing ..</b>						100	188	192
<b>House-rent ..</b>	Per month.	10	11.302	19.440	19.440	113.02	194.40	194.40
<b>Index Numbers—House-rent ..</b>						100	172	172
<b>Grand Total ..</b>						1,251.07	1,886.29	1,911.55
<b>Cost of Living Index Numbers.</b>						100	151	153

The Cost of Living Index for October 1925

A RISE OF TWO POINTS

All articles .. 53 per cent. Food only .. 48 per cent.

In October 1925, the average level of retail prices for all commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay, was 2 points higher than that in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 151 in September and 153 in October 1925. This is 40 points below the high watermark (193) reached in October 1920 and 4 points lower than the twelve monthly average of 1924.

The rise of two points in the cost of living was mainly due to a rise of 2 points in all food. Cereals and Pulses rose by 3 points each. Rice and wheat which increased by 4 and 3 points respectively accounted for the rise in Cereals. The prices of jowari and bajri remained steady. Pulses rose because of an increase of 4 points in gram and 3 points in turdal. There was no change in the index number for other food articles, a rise of 7 points in raw sugar (gul), 5 points in salt, 3 points in beef and 2 points in cocoanut oil being counter-balanced by a fall of 38 points in onions and 3 points each in tea and ghee. Sugar (refined), mutton, milk and potatoes remained stationary.

Clothing rose by 4 points due to an increase in the price of every item included in that group. The fuel and lighting group recorded no change from the previous month.

All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914.

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
	Per cent.							
January ..	34	82	83	69	73	56	59	57
February ..	34	76	81	62	65	55	56	57
March ..	36	72	77	60	65	54	54	59
April ..	44	67	72	60	62	56	50	58
May ..	47	68	73	67	63	53	50	56
June ..	48	74	81	73	63	52	53	54
July ..	49	86	90	77	65	53	57	57
August ..	53	79	91	80	64	54	61	52
September ..	65	72	92	85	65	54	61	51
October ..	75	74	93	83	62	52	61	53
November ..	75	73	86	82	60	53	61	
December ..	83	74	81	79	61	57	60	
Yearly average ..	54	75	83	73	64	54	57	

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 September and October 1925 as compared with that for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

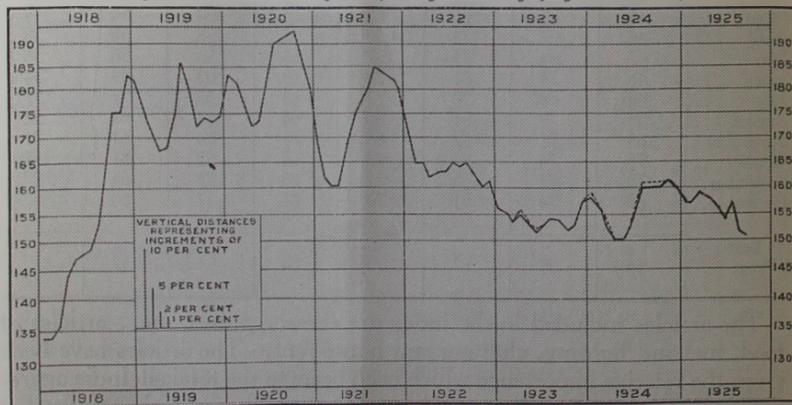
Articles	July 1914	Sept. 1925	Oct. 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Oct. 1925 over or below Sept. 1925	Articles	July 1914	Sept. 1925	Oct. 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Oct. 1925 over or below Sept. 1925
Rice ..	100	125	129	+ 4	Salt ..	100	160	165	+ 5
Wheat ..	100	121	124	+ 3	Beef ..	100	155	158	+ 3
Jowari ..	100	128	128	....	Mutton ..	100	185	185	....
Bajri ..	100	130	130	....	Milk ..	100	191	191	....
Gram ..	100	120	124	+ 4	Ghee ..	100	200	197	- 3
Turdal ..	100	112	115	+ 3	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	....
Sugar (refined).	100	180	180	....	Onions ..	100	268	230	-38
Raw sugar (gul).	100	174	181	+ 7	Cocoonut oil ..	100	113	115	+ 2
Tea ..	100	192	189	- 3	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	146	148	+ 2

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

Rice 22, Wheat 19, Jowari 22, Bajri 23, Gram 19, Turdal 13, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 45, Tea 47, Salt 39, Beef 37, Mutton 46, Milk 48, Ghee 49, Potatoes 37, Onions 57, Cocoonut Oil 13.

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

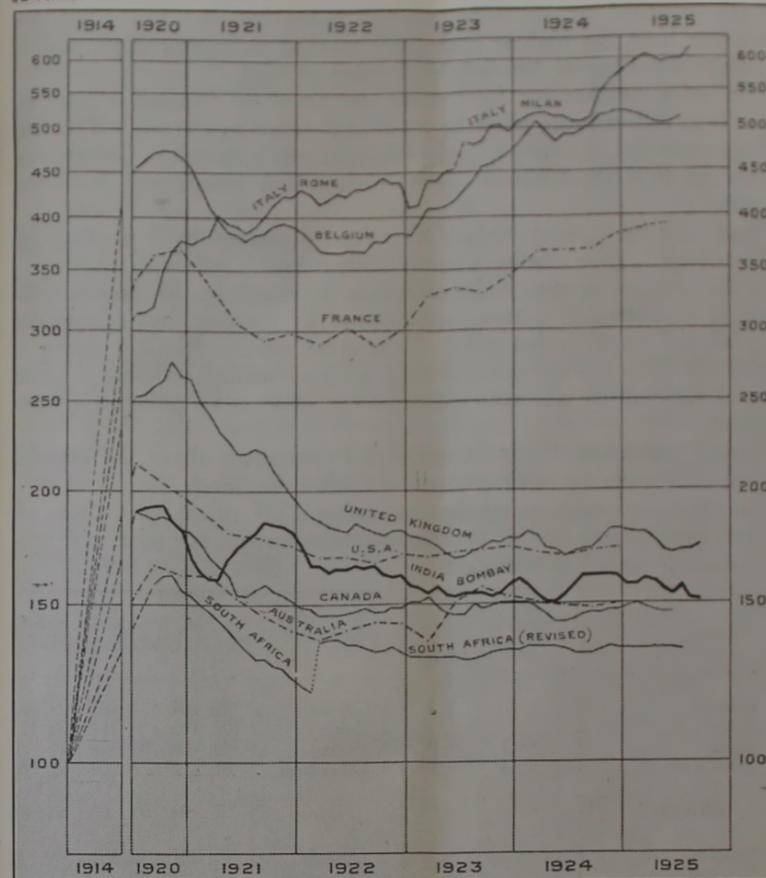
Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)\*



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

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

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



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

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

## Wholesale and Retail Prices

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

In September 1925, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay was 57 per cent. above the level in July 1914. The fall of 3 points in the general index was mainly due to a fall of 3 points each in the food-group and the non-food group. The general index number has fallen by 106 points from the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and is 25 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1924.

The index number for food-grains decreased by 1 point, a rise of 4 points in Pulses being offset by a fall of 3 points in Cereals. The rise in Pulses was due to a rise of 8 points in gram while the fall in Cereals was mainly due to a fall of 3 points each in wheat and jowari and 6 points in bajri.

Sugar rose by 1 point while Other food decreased by 7 points. In "Other food", ghee rose by 6 points while turmeric fell by 27 points.

In the non-food group, Hides and skins decreased by 20 points, Oilseeds by 4 points and Cotton manufactures by 1 point, thus accounting for a fall of 3 points in that group. The index number for Other textiles, Metals and Other raw and manufactured articles remained stationary. The price of Raw cotton was assumed to be the same as no quotations were available.

During September 1925, Cereals and Pulses were above the average level of 1924 while the other groups were below that level.

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

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

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with Aug. 1925		+ or - % compared with Sept. 1924		Groups	Sept. 1924	Dec. 1924	Mar. 1925	June 1925	Aug. 1925	Sept. 1925
1. Cereals ..	7	-2	+1	1. Cereals ..	106	104	115	105	109	107		
2. Pulses ..	2	+4	+9	2. Pulses ..	103	103	108	111	109	113		
3. Sugar ..	3	+1	-19	3. Sugar ..	95	80	84	77	76	76		
4. Other food ..	3	-4	-30	4. Other food ..	88	90	77	64	65	62		
All food ..	15	-2	-13	All food ..	97	94	95	86	86	84		
5. Oilseeds ..	4	-3	-8	5. Oilseeds ..	105	101	96	101	99	96		
6. Raw cotton ..	3	..	-29	6. Raw cotton ..	103	83	83	75	73	73		
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	..	-12	7. Cotton manufactures ..	100	94	91	90	89	88		
8. Other textiles ..	2	..	-14	8. Other textiles ..	95	86	84	75	81	81		
9. Hides and skins ..	3	-12	-3	9. Hides & skins ..	93	135	93	91	103	90		
10. Metals ..	5	..	-9	10. Metals ..	100	98	96	93	91	91		
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	..	-5	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	102	103	102	96	98	98		
All non-food ..	27	-2	-13	All non-food ..	100	98	93	89	89	87		
General Index No. ..	42	-2	-13	General Index No. ..	99	97	94	88	88	86		

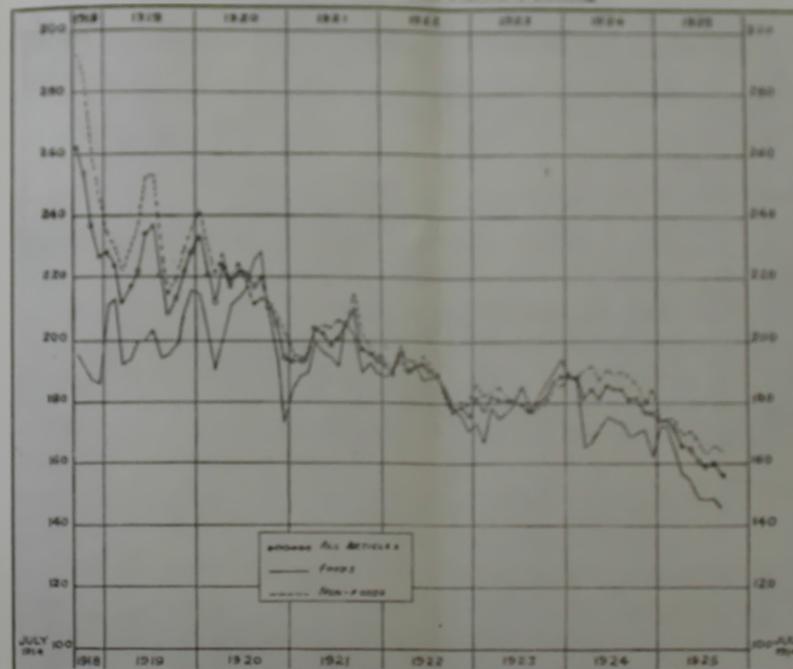
\* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 200.

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

July 1914 = 100				
		Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average	1918 .. ..	171	209	226
"	" 1919 .. ..	202	233	232
"	" 1920 .. ..	206	219	216
"	" 1921 .. ..	193	201	199
"	" 1922 .. ..	186	187	187
"	" 1923 .. ..	179	182	181
"	" 1924 .. ..	173	186	182
Nine-monthly	1925 .. ..	157	169	165

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

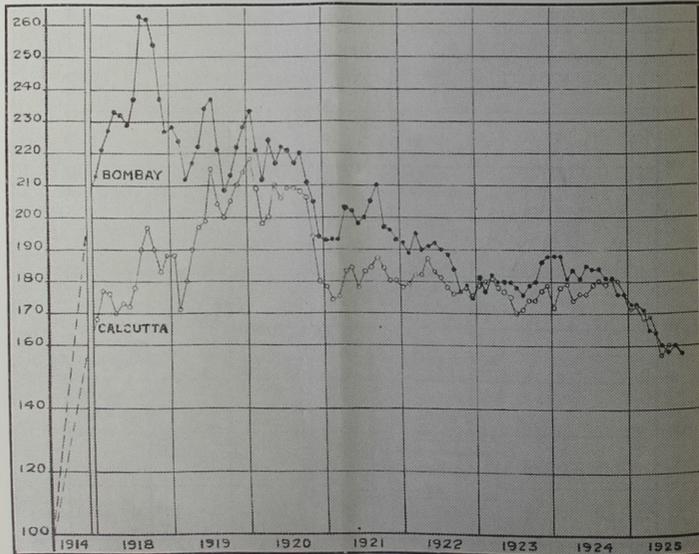


#### COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

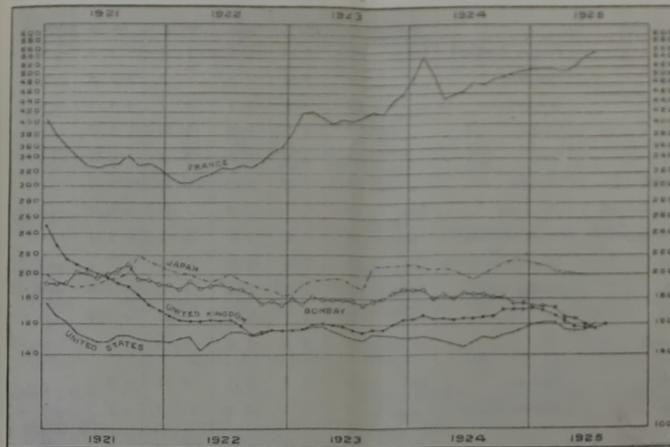
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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 the two curves temporarily crossed.

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



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

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



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

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

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

## RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiva- lent in tolas	July 1925		Sept 1925		Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Sept 1925 over or below	
				July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1914	Aug 1925
Rice	.. Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	As. p. 5 10	As. p. 7 6	As. p. 7 5	As. p. + 1 7	As. p. - 0 1	
Wheat	.. Pissi Seoni	..	216	5 10	7 5	7 4	+ 1 6	- 0 1	
Jowari	.. Best Sholapuri	..	200	4 3	5 8	5 7	+ 1 4	- 0 1	
Bajri	.. Ghati	..	208	4 7	5 9	5 10	+ 1 3	+ 0 1	
Gram	.. Delhi	..	200	4 4	5 3	5 2	+ 0 10	- 0 1	
Turdal	.. Cawnpore	..	208	5 11	6 10	6 10	+ 0 11	....	
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 1	2 1	+ 0 11	....	
Tea	.. Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	14 10	15 0	+ 7 2	+ 0 2	
Salt	.. Bombay, black	.. Paylee	176	1 9	3 1	3 0	+ 1 3	- 0 1	
Beef	..	Lb.	39	2 6	3 11	3 11	+ 1 5	....	
Mutton	..	..	39	3 0	6 0	6 0	+ 3 0	....	
Milk	.. Medium	.. Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	....	
Ghee	.. Belgaum, Superior	..	28	7 1	14 0	14 3	+ 7 2	+ 0 3	
Potatoes	.. Ordinary	..	28	0 8	1 1	1 0	+ 0 4	- 0 1	
Onions	.. Nasik	..	28	0 3	0 7	0 7	+ 0 4	....	
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.

The variations in prices during September 1925 as compared with the previous month were slight. Except bajri which rose by 1 pie per paylee and turdal which remained steady, the food grains declined in price, each by 1 pie per paylee. Ghee rose by 3 pies per seer and tea by 2 pies per lb., while sugar (refined) and potatoes each fell by 1 pie per seer. The other articles remained unchanged with the exception of salt which was cheaper by 1 pie per paylee.

As compared with July 1914, ghee and onions have more than doubled themselves while mutton has exactly doubled itself. Sugar, gul, tea, salt, beef and milk were more than 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. The rise in the prices of food-grains was comparatively much less.

## COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

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

Bombay prices in Aug. 1925 = 100

Bombay prices in Sept. 1925 = 100

Articles	Bombay prices in Aug. 1925 = 100					Bombay prices in Sept. 1925 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice ..	100	113	126	119	125	100	114	127	120	125
Wheat ..	100	92	106	108	114	100	93	107	109	115
Jowari ..	100	78	78	69	89	100	80	76	69	90
Bajri ..	100	88	102	86	105	100	83	97	87	104
Average—										
Cereals ..	100	93	103	96	108	100	93	102	96	109
Pulses—										
Gram ..	100	87	109	100	96	100	89	111	108	97
Turdal ..	100	101	122	105	97	100	101	122	105	118
Average—										
Pulses ..	100	94	116	103	97	100	95	117	107	108
Other articles										
of food—										
Sugar (re-										
fined) ..	100	80	90	93	96	100	83	90	97	93
Jagri (Gul).	100	72	108	89	87	100	72	108	90	92
Tea ..	100	105	105	120	127	100	104	104	119	126
Salt ..	100	57	65	92	85	100	59	67	94	87
Beef ..	100	125	50	63	75	100	125	50	63	75
Mutton ..	100	97	81	81	73	100	97	81	81	73
Milk ..	100	45	57	76	76	100	46	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	80	85	80	84	100	79	87	79	83
Potatoes ..	100	107	90	94	74	100	112	112	112	60
Onions ..	100	113	113	96	48	100	109	120	96	59
Cocoonut										
oil.	100	107	124	118	107	100	107	124	118	98
Average—										
Other articles										
of food ..	100	90	88	91	85	100	90	91	93	84
Average—										
All food										
articles ..	100	91	85	93	92	100	91	96	95	92

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. The relative averages for all food articles rose at Sholapur and Ahmedabad by 2 points and 1 point respectively while those at Karachi and Poona remained the same. Referring back to September 1924, it is found that in relation to Bombay, the averages for all food articles have increased at all the four centres—at Karachi by 4 points, at Sholapur by 3 points and at Ahmedabad and Poona by 1 point each. The relative prices of rice, wheat, Jagri (gul) and tea have risen at all the four mofussil centres. Ghee at Sholapur was 107 and is now 79. The relative price of beef at Ahmedabad has declined from 123 to 50 while that of onions has increased by 46 points. Reading from left to right the relative prices of onions were 100, 83, 74, 80, 63 which bear little resemblance to the current prices. Both the differences between different centres at any given date and the fluctuations of these differences are surprisingly high and it is not apparent why an article not locally produced (like tea and refined sugar) should sometimes be dearer and sometimes cheaper at any mofussil centre than at Bombay.

## Securities Index Number

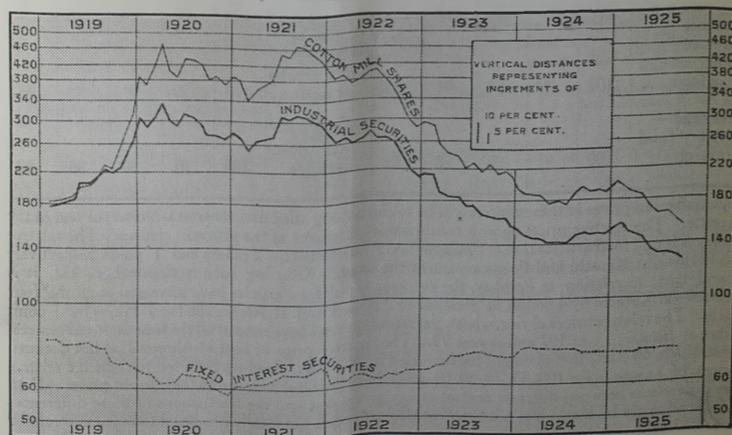
### A FALL OF TWO POINTS

In September 1925 the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number was 124 as against 126 in the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities and Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies recorded no change while Banks rose by 1 point. The other securities declined—Cotton Mills by 5 points, Cement and Manganese Companies and Electric undertakings by 2 points each and Miscellaneous Companies and Railway Companies by 1 point each. All these contributed towards a fall of 2 points in the Industrial Securities.

The Construction of the Index

No.	—	—	July 1914		September 1925	
			Total numbers	Total numbers	Average	
1	Government and Corporation Securities	7 Index Nos.	700	516	74	
2	Banks	6 " " "	600	802	134	
3	Railway Companies	10 " " "	1,000	1,081	108	
4	Cotton Mills	42 " " "	4,200	6,569	156	
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies	8 " " "	800	946	118	
6	Cement and Manganese Companies	5 " " "	500	463	93	
7	Electric Undertakings	2 " " "	200	265	133	
8	Miscellaneous Companies	22 " " "	2,200	1,988	90	
9	Industrial Securities	95 " " "	9,500	12,114	128	
10	General average	102 " " "	10,200	12,630	124	

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



## Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

### The Bombay Cotton Mill Industry

#### GENERAL STRIKE

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1925 special mention was made in "The Month in Brief" of the general strike which had broken out in the cotton mills of Bombay City on the 15th September owing to the decision of the Bombay Millowners' Association to reduce the "dearness allowances" granted to the millworkers during recent years by 20 per cent., thus effecting a total cut of 11½ per cent. on gross wages.

Millowners in Bombay and Ahmedabad have for over six months complained of a severe and unprecedented depression in the Cotton Mill Industry of this Presidency which they attributed to (1) high prices ruling for raw 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 3½ 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 maintain 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 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 so exceedingly critical at the present juncture 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 Government to their various representations regarding the abolition of the Excise Duty they had no other course 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 wage cut in their earnings.

The workpeople refused to agree to any reduction in their wages. They stated (1) that they obtained the increases granted to them on their pre-war wages in the shape of dearness allowances 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 wages received by them were insufficient to provide them with a decent standard of living; and (3) that the millowners ought to hold an enquiry with a view to effecting a decrease in the costs of production retrenchments 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 overproduction. The Millowners contended that if the working hours were reduced by one day's work 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 make 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 came out on strike.

At the moment of writing, the strike has been in progress for over a month. The two cotton mills at Kurla outside the City employing a total number of 4,600 workpeople, which are usually the last to be affected by a strike closed down on the 6th October. It has been estimated that over 30,000 workers of the Bombay Cotton Mills have left Bombay for their homes in the districts of the Konkan and in the Ahmednagar, Nasik and Poona districts.

A deputation of labour leaders waited upon His Excellency the Governor of Bombay on Monday the 12th October and presented an address on behalf of the whole of the workpeople employed in the cotton mill industry in Bombay. The deputation pointed out that the continuance of the strike was undesirable from every point of view. It affected the shareholders of the mills as much as the labourers. From the view point of labour a continuation of the strike meant a sure danger to the health of the city. The workers could not agree to a wage cut of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. not only because they did not think it to be just but also because, in their opinion, it would neither solve the immediate problem of the heavy accumulation of stocks nor would it give any appreciable relief to the industry. The only effect of the cut in wages would be the penalisation of the workmen. The real root causes for the depression were to be found in the system on which the industry is based and the manner in which it is conducted and unless the whole system of management and conduct was thoroughly overhauled it was difficult to forecast any improvement in the situation. The deputation therefore urged the appointment of a Committee of Experts to enquire into the whole position of the textile industry in Bombay and suggested that, pending the publication of its findings, the notices of the wage cut should be withdrawn.

Replying to the address presented by the deputation, His Excellency the Governor said:

"I welcome the opportunity of meeting you to-day for more reasons than one. In the first place, this gives me an opportunity of refuting the constantly reiterated statement that my Government and I are showing callous indifference (and I quote a phrase which is being very widely used) to the interests of the industry or the welfare of the workers. I cannot honestly believe that any serious minded public men could believe that any Government could take up such an attitude in a crisis such as this, and I had hoped that the efforts which my Government and I had made in the past would have been sufficient evidence to show how utterly untrue and unfounded any such accusation is.

"May I for one moment refer to the actions taken by my Government in connection with industrial disputes. As you are aware, shortly after my arrival in India a somewhat similar stoppage of work occurred in the mills. Government then, as now, had no statutory powers to intervene. But on that occasion there was a definite difference of opinion, namely the claim on the part of the factory workers on the one hand that they were legally entitled to the bonus; and the argument on the part of the millowners that there was no legal obligation on their part to pay it. Government set up a committee to inquire into this one definite point. It was decided against the factory workers, who returned to work.

"The experience of this industrial disturbance pointed out very clearly the necessity of Government being empowered by statute, not merely to endeavour to settle disputes in industry once started, but also to be in a position to bring both parties together in an endeavour to discuss any situation which might precipitate a strike. Accordingly, a Bill was drafted and was ready for presentation to the Legislative Council for the July session of last year, but the Government of India were unable to grant sanction to this Bill because they considered the question a central one and were contemplating legislation themselves. I sincerely trust the proposed Bill by the Government of India will soon become an act and with regard to the necessity for an early passage of this Bill into law by the Government of India we have made more than one representation so as to give Government the powers which are so badly needed in the interests of all parties.

"Every other possible step was taken to deal with any possible situation similar to that which arose in January 1924, and I have seen no criticism, nor did I expect to find any of the very good arrangements of the Commissioner of Police under the orders of Government to protect life and property and preserve peace, no less in the interest of the great majority of workers who do not intend or desire to break the peace, than in the interest of all the citizens of Bombay. In dealing with the accusations of callous indifference of my Government and myself to the present situation, both Government and I are obviously handicapped by the fact that all correspondence passing between this Government and the Government of India is, of course, confidential, as must be all letters and telegrams which pass between His Excellency the Viceroy and myself.

" I see that we are reproached for our failure to induce the Government of India to agree to the suspension of the Excise Duty. Some very remarkable and in fact amazing statements are being made in this connection, and I confess to considerable surprise that the authors of such statements should have made them. My only reply to any such statements is, that subject to constitutional procedure, neither my Government nor I could possibly have done more than we have. You must accept my word, for I can say no more than that for the reasons I have given and I may add that we are not ceasing in our efforts. But, frankly, I am not at the present moment very hopeful of any immediate suspension or abolition of this Duty.

" I must mention here that there appears to be some confusion of thought in the minds of some on this matter, and the abolition of the Excise Duty and the reduction of the Provincial Contributions are very often mentioned together, while as a matter of fact they are two absolutely distinct issues. We have for many years protested against the Provincial Contribution based on the report of the Financial Relations Committee known as the Meston Settlement, and we have urged without ceasing an inquiry as soon as possible in order that the financial relations between the Government of India and this Presidency shall be readjusted with a view to giving to the Presidency a fairer share of its revenues and at least some share in any possible expending revenue. This has, however, nothing to do with the Excise Duty.

" The position is, I am afraid, only too clear as regards the present industrial dispute. The millowners insist on the cut of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. but factory workers are unwilling to return to work unless their wages are not reduced. The millowners argue that a large majority of mills cannot at present afford to work without this reduction of wages. They apprehend that the few that can will not be allowed to do so by unemployed workmen. I do not think that your associations are in a position to contradict this statement and guarantee, on behalf of the workmen, the peaceful working of a few of the mills only.

" Neither side is willing to move. I have seen both, and the millowners have promised: firstly, that they will restore the former rate of wages when better conditions return; secondly, that if the Excise Duty is suspended they will do away at once with the cut; and thirdly that they will pay all wages due to the factory workers at once. I now come to your representation and I feel I must make one or two comments on your remarks before dealing with your suggestions. You remind me that when I met you on the 12th of August you made three suggestions which you have just restated, and you also say that you think I could have intervened in the struggle and appointed a committee to settle the dispute.

" I told you when I saw you that all your suggestions would receive very careful consideration. They did so, and I discussed them at considerable length with the representatives of the Millowners' Association immediately after meeting you. You say you do not know what transpired at that meeting except that the millowners refused to withdraw the notices. A press communique was issued after that meeting was held, and there was really nothing more to tell you. It is a fact that the millowners did not

see their way to withdraw the notices, nor were they prepared to take any part in the appointment of the committee suggested by you, and I really do not see how any useful purpose could have been served by setting up a committee unless the Government was assured of the full co-operation of both sides.

" You have referred to the position in England, but the two cases are by no means similar. The British Government was in a position to help the coal industry by means of a subvention, and it has done so. The Bombay Government is in no such position. If, for instance, the Bombay Government were in a position to say to the millowners that the Excise Duty would be withdrawn provided that the millowners were prepared to agree to an inquiry into the management of the mills and accept the recommendations of such a committee, then I certainly consider that the Government of Bombay would be in a position to set up such a committee of inquiry as you have suggested. Unfortunately, the decision with regard to the Excise Duty or with regard to any assistance to the mill industry in other ways, such as by protection against dumping or unfair foreign competition, does not rest with my Government, and for that reason it is impossible to compare, as you have done, the position in Britain and the position which has arisen here now.

" You have said that the shareholders are bitterly complaining about the strike, and in more than one place you have alluded to the shareholders. I would suggest to you that the shareholders have their own remedy; they are entitled to call a general meeting of the shareholders and, by their own vote, to insist on a complete inquiry into the administration of the mills if by a majority they so desire.

" I gather from your remark when you said that you think I could have intervened in the struggle and appointed a committee to settle the dispute, that you consider my Government has not done all that it could have done. I have explained to you the position and the action which Government took. I noticed that you yourselves spoke strongly against the advisability of a strike before the strike took place. I should have hoped that, representing the factory workers, you would have called public meetings together and urged your views on them, for I cannot help thinking that had you done so the workers would have respected your opinions and it may be that by your action a strike would have been averted.

" I would still urge upon you to use your best efforts in the interests of all to get the factory workers to return to the mills which the owners tell me will be open to receive them, in the hope that better times are at hand and the dispute in wages will automatically adjust itself. Judging from the present position and the sales of stocks on hand, I cannot help feeling that better times are coming and coming soon.

" I now come to your definite proposals which really are the same as those which you put before me last August, and I must say again that, I must ask you to realise that however anxious the Government may be to help, Government cannot do so without the co-operation of all parties concerned. Unarmed, unfortunately as Government is, with any statutory powers, the only function we can perform is to use every endeavour to

bring both sides together and strive to bring about, with the help of public opinion, a settlement. We are most anxious to see an end to this interruption of work. It is bad for Bombay, it is bad for trade, it injures the credit and the commercial progress of the city and Presidency, above all, it places many thousands of men anxious and willing to earn a living in a position which may lead some of them, through privation, to take steps which are entirely contrary to their nature and antagonistic to their wishes or desires.

"Unless absolutely essential, interference by Government, as I have said before, is undesirable in industrial disputes. Government has, however, a definite responsibility for the welfare of the citizens of the Presidency and for the maintenance of law and order. You may, therefore, be assured that our services are fully at the disposal of both owners and workers so far as we can help. Your definite proposals are, in effect, the withdrawal of the notices of the wage cut and the appointment of a committee to inquire into the management of the mills. I shall communicate at once with the Millowners' Association urging upon them the extreme desirability of doing all that lies in their power to bring this dispute to an early termination.

"It may be desirable, on receipt of their reply, to ask representatives of the Association to come and meet my honourable colleague and myself to discuss the whole situation again with them. Even if the millowners agree to such an inquiry—and no such inquiry will be of any use without their full co-operation—I would suggest to you that the institution of such an inquiry will not put an immediate end to the present dispute, and it is because I agree with you as to the dangers which may lie ahead if this dispute continues that I strongly urge both sides to use their best efforts, as Government is doing, to bring this dispute to an early end.

"In your speech you have addressed your remarks to me personally, and I want to remind you that in all matters of great importance such as this I act entirely after consultation with and with the full concurrence of my honourable colleagues in the Government. I really must point out to you that Government has no power whatever to insist upon the withdrawal of the notices if the owners are unwilling to do so. I have one final word to say, and that is to suggest that at any rate you make an effort to get into touch again with the Millowners' Association so that you can freely and fully discuss your points of view with them in the hope of some early understanding which will end this unfortunate dispute. Such a conference must do good, must help to prevent misunderstandings and must provide an avenue through which you will march together towards, at any rate, an earlier settlement of the dispute and one which will have the way to the possible avoidance of similar disputes in the future.

"I realise your difficulties, for you cannot truly say you represent even the majority of the factory workers. But you have made a good start to do so, and I hope you will continue in your efforts towards the formation of a body truly and fully representative of this great mass of labour in Bombay. I am sure the millowners would be glad indeed if they knew they were dealing with the labour in the mills properly and fully organised. Government would, I can assure you, welcome such a position."

## Questions in the Legislature

### COUNCIL OF STATE

The Honourable Mr. Munmohandas Ramji : Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a comparative statement showing recommendations and conventions passed at International Labour Conferences and ratified and put into effect by India and Japan, respectively?

The Honourable Mr. A. A. L. Parsons : Up to the end of 1924, seventeen Draft Conventions had been approved at International Labour Conferences. Of these India has ratified nine and Japan six. I place on the table a statement giving the details. Recommendations are not capable of ratification.

#### Conventions of the International Labour Conference

Subject	Ratified by	
	India	Japan
1. Hours of work .. .. .	X	....
2. Unemployment .. .. .	X	X
3. Child birth .. .. .	....	....
4. Night work for women .. .. .	X	....
5. Minimum age (industry) .. .. .	....	....
6. Night work for young persons .. .. .	X	....
7. White phosphorus* .. .. .	X	X
8. Minimum age at sea .. .. .	....	X
9. Unemployment indemnity (sea) .. .. .	....	....
10. Employment for seamen .. .. .	....	X
11. Minimum age (agriculture) .. .. .	....	X
12. Rights of Association (agriculture) .. .. .	X	....
13. Workmen's Compensation (agriculture) .. .. .	....	....
14. White Lead .. .. .	....	....
15. Weekly rest (industry) .. .. .	X	....
16. Minimum age (trimmers and stokers) .. .. .	X	....
17. Medical examination of young persons at sea .. .. .	X	X

\* A Berne Convention forming the subject of a recommendation.

### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan : In connection with my starred question No. 268 asked in the Assembly on the 26th January 1925, regarding the number of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) if there are Trade Unions in the other Provinces of British India ; and

(b) their number respectively wherever they exist ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :

(a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India have no reliable statistics.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : Will Government be pleased to state when they propose to introduce their Arbitration and Conciliation Bill ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : Government do not propose to introduce any Bill dealing with trade disputes this session.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : Will Government introduce it next session ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : I am not in a position to commit Government in the matter at present.

Mr. Chaman Lall : What is the reason for the delay, Sir ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : It is the time taken over the Indian Trade Unions Bill.

Mr. Jamnadas N. Metha : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have any estimate of the extent of unemployment in India ?

(b) Is it true that Sir Atul Chatterjee is responsible for a statement at the Geneva Labour Conference that there was no unemployment in India ?

(c) Have complaints reached Government with regard to the weakness of industry against foreign competition in every direction ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is their intention to delegate a special officer or appoint a committee to consider this matter and to find some more or less permanent solution for mitigating the evil ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : Government are not in possession of accurate statistical information on the subject.

(b) No. I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the reply given by Sir Atul Chandra Chatterjee to Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha's question No. 1685 on the 8th September 1924.

(c) and (d). The answer is in the negative. The position of particular industries has been and is being examined by the Tariff Board and Government do not see the necessity for a general inquiry.

Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai : Has the Government seen the report of the Joint Committee of the Parliamentary Labour Party and International Executive Committee of the Labour Party recommending the banning of all imported articles produced abroad under sweated labour conditions ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : No.

Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai : Do the Government recognise that tariff manipulation is of little use against a country which utilises sweated labour ? The only method by which they can face competition from the country which uses sweated labour is the banning of imports from such country ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : That is a matter of opinion, Sir.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : May I ask the Honourable Member whether piecegoods produced in India are produced under sweated conditions or not ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : That again, Sir, is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha : What, according to the Government of India, Sir, is sweated labour ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : I shall require a notice of that question, Sir.

Mr. Chaman Lall : May I ask whether in giving his reply to this question the Honourable Member's attention had been drawn to this Resolution passed by the International Executive Committee of the Labour Party ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : The Honourable Member can read any meaning he wants to into the answer I have already given to Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai.

Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai : (a) Is it a fact that the Peace Treaty of Versailles provides the machinery for international action against the country where sweating conditions of labour exist ?

(i) Do Government propose to utilize that machinery ? If not, why not ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :

(a) No.

(i) Does not arise.

Mr. Chaman Lall : Is it a fact that the Executive Committee of the Labour Party have announced their intention of utilizing the machinery set up by the Versailles Treaty, namely, the International Labour Office, for the stoppage of imports of sweated goods into a particular country ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : I have no information on that point, Sir.

Mr. Chaman Lall : Will the Honourable Member, whenever the occasion arises, make a similar proposition with regard to sweated goods, namely, in connection with the mills in this country ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : That, Sir, does not arise out of this question. If the Honourable Member will give me notice of the question, I shall certainly look into it.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : May I ask whether Government will be ready to inquire into this matter ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : Government are always ready to make inquiries into matters in regard to which a reasonable case for investigation is placed before them.

### The International Labour Conference

The Government of India have been informed that the Eighth and Ninth Sessions of the International Labour Conference will be held at Geneva in 1926. It is intended that the Ninth Session should follow the Eighth without any interval and the two sessions will probably be held in May or June ; the exact date will be notified later. The formal Agenda of the two Sessions is as follows :—

*Eighth Session.*—Simplification of the inspection of emigrants on board ship.

*Ninth Session.*—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.

2. The representation of each State should include four delegates of whom two will be government representatives, one a representative of the employers, and one a representative of labour. The right of nominating all the delegates rests with the Government of India, but in selecting the

delegates for employers and labour, the Government of India will attach due importance to recommendations made by organised representative associations of employers and employed. In view of the nature of the agenda, special weight will be given on this occasion to nominations made by associations of shipowners and seamen.

3. All suggestions as to the nomination of non-Government delegates should reach the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour at the earliest possible date, and in any case, not later than 15th January 1926, in order to enable Government to make the selections, to report them to the International Labour Office and to make adequate arrangements for the journey of the delegates. Allowances (on a scale which can be ascertained by application to the Department of Industries and Labour) will be granted by Government to defray the expenses of delegates finally nominated.

### Workmen's Compensation

*Details of Compensation and of proceedings during September 1925 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)*

This article contains the summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of September 1925. Information has not been received from one Commissioner and of the 31 cases disposed of during the month under review, 29 were reported by the Commissioner for Bombay as against 24 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. 11,650-14-3 was awarded as compensation against Rs. 11,142-6-0 in August and Rs. 13,331-10-0 in July. Out of 31 accidents 10 were fatal, 20 cases were of permanent partial disablement and 1 case of temporary disablement.

The number of Compensation cases in cotton mills was 15 during the month under review as against 10 in the preceding month. No disease case has come up since January 1925.

Claimants for compensation were males over 15 in 30 cases and female over 15 in one case.

Out of 31 cases in September, 16 were original claims and 15 registrations of agreement. Compensation was awarded in 16 cases and agreement was effected in 15 cases.

### Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER 1925

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

#### I. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of September in Bombay City,

Ahmedabad, Karachi, and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During September there were in all 201 factory accidents in Bombay City of which 2 were fatal, 4 serious and the remaining 195 minor accidents. Of the total, 33 or 16 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 168 or 84 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion in different classes of factories being 78 per cent. in workshops, 20 per cent. in textile mills and 2 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 26 accidents 25 of which occurred in cotton mills and one in a match factory. Of these 26 accidents 15 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. One of these accidents was fatal, eleven serious and the rest minor.

In Karachi there were in all four accidents three of which occurred in Railway and Port Trust Workshops and one in a miscellaneous concern. Of these four accidents two were serious and two minor.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 31 out of which 11 occurred in textile mills, 18 in workshops and 2 in miscellaneous concerns. Eleven accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Two of these accidents were serious and the rest minor.

#### II. PROSECUTIONS

##### BOMBAY

One metal factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, for breach of Section 23 (a) in respect of employment of four uncertified children. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 55 in all four cases (Rs. 25 for one and Rs. 10 for each of three cases).

One cotton press factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Factories Act for breach of Section 20 in respect of employment of women in contravention of Section 20. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 175 in all seven cases (Rs. 25 for each of the seven cases).

One type foundry was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Factories Act for breach of Section 23 in respect of the employment of uncertified children. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

##### KALYAN (THANA)

One match factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Factories Act for breach of Section 24 (a) in respect of employment of women and for breach of Section 23 (b) in respect of employment of children at night. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 450 in all nine cases (Rs. 50 for each of the four cases of employment of women and Rs. 50 for each of the five cases of employment of children).

##### AHMEDABAD

One cotton mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Factories Act for breach of Section 26 in respect of employing women during the mid-day interval. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 120 in all six cases.

Another cotton mill was prosecuted under Section 43 (c) of the Factories Act for breach of Rule 24 for not keeping latrines in sanitary

condition in spite of several warnings being given. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

One hosiery factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (h) of the Factories Act for breach of Section 35 in respect of not maintaining "D" forms register for night workers. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

### Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in September .. 7      Workpeople involved .. 146,425

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

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

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in September 1925			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Sept. 1925	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Sept. 1925*
	Started before 1st Sept.	Started in Sept.	Total		
Textile ..	3	4	7	146,425	1,551,927
Total September 1925 ..	3	4	7	146,425	1,551,927
Total August 1925 ..	....	9	9	1,347	4,884

\* 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 seven, six of which occurred in cotton mills. The remaining one was a general strike affecting 73 cotton mills, two silk mills and two dye-works in Bombay City. The number of workpeople involved in all these seven disputes was 146,425 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers

replaced) was 1,551,927. The number of workpeople involved in the general strike alone was 145,328 at the end of the month under review and the number of working days lost was 1,549,160.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results May to September 1925

	May 1925	June 1925	July 1925	August 1925	September 1925
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	16	2	4	9	7
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	2	1	....	....	3
Fresh disputes begun ..	14	1	4	9	4
Disputes ended ..	15	2	4	6	6
Disputes in progress at end ..	1	....	....	3	1
Number of workpeople involved ..	11,825	6,518	346	1,347	146,425
Aggregate duration in working days ..	202,683	138,459	1,543	4,884	1,551,927
Demands—					
Pay ..	9	1	....	7	2
Bonus ..	....	....	....	....	1
Personal ..	3	1	3	2	3
Leave and hours ..	....	....	....	....	....
Others ..	4	....	1	....	1
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	2	....	....	....	1
Compromised ..	6	....	....	1	....
In favour of employers ..	7	2	4	5	5

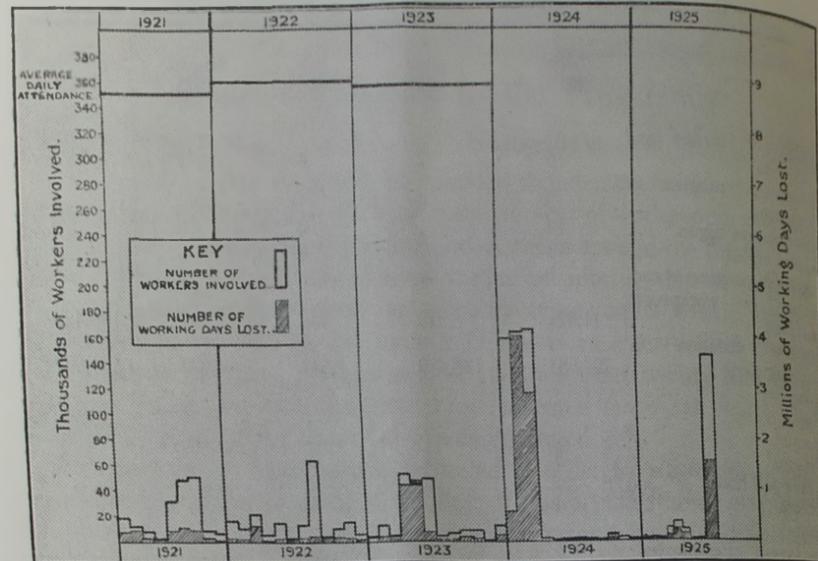
The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

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.)	
September 1924 ..	4	1,496	75	25	..	..
October ..	5	19,567	40	40	..	20
November ..	6	4,201	67	..	16	17
December ..	6	941	67	16	17	..
January 1925 ..	5	1,444	40	40	20	..
February ..	4	3,070	50	..	25	25
March ..	7	9,962	72	14	14	..
April ..	11	70,672	46	9	27	18
May ..	16	202,683	44	13	37	6
June ..	2	138,459	100	..	..	..
July ..	4	1,543	100	..	..	..
August ..	8	4,884	56	..	11	33
September ..	7	1,551,927	72	14	..	14
Totals or (cols. 4 to 7) Average ..	85	2,010,849	64	13	13	10

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 September 1925 the number of industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency was seven as compared with eight in the previous month but the number of workpeople involved was 146,425 as compared with 1,172 in the previous month. Of these seven disputes two were due to the question of pay, one to the question of bonus and the rest to personal and other grievances. Five of these disputes terminated in favour of the employers, one in favour of the employees and one was in progress at the end of the month.

#### BOMBAY

During the month under review there was no other dispute in Bombay with the exception of the general strike. The cause of this strike was the decision of the Millowners' Association to reduce the dearness allowances by 20 per cent. thus effecting a reduction of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in the total wages of all operatives with effect from 1st September 1925. The strike broke out suddenly on the 15th September affecting 15 mills on that day. It gradually spread over all the mills in the city affecting more and more mills every day. At the end of the month under review it affected all the mills in the city excepting two woollen mills and one cotton mill at Mazgaon. The total number of mills of all description thus affected was 77 (73 cotton mills, 2 silk mills and 2 dye works) and the total number of workers involved was 145,328.

#### AHMEDABAD

There were four disputes in progress in Ahmedabad during September 1925. The dispute in the Silver Cotton Mills which began on the 31st

August and involved 100 throstlemen was due to the dismissal of a member of the Local Labour Union who was an employee of the mill. On the 3rd September the Secretary of the mill put up a notice to the effect that the pay of the strikers would be forfeited if they failed to resume work within 24 hours of the notice and that a striker resuming work after that period would be fined Rs. 2. The notice did not have the desired effect and the manager engaged new men in place of those who went on strike. On the 14th, 15 strikers resumed work agreeing to pay Rs. 2 each as a fine and they also agreed to have no concern with the Labour Union. The strike thus terminated in favour of the employers. A Head Jobber of the Shri Laxmi Weaving and Manufacturing Company did not like to work under a newly appointed supervisor and went on strike on the 9th with 50 other weavers. The next day 12 of the strikers resumed work unconditionally and the management engaged 13 new men. The strike terminated on the 11th when the strikers were paid off and their services dispensed with. The dispute in the New Swadeshi Mills Company arose on the 16th over the dismissal of a Head Jobber whose work was unsatisfactory when 350 weavers struck work demanding his reinstatement. On the 17th the manager put up a notice to the effect that the wages of the strikers were forfeited as they had struck work without giving previous notice and that the mill would remain closed and that the wages would be paid on the 22nd. On the 19th the management re-employed the Head Jobber when he promised to work properly. The strikers thereupon resumed work on the same day and the strike terminated. 150 weavers of the Gordhan Weaving and Spinning Mills Company demanded that the management should show the dearness allowance separately from wages in order to enable them to compare their allowance with that paid in other mills. The demand was refused and the weavers struck work on the 28th. On the 30th the strikers were paid off their wages and dismissed and thus the strike terminated in favour of the employers.

#### BROACH

The dispute in the Whittle Mill No. 3 which occurred on the 20th August over the question of compensation money and is described in the previous issue of the Gazette terminated on the 3rd September when the strikers resumed work unconditionally.

#### SURAT

A notice was issued by the Agent of the Surat Weaving Mills Company to the effect that the dearness allowance would be reduced by 50 per cent. from 1st September 1925. As a result of this notice 125 operatives struck work on the 30th August and 50 more joined them on the 31st. The strike terminated on the 8th September when the strikers resumed work unconditionally.

## Social Service

### BOMBAY LEAGUE'S WORK

The Bombay Social Service League held its fourteenth annual meeting on Saturday in the Servants of India Society's Hall, Sandhurst Road, Bombay, Mr. K. M. Jhaveri presiding.

Mr. N. M. Joshi, the Secretary, read the report for the year 1924, which showed that at the end of the year the League had under its management nine night schools, out of which six were primary and three English schools, one of the latter being a high school. The total number of students attending these schools was 404 with an average daily attendance of 324. In some of these night schools boys' clubs had been organised, the object being to infuse in them by means of lectures, debates, gatherings and other functions a spirit of mutual goodwill and comradeship, as well as to enable them to develop their elocutionary powers.

With the object of training workmen employed in textile mills and increasing their efficiency, the League had started a textile technical school, in connection with its Workmen's Institute at Parel, in July 1924. At present only night classes were held and instruction was imparted, according to a syllabus approved by a committee of experts, in spinning and weaving. The instruction was both theoretical and practical. Recently the first year's students were examined by examiners deputed by the Committee of Direction for technical education (Bombay Presidency), and the results were quite satisfactory. New admissions had been made; at present the number of students on the roll was 33. A separate shed for accommodating machinery for practical training was nearly ready.

Through the Mahila Mandal or the Women's Branch of the League various classes were held for women. The sewing and cutting class, started in 1922, showed a steady progress and 56 women took advantage of it during the year. Also first aid and home nursing classes were held from time to time for women at Parel. A maternity and hygiene class was held for women at Angre's Wadi, Girgaum. The League maintained five libraries and reading rooms at different centres in addition to the travelling library.

During the year under report 44 lantern lectures were given for the benefit of different classes of people in various localities, the subjects being co-operative societies, sanitation, infant welfare and maternity care, human physiology, tuberculosis, malaria, dental hygiene, temperance, etc. There were at the end of the year 48 scouts and 90 cubs in the Social Service League Boy Scouts Troop, otherwise known as 31st Bombay Boy Scout Troop. The League maintained a dispensary, called Bai Bachubai Charitable Dispensary for Women and Children at the Working Men's Institute at Parel. It was in charge of a lady doctor. During the year 16,739 patients (8,481 women and 8,258 children) were treated at the dispensary, and on behalf of the Arya Mahila Samaj 73 maunds and 8 seers of milk was supplied to needy women and children as recommended by the lady doctor. Also 1,962 patients were given free prescriptions by a doctor at the Madanpura settlement.

Arrangements had been made at the Working Men's Institute and the Parel Settlement to give free legal advice to the poor involved in legal difficulties. Also petitions, applications, complaints, representations, etc., were written for them at a nominal fee. Since the Workmen's Compensation Act had come into force, the League had been helping workmen to obtain compensation due to them. Till the end of the year such help was given in nine cases. This work was rapidly growing and the number of cases helped up to date was 60 and the amount of compensation secured for them was nearly Rs. 25,000.

The total receipts of the League during the year amounted to Rs. 80,545 and the total payments to Rs. 81,603. Out of the balance of Rs. 27,456 only Rs. 5,156 was available for current expenditure, the rest being locked up in Government securities and the reserve fund. The League needed Rs. 50,000 for the Textile Technical School, and for a shed for gymnasium, etc., out of which at least Rs. 25,000 must be immediately found.

On the motion of Mr. B. N. Motiwala, seconded by Mr. R. S. Asavale, and supported by Mr. H. R. Hamley, the report was adopted.

The Chairman observed that the League had never cried "halt" in its work, which was always progressive. It was ever ready to take up any new work which was for the benefit of the poor workmen. They knew that the Workmen's Compensation Act had done a lot of good to the poor, but they had to remember that if it was not properly worked it might as well do a lot of harm. The Social Service League had been out to help the workmen, knowing as they did that there were some subterranean agencies intent upon exploiting them. There was no doubt that such agencies did exist, and the report of the League showed that there were already people at work to do away with the beneficent effect of the Workmen's Compensation Act. It was just this evil which the League was trying to meet. (*From "Times of India," Bombay, October 13, 1925.*)

## Port Trust Employees' Union

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The fourth annual general meeting of the members of the Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union was held on Sunday afternoon at Hira Bag, Bombay. Mr. John Turner, Mr. N. M. Joshi and Mrs. Turner were present at the meeting.

The report of the Union for the year ending 21st March 1925 showed that the total number of membership stood at 700. The total income during the year was Rs. 2,312-12-3, while the expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 1,070-8-9. Twelve meetings of the managing committee were held during the year at which various individual complaints of the men pertaining to the conditions of service, leave, etc., were discussed and as far as possible redressed. The Union also issued bulletins for the purpose

of bringing about a strong combination among the men and was still making efforts to add to the number of the members so as to do further effective work in the direction of the objects of the Union.

On the motion of the Chairman, the report was unanimously adopted.

#### *Trade Unionism in India*

Mr. Turner in the course of a speech congratulated the Union on the excellent progress it had made during the year. He explained briefly the conditions of the dockers in England preceding the strike of 1889 and how they set themselves to organise along Trade Union lines after the strike with a view to strengthen their position. Now they had been able to establish their standard of comfort and he wanted the dockers here to cling to their trade union and follow the example set by their fellow-workers in Great Britain. As a Labour man the speaker thought it his duty to spread the principles of trade unionism wherever he could.

Passing on to the mill crisis in Bombay, Mr. Turner said that now he had examined the balance sheets of various mills, he was in a position to declare that there was no excuse whatever for the millowners or capitalists to push the workers still lower down. He referred to some of the significant resolutions passed by the Trade Union Congress a few weeks ago dealing with Asiatic labour and pointed out that the general council of the congress had been called upon to consider the desirability of sending a delegation to Egypt, China, Japan and India to investigate the conditions of labour. Mr. Turner hoped that by next year an official delegation from the Trade Union Congress would visit India to study the labour situation in the country and he exhorted the gathering to render them every possible assistance while they were in Bombay to enable them to get at the true facts. Trade unionism was universal and it infused a marvellous spirit of solidarity among the workers and wherever the movement existed, the conditions of the workers were the highest and the best. He hoped the Port Trust Employees' Union would imbibe that spirit and try to spread it among other workers as well. If there was going to be any real peace in the world, the speaker concluded, it was to be established only by the international organisation of the workers themselves.

Mr. N. M. Joshi on behalf of the Union expressed their sense of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Turner for the able guidance they had received from them with regard to the trade union movement. As a well-known labour leader in England, Mr. Turner's visit to them and his speeches on labour questions were of great value, and Mr. Joshi assured him that they would ever cherish the memory of his visit to their Unions in Bombay as a source of great inspiration to them all. The speaker proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Turner and Mr. Turner for giving them the benefit of their experience in that city.

The motion was carried with acclamation and the meeting terminated with an appropriate acknowledgment of the compliment by Mr. Turner. (From "Times of India," Bombay, October 13, 1925.)

### The New South Wales 44-Hour Week Bill

The New South Wales 44-Hour Week Bill, now being debated in the State Parliament, will apply to all industries in New South Wales covered by State or Federal awards, and will take effect by Government proclamation on a date to be announced after the measure becomes law. No reduction of the existing rates of pay are to follow the introduction of the shorter working week.

The Bill provides that the number of hours worked must not exceed eight hours during 24 consecutive hours, or 44 hours a week. When a short day has been worked or lesser working days than six in each week are adopted in an industry, the time worked on any day may exceed eight hours in order to allow the full number of hours to be worked during the standard working period. However, no employee will be permitted to work on more than six out of a seven consecutive days. In underground occupations, or in other occupations, in which conditions as to temperature, ventilation and lighting are similar to those obtaining in underground occupations, working time is restricted to six hours daily if, for four hours of the shift, the temperature exceeds 81 degrees Fahrenheit.

It is also provided in the Bill that the working of overtime may be restricted or prohibited for the purpose of distributing the work available, so as to relieve unemployment. Action in this direction may be ordered by a court or board, or may result from an agreement by the parties. Authority is given for increasing the ordinary working hours in an industry beyond those prescribed if the Court is of opinion that it is essential in the public interest that an increase should be allowed. In cases where the ordinary working hours in an industry are reduced by the Bill, the wages specified in the governing award or agreement, whether on a daily or hourly basis, are to be automatically increased to such amounts as will provide each employee who works full time with the same amount of wages as he would have received for working the full period of the former standard working week. Provision is also made that rates of pay for overtime shall remain in proportion to the rates brought about by the operation in the Bill.

Awards or industrial agreements made under Commonwealth Acts, which provide for minimum rates for wages on an hourly or daily rate and standard hours of work in excess of 44 weekly, are made the subject of a special clause. It is provided that employees governed by such awards shall be paid, in addition to the award wages, further wages in accordance with a formula which is laid down in the Bill. The formula is as follows: "For every hour worked up to 44 in any week the rate shall be determined by the minimum hourly rate multiplied by the standard working hours prescribed, minus 44, divided by 44."

There is also a clause which provides that for every hour worked in excess of 44 in every week up to four, payment shall be at the rate equal to the difference between the minimum hourly rate and the overtime hourly rate provided for in the award or agreement. (From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," September 17, 1925.)

## Trade Union Investment Funds in Belgium, France, Germany and Spain

In the September 1925 issue of the *International Labour Review*, there appears an article on the above subject by Dr. Max Turmann. The Trade Union Investment Fund Movement originated in Belgium where the Liege Branch of the National Union of Belgium employees and commercial travellers decided to form a co-operative society in which each member would take up at least one share of 25 francs per year, the resulting funds being used to purchase shares in individual undertakings in the district. The idea which animated the promoters of this movement was that workers should not be only the servants of industry but also its collaborators.

The object of the Liege Trade Union Investment Fund is the purchase, exchange and sale of holdings in the public funds or of industrial, commercial and financial securities and banking business. The liability of the society is limited to the amount of the share capital. The society's capital is unlimited and consists of the members' shares issued. The conditions of membership are as follows: A candidate for membership must (1) belong to a trade union affiliated to the Federation of Christian Trade Unions of the Province of Liege, (2) be a legal, technical or moral adviser of one of these Trade Unions; (3) be approved by the Governing Body; (4) take up at least one share.

The method adopted by the founders of the Liege Society for distributing the profits made from the shares owned by the society is of some interest. A dividend of 5 per cent. is paid on fully-paid shares after setting aside at least 10 per cent. for reserve fund and depreciation. The balance is divided as follows: 75 per cent. to members in proportion to the shares they hold, which is credited to their account as a contribution for the purchase of new shares, while 25 per cent. is placed at the disposal of the Governing Body for propaganda purposes. Though this movement gradually spread, in the beginning it had to encounter many difficulties; but in spite of all difficulties—thanks to the energy and skill of its promoters—the Liege Society finally succeeded in obtaining recognition of its right to be present and to speak at shareholders' meetings.

The programme of the movement comprises four main points; namely, crusade, control, co-ownership and co-management. "Crusade" here means propaganda, while 'control' means the control over the management of the undertaking. Co-ownership and co-management have been held up as ideals which can be realized only in the course of time.

The Liege Fund is not the only one in Belgium. Two others are formed at Brussels and Charleroi respectively.

In France the movement has made headway in two quite different quarters. First among bank clerks who have founded a society in Paris known as *La Fournie Bancaise* and the second among the Christian Railwaymen's Union.

The first Trade Union Investment Fund in France was organised by the staff of the Paris-Ornais Railway Company. The early stages of the

movement met with greater difficulties in France than in Belgium and progress was comparatively slow.

In spite of everything, however, the idea gradually made its way in France.

As opposed to the system followed in Belgium, in France the system adopted is not co-operative but the fund is attached to the Trade Union, all the members of which belong to the same occupation and which owns the shares. The object of the Investment Fund here is to receive as a loan any monies entrusted to it by members of the Union and to use them to buy shares in the Paris-Ornais Railway Company so as to secure the representations of the Union at the general meeting of the shareholders. All the shares so acquired are the property of the Union which may dispose of them so as best to achieve the object of the Union. Contributions are accepted only from members of the Paris-Ornais Railwaymen's Trade Union.

The movement is not confined exclusively to France and Belgium. Some experiments in this direction have been made also in Germany and Spain. In the former country workers and employees have combined to buy fairly large number of shares in industrial concerns in North-west Germany. The first success in Germany was achieved at the general meeting of the Exelsior Gummi Company at Hanover where the workers acted on the advice of the trade union officials and the delegates who represented them as shareholders in the meeting succeeded in getting 500,000,000 marks of shares for their special benefit entitling them to get votes.

In Spain also at the general meeting of the Tobacco Company held at Madrid on 20th September 1924, the workers employed by the company formed a fund for buying shares.

It will be seen therefore that the trade union investment fund movement which aims at the control and co-ownership of industry is gradually making progress not only in the country of its origin but also in other countries like France, Germany and Spain, and the writer of the article believes that the movement will continue to make progress only if its ideals do not come into conflict with the trade union movement. He points out further that such a movement can only be a means to an end and not an end in itself and that if the aims of the movement come into conflict with trade unionism itself, it is destined to fail.

### Profit-sharing for Employees

#### PRACTICAL SCHEMES OUTLINED

There are many employers who at various times have thought they would like to make some arrangement by which their employees might share in the profits of the business in which they are working, but their failure to take action has been due to ignorance of the methods of profit-sharing, or if they examined the literature on the subject, they may have been bewildered by the many schemes and proposals. There are difficulties that may arise in a profit-sharing scheme—whether it be the

distribution of a share of the profits with or without participation in share-holding—unless the scheme be carefully prepared. It is, therefore, essential to examine other schemes and learn from the experience of those employers who have instituted profit-sharing methods in their own businesses.

Usually profit-sharing schemes have been considered and prepared by individual employers, and not by an industry as a whole. The Federation of Master Printers of Great Britain and Ireland has recently set an example by appointing a committee to examine and report on schemes of this kind which were suitable for the printing industry. The committee was appointed in consequence of a discussion on profit-sharing at the annual meeting of the federation last year. The members of the committee were master printers who had successfully established profit-sharing or share-purchase in their businesses. The committee considered various schemes and the report which has been recently issued in pamphlet form, suggests four schemes which can be easily modified, points out the relative advantages of each, and mentions various safeguards that should be adopted. Although the report was prepared by a group of master printers for the printing industry, the word "printing" is scarcely mentioned. The suggestions that are made, and the advice which is the result of experience, are suitable for any industry or business, and of general interest to all who desire to find some method of sharing the prosperity of industry with the employees who help to create the profits.

#### *Incentive to Employees*

Anything that can be done to increase the efficiency of a business deserves careful consideration, and when the employees receive a share of the profits there is no doubt that they will be careful to avoid waste and loss of every kind. The workers can make suggestions for improvements of many kinds, strive to satisfy the customer's requirements, and in many ways increase the profits, to their own ultimate advantage. The share of the profits they receive is a reward for their efforts, and a stimulus to make further improvements in the organization which employs them.

Any scheme of profit-sharing which is based on a system of paying less than fair wages is certain to be a failure. A working man cannot wait until the profit and loss account is produced to find out what his income may be. He needs a weekly wage, by which he can fix his expenses, and any share of the profits should be in addition to the fair rate of wages.

The employees can only share in the profits when they are sufficient to provide reasonable reserves and a fair dividend for the capital, and there is a surplus to share between capital and labour. There is no reason, however, why a scheme resembling those suggested should not be started in a business making only moderate profits, as the economies and improvements which could be made by the employees would assist in making the profits in which they would share. The object of all these schemes is to create a collective goodwill amongst the employees, to increase the efficiency, and render better service to the customers, with the result that the position and stability of the business is improved, and all connected with it benefit.

#### *Three Methods*

Three methods of profit-sharing are suggested in the report. The first is that after providing for reserves, interest on debentures, dividend on preference shares, and the minimum dividend on the ordinary shares (or on partner's capital in a private business) for every further 1 per cent. paid on the ordinary shares (or capital) 1 per cent. or some proportionate rate is paid to each employee (employed for the whole year) upon his remuneration during the year.

It is necessary to make some definitions in order to prevent misunderstandings. "Capital" in a limited company is the paid-up ordinary share capital, but in a private concern it is the actual assets employed in the business. The "minimum dividend on capital" is the agreed dividend to be reserved before any profits are available for distribution to the employees. This minimum may be 6 per cent., or more, according to the profits that have been made, and should not be altered unless the scheme be modified, after due notice has been given to the employees. "Profits" are the net profits made in the current year, as shown in the audited accounts, after paying all the expenses of carrying on the business. "Surplus Profits" are the balance of the profits after the minimum dividend on capital has been provided for.

The first scheme is simple and easily understood by the employees. They know their annual earnings, and they can calculate the percentage thereon as soon as they know the dividend that has been declared on the ordinary shares. The total earnings of the employees entitled to share in the profits rank for dividend after the minimum dividend has been paid on capital.

In some businesses where the profits fluctuate the directors or proprietors may in good years place considerable sums to reserve and pay a uniform dividend for many years. Employees might consider they were not fairly treated in good years if they received the same share of profits as in bad years. A man might think, with some justice, that if he had assisted in making good profits he should receive a larger amount, as he might not be employed by the firm in following years. Another scheme meets this difficulty. A fixed proportion of the surplus profits, *i.e.*, one-half, one-quarter, or some other fraction—is distributed amongst the employees in proportion to annual earnings. The balance of the surplus profits can be dealt with as the proprietors decide (*e.g.*, reserve or increased dividend), and the employees' share of profits always depends on the surplus profits of each year, and not upon the dividend, which may be provided partly by the profits reserved from previous years.

A third method is to distribute to the employees entitled to share a sum equal to the total amount paid to the ordinary share capital as dividend for the year, above the minimum dividend. By this scheme the amount distributed to the shareholders in excess of the minimum dividend equals the sum distributed to the employees, whatever relation the capital and the wages bill may bear to each other.

Some employers, instead of handing to each employee his share of the profits, may prefer to use the whole or a portion of it to found a pension fund, or some other scheme for the benefit of the employees. If the whole

of the employees' share of the profits be thus used the incentive to increase the efficiency of the business will not be so great, as the adage "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" applies in profit-sharing as well as other walks in life, and many employees would feel that they would not probably remain with the firm until they reach pensionable age.

It is essential in any profit-sharing scheme that the terms and conditions should be set forth in clear and unmistakable terms and the audited accounts should be the basis for ascertaining the employees' share of the profits. It is desirable that the proprietors should have power to terminate the scheme by giving 6 or 12 months' notice, if events should make it necessary to do so.

#### *Special Ordinary Shares*

Another method of permitting the employees to share in the success of the business in which they work is to create a special class of ordinary shares which can only be held by employees. This scheme works best in a successful concern, where the ordinary shares stand above par. If the employee shares are offered to the workers at par, and can be purchased by weekly subscriptions, the employees know they are buying shares considerably below their value, and will in all probability receive a high dividend on their investment. As they obtained the shares below their value, a condition of the allotment, and subsequent transfer, of these shares should be that when an employee wishes to sell he may, or when he leaves the employment of the company he must, sell his shares to another employee at par, the price he paid for them. By this means the holding of these special shares is retained among the employees. Should the dividend decrease so much that no employee is willing to purchase at par, the holder is entitled to sell to anyone, but on all future occasions the shares must first be offered to the employees at par before being sold to outsiders.

This scheme has been in existence for over 25 years with most satisfactory results. The weekly payments are suited to the finances and habits of the workers, who do not understand the methods of stockbrokers and share-dealing. The possession of a share certificate is a proof of their part ownership of the business in which they work, and adds to a man's pride in his work and his self-respect. Share-purchase has the great advantage that it encourages the invaluable qualities of thrift and self-reliance amongst those who purchase the shares. The employees' shares can be issued as and when further capital is needed in the business.

The schemes that are suggested have stood the test of time and have proved successful. They are the frame work which an employer can adjust and modify to meet the particular requirements of his business if he should wish to give a share of his profits to his employees. Although the report has been prepared for the printing industry the suggested schemes are suitable for use in any business or in any industry.

Doubtless there are many employers who would be opposed to any suggestion that their employees should have share in the profits. There are others, however, who feel that they would like to find a workable scheme by which in prosperous years some portion of the higher profits should go to their employees. The crying need of the present time in all

our industries is for better methods of production and a higher efficiency which will reduce the costs of production to enable us to meet the fierce world-wide competition of today. Profit-sharing, if it be successful, must promote efficiency, as everyone employed in the organization will know that waste or losses of any kind must affect the profits and reduce the sum that is available for distribution amongst the employees. It is an incentive to the employees to lower costs by increasing efficiency. If lower costs can be obtained by these methods the need of the industry has been met, and the result has been obtained, not by reducing wages, but by greater efficiency, while the income of the employees is increased. (From the "Times Trade Engineering Supplement," London, August 15, 1925.)

## Unemployed in England

### SCHEME OF TRAINING FOR YOUNG MEN

The Ministry of Labour have arranged, as an experimental measure, to give a six months' course of training to a limited number of young men, registered as unemployed, of a class who have difficulty in finding employment because they have had no opportunity of learning a skilled trade.

It is proposed to conduct, for this purpose, four training centres, two non-residential centres in large towns, and two residential centres in country districts.

The men in non-residential centres will be trained with a view to employment in this country. It will not be possible to train them for any specific trade; the intention is to give them a general course as handy men.

In residential centres a certain proportion of the men will also be given a general course as handy men, for employment in this country; but the course will be adapted, where practicable, to rural requirements. About one-half of the men in residential centres will, however, be trained specifically with a view to employment overseas. The overseas training courses, which have been arranged in co-operation with the Oversea Settlement Committee, are limited to single young men who, after training, are willing to take up work on the land, in an overseas Dominion. The courses of training will be mainly agricultural in character, but some training as handy men will also be given with a view to increasing the suitability of the men for employment in the Dominions.

*Applicants for training with a view to employment in this country, whether at a residential or non-residential centre, must be:—*

- (a) Registered as unemployed;
- (b) Between the ages of 19 and 25 (up to 29 for *ex-Service* men);
- (c) Unskilled; that is, men who have had no opportunity of learning a skilled trade; and
- (d) Must not have received a course of training at public expense, or financial assistance from the Civil liabilities or King's Funds.

The following was the membership of the affiliated organisations in 1924:—

Organisation	Total membership	No. of women members
Bakers and confectioners	52,610	25,077
Building workers	362,481	877
Clothing Workers	99,269	57,583
Miners	229,956	519
Coopers	9,159	125
Book binders	52,333	34,833
Compositors	69,370	....
Singers	3,607	2,116
Slaters	9,500	986
Railwaymen	202,689	1,787
Factory workers	394,894	101,565
Firmen	1,731	....
Cinema workers	3,429	586
Butchers	13,766	1,572
Hairdressers	3,788	552
Gardeners	10,561	1,875
Municipal and State workers	187,205	31,322
Glass workers	35,223	7,854
Unskilled workers in the printing trades	31,298	20,897
Wood workers	323,175	30,883
Employees in hotels, restaurants and cafes	28,184	9,499
Hat makers	20,864	14,348
Boiler makers	6,179	....
Land workers	147,650	37,140
Food and drink workers	65,981	4,272
Leather workers	42,880	9,156
Lithographers	19,258	71
Painters	40,933	273
Engineers and stokers	45,742	100
Metal workers	889,063	87,691
Musicians	20,603	647
China-ware makers	58,549	25,589
Saddlers and upholsterers	35,294	6,801
Chimney sweeps	2,779	....
Shoemakers	91,756	40,357
Cheese makers	11,265	196
Stone workers	44,566	375
Tobacco workers	73,066	56,368
Textile workers	425,610	274,881
Transport workers	310,948	32,367
Carpenters	87,049	....
Total ..	4,564,163	921,140

The finances of the Confederation are in a somewhat more favourable position than might have been expected after the period of inflation. The gross receipts amounted to 97,037,600 marks and the expenditure to 69,071,119 marks. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 28, 1925.)

## Welfare Work

### THE PREVENTION OF HUMAN WASTE

At the final session of the Conference of the Industrial Welfare Society, just concluded at Oxford, "The Engagement of Labour" formed the subject of an address by Mr. J. B. Longmuir, apprentice supervisor, Mavor and Coulson, Glasgow. He said in industry until recently attention was chiefly concentrated on materials and machines to the neglect of the more important factor—the workers. Human waste occurred in industry through the defective selection of the workers for the work, or the work for the workers, which resulted in people being engaged in occupations for which they were physically, mentally, or temperamentally unsuited.

Entrance of a worker to his employment should not be too easy, but, once in, it should be considered a misfortune for a man to leave or to be forced to leave. The most suitable person to take charge of the employment department was the welfare supervisor. His sphere was already on the human side and he naturally made it his special study; he had developed a mental attitude and outlook which would temper industrial relations with a degree of sympathy and understanding of human nature which were essential to harmony and mutual goodwill. By becoming responsible for the control and administration of an employment department, the welfare supervisor definitely identified himself with the management and became a link somewhere in the chain of internal relationships.

Lecturing on "The welfare supervisor's part in the diminution of fatigue," Professor Winitred C. Cullis, professor of physiology, University of London, said that investigation by such bodies as the Industrial Fatigue Research Board and the National Institute of Industrial Psychology had shown that fatigue was much less often due to a actual work than to unfavourable circumstances under which work was done. Welfare workers had a double sphere of action, and could watch conditions both inside and outside actual workshops. Inside the factories fatigue should be obviated by attention to such well-known factors as rest courses, routine work, removal of irritations and hampering things of all sorts, ventilation, temperature, lighting and perhaps noise and monotony.

Mr. W. A. Appleton, the general secretary of the Federation of Trade Unions, spoke on "Economics and Ethics in relation to Welfare". He said he had a vivid recollection of an eloquent address by an employer who demanded a minimum wage sufficient to ensure not only subsistence but a considerable standard of comfort. The demand ignored the fact that standards of comfort varied, and that quite apart from cases affected by physical disabilities, the person deserving most comfort was not necessarily the most deserving member of the community nor even an economic asset. He had always doubted the wisdom of such demand, not because he lacked sympathy or desired to restrict comfort, but because of the inevitable corollaries. It was for him very difficult to escape the conclusion that high minimums invited low production and necessarily involved no maximums, while low maximums discouraged skill and initiative and resulted in their departure or decay. The demand for wages to meet

standards of comfort found very powerful expression among those who argued that labour was the cause of wealth. If they saw the fallacy underlying their contention they never advertised its existence. Economists, however, knew that labour, as the term was generally used, was not the only cause of wealth. It was one of the factors that made wealth measurable and consumable. The other factors were found in the earth, the sea, and the air, in the elements and commodities these contained, and, to an extent not generally admitted, in the efforts and applications of individual intelligence. What, indeed, would be the position of the cotton industry apart from the applied intelligence of Kay, Hargreaves, Arkwright, and Crompton, or of the mining industry apart from the discoveries and enterprise of Watt or Stephenson?

Welfare implied association with prosperity and happiness and it involved—nay, it might almost be said to be contingent upon—a fairly common understanding of the principles which govern the creation and application of wealth and the ordering of human activities. Those concerned with welfare work should become their own Marx, their own Mill, their own Marshall, analysing every contention or theory and testing it by every fact that could be ascertained and verified. Openly, insistently, and energetically the welfare workers should fight against conditions which prejudice health and alertness, but there was little justification for attempting to create a parlour-type of factory. After all, the parlour idea should be developed at home, where the whole family might enjoy it.

Mr. F. J. Marquis, director of Lewis's Limited, of Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham, lecturing on "The welfare supervisor, his task and future", said as he conceived it, the task of the welfare worker was to help in the reduction of cost of production. The factory that could achieve the lowest cost of production was the one that would get full work for fifty-two weeks in the year and consequently could afford to have the very best conditions. He was prepared to justify welfare work by the balance-sheet. (From "Manchester Guardian Commercial," September 17, 1925.)

### Japan's Industrial Problems

We reproduce below extracts from three articles contributed to the *Times Trade and Engineering Supplement* of 5th, 12th, and 19th September, 1925, by its Kobe Correspondent:

Japan is not an industrial country because of her natural resources; she has become so by the driving power of her ambition. Having once begun an industrial policy she is bound to continue it or face ruin. She cannot, if she would, return to the self-supporting agricultural conditions which she enjoyed 50 years ago. Faced with a large yearly increase in her population, it is a vital necessity for Japan to study closely how her increasing population is to be supported in the limited area at her disposal. Her earlier statesmen proposed to solve the problem by turning the country into one of the world's workshops, and to employ and feed her surplus people out of the profits drawn from her manufactures.

The comparatively rapid rise and fall of Japanese competition in international trade coincided with the beginning and end of the world war. Intoxicated with her initial success she failed entirely to understand the guiding principles of international commerce. When her rivals returned to the field her goods were driven off the markets by cheaper prices and better quality. Since 1920 she has been unable to compete effectively in the world's markets, and has been left with inflated prices and wages.

In the midst of her readjustment she was struck by the greatest earthquake and fire ever known in history. She is now struggling to lift her head after the crushing blow dealt her industries and finances. Unfortunately, her plans for the reconstruction of her devastated cities and for the re-establishment of her failing trade were too ambitious. Speculative purchases were made on an enormous scale, with the result that her markets were thrown into further confusion and it became necessary to modify her proposals.

Japan's future depends on a complete and thorough reorganisation of her commercial and industrial systems. Last year Dr. Haber, a German industrial engineer of world-wide reputation, paid the country a visit. His conclusion was that Japan was far behind in industrial science. In Japanese factories there is much waste of time, labour, and materials. There is much room for mechanical improvement. Japan stands at the halfway; at her doors she has all the material resources of undeveloped neighbours, but she lacks the necessary industrial skill to profit by them. Given time and credit for reforms she will be able to overcome her present difficulties.

#### *Dependence on Government*

When Japan became Westernized there was no adequate international trading system. Each clan was a community unto itself. International trade was almost unknown; such as there was passed through the hands of the Central Government, which allowed a certain amount of privileged trade at the port of Nagasaki. Merchants were, in principle, despised. Consequently when the necessity arose, there was no mercantile community ready and able to promote international trade or to establish the industries required to meet its needs. Thus from the very first the Government had to step in and supply the place of both manufacturer and trader. Once in business, the Government has not withdrawn even to-day when there are plenty of capitalists equipped to take its place. This is because trade and politics have become so hopelessly mixed that withdrawal from business would mean the downfall of the Government of the day. The trading patronage is nowadays the major spoils of office, and no Administration could survive its loss.

In addition to the perhaps legitimate ownership of the postal, telephone, and railway services, the Government manages large steel and iron works, carriage works, dockyards, and textile factories. By subsidies it controls the shipping and dyestuffs industries. Besides the Bank of Japan, it directs the principal exchange bank and, through its Colonial Governments, the Banks of Korea and Formosa. In landed property the Government owns nearly 50 million acres of forest and over a million acres of arable lands.

Its influence on the trade and industry of the country is immense. It is safe to say that there is no other Government in the world which possesses so much power in domestic and foreign commerce. In fact, opposition to the Government in business means ruin to Japanese bankers or merchants. For this reason they have not the self-reliant characteristics of their Western brethren; in good times they look to the authorities for guidance and in bad times for assistance.

#### *Restraints of Trading Guilds*

Besides encouraging the establishment of banks the Government, for the purpose of assisting producers in agriculture and industry, enacted legislation known as the Trade Guild Law. Trade Associations formed under this law can borrow money at cheap rates from the "Fypothec" Banks. There are also other privileges such as remission of income tax and business taxes. Guilds may be formed in respect of almost any product, but an official list is usually issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce.

At present the list covers fifty-four products, and includes nearly every article of importance produced or used in Japan. The law is so worded that it is almost impossible for any manufacturer or producer not to become a member of his local guild, if such is formed. By 1924 the number of these guilds had risen to over fourteen hundred. The power of these guilds in domestic trade can easily be imagined. In course of time their sole object has become the protection of their own interests. Instead of combining for better production they combine for higher prices. As the law empowers the guild to fine any recalcitrant member, free competition is impossible. Originally formed to aid each other in establishing their finances they are now nothing more or less than combinations in restraint of trade.

The cotton spinners' guild has probably been the most active; it is always on the alert to regulate the market if the industry is depressed, either by reducing output or paying bounties on exports. Similarly, the various coal, metal, and sugar guilds have used their combines to fix prices at home; the last named even goes to the length of dumping surplus sugar on foreign markets rather than let the Japanese consumer benefit by lower prices. It is, of course, the Japanese consumer who suffers, because he has to pay whatever price is fixed and cannot defend himself, owing to the high tariff which prevents the import of other supplies. In the export trade the power of the guilds is limited because they must meet international prices. Moreover, a large part of the exports passes through the hands of the foreign merchants.

But these conditions no longer hold good. High sea freights have raised the price of coal, which has to be brought up to the industrial districts of Tokyo and Osaka from South Japan. Her water power requires further development. Her wage bill, taking into account the inferiority of her labour compared with that of Western countries, is as high as in the lands of her competitors. If she still competes successfully in the markets east of Suez it is due to her proximity or to the special transportation facilities offered by her shipping lines subsidized by the Government.

Her problem to-day is to balance her trade. At present Japan must import every year about £180,000,000 worth of merchandise, including raw cotton £57,000,000, foodstuffs £28,000,000 and manufactured goods £66,000,000. To pay for these imports she exports to-day only about £150,000,000 made up chiefly of raw silk £70,000,000 manufactures from imported materials £50,000,000 and domestic products £20,000,000. Thus the apparent deficit is £30,000,000 to be met out of gold reserve or by foreign services, such as shipping and prices—the present system, which for obvious reasons cannot be continued for ever—or by foreign services, such as shipping and insurance, and remittances from emigrants, etc. It is doubtful whether the last bring her in more than a net sum of £10,000,000; she must therefore look to an improved industrial organization in order to recover the position lost since the war on account of high costs.

#### *Exports and Imports*

During the first seven months of 1925 the value of exports has shown a welcome increase of £21,000,000. There is still a very large adverse balance to be adjusted, but July showed an excess of exports totalling about £3,500,000. Shipments to China, especially of cotton yarns and cloths, have shown unexpected activity owing to the loss of trade by Chinese mills and the low value of the yen. For the same reasons Japanese exports to India and other Asiatic markets have also shown marked increases. Imports during the seven months increased in value by about £4,000,000 larger quantities of raw cotton having been bought this year by Japan. According to the figures issued by the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association the consumption of raw cotton for the first half-year of 1925 was about 550,000,000 lb., an increase of about 75,000,000 lb.; it was made up of about two-thirds Indian and one-third American, with some Egyptian. On account of the slowing down of reconstruction work, imports from America and Europe have fallen off. Great Britain has sold about 10 per cent. less to Japan this year than during the same period of 1924. In woollens, however, she is still doing a good trade and supplies fully 80 per cent. of the imports under this head.

The main industries of Japan have, as already explained, been almost entirely built up with the aid of Government funds, if not directly, certainly indirectly. Taking her industries as divided into agriculture, mining, and manufactures, it is perhaps only mining (which includes coal, copper, gold, and silver) that can claim for itself a position of independence. Agriculture—that is, rice and raw silk—has been the spoilt child of the Government for years, the position of the farmers, due to their voting power, being considered to be much more important than that of the townspeople. Japanese manufactures are divided roughly into cotton iron (including shipbuilding,) and miscellaneous. For the first two the raw materials must be imported. In order to find the money Japan must export her raw silk and at the same time find a market abroad for her cotton and miscellaneous goods; thus in the past she has exported at least a third of her cotton yarns and cloths, half of her match output, and 40 per cent. of her porcelain manufactures. Low wages and cheap power, partly from coal, partly from water, enabled her to undersell her rivals.

### Indian Maternity Benefit Schemes

The Government of India made enquiries in June 1924 regarding maternity benefit schemes in the various major provinces in British India. The results of these enquiries have been published in Bulletin No. 32 of Indian Industries and Labour.

In Ajmere-Merwara there are no special schemes for maternity benefit in operation in any of the factories in the district, because only 2 mills employ female labour. One of the mills, however, allows female employees every facility for absenting themselves during the period of confinement and re-employ them afterwards.

In Assam, tea estates are very large employers of labour and it is found that voluntary maternity benefit schemes have been adopted by almost every tea estate of repute in the province and that employers generally recognise that the care and comfort of women employees before and after child-birth are in the interests of the employer and employed alike. The following are some of the more important concessions that are granted:—

- (a) Leave is always granted for a period shortly before and after child-birth varying from three to six months or even longer if this is advised by the medical officer.
- (b) While pregnant women remain at work they are put on light work on full rates of pay.
- (c) During the period of leave half-pay is usually granted, but in some cases full pay is allowed and a bonus at child-birth is often granted in addition. The bonus is in some cases conditional on the child being healthy.
- (d) Medical treatment is always supplied free of charge and additional comforts are sometimes given.
- (e) In some tea gardens a crèche system has been established and the infants are looked after by *ayahs* after their mothers have returned to work.

The Assam Railways and Trading Company, which is the next largest employer of labour in Assam, grants six months' leave on half pay provided the women have been examined by the Medical Officer and attend hospital once a week. Milk and feeding bottles, when required, are also supplied free of cost.

The Assam Oil Company grant leave on half-pay for three months.

In Bengal the principles of maternity benefits are widely accepted. Employers seem to have voluntarily taken upon themselves the practical recognition of the principles underlying the convention concerning the employment of women before and after child-birth passed by the International Labour Conference held at Geneva in 1919. In 3 of the jute mills there are records of three definite schemes of maternity benefits. In the Kelvin Mills Scheme women receive not only weekly payments two weeks before and three weeks after child-birth but they are allowed also to discontinue work during the period. A similar scheme was in operation in the Baranagar Jute Mill but was discontinued at the beginning of 1924. A lady doctor has, however, been appointed to look after the welfare of the female workers in the mills. An elaborate scheme is in

vogue at the Titagarh Mills. In the tea garden areas in Bengal maternity benefit of some kind is in force in most gardens. The following features are common to the various schemes:—

- (i) Free medical attendance and free medicine.
- (ii) Hospitals are available on many gardens (but are usually not resorted to in maternity cases).
- (iii) Milk and farinaceous foods are provided free in cases where considered necessary by the Medical Officer.
- (iv) A bonus of Rs. 5 is paid to the mother at birth, and in many cases a further Rs. 5 when the child attains one year of age and has been well looked after.
- (v) In many cases full wages are paid to the mother for a month or more after birth.
- (vi) Light work is always arranged for the mothers, both before and after child-birth.

The practice in the coal fields varies. On the majority of the Jharia Collieries no benefits are paid: but on some, either a daily payment of two or three annas is given as sick *khora* while the woman is off work, or a sum varying from Re. 1 to Rs. 8 is paid as bonus for each birth.

In Bihar and Orissa there are no regular schemes of maternity benefits for women employees. It is understood from the report of the Chief Inspector of Factories that no privileges are granted to women employed in factories during the period of their confinement. In some of the mines, however, maternity benefit schemes for women employees are in operation. But the benefits given in most mines are of a casual character and only in one instance is there a regular contributory benefit fund which is applicable not only to maternity cases, but provides also for sickness and death.

#### Bombay

Maternity benefit schemes have made very considerable progress in the Bombay Presidency. The following table gives particulars of maternity benefit schemes introduced into their mills by the Bombay Millowners' Association.

Name of Mill	Details of Benefits Granted	Remarks
1. David Mills	Wages paid a month before and a month after confinement, i.e., two months.	There is no maternity benefit scheme in existence at present. A scheme was introduced in 1921 but was discontinued at the end of 1923. A lady doctor was employed up to April 1923 and the number of cases dealt with during that year was 65, the women being paid two months' wages each.
2. The Indian Bleaching, Dyeing and Printing Works.	Do.	A scheme was introduced in October 1921 and the number of cases dealt with during 1923 was two.

Name of Mill	Details of Benefits Granted	Remarks
3. The Gurnadhar Mills Co. Ltd.	(a) Two months' wages are paid before and after confinement, (b) Two months' leave is also granted on completion of nine months.	A scheme was introduced in November 1921, and 22 cases were dealt with during 1923. No lady doctor is provided.
4. The Swadhai Textile, Fin. and the Swadhai United Mills.	Full wages are paid for a two month period of one month before and one month after confinement. (The medical advice of the mills are of opinion that it would be to the interest of the females to keep by their normal work up to a week or at least a fortnight before confinement. The advisability of changing the two month to a fortnight before and one month after confinement is being considered.)	The scheme was introduced in the Swadhai United Mill from March 1921 and on the remaining mills from January 1923. A lady doctor was employed at the Swadhai Mill but the appointment was discontinued from September 1924, as it was found that the female operatives had no objection to being treated by the male doctors. The number of cases dealt with at the four mills during 1923 was 136.
5. The Fardidar Mills, Ltd.	Two months' wages are paid, one month before and one month after confinement.	The scheme was started in January 1922 and 26 cases were dealt with during 1923.
6. The Bhadrap Spinning and Weaving Co.	(a) Full wages are paid for the last month of the pregnancy, provided the women do the light work which is given to them in the pre-maternity ward. (b) The women that take advantage of the Maternity Home are given full wages for three weeks as maternity benefit, provided they have been in the Company's service for two years.	The scheme was started in January 1918 and lying in arrangements for the accommodation of 10 beds are provided, 12 cases were admitted to the Maternity Home during 1923.
7. The Pioneer Mills, Ltd.	Maternity allowance is paid for two months' leave granted two weeks before confinement and six weeks after confinement, provided— (a) that the woman completes at least 11 months' service in the mills continuously. (b) that she makes a declaration binding herself not to engage in any kind of physical work outside her home for the purpose of earning her wages during the two months for which the allowance is paid to her.	The scheme was started on the 1st October 1921, and six cases were dealt with during 1923.
8. The Patel Mills, Ltd.	One month's pay is paid in advance and another month's pay is paid six weeks after delivery.	The scheme was started on the 2nd March 1922. It was noted that the women worked right up to the end of the ninth month in expectation of receiving the wages earned for that month as well as the benefit. The benefit was, however, not given and such cases have now decreased. The number of cases dealt with during 1923 was thirteen.

Name of Mill	Details of Benefits Granted	Remarks
9. The Bhadrapar Pabani Mills Co. Ltd.	Two months' wages are paid, one month before and one month after confinement.	The scheme was started in October 1921 and thirty cases were dealt with in 1923.
10. (The Baniya Co. Ltd.) Laxmi Cotton Manufacturing Co. Ltd. and Vibha Cotton Mills, Ltd.	(a) A Maternity Home consisting of one bed is maintained in one of the mill sheds. (b) A qualified midwife is employed through the State Nurses organization, who goes home to house visits to the female operatives. Her chief work is to find out and assist expectant mothers and help them in their confinement and persuade them to take advantage of the Maternity Home or the Chhatra Hospital, in difficult cases she gives advice and help from the mill medical officer.	The scheme was started in August 1924. In arrangement with the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the local Chhatra Hospital treats female employees of the mill free of charge. It had a room reserved in the hospital by the mills for the exclusive use of the female labour of the mills. There is also an arrangement with the Purna State Nurses, Madhya Pradesh, whereby the latter regularly treat women for home to home visiting in the mill area of the city.
11. The Khatri-Mishra Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	A free dispensary is provided at the mills under a qualified doctor who attends the maternity cases assisted by a nurse or the midwife, when necessary.	Negotiations are at present being made with a view to providing two beds at a Maternity Home.
12. The Calida Laxmi and Mill Co.	.....	No scheme exists at present. A Maternity Home was opened about October 1916 but, owing to the poor response it received, it had to be closed down about March 1918.
13. The Manojki Pabani Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	.....	No scheme is in existence at present. An attempt was made about 1922 to organize a maternity benefit scheme (with a view to enlarging it if successful) by providing a room in one of the mill sheds, furnished with a bed and necessary furniture, to be utilized as a sick room and for hygienic purposes. The management was conducted by the Social Service League and the room is still in charge of an experienced nurse. The facilities offered have so far hardly been taken advantage of by either the workmen or their women, a majority of the latter preferring to go to their native places for confinement.

There are no maternity benefit schemes in Ahmedabad but individual mills have different ways of dealing sympathetically with such cases.

\* NOTE.—This maternity benefit scheme was financed from a fund called the Macpherson Welfare Fund, which was started by subscription from individual employees of the mills in memory of the late Mr. R. E. Macpherson. The cost of the schemes in force in all the other mills is met entirely by these mills.

In Burma the industrial population being not very stable, and seasonal in character, it is not possible to introduce schemes of maternity benefits. The casual nature of the labour together with the peculiar beliefs of the people have prevented progress in this direction.

In the Central Provinces considerable progress has been made in the direction of helping women before and after child-birth. The following table gives details of the maternity benefit schemes now in operation in the Central Provinces for women employed in factories:—

Name of Firm	Nature of Benefit Granted	Remarks
The Engressa Mills, Nagpur.	Two months' wages are granted two months after confinement.	147 women employees took advantage during the year 1923 of this allowance. The number of babies at crèches rose in the beginning of the year 1923 from 71 to 147 but at the end of the year it went down to 93. The crèches are in charge of a lady doctor, 4 nurses and 7 ayahs. Value of materials supplied for running the crèches is about Rs. 650.
The R. B. Bansilal Abirchand Mills, Hinganghat.	One month's full wages are paid to women employees who remain at home for confinement (One hour's rest, irrespective of the rest hour, is granted to women who have babies to enable them to go home for nursing.)	There is also a temporary shed attached to the mill in which 14 children are looked after by two matrons who are in attendance.
R. S. Reckhand Mohota Mills, Hinganghat.	A subscription is paid to the local Municipal Hospital where a special nurse is kept for maternity cases.	
Burn and Co.'s Pottery Works, Jubbulpore.	Three weeks' full pay is allowed to women when they are off work for child-birth.	
Burhanpur Tapti Mills, Burhanpur.	The Company have subscribed to the Maternity Hospital at Burhanpur. A mill doctor looks after women who live in the mill premises and who do not like to resort to the Maternity Hospital during their confinement.	The Mills have constructed a tin shed for the babies of the women employees, and two experienced women are employed who pay attention to feeding, washing, etc.
Sir Hukunchand Dalmia Cotton and Oil Mills, Akola.	Three months' half wages are paid to pregnant women.	

In Madras the Sick Fund of the Basel Mission Industrial Establishments in South Kanara and Malabar provide maternity and other benefits to workers, who are members of the Fund in nine factories of the Commonwealth Trust Limited. Membership to the Fund is confined to those who are members of the Basel Mission Church. Crèches with women in charge are provided in 39 factories to look after the babies of the workpeople. Of these factories 27 are tea factories. In some of

the tea factories small payments varying from Rs. 2 to Rs. 5 are made for each child-birth.

In the Punjab practically no female labour is employed in factories and there is therefore no scope for maternity benefit schemes in this province.

In the United Provinces the only notable maternity benefit scheme has been inaugurated by the East Indian Railway Co. in its oil factory at Manauri (District Allahabad). The Company gives full pay to the expectant mother from the date when her labour pains start until one month after the date of confinement. The woman is sent to the confinement hospital on the premises, and tended by qualified Indian nurses. In addition to this concern there are a few factories which give full pay for a definite period of absence during confinement. One factory gives pay for a month, five factories give pay for 14 days and two others for indefinite periods in the case of their regular employees. Four factories in Cawnpore and one at Manauri have established crèches for the children of their women employees.

### Family Budget of a Skilled Worker in Russia

The *Industrial and Labour Information* recently published an article on the "Family Budget of an Intellectual Worker in Russia". For the purposes of comparison, the budget of a skilled worker in Moscow has now been published.

The figures given below, which are taken from the *Bulletin de la Statistique du Travail*, Nos. 2 and 3, 1925, refer to November 1924. None the less, in view of the fact that wages have not materially altered since that date, and that economic conditions have been virtually the same, it may be considered that the position has not greatly changed since November 1924.

The enquiry into the workers' budget was undertaken by the Inter-union Council of the Government of Moscow, and covered 66 unmarried workers and 413 workers' families, or a total of 1,788 persons, equivalent to 1,165 adult consumers. The average number of each family was 4.33 persons. The enquiry was based on the account-books of the various workers' families concerned, which were strictly supervised.

A detailed examination of the budget, and the comments of the persons conducting the enquiry, show that the worker only succeeds in balancing his budget by means of loans, credit in shops, and various other forms of relief. Social insurance alone accounts for 3 per cent. of his income. Further, the sale of furniture, possessions etc., accounts for 1.2 per cent. of the budget of a working family (0.9 per cent. in the case of single workers), which is abnormal. It should be added that, in the opinion of those conducting the enquiry, the item "loans, credit, etc." is suspect, and is considered in many cases to cover certain less reputable sources of revenue.

It will be seen that housing, lighting and heating accounts for between 9 and 10 per cent., food and drink for between 47 and 48 per cent. and

clothing for between 21 and 22 per cent. of the expenditure of a worker's family. However, contributions to trade unions and payments to various Communist organisations constitute a somewhat high percentage of the total expenditure (3·6 per cent. as against 2·8 per cent. in 1923). As against these, the sums allocated for the education of the children and of the workers themselves, and the adult members of their families, are scarcely 0·6 per cent. of the total expenditure, and have fallen in comparison with the previous year (0·8 per cent.).

Items which show an increase are rent, which has increased 50 per cent. since 1st July last, and expenditure on spirits, which has doubled in the past year. Moreover, the authors of the enquiry considered that the declarations made on the latter subject might be still further increased.

Table showing the family budget of skilled workers in Moscow.

Income	Working Class families		Single workers	
	Chervonetz roubles	per cent. of total	Chervonetz roubles	per cent. of total
A. Head of family—				
Wage .. .. .	81·47	72·9	69·51	87·3
Other income .. .. .	2·88	2·6	2·11	2·65
B. Other members of family—				
Wage .. .. .	13·88	12·4	....	....
Other income .. .. .	1·96	1·8	....	....
C. Miscellaneous Receipts— (loans, credits, gifts) ..	11·53	10·3	8·00	8·60
Total .. .. .	111·72	100·0	79·62	100·0
Expenditure—				
Housing .. .. .	8·12	7·60	3·6	4·8
Lighting and heating .. .. .	4·95	4·5	1·84	2·4
Food, drink and tobacco .. .. .	50·59	47·3	27·68	36·7
Clothing .. .. .	22·91	21·40	20·41	27·1
Miscellaneous .. .. .	20·39	18·56	21·77	29·0
Total .. .. .	106·92	100·0	75·30	100·0

On a general consideration of the budget, account should be taken of the cost of living, which in November 1924 had more than doubled in comparison with pre-war times. In particular, clothing is 2·67 times dearer than in 1913 and food and drink 1·85 times dearer. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 28, 1925.)

## Reviews of Books

*The British Trade Boards System.* By Dorothy Sells (P. S. King & Son, Ltd.), London, 1925, pages 293, price 12s. 6d. net.

This excellent book deals with the origin, development and the working of the Trade Boards System in England. It is pointed out that trade boards were first started under the influence of the minimum wage legislation in Australia. The inauguration of the system was hailed with feelings of unmingled joy by the workers, although the employers were sceptical of its success and opposed to the principle enunciated by it. Fears were entertained that the guaranteeing of the minimum wage would mean subsidising the indolent and the inefficient at the expense of the better worker. In spite of opposition, however, more and more trade boards came to be established, until at the end of the year 1922, there were in England 63 trade boards covering 39 trades.

Under the terms of the trade boards acts, trade boards are empowered to (1) exercise mandatory power to fix minimum rates of wages for time workers in the trade specified, (2) have discretionary power to fix minimum general rates of wages for piece-workers in a trade. These powers are used judiciously by the trade boards and unnecessary friction is usually avoided. The investigations of trade boards in various trades, apart from the good they have done to the employers and employees alike, have naturally enriched statistical literature on prices and wages in England. These statistics have been very carefully analysed by the author and on the basis of this analysis she has met many of the arguments of economists against minimum wage legislation. In this connexion the diagrams on pages 158, 162, 64 and 66 are of particular interest.

The author points out that the trade board system, though defective in some respects, has, on the whole, been a great success in England. It has, for instance, been an important factor in raising the level of wages among the poorest paid workers. It has eliminated competition of unscrupulous employers. Furthermore, owing to the searching investigations of the trade board inspectors and the detailed enquiries of the trade boards themselves, the system has encouraged employers to make improvements in business organisation. This has led to a reduction in the cost of production and an increase in the efficiency of the plant. The frequent meetings of the representatives of the workers and the employers at trade board meetings has also tended to establish more cordial relations between capital and labour.

This book is a model of how historical research should be conducted. Without being unnecessarily descriptive it omits no facts and at the same time it tests economic principles by means of available data. The author's analysis of the effect of trade boards on wages and employment is particularly illuminating. This book can be recommended to any serious student of economics.

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"Workers Education in England and the United States" by Margaret T. Hodgen (Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner and Co., Ltd., London), 1925, pp. 312 price 12/6 net.

"Workers Education" is a subject which is engaging the attention of the State, Capital and Labour in almost all the big industrial countries of the world and England and America, the two countries in the world where industrial progress has been most rapid, must provide excellent material for research in the historical developments of the movement. Miss Margaret T. Hodgen has not only carefully studied readily available material on this subject but has made intensive and laborious researches into little-known records of the earliest institutions formed to impart instruction to the poor in these two countries. The result of her endeavours is a most illuminating interesting and thoroughly readable book on the progress and the present position of Workers Education.

Miss Hodgen deals at great length with the development of the earliest efforts of the Church and the early intellectuals to improve the educational standing of the poor by the establishment of Charity Schools, Ragged Schools, Adult Schools and Mechanics Institutes and proceeds to argue that the main impetus to the cause of workers' education was derived from Chartism which was a movement for knowledge with a well formulated programme of education, and that its contribution to workers education was not the creation of lasting educational institutions but the enunciation of some vital principles for their guidance. She points out how Hodgskin's theories were confirmed by Lovett's experiences that the working classes would never get the education they were keen on getting until they endeavoured to provide it for themselves. The mistakes that well-meaning promoters outside the workshop made were that they did not take into consideration the fact that workers education depended largely upon the question of fatigue, the allurements of counter-attractions and individual interests and prejudices.

Miss Hodgen is of opinion that the first men to lay the foundation stone of the movement to bring the Universities to take an active interest in workers education were J. M. Ludlow and Frederick Denison Maurice, the latter of whom founded the Workingmen's College in London in 1854. This was followed by the inauguration of University Extension lectures for working classes in Cambridge, Nottingham and London. Extra-mural education then became a regular function of University instruction. The first definite University Settlement was Toynbee Hall founded in 1884 by Mr. Barnett, Vicar of St. Judes, who secured the intellectual and financial support of a group of teachers and students at Oxford and gave practical effect to Ruskin's idea that it was desirable that University men should live and work among the poor. Barnett's chief aim was the humanisation of industry and the cultivation of working class personality. Literature, the humanities, economics and politics therefore figured prominently in his curricula of studies. University effort culminated in the end in the establishment of the Workers Educational Association in which the central administration was a Joint Committee consisting of an equal number of representatives from the Universities and Working Class organisations.

Trade Union leaders soon found that the imperative needs of their training were not only a knowledge of a wide range of subjects but that they were also required to develop qualities which would enable them to show the necessary tact in the negotiation of issues between masters and men. Therefore, whereas the characteristic feature of English adult working class education in the Victorian period was the centralisation of administrative control in the hands of upper class persons and institutions, the opening of the Twentieth Century saw considerable control of working class educational institutions vested in the spokesmen and leaders of organised labour. Although there was no well defined rule regarding the percentages of representatives from the Universities and Working Class Organisations on the governing bodies of the Workers Educational Association and the Ruskin College there was still a fair representation from Trade Unions and Friendly Societies. It was in 1909 when the students of the Ruskin College went on strike on the question of administrative control that the question of workers control of Workers Education came to the forefront for a clear definition. Those students who were Trade Unionists seceded from the College in order to form another educational institution and as a result of this secession, the Labour College was formed in London as a residential college with the object of furthering "the interests of independent working class education as a partisan effort to improve the position of labour in the present and to assist ultimately in the abolition of wage slavery". In 1921 the Labour College of London affiliated with the Scottish Labour College, the Plebs League and various London and Provincial Labour Colleges to form the National Council of Labour Colleges. The National Council of Labour Colleges, Miss Hodgen says, now pin their faith in the development of Marxian analysis and the firm development of class struggle whereas the Workers Educational Association cling to their faith in the spiritual nature of the social movement. The working class through its own organisations has now assumed definite leadership over the question of its education and what workers education was and will be is no longer governed by the purposes of its founders and by cherished tradition.

In dealing with the question of Workers Education in the United States of America Miss Hodgen shows that the final assumption by trade unionists of the control of education followed a different course to that of England. The initiative in education like that in the struggle for political freedom proceeded from those who needed it most. "Democratic institutions owe their development not to the privileged and propertied but to the disenfranchised, and disinherited", and the curricula of studies were formulated from time to time to meet some immediate condition of economic or political liberty.

Miss Hodgen is convinced that Working Class in all enlightened countries have shown that they want education. She says: "Educational initiative has exhibited sufficient continuity and power of self-control to entitle it to be regarded as a permanent characteristic of the class". Her enthusiasm for the cause of Labour occasionally prevents impartial judgments but the book is eminently readable and instructive.

## Current Periodicals

## Summary of Titles and Contents of Special Articles

**THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VII, No. 9. (THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, BALTIMORE, U. S. A.)**

*Special Articles:* (1) *A Method for sampling Dust in Alveolar Air*, by R. M. Thomson, Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.—Introduction; review of the literature; the alveolar dust sampler; composition of air sampled; conclusions. pp. 385—390.

(2) *A Study of Back Strains*. By Edward B. Simmons, M.D., and W. Irving Clark, M.D. (Norton Company, Worcester, Mass.)—Introduction; lost-time accidents and back strains; statistics of twenty-eight cases of back strain; history; examination; conclusions. pp. 391—395.

(3) *Researches in Mental Hygiene in Industry; Part V. Personnel Science and Administration from the Standpoint of a Hygienist*. By Henry B. Elkind, M.D. (Medical Director, Massachusetts Society for Mental Hygiene, Boston, Mass.)—Conception and scope of personnel science and administration; fundamental principles; definition of personnel administration; functions of personnel administration; need of scientific attitude; vocational guidance and selection; the interview; special problems; medical clinics; conclusion. pp. 396—406.

(4) *The Statistics, Definition, and Clinical Aspects of the Occupational and Industrial Dermatitis*. By Professor Moritz Oppenheim, M.D., Vienna.—Introduction; statistics of occupational dermatoses; definition; clinical aspects of artificial dermatitis in its broader sense; incubation time; localization; clinical phenomena; Industrial eczema. pp. 407—427.

*Routine matter.*—As in previous issues.

**THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXV, No. 8. (THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, CANADA.)**

*Special Articles:* (1) *Labour Legislation in Canada in 1925*.—Measures enacted at recent session of Nova Scotia Legislature; industrial peace act; coal mines regulation; contributory negligence; life insurance; co-operation; education; superannuation of normal school teachers; encouragement of zinc and coal mining; hospital treatment; community halls; powers of council; provincial rights; licensing of professional engineers; miscellaneous acts. pp. 774—776.

(2) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Alberta*.—New regulations fixing hours of work in various industries; Order No. 1, governing female employees in manufacturing industry; Order No. 2, governing female employees in laundries, dyeing and cleaning establishments; Order No. 3, governing female employees in hotels, restaurants, boarding houses, etc.; Order No. 4, governing female employees in personal service occupation; Order No. 5, governing female employees in offices; Order No. 6, governing female employees in shops, stores and mail order houses; rates of wages for apprentices. pp. 777—780.

(3) *New Mine Safety Regulations in British Columbia*. pp. 781—782.

(4) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association—Fifty-fourth Annual General Meeting*.—President's address; "produced-in-Canada" campaign; industrial and scientific research; combines investigation act; eight-hour day; Workmen's Compensation; election of office-bearers. pp. 783—785.

(5) *League of Nations International Labour Organisation*.—Progress of ratifications; Great Britain and the Maritime Conventions; Germany and the Conventions; France and the Hours Conventions; the Director's visit to South America; "Industrial Safety Survey". pp. 795—797.

(6) *Annual Census of Industry in Canada*.—The pulp and paper industry, 1924; the silk industry, 1923; the button industry, 1923; the paper box and bag industry, 1924; the lumber industry, 1923. pp. 797—800.

(7) *Wages and Hours of Labour in Various Industries in the United States*.—Lumber manufacturing (sawmilling); hosiery and underwear; iron and steel; boot and shoe industry. pp. 801—805.

(8) *Unemployment in Trade Unions during the Quarter ending June 30, 1925, as Reported by Unions Making Returns*. pp. 811—817.

(9) *Employment Office Reports for June 1925*.—Quebec; Ontario, Manitoba; Saskatchewan; Alberta; British Columbia; Movement of Labour. pp. 818—822.

(10) *Report of the Employment Service of Canada for the Period April to June, 1925*. pp. 823—825.

*Routine matter.*—As in previous issues.

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

*Special Notes from Routine Articles.*—(1) *Conference of Inspectors, Department of Labour and Industry*. pp. 8—9.

(2) *Employment and Unemployment, June 1925*.—Trade Union reports; employment on State works; State labour exchanges. pp. 24—30.

(3) *Workmen's Compensation Acts—Departmental Advicings*.—Question arising in any proceedings—Applicant for compensation referred to insurer—No communication from insurer;

proceedings for recovery of compensation; Accident arising out of employment—Death due to heart failure—Partial dependency of parents and of daughter in receipt of wages; indemnity claim—section 10, Workmen's Compensation Act, 1916. pp. 52—54.

*Other Routine matter.*—As in previous issues.

**THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. IV, No. 1. (OFFICIAL MONTHLY JOURNAL OF LABOUR MOVEMENT, LONDON.)**

*Special Articles:* (1) *Trade Unionism Makes History*. By Herbert Tracy. pp. 195—197.

(2) *Lessons from the Mining Dispute*. By Walter M. Citrine, Assistant Secretary of the Trade Union Congress General Council. pp. 198—200.

(3) *Protection in Germany*. By Rüd. Brütchold (Member of the Reichstag). pp. 201—203.

(4) *In the "Eight-Fifteen"*.—The Instrument of Revolution—Bombs or Brains. By T. S. Dickson. pp. 204—206.

(5) *"Unshoring in the Dawn"*.—Stray Reminiscences of a Propagandist, IX. pp. 207—210.

(6) *Teachers of the Future*. By G. S. M. Ellis (Labour Party Advisory Committee on Education). pp. 211 and 212.

(7) *Site Value Rating in Sydney*. By Alderman J. R. Firth (Mayor, 1915-16, of Strathfield, Sydney, N. S. W.). pp. 213—215.

*Routine matter.*—As in previous issues.

**THE QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. X, No. 8. (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, BRISBANE.)**

*Special Articles:* (1) *Opening of Third Session of the Twenty-third Parliament of Queensland, 26th July 1925—The Governor's Speech*. pp. 602—605.

(2) *Queensland Full Bench Decision on Question of 44-hour Week*.—Employers' case, an equivalent; question of wages; bound to amend; obligatory. pp. 607—608.

(3) *What is Education?* (Reprint of an Article by Dr. Alexander Irvine in "The Teachers' World"). pp. 666—668.

(4) *Unemployment in Great Britain—House of Commons Debate*.—Sir Alfred Mond's Scheme; poor law rebel; cost of public assistance; home training courses for women. pp. 672—673.

*Routine matter.*—As in previous issues.

**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XII, NO. 3. (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA.)**

*Special Articles:* (1) *The legal Position of Public Servants in France*. By A. Boisnard (Formerly Member of the Chamber of Deputies).—Historical development of the position; modern progress in other spheres; public functions of the citizen in a democratic state; changes in the function of the modern state; consequences of trade unionism among public servants; multiplication of occupations essential to the life of the community; nature of the bond between public servants and the government; proposals for reform; system of a granted charter; administrative syndicalism; management of the Public services by officials' organisations; co-operation of the central government with organisations of public servants. pp. 317—345.

(2) *Unemployment in Hungary—Its Causes and Cure*. By Josef Vagó (Former Secretary of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce, Economic Correspondent of the "Pester Lloyd").—Extent of unemployment, 1920-1925; causes and character of the economic depression; banking and commerce; industry; schemes for combating unemployment—building and public works; unemployment insurance; emigration; future prospects. pp. 346—371.

(3) *Trade Union Investment Funds in Belgium, France, Germany and Spain*. By Max Turmann (Professor of Zurich Federal Polytechnic and the University of Fribourg).—Trade union investment funds in Belgium—origin, organisation and methods of the Liège Trade Union Investment Fund; development of trade union investment fund movement; the programme of the movement; present conditions; the movement in France—origin, progress and present conditions; the Arras Conference and the French idea of the investment fund movement; the movement in Germany and Spain. pp. 372—385.

(4) *Vocational Education in Soviet Russia*. By B. A. Nikolsky.—Vocational education before the revolution; vocational education from November 1917 to 1920; the unitary labour school; reform of higher education; workers' faculties; practical results; criticisms; new institutions; the General Committee on vocational education—organisation, work of the Committee, technical illiteracy. pp. 386—401.

*Routine matter.*—As in previous issues.

## Current Notes From Abroad

### INTERNATIONAL

At the tenth International Hat Makers' Congress, which was held in Paris on 15-19 August last, a resolution was adopted on the subject of the campaign against mercury poisoning, recommending that the International Labour Office should institute an international enquiry into the subject. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 21, 1925.)

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The "Commonwealth Labour Council" has invited the workers of China, Japan, Canada, the Philippines, Hawaii, Singapore, India, South Africa and the United States to send their representatives to a Pan-Pacific Conference which is to be held in Sydney, on May 1st, 1926, to discuss the danger of war in the Pacific. (From "Press Reports of the I.F.T.U.," Amsterdam, September 17, 1925.)

### UNITED KINGDOM

Among the 11,500,000 workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 24th August 1925 was 12.5, as compared with 11.5 at 27th July 1925, and with 10.6 at 25th August 1924. Among the members of those trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 11.4 at the end of August 1925, compared with 11.2 at the end of July 1925, and with 7.9 at the end of August 1924. The total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 31st August 1925, was approximately 1,418,000 of whom 1,094,000 were men and 242,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 27th July 1925, it was 1,262,000 of whom 948,000 were men and 246,000 were women; and at 25th August 1924 it was 1,191,000 of whom men numbered 899,000 and women 216,000. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September, 1925.)

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At 1st September 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 74 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 73 per cent. at the beginning of August. For food alone the corresponding percentages were 70 and 68 respectively. The rise in the percentages during the month was mainly due to increases in the prices of bacon, eggs and butter, which were partly offset by decreases in the prices of potatoes. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September, 1925.)

The dispute in the coal-mining industry in Great Britain which

threatened to culminate in a stoppage of work on 31 July last, was averted by the intervention of the Government.

It will be remembered that the dispute was provisionally settled on terms submitted by the Prime Minister. Among these terms was the stipulation that there should be a full investigation into the methods of improving the productive efficiency of the mining industry for the purpose of increasing its competitive power in world markets.

On 19 August last, the proposed terms of reference for the Royal Commission on the Coal Industry were announced at the National Delegate Conference of the Miners' Confederation. They are as follows:

To enquire into and report upon the economic position of the coal industry and the conditions affecting it, and to make any recommendations for the improvement thereof.

It is understood that the words "and the conditions affecting it" were inserted at the wish of the Mining Association. The coalowners are anxious that the enquiry should be as thorough and as inclusive as possible.

The terms of reference in their present form received the assent of the Miners' Conference on 19 August, and they have already been approved by the mine-owners. They will probably be given without further alteration to the Commission.

The object of the National Delegate Conference of the Miners' Federation was to receive a report on the terms of the truce arranged as the result of the recent negotiations with the Government. After discussion, the following resolution was adopted unanimously, with one exception:

That the Conference accepts the report of the Committee upon the terms upon which the employers' notices were withdrawn, and instructs the Committee to take such steps as it may deem necessary to present the Federation's case before the proposed enquiry. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," August 31, 1925.)

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The first results attained under the British Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act of 1924 are of decided interest and supply definite information on the changes which have been brought about in wage levels by the operation of the Act. Rates in a good many counties were fixed immediately after the Act came into force. These have now in some cases been varied, and further rates have been fixed for other counties. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 28, 1925.)

### OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

A cartel has recently been established between the organisations of State and Municipal employees, i.e., the Federation of Municipal and State Employees (*Verband der Gemeinde-und Staatsarbeiter*) and the Federal Union of German Municipal Officials (*Reichsgewerkschaft deutscher Kommunalbeamten*), on the one hand, and the Unitary Federation of German Railwaymen (*Einheitsverband der Eisenbahner Deutschlands*) and the German

Transport Federation (*Deutscher Verkehrsbund*) on the other hand. The amalgamation covers all general questions relating to wages and salary policy, and workers' rights in general. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," Geneva, September 28, 1925.)

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A new institute managed by a trained staff has been established in Stockholm for the vocational guidance of young persons of both sexes. The office will work in conjunction with a special section of the public employment office and will aim to keep in detail the plans of children leaving schools for industry and to measure their vocational aptitudes. Useful advice and subsequent supervision will constitute a part of the service. (From "*The Nation's Health*," Chicago, September 15, 1925.)

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The Conference of the French General Confederation of Labour (C. G. T.) also dealt with agricultural questions but in a less general way. A resolution was passed pointing out that among the essential reasons for the rural exodus was the lack of social security and well-being of the agricultural workers, and demanding that legislation should be passed:

- (1) extending the benefits of the probiviral courts (*Conseils des prud'hommes*) to agriculture;
- (2) extending to tenants and share-tenants the benefits of the arrangements at present obtaining among urban proprietors for allowing outgoing tenants the value of improvements established during the tenancy at the tenant's cost;
- (3) improving the application of the accident Compensation Act as extended to agriculture since 1922; introducing a more effective control over rural school attendance; and encouraging rural hygiene on behalf of the agricultural workers. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," Geneva, September 28, 1925.)

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A new Act of 16 July 1925 has just been enacted in Bulgaria, completing and revising the system of agricultural education. It is stated that the new Act is on the lines of the Recommendation concerning the development of technical agricultural education, adopted at the Third Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, 1921) and accepted by Bulgaria.

Three types of schools are established—continuation schools, practice schools and middle-grade schools. Provision is also made for a system of extension education and winter schools in agriculture.

Attendance at a continuation school for agriculture is compulsory for all young persons, employed in the agricultural industry, who are under 18 years of age (boys) and 16 years of age (girls) and who are not already

attending a secondary or higher school; education is free. Attendance is to be continued for two years and the minimum period in each year is 4 months during the winter. Parents who do not cause their children to attend are liable to fines of 100 to 2,000 leva.

Practice schools are reserved for the same class of young persons. Attendance at these schools implies board and lodging, which is given gratuitously by the State in view of the practical work done by the pupils during their vacations on the farms attached to the schools. Courses last for two years.

Middle-grade schools are intended to offer a more complete education in agriculture than is given by the institutions just mentioned. Courses last for five years. Attendance is open to persons aged less than 18 years, and places are filled by competition.

Two special Institutes will be created, one of which will offer higher education in viticulture and horticulture, and the other in agriculture and in domestic economy for young girls.

Generous provision is made for granting credit or giving opportunities for the purchase of land to students who have passed through one or other of the agricultural courses mentioned. The condition is that they pledge themselves to remain in the agricultural industry for ten years.

The system of extension education is organised through travelling teachers. These teachers have two duties—to further the spread of technical knowledge and to supervise the enforcement of legislation relating to agriculture.

The whole system will be completed by the establishment of winter schools. These will be open for four months at least during the year, and will be designed to offer to every cultivator over 18 years of age, opportunities of improving his agricultural knowledge. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," Geneva, September 28, 1925.)

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In 1922 the Municipal Administration of Rome considered the creation of a special Department of vocational education. Difficulties both economic and technical, however, have hitherto prevented the realisation of the scheme, and the Administration has confined itself to a small Vocational Guidance Office under the auspices of the National Institute of Occupational Education (*Reggio Istituto Nazionale d'Instruzione Professionale*), the work of which only covered pupils registered in the apprenticeship schools of the institution in question, and children in their last years at elementary schools in the district.

Recently, however, a decision has been taken to create a Department of Vocational Education in the Public Education Office of the Municipality of Rome.

The work of the Department will be:—

- (a) To initiate pupils in the last three classes of the elementary schools into various arts and crafts, by means of occupational pamphlets, lectures, cinematograph shows, visits to industrial undertakings, etc.
- (b) To convey information to children and their parents as to the requirements of the various arts and crafts;

(c) To note the psychological and physiological capabilities of children and to facilitate their choice of a trade, taking account, in so doing, of the situation of the labour market.

The Department will be organised and directed by a committee which will include members of the teaching staff of apprenticeship and psycho-technical schools. The Department will also, in agreement with manufacturers, set up committees the object of which will be to control conditions of apprenticeship. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 14, 1925.)

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A large number of labour disputes were in progress in Germany during the month of August, some of which resulted in partial stoppages of work.

The main cause of the disputes are demands on the part of the workers for increased wages. The workers claim that the cost of living has considerably risen and that wages should be augmented correspondingly so as to avoid a further decrease in the standard of living. The employers on the other hand, state that industry is unable to bear higher charges, and they refer to the action for lowering the level of prices recently undertaken by the Government.

In the building trades local strikes occurred in many centres, and in a number of cases the situation became still more difficult in consequence of lock-outs declared by the master builders' organisation. On 29th July the Federation of Building Trades Employers announced that a general lock-out would be declared if the trade unions were not prepared to accept the employers' conditions within a fortnight.

This threat induced the Federal Ministry of Labour to intervene in the dispute. The contending parties were invited to negotiate and the appointment of a Board of Arbitration was agreed to. The decision of the Board, which was issued on 14 August, provided for a slight increase in wages, but excluded builders, labourers, and underground building workers. At first the men's representatives declined to accept the decision but after prolonged negotiation, an agreement satisfactory to both sides was reached on 28 August and work was resumed.

The new hourly rates of wages of skilled workers (*Facharbeiter*) vary between 0.96 marks in the district of Mecklenburg and 1.25 marks in Berlin. No rates for underground building workers (*Tiefbauarbeiter*) could be agreed to.

Wage disputes in the textile industry arose in München-Gladbach, Chemnitz and other centres, the workers demanding increases of wages up to 30 per cent. As in the case of the building trades, the employers' organisations refused the demands and threatened to lock out several hundred thousand work-people. The Federal Ministry of Labour however, succeeded in bringing about compromises. In Saxony negotiations concerning the general application of the award made by the Ministry of Labour are still pending.

The railway workers demanded a general increase of wages. Up to 31 August last, when the old wage scale expired, no definitive settlement had been reached, but as from 1 September increases were granted by the

Reichsbahn management in most districts. On 31 August the men applied for the appointment of an arbitrator. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," September 21, 1925.)

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The Bill for the creation of a Central Economic Council in Poland has been submitted for the consideration of the various interests concerned.

As the result of observations put forward by these groups, and of subsequent negotiations, the Government introduced a Bill in June last, providing for the establishment of a provisional Economic Council, pending the creation of the Supreme Economic Chamber provided for in Section 68 of the Constitution.

The duties of the Council will be :

1. To collaborate with the Government in the preparation of Bills to give effect to Section 68 of the Constitution ;
2. To undertake enquiries into the economic situation of the country ;
3. To propose measures for the furtherance of the economic interests of the country ;
4. To give its views on Government or private Bills relating to economic, financial or social questions ;
5. To collaborate in the preparation of international treaties of commerce ;
6. To give its views on all questions submitted to it by the Government.

The Council must give its views within a month of their being asked for. This time limit may only be extended in exceptional circumstances. If the Council has not given its views within the prescribed time-limit, and if the question at issue relates to a Government or private Bill, the Government is entitled forthwith to submit the Bill to Parliament or to promulgate the necessary Decree.

The views of the Economic Council may be attached to the Bill. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," August 31, 1925.)

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On 22nd June last, the Prussian Ministry of Commerce issued an Order for the protection of working women before and after childbirth.

The Order requires that pregnant woman should work under proper conditions, protected from heat, smoke and bad smells. Further, special quarters shall be installed, either at the place of work itself or near to it, for the purpose of affording such women a rest period during hours of work. The managements of all large-scale undertakings with a large female staff (e.g., the textile industry), are recommended to engage a works doctor to organise lectures and to keep a permanent supply, to be used as necessity arises, of food, drink and drugs.

The Order satisfies the majority of the claims put forward by the German Textile Workers' Union. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 21, 1925.)

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After lasting 50 days, the strike of the Bank Clerks came to an end last week, as a result of the refusal of all the bank managements to accept the

Government's proposal of arbitration. In the large banks work will be resumed on the basis of the Protocol of August 31st, the chief points of which are: the reinstatement of all clerks; the fixing of a minimum wage for all categories over 23 years, when the usual increase in salaries is made at the end of the year; the payment of a heating bonus for the winter months of this year; and conferences with clerks' delegations on all questions touching the staff. These delegations are to be composed of members of the trade union who are in the employ of the respective banks.

In a manifesto published by the national strike headquarters, it is affirmed that the conflict has ended with a fine moral success, demonstrating as it did, the solidarity of the workers. "It now remains for the organisations and trade union delegations in the coming months to turn this great moral victory into a material victory by systematic work". In conclusion the clerks' executive thanked the press and the public for the moral and material support given to them. (From "Press Reports of the I.F.T.U.," Amsterdam, September 17, 1925.)

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A large delegation of German unions is to proceed very shortly to America, where it will stay for some months to study industrial conditions and methods of production. The delegation is composed of two representatives from each of the following: the German Trades Union Congress, the Miners', Railwaymen's, Wood-workers' and Transport-workers' Unions; also one representative each from the "AFA" (Federation of Non-Manual Workers), the Labour Bank, and the Unions of the Clothing Workers, the Workers in the Public Services, and Food and Drink Workers.

The delegation may possibly attend the congress of the American Federation of Labour in Atlantic City, which opens on October 5th. (From "Press Reports of the I.F.T.U.," Amsterdam, September 17, 1925.)

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The Austrian Government has submitted to the Federal Parliament a Bill for the protection of national workers (*Inlandarbeiterschutzgesetz*). It provides that no employee, workman or servant who is not an Austrian citizen may be employed in Austria unless permission has previously been obtained from the authorities. Aliens who are at present in employment will not be discharged, but if they lose their employment they will come under this Bill; aliens who have resided in Austria continuously since 1 January 1919 are not affected by it. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 7, 1925.)

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The authorisations extending hours of work in the Polish Upper Silesian metal-working industry to ten per day, which were granted by the Polish Minister of Labour on the basis of an agreement concluded on 17 January last between the employers' and workers' organisations concerned, expired on 21 July last.

No further agreement between the parties concerned has been come to. The Government proceeded to consider carefully the existing situation in the metal-working industry of Polish Upper Silesia, in connection with the situation in the same industry in Germany, where hours of work have not been reduced, and conferences took place between the representatives of the Government and of the employers' and workers' organisations concerned.

As a result, the Minister of Labour has decided that the eight hour day shall be gradually introduced into the metal working industry for those classes of workers who are now working ten hours per day.

It was agreed that the first class of workers should begin to work eight hours per day as from 10 August 1925, and an Order is to be issued laying down the procedure for effecting the transition from the ten hour day to the eight hour day. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 7, 1925.)

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The Annual Report for 1924 of the Confederation of Czechoslovak Trade Unions (*Odborové Sdružení Československé*) shows a considerable improvement in the numbers and financial position of the Confederation. At the end of 1924 the Confederation included 43 federations, with 330,000 members. The report adds that the figure in question is not final and that the membership was 324,189. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 7, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The Spanish official journal, *Gaceta de Madrid*, of 20 August 1925, publishes a Royal Decree regulating the Department of Social Culture at the Ministry of Labour, Commerce and Industry.

The Department is to have the character of a social school and will also deal with the bibliographical work and registry of the Ministry, with social studies in industry and commerce, and with the organisation of courses, lectures, excursions, exhibitions, museums, congresses, publications and all other work for the dissemination and development of popular culture in economic and social questions.

The Department will be under a chief of section, advised by a special social culture council. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 14, 1925.)

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#### UNITED STATES

During the month of June, 1925, the offices of the Employment Service of Canada referred 28,316 workers to employment and made a total of 27,069 placements. Workers placed in regular employment numbered 18,819, of which 14,946 were men and 3,873 were women. Placements in casual work numbered 8,250. Employers notified the service of 29,535 vacancies, of which 20,125 were for men and 9,210 for women. The number of applicants for work was 38,017, of whom 27,516 were

men and 10,501 were women. When the above figures are compared with those of the preceding month a slight decline is shown in the volume of business transacted, the records for May, 1925, showing 30,650 vacancies offered, 39,953 applications made and 28,533 placements effected, while in contrast with the month of June a year ago an increase is noted, there being recorded during that period 27,907 vacancies, 35,730 applications for work and 24,756 placements in regular and casual employment. (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, August, 1925.)

The extension service of the Kansas (U. S. A.) agricultural schools is the first State college in the United States that has used the radio for broadcasting regular agricultural lectures among the farmers. The courses which have obtained great success take the form of eight fifteen-minute talks on topics selected according to the season. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 28, 1925.)

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The Department of Labour of the State of New York recently published a bulletin showing the wages and hours of organised women in the principal trades in the State. The growth of organisation among women in recent years is said to have attained sufficient proportions to merit such a survey, which was undertaken in response to requests for information on the subject.

Hours in specified trades and occupations employing women are shown in the table which is given below. The hours are those established by agreement, written or understood, between a union and group of employers, under the terms of which agreement union members actually worked. The scales reported are said to have been in force for practically the full union membership, with exception of one trade, where half the members were working under the union agreement.

The investigation included primarily manufacturing industries, the principal field of organisation among women. Union officials in the cities and trades selected for study were personally interviewed, and only in a few cases was the information secured by correspondence. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 14, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. A. De Magalhaes, a Deputy, has just submitted to the Brazilian Federal Chamber a Bill concerning the work of women.

According to the Bill, every woman employed in any public service of the Union, the States or the municipalities, or in any industrial or commercial undertaking, is to be entitled to 30 days' holiday before and after childbirth. During the period in question, the employer will be compelled, even if there is a stipulation to the contrary in an agreement, to keep the woman's post open for her, and to pay her at least two-thirds of her salary or wages, unless there is some fund out of which the wages can be paid.

The holiday in question will be granted subject to a medical certificate, and may not be refused on any pretext whatsoever.

Undertakings in which more than 20 women are employed must have a creche or a room set apart for nursing, under the conditions laid down in

the sanitary regulations. For the purpose of nursing their children, working mothers are to be entitled to two rest periods, which must not together exceed one hour per day—such rest periods to involve no reduction in wages. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 14, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

According to the Mexican paper, the Secretariat of Industry, Commerce and Labour in Mexico has convened a conference, which is to take place on 6 October next in Mexico City, of delegates of employers and workers in the textile industries.

The object of the Conference is to bring the various parties in the textile industry to an agreement for the improvement of production and of conditions of labour.

The Conference will deal with the following questions :

1. Reforms and interpretations of, and additions to, the uniform minimum tariff of 1912 for cotton-spinning and cotton-weaving factories ;
2. Reform of the standardised internal regulations of cotton-weaving factories, as approved by the Conference of Employers and Workers in this branch of the industry, which met in 1912 ;
3. General measures for improving the conditions of production, labour and hygiene in the various textile centres of the country ;
4. Various agreements, to be concluded between employers and workers on general questions.

This Conference will be the first of a series of meetings on the same lines in other industries of the country. The next Conference is to deal with the petroleum industry. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," August 31, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

In Chile, various laws on labour relations composing the labour code, which were promulgated on September 26, 1924, became effective on March 26 last. These laws are those on labour contract, union organization, labour disputes, labour contract of private employees, amendments to the industrial accident law, sickness and old-age insurance, and co-operatives. The eight-hour law now takes effect throughout the Republic. Among recent legislation is a decree-law giving employed women the right to 60 days' leave of absence at confinement and to one hour a day for the care of the infants. In March last, provision was made whereby the salaries of women teachers in the secondary schools were made equal to those of men, as was already the case in the primary and normal schools. (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, August, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The Central Labour Council of the American Federation of Labour, in co-ordination with the University of Cincinnati, has lately organized extension courses for the working men and women of the city. This work is under the direction of a joint committee, half of whose members are

appointed by the Labour Council and half by the University. The nature of this co-ordinated authority makes this an undertaking of peculiar interest. In a number of places in the United States there are college professors serving in an individual capacity as instructors in labour classes under outside auspices; but here they serve under a standing committee of the university itself, officially representing the institution as a part of its extension faculty.

In the course of an article on "Trade Union and University", the *Survey* (New York) says: "The University of Cincinnati is the largest of the American municipal universities but primarily because its faculty and its constituency believe in the policy, it is interwoven into the life of its city to a greater extent than is true of perhaps any other similar institution. The co-operative plan of its college of engineering and commerce is widely known. Here a total of over one thousand students from specialized divisions are divided into two equal groups. Group A is distributed by the college among two hundred factories, shops, banks, offices and commercial establishments to work at the actual tasks of their vocation under the joint supervision of college and plant, while Group B attends university classes. At the end of a month, Group A enters laboratory and class room, Group B going out into the field to take A's place at bench and counter. In this way they alternate throughout the entire professional course, education being carried on under the joint auspices of the university and places of business. The students of the college of education during a considerable part of their course serve as teachers half of each day in the city public schools, and attend university classes the other half day. The board of education serves as an advisory board to the college, and shares responsibility for the finance and direction." (From "Labour Gazette," Canada, August, 1925.)

#### OTHER COUNTRIES

The terms of reference for the Commission which the Government of the Union of South Africa has set up to enquire into and report upon wages in the Union were issued on 6 August last. The Commission will consider the effect of different wage and labour policies upon the opportunities of employment at a wage compatible with a civilised standard of life, with particular reference to:

The range of wage rates and earnings in the Union;

The differentiation of wage rates according to age, sex, experience, responsibility and skill, and also according to special conditions and terms of service imposed by law;

The procedure by which wage rates are settled;

The relation of money wages to real wages, and the adjustment of money wages to variations in the cost of living;

The industrial and commercial conditions affecting the amount of wages;

The effect of wage standards upon the distribution of labour between different occupations;

The influence of public wage regulation upon industrial development; and

The need for wider scope for the youth of the country, and the effect of the existing conditions in South Africa upon their opportunities of entry into and training in industrial employment. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," September 21, 1925.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The South African Minister of Labour has appointed a Departmental Committee to enquire into the cost of living in the Union.

The terms of reference are as follows:—

(1) What expenditure is required to maintain in certain typical industrial areas: (a) on an average regimen; (b) on a minimum regimen; a civilised standard of living for a typical family of man, wife and three children?

(2) In what proportion is expenditure involved on: (a) food, fuel and light; (b) rent; and (c) on the group of expenditure usually described in the Union statistics as "sundries"?

(3) How far is the food supply of the Union produced locally, and how far does the Union depend on imported food?

(4) What is the consumption of staple commodities by various classes of the community?

(5) How far is it possible by means of publicity to induce buyers to buy wisely?

(6) How far can publicity as to comparison of prices influence the course of prices?

(7) How far can any measure be suggested which would influence the cost of house rent?

The committee is anxious to obtain authentic information in regard to family budgets, and with this end in view has prepared a comprehensive form which it is anxious should be filled in by as many persons as possible in the different districts. The form covers most of the details of the cost of foodstuffs, clothing, rent, fuel, medicines, entertainment, subscriptions, etc.

A feature of the return is that no one is asked to give his name or address, and the Committee wishes to make it clear that none of the returns received will be used for any other purpose than that of measuring the cost of living in the Union. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva September 21, 1925.)



OCT., 1925

## PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN SEPTEMBER 1925

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Trade.</i>						
1. The Whittle Mill No. 3, Broach.	271	...	20 Aug. 1925	3 Sept. 1925	Demand for compensation money at as. 6 for one of the two machines in charge of a weaver when not worked under instructions.	Work resumed.
2. The Silver Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Gontipur, Ahmedabad.	100	...	31 Aug.	14 Sept.	The dismissal of an operative who was a member of the Labour Union.	Work resumed by a few and new men engaged in place of the remainder.
3. The Surat Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Surat.	175	...	30 Aug.	8 Sept.	The reduction of 50 per cent. in Dearness Allowance.	Work resumed unconditionally.
4. The Shri Laxmi Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Gontipur, Ahmedabad.	51	...	9 Sept.	11 Sept.	The appointment of a new Supervisor.	Work resumed by few and new men engaged in place of the remainder.
5. New Swadeshi Mills Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	350	...	16 Sept.	19 Sept.	The dismissal of a Head Jobber.	Demands granted.
6. General Strike Bombay—						
(a) 15 Cotton Mills.	33,249	...	15 Sept.		As a protest against Notice of 11½ per cent. cut in wages.	No settlement reported.
(b) 10 Cotton Mills.	18,367	...	16 Sept.			
(c) 6 Cotton Mills.	14,084	...	18 Sept.			
(d) 17 Cotton Mills.	33,360	...	19 Sept.			
(e) 3 Cotton Mills.	6,146	...	20 Sept.			
(f) 11 Cotton Mills.	19,319	...	21 Sept.			
(g) The Sassoon Alliance Silk Mills.	1,140	...	21 Sept.			

OCT., 1925

191

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

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
(h) The Chhoi Silk Mill.	400	...	22 Sept. 1925	1925		
(i) 5 Cotton Mills.	8,095	...	22 Sept.			
(j) 3 Cotton Mills.	3,437	...	23 Sept.			
(k) The Maneckji Petit Mill, Tardeo.	4,621	...	24 Sept.			
(l) 3 Cotton Mills.	2,510	...	25 Sept.			
(m) The Bombay Dyeing Mill, Dadar.	600	...	30 Sept.			
7. The Gordhan Weaving and Spinning Mills Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	150	...	28 Sept.	30 Sept.	Demand to show the Dearness Allowance amount separate from the wages.	Strikers dismissed.

**ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING SEPTEMBER 1925**  
**1. Bombay City**

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured		
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	
	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925			
I Textile Mills—													
Cotton Mills ..	364	24	233	14	10	1	29	3	558	34	597	6	38
Woolen Mills ..	4	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	6	1	6	..	2
Others ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..	..
Total ..	370	25	236	15	10	1	29	4	567	35	606	6	40
II Workshops—													
Engineering ..	20	1	152	20	..	..	3	..	169	21	172	21	21
Railway ..	25	3	861	130	3	..	1	..	882	133	886	133	133
Mint ..	3	..	2	1	..	..	1	..	4	1	5	1	1
Others ..	6	1	8	1	..	1	2	..	12	1	14	1	2
Total ..	54	5	1,023	152	3	1	7	..	1,067	156	1,077	157	157
III Miscellaneous—													
Chemical Works ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Flour Mills ..	3	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	6	..	..
Printing Presses ..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	3	..	..
Others ..	10	2	15	1	1	..	2	..	22	3	25	1	1
Total ..	15	3	20	1	3	..	3	..	29	4	35	4	4
Total, All Factories ..	439	33	1,279	168	16	2	39	4	1,663	195	1,718	201	201

**2. Ahmedabad**

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured		
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	
	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925			
I Textile Mills—													
Cotton ..	121	14	66	11	2	1	45	10	140	14	187	25	25
Total ..	121	14	66	11	2	1	45	10	140	14	187	25	25
II Miscellaneous—													
Match Factory ..	11	1	2	..	..	..	2	1	11	..	13	1	1
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	(a) 1	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..
Total ..	12	1	5	..	2	..	3	1	13	..	18	1	1
Total, All Factories ..	133	15	71	11	4	1	48	11	153	14	205	26	26

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

**ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING SEPTEMBER 1925—contd.**  
**3. Karachi**

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured		
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	
	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925			
I Workshops—													
Railway and Port Trust ..	3	3	13	..	1	..	4	1	12	2	16	3	3
Engineering ..	1	..	10	..	..	..	1	..	9	..	11	..	..
Total ..	4	3	23	..	1	..	5	1	21	2	27	3	3
II Miscellaneous—													
Total ..	5	1	(a) 2	..	..	..	2	1	6	..	8	1	1
Total, All Factories ..	9	4	25	..	1	..	7	2	27	2	35	4	4

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

**4. Other Centres**

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured		
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	
	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925	Jan to Aug 1925	Sept 1925			
I Textile Mills—													
Cotton Mills ..	56	10	31	1	2	..	12	1	73	10	87	11	11
Others ..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	6	..	..
Total ..	61	10	32	1	2	..	12	1	79	10	93	11	11
II Workshops—													
Railway ..	11	..	74	16	..	..	4	..	81	16	95	16	16
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	6	..	..
Others ..	11	..	17	1	1	..	4	..	23	1	28	1	1
Total ..	25	..	94	17	1	..	8	..	110	17	119	17	17
III Miscellaneous—													
Ginning and Pressing Factories ..	12	..	10	..	7	..	2	..	13	..	22	..	..
Paint Works ..	9	..	12	2	2	..	1	1	18	2	21	3	3
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	21	1	22	2	9	..	3	1	31	2	43	3	3
Total, All Factories ..	107	11	148	20	12	..	23	2	220	29	255	31	31

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of August			Five months ended August		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	405	382	58	1,539	1,117	272
Khadi (a)	3,217	446	319	9,883	1,772	272
Chudders	26	29	74	121	138	16,198
Dhotis	2	12	15	20	51	293
Drills and jeans	129	216	72	697	1,007	89
Cambrics and lawns	1,265	1,746	1,345	5,037	9,592	593
Printers	159	175	203	596	881	7,816
Shirtings and long cloth	12	234	40	48	438	1,180
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	284	151	121	1,177	951	131
Tent cloth						1,001
Other sorts						
Total .. ..	5,499	7,038	5,508	19,118	31,729	29,137
Coloured piece-goods	532	948	1,038	2,647	5,119	6,570
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	8	7	16	31	32	5
Hosiery	5	21	94	16	75	65
Miscellaneous	1	..	3	1	2	138
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool						14
Grand Total .. ..	6,045	8,015	6,660	21,815	36,960	35,929

\* As defined under the Cotton Duties Act II of 1896.  
(a) Included under 'other sorts' prior to April 1924.

## COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	Housing	Cost of living
<b>1922</b>									
October	136	164	138	191	158	167	234	165	162
November	134	160	137	187	155	167	229	165	160
December	131	160	133	196	157	167	222	165	161
<b>1923</b>									
January	124	158	127	190	151	166	225	165	156
February	125	153	128	187	150	166	223	165	155
March	127	150	129	182	149	164	223	165	154
April	130	147	132	182	156	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
<b>1924</b>									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
<b>1925</b>									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Sept 1924	Aug 1925	Sept 1925	July 1914	Sept 1924	Aug 1925	Sept 1925
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
<b>Cereals</b>										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 14 6	6 7 10	6 6 10	100	147	152	157
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	7 12 3	6 7 3	6 7 3	100	151	151	149
Do.	Khandwa Semi	Candy	45 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	21 0 0	100	156	156	156
Do.	Jabalpur		40 0 0	51 6 0	60 0 0	55 0 0	100	154	152	150
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	3 12 11	4 3 8	4 3 8	100	141	141	141
Barley			3 4 6	5 4 6	4 5 5	4 5 5	100	141	141	141
Barr	Ghati		3 4 6	4 10 0	5 3 0	4 35 0	100	142	138	132
<b>Pulses</b>	Index No.—Cereals						100	142	146	145
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 0 4	4 2 0	4 2 1	100	95	87	85
Turdal	Cawnpore		5 10 5	5 4 6	5 13 1	5 13 1	100	94	103	103
	Index No.—Pulses						100	95	100	104
	Index No.—Food grains						100	132	135	134
<b>Sugar</b>										
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	20 6 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	222	163	163
Do.	Java, white	Maund	10 3 0	20 6 0	15 1 0	14 13 0	100	201	145	145
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona		7 14 3	13 5 4	12 14 10	12 14 10	100	169	164	164
	Index No.—Sugar						100	197	158	158
<b>Other Food</b>										
Turmeric	Raipur	Maund	5 9 3	23 2 1	11 9 0	10 1 1	100	415	207	180
Ghee	Dandi		45 11 5	62 13 0	65 11 5	66 6 1	100	181	180	184
Salt	Bombay (black)		1 7 6	2 4 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	100	153	153	153
	Index No.—Other food						100	200	183	176
	Index No.—All Food						100	168	149	146
<b>Oils and</b>										
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	6 14 6	13 10 6	12 12 0	12 12 0	100	215	172	172
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)		8 0 0	12 14 6	11 14 0	11 14 0	100	188	188	188
Poppy seed	White		10 14 0	12 14 6	11 14 0	11 14 0	100	188	188	188
Mustard			11 4 0	12 14 6	11 14 0	11 14 0	100	188	188	188
	Index No.—Oils and						100	188	188	188

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Sept 1924	Aug 1925	Sept 1925	July 1914	Sept 1924	Aug 1925	Sept 1925
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
<b>Textile—Cotton</b>										
(a) Cotton, raw										
Besrah	Fully good	Candy	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Cherra	Do.		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Dharwar	See-ginned		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Khandesh	Machine-ginned		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Bengal	Do.		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Cotton, raw						100	100	100	100
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Twist	40S	Lb.	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Grey shirtings	Fair 2,000	Piece	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
White muslin	6,000		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Shirtings	Lingman's 1,500		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	Lb.	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Chadders	34" x 5 yds.		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Cotton manufactures						100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Textile—Cotton						100	100	100	100
<b>Other Textile</b>										
Silk	Mashow	Lb.	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Do.	Mashow Lar		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Other Textile						100	100	100	100
<b>Hides and Skins</b>										
Hides, Cow	T	Lb.	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Do. Buffalo	PP		18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Skins, Goat			18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Hides and Skins						100	100	100	100
<b>Metals</b>										
Copper bracers		Cwt.	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Iron bars			18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Steel beams			18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Galvanized sheets			18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Tin plates			18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Metals						100	100	100	100
<b>Other raw and manufactured articles</b>										
Coal	Bengal, in Chas. Baris	Ton	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Do.			18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Kerosene			18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
Do.			18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	18 10 0	100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles						100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Fuel						100	100	100	100
	Index No.—Non-fuel						100	100	100	100
	General Index No.						100	100	100	100

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Sept 1924	Aug 1925	Sept 1925	July 1914	Sept 1924	Aug 1925	Sept 1925
<b>Cereals—</b>			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy.	39 0 0	59 0 0	59 12 0	60 12 0	100	151	153	156
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	"	31 8 0	45 8 0	45 0 0	43 8 0	100	144	143	138
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 4 0	44 8 0	44 0 0	42 8 0	100	142	141	136
" white	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 8 0	46 14 0	46 6 0	44 12 0	100	144	143	138
" red	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 4 0	45 14 0	45 6 0	43 12 0	100	142	141	136
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	37 0 0	39 12 0	40 0 0	100	145	156	157
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	40 12 0	35 12 0	33 0 0	100	154	135	125
Index No.—Cereals			....	....	....	....	100	146	145	141
<b>Pulses—</b>										
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	33 0 0	33 4 0	34 0 0	100	112	113	115
<b>Sugar—</b>										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	19 3 0	14 9 0	14 5 0	100	210	160	157
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	....	....	....	100	..	..	..
Index No.—Sugar			....	....	....	....	100	210	160	157
<b>Other food—</b>										
Salt		Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	100	76	79	79
<b>Oilseeds—</b>										
Cotton seed	3% admixture	Maund.	2 11 3	4 1 0	3 10 0	3 6 0	100	150	134	125
Rapeseed	Black 9% admixture	Candy.	51 0 0	78 0 0	74 0 0	72 0 0	100	153	145	141
Gingelly		"	62 0 0	....	86 0 0	85 0 0	100	..	139	137
Index No.—Oilseeds			....	....	....	....	100	152	139	134
<b>Textiles—</b>										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	61 0 0	64 4 0	69 8 0	100	139	168	167

<b>Textiles—Cotton</b>										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	40 0 0	42 12 0	42 12 0	100	198	211	211
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill	Piece.	10 3 6	27 0 0	19 12 0	21 0 0	100	264	190	200
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	28 0 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	227	217	217
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2	....	....	....	100	..	..	..
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			....	....	....	....	100	271	205	211
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton			....	....	....	....	100	240	207	211
<b>Other Textiles—Wool</b>	Kandabar	Maund.	28 0 0	44 0 0	46 0 0	47 0 0	100	157	164	168
<b>Hides—</b>										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	17 0 0	15 8 0	13 8 0	100	80	64	64
"	Punjab	"	21 4 0	17 0 0	15 8 0	13 8 0	100	80	64	64
Index No.—Hides			....	....	....	....	100	80	64	64
<b>Metals—</b>										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	70 0 0	62 0 0	68 8 0	100	116	107	117
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 12 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	174	168	168
Plates		"	4 6 0	8 0 0	7 4 0	7 2 0	100	165	166	165
Index No.—Metals			....	....	....	....	100	158	145	148
<b>Other raw and manufactured articles—</b>										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	25 0 0	23 0 0	23 0 0	100	156	166	166
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	187	187	187
"	Elephant	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 8 8	7 5 0	7 5 0	100	130	145	145
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			....	....	....	....	100	130	164	164
Index No.—Food			....	....	....	....	100	142	136	134
Index No.—Non-food			....	....	....	....	100	167	152	151
General Index No.			....	....	....	....	100	157	146	146

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.
<b>1922</b>														
September ..	163	127	212	241	185	135	191	229	191	142	182	187	183	184
<b>1923</b>														
September ..	124	85	209	354	182	136	211	215	192	149	177	162	178	179
October ..	122	85	214	368	185	133	211	217	196	153	178	169	179	181
November ..	125	90	228	365	189	138	303	235	187	161	174	169	185	186
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	173	158	174	160	188	188
April ..	122	84	217	279	167	127	258	237	171	146	171	164	190	181
May ..	125	88	212	293	171	131	259	236	187	150	169	166	187	181
June ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	258	236	191	149	168	166	192	184
July ..	143	98	211	260	174	150	265	232	201	149	170	158	190	185
August ..	146	97	198	262	173	146	260	235	187	150	166	166	189	184
September ..	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	203	150	166	161	190	184
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	181	145	169	167	188	181
November ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	161	186	181
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	160	179	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	160	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	133	163	159	167	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	155	141	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	162	158
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	155

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australis	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, 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, tax, etc.	Food, heating and lighting	Food, fuel, light and rent	(f)	Food, clothing, heating and light, rent and miscellaneous items
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	(f) 100	(g) 100	(h) 100	(i) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	115	117	99	116	117	146	140	118
1916 ..	108	148	102	112	115	117	116	116	140	180	114	118
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	118	128	146	118	190	229	118	124
1918 ..	146	203	146	118	144	197	118	125	275	261	238	177
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	125	133	302	253	155	217
1920 ..	190	219	152	152	182	313	178	379	302	209	133	190
1921 ..	177	184	147	140	178	387	429	366	(d) 249	158	(j) 135	173
1922 ..	165	172	150	152	180	499	470	234	168	133	133	162
1923 December ..	157	177	150	152	162	510	480	170	170	133	133	162
1924 January ..	159	179	150	150	162	517	495	168	168	134	134	170
February ..	156	175	148	150	162	521	510	166	166	134	134	169
March ..	154	178	148	150	162	522	498	166	166	134	134	169
April ..	150	173	145	149	160	518	485	166	166	134	134	169
May ..	150	171	143	149	160	518	492	251	168	133	133	169
June ..	153	169	143	149	160	512	493	169	169	132	132	171
July ..	157	171	145	148	160	511	498	260	167	132	132	171
August ..	161	170	146	148	160	516	503	166	166	132	132	171
September ..	161	173	146	148	160	546	513	170	170	134	134	173
October ..	161	176	146	148	160	562	520	170	170	133	133	173
November ..	161	180	147	148	160	573	521	269	170	133	133	173
December ..	160	181	147	148	160	580	521	170	170	133	133	173
1925 January ..	157	180	149	149	161	592	517	271	170	133	133	173
February ..	157	179	150	150	161	602	511	168	168	134	134	174
March ..	159	179	148	148	161	600	506	167	167	134	134	174
April ..	158	175	147	147	161	591	505	261	169	134	134	174
May ..	156	173	146	146	161	596	505	169	169	133	133	174
June ..	154	172	146	146	161	598	509	169	169	133	133	174
July ..	157	173	146	146	163	610	517	169	169	133	133	174
August ..	152	173	149	149	163	610	517	169	169	133	133	174
September ..	151	174	149	149	163	610	517	169	169	133	133	174
October ..	153	174	149	149	163	610	517	169	169	133	133	174

(a) From 1914 to 1922 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 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)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Netherlands (b)	Norway (b)	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	43	56	151	51	92	24	150	45	48	93	47	236	325
1913 Average ..	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914 ..	100	95	..	..	106	100	100	102	105	(a) 100	106	100	100
1915 ..	100	97	..	..	147	102	..	140	145	(c) 159	145	159	101
1916 ..	117	117	..	..	138	124	..	188	222	233	185	151	127
1917 ..	148	148	..	..	153	169	..	262	286	341	244	179	177
1918 ..	226	196	..	..	178	207	..	539	392	345	339	199	194
1919 ..	222	239	..	..	189	226	..	356	297	322	330	209	206
1920 ..	216	260	150	203	228	259	307	510	281	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 December ..	193	210	149	..	152	170	168	326	165	269	172	151	140
1922 ..	175	183	149	196	168	147	156	362	155	220	155	153	156
1923 September ..	179	210	157	193	180	123	158	424	145	234	155	155	154
.. October ..	181	212	156	194	179	129	158	420	148	237	153	153	153
.. November ..	186	210	157	197	181	134	146	446	153	242	151	153	152
.. December ..	188	211	158	207	182	137	164	458	154	244	150	154	151
1924 January ..	188	211	157	205	182	133	165	494	156	250	152	157	151
.. February ..	188	208	160	205	180	135	167	544	158	260	153	157	152
.. March ..	181	206	158	204	175	136	165	495	155	266	154	154	150
.. April ..	184	207	154	205	174	134	165	450	154	267	156	151	148
.. May ..	181	205	154	..	173	135	164	459	153	264	149	152	145
.. June ..	185	200	152	..	171	131	163	465	151	263	151	151	147
.. July ..	184	195	152	..	171	132	163	481	151	271	148	153	147
.. August ..	184	200	149	..	169	143	165	477	151	274	152	154	149
.. September ..	181	207	149	..	170	148	167	486	158	275	153	154	147
.. October ..	181	213	153	..	171	156	170	497	157	274	152	158	157
.. November ..	176	214	155	..	171	158	170	503	161	277	162	157	152
.. December ..	176	214	157	..	173	156	170	508	160	278	163	161	153
1925 January ..	173	214	160	..	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	157
.. February ..	173	210	159	..	170	161	169	515	160	279	164	165	160
.. March ..	171	204	160	..	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	165	161
.. April ..	165	202	159	..	166	154	163	512	151	267	160	162	156
.. May ..	164	199	158	..	167	151	159	520	151	260	160	157	156
.. June ..	160	200	157	..	170	150	158	543	153	258	158	158	155
.. July ..	158	199	163	..	170	151	159	539	156	254	160	159	157
.. August ..	160	..	160	..	..	..	157	559	..	..	154	160	166
.. September ..	157	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	160	167

\* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1915-1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labour.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	20	Amsterdam	30	44	100	2
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(e) 100	100	100	100	100
1915 ..	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	95	..	..	114	160	124	128	119
1916 ..	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	111	..	..	117	160	142	146	141
1917 ..	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	146	214	181	166	179
1918 ..	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	175	279	208	187	222
1919 ..	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	208	..	..	196	289	210	212	230
1920 ..	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	..	962	210	319	297	253
1921 ..	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180(6)	295	232	246	207
1922 ..	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	499	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	157
1923 December ..	152	176	145	118	156	147	147	365	(f) 499	121	1,083	140	226	164	194	166
1924 January ..	154	175	145	120	155	149	146	376	515	124	1,044	144	230	163	196	165
.. February ..	151	177	146	122	153	149	144	384	516	129	1,042	144	234	162	..	167
.. March ..	147	176	143	122	152	149	141	392	523	130	1,037	141	241	167	..	167
.. April ..	143	167	137	123	150	150	138	380	524	122	1,000	140	240	159	..	165
.. May ..	143	163	133	122	151	150	138	378	519	114	1,000	139	241	159	..	165
.. June ..	147	160	133	120	149	150	139	370	518	120	1,004	136	240	158	..	168
.. July ..	151	162	134	117	149	149	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	240	158	..	168
.. August ..	156	164	137	117	147	146	141	366	507	125	1,008	146	257	163	..	166
.. September ..	156	166	139	117	146	145	144	374	514	127	1,009	155	261	165	..	166
.. October ..	156	172	139	120	147	146	146	383	543	135	1,120	150	264	172	..	169
.. November ..	157	179	141	122	147	148	147	396	567	140	1,127	150	269	172	..	170
.. December ..	156	180	142	121	148	150	149	404	579	140	1,129	150	274	172	..	169
1925 January ..	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	590	141	1,100	150	277	170	..	168
.. February ..	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	1,099	155	283	170	..	168
.. March ..	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	415	624	136	1,119	151	284	171	..	168
.. April ..	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
.. May ..	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	149	265	169	..	167
.. June ..	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	..	165
.. July ..	152	167	..	120	156	151	159	421	602	..	1,107	..	260	169	..	167
.. August ..	147	168	146	..	..	152	..	423	..	..	..	..	254	170	..	167
.. September ..	146	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	168
.. October ..	148	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	167

(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 AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1925

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

Articles	Price per	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		Aug. 1925	Aug. 1925	Aug. 1925	Aug. 1925	Aug. 1925	Sept. 1925	Sept. 1925	Sept. 1925	Sept. 1925	Sept. 1925
<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 1 3 <i>127</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 13 10 <i>154</i>	6 15 11 <i>125</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 11 6 <i>151</i>
Wheat .. ..	.. ..	6 13 10 <i>123</i>	6 5 5 <i>151</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>	6 12 8 <i>121</i>	6 5 5 <i>151</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>
Jowari .. ..	.. ..	5 10 8 <i>130</i>	4 7 1 <i>122</i>	4 7 1 <i>117</i>	3 14 3 <i>136</i>	5 0 4 <i>146</i>	5 9 4 <i>128</i>	4 7 1 <i>122</i>	4 4 3 <i>112</i>	3 13 7 <i>134</i>	5 0 4 <i>146</i>
Bairi .. ..	.. ..	5 8 6 <i>128</i>	4 13 10 <i>116</i>	5 9 10 <i>119</i>	4 12 4 <i>136</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>	5 9 9 <i>130</i>	4 10 2 <i>110</i>	5 6 9 <i>115</i>	4 14 6 <i>140</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i> .. ..	.. ..	<i>127</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>147</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>146</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram .. ..	Maund ..	5 4 0 <i>122</i>	4 9 2 <i>120</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 4 2 <i>122</i>	5 0 4 <i>103</i>	5 2 8 <i>120</i>	4 9 2 <i>120</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 9 6 <i>130</i>	5 0 4 <i>103</i>
Turdal .. ..	.. ..	6 9 2 <i>112</i>	6 10 8 <i>100</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	6 14 10 <i>119</i>	6 6 5 <i>97</i>	6 9 2 <i>112</i>	6 10 8 <i>100</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	6 14 10 <i>119</i>	7 11 8 <i>117</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i> .. ..	.. ..	<i>117</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>121</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>110</i>

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined) .. ..	Maund ..	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	11 6 10 <i>157</i>	12 12 10 <i>142</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	13 11 9 <i>147</i>	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	11 6 10 <i>157</i>	12 4 11 <i>137</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	12 11 2 <i>136</i>
Jagri (gul) .. ..	.. ..	14 14 1 <i>174</i>	10 10 8 <i>153</i>	16 0 0 <i>180</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	12 15 3 <i>185</i>	14 14 1 <i>174</i>	10 10 8 <i>153</i>	16 0 0 <i>180</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	13 11 9 <i>196</i>
Tea .. ..	Lb. ..	0 14 10 <i>190</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>	0 15 0 <i>192</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 8 1 <i>165</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 3 4 <i>144</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>
Beef .. ..	Seer ..	0 8 0 <i>155</i>	0 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 4 0 <i>67</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 0 <i>155</i>	0 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 4 0 <i>67</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton .. ..	.. ..	0 12 4 <i>185</i>	0 12 0 <i>200</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 12 4 <i>185</i>	0 12 0 <i>200</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>
Milk .. ..	Maund ..	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	8 0 0 <i>180</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>	8 0 0 <i>180</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee .. ..	.. ..	100 0 0 <i>197</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	85 5 4 <i>192</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>	101 12 7 <i>200</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	88 14 2 <i>200</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes .. ..	.. ..	7 11 10 <i>173</i>	8 5 0 <i>153</i>	6 15 4 <i>183</i>	7 4 4 <i>182</i>	5 11 3 <i>169</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	8 0 0 <i>148</i>	8 0 0 <i>210</i>	8 0 0 <i>200</i>	4 4 2 <i>126</i>
Onions .. ..	.. ..	4 2 8 <i>268</i>	4 11 4 <i>259</i>	4 11 4 <i>235</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	2 0 1 <i>100</i>	4 2 8 <i>268</i>	4 8 7 <i>250</i>	5 0 0 <i>160</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	2 7 1 <i>122</i>
Cocconut oil .. ..	.. ..	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	30 7 7 <i>124</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	30 7 7 <i>109</i>	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	30 7 7 <i>124</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i> .. ..	.. ..	<i>182</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>150</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i> .. ..	.. ..	<i>161</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>145</i>