

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	1924 Jan.	71	196	122	126	151	146
1915	96	97	94	90	101	100	.. Feb.	73	192	122	127	148	143
1916	87	114	102	122	130	127	.. Mar.	74	189	122	128	146	141
1917	73	138	118	128	158	151	.. Apr.	74	188	119	130	145	140
1918	74	212	131	139	194	184	.. May	74	179	120	137	143	138
1919	77	216	126	237	216	206	.. June	74	180	121	137	143	138
1920	65	438	168	246	313	296	.. July	74	176	121	133	140	135
1921	65	450	158	212	311	295	.. Aug.	74	192	124	130	148	143
1922 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
.. Dec.	71	215	122	131	160	154	.. Sep.	74	156	118	133	128	124

* Also included in "Industrial Securities."

LABOUR GAZETTE

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

VOL. V]

BOMBAY, NOVEMBER, 1925

[No. 3

The Month in Brief

EXCISE DUTY REPEALED—END OF STRIKE

As we go to Press the news is published that the Viceroy has suspended the Cotton Excise Duty for the remainder of the financial year. The Millowners' Association have in consequence decided to restore the cut in wages of 11½ per cent. and the men are expected to return to work at once.

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 4·1 per cent. as compared with 3·1 per cent. last month and 3·2 per cent. two months ago.

IN SHOLAPUR, the supply of labour was adequate and absenteeism showed a slight increase. The average was 11·4 per cent. as compared with 10·7 per cent. last month and 11·1 per cent. two months ago.

IN BROACH, absenteeism was 10·6 per cent. as compared with 11·6 per cent. in the last month. The supply of labour in this centre was adequate.

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

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 a slight increase; the figure being 15·1 per cent. as compared with 14·5 per cent. last month and 13·8 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 two previous months.

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 and absenteeism showed an increase. The percentage absenteeism was 19·3 as compared with 15·1 in the preceding month and 13·8 two months ago. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply

of labour was equal to the demand and a slight rise in absenteeism was recorded. The average absenteeism increased from 10·8 per cent. in the last month to 12·3 per cent. in the month under review. The percentage of absenteeism based on the attendance of monthly paid workers employed in the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust was 11, as compared with 9 in the preceding month.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING

In November 1925, the Working Class Cost of Living Index number was 153, the same as in the previous month. The average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the cost of Living Index for Bombay City (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 153 for all articles and 149 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 index remained the same, a rise of one point in All-food, being counterbalanced by a fall of 7 points in clothing. Cereals rose by one point due to increases in the prices of wheat, jowari and bajri. Rice remained steady. Pulses rose by 11 points. In other food articles, mutton and onions advanced, and sugar, tea, salt and cocconut oil declined in price while gul, beef, milk, ghee and potatoes remained stationary. The index number for Fuel and lighting was the same as in the previous month. The fall in the clothing group was due to a decline in the price of all the articles included in that group. 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.

EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING

In October 1925, the European cost of living Index number stood at 158—2 points below that of July 1925 (160) and 4 points below the October 1924 level. As compared with July 1925, except Fuel and lighting, House-rent and Miscellaneous most of the groups recorded a decrease. The food index declined by 10 points owing to a decrease in the prices of meat, fowls, eggs and vegetables. Clothing fell by 9 points but Miscellaneous rose by one point. Under the miscellaneous group, Conveyance rose (owing to increases in the prices of motor tyres and tubes), while School-fees, Passages and Household necessaries declined. The other items remained stationary.

THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER

In October 1925, the general index of wholesale prices in Bombay was 158, one point above the level of the previous month. There was a rise of 3 points in the food group and a fall of one point in the non-food group.

The index number for food grains only was 139, being 5 points higher 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				
		June 1925	July 1925	August 1925	September 1925	October 1925
Foods ..	15	48	48	49	46	49
Non-foods ..	27	67	63	66	64	63
All articles ..	42	60	58	60	57	58

SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

In October 1925, the general level of quotations of 102 shares and securities was 125, thus showing a rise of one point as compared with the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities, Railway companies and Miscellaneous companies remained stationary. Banks declined by one point. Cotton mills rose by 2 points, Cement and manganese companies by 8 points and Cotton ginning and pressing companies and Electric undertakings by 3 points each. Industrial securities rose by one point during the month under review.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were five industrial disputes in progress during October 1925. The number of workpeople involved was 154,473 and the number of working days lost 3,904,182. At a meeting of the Bombay Municipal Corporation held on the 19th November, Mr. R. S. Asavale moved a resolution that in view of the menace to the health of the city by the continued strike of the mill-workers and the resulting poverty and deterioration of physique, the Commissioner be authorised to spend a sum not exceeding one lakh of rupees from capital funds on relief works and other ways admissible under the Municipal Act, such as cleansing of the city and reclaiming of low-lying land in the city, and that the Corporation would be prepared on the recommendation of the Standing Committee to sanction the amount. Mr. J. B. Bomon-Behram moved a rider to the effect that a Committee (named at the meeting) should be appointed to arrange for a conference between the representatives of the millowners and the mill hands, as in the opinion of the Corporation it was the only way in which the strike could be brought to an end. The Proposition with the rider was adopted by the Corporation.

COTTON MILL PRODUCTION

Cotton mill production in September 1925 and in the 6 months ended September 1925, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two

preceding years, is shown in the following two tables. During the month of September, the production of yarn in Ahmedabad and other centres was slightly larger as compared with the corresponding months of the two preceding years, while that in Bombay City showed a decrease due to the general strike in the cotton mills. In Bombay City and Ahmedabad a rise is recorded in the production of woven goods as compared with the corresponding periods of the previous two years.

(1) Month of September

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	September			September		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	25	26	16	19	20	22
Ahmedabad ..	8	7	9	9	7	9
Other centres ..	4	4	5	3	3	3
Total, Presidency..	37	37	30	31	30	34

(2) Six months ending September

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Six months ending September			Six months ending September		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	160	157	163	101	108	112
Ahmedabad ..	30	45	51	30	44	45
Other centres ..	25	26	29	15	16	17
Total, Presidency..	215	228	243	146	168	174

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

	Net rate per lb. in annas		
	October 1924	September 1925	October 1925
Long Cloths	22	18½
T. Cloths	20½	18
Chudders	20½	17½

THE OUTLOOK

The fluctuations in the price of raw cotton were within narrow limits. The tone of the market was firm. Japanese firms made good purchases in the first week, while business with Europe was quiet throughout the month.

Business in English yarn was not encouraging. There were good sales at the beginning but later on business became difficult despite easier prices. The local yarn market was dull except in the last week when increased demand from consuming centres greatly improved the situation. Prices ruled steady. Owing to the continuance of the strike in the textile mills scarcity of two-fold yarns was beginning to be felt.

Business in Manchester piece-goods was by no means encouraging. Though large sales were possible owing to easy rates, they neither yielded any profit to sellers, nor decreased stocks. The tone of the local piecegoods market was satisfactory. There was sustained retail enquiry and stocks were continuously decreasing. Rates were steady but not remunerative.

The financial situation was not easy this month. The cash balances of the Imperial Bank of India declined by 344, 67, and 208 lakhs in the first, third and fourth weeks under review while they increased by 109 lakhs in the second week. This increase is due to the issue of Re. 1 crore fresh currency to meet the heavy trade demand. Call money was available at 1½ to 2 per cent. during the month. The Government Security Market improved continuously from being weak in the beginning to becoming steadier towards the close of the month.

The Working Class Cost of Living Index in November was the same as in the previous month. The wholesale prices index rose by one point in October. The increase in cotton mill shares was of 2 points.

The bank rate continued at 5 per cent. from 24th September 1925. The rate of exchanges in Bombay on London on 2nd November 1925 was 1s. 6½d., the same as on 2nd October 1925.

THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 20th NOVEMBER

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 still one of considerable anxiety. On account of the continued absence of rains in Upper Gujarat, the crops are withering over large areas and are only doing well where they can be helped with irrigation. There has been some rain during the last week in parts of the Ahmedabad district and also in a few places in the Panch-Mahals but this rain has not been general and has also not been abundant. It has however been very useful wherever received though it has damaged the cotton crop. The early crops like Sesame, Bajri, Kharif Jowar, early maize and groundnut, etc., are being harvested.

Konkan.—There has been some rain in this division during the last week and this rain has proved useful for the late sown crops. The early crops are being harvested while in some cases the harvesting of the earlier crops has already been finished by this time. The irrigated crops are progressing quite satisfactorily nearly everywhere.

Deccan.—As a result of the good rains received during the last week, a change for the better seems to have taken place in a large part of the division. In Khandesh the rainfall has been fairly heavy and general and though it has spoiled the quality of much of the cotton it has been very beneficial to other crops and also for the rabi sowings. In the Ahmednagar and Sholapur districts the rainfall has been particularly good and though here too it has damaged cotton, it has been very useful for the late sown crops which are now improving considerably. In the districts of Nasik, Poona and Satara, the rain has not been general and though very useful wherever received, the crops in parts of these districts are still in serious need of further falls. The harvesting of Kharif crops such as Bajri, Sesame, kharif jowar, groundnut, etc., is in progress while the picking of cotton continues. The irrigated crops are reported to be doing well nearly everywhere.

Karnatak.—Fairly heavy rain was received in parts of this division during the last week. For instance in the Belgaum district rainfall varying from one-fifth to three-fourths of an inch is reported from almost every station. This rain has not of course been sufficient and more is still required in many areas, but it has on the whole been beneficial to the standing crops. In the district of Dharwad excellent rain was received at Ranebennur, Kod and Karajgi where it was found to be most opportunely and useful but it has been very light in the other talukas and though useful has not been adequate for the requirements of the crops. In the Bijapur district except for some fairly heavy showers at Bispur and Indi, the rainfall has been generally light and partial and the situation in this district still remains anxious over a large part. The reaping of the *Kharif* crops is in progress generally in the division. The irrigated crops are reported to be doing well.

OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

In the United Kingdom on 1st October the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour was approximately 76 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 74 per cent. at the beginning of September. For food alone the corresponding percentages were 72 and 70 respectively. Trade disputes starting in September numbered 36, and 33 disputes begun before that month were still in progress.

Wholesale prices of commodities moved very little. The slight fall in September was recovered by mid-October. Most of the statistics of production and manufacture for September were almost the same as in August.

The depression in the coal-mining industry continued. Employment in the pig-iron industry showed a slight decline. Almost all the mills spinning American cotton worked short time and a considerable number of looms remained idle in the weaving section. On the whole, however, employment recorded a slight improvement during September.

In the United States the trend of business in September was satisfactory. There was a distinct revival of the cotton goods industry and the bituminous coal industry. Employment conditions were satisfactory and activity in the building trade continued unabated.

Increased firmness appeared in the money market towards the end of September. Speculation was rife in real estate, and bank loans on securities increased reaching on September 16 nearly their highest level of the year.

The general outlook in France was much the same in September as in the previous month except a slight variation in wholesale prices, and greater ease in the employment situation.

In Germany the general level of wholesale prices changed but little during September, while the cost of living index rose slightly. The number of unemployed on 1st September was 236,000 as against 197,000 on 1st August. German industry was suffering from scarcity of liquid capital, and foreign capital was in requisition.

While industrial conditions in Belgium were depressed in September, Italian commerce and industry were improving. The various industries were working at such high pressure that shortage of hands, especially of skilled workmen, was imminent. Unemployment was reduced to a minimum.

In Canada there were 17 industrial disputes during August involving 13,003 employees, and resulting in a time loss of 102,316 working days.

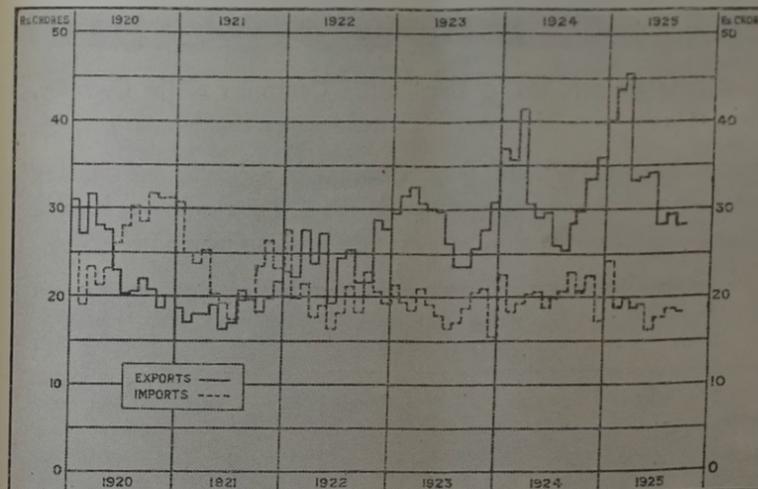
THE BALANCE OF TRADE

During October 1925, the visible balance of trade, including Securities, against India amounted to Rs. 232 lakhs.

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

	India		Bombay		Karachi	
	September 1925	October 1925	September 1925	October 1925	September 1925	October 1925
	<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>		<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>		<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>	
Exports (private merchandise) ..	28.11	29.05	4.61	4.28	2.05	1.45
Imports do. ..	18.53	19.56	6.76	6.75	2.55	2.26
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 9.58	+ 9.49	- 2.15	- 2.47	- 50	- 81
Imports of treasure (private) ..			4.64	5.64	2	2
Exports of treasure (private) ..			40	15	1	..
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	- 4.62	- 5.74	- 4.24	- 5.49	- 1	- 2
Visible balance of trade including securities ..	- 3.83	- 2.32				

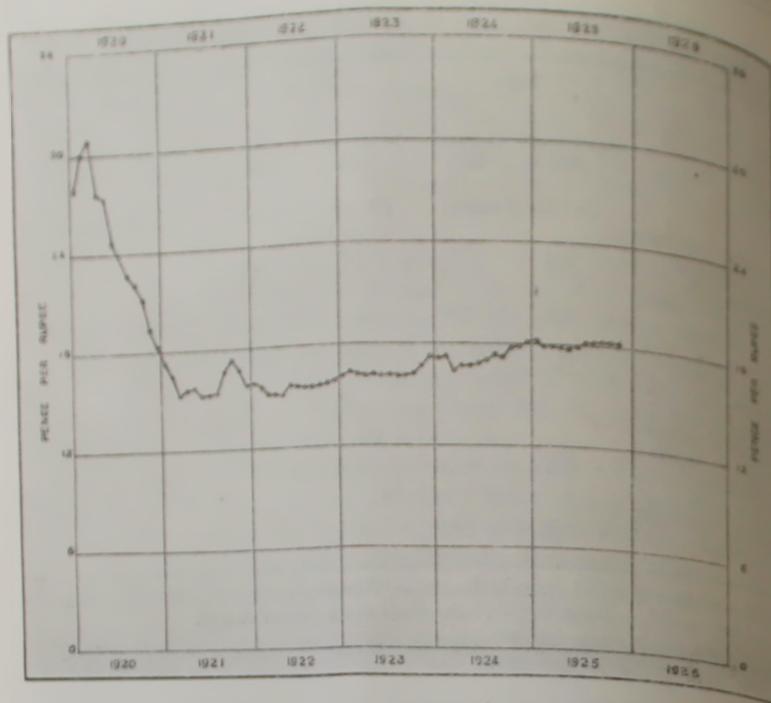
The movements of actual figures of Imports and Exports of private merchandise for British India since 1920 are shown in the annexed diagram



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.

December 1924 ..	..	1 6	June 1925 ..	..	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
May ..	..	1 5 13/16	November ..	..	1 6 5/32



These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 26th November 1925, exchange on London was 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

During October 1925, the Bank clearings in Calcutta and Bombay recorded a rise of 36 and 12 crores respectively. The clearings in Karachi and Rangoon were on the same level as in the previous month.

	August 1925	September 1925	October 1925
Bombay	Rs. (in Crores) 31	Rs. (in Crores) 31	Rs. (in Crores) 43
Karachi	3	3	3
Calcutta	7	82	118
Rangoon	8	7	7
Total	121	123	171

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of October 1925 was 58.75 as against 59.31 in September and 59.03 in August 1925.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—NOVEMBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mean Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price in Mean Unit		
			July 1914	Oct. 1925	Nov. 1925	July 1914	Oct. 1925	Nov. 1925
Cereals—								
Rice	Mauud	20	Rs. 5.154	Rs. 7.234	Rs. 7.234	Rs. 391.38	Rs. 506.38	Rs. 506.38
Wheat	"	11	5.594	6.943	7.021	117.47	145.88	147.44
Jowar	"	11	4.354	5.583	5.917	47.89	51.41	65.89
Barley	"	6	4.313	5.609	5.688	25.88	33.65	34.33
Total—Cereals						582.82	747.34	753.04
Index Numbers—Cereals						100	129	129
Pulses—								
Green	Mauud	10	4.302	5.333	5.833	43.02	53.33	58.33
Turhal	"	3	5.844	6.729	7.214	17.33	20.19	21.64
Total—Pulses						60.35	73.52	79.97
Index Numbers—Pulses						100	121	132
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Mauud	2	7.620	13.693	12.500	15.24	27.39	25.00
Raw Sugar (Gul)	"	7	0.557	15.474	15.474	59.90	108.32	108.32
Tea	"	40,000	75.641	75.214	75.214	1.00	1.00	1.00
Salt	"	5	2.130	3.305	3.315	10.65	17.53	16.57
Mustard	Seer	28	0.323	0.310	0.310	9.04	14.28	14.28
Mutton	"	33	0.417	0.771	0.825	13.76	25.44	27.16
Milk	Mauud	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Chen	"	11	50.792	100.080	100.080	76.19	150.00	150.00
Potatoes	"	11	4.479	7.141	7.141	49.27	78.55	78.55
Onions	"	3	1.552	3.573	4.162	4.66	10.72	12.50
Coconut Oil	"	4	25.396	29.167	28.573	12.70	14.58	14.29
Total—Other food articles						381.18	694.86	694.71
Index Numbers—Other food articles						100	182	182
Total—All food articles						1,024.55	1,515.62	1,527.72
Index Numbers—All food articles						100	148	149
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4.375	7.438	7.438	21.88	37.19	37.19
Firewood	Mauud	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
Total—Fuel and lighting						60.44	99.52	99.52
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						100	165	165
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0.594	1.125	1.078	16.04	30.38	29.11
Shirtings	"	25	0.641	1.245	1.214	16.03	31.13	30.35
T. Cloth	"	36	0.583	1.125	1.078	20.99	40.50	38.81
Total—Clothing						53.06	102.01	98.27
Index Numbers—Clothing						100	192	185
House-rent	Per month.	10	11.302	19.440	19.440	113.02	194.40	194.40
Index Numbers—House rent						100	172	172
Grand Total						1,251.07	1,911.55	1,919.81
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						100	153	153

The Cost of Living Index for November 1925

PRICES STATIONARY

All articles .. 53 per cent. Food only .. 49 per cent.

In November 1925 the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was the same as in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914 the general index number was 153 in October and November 1925. This is 40 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and 4 points lower than the twelve-monthly average of 1924.

The index number for All food increased by 1 point. Cereals rose by 1 point, the rise being due to an increase of 8 points in jowari and 2 points each in wheat and bajri. Pulses advanced by 11 points because of a rise of 12 points in gram and 8 points in turdal. The index number for other food articles remained stationary—an increase of 38 points in onions and 12 points in mutton being counterbalanced by a decrease of 16 points in sugar (refined), 9 points in salt, 2 points in cocoanut oil and 1 point in tea. Raw sugar (gul), beef, milk, ghee and potatoes recorded no change from the previous month.

Clothing fell by 7 points all the items included in that group declining in price. The fuel and lighting group has remained constant since March 1925.

All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914.

—	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	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	53
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 October and November 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) mound or seer :—

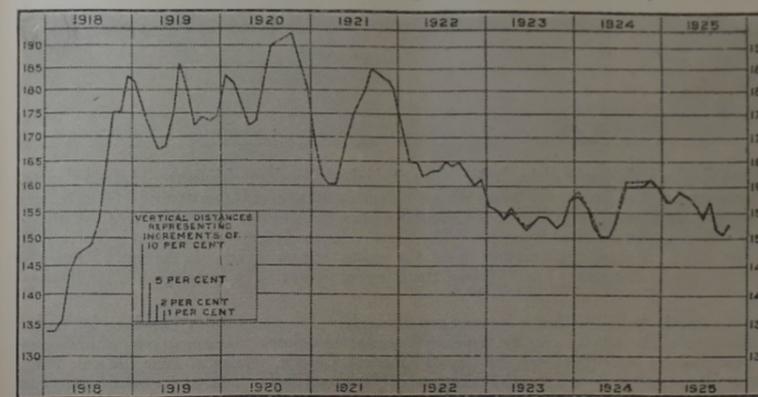
Articles	July 1914	Oct. 1925	Nov. 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Nov. 1925 over or below Oct. 1925	Articles	July 1914	Oct. 1925	Nov. 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Nov. 1925 over or below Oct. 1925
Rice ..	100	129	129	....	Salt ..	100	165	156	- 9
Wheat ..	100	124	126	+ 2	Beef ..	100	158	158	....
Jowari ..	100	128	136	+ 8	Mutton ..	100	185	197	+12
Bajri ..	100	130	132	+ 2	Milk ..	100	191	191	....
Gram ..	100	124	136	+12	Ghee ..	100	197	197	....
Turdal ..	100	115	123	+ 8	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	....
Sugar (refined) ..	100	180	164	-16	Onions ..	100	230	268	+38
Raw sugar (gul) ..	100	181	181	....	Cocoanut oil ..	100	115	113	- 2
Tea ..	100	189	188	- 1	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	148	149	+ 1

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

Rice 22, Wheat 21, Jowari 26, Bajri 24, Gram 26, Turdal 19, Sugar (refined) 39, Raw Sugar (gul) 45, Tea 47, Salt 36, Beef 37, Mutton 49, Milk 48, Ghee 49, Potatoes 37, Onions 63, Cocoanut Oil 12.

The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 5 pies for all items and 10 annas 9 pies for food articles only.

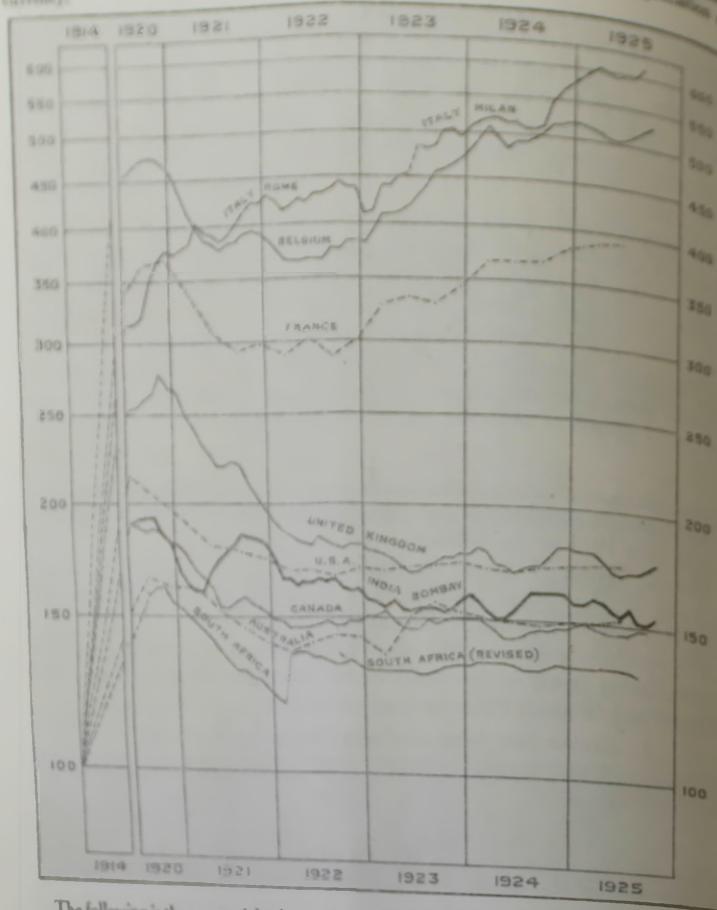
Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)*



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 RISE OF ONE POINT

In October 1925, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay was 58 per cent. above the level in July 1914. The rise of one point in the general index was mainly due to a rise of 3 points in the food-index. The general index number has fallen by 105 points from the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and is 24 points below the twelve monthly average of 1924.

The index number for food grains rose by 5 points due to an increase of 4 points in Cereals and 7 points in Pulses. The advance in Cereals was due to a rise of 8 points in wheat and 3 points in bajri, and in Pulses to an increase of 9 points in turdal and 5 points in gram.

Sugar declined by 8 points, while Other food rose by 2 points. In the latter group turmeric rose by 13 points and ghee fell by 6 points.

In the non-food group Hides and skins rose by 10 points and Metals by one point. The fall of 6 points in Oilseeds and 2 points each in Cotton manufactures and Other textiles more than counterbalanced the rise in Hides and skins and Metals, thus causing the index number for Non-food to drop down by one point. Other raw and manufactured articles remained stationary. The price of Raw cotton was assumed to be the same as in September as no quotations for the subsequent months were available.

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

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

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay*

100 = average of 1924

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with Sept. 1925	+ or - % compared with Oct. 1924	Groups	Oct. 1924	Jan. 1925	Apr. 1925	July 1925	Sept. 1925	Oct. 1925
1. Cereals ..	7	+ 3	+ 4	1. Cereals ..	105	114	111	105	107	110
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 7	+ 17	2. Pulses ..	103	111	113	111	113	121
3. Sugar ..	3	- 5	- 23	3. Sugar ..	94	84	85	76	76	73
4. Other food ..	3	+ 1	- 32	4. Other food ..	93	94	66	65	62	63
All food ..	15	+ 2	- 12	All food ..	96	100	91	86	84	86
5. Oilseeds ..	4	- 4	- 16	5. Oilseeds ..	109	101	97	99	96	92
6. Raw cotton ..	3	..	- 29	6. Raw cotton ..	103	83	79	72	73	73
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	- 1	- 9	7. Cotton manufactures ..	96	94	91	90	88	88
8. Other textiles ..	2	- 1	- 14	8. Other textiles ..	93	86	83	75	81	80
9. Hides and skins ..	3	+ 7	- 3	9. Hides & skins ..	100	135	94	89	90	97
10. Metals ..	5	+ 1	- 8	10. Metals ..	99	98	95	91	91	91
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	..	- 1	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	99	103	98	95	98	98
All non-food ..	27	- 1	- 12	All non-food ..	99	98	90	87	87	87
General Index No. ..	42	+ 1	- 13	General Index No. ..	99	97	91	87	86	87

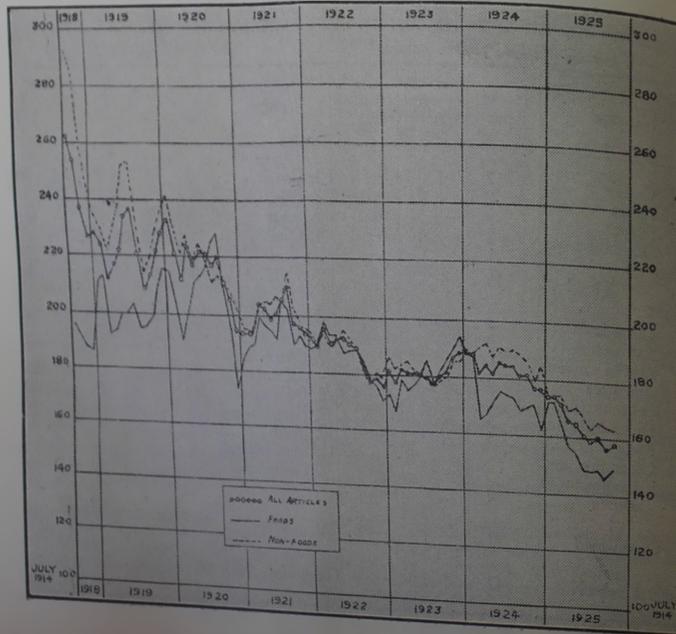
* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 256.

The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—
July 1914 = 100

			Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average	1918	.. ..	171	269	236
"	"	1919	202	233	222
"	"	1920	206	219	216
"	"	1921	193	201	199
"	"	1922	186	187	187
"	"	1923	179	182	181
"	"	1924	173	188	182
Ten-monthly	"	1925	156	168	164

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

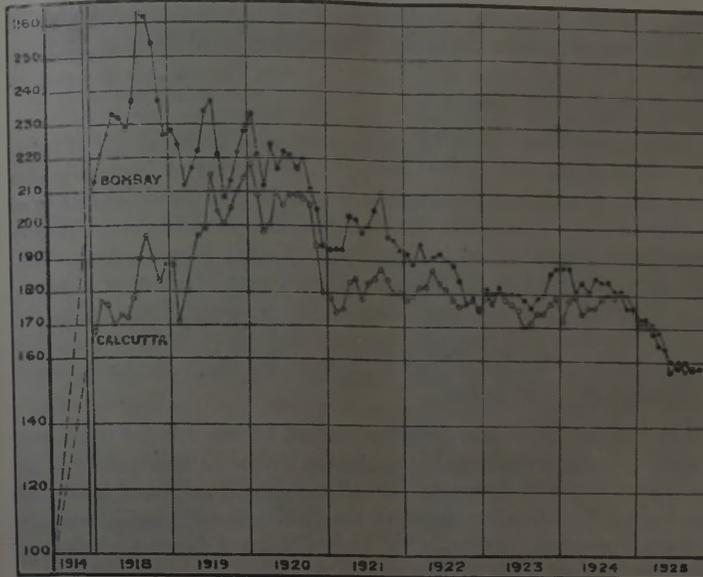


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

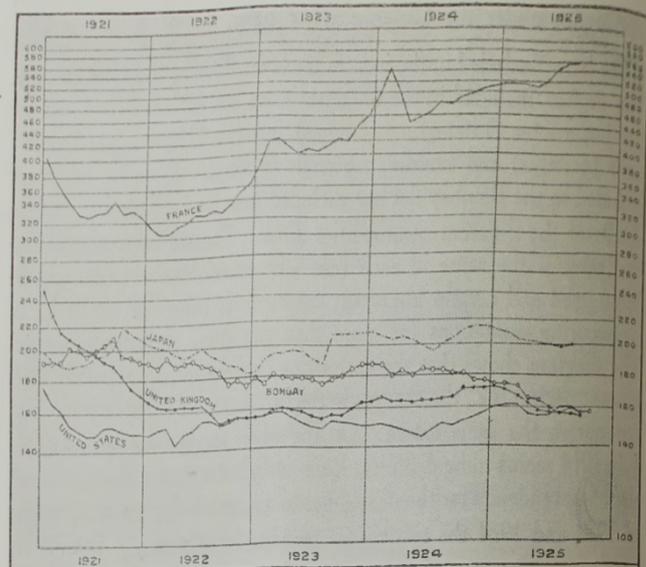
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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 tola	July 1914			Sept 1925			Oct 1925		
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Oct 1925 over or below	July 1914	Sept 1925
Rice	.. Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	5 10	7 5	7 8	+ 1 10	+ 0 3				
Wheat	.. Piasi Seoni	.. ..	216	5 10	7 4	7 6	+ 1 8	+ 0 2			
Jowari	.. Best Sholapuri	.. ..	200	4 3	5 7	5 7	+ 1 4	....			
Bajri	.. Ghati	.. ..	208	4 7	5 10	5 10	+ 1 3	....			
Gram	.. Delhi	.. ..	200	4 4	5 2	5 4	+ 1 0	+ 0 2			
Turdal	.. Cawnpore	.. ..	208	5 11	6 10	7 0	+ 1 1	+ 0 2			
Sugar (refined)	.. Java, white	.. Seer	28	1 1	1 11	1 11	+ 0 10	....			
Raw Sugar (Gul)	.. Sangli, middle quality	.. ..	28	1 2	2 1	2 2	+ 1 0	+ 0 1			
Tea	.. Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 0	14 9	+ 6 11	- 0 3				
Salt	.. Bombay, black	.. Paylee	176	1 9	3 0	3 1	+ 1 4	+ 0 1				
Beef	.. ..	Lb.	39	2 6	3 11	4 0	+ 1 6	+ 0 1			
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 3	14 0	+ 6 11	- 0 3			
Potatoes	.. Ordinary	.. ..	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+ 0 4	....			
Onions	.. Nasik	.. ..	28	0 3	0 7	0 6	+ 0 3	- 0 1			
Cocoonut oil	.. Middle quality	.. ..	28	3 7	4 0	4 1	+ 0 6	+ 0 1			

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

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

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

The variations in prices during October 1925 as compared with the previous month were slight. Except for jowari and bajri there was a rise in the prices of food-grains—in rice of 3 pies and in wheat, gram and turdal of 2 pies each per paylee. Gul and cocoonut oil each advanced by 1 pie per seer, beef by 1 pie per lb. and salt by 1 pie per paylee. Ghee declined by 3 pies per seer, tea by 3 pies per lb. and onions by 1 pie per seer. The prices of the remaining articles remained stationary.

As compared with July 1914, mutton and onions have doubled in price. Sugar, gul, tea, salt, beef, milk and ghee are 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 September and October 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 September and October 1925 :-

Bombay prices in Sept. 1925 = 100					Bombay prices in Oct. 1925 = 100						
Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	114	127	120	125	Rice ..	100	111	123	116	121
Wheat ..	100	93	107	109	115	Wheat ..	100	92	105	107	113
Jowari ..	100	80	76	69	90	Jowari ..	100	83	84	67	93
Bajri ..	100	83	97	87	104	Bajri ..	100	88	110	82	104
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	93	102	96	109	Cereals ..	100	94	106	93	108
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	89	111	108	97	Gram ..	100	88	107	105	94
Turdal ..	100	101	122	105	118	Turdal ..	100	100	119	103	115
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	95	117	107	108	Pulses ..	100	94	113	104	105
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	83	90	97	93	Sugar (refined) ..	100	83	87	97	95
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	72	108	90	92	Jagri (Gul) ..	100	71	103	86	91
Tea ..	100	104	104	119	126	Tea ..	100	106	106	121	128
Salt ..	100	59	67	94	87	Salt ..	100	57	65	92	85
Beef ..	100	125	50	63	75	Beef ..	100	123	49	61	74
Mutton ..	100	97	81	81	73	Mutton ..	100	97	81	82	73
Milk ..	100	46	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	54	57	76	76
Chee ..	100	79	87	79	83	Chee ..	100	80	91	80	84
Potatoes ..	100	112	112	112	60	Potatoes ..	100	109	112	80	50
Onions ..	100	109	120	96	59	Onions ..	100	119	140	112	74
Cocoa nut oil ..	100	107	124	118	98	Cocoa nut oil ..	100	104	122	115	96
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	90	91	93	84	Other articles of food ..	100	91	92	91	84
Average—						Average—					
All food articles ..	100	91	96	95	92	All food articles ..	100	92	98	93	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 Karachi and Ahmedabad by 1 and 2 points respectively and fell at Sholapur by 2 points, Poona recording no change. Referring back to October 1924 it is found that in relation to Bombay the averages for all food articles have risen at all the centres except Sholapur—at Karachi by 6 points, at Ahmedabad by 4 points and at Poona by 3 points. The relative prices of rice, wheat, tea and onions have risen at all the four mofussil centres compared with those of the last year. Salt, on the other hand has declined at all the places. Beef has fallen at Ahmedabad by 74 points, while onions have risen by 66 points. Reading from left to right the relative prices of gram were 100, 82, 121, 80, 80 which bear little resemblance to the current prices. Both the differences between different centres at any given date and the fluctuations of those differences are surprisingly high, and it is not apparent why an article not locally produced (like tea and refined sugar) should sometimes be dearer and sometimes cheaper at any mofussil centre than at Bombay.

Securities Index Number

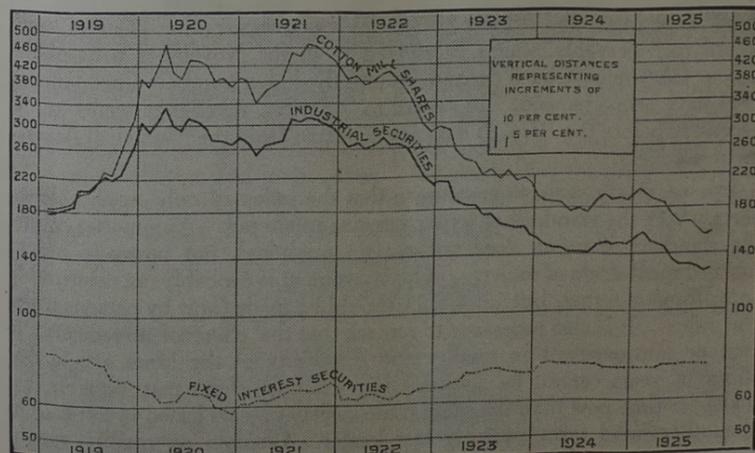
A RISE OF ONE POINT

In October 1925 the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number was 125 as against 124 in the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities, Railways and Miscellaneous Companies recorded no change while Banks declined by 1 point. The other groups advanced—Cement and Manganese Companies by 8 points, Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies and Electrical Undertakings by 3 points each and Cotton Mills by 2 points. All these were responsible for a rise of 1 point in Industrial Securities.

The Construction of the Index

No.	—	—	July 1914		October 1925	
			Total numbers	Total numbers	Average	Average
1	Government and Corporation Securities ..	7 Index Nos. ..	700	517	74	
2	Banks ..	6 " " ..	600	798	133	
3	Railway Companies ..	10 " " ..	1,000	1,078	108	
4	Cotton Mills ..	42 " " ..	4,200	6,634	158	
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies ..	8 " " ..	800	965	121	
6	Cement and Manganese Companies ..	5 " " ..	500	504	101	
7	Electric Undertakings ..	2 " " ..	200	272	136	
8	Miscellaneous Companies ..	22 " " ..	2,200	1,989	90	
9	Industrial Securities ..	95 " " ..	9,500	12,240	129	
10	General average ..	102 " " ..	10,200	12,757	125	

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



European Cost of Living Index

A FALL OF TWO POINTS

All items .. 58 per cent, Food only .. 68 per cent.

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

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

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

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

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

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

As compared with July 1925, the general index number in October 1925 showed a fall of two points. The general index number is four points lower than the level in October 1924.

Group Fluctuations

The main changes by groups are shown in the table below (100 = the level in July 1914).

Group or item	Month and Year			
	October 1920	October 1924	July 1925	October 1925
I. Food—				
Bazaar	204	174	183	168
Stores	216	178	168	168
All food	207	175	178	168
II. Fuel and lighting	159	120	117	117
III. Clothing	249	185	167	158
IV. House-rent	132	163	163	163
V. Miscellaneous—				
Servants	140	184	184	184
Conveyance	157	155	142	145
School-fees, etc... .. .	116	131	128	128
Passages	123	161	163	162
Income-tax	200	200	200	200
Household necessaries	168	125	142	136
Others	220	211	211	211
All miscellaneous	144	160	157	158
General Index No.	157	162	160	158

It will be seen that in October 1925 there was a fall of 10 points in the food index and 9 points in Clothing as compared with July 1925. The miscellaneous group rose by 1 point during the same period, no change being recorded in the fuel and lighting and house rent groups. The fall of 10 points in the food index was mainly due to a decline in the prices of mutton, fowls, eggs and vegetables. The decrease of 9 points in Clothing was chiefly the result of a big fall in the clothing of women and children. Under the miscellaneous group Conveyance rose by 3 points due to a rise in the prices of tyres and inner tubes. A reduction in the price of towels was responsible for the fall of 6 points in Household necessaries. The index number for Passages fell by 1 point in October 1925. The other sub-groups under this head remained stationary.

General Index Number

The following are the available general index numbers for certain months in the years 1919, 1920, 1923, 1924 and 1925:—

Month and Year	July 1914 = 100		Month and Year	Index No.
	Index No.	Index No.		
April 1919	151	151	October 1924	162
October 1919	146	146	January 1925	163
October 1920	157	157	April 1925	162
July 1923	167	167	July 1925	160
April 1924	167	167	October 1925	158

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price x Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	July 1925	Oct 1925	July 1914	July 1925	Oct 1925
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Food-Base								
Meat—								
Beef (salted)	Pound	132	0.250	0.406	0.406	33.00	53.59	53.59
Beef (not salted and stewing)	"	720	0.250	0.531	0.406	90.00	135.36	112.32
Mutton	"	192	0.047	0.078	0.073	4.51	7.49	7.75
Kidneys	Each	36	0.313	0.469	0.438	11.27	16.08	15.77
Suet	Pound	36	0.375	0.625	0.813	18.00	30.00	29.27
Poultry—								
Chickens	Each	48	1.000	1.625	1.375	24.00	39.00	39.00
Fowls	Dozen	24	0.375	0.750	0.594	135.00	270.00	33.00
Eggs	Dozen	360	0.250	0.500	0.500	225.00	450.00	450.00
Dairy—								
Milk	Seer	900	0.750	1.250	1.250	72.00	120.00	120.00
Butter	Pound	96	0.094	0.146	0.146	33.84	52.50	52.50
Bread	"	360	0.063	0.094	0.094	22.68	33.84	33.84
Vegetables—								
Potatoes	Seer	120	0.021	0.037	0.047	2.52	6.84	6.84
Onions	"	60	0.094	0.125	0.109	5.64	7.50	6.54
Turnips	"	60	0.094	0.125	0.109	5.64	7.50	6.54
Fruit—								
Bananas	Dozen	24	0.188	0.313	0.313	4.51	7.51	7.51
Total						729.97	1,332.52	1,228.59
Index No.						100	183	168
Food-Store								
Coffee	Pound	12	1.625	2.375	2.375	19.50	28.50	28.50
Tea	"	12	0.938	1.875	1.875	11.26	22.50	22.50
Rice	"	36	0.313	0.375	0.375	11.27	13.50	13.50
Rice	7 lb. tin	6	1.000	1.750	1.750	6.00	10.50	10.50
Flour	Pound	240	0.125	0.250	0.250	30.00	60.00	60.00
Salt	2 1/2 lb.	4	0.438	1.063	1.063	1.75	4.25	4.25
Chutney	Pound	24	1.000	2.250	2.250	24.00	54.00	54.00
Jam	"	48	0.438	0.750	0.750	21.02	36.00	36.00
Sauce	1/2 Bottle	12	1.625	2.000	2.250	19.50	24.00	27.00
Blacuits	2 lb. tin	12	1.438	3.125	3.000	17.26	37.50	36.00
Oats	"	24	0.625	0.875	0.875	15.00	21.00	21.00
Soda-water	Per dozen	96	0.375	0.750	0.750	36.00	72.00	72.00
Cigarettes	50	72	1.250	1.875	1.875	90.00	135.00	135.00
Cheroots	50	12	1.500	1.625	1.625	18.00	19.50	19.50
Total						320.56	538.25	539.75
Index No.						100	168	168
All-Food Total						1,050.53	1,870.77	1,768.34
Index No.						100	178	168
Fuel and lighting								
Coal	Ton	12	18.000	22.875	22.875	216.00	274.50	274.50
Electricity	Unit	768	0.250	0.250	0.250	192.00	192.00	192.00
Matches	Dozen	36	0.094	0.250	0.250	3.38	9.00	9.00
Kerosene oil	Tin	6 tins	2.185	3.719	3.719	13.11	22.31	22.31
Total						424.49	497.81	497.81
Index No.						100	117	117
Clothing Men								
Shirts	Each	1 dozen	3.000	4.500	4.500	36.00	54.00	54.00
Vests	"	1 dozen	1.375	2.250	2.250	8.25	13.50	13.50
Socks	Pair	9 pairs	2.500	3.333	3.333	22.50	30.00	30.00
Collars (stiff, white & fold)	Dozen	1 dozen	7.500	12.500	12.500	7.50	12.50	12.50
Collars (soft white)	"	1 dozen	7.500	12.500	12.500	7.50	12.50	12.50
Cotton suit	Each	1	15.000	35.000	35.000	90.00	210.00	210.00
Coat, Sports	"	1	35.000	39.500	39.500	23.33	26.33	26.33
Pyjamas, Suits	Pair	4 pairs	15.000	27.000	27.000	60.00	108.00	108.00
Hats	Each	1	12.500	10.500	10.500	12.50	10.50	10.50
Shoes	Pair	1 pair	18.000	40.000	40.000	18.00	40.00	40.00
Lounge suit	Each	1	65.000	110.000	110.000	32.50	55.00	55.00
Rain coat	"	1	65.000	103.250	97.500	13.00	20.65	19.50
Ties	"	4	2.750	4.500	4.500	11.00	19.00	18.00
Total						342.08	611.98	609.83
Index No.						100	179	178

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX—contd.

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price x Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	July 1925	Oct 1925	July 1914	July 1925	Oct 1925
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Clothing—women and children								
Muslin	Yard	12 yards	0.750	1.000	1.000	9.00	12.00	12.00
Prints	"	12	0.625	1.500	1.500	7.50	18.00	18.00
Satin	"	3	7.500	16.000	13.750	22.50	48.00	45.00
Silk for dresses	"	12	5.500	5.250	5.250	66.00	63.00	63.00
Crape de Chine	"	12	4.500	11.750	7.500	54.00	141.00	90.00
Ribbons, Satin	"	18	0.375	0.375	0.375	6.75	6.75	6.75
Stockings	pair	9 pairs	10.500	12.500	12.500	94.50	112.50	112.50
Vests	vest	4	7.500	10.625	10.000	30.00	42.50	40.00
Shoes, walking	pair	2 pairs	14.000	25.000	25.000	28.00	50.00	50.00
Total						318.25	493.75	433.50
Index No.						100	155	136
All-clothing Total								
Index No.						660.33	1,105.71	1,049.13
House-rent						100	167	158
House-rent	Per month	12 months	150.000	244.500	244.500	1,800.00	2,934.00	2,934.00
Index No.						100	163	163
Miscellaneous								
Servants								
Butler	"	1	19.880	36.970	36.970	238.56	443.64	443.64
Cook	"	1	22.700	38.300	38.300	272.40	477.60	477.60
Housemaid	"	1	15.500	27.300	27.300	190.80	327.60	327.60
Ayah	"	1	17.400	38.300	38.300	205.80	477.60	477.60
Dhobi	"	1	13.800	23.800	23.800	165.60	285.60	285.60
Total						1,076.16	1,976.04	1,976.04
Index No.						100	184	184
Conveyance								
Chauffeur	"	1	45.000	82.000	82.000	540.00	984.00	984.00
Petrol	Gallon	360	0.937	1.344	1.344	337.50	483.84	483.84
Oil	"	12	3.500	5.000	5.000	42.00	60.00	60.00
Tyres	Set of 4 covers	1	272.000	2.000.00	2.47.625	272.00	2,280.00	2,476.63
Inner tubes	Set of 4	1	67.000	37.250	44.500	67.00	37.25	44.50
Total						1,258.50	1,785.09	1,819.97
Index No.						100	142	145
School fees								
School fees	One return passage	1	124.531	159.723	159.174	1,494.37	1,916.68	1,910.09
Index No.						1,138.500	1,853.813	1,847.438
Income-tax								
Income-tax	Per month	12 months	55.000	110.000	110.000	660.00	1,320.00	1,320.00
Household necessaries								
Forks, table	Dozen	12	27.500	45.000	45.000	4.13	6.75	6.75
Spoons, table	"	12	27.500	45.000	45.000	1.37	2.25	2.25
Knives, table	"	12	19.500	45.000	45.000	5.85	13.50	13.50
Tumblers, 1/2 pint	"	12	5.000	9.750	9.750	2.50	4.88	4.88
Tea-set	Set 40 pieces	1	29.000	52.750	52.750	4.83	8.79	8.79
Dinner-service	Set 93 pieces	1	91.000	124.000	124.000	9.10	12.40	12.40
Towels	Pair	6	5.000	9.500	8.500	60.00	114.00	102.00
Sheets	One dozen	6	18.500	20.000	20.000	111.00	120.00	120.00
Total						198.78	282.57	270.57
Index No.						100	142	136
Others								
Stationery	5 quires (paper)	4	0.563	1.000	1.000	2.25	4.00	4.00
Medicine	Month	12 months	8.625	18.292	18.292	103.50	219.50	219.50
Total						105.75	223.50	223.50
Index No.						100	211	211
Miscellaneous Total								
Index No.						5,552.56	8,739.76	8,751.80
All items Total						9,487.91	15,148.07	14,995.28
General Index No.						100	160	158

The Bombay Cotton Mill Industry

PROGRESS OF THE GENERAL STRIKE

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for October 1925, a special article was published dealing with the general strike in the cotton mills of Bombay, involving 150,000 workers, which has been in progress since the 15th September 1925. In that article the general causes leading up to the strike were dealt with both from the point of view of the owners and of the men. The actual progress of the strike is dealt with in the monthly review of Industrial Disputes in the Bombay Presidency. At the moment of writing, the strike has been in progress for over two months.

There has been a considerable amount of speculation as to the reason why the strikers have been able to hold out so long and one of the Investigators of the Labour Office interviewed Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., and Mr. R. R. Bakhale of the Servants of India Society on this point. They pointed out that it was very important to remember that previous big general strikes in the cotton mill industry in Bombay usually occurred at the beginning of the year when harvesting in the districts was almost over. The labourers who left Bombay for their homes during previous strikes were therefore not only unable to earn a living or do any useful work at their homes but were forced to return to Bombay as soon as they had come to the end of their monetary resources. The present strike occurred in the middle of September at a time when labour is badly wanted in the districts for harvesting. Most of the agricultural tracts from which labour migrates to the cotton mills of Bombay have reported good seasons and average harvests and employment is generally available in such tracts for those who want work.

Mr. Joshi was of opinion that nearly 60 per cent. of the cotton mill operatives of Bombay, or 90,000 workers, have left for their homes and that the majority of these are able to make a living at present. The situation is only likely to become critical when the work in connexion with harvesting is over and when the cotton mill workers will be forced to return to Bombay. With regard to those operatives who have not left Bombay, Mr. Joshi stated that many of them have taken to hawking vegetables, fruit and other articles and that others have found employment as coolies on various constructional works in the city and on the electrification schemes of the G. I. P. and the B. B. & C. I. Railways. There is however a fairly large number of workers who are now without any visible means of subsistence and Labour leaders in Bombay have undertaken a campaign of relief work for the alleviation of distress amongst those workers who are in need of assistance.

Relief Work

When the Bombay Millowners' Association published their first notice in July 1925 intimating the proposed cut in wages with effect from the 1st September 1925, several Labour leaders in Bombay city combined themselves into a Committee under the name of "The Bombay Textile Workers' Deputation". On the outbreak of the strike this Committee renamed itself "The Committee of Assistance to the Textile Workers" with

Mr. N. M., Joshi, M.L.A., as Chairman and Mr. R. R. Bakhale as Secretary. The committee consists of representatives of almost all Trade Unions and labour organisations in Bombay City. The most important work which they are engaged in doing at present is collecting subscriptions for a Relief Fund for assistance to indigent strikers and giving relief to those workers who are in the greatest need of outside help. Fifteen Relief Centres have so far been established at Parbhadevi, DeLisle Road, The Working Men's Institute, Parel Road, Madanpura, Mazagon, Naigam, Haji Ismail Seth's Wadi at Dadar, Tardeo, Kurla, Mahaluxmi, Dharavi, Kaikadi, Jakaria Bunder and Agripada. Each centre is under the charge of one or more members of the Committee who are assisted by a few volunteers who have offered to help in the work of relief. Some of these volunteers are paid their out-of-pocket expenses. Subscriptions have so far been received from the following sources:—

- Rs. 6,392 6 0 or the equivalent of £485 received in three contributions of £100, £225, and £160 respectively from the International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam.
- Rs. 6,069 0 0 or the equivalent of £460 received in two contributions of £160 and £300 respectively from the Right Honourable Mr. Thomas Shaw, M. P., Secretary of the International Textile Workers' Federation, London.
- Rs. 2,000 0 0 being part of a contribution of £343-17-0 sent by the British Trades Union Congress for the relief of the workers at the time of the N. W. Railway strike this year, and not utilised on account of the fact that the remittance reached India after the strike was over.
- Rs. 1,972 10 0 or the equivalent of £150 from the British Trades Union Congress.
- Rs. 2,000 0 0 as a contribution from the Bombay Labour Organisation Fund. This fund is the balance of subscriptions collected during the G. I. P. Railway Workmen's strike about five years ago.
- Rs. 1,000 0 0 as a first instalment from "A friend of Labour" in Bombay.
- Rs. 375 0 0 (approximately) in local contributions.

Rs. 19,809 0 0

Relief is given in two ways: Doles of rice or bajri are given after investigations have been made to ascertain firstly, whether the prospective recipients are mill workers, and secondly, whether they are *bona fide* in need of relief. The usual quantity of grain granted to each adult per day is 1 seer of rice and a quarter seer of dal. At some centres rations are only given for one day and at others for two or four days at a time. In cases where the worker who asks for help has a family the quantity of rations issued is increased proportionately. The cost of the daily rations for each person amounts to two annas and six pies. In the cases of those workers who desire to leave Bombay by sea, the Committee issue passes which on

presentation to the Bombay Steam Navigation Company are converted into passage tickets free of charge. The company recovers the cost of the passages from the Committee after allowing a discount of 3 per cent. In the case of workers who wish to travel by train, a member of the Committee or a volunteer accompanies them to a station, buys the tickets required and hands the tickets over to the men after they have boarded the train. 343 workers had been provided with free passages at a cost of Rs. 890 up to the 15th October and 140 with railway tickets at a cost of approximately Rs. 400. Those workers who travelled by sea went to Ratnagiri, Vengurla, Malwan, Deogad, Harnai, Rajapur, Vijidurg and Janjira. In two or three cases workers from Northern India were sent back as far as Cawnpore but in most cases those who travelled by train went to Ahmedabad, Sholapur, Satara, Belgaum and Poona.

The first relief centre was established at Madanpura on the 23rd October. Up to the end of October rations had been given at this centre to 556 persons for four days each. The centres at De Lisle Road and Parel Road were opened on the 1st November, at Parbhadevi on the 2nd November and at the Working Men's Institute on the 3rd November. Other centres were opened from time to time whenever the Committee were of opinion that the finances of the Relief fund permitted an extension of their operations. In calculating the extent of relief that should be granted on each day the Committee have adopted the system of dividing all cash in hand on any one day by 20, twice a week, and spending the amount so obtained for each day on relief work. By doing this they are able to guarantee some extent of relief to the really needy for 20 days ahead on any particular day. The amount expended daily on relief at the moment of writing (20th November) is approximately Rs. 600 to Rs. 650. The total number of people to whom rations were supplied up to the 15th November amounted to over 28,000 and the number of ration days to over 60,000. The figure given for the number of workers assisted does not mean that 28,000 different individuals were actually relieved. In most cases those workers who were given rations for two or four days at a time generally came back for further supplies when the grain which was given was exhausted and such people were automatically recorded again in the day to day tally. The Committee, however, estimate that over 10,000 people have been assisted in one form or another. The largest number of people who were assisted with rations on any one day amounted to 4,025 on the 11th November and the total expenditure on relief work up to the 15th November amounted to over Rs. 10,000. A complete record of all assistance given is kept in registers specially prepared and printed for this purpose.

Discussions in the Bombay Legislative Council

In the Legislative Council on the 4th and 5th November three resolutions arising out of the mill strike were moved and discussed. The first one by Mr. S. K. Bole asked for the appointment of a Committee to enquire into the whole question of the management of the Bombay mill industry. Mr. Bole also moved another resolution recommending Government to take urgent steps for the relief of the mill workers who were in distress owing to the strike. The third resolution moved by Mr. A. N. Surve recommended Government to appoint a committee to enquire if the

11½ per cent. cut in wages effected by the millowners of Bombay was necessary. The Honourable Mr. Cowasji Jehangir, General Member, replied to the arguments advanced by the movers of the resolutions. On Mr. Bole's first resolution the Honourable the General Member regretted that no practical suggestion had been made as to how the resolution could be given effect to. Assuming that Government were inclined to give effect to the suggestion the Committee would find it rather difficult to obtain evidence without the assistance and co-operation of those whom the mover of the resolution accused. Clearly the committee could be given no powers to compel the attendance of witnesses and Government could not compel anyone to serve on the committee who did not desire to do so. The result would be that the committee would be a fiasco. If there was mismanagement in the mills it was not only the employers who suffered but also all those who had invested their money in the mills. It was for the shareholders to ask for explanations and to call upon the management in each case to remedy any defects that might exist. However anxious Government might be to help those who were now in distress the method suggested would be to nobody's advantage. The resolution was lost.

In replying to Mr. Bole's second resolution Mr. Cowasji complained of the vagueness of its terms. The mover had not made it clear whether it was employment or doles that he advocated. He did not think it would be a breach of confidence to say that while discussing the question with the labour deputation Government had asked how much it would be necessary to pay to each man if Government relief were given. According to the figures given to Government the total amount would come to Rs. 45 lakhs per month. The deputation suggested that Government should pay one rupee per head per day. He did not think that the House would be prepared to consider such an extravagant proposal. Government was responsible for the public fund and if the mover desired that 10 or 15 lakhs should be spent in giving relief he should take the vote of the House. Government was most sympathetic towards labour and if any practical suggestion could be made it would be carefully considered. The resolution was put to the vote and lost.

On Mr. Surve's resolution Mr. Cowasji Jehangir pointed out that Mr. Surve had himself supplied the strongest argument against appointing such a committee, for he had stated that there were some mills in which this cut was justified while in others it was not. If that were a fact, the committee would have to go into the management of each individual mill. The House would realise the length of time that would be taken in such an investigation even if it were practicable and the millowners were willing to give the information that was required. But suppose that the millowners and the leaders of labour co-operated and a committee was appointed, were the labour leaders in a position to give an undertaking, if the committee came to the conclusion that the cut was justified, that the men would return to work and the strike come to an end? The issues were extraordinarily wide and extraordinarily intricate and it would be futile for Government to appoint a committee such as the Honourable mover suggested. The resolution was lost.

The Effect of the Fall in the Price of Cotton

Mr. N. M. Joshi recently addressed a letter to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor stating that owing to the fall in the price of Indian cotton, the cost of production of cloth has been reduced by $3\frac{4}{10}$ ths of an anna per lb. which is equivalent to the reduction which will be obtained by the cut in wages or which would have been possible had the Excise Duty been remitted. Mr. Joshi's letter was forwarded to the Bombay Millowners' Association by the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, with a request for the Association's views thereon.

The Bombay Millowners' Association in their reply to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor wrote as follows:—

"The Committee welcomes the opportunity thus afforded to them of controverting the utterly incorrect and unjustifiable conclusions drawn by Mr. Joshi, and of placing the correct facts before His Excellency the Governor and the Mill workers.

"Put very briefly, Mr. Joshi concludes that owing to the fall in the price of Indian cotton, the cost of production of cloth has been reduced by $3\frac{4}{10}$ ths of an anna per lb. which is equivalent to the reduction which will be obtained by the cut in wages, or which would have been possible had the Excise Duty been remitted.

"The great point Mr. Joshi entirely overlooks, and which at once destroys any chance of correctness in his conclusions is that the fall in the price of cotton is world-wide. As a matter of fact while Indian cotton has fallen by Rs. 38—Rs. 40, per candy, American cotton has fallen by Rs. 78—Rs. 80 per candy. Thus, far from being at an advantage because of the fall in price of cotton, the Bombay Mills are at a still further disadvantage, because the cost of production of imported piecegoods will be reduced by as large or an even larger amount than the cost of production of Indian piecegoods. In reality the fall in price of cotton has accentuated the present difficulties of the Bombay Mills since the disposal of the present heavy stocks of yarn and piecegoods made from high priced cotton will entail even greater losses to the Mills than formerly, if cloth prices are reduced owing to the fall in cotton prices. The Committee feel that the gravity of the Mill's present position cannot be overstated, and they wish to take this opportunity of informing His Excellency that there has been a very poor off-take of cloth and yarn since the middle of October, and today the Mills hold stocks of upward of 100,000 bales of cloth and 30,000 bales of yarn, in spite of the fact that production has been entirely suspended for nearly two months.

Re-opening at old rates impossible

"There is, unfortunately, absolutely, no hope of Mills being able to restore the cut in wages until the prospects of the industry have improved very considerably indeed. The re-opening of the Mills at the old rates of wages in the present circumstances is therefore not possible.

"The Committee also wish to state, with all the emphasis possible, that the cut in wages, which has been effected, is the very lowest which could have been made under the circumstances, that the cut was made after months of the most careful consideration and that the wages in the

cotton trade of Bombay are still higher than in any centre of the cotton industry in India and higher than for any similar class of work in any part of India, even after taking into account the lower cost of living in certain upcountry districts.

"It might very pertinently be added that the Committee are convinced that if the facts which were placed before the Deputation which waited on the Committee of the Association on 9th July and on 16th July 1925, and those contained in the letter of the 17th October 1925, were properly represented to the work people by Mr. Joshi and other 'Labour leaders', the end of the strike would be brought about immediately. It is the false hopes which have been engendered in the minds of the workers which have prolonged this unfortunate strike, and have been the cause of so much needless loss of earnings by 150,000 workpeople."

His Excellency the Governor and the Ahmedabad Millowners

During the visit of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay to Ahmedabad the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association presented an address to His Excellency on the 16th November. The address expressed the gratification of the Association at His Excellency's visit to the city when the textile industry was in a most depressed condition and when that part of the country was in the grip of partial famine. Referring to the Excise Duty the address stated:—"The Government of India for reasons best known to themselves have hitherto rejected all requests for its abolition despite their repeated pledges in the past and the unequivocal vote of the Assembly, also ignoring the recommendations of various commercial and industrial bodies, both European and Indian". The address then went on to express the cordial appreciation of the Association for the support which His Excellency's Government had accorded to the universal demand for the immediate removal of that objectionable impost.

His Excellency in the course of his reply said:—

"My sympathy with all concerned in the textile industry, both masters and workers, in the crisis through which it is passing, is I think, sufficiently well known, and I much appreciate your recognition of any action which I and my Government have taken to promote the welfare of the Industry, and to help it to tide over the present difficult times. We have, as you know, done all that is constitutionally possible to help you, and I fully share your regret that the Government of India have not found it possible immediately to abolish the Excise Duty. No one would have welcomed, more than I should, the suspension of the collection of the Duty this year, but you know as well as I do that that was not the real issue before the Government of India. Had the collection been suspended this year, the Duty could never have been re-imposed, and the Government of India were practically being asked to give up a source of recurring revenue exceeding 2 crores of rupees in the middle of the financial year. This they were unable to do, for reasons which you say are best known to themselves, but which, I think, are also equally well known to all of us. The Government of India have announced their intention of taking up this question in next year's Budget, which, after all, is the proper time for considering questions of revenue and expenditure, and I have every hope that the Legislative

Assembly, will approve of the proposal to grant your most important industry this relief.

The Criticism to be met

"I can only advise you now to see that your case is properly put before the Assembly, and convey to you a friendly warning that the case may not appear to others quite so simple as it appears to you. The question is sure to be asked why an extra burden of 2 crores of rupees a year should be thrown on the general tax-payer, and the proceeds should go to the benefit of one particular industry. This is perhaps stating the point a little crudely, but it is one of the questions your representatives will have to be ready to answer. Reference will no doubt be made to the prosperous years of the industry, when shares soared high in value and large dividends were paid, and it is very probable that the effect of the abolition of the Excise Duty on the further remission of Provincial Contributions will enter into the discussion. I have always maintained, and still maintain that the question of the Excise Duty and the remission of Provincial Contributions are two entirely different questions, but this may not be the view of those who represent parts of India uninterested in the Excise Duty, but much interested in Provincial Contributions. As I have said before, I shall be very glad to see the Excise Duty abolished, and I hope it will be abolished, but I think it would be a mistake to minimise the strength of the opposition which is likely to be raised in other quarters.

"The complaint which you make with regard to the payment of 1/2 per cent. in excess of the Statutory figure is one which I am afraid I cannot quite appreciate. I suppose it refers to the valuation of the output of your mills, and if so, this must be a pure question of fact capable of adjustment with the authorities concerned.

*Improving Condition of Workers **

"I congratulate you on the interest you are taking in the moral and material welfare of your workmen. I regard it not only as a duty, but as a matter of good business policy to improve the conditions in which your workmen live, and to educate up a more intelligent class of operatives. In so doing, I am confident that you will not only earn their gratitude, but you will find that money so spent is well spent, and in the end will bring not only material profit to yourselves, but lasting benefit to the people of Ahmedabad. In this connexion I am glad to think that considerable progress is being also made in Bombay, and that the urgent necessity for an increase in the number of creches is recognised by the millowners. The question of child welfare is one of the most important today in India, and employing, as you do, so many factory workers, you can, and I am sure will, give every assistance to help the children of your employees to a fair start in life.

"Gentlemen, your industry is one of the most important, if not the most important indigenous industry in India. Even as Government has responsibilities to you, so have you responsibilities to Government and to the community. I am glad indeed to hear of your hearty co-operation and support in all measures affecting the welfare of the country and people, and I am convinced that if we all work together, there will be no doubt of the future."

Working of the Labour Department, Madras

According to the annual report of the Labour Commissioner, Madras, for the year 1924-25 there were during the year 14 strikes. The most important of them was the strike of the firemen on the metre-gauge and of the firemen, drivers and workshop men at Podanur on the broad-gauge of the South Indian Railway. Of the 14 strikes 7 related to scavengers, car drivers, drainage workmen, etc., employed by the Municipalities, 2 to textile workers, 2 to railway men, 1 to boatmen, and the remaining 1 to agricultural labourers.

The Commissioner expresses the view that labour unions cannot be established on a satisfactory basis until the Trade Union Bill becomes law.

Labour Advisory Board

Five meetings of the Labour Advisory Board were held during the year and the following subjects were considered at the meetings: (1) Rules under the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923; (2) Draft Bill of the Government of India for the prevention and settlement of trade disputes; (3) Draft Bill of the Government of India for the registration and protection of trade unions; (4) Repeal of the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act and enactment of a local measure in lieu thereof; (5) Weekly Payment Bill; and (6) Maternity Benefit Bill. In addition, the Board considered the conclusions arrived at in the sixth session of the International Labour Conference, 1924.

Labour and Employment Bureau

As usual the names of ex-service men and members of the depressed classes seeking the assistance of the Labour Department in securing employment were circulated to heads of offices where they wished to be employed. The claims of the depressed classes were especially brought to the notice of employers, and it was also impressed on employers that other things being equal, the depressed classes should not by reason of their caste be debarred from employment.

The Depressed Classes

Special staffs of the Department worked in the various districts of the Presidency for the amelioration of the depressed classes. During the year under review a separate Labour Officer was appointed for Madras City for the construction of houses for labourers whose houses were burnt during the mill troubles of 1921 and for the improvement of the cheries in the city. An allotment of four lakhs was provided under loans for the acquisition of house sites for depressed classes. The Government of Madras have sanctioned the proposal of the Commissioner to grant loans to co-operative societies in the city of Madras, to enable tenants in the cheries belonging to private land-owners to purchase the sites on which the houses are constructed.

Co-operation

The total number of societies organised and registered during the year including the societies transferred by the Co-operative Department was 334 against 233 in the previous year, thus making up a total of 969 societies

at the end of the year. The activities of the societies are mainly confined to the following items: (1) acquisition of house sites; (2) loans for agricultural purposes; (3) taking up of large blocks of land on darkhast or on lease and provision of capital for the reclamation of the lands; (4) joint purchase and sale of stores; and (5) relief for persons affected by the floods of July 1924.

Education

The number of schools opened during the year was 166 and, including schools in existence at the beginning of the year, the total at the end of the year was 656. Of these 540 were day schools, 52 were night schools and 64 were combined day and night schools. The total strength of these schools was 22,214 of whom 19,774 were boys and 2,440 girls. 683 teachers were employed in these schools, of whom 303 were trained and 380 were untrained.

Management and Control of Criminal Tribe Settlements

The Commissioner visited during the year almost all the settlements. On 31st March 1925 there were eight settlements with 1,617 men, 1,985 women, 2,502 children. In each of the settlements there is a school, attendance at which is compulsory for all children of school-going age. The cost of maintaining the school is borne by Government. On 31st March 1925 there were in these schools 771 boys and 554 girls. Besides these schools the Government has established under section 17 of the Criminal Tribes Act and under the management of the Salvation Army two industrial schools, one for boys at Perambur and the other in Nellore for girls. The main object of these schools is to provide a course of training which will enable the pupils to support themselves in future life and thus remove the incentive to a life of crime.

A New Seamen's Union

A meeting of the Serangs, drivers and crews of I. G. N., R. S. N. Companies as also of flats and launches, was recently held at Calcutta to consider the formation of a strong labour union on constitutional lines and in co-operation with the Inland Steamer Companies. Some 500 serangs and drivers attended the meeting. Moulvi A. K. Fazlul Huq, M.L.C., presided. Azizur Rahaman, Abdul Gani driver, Amir Bux serang and others explained the object of the meeting and proposed that a union be formed consisting of the employees of I. G. N. and R. S. N. Companies' steamers, flats and launches on Trade Union principles. The proposal was accepted and the new organization was named as the Bengal Mariners' Union. The following office-bearers were elected patrons:—(1) Moulvi A. K. Fazlul Huq, M.L.C., (2) Maulana Khorsad Ahmed. President—M. Daud, M.L.C., General Secretary—Mr. A. Huq., Assistant General Secretary—Mr. A. Bari. Joint Secretaries—Messrs. A. Rahman, A. Gani and A. Bux. Treasurer—Maulana Khorsad Ahmed. Office—7, E, Khalpur Lane, Kidderpore, Calcutta. (From "All-India Trade Union Bulletin," October 1925.)

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER 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 October in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi, and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During October there were in all 136 factory accidents in Bombay City of which 11 were serious and the remaining 125 minor accidents. Of the total 7 or 5 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 129 or 95 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion in different classes of factories being 91 per cent. in workshops, 4 per cent. in textile mills and 5 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 13 accidents 10 of which occurred in cotton mills and three in miscellaneous concerns. Of these 13 accidents 10 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Two of these accidents were serious and the rest minor.

In Karachi there were in all five accidents four of which occurred in Railway and Port Trust Workshops and one in a miscellaneous concern. All of these five accidents were minor.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 43 out of which 15 occurred in textile mills, 23 in workshops and 5 in miscellaneous concerns. Fifteen of these accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. One of these accidents was fatal, four serious and the rest minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

There were no prosecutions during the month under review.

Workmen's Compensation

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

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of October 1925. Information has been received from all Commissioners. All the 33 cases disposed of during the month were reported by the Commissioner for Bombay as against 29 during the preceding month. It should be remembered that this is not the number of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 19,347 was awarded as compensation as against Rs. 11,650-14-3 in September and Rs. 11,142-6-0 in August. Out of 33 accidents 16 were fatal, 15 cases were of permanent partial disablement and 2 cases of temporary disablement.

The number of compensation cases in cotton mills was 11 during the month under review as against 15 in the preceding month. No disease case has come up since January 1925.

Claimants for compensation were males over 15 in all the 33 cases.

Out of 33 cases in October, 22 were original claims and 11 registrations of agreement. Compensation was awarded in 20 cases, agreement was effected in 11 cases, one was not proceeded with and one was dismissed.

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in October .. 5 Workpeople involved .. 154,473

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during October 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 October 1925.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in October 1925			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Oct. 1925	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Oct. 1925*
	Started before 1st Oct.	Started in Oct.	Total		
Textile ..	1	4	5	154,473	3,904,182
Total October 1925 ..	1	4	5	154,473	3,904,182
Total September 1925 ..	3	4	7	146,425	1,551,927

* 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 five, four of which occurred in cotton mills. The remaining one was a general strike affecting 76 cotton mills, two silk mills and two dye-works in Bombay City. The number of workpeople involved in all these five disputes was 154,473 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers

replaced) was 3,904,182. The number of workpeople involved in the general strike alone was 151,986 at the end of the month under review and the number of working days lost was 3,877,955.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results June to October 1925

	June 1925	July 1925	August 1925	September 1925	October 1925
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	2	4	9	7	5
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	1	....	....	3	1
Fresh disputes begun ..	1	4	9	4	4
Disputes ended ..	2	4	6	6	3
Disputes in progress at end ..	....	....	3	1	2
Number of workpeople involved ..	6,518	346	1,347	146,425	154,473
Aggregate duration in working days ..	138,459	1,543	4,884	1,551,927	3,904,182
Demands—					
Pay ..	1	....	7	2	4
Bonus ..	....	....	....	1	....
Personal ..	1	3	2	3	1
Leave and hours ..	....	....	....	....	....
Others ..	....	1	....	1	....
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	....	....	....	1	....
Compromised ..	....	....	1	....	....
In favour of employers ..	2	4	5	5	3

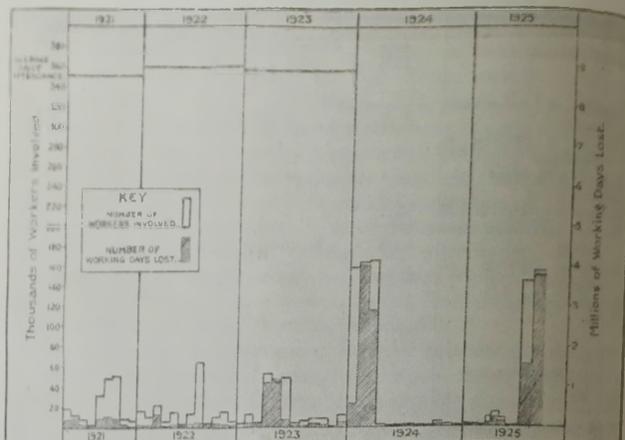
The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

III.—Industrial Disputes

Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs	Aggregate duration in working days	Disputes settled			In progress (Per cent.)
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)	
October 1924 ..	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	202,833	44	13	37	6
June ..	2	138,459	100	..	..	..
July ..	4	1,543	100	..	..	..
August ..	9	4,884	56	..	11	33
September ..	7	1,551,927	72	14	..	14
October ..	5	3,904,182	60	..	..	40
Totals or (cols. 4 to 7) Average ..	87	5,913,535	63	11	13	13

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 October 1925, the number of industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency was five as compared with seven in the previous month. Of these five disputes three terminated in favour of the employers and two were in progress at the end of the month.

BOMBAY

As in the previous month there was no other dispute in progress in Bombay except the general strike which began on the 15th September as a protest against the decision of the Bombay Millowners' Association to reduce the dearness allowances by 20 per cent. The Framji Petit Mill at Mazgaon which was the only cotton mill in Bombay working at the end of the previous month joined the general strike on the 1st October and the two cotton mills at Coorla, the Coorla Spinning and Weaving Mills and the Swadeshi Mills Co., joined the issue on the same grounds on 6th October. Thus the number of workpeople involved in the general strike, which was 146,425 at the end of the previous month, went upto 151,986 since the 6th October 1925. Out of the total number of textile mills in Bombay and Coorla only two woollen mills—the Indian Woollen Mill and the Bombay Woollen Mill—were working during the month under review. At most of the Bombay mills a few workpeople attended every day and were given odd jobs but in no case was it possible to start the engines because the numbers were not sufficient to justify this being done. In spite of the propaganda carried on by some people to stop the workers from accepting their September wages which were calculated at the reduced rates not less than 88,000 workpeople from almost all mills accepted those wages during October 1925.

AHMEDABAD

In Ahmedabad there were two disputes during the month under review. The dispute in the Gordhan Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., at Naroda Road arose on the 7th over the dismissal of a jobber for inefficiency, when 25 workers in the Frame Department struck work in sympathy towards the jobber and demanded his reinstatement. On the 8th the management employed 25 new men and informed the strikers that their services were dispensed with. Thus the strike ended in favour of the employers. It was a practice in the Ahmedabad New Textile Mills to pay the weavers partly in cash and partly in form of damaged cloth turned out by them. On the 26th October 250 weavers of the Ahmedabad New Textile Mill protested against this practice and struck work. Most of the strikers resumed work within the three following days and thus the strike terminated on the 29th also in favour of the employers.

GHATKOPER

46 workers of the Hattersley Mills at Ghatkoper struck work on the 15th demanding increased wages. The demand was refused and the strikers were paid off on the same day. The strike continued till the 26th when it terminated on the strikers resuming work unconditionally.

AMALNER

The dispute of the operatives of the Old and New Pratap Mills at Amalner began on the 13th October. The number of strikers was very small in the beginning but it gradually increased to 1,965. The demands of the strikers are that (1) the dearness allowance which was first cut in 1920 should be paid at 1919 rates, (2) the wages of the workpeople in the Engineering Department should be increased because they are inadequate, (3) overtime allowance should be given whenever mills are worked beyond the usual hours, (4) arrears of wages for the last strike should be paid, (5) wages for the days of absence during this strike should be paid, (6) excessive fines should be reduced, (7) injured men should be paid their hospital fees, (8) all leave asked for should be granted, (9) the leaders of the present strike should not be dismissed, (10) the workers attending work 5 or 10 minutes later than the usual hours should not be marked absent, (11) men staying over leave by 15 days should not be dismissed, (12) old employees failing to turn out the usual quantity of work should not be removed, (13) more comfortable arrangement should be made for the accommodation of the workers at the time of their taking meals, (14) the mukadams and other officers who observe strict discipline should be removed. The leaders of the strikers applied for an advance of Rs. 5,000 from the Co-operative Credit Society established for the benefit of the mill workers but a sum of Rs. 670 only was sanctioned. This sum was being utilised for giving grain, etc., to those strikers who were starving. The strike continued at the end of the month.

The Next Session of the Trade Union Congress

The Provincial Committee of the All-India Trade Union Congress for the Presidency of Madras have decided to hold the sixth session of the

Trade Union Congress in Madras. A Reception Committee consisting of the representatives of the various trade and labour organisations in the City and Presidency of Madras has been formed. Mr. C. Panchakshram, President of the M. S. M. Railway Employees' Union and the Madras Provincial Secretary of the Trade Union Congress, has been appointed Secretary of the next Congress Session. Mr. C. F. Andrews, President of the Madras Congress, has intimated to Mr. Panchakshram that 9th and 10th January 1926 are the dates which will suit him most. It is therefore almost certain that the Congress will meet in Madras on those dates. (From "All-India Trade Union Bulletin," October 1925.)

Indian Labour Problems

NEED FOR FURTHER LEGISLATION

In the course of an article in the "Asiatic Review" on labour legislation in India, Lady Chatterjee, M.A., D.S.C., writes:

"Before proceeding to deal with the need for further legislation, we may examine the steps that have been taken to enforce existing legislation. The question of the administration of factory legislation will first be considered. In the latest report, published in 1925, statistics are given relating to factories for the year 1923. From the tabular statements appended to that report it is evident that about half the total number of factories get inspected only once, that less than one-third are inspected more than once, while more than 1,000 factories do not receive an inspection visit throughout a whole year. The majority of the managers can therefore thank themselves on being immune from further visits after the annual inspection has taken place.

The fact that so many factories are inspected at such long intervals does not reflect any discredit on the existing staff of inspectors. They work extremely hard, but they are very much understaffed.

Position in Bengal

The position is particularly bad in Bengal. The chief inspector of that Province is responsible not only for all factories in Bengal, but also for the factories in Assam. In the former Province there are over 1,000 factories in which over 540,000 persons are employed, while in the latter Province there are 579 factories in which nearly 50,000 persons are employed. In Bengal there are more than 70,000 women and about 35,000 children at work, while in Assam about 12,000 women and an equal number of children are employed. In order to discharge these heavy responsibilities, the Chief Inspector had in 1924 a staff consisting of two inspectors who worked throughout the year, and one senior, the other being on leave. Two new officers were appointed in the last quarter of the year.

The position for 1925 is even more distressing. One of the inspectors has left the Department, while another has again had to return to England on medical leave. The third has been lent to Bihar and Orissa. The Chief Inspector is, therefore, left with one senior inspector and two juniors to carry on the entire work. There is no mention in the report either of the need of a woman inspector or of the possibility of one being

appointed, in spite of the large number of women and children employed. With so inadequate a staff, it is not surprising to find that in Bengal, in 1924, slightly more than half the total number of factories were inspected once, and that about one-third were not inspected at all.

In Assam the position was considerably worse. Only 43 factories out of the total number were inspected by the trained staff, while 188 were inspected by district officers and sub-divisional officers who, so far as it is known, have no particular qualifications for the work entrusted to them.

How Bombay Stands

In Bombay, according to the latest available report, that for 1923, steps have been taken to reorganise the Factory Department. It consists of a Chief Inspector with two senior and three assistant inspectors, of whom four are Indians. In Bengal there is only one Indian on the inspecting staff. No mention is made of the appointment of a woman inspector, though it is believed that one was appointed later in 1924. Such an appointment was long overdue, in view of the fact that nearly 70,000 women and over 11,000 children are employed in the Bombay Presidency. The total number of adults is more than 345,000. The position with regard to the number of inspections is more satisfactory than in Bengal, though it is to be hoped that the number of factories visited only once will decrease very considerably now that the staff has been reorganised.

In Madras, where there are more than 1,000 factories, only a very small proportion were not visited at all, but here, again, one may hope that it will be possible to decrease the number that are visited only once. It is unsatisfactory to note that, though there are more than 25,000 women employed, there is no woman factory inspector.

Other unsatisfactory features of the administration of the Factories Act are the comparative lack of prosecutions and the very small fines that are imposed by the magistrates.

Indian Mines Act

Lady Chatterjee then deals with the Mines' Act, of which she says: Unlike the administration of the Factories Act, for which the Provinces are responsible, the administration of the Indian Mines' Act lies with the Central Government. The inspecting staff consists of a Chief Inspector, an electrical inspector, with two seniors, who divide the mines in India between them. The senior inspectors are in their turn each assisted by two juniors. The area to be covered is immense, and the total number of mines to be inspected is over 1,600. The number of persons employed in 1922 was more than 200,000, of whom nearly 50,000 were women employed below ground, while over 28,000 worked above ground.

The responsibility is clearly a heavy one. From a bare analysis of the figures for 1922 it would appear that about half the total number of mines were not inspected at all. It is probable that many of these are very small, but it is not possible to ascertain the numbers employed in them as they are not separately given. Inspection of coal mines is one of the chief duties of the inspectors, as coal is the most important mineral, and the bulk of the miners are engaged in that industry; but even here one finds that 187 mines were not inspected, in some of which large numbers were

employed. For instance, in the district of Birbhum in Bengal there are eight coal mines, giving employment to over 12,000 persons, and yet this district does not appear to have received the visit of an inspector at all.

Further, in addition to the fact that the inspecting staff is evidently too small to cope with the work, it is noteworthy that though so large a number of women are employed underground, there is no woman on the inspecting staff to safeguard their interests. It is also astonishing to find that no Indian was employed on the staff till 1923.

Some Remedies

Lady Chatterjee concludes: Before closing this account of labour legislation in India, attention may be drawn to certain measures which, if adopted, would undoubtedly help to increase the efficiency of labour very considerably. One of these measures is the establishment of an industrial health service. A perusal of the reports of the factory inspectors makes one realise how closely health questions are allied to their work. The Workmen's Compensation Act further makes the employment of medical men a necessity. If the Maternity Benefits Bill is passed, medical women will ultimately have to be employed in connexion therewith. For the satisfactory administration of all these measures persons with medical and public health qualifications are very much needed. In certain Provinces directors of public health act as *ex-officio* inspectors of factories, but their duties are already sufficiently onerous, and cannot leave much time for work of this nature. When such a service is created, the needs of women workers should not be overlooked, as has been the case in the past. Medical women should be an integral part of such an organisation.

Some time must necessarily elapse before this service can be called into being, and during the interval the factory and mines inspecting staff might well be augmented and strengthened. Attention has been drawn to the necessity of having women inspectors in view of the large numbers of women employed both in factories and in mines. This is all the more necessary as Indian women are by nature and custom very diffident. They do therefore find it very difficult to approach any of the men inspectors in order to voice any complaints or to make their requirements known. This was found to be the case in England, and is very much more the case in India.

Another difficulty which has to be overcome by the inspecting staff is that of language. Workers in India are generally illiterate and almost always ignorant of English. Although the members of the staff are required to learn one of the Indian languages, their heavy duties must inevitably preclude them from becoming expert in those languages. The Bombay Government has made appointments of Indians on the staff, and there are good commencement by the appointment also of Indians in Madras. The other Provinces may well follow the good example set by Bombay when they recruit additional inspectors.

Another measure, which would undoubtedly tend very much to increase the contentment of the labour force, would be in the introduction of some form of Truck Act. In England Truck Acts have been in force since 1831. No similar protection is afforded to workers in India."

Immigrant Labour in Ceylon

REPORT ON CONDITIONS OF INDIAN WORKERS

The conditions of living and the treatment generally given to Indian labourers in foreign countries is a matter of keen interest to people in India. Yet not many realise that there is a more or less settled and fairly contented population of over half a million people from this country earning their living on the tea and rubber estates of Ceylon alone. The word "settled" does not mean that these people are permanent residents of Ceylon, but that, at any one time, there are about 500,000 resident Indian men, women and children largely dependent on the employment offered to them in that country. The Labour Office has received a very interesting and comprehensive report published by the Controller of Indian Immigrant Labour in Ceylon which gives full particulars and complete statistics on almost every point on which information could be desired, the mode of recruitment, the conditions of living, etc., of the Indian labouring community there for the year 1924.

Immigration of Indian labour into Ceylon is controlled and directed in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Emigration Act No. VII of 1922 and Ceylon Ordinance No. I of 1923. The exact manner of the operation of these acts will be dealt with in a subsequent issue of the *Labour Gazette*. For the present it is proposed to deal with the question only from the point of view of the Report under review. Indian emigration to Ceylon is "assisted"; i.e., the expenses of a labourer, from the moment he presents himself to a recruiting agency in India to the time he is made over to an estate in Ceylon for employment, are paid from the Ceylon Immigration Fund. This Fund is raised by quarterly acreage fees on estates cultivated with tea, rubber, cacao, coffee and cardamoms and employing Indian immigrant labour. They vary from 75 cents to Rs. 1.50 per quarter on each acre of tea and 25 cents to 50 cents. on each acre of rubber, cacao, coffee and cardamoms according to forecasts of the likely demand for labour and the consequential expenditure on recruitment and supply. The amount of acreage fees for the period third quarter, 1923, to second quarter, 1924, recovered up to 31st January 1925, amounted to Rs. 36,14,330.14. Government as an employer of such labour also contribute to the Immigration Fund a sum of Rs. 50,000 per annum.

Recruitment is supervised in South India by the Ceylon Labour Commission acting under the control of the Emigration Commissioner whereas in Ceylon itself the controlling authority is the Controller of Indian Immigrant Labour who acts generally under the direction of the Board of Indian Immigrant Labour. The Board consists of the Controller who acts as *ex-officio* Chairman; the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer; the Chairman, Board of Immigration and Quarantine; the Principal Civil Medical Officer; two unofficial members of the Legislative Council; one representative from the Ceylon Planters' Association, two from the Ceylon Estates Proprietary Association and one each from the Low-Country Products Association and the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. The members are appointed by the Governor. The actual salaries and allowances of the Controller and his staff in Ceylon are paid out of the general revenues of the country and amounted, for the official year, 1st

October 1923 to 30th September 1924, to Rs. 67,326.14. All the other expenses of the department including the salary of the Emigration Commissioner and the cost of the staff in India are met from the Immigration Fund.

Method of Recruitment in India

Indian labourers for employment on tea, rubber and other cultivating estates in Ceylon are recruited in South India by people known as "Kanganies". The kangany is the recruiting agent; but before he can act as such, he must (1), under the Indian rules, be an Indian of the labouring class and must have been previously employed as a labourer under the employer for whose services he desires to obtain emigrants and (2) possess a recruiting license. Applications for the issue of licenses are made in the first instance to the Controller. These applications are scrutinised in the Controller's office to see that everything is in order and, after being endorsed by the Controller, are forwarded to the Indian Agent in Ceylon for his endorsement. They are then returned to the Controller and are finally endorsed and issued by the Ceylon Emigration Commissioner in India who has the power not only to refuse licenses but in case of misbehaviour to cancel a license previously issued. In practice an applicant for a license is not always actually a kangany on an estate but merely an old labourer going "to coast" for a holiday and wishing to bring back some of his friends and relatives.

The total number of applications for licenses dealt with in the Controller's office during the year 1924 amounted to 23,585 of which 764 were either rejected through failure to comply with the regulations or cancelled before issue at the employers' request; 22,757 were endorsed both by the Controller and the Indian Agent and 64 were left in hand at the end of the year.

Between 1916 and 1924 over 25 Agencies were established in different parts of South India for registration of labourers collected by kanganies for employment in Ceylon. The Agencies at Katpadi and Madras have not been in operation since 1920 and the ones at Karur, Nanjangundi and Tatarparai since 1921 whilst the Agency at Perambalore has been opened only since 1922. A few agencies were closed prior to 31st December 1917. If the question of numbers of registrations at each of the Agencies for assisted passages is considered the most important Agency is the one established at Trichinopoly. Here 35,048 labourers out of a total number of 99,643 were registered in 1916, 17,808 out of 78,759 in 1922, 20,179 out of 91,129 in 1923 and 19,581 out of 156,533 in 1924. The 20 Agencies at which registrations were effected during the year under review were at Arantangi, Arkonam, Atur, Chingleput, Dindigul, Erode, Madura, Manaparai Mandapam, Musiri, Namakal, Perambalore, Pudukcotta, Salem, Tanjore, Tinnevely, Trichinopoly, Turaiyur, Vellore and Villupuram.

When the kanganies present their recruits at the Agencies a careful examination is made to see that the regulations are properly carried out. No recruits are registered unless the conditions laid down in the rules appear to have been properly observed and unless they comply with the conditions. Labourers illicitly picked up through the services of the professional recruiter are, whenever discovered, rejected. The Controller

reports that in the great majority of cases recruitment is satisfactorily carried out but that there must always be a small residuum of unscrupulous recruiters who endeavour to evade the regulations and thus come into conflict either with the staff of the Labour Commission at the Agencies or with the Protector of Emigrants at Mandapam. The Emigration Commissioner in India cancelled 47 licenses for serious breaches or evasions of the emigration rules which came under his immediate notice and 69 more on the recommendation of the Protector of Emigrants for similar offences.

Procedure after Recruitment

As soon as a kangany gets his recruits registered at an Agency, the recruits have to present themselves with their families and personal effects at the Agency office for transportation to Ceylon. Where agencies are not situated on the railway line they are sent to the nearest railway station by motor bus whenever this is possible. Recruits from all stations north of Trichinopoly are collected at that town. They are then sent on daily by a special train from Trichinopoly to the concentration centre at Mandapam and this train also picks up the recruits from agencies near Mandapam en route. All labourers have to pass through a quarantine period at the Mandapam Camp. This Camp combines the functions of an embarkation camp at the port of departure required under the Indian emigration rules with those of a Quarantine Camp under the quarantine regulations for Ceylon. It is maintained at a very high level of efficiency and cleanliness and received great praise from all who came to inspect it both from India and Ceylon. The highest number of recruits accommodated at the camp on any one day was 8,251 on the 12th May 1924. The latest improvement in the camp has been the completion of the construction of a huge sea water reservoir to increase the supply of water for drainage and flushing. A large new incinerator of the Powell-Snodgrass type was also added to the two existing incinerators for burning the refuse from the Passenger and Segregation Wards and the arrival and departure sheds. All latrines are on the water-carriage system and are amply flushed; and the whole of the area inside the camp is thoroughly scavenged. The supply of the food for the labourers stationed at the Camp is in the hands of Messrs. Spencer and Company and the food given was always ample, good and well cooked. Special isolation hospitals have been established at the Camp for the treatment of infectious diseases such as plague, cholera and small-pox. No plague cases were reported during the year. Out of 11 cholera cases 10, with 8 deaths, were among assisted emigrants and 1 was a passenger, who died. Small-pox registered 6 cases with no deaths. The total number of cases treated in the general hospital amounted to 1,033 for the year of whom 964 were assisted emigrants, with 56 deaths.

After the recruits put in the prescribed period in quarantine at the Mandapam Camp they embark at Dhanushkodi for Talaimannar. The sea-passage takes about two hours. From Talaimannar they travel by the night mail to the railway stations in Ceylon serving the estates to which they are bound. Throughout the journey by rail and steamer they are in charge of escort peons. At their stations of destination they are handed over to their estate kanganies by the escort peons and their employer is responsible for them from this point.

The number of registrations of recruits at the Agencies in India became unusually marked towards the end of 1923 and continued at almost the same high level for the whole of 1924. The failure of the North East Monsoon which broke at its usual date with some promise but faded away entirely during November and December 1923 was responsible for a considerable depletion of the water supply in most of the important recruiting districts, with the result that the dry crops were severely affected and the percentages of wet crops were much below the average. Consequently, a very large number of labourers emigrated earlier than usual in order to escape conditions akin to famine. The total number of registrations during the year 1924 were more than 50,000 above the number of the previous best year—103,580 in 1919—and 91,697 more than the average of the previous eight years. This unprecedented and abnormal exodus of labour from South India cannot, however, be attributed solely to the failure of the North East Monsoon, as years of severe famine have not produced anything like the number of emigrants of 1924. Coincident with agricultural distress throughout some of the oldest recruiting areas in which Ceylon has valuable connexions, the increasingly attractive conditions of life, work and wages on Ceylonese estates have become well known for some years and it is to the general attractiveness of working conditions in Ceylon that the reason for this large exodus is to be mainly attributed.

Numerical Strength of the Indian Labour Force

The total number of labourers registered for assisted passages at the 20 Recruiting Agencies in South India in 1924 amounted to 156,533, of which 20,546 were kanganies, 42,374 old labourers and 93,613 new labourers. The total number of recruits who did not embark after registration amounted to 2,544. Out of this number 1,400 were turned back by the Protector of Emigrants because their recruiters had in various ways failed to comply with the regulations; 255 refused to proceed because their relatives and friends had been rejected; 202 were rejected on medical grounds either at Trichinopoly or Mandapam; 403 turned back before embarkation; 111 were claimed by relatives and 61 died after registration. The actual number of recruits and their families who embarked for Ceylon therefore amounted to 153,989. Of these, 66,519 were men, 34,262 women, 36,851 children and the remainder, or 16,357, infants. Adi-Dravidas, who belong to the lowest grade of the depressed classes in the Madras Presidency, numbered 64,750 and Ambalagaras, 19,492. Some idea of the caste-composition of the annual labour force which migrates to Ceylon may be formed when it is considered that people of 35 different castes were to be found amongst the total number of recruits who embarked in 1924. The most fertile districts for recruitment in India were Trichinopoly which supplied 59,980 recruits and Salem which supplied 29,099. Anantapur, Bangalore, Cochin, Kurnool, the Nilgris and the Pondicherry districts supplied less than 10 each. The districts which attracted the greatest number of Indian labourers in Ceylon were Kandy, Nuwara Eliya and Badulla. More than 52,000 recruits alighted at the various railway stations which serve the district of Kandy whereas 36,196 recruits went to Nuwara Eliya and 27,997 to Badulla.

The average daily strength of the Indian labour force for the year 1924 was 433,295 made up of 190,706 men, 177,586 women, and 65,003 working children. In addition to these, 4,638 men, 9,946 women and 110,763 children making a total of 125,347 people in all were reported as the number of Indian non-workers who were living on the estates as pensioners, or as dependants on the labour force (e.g., children too young to work and old men and old women). The total average Indian population on the estates therefore amounted to 558,642 in all. The total number of days worked during the year on check roll by the whole Indian labour force amounted to 98,777,037½. The total number of days lost during the year owing to (1) absence in hospital or under medical treatment amounted to 3,809,446; (2) absence to attend court on summons or warrant, 11,039; (3) general holidays (including Sundays), 14,974,669; (4) voluntary absence, 7,592,207; and (5) other causes (including days unaccounted for), 33,421,571½. The number of Indian children between the ages of 6 and 10 amounted to 32,766 males and 30,336 females of whom 15,192 males and 4,379 females attended school. The number of deaths amounted to 18,770 and the number of births to 21,944. The infant mortality rate per 1,000 births was 247.

Work and Wages on Estates

The total area in the Island planted in tea is estimated at just over 400,000 acres and in rubber at 460,000. Practically the whole of the tea,—over 390,000 acres,—and about five-eighths of the area under rubber,—nearly 285,000 acres,—are worked by Indian Immigrant Labour. The payments made in the year 1924 to the Indian Labour Force for contract work amounted to Rs. 66,61,541. Gifts of money made during the year, e.g., santosums to women after child birth, to new arrivals from the Coast, to non-workers, etc., amounted to Rs. 13,34,882, and the value of foodstuffs and articles of clothing which were issued free to the Indian Labour Force or its dependants amounted to Rs. 17,21,931. The figures given above deal only with payments made on special accounts. The actual gross wages of the Indian Labour Force for 1924 as per check roll, *not deducting cost of rice etc.*, but including bonuses, cash plucking, head money, etc., not included in any of the above figures, amounted to Rs. 4,89,90,598. The total of head moneys paid to head and sub-kanganies on the estates amounted to Rs. 53,51,407. The total payments in cash or in kind made in the year to an average number of 433,295 labourers of both sexes and all age groups therefore amounted to Rs. 5,87,08,952 giving an average wage of Rs. 135·49 per head per annum or Rs. 11·29 per head per month. The Report states that if it is assumed that the earnings of men, women and children were in the proportion of 5 : 4 : 3, the average monthly earnings of men were Rs. 13·16, of women Rs. 10·52 and of children Rs. 7·89.

From enquiries made from half a dozen estates selected at random it was ascertained that a family consisting of a husband and wife only, working on a rubber and tea estate in the low country, earned a total amount of Rs. 250·9 during the year—Rs. 172·74 by the husband and Rs. 78·19 by the wife. In cases where the family consisted of a man, wife and one child, the total earnings amounted to Rs. 296·79.

In the last case the monthly levels of earnings were not maintained at any constant figure for the whole year. In the month of May the earnings of this family were Rs. 35.4 whereas in February only Rs. 15.45 and in December Rs. 19.43. On a second sample, a family of a man, wife and child earned Rs. 289.63 during the year on a rubber estate. Even in this case the monthly earnings varied from Rs. 16.82 in February and Rs. 17.8 in October to Rs. 33.40 in December and Rs. 34.65 in January. The earnings of a family of a sub-kangany consisting of husband, wife and 2 girls working on a tea estate in mid-country amounted to Rs. 587.96 during the year. Out of this an amount of Rs. 249.28 was earned by the sub-kangany, Rs. 117.9 by his wife, Rs. 122.48 by one daughter and Rs. 99.11 by the other. The earnings of this family vary from Rs. 36.21 in the month of June to Rs. 60.39 in the month of April but there is a more constant monthly intake varying slightly round the figure of Rs. 50. The earnings of a family consisting of a man, wife and son working in a factory on a rubber estate amounted to as much as Rs. 856.66 during the year with a maximum variation of Rs. 21 in the monthly income. The Report unfortunately gives no comparative figures for the pre-war year nor is any mention made with regard to the trend of prices. It is not possible, therefore, to arrive at any clear definition regarding the economic position of the Indian Labouring Community in Ceylon as expressed in terms of real wages.

The average number of days worked by the Indian Labour Force amounted to 228 per head per annum or 19 per month. This excludes days worked on contract and includes the smaller outturn of children so that the average number of days worked by a normal adult is stated to be probably well over 20.

Education of Children

Considerable interest is taken by the estates in the education of the children of their employees. Most of the estate schools are registered and are assisted by Government. 257 schools out of a total of 275 registered schools were examined by the Department of Education for grant during the year and the total amount spent by Government on these schools amounted to Rs. 71,215. The total number of children between the ages of 6 and 10 living on the estates amounted to 63,102 of whom 32,766 were boys and 30,336 girls. The total number of those who actually attend schools, whether registered or otherwise, is 15,192 boys and 4,379 girls. The actual numbers that attended the registered schools were 9,915 boys and 1,700 girls. Considerable activity was shown by the superintendents of the estates in the establishment of new schools. Most of the school institutions are provided with permanent buildings, which are well equipped, kept in good repair and afford ample accommodation. Female education on the estates is, at present, comparatively backward and the figures show that whereas 50 per cent. of the boys attended school the number of girls who attended was only in the ratio of one to seven. Attendance at school is however increasing and it is confidently expected that in a very short time almost all children of school-going age will be sent by their parents to the estate schools for education.

(To be continued.)

Post War Labour Conditions in Germany *

Before the war the trend towards the cities had resulted in Germany in a diminution in the number of those engaged in agriculture. This tendency was checked after the war owing to the certainty of being better fed in rural than in urban areas. The number of persons employed in mines was considerably larger after the war than before, in spite of the fact that Germany lost a considerable part of her mineral resources through the treaty of Versailles. The increase was especially conspicuous in the lignite mines, where 144,752 workers were employed in 1921 as against 58,958 in 1913. The following table gives the number of persons employed in mines, smelters and iron and steel works :-

Industry	1913	1917	1919	1920	1921
Coal mines	654,017	568,040	661,581	713,199	812,804
Lignite mines	58,958	53,583	103,614	136,484	144,752
Iron mines	42,296	36,660	28,058	29,101	29,478
Lead, silver, and zinc mines	21,282	18,223	17,047	18,018	19,336
Arsenic and copper mines	13,292	15,122	12,196	10,849	11,435
Other ore mines	1,554	3,743	3,473	3,271	2,673
Salt mines	43,232	27,371	46,238	59,692	52,273
Petroleum production	964	1,430	1,207	1,524	1,918
Coke plants	31,919	29,256	38,083	37,864	..
Coal-briquet plants	3,094	2,688	3,072	2,927	..
Lignite-briquet plants	20,069	20,586	32,933	38,989	..
Lignite-slate and peat distilleries	1,022	1,043	1,497	1,853	..
Blast furnaces	41,908	35,724	33,879	36,745	..
Iron and steel foundries	154,300	139,195	134,669	149,052	..
Weld-iron works	2,698	1,279	1,087	973	..
Ingot iron and ingot steel works	42,118	51,168	43,229	47,186	..
Rolling mills	128,785	142,849	107,112	119,617	..
Lead, silver, and iron works	9,446	9,265	10,605	11,767	..
Zinc works	13,003	10,358	9,273	8,690	..
Other metal works	1,775	3,053	3,048	3,157	..
Sulphuric acid factories	6,785	6,237	4,723	5,732	..

The number of persons employed in commerce, transportation and the postal department also increased. But although the number of persons engaged in various industries increased, there was a good deal of unemployment.

The general standard of living of the German worker after the war was very low. Food, fuel and clothes were very scarce immediately after the war, and when the blockade ceased and imports might have filled the gaps, the low level of real wages prevented much improvement in the standard of life. No noticeable improvement in the standard of life took place until after the stabilization of the mark.

The war and the political revolution which followed it, helped to strengthen the labour movement in Germany. Trade unions became very strong and manifested their strength especially in the conclusion of collective agreements which are now protected by law. The wage terms agreed upon were, however, most of the time very unfavourable. Moreover inflation affected the workers very adversely and almost caused the financial break down of trade unions in the year 1923.

* Bulletin No. 380, of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics 1925.

Labour Banking in America

In the October 1925 issue of the *American Federationist*, there appears an article by William B. Prenter on the origin and growth of labour banking in America. It is pointed out that less than five years ago the brotherhood of locomotive engineers opened the first co-operative bank in America in the city of Cleveland. The movement has grown and to-day the brotherhood owns labour banks in several big cities. The resources of the brotherhood banks have expanded from \$653,000 to assets of more than \$150,000,000.

When the first labour bank was started the promoters had two aims in view: (1) to employ the funds of the brotherhood and to mobilise the savings of its members in their own bank so as to secure the largest possible return compatible with absolute safety; and (2) to use the financial power thus accumulated for the service of the worker, the farmer and generally for useful productive rather than speculative undertakings. But from experience it is found out that labour banks not only fulfil these two purposes but help to bring about harmony between the conflicting interests of capital and labour. With the growth and success of labour co-operative banks those who own capital have acquired a new respect for and confidence in labour organisations while labour in its turn has naturally become more stabilised and thoughtful as it has undertaken the responsibility of operating banks and investment companies and safeguarding the millions of dollars in deposits entrusted to it.

The writer is of opinion that the future possibilities of labour banking are greater than any living man can conceive. But he thinks that the movement will unquestionably raise labour organisations to a higher plane of power, usefulness and influence. Labour banking in his opinion is the key to industrial democracy.

Labour Recruiting in Japan and its Control

Under the above heading there appears in the October 1925 Number of the *International Labour Review* an article by Shunzo Yoshisaka, Director of Factory Inspection, Bureau of Social Affairs, Department of the Interior, Japan, in which he describes the "back-ground and the content" of the new Japanese legislation to control the recruiting of workers which came into force on 1st March 1925.

In Japan workers are engaged principally by two methods: (1) direct personal application and (2) indirect application through friends or public or private employment exchanges or agencies. There are very few employment exchanges in the country and most of the workers are therefore engaged by means of recruiting. Recruiting has attained very great proportions, principally because there has been a sudden expansion of industry in Japan and the supply of labour is inadequate. The Japanese worker like his Indian fellow-brother is by nature an agriculturist and to attract him towards the factories in the cities recruiting has to be resorted to.

The extent of recruiting in Japan can be realised from the fact that as many as 300,000 persons are brought to the factories every year by means of organised recruiting. At present there are more than 610,000 workers in the dormitories belonging to factories and more than half of them may be considered as recruited workers. According to an investigation made in 1922 there were 52,417 persons engaged in recruiting work while an enquiry made by the local employment exchange at Tokyo showed at the end of 1923 that there were as many as 24,000 persons engaged in recruiting work within the jurisdiction of that one exchange.

Regulation of recruiting in Japan is tantamount to regulation of the employment of women since 82 per cent. of the operatives in the dyeing and weaving works are women. Out of these dyeing and weaving works 60 per cent. have dormitories attached to them and at the end of 1922 as many as 502,822 women workers were lodged in these dormitories which clearly shows that these women mostly came from some distance and were probably recruited in the agricultural districts.

Recruiting on the dormitory system has thus come to be the characteristic feature of the Japanese industry, and the protection of workers prior to signature of their contract of employment has become as important as protection in respect of working and living conditions after the signature of the contract. The methods of recruiting have led to so much abuse that in extreme cases it is believed that 30 per cent. of the newly recruited women workers drop out within a month after they are engaged and that a district is "worked out" for recruiting purposes in seven years. Neighbouring districts of large industrial centres are being exhausted so far as recruiting is concerned and year after year the recruiting territory shifts to a remoter distance. The nuisance caused by agents to villagers has been so great that some people have been driven to put notices on their doors with a statement "no daughter for factory in this house" to keep off the importunate recruiters.

It has already been stated that there exists in Japan a dearth of factory labour and that is why recruiting has to be resorted to, but the method of recruiting for the engaging of labour is a costly affair. The cost naturally varies from place to place but it is stated that the cost runs from 20 to 30 Yen up to 70 Yen per head, or Rs. 23-2-9 to Rs. 34-12-2 up to Rs. 81-1-8.

Before the legislation of 1st March 1925 there used to be some control on recruiting but uniform national legislation was lacking. According to the present ordinance this uniformity has been secured. Recruiting is not disallowed but is brought under the strict supervision of the State. Besides regulating recruiting agents' licenses the ordinance prescribes that documents distributed by the agents in connexion with their work must be submitted to the authorities beforehand. The ordinance aims in the case of women toward the protection of their chastity while in the case of men its aim is that their freedom and security should be ensured. It further lays down that a person who does the recruiting unless proposing to employ the worker himself must have been commissioned by a master who will employ the recruited worker. Thus the evils arising from recruiting by questionable recruiters are prevented. Besides this the ordinance lays a great deal of emphasis on the character of the recruiters.

The local Governor issues a license only when he is convinced that the recruiting agent is a person of unimpeachable character. The license expires after every three years and can be renewed thereafter.

In order to ensure that the person recruited is able to find the work guaranteed to him by the recruiting agent it is laid down that the recruiting agent must give the applicant for work a leaflet or card or a blank copy of the contract of engagement containing information regarding the conditions of work which will aid him in deciding whether to accept or reject the offer of the recruiting agent. The procedure of recruiting is also strictly controlled by the State. Certain acts such as recruiting a minor, a person of unsound mind or a wife without the consent of her legal representative, guardian or husband are prohibited. In addition to these negative restrictions on the recruiting master certain responsibilities have also been thrown upon him. For instance, in certain circumstances he is responsible for returning the recruited worker to his or her home.

Trade Unions finding employment for their members are not treated by the ordinance as recruiting agents but are regarded in the same light as workers applying for work.

In conclusion the writer points out that though the new ordinance will help to remove many of the abuses which were the outcome of former recruiting methods it cannot be considered that it has completely solved all the problems arising from the recruiting system. For example the living-in conditions of workers need further investigation and improvement and a great deal will have also to be done to improve the social status of the recruiting agent himself.

Unemployment Relief in Sweden

RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

The Committee appointed by the Swedish Government in the summer of 1924 to inquire into the question of the organisation of public relief works as a means of alleviating unemployment, presented their Report on 8th September last.

The Committee recommend that the present system of State relief works should be permanently continued under the direction of the existing Unemployment Commission. They consider, however, that the Commission should have greater freedom, and that, at periods when unemployment is slight, systematic preparations should be made for the organisation of relief works against future times of necessity.

The Committee attach great importance to the continued application of the rule that wages paid for relief work should be lower than the local rates paid in the open market. They recommend that certain privileges conceded to relief workers when unemployment was very severe, in the form of cheap food and clothing, rent allowances, etc., should be entirely abolished, where this has not already been done. They favour, however, the continuance of the so-called "local increments," that is, allowances paid to the families of persons employed upon relief works who have been transferred to a place where the local wages are lower than those

prevailing in their home district, but these allowances should in future be paid by the commune, instead of, as hitherto, by the State. They are not to be regarded as poor relief.

The regulations of 1922 on the payment of unemployment donations, although still in force, have been in abeyance since the autumn of 1923, when unemployment declined greatly. The Committee consider that these regulations should remain in abeyance, because they disapprove, in principle, of the system of unemployment relief "doles"; but they recommend that the possibility of granting unemployment donations in cases of emergency should be left open.

In addition to State relief works, the Committee recommend the continuance of State contributions to communal relief works, which should remain under State control, both in order to ensure uniformity and to avoid interference with work in the open labour market. As hitherto, no relief should be given to workers involved in labour disputes.

The Committee make no recommendation in regard to the introduction of a system of unemployment insurance; but the Minister for Social Affairs recently stated that he anticipated that a Bill on this subject would be laid before the Riksdag next year. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1925.)

Wages in Great Britain

COMPARISON WITH PRE-WAR RATES

Both the amounts and the corresponding percentages of increase over pre-war rates show a wide diversity among different classes of workpeople. In some cases the increases in full-time weekly rates at the end of September 1925, were equivalent to only about 20 per cent. on the pre-war rates. On the other hand, they were equivalent in some cases to over 100 per cent. on the pre-war rates. The information at the disposal of the Department is insufficient to enable the average percentage increase for all industries and occupations to be calculated exactly, but it is estimated that at the end of September 1925, *weekly* full-time rates of wages of adult workpeople, in the industries for which information is available, averaged about 75 per cent. above the level of August 1914, as compared with 170 to 180 per cent. at the end of December 1920, when wages generally were at their highest level. As considerable reductions in normal weekly working hours were made in nearly all industries in 1919 and 1920, the percentage increase in *hourly* rates of wages, since 1914, is substantially greater; while it is not practicable on the basis of available information to make any precise calculation, it seems probable that at the end of September 1925, the average level of *hourly* rates of wages was about 100 per cent. above that of August 1914.

The average percentage increase in *weekly* full-time wages at the end of each quarter since 1920, as compared with the beginning of August 1914, is estimated, on the basis of such information as is available, to have been

approximately as shown below:—

Year	Estimated Average Percentage Increase in Weekly Full-time Wages at end of			
	March	June	September	December
1920	130—135	150—155	160—165	170—18
1921	160—170	145—155	130—135	110—115
1922	100—105	85—90	75—80	70—75
1923	70	65—70	70 (nearly)	65—70
1924	70 (nearly)	70	70—75	70—75
1925	75	75	75	....

It should be observed that the foregoing particulars relate to rates of wages for *full-time working* and that no account is taken of the loss of actual earnings resulting from unemployment and short-time working, or of the effects of increased or reduced exertion on the earnings of work-people paid at piece-rates of wages, as to which comprehensive statistics are not available. The working class cost of living index number at 1st September was 74 per cent. above that of July 1914. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1925.)

The Trade Union Movement in Belgium

We have received booklet No. 1* of the International Trade Union Library on the Trade Union Movement in Belgium. It is a small publication containing only 44 pages but it supplies information regarding trade unionism in Belgium from its early beginning and traces its growth and development.

It is pointed out that guilds and corporations which are generally considered to be the forerunners of modern trade unionism were, to be found almost exclusively in Flemish provinces. Quite apart from these, there were also institutions called trade clubs for mutual assistance. They included both employers and workers in the same trade but the employers gradually dropped out and finally the membership consisted entirely of the workmen.

The beginning of modern trade unionism in Belgium can be traced to the societies of resistance which because of the Anti-Combination laws were compelled to keep secret the militant nature of the societies and therefore adopted the name "Societies for the Maintenance of Prices". The first trace of them is about the year 1840. These societies were organised on the basis of what are usually known as the craft unions.

The group known as the Knights of Labour was another form of militant labour which was first started in 1880. This society was started under the influence and example of the Knights of Labour of the United States.

The Anti-Combination law in Belgium was first repealed on 31st May 1866 but replaced almost immediately by article 310 of the Penal Code. It was only after a struggle lasting over 50 years that article 310 was repealed in 1921. Since then the law not only guarantees freedom of association

* The Trade Union Movement in Belgium, by C. Mertens. Published by the International Federation of Trade Unions, 31, Tesselschadestraat, Amsterdam.

but also penalises attempts to interfere with it in practice by making such offences punishable by imprisonment from 8 days to a month or a fine of 50 to 500 francs, or both sentences together. In 1885, the Flemish Socialist Party started in 1880, amalgamated with the other labour groups in the country to form the Belgian Labour Party. This was the starting point of a new era for the trade union movement. In 1894 the first Socialist Deputies entered Parliament and it was the result of their influence that new legislation beneficial to trade unionism was passed. At the Congress of the Belgian Labour Party held at Verviers in 1898 this new legislation relating to trade unions came up for discussion and it was decided to set up a commission of trade unions whose sole business would be the pursuit of the business of the Labour Party and the promotion of its unity and further development. Up to 1905 however the Trade Union Commission was merely a research committee but gradually the Commission inspired so much confidence in the trade union movement that several unions affiliated themselves to it. It has therefore now become one of the most formidable institutions in the country and has effectively centralised the trade union movement. The achievements of this Commission have been very numerous, not the least amongst which is the 8-hour day for Belgian workers.

British Industrial Co-operative Societies

REMARKABLE FIGURES OF MEMBERSHIP AND CAPITAL.

The following particulars relating to Industrial Co-operative societies which are given in the Ministry of Labour Gazette for October have been compiled by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies from the statutory returns furnished to his Department. The figures relate only to such of the societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts as are primarily connected with industries other than agriculture and are co-operative in character.

General Summary

The number of Industrial Co-operative societies in Great Britain (as described above) furnishing returns for 1924 was 1,534. The aggregate membership of these societies at the end of 1924 was 4,690,000. Their sales in the year amounted to £271,039,000,* and resulted in a net surplus (before deduction of interest on share capital) of £21,267,000. The total share, loan and reserve capital was £145,626,000. As compared with 1923, membership increased by 132,000, or 2·9 per cent.; while capital increased by £11,269,000, or 8·4 per cent. Of the latter increase £6,294,000 was attributable to the retail societies, £114,000 to the productive and service societies, and the remainder largely to additional deposits received by English and Scottish Wholesale Societies. The figure for sales represents an increase of more than £17,500,000, or about 7·0 per cent., and indicates a continued improvement in co-operative trading. Of the increase, retail societies were responsible for £10,300,000, and wholesale societies for £6,700,000. The improved trading resulted in a surplus for distribution larger by £3,681,000 than in the preceding year.

* Includes farm and dairy produce valued at £1,592,000 and wholesale as well as retail sales.

The total number of persons directly employed by these societies at the end of 1924 (excluding native labour employed by the English and Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.) was about 193,000, some 7,000 more than in the preceding year. The total amount paid in salaries and wages (£25,381,000) showed an increase of £1,173,000.

While some of the societies are engaged only in distribution, and some only in production, others are engaged in both forms of industry. In the following statistics (a) production and (b) distribution are dealt with separately.

(a) Production †

In 1924, 1,147 Industrial Co-operative societies of various types were engaged in production. The total number of persons employed in production by these societies was 80,154; the amount paid as wages during the year was £10,346,000; and the value of productions £67,671,000. The corresponding figures for 1923 were 1,155 societies; 75,613 employees; £9,441,000 wages; and £61,541,000 value of productions.

In the following Table the value of productions for each group of societies, together with the totals for all societies, is shown for the years 1914-1924:—

Year	Value of Productions					Grand totals of all Societies
	Associations of Consumers				Associations of Workers	
	Productive Departments of Distributive Societies		Productive Societies			
	Retail Societies	Wholesale Societies	Corn Milling Societies	Baking and other Consumers' Societies		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1914	15,705,339	12,790,390	1,035,044	1,291,950	1,778,664	32,601,387
1915	19,310,204	17,596,639	304,616	1,508,872	2,399,930	41,120,261
1916	22,855,734	22,120,357	241,894	1,764,125	2,592,210	49,574,320
1917	25,408,072	25,868,097	310,991	1,938,854	3,253,846	56,779,860
1918	23,883,206	24,900,938	264,653	1,871,021	3,687,060	54,606,878
1919	28,465,060	36,321,546	528,288	2,498,552	4,496,935	72,310,381
1920*	38,376,634	48,072,892	354,301	3,183,999†	5,403,814	95,391,640
1921*	38,123,374	37,925,115	341,114	2,877,087†	3,435,150	82,701,840
1922*	29,980,520	27,619,886	239,080	2,298,134†	2,671,345	62,808,965
1923*	27,982,498	28,264,425	209,809	2,239,947†	2,844,026	61,540,705
1924*	29,661,169	32,242,225	211,634	2,576,183†	2,979,988	67,671,199

The decrease since 1914 in the productions of the corn milling societies has been due to the absorption of several of these societies by the English Wholesale Society.

* Up to and including the year 1920 the figures given relate to Great Britain and Ireland; subsequent figures are exclusive of societies registered in Ireland.

† Revised figures include laundering.

‡ Includes for the purpose of this article the manufacture or part manufacture of commodities, and the supply of services, such as laundering, hairdressing, etc.

Between 1914 and 1920 the total value of productions was nearly trebled, so that, even allowing for the increase in prices, a considerable expansion in production is indicated. The expansion was principally in the wholesale societies, where the value of productions had risen from £1,280,000 to more than Rs. 4,80,00,000, and the number of persons employed in production from over 20,000 to more than 35,000. In 1921, while the value of productions was maintained in the retail societies, there was a considerable reduction both in the wholesale and in the productive societies. In 1922 each group showed a very substantial decrease, which in the aggregate amounted to nearly 20 millions sterling, or about 24 per cent. of the value in 1921. In 1923, the decrease was less than £1,300,000, and was almost wholly attributable to the retail societies. In 1924, the value of productions showed an increase on the preceding year, approximating to £6,000,000. The English Wholesale Society was responsible for about £4,000,000 of this increase, and the retail societies for most of the remaining £2,000,000.

The following Table analyses, by groups of industries or services, the number of persons employed, the amount of wages paid, and the value of productions:—

Groups of Industries or Services	Associations of Consumers			Associations of Workers		
	No. of Employees	Wages	Value of Productions	No. of Employees	Wages	Value of Productions
		£	£		£	£
Food and Tobacco*	25,773	3,714,347	47,808,592	120	12,695	86,377
Clothing	20,198	2,184,650	5,723,029	4,818	487,454	1,734,863
Soap, candle and starch ..	1,809	247,881	2,551,060	..	..	..
Textiles	3,405	334,566	1,702,891	714	85,961	513,795
Mining and quarrying ..	447	52,040	84,515	215	23,763	37,063
Building and woodworking	9,196	1,486,767	3,251,889	462	55,628	130,409
Papermaking, printing, etc.	2,856	378,928	1,166,509	1,013	152,648	317,985
Metal, engineering, etc. ..	1,680	254,419	833,418	404	52,041	106,547
Other productions ..	1,248	148,656	958,715	240	23,718	49,957
Productive Transport†	2,449	357,996	‡	5	740	‡
Laundry work ..	2,961	273,954	550,860	..	..	..
Hairdressing	63	7,290	29,248	7	950	1,792
Other Services ..	65	7,347	30,485	6	1,109	1,200
Totals, 1924 ..	72,150	9,448,841	64,691,211	8,004	896,707	2,979,988
Totals, 1923 ..	67,867	8,558,917	58,744,787	8,034	903,505	2,844,026
Percentage increase (+) or decrease (-)	+ 6.3	+ 10.4	+ 10.1	- 0.4	- 0.8	+ 4.8

* Include farm and dairy produce valued at £1,592,000, in respect of which there were 2,880 employees, with wages of £290,000. In previous articles, attention has been drawn to the fact that the productive figures of the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies' Joint Tea, etc., Department also have been included. As, however, this joint venture is now separately registered, it will no longer be necessary to draw special attention to the inclusion of these figures.

† In previous years transport employees and wages have been allocated to the relative departments, but for 1924 only approximate figures for productive departments in total are available.

‡ The value of productive transport is necessarily included in the "Value of Productions" of the various Departments.

In 1924 the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies returned a surplus on production of £727,000, as against £536,000 on the preceding year. The 163 productive societies returned a surplus of £403,000, or 40 per cent. more than in 1923. For retail distributive societies the corresponding figure is not ascertainable.

Profit-Sharing with Employees.—Of the 1,147 societies engaged in industrial production, 82, employing 11,391 persons in productive departments, with wages amounting to £1,462,000 allotted a sum of £58,353 to these employees as a bonus on wages in 1924, this being equivalent to about 9½d in the £, practically the same average rate as for 1923.

Associations of Workers: Share of Employees in Membership, Capital, and Management.—Seventy-one of the 98 associations of workers, with sales amounting to £3,184,000, or about 98 per cent. of the total sales of the associations at work, made returns showing the extent to which their employees shared in the membership, capital, and management of the associations. The returns showed that the total membership of these associations in 1924 was 27,767, of whom 4,843, or 17 per cent. consisted of employees; 17,792, or 64 per cent. of other individuals; and 5,132, or 19 per cent. of other societies. Of the 7,920 persons employed by the associations, 61 per cent. were members of the associations employing them.

Of the £1,447,000 share and loan capital, £265,000, or 18 per cent. belonged to employees; £601,000, or 42 per cent. to other individuals (including loans from non-members and bank overdrafts), and £581,000, or 40 per cent., to other societies. The number of committeemen of the associations was 641, of whom 307, or 48 per cent. were employees of the associations, 222, or 35 per cent., were other individual members, and 112, or 17 per cent., were representatives of other (shareholding) societies.

(b) Distribution.

At the end of 1924, 1,368 retail and three wholesale societies were engaged in distribution, including the Joint Tea, etc., Department of the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies, which was registered as a separate society at the beginning of the year. These societies had an aggregate membership of 4,645,000; a total share, loan, and reserve capital of £141,630,000; sales amounting to £264,674,000, and a surplus (before deducting interest on share capital) of £20,864,000. The total number of persons employed in distribution (including those in the buying departments of the wholesale societies and those engaged in distributive transport) was 112,415, and their wages for the year were £15,035,000. The corresponding figures for 1923 were:—membership 4,513,000; capital, £130,475,000; sales, £247,590,000; surplus, £17,299,000; employees, 109,693; and wages, £14,767,000.

Profit-Sharing with Employees.—Of the total of 1,368 retail societies in 1924, 71, employing 10,067 persons and paying wages amounting to £1,297,000 in their distributive departments, allotted out of the surplus a total of £42,122 to their employees as a bonus, this being equivalent to about 7¾d. in the £, as compared with an average of 6½d. in the £ for 1923. In addition, in 1924, two productive societies, employing 142 persons in their distributive departments, with wages amounting to £28,000, allotted

£677 to the employees in these departments as a bonus, equivalent to about 5¾d. in the £.

In the following Table the sales for each of the years 1914-1924 are shown separately for the retail and for the wholesale societies:—

Year	Retail Societies		Wholesale Societies	
	Number	Sales	Sales of English Society	Sales of Scottish Society.
1914	1,385	£ 87,979,898	£ 34,910,813	9,425,384
1915	1,374	103,073,321	43,101,747	11,363,076
1916	1,364	121,853,932	52,230,074	14,499,037
1917	1,339	142,158,236	57,710,132	17,083,275
1918	1,342	155,332,902	65,167,960	19,216,763
1919	1,356	199,139,177	89,349,318	24,773,381
1920	1,491	245,406,124	105,439,628	29,559,314
1921*	1,455	218,321,770	80,884,661	22,041,158
1922*	1,392	168,799,221	65,904,812	17,009,251
1923*	1,377	164,122,688	66,205,566	17,261,828
1924*	1,368	174,473,315	72,888,064	17,312,194

*Up to and including the year 1920 the figures given relate to Great Britain and Ireland; subsequent figures are exclusive of Societies registered in Ireland.

Dividends on Purchases.—In 1924 the retail societies distributed an average dividend of approximately 1s. 6¾d. in the £ on purchases, an increase on the corresponding figure of 1s. 4¾d. in the £ for the preceding year. The Scottish Wholesale Society declared a dividend of 4d. in the £ for each half-year, as against 3d. in the £ for each half of 1923. The English Wholesale Society declared a dividend of 2d. in the £ for each half year, as in the second half of 1923; no dividend was paid in the first half of that year.

Vacation Policies for Workers in New York State

The Department of Labour, New York, recently conducted an interesting investigation into the extent to which Employers in manufacturing industries take vacation policies for their employees. The method followed was to draw up a questionnaire and send it to firms engaging not less than 50 persons. Fifteen hundred replies were received. These show that vacations with pay are given to office workers in 91 per cent. of the plants, to foremen in 68 per cent. and to production workers in 18 per cent. Piece-workers are usually excluded from vacation policies. Chemical and food industries seem to have a large proportion of plants with vacation policies for production workers. The usual length of vacation for office workers is two weeks and for production workers one week. The minimum period of service which entitles a worker to vacation with pay is one year.

It is found that six per cent. of the plants which had established vacation policies for production workers had to abandon them. But of those plants which have maintained vacation policies, 98 per cent. find them satisfactory.

The Indian Factories Act (1911) Amendment Bill, 1925

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Indian Factories Act, 1911 (XII of 1911), was radically revised by Act II of 1922, which introduced a series of important reforms including the adoption of a sixty hours' week, the raising of the minimum age of children from 9 to 12, the prohibition of night work for women, the extension of the Act to a large number of small factories, drastic restriction of the exempting provisions, etc. The experience of the last three years indicates that the amended Act has worked smoothly on the whole, and the main principles followed in 1922 command general acceptance. The Government of India do not propose to modify any of the main principles of the Act.

2. But administrative difficulties have arisen in connection with some sections of the Act; one such difficulty relates to section 21 which provides for intervals of rest. In practice it has proved difficult to enforce the provisions of this section in some industries. Local Governments were asked in June 1923 to consider a possible solution of the difficulty and to bring to the notice of the Government of India any difficulties which might have arisen in connection with other provisions. On receipt of their replies, a Conference of Chief Inspectors of Factories was convened; this met in Simla, in August 1924, and was attended by the officers at the head of the inspection staff in every province but one. The Act was examined in detail in the light of the criticisms received, and the Conference recommended a number of alterations designed by allowing greater elasticity in some directions and by increasing control in others, to make for smoother working. The amendments proposed in the Bill are based on the recommendations of that Conference and on the opinions received from Local Governments. They are explained in the detailed Notes on Clauses below.

Notes on Clauses

Clause 2.—There are a number of establishments such as electrical generating stations, water-works, etc., which, while they are essentially factories in the ordinarily accepted sense of the term and require regulation as much as other factories do not appear to fall strictly within the definition in section 2 (3) of the Factories Act. The amendment proposed is designed to ensure the application of the Act to such factories. The amendment proposed in *clause 19* is consequential.

Clause 3.—The amendment is consequential on the repeal of Act VIII of 1901 by Act IV of 1923.

Clause 4.—Sub-section (1) of section 7 directs the certifying surgeon to give to an unfit child a certificate that he is unfit; such certificates are said to have been given and used for the purposes of employment. The amendments preclude the certifying surgeon from giving a certificate to a child who is found to be unfit for employment.

Clause 5.—The existing Act makes no provision for the prevention of excessive temperatures within a factory. The new section is designed to remedy this defect. The amendments proposed in clauses 17 and 22 are consequential.

Clause 6.—The amendment is of a formal character and is designed to make it clear that, where a manager of a factory has been required to provide a fan, the fan must be maintained in use.

Clause 7.—Under the existing law, women and children are prohibited from cleaning machinery in motion. But a large number of accidents to men have occurred from the cleaning of machinery in motion. It is therefore proposed to give Local Governments power to prevent this practice, where they are satisfied that it is attended with danger to the operatives.

Clause 8.—Two difficulties have arisen in connection with section 21 (1) (a) of the Factories Act, 1911. The sub-section was designed to secure for employes a daily interval of one hour or, if they so prefer, two intervals of half an hour each, so arranged that no operative is required to work for more than five hours continuously. It is doubtful whether the section carries out the intention of the Legislature as regards the second alternative; clause (ii) may be interpreted as requiring that both the half-hour intervals, if this system is chosen, should be given before the seventh hour of work commences. The first amendment proposed is designed to carry out the original intention of the Legislature.

But the Government of India propose at the same time to make a more substantial amendment. As soon as section 21 came into effect, difficulty was experienced in enforcing it in factories which were working for appreciably shorter hours than the maximum permitted by the Act, and more particularly in engineering works. The operatives, who under the old Act had been given an interval of only half an hour found that the new Act resulted in a diminution of the hours which they were able to spend at their homes. And where, as in many cases, their homes were situated at a considerable distance from their work, their dislike of the new provision was correspondingly increased. The Government of India referred the whole question for detailed consideration to Local Governments and the replies showed a general concensus of opinion in favour of an amendment of the section. The proposal now put forward is based on the recommendation of the Factory Inspectors' Conference. If it is passed into law, it will be possible for Local Governments to permit the reduction of intervals to one interval of half an hour daily in the case of male operatives working for not more than 8½ hours a day, provided that the operatives themselves desire this arrangement. The Government of India are satisfied that the proposal will not be detrimental to the operatives concerned, and they hope that it may have the effect of reducing the hours of work in some factories.

Clause 9.—The existing Act prohibits the employment of women and children in more than one factory on the same day. It has been brought to the notice of the Government of India that in certain cases this provision operates to prevent women from securing adequate employment. In some factories which work for only a few hours each day, it was formerly the custom for women to do a few hours' work in one factory and then to proceed to a neighbouring factory to complete their day. Provided that the weekly and daily limits placed by the Act on hours of work are not exceeded, there is no reason why this practice should be prevented; and where, as in the case of the factories in question, the hours of opening and

closing of the factories are simultaneous, there is no risk of abuse in a relaxation of the existing provision. The relaxation will only be effective when the sanction of the Local Government has been obtained, and it is contemplated that this sanction will only be given to the employment of women within specified hours, so arranged that it is not possible for a woman to work outside the limits provided by sections 24 and 27.

Clause 10.—A number of minor modifications are proposed in section 30 of Act XII of 1911. As the section at present stands it is not possible for Local Governments granting exemption to limit the exemption to particular areas and, if an exemption proves necessary in a particular part of the province, they are compelled to grant an exemption applicable throughout the province. Amendment (b) is designed to remedy this effect.

In the case of person engaged in preparatory or complementary work, it is frequently necessary that the provision relating to intervals should be abrogated, and, where work is essentially intermittent, the workers, although they enjoy as a rule long intervals of rest, cannot always be given them at specified hours. It is proposed therefore in amendments (c) and (d) to give the Local Government power to grant exemptions from section 21 of the Factories Act.

A number of factories in which continuous production is necessary for technical reasons work upon a shift system and, with such a system, it is not always possible to secure that on no day of the week shall the hours of work exceed eleven. It is proposed therefore in amendment (e) to give the Local Government power to grant exemption from section 28 of the Factories Act.

No exemptions are at present possible from section 26 of the Factories Act, which requires the manager to fix beforehand specified hours for the employment of each person employed. But it is not possible in a number of cases for the manager of a factory to comply with this provision. Where work depends on the irregular action of natural forces, it is obviously impossible for the manager to predict beforehand the hours at which the operatives will commence work. Much the same difficulty arises in the case of work which is essentially intermittent. It is proposed therefore by amendments (a), (d) and (f) to permit the Local Government to grant exemptions from the provisions of section 26 of the Factories Act. The exemptions will in all cases be subject to any conditions which the Local Government may consider necessary for the purpose of ensuring that the provisions of the Act limiting hours of work are not contravened.

Clause 11.—The existing Act provides that where persons, by virtue of an exemption granted under section 30 (1), are permitted to work for more than 60 hours in a week, they are entitled to overtime at the rate of at least $1\frac{1}{4}$ times the normal rate of wages. There is no reason why this provision should not apply equally to exemptions granted under section 30 (2).

Clause 12.—It is frequently necessary that the persons employed in the engine-room or boiler-house of a factory should attend on the weekly holiday, and the new section 31 A is designed to meet this need.

The existing section 24 (a) prohibits the employment of women in factories before 5-30 a.m. and after 7 p.m. This provision has proved prejudicial to the working of fish curing and canning factories. It is essential

in such cases that work should commence as soon as the material is available, and this was recognized in the International Convention relating to the employment of women by night, which has been ratified by India. The Factories Act, however, contains no provision for the purpose and the new section 31B is designed to supply the deficiency.

Clause 13.—Difficulties have arisen in enforcing the Act where no person has been officially designated as manager of the Factory. This difficulty has been especially felt in Burma in the case of factories owned by Chinese proprietors who cannot easily be traced. The person managing the factory cannot be prosecuted for an infringement of the law unless he has actually been designated as manager. The amendment proposed is designed to make it possible for responsibility to be brought home to the person actually managing the factory.

Clause 14.—As section 34 of the Factories Act stands at present, it does not enable the inspector or the Local Government to receive notices of dangerous accidents, which do not actually result in death or a bodily injury. For example, if part of a factory collapses when no one is working in it, so that no casualties result, no report need be made, and the necessity of enforcing more stringent precautions may thus be overlooked. It is therefore proposed to insert a provision giving Local Governments power to require notices of accidents of any special class of explosion, fire, collapse of buildings, accidents to machinery or plant, etc., which they may specify.

Clause 15.—Section 35 of the Factories Act, which is supplementary to section 26, has given rise to considerable difficulty in administration. It requires the manager to maintain a register of all persons employed and of their hours of work, and these hours must necessarily be specified beforehand. As has been indicated in the note on clause 10, it is not always possible for the manager to predict the exact hours within which each person shall be employed, and it is therefore proposed to give the Local Government power to dispense with the necessity of the register in certain cases. It is intended that this power should only be used where the total hours worked by the factory are such that it is impossible for any adult to work for hours longer than those permitted by the Act, and provided that this condition is observed, there is no danger of any infringement of the limits which the Act imposes upon hours of work. It would not be possible to prevent abuses arising in connection with the employment of children if a similar exemption were granted in their case. It is proposed therefore that the exemption should only be possible in the case of adults.

In a number of factories, elaborate muster-rolls are maintained, which give all the necessary particulars but which are not necessarily in the form prescribed by the Local Government. It is proposed to grant the inspector power to permit the substitution of these muster-rolls for the register prescribed under the Act.

Clause 16.—Under section 36 of the Factories Act, notices must be displayed, giving the standing orders of the factory relating to hours of work, rest intervals and holidays, and alterations in these notices must be sent to the inspector within seven days. At present, an inspector who visits the factory and finds that the standing orders are being contravened may be

informed that the change has been made a few days before his visit to the factory, and it is difficult for him to check the accuracy of this statement. There is no reason why changes in the hours of work should not be notified to the inspector as soon as they are made, and the amendment will, it is hoped, place the inspecting staff in a position to exercise more effective control than is possible at present.

Clause 18.—Considerable difficulty has been experienced in preventing the employment of children in two factories on the same day. It is seldom possible to prove that either manager is aware that the child is working in another factory and in many cases the manager may have no such knowledge. On the other hand, it is almost universally the case that such employment is obtained under compulsion from or on the instigation of the parent or guardian of the child. It is believed that, if it were possible to punish the parent or guardian for what is essentially a gross dereliction of his duty to the child, the hands of those who are endeavouring to stamp out the abuse would be considerably strengthened. The proposed section is an adaptation of section 138 (1) of the British Factory and Workshop Act, 1910.

Clause 20.—The new clause is designed to enable inspectors to conduct prosecutions under the Factories Act.

Clause 21.—Section 33 of the Factories Act provides that persons occupying factories should send a written notice to the inspector on or before the date on which the factory commences work. Section 49 prevents prosecution for any offence unless complaint has been made within six months of the date of the alleged offence. It follows that, if a factory has worked for more than six months without being discovered, the occupier cannot be prosecuted for failure to inform the inspector of the opening of the factory. The amendment is designed with a view to rectifying this defect.

THE BILL

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Indian Factories Act, 1911, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Indian Factories (Amendment) Act, 1925.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the *Gazette of India*, appoint.

2. *Amendment of section 2, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 2 of the Indian Factories Act, 1911 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act),—

(a) after clause (d) of sub-section (2), the following shall be inserted, namely:—“or (e) in any other prescribed kind of work”;

(b) to sub-section (3) the following clause shall be added, namely:—

“(c) any premises wherein, or within the precincts of which, on any one day in the year not less than ten persons are simultaneously employed, and any such power is used, which have been declared by the Local Government, by notification in the local official Gazette, to be a factory;

A declaration under clause (c) may be made in respect of any class of premises, or in respect of any particular premises.”

(c) in sub-section (5), after the word “manufacturing” the words “or other prescribed” shall be inserted.

3. *Amendment of section 3, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 3 of the said Act, for the figures “1901” the figures “1923” shall be substituted.

4. *Amendment of section 7, Act XII of 1911.*—In sub-section (1) of section 7 of the said Act,—

(a) after the words “such person and” the words “if he is fit for employment in a factory” shall be inserted;

(b) for the word “whether” the word “that” shall be substituted;

(c) before the word “employment” where it last occurs in the sub-section, the word “such” shall be inserted; and

(d) the last three words of the sub-section shall be omitted.

5. *Insertion of new section 9A in Act XII of 1911.*—After section 9 of the said Act the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“9A. *Temperature.*—(1) In every factory a reasonable temperature shall be maintained.

(2) In the case of any factory in which, in the opinion of the inspector, a reasonable temperature is not maintained, the inspector may serve on the manager of the factory an order in writing, specifying the measures which he considers necessary to maintain a reasonable temperature, and requiring him to carry them out before a specified date.”

6. *Amendment of section 10, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 10 of the said Act, after the word “provided”, the words “before a specified date and” shall be inserted, and the last four words of the section shall be omitted.

7. *Amendment of section 19, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 19 of the said Act, after the word “No” the words “person in any area notified by the Local Government in this behalf in the local official Gazette and in any other area no” shall be inserted.

8. *Amendment of section 21, Act XII of 1911.*—In sub-section (1) of section 21 of the said Act,—

(a) for sub-clause (ii) of clause (a) the following sub-clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(ii) at the request of the employees concerned, periods of rest, at intervals not exceeding five hours, of not less than half an hour each, the total duration of the periods of rest on that day not being less than one hour for each period of six hours' work done”;

(b) to clause (a) the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

“Provided that, in lieu of the periods provided under sub-clause (i) or sub-clause (ii) there may be fixed for each male person employed for not more than eight and a half hours on each working day, at the request of the employees concerned and with the previous sanction of the Local Government, a period of rest of not less than half an hour, so arranged that no such person shall work for more than five hours continuously, and.”

9. *Amendment of section 25, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 25 of the said Act, the words “woman or” shall be omitted.

10. *Amendment of section 30, Act XII of 1911.*—In sub-section (1) of section 30 of the said Act,—

(a) in clause (e) after the word “except” the number and brackets “(i)” shall be inserted, and after the words “seasons or” the number and brackets “(ii)” shall be inserted;

- (b) after the words "as it may impose" the word "and in such area as may be specified in the notification" shall be inserted;
- (c) in the phrase beginning "in case (a)" after the word "sections" the figures "21" shall be inserted;
- (d) in the phrase beginning "in case (b)" after the word "sections" the figures "21" and after the figures "22" the figures "26" shall be inserted;
- (e) in the phrase beginning "in case (c)" for the word and figures "and 22" the word and figures "22 and 28" shall be substituted;
- (f) after the phrase beginning "in cases (d) and (e)" the following phrase shall be added, namely:—"in case (e) (ii) such class of factories from the provisions of section 26".

11. *Amendment of section 31, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 31 of the said Act, after the figure "(1)" the words and figure "or sub-section (2)" shall be inserted.

12. *Insertion of new sections 31-A and 31-B in Act XII of 1911.*—After section 31 of the said Act the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"31A. *Employment in engine-room or boiler-house.*—The Local Government may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, exempt on such conditions, if any, as it may impose any factory from the provisions of section 22 in respect of persons employed in the engine room or boiler house of such factory.

31B. *Night employment of women.*—The Local Government may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, exempt on such conditions, if any, as it may impose any factory from the provisions of clause (a) of section 24 in respect of women employed on any work in connection with raw material or on any process in connection with any material in which the material is during the process subject to rapid deterioration, where the employment of such women, outside the limits provided by clause (a) of section 24, is necessary to prevent any damage to or deterioration of the material."

13. *Amendment of section 33, Act XII of 1911.*—In sub-section (3) of section 33 of the said Act, for the words "the occupier shall himself" the words "or during which the person designated does not manage the factory, any person found acting as manager of the factory or, if no such person is found, the occupier himself shall" shall be inserted.

14. *Amendment of section 34, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 34 of the said Act, after the word "factory", where it occurs for the first time, the words "due to any cause which the Local Government may, by notification in the local official Gazette, specify, or" shall be inserted.

15. *Amendment of section 35, Act XII of 1911.*—To section 35 of the said Act the following provisos shall be added, namely:—

"Provided that, where it is proved to the satisfaction of the Local Government that no person can be employed in a factory in contravention of the provisions of Chapter IV, the Local Government may, by

notification in the local official Gazette exempt on such conditions, if any, as it may impose such factory from the provisions of this section in respect of persons other than children employed in such factory:

"Provided, further, that where in the opinion of the inspector a muster roll or register kept in a factory gives the particulars required in the prescribed form, he may, by order in writing, direct that such muster roll or register shall be kept in place of the register in the prescribed form, and such muster roll or register shall thereupon, for all or any of the purposes of this Act, be deemed to be the register kept in the prescribed form."

16. *Amendment of section 36, Act XII of 1911.*—For sub-section (3) of section 36 of the said Act the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(3) The said notice shall be correctly maintained and kept up to date: any change in the standing orders of the factory shall be entered therein by the manager before such change comes into force; when any such change is entered in the notice a copy of the notice or of the order in which the change is made shall be sent in duplicate by the manager to the inspector within twenty-four hours."

17. *Amendment of section 41, Act XII of 1911.*—In clause (g) of section 41 of the said Act, after the word "under" the word, figure and letter "section 9A" shall be inserted.

18. *Insertion of new section 44A in Act XII of 1911.*—After section 44 of the said Act the following section shall be inserted namely:—

"44A. *Employment of children in two factories on the same day.*—Where a child is employed in any factory and such child has already been employed on the same day in any other factory, the parent or guardian or person having legal custody of or control over or direct benefit from the wages of the child shall be punished with fine, which may extend to twenty rupees, unless it appears to the Court that the offence was committed without the consent, connivance or wilful default of the parent, guardian, or such person as aforesaid."

19. *Amendment of section 46, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 46 of the said Act, for the words "process or work incidental to any manufacturing" the words "or other prescribed process or work incidental to any such" shall be substituted.

20. *Insertion of new section 48A in Act XII of 1911.*—After section 48 of the said Act the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

"48A. *Power to conduct prosecution.*—An inspector may conduct the prosecution in any case relating to an offence, of which he has charge, against this Act or any rule or order thereunder, before any Court in which such case is under inquiry, trial or appeal, and shall have the like power of withdrawing from the prosecution as is provided by section 494 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and the provisions of that section shall apply to any withdrawal by an inspector."

21. *Amendment of section 49, Act XII of 1911.*—In section 49 of the said Act, after the word "thereunder" the word and figures "other than an offence against section 33" shall be inserted.

22. Amendment of section 50, Act XII of 1911.—In sub-section (1) of section 50 of the said Act, after the word "under" the word, figure and letter "section 9A" shall be inserted.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. IV, No. 6. (OFFICIAL MONTHLY JOURNAL OF LABOUR MOVEMENT, LONDON).

- Special Articles.—(1) *Will Thorne: Veteran and Pioneer.* pp. 243—245.
 (2) *Impressions of the Scarborough Trades Union Congress.* By Fred Bramley (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress). pp. 246—248.
 (3) *British and Continental Socialism at Marseilles.* By Otto Baner (Leader of the Austrian Social Democratic Party in Parliament). pp. 249 and 250.
 (4) *Education and Health.* By Dr. James Kerr (Member of the Executive Committee of the Fabian Society, and one of the recognised Authorities on Public Hygiene). pp. 251—254.
 (5) *The Trades Union Congress and the Workers' Educational Movement.* By Arthur Pugh (Secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation). pp. 255—257.
 (6) *Memories and Reflections.* By "Propagandist". pp. 258—260.
 (7) *Temperance Reform in Belgium.—A Signal Victory for Labour.* By Auguste Dewinne (Editor of "Le Peuple"). pp. 261—263.
 (8) *The Organisation of Labour in the Electric Supply Industry.* By J. W. Thomas, B.Sc., A.M.I.E.E. pp. 268—271.
 (9) *The Reconstruction of Rural England.* By C. Wye Kendall. pp. 272—273.
 (10) *In the "Eight-fifteen."* By T. S. Dickson. pp. 274—276.
 (11) *A Morality of Economics.* By R. H. Tawney. pp. 277—278.
 (12) *The World of Industry.—Miners, Mineowners, and Government.* pp. 280—282.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXV, No. 9. (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, CANADA).

- Special Articles.—(1) *Strikes and lock-outs in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in July.* p. 874.
 (2) *Machinery of Conciliation and Arbitration in Great Britain.* p. 874.
 (3) *Strike of Anthracite Coal Miners in the United States, September 1, 1925.* p. 875.
 (4) *Labour in British Columbia in 1924.—Annual Report of Provincial Department of Labour.—Average Wages, Hours of Work, Seasonal Employment, Decline of Oriental Labour, Labour Disputes.* pp. 877—878.
 (5) *Report of Alberta Bureau of Labour for 1924.—Statistics of Trade and Industries; Factories Act; Minimum Wages; Employment Service.* pp. 879—880.
 (6) *New Regulations under British Columbia Hours of Work Act, 1923.* p. 881.
 (7) *Minimum Wages for Women in British Columbia in 1924.—Labour turn-over; Problem of training schools.* pp. 881—882.
 (8) *Annual Report on Coal Mining in Alberta in 1924.—Production; employment; wages; per capita production; accidents; prosecutions; issue of Certificates.* pp. 883—884.
 (9) *Regulations for the Sanitary Conditions of Lumber, Mining and other Camps in Manitoba.* pp. 884—886.
 (10) *Union Labour Life Insurance Company.—New enterprise of American Federation of Labour.* pp. 886—887.
 (11) *Labour Legislation in the United States in 1925.* p. 887.
 (12) *Unemployment Insurance in the Chicago Men's Clothing Industry.—Records division; benefits division; accounts division; statistics.* pp. 888—890.
 (13) *Trades and Labour Congress of Canada.—Summary of proceedings of the forty-first annual convention; message of Prime Minister; presidential address; report of Secretary-Treasurer; report of the executive council; reports of provincial executive committees and provincial federations of Labour; reports of fraternal delegates; no radical change in constitution; hearing of fraternal addresses; report of Union Label Committee; Congress opposed to army workers and to use of troops; Congress adheres to International Federation of Trade Unions; industrial unionism rejected; supports employment service of Canada; objects to price of 4'4 beer; other resolutions; election of officers.* pp. 891—900.
 (14) *Notes on Industrial Safety and Health.—Inspection of machinery in British Columbia; pure air possible in all factories; analysis of lost time accidents; employees' life-saving medals; rock dusting in coal mines; miners' nystagmus and unrest.* pp. 905—906.
 (15) *Notes on Vocational Education and Apprenticeship.—Boys of London, Ontario, seeking training; need for apprenticeship; apprenticeship for moulders.* pp. 908—911.

(16) *League of Nations International Labour Organisation.—Eighth and Ninth Sessions of the International Labour Conference; agenda of the Eight Sessions; agenda for the Ninth Session; issue of Questionnaires; the Maritime Conventions; British criticism of "Workers' spare time" proposal; ratification by Australia.* pp. 911—912.

(17) *Accident Rates in Quarries and Metallurgical Works in United States.* p. 912.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XII, No. 4. (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA.)

- Special Articles.—(1) *The Compulsory Adjustment of Industrial Disputes in Germany.* By Dr. Fritz Sützer (Director in the Federal Ministry of Labour).—Necessary conditions; competence; procedure; results; application of the system; attitude of the parties concerned; advantages and disadvantages. pp. 457—466.
 (2) *International Comparisons of Real Wages.* By Dr. Felix Klezl (Austrian Statistical Office).—The meaning of the terms "Wage" and "Real Wage"; methods of the International Labour Office; allowance for actual family earnings; allowance for natural differences in consumption; conclusions. pp. 467—483.
 (3) *Vocational Education in Soviet Russia.* By B. A. Nikol'sky.—The reform of elementary and secondary vocational education,—the scheme of 20 June 1920, industrial apprenticeship schools; progress of elementary education, the progress of secondary education; the reform of higher vocational educations—scope of the reform, classification of students, the present situation and results of the reform; attendance at vocational schools; the defects of the new system. pp. 500—522.
 (4) *The German Exhibition of Home Industries and its Lessons.* By Gertrud Hanna (Secretary of the General Confederation of German Trade Unions, Member of the Prussian Diet). pp. 523—529.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VII, No. 10. (THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, BALTIMORE, U. S. A.)

- Special Articles.—(1) *Impressions of a Visit to the United States.* By D. R. Wilson, M.A. (Secretary to the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, London).—Organization for the scientific study of the human factor in industry in England and the United States; conclusion. pp. 433—439.
 (2) *An Effective Method for Conducting Experiments on Dust Inhalation.* By Cecil K. Drinker, M.D., Philip Drinker, Ch. E., and Katherine R. Drinker, M.D. (From the Departments of Physiology and of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.). pp. 440—443.
 (3) *Skin Diseases with particular reference to their Industrial Application.* By C. Guy Lane, M.D. (Assistant Dermatologist, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.).—Diagnosis; cause; treatment; summary. pp. 444—450.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE NEW SOUTH WALES INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. XXVIII, No. 2. (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRY, SYDNEY.)

- Special Notes from Routine Articles.—(1) *Living Wages.*—Declarations by New South Wales Board of Trade; adult male employees; other than rural industry; rural industries; adult female employees; the claim for sectional declarations; average cost of rents and housing. pp. 153—160.
 (2) *Industrial Arbitration Act.—The Courts and the Registry; awards; variations; illegal strikes; notifications under award; departmental advisings; industrial investigations; private employment agencies.* pp. 178—185.
 (3) *Workmen's Compensation Act.—Appeals to the High Court of Australia; departmental advisings—accident arising out of the employment—the injury to eyes caused by lime thrown by an apprentice—special exposure to such risk.* pp. 191—192.
 Other Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. X, No. 9. (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, BRISBANE.)

- Special Notes from Routine Articles.—(1) *Metalliferous mining, North of 22 degrees of South latitude.—Award.*—Application of award; divisions; definitions; general conditions applicable to all sections; mining section—hours of work; water jets, popper and telescopic machines, hot places, distance between miners whilst working in dangerous ground, wet ground, winzes, shaft sinking and rising, rises over 20 feet in height, crib place, tributers; surface and general section. pp. 745—749.
 (2) *Sugar Industry—State Award, Part I (General).*—Application of award; employment of coloured labour; premiums; settlement of disputes; recognition of union officials; accommodation; food, etc.; Part II (Sugar Field Workers) Hours; wages; overtime; holidays; lost time; time of payment; conditions of employment; agreement for piece work other than canecutting; canecutting—wages and conditions; canecutters' agreement; burnt cane; payment of coloured employees; preference; Part III (Sugar Mill Workers) Wages; hours; overtime; holidays; labour agent's fees; overalls and signal lamps; tram maintenance men; crib in mills; agreements for piece work; time of payment; lost time; preference. pp. 765—771.
 Other Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

Rapid progress continues to be made in giving effect in the national legislation of various countries to the decisions of the International Labour Conference.

Up to October 15, 1925, ratification of International Labour Conventions had taken place in 184 cases, or an increase of 43 on the figure for the corresponding date last year.

It is interesting to note that the Conventions which have been ratified by the largest number of countries are the Unemployment Convention (20 countries), the Convention prohibiting the Night Work of Women (15 countries), and the Convention prohibiting the Night Work of Young Persons (16 countries). (From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 102-A.)

Consequent upon the recent journey of Mr. Albert Thomas, the Director of the International Labour Office, in Latin America, Chile has formally ratified no less than 8 International Labour Conventions. Amongst those ratified are the Washington Hours of Work Convention and the Geneva Convention prohibiting the use of White Lead Paints in the painting of the interior of buildings. The six remaining Conventions relate to the protection of women employed in industry before and after child-birth, the minimum age of employment in industry, night work of young persons, and the weekly rest-day in industry, together with two agricultural conventions relating to work-men's compensation and rights of association. It is also announced that the Irish Free State has also ratified 5 more Conventions (regarding unemployment, night work both of women employed in industry and of young persons, and the minimum age of employment both in industry and at sea). The Irish Free State, although it only became a Member of the League of Nations in 1923, has now ratified 8 Labour Conventions. The total number of ratifications registered by the Secretary General is now 179 (an increase of 38 since last October). (From "Madras Mail," November 4, 1925.)

The governing body of the International Labour Office has decided to undertake a documentary inquiry regarding the conditions of labour in the various countries of Asia. (Reuter.)

UNITED KINGDOM

A further step towards the alliance of art and industry has been taken in the presentation to the British Board of Education by the Industrial Art Committee of the Federation of British Industries of a memorandum

suggesting means of bringing art schools into closer touch with the needs of industry. The document treats fully the theme that an improvement in the artistic quality of British goods will enhance their competitive value in the world's markets, and reviews the conditions which now exist in various trades dependent on artistic design, such as pottery, furniture and precious metals. The Board of Education is said to have sympathy with the suggestion that the art schools should be brought into closer relationship with these and similar trades, and there is a likelihood that a special scheme of training will be devised, calculated to help industries in the production of more beautiful work. (From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," September 24, 1925.)

As announced by the President of the Board of Education in the House of Commons on June 22, he and the Minister of Labour have appointed a Committee "to inquire into and advise upon the public system of education in England and Wales in relation to the requirements of trade and industry, with particular reference to the adequacy of the arrangements for enabling young persons to enter into and retain suitable employment". (From "Times Educational Supplement," London, October 24, 1925.)

A draft constitution for the alliance of the leading Trade Unions was considered at a conference in London to-day of representatives of the Executive of these Unions. The object of the proposed alliance is to secure combined action in times of industrial disputes. The draft proposals will be circulated to the Societies concerned for their consideration and for submission to their members. It is pointed out that changes would be necessary in the conditions of individual Unions, in order to meet the requirements of the objects of the proposed alliance and the Conference had adjourned for a period, to allow its circulation to take place. (From "Madras Mail," November 8, 1925.)

At 1st October 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 76 per cent. above that of July, 1914; for food alone the percentage was 72. The general average level was thus slightly higher than a month ago (when the figures were 74 for all the items included, and 70 for food), but approximately the same as a year ago, when the increases were also 76 per cent. for all items and 72 per cent. for food. (From "The Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1925.)

In the industries in Great Britain covered by the statistics of the British Ministry of Labour, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in August 1925 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of £55,200 in the weekly full-time wages of about 363,000 workpeople, and in an increase of about £1,250 in the weekly wages of 16,500 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were as follows :—

Group of Industries	Approximate number of workpeople affected by		Amount of changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases	Decreases	Increases	Decreases
Iron and Steel	3,000	150,000	£ 30	£ 9,600
Other Metal	6,900	30,000	570	2,300
Transport .. .. .	.....	150,000	.....	40,500
Public Utility Services	900	18,000	90	1,700
Other	5,700	15,000	560	1,100
Total	16,500	363,000	1,250	55,200

(From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 5, 1925.)

* * * * *

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

In the industries in Germany covered by the returns of the Federal Statistical Office the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in July 1925 resulted in an increase of average hourly wages of skilled workers from 86·3 pf. (=Re. 0-10-2) in June to 88 pf. (=Re. 0-10-4) in July, and of unskilled workers from 61·6 pf. (=Re. 0-7-3) in June to 62·8 pf. (=Re. 0-7-5.) in July.

In individual industries the average hourly rates as fixed by collective agreements were as follows :—

Industries	Skilled workers		Unskilled workers	
	July 1925	June 1925	July 1925	June 1925
Mining	95·5	95·5	54·8	54·8
Metal	86·4	83·0	58·8	56·7
Chemical	80·2	80·2	67·8	67·8
Building	110·5	108·4	92·2	90·4
Wood working	91·6	87·6	80·0	76·5
Paper making	66·0	64·6	59·9	58·4
Textiles				
Male	59·3	58·2	49·4	48·3
Female	47·8	47·1	36·8	35·5
Brewery	95·0	92·6	83·9	81·7
Confectionery	78·0	78·0	67·6	67·6
Printing	95·5	91·9	83·3	80·2
Railways	76·9	76·8	61·0	60·9
Weighted averages	88·0	86·3	62·8	61·6

(From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 12, 1925.)

* * * * *

One of the items on the agenda of the last Belgian Trade Union Congress was the creation of a central strike fund. The principle of such a fund was approved by a large majority and the Executive was instructed to work out a definite scheme which could be ratified by the next congress. In the meantime considerable attention has been paid to the problem both in the journal of the Belgian National Centre and in the trade union press generally. In view of similar institutions and schemes in other countries, and in the international sphere, it may be of interest to recount here the main points of the project. It is to be compulsory on all the affiliated organisations to contribute towards the central strike fund, and the affiliated unions are responsible for regular subscriptions. The contributions are divided into two categories; one for men, and for those women whose wages are as high as those of men (50-100 centimes); the other for women and young persons (25-50 centimes). The National Centre moreover is to have the right to ask for special levies, the amount of which shall be fixed according to the circumstances, and such special levies must be made within 30 days after the end of the current month.

The benefits paid out by this fund during labour conflicts would amount to 1-2 frs. or 0·50-1 fr. per member per day (according to the categories). These payments would begin after the second week of the strike, as the affiliated organisations are expected to keep a strike fund of their own sufficiently large to be able to maintain a strike for 14 days. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," September 24, 1925.)

* * * * *

In the discussion of new draft Regulations the Amsterdam Municipal Council has just rejected a clause which denies the right of public employees to go on strike. And so, for the first time since 1903—the year of the great railway strike, which was made a pretext for the notorious Anti-strike Acts—the clause forbidding public employees to strike has been expressly rejected in a public body.

The officials have largely to thank the "free" trade union movement for this; the "free" trade unions have for many years been carrying on propaganda for this right. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," October 1, 1925.)

* * * * *

The Congress of the Luxemburg Trade Union Centre has recently been held at Dudelingen. 38 delegates were present, representing 11 unions with a total membership of 13,568 (as compared with 12,000 at the beginning of 1923).

The Congress dealt with the wages question, problems of Social Insurance, questions of organisation, and the development of trade union education. It was resolved to organise a special Recruiting Month, for propaganda in favour of trade unionism, particularly in view of the large number of foreign workers in Luxemburg (100,000 out of the total of workers (130,000) are immigrants). The formation of a "free" trade union for workers in the public services was also decided upon. The congress finally expressed the hope "that the affiliated organisations would work energetically for the organisation of Youth sections in the

unions and to bring all women workers into the trade unions. The suggestions made for workers' education are deserving of special note. It was planned to organise elementary classes and advanced classes on trade union movement, labour law, factory management, national economics, social legislation, and co-operative societies. It was also decided to establish a permanent Labour College, and to utilise the press and libraries for the purposes of trade union education. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," Amsterdam, October 15, 1925.)

* * * * *

In June 1919 the intellectual workers of Austria organised a central body called *Zentralrat der geistigen Arbeiter Oesterreichs*, later on named *Oesterreichischer Bund der geistigen Arbeiter*. In April 1923 this Union comprised 219 organisations, with 400,000 members. Its aims may be summarised as follows:

It is the duty of the Union to protect intellectual work, to secure the freedom of such work and appreciation of its value to the State. In order to help the affiliated organisations to better the economic and social position of their members, every effort is made to secure for intellectual workers a fair remuneration for their work. This implies not only fair wages, but also institutions for social welfare. Intellectual workers are anxious to exert their proper influence on public life. They intend to devote special attention to problems of unemployment, vocational guidance and care of repatriated emigrants. In order to achieve this end, they have to promote solidarity between the various groups of intellectual workers and to defend their interests. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 28, 1925.)

* * * * *

Statistics presented to Workers' Congress, meeting in Copenhagen, show that membership of trade unions in Europe was 25,000,000 in 1919 and 12,000,000 in 1924. (From "Industrial News Survey," September 14, 1925.)

* * * * *

Mr. Anseele, Belgian Minister of Railways, has recently set up a joint commission of enquiry into the productivity of labour and the output of the services which he directs. The Committee is composed of 14 officials and 13 trade union delegates. The questions with which it is to deal are as follows:—

- (1) The application of the eight-hour day to the railways.
- (2) General registration of the workers.
- (3) Revision of allowances to workers in the event of illness.
- (4) Regulations for recruitment and promotion.

It is stated to be the intention of the Minister to grant the workers six days' annual holiday with pay. Employees and officials are entitled to 15 days, but hitherto the workers have had no paid holidays. As, however, this proposal would involve an annual expenditure of several million francs, in respect of 75,000 men, the Minister has made it conditional on the realisation of the profits expected from an increase in the output of the workers.

The socialist and trade union press approves the appointment of the Committee, which it considers as a courageous application of the principle of workers' control in the administration of public undertakings. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 19, 1925.)

* * * * *

As a result of the passing of the new Emigration Act in Rumania, regional committees were appointed, in which employers and workers were represented, to review the residence permits granted to foreign workers, and they commenced their work on 10 June 1925. It may be recalled that the question of foreign workers in Rumania has been under discussion for a long time, and a committee was appointed in December 1924 to examine the situation, in view of the fact that a surplus of labour existed in the country. It is estimated that the number of skilled workers of foreign nationality in Rumania is about 10,000. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 5, 1925.)

* * * * *

UNITED STATES

By agreement with the American Federation of Labour the Central Committee of the Mexican Trades Union Federation has recently appointed one of its members to carry on trade union propaganda among the Mexican workers employed in the United States. This decision is particularly important, in that it will help American workers to overcome the abuses arising out of the great influx into the states of unorganised Mexican workers. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," October 1, 1925.)

* * * * *

A national congress was recently held in Mexico City to consider how to bring down the high cost of living. The congress was attended by representatives of the workers, the employers and the merchants and shopkeepers. A National Committee was set up, which is to undertake the reorganisation of the distribution of the national supplies of food and drink.

Morones, the Minister of Labour, pointed out in his opening address that it is not the workers who are to blame for the high cost of living, but the obsolete methods of production, and the speculation which goes on in raw materials. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," October 1, 1925.)

* * * * *

In the first six months of 1925 Latin America and the West Indies took 47.5 per cent. of the total textile exports of the United States, as against 52 per cent. of such exports in the calendar year 1924. But though the percentage is lower than a year ago, actual shipments were relatively

larger—\$53,256,000 worth for six months, compared with \$100,683,000 worth for 12 months of 1924. Of the total textile exports of the United States in 1924, 70 per cent. of the cotton manufactures went to these countries, 35 per cent. of the manufactures of miscellaneous vegetable fibres such as jute, flax, hemp, ramie, and of rayon, 33 per cent. of the wool manufactures, 30 per cent. of the silk manufactures, and 34 per cent. of the other textile products. Of the cotton manufactures exported in the half-year the West Indies took 68,340,000 square yards, worth \$10,510,000; South America, 69,855,000 square yards, \$10,551,000; Central America, 32,901,000 square yards, \$4,588,000; and Mexico, 13,153,000 square yards, \$2,753,000. Cuba and Mexico were the largest individual markets for other kinds of American textiles. (From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," October 24, 1925.)

* * * * *

Group insurance policy covering 491 men and women employees and totalling \$629,500 has been acquired by Kahn Tailoring Co., Indianapolis, Ind. Policy is arranged under contributory plan whereby employees pay part of premiums. Employees below rank of foreman will receive protection of \$1,000 each. Employees in higher positions are eligible to larger amounts. (From "Industrial News Survey," New York, September 21, 1925.)

* * * * *

Group life insurance amounting to approximately \$8,000,000 has been placed on lives of 2,000 employees of Clinchfield (Tennessee) R. R. Co. and its subsidiaries. Under terms of policy, no medical examination is required and employees of all ages who have been in employ of company three months are included. For those earning up to \$100 per month, \$1,000 is provided; between \$100 and \$175, \$2,000 is provided; and for all those over \$175, \$3,000 is provided. An additional indemnity of \$1,000 is provided in case of accidental death or permanent total disability. (From "Industrial News Survey," New York, September 21, 1925.)

* * * * *

At its annual convention at Atlantic City, the American Federation of Labour by the unanimous vote of the 400 delegates, yesterday adopted the much-discussed "new" wage policy. Professing alarm lest the American working man should be "subordinated to the increasing tendency to introduce labour-saving machinery and electric power," the Convention passed the following resolution:

We hold that the best interests of the wage-earners, as well as those of the whole social group, are served, in increasing production in quality as well as in quantity, by high wage standards which assure the sustained purchasing power to the workers and, therefore, higher national standards for the environment in which they live, and means to enjoy cultured opportunities. We declare that wage reductions produce industrial and social unrest, and low wages are not conducive to low production costs. We urge upon wage-earners everywhere that we oppose all wage reductions, and we urge upon managements the elimination of waste in production in order that selling prices may be lower and wages higher.

To this end we recommend co-operation in the study of waste in production, which the assay of the Federated American Engineering Societies, covering important industries, has shown to be 50 per cent. attributable to management, and only 25 per cent. attributable to labour, with 25 per cent. attributable to other sources. . . . Social inequality, industrial instability and injustice must increase unless the workers' real wages—the purchasing power of their wages—coupled with a continuing reduction in the number of hours making up the working day, are progressed in proportion to man's increasing power of production. (From "Madras Mail," November 8, 1925.)

* * * * *

The American Department of Labour, which regularly receives information as to the number of workers employed, and the sums paid out in wages in the biggest undertakings of the leading industries, states in its News Service that, with very few exceptions, the weekly earnings of industrial workers are now greater than they were a year ago. The *per capita* earnings of automobile workers now are 17.2 per cent. higher than this time last year, iron and steel workers 12.3 per cent., hardware workers 8 per cent. and those of furniture workers and boot and shoe operatives 4 per cent. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," September 24, 1925.)

* * * * *

The office of industrial hygiene of the United States Public Health Service is considering a research into the daylighting of factories. It is planned to erect somewhere in Washington an experimental building in which the size, shape, and position of the windows can be varied. Sky brightness and strength of illumination inside the room will be related to work out indoor-outdoor ratios. Very few data have been published on daylighting. Artificial lighting is much easier of estimate and control and has been employed almost to the exclusion of daylighting methods. The introduction of glass introduces another difficulty because of light absorption by the glass, reflection from its surface, and the question of its cleanliness. (From "The Nation's Health," Chicago, October 15, 1925.)

* * * * *

A National Congress of Mexican Textile workers took place in Mexico last September. After exhaustive discussion wage-agreements were drawn up, to cover the workers in all the textile factories in the country. The proposals are to be submitted to the National Textile Congress, which meets during this month. This congress has been called by the Ministry of Industry and Labour; it will consist of representatives of the workers and employers. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," Amsterdam, October 15, 1925.)

* * * * *

The 41st Congress of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada was held at Ottawa last month, 267 delegates being present. The total membership of the Congress was stated as being ca. 105,000 members, as compared with ca. 116,000 last year. (This decrease is only apparent, being due to a

new method of counting members.) The Secretary's report showed that for the year under review the total receipts were \$23,274,41, total expenditure, \$20,938,34.

The following questions were discussed: Social Insurance, the Eight Hours Day, Workers' Education, nationalisation (the number of nationalised industrial works, already very large, is constantly on the increase), migration, Industrial Courts, etc. Special attention was paid by the Congress to the problem of the "Union Label"; strike-breaking by means of organised armed forces (the legal prohibition of which was demanded by the Congress); and International relations.

In the discussion of the last point a resolution—which was strongly supported by the Communist Group—was proposed, urging "the convening of an all-inclusive conference of the trade unions of the world for the purpose of establishing a basis upon which all organised workers can be rallied into one Trade Union International." The congress was also asked by this resolution to endorse "the policy and actions of the British Trades Union Congress in its joint efforts with the Trade Unions of Soviet Russia" in establishing the International Unity Committee, which had resulted from the Anglo-Russian Conference. The Resolutions Committee would not agree to these proposals, but advised "that this Congress confine its relations with Labour in Europe to the International Federation of Trade Unions". This recommendation was adopted by the Congress. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, Thursday, October 22, 1925.)

* * * * *

During the month of July 1925, the offices of the Employment Service of Canada made 30,027 references to positions and effected a total of 28,788 placements. Of these the placements in regular employment were 20,964, of which 17,221 were of men and 3,743 of women. The placements in casual work numbered 7,824. (From "The Labour Gazette," Canada, September, 1925.)

* * * * *

OTHER COUNTRIES

The Labour Council of New South Wales has recently decided to send out invitations to a Pan-Pacific Conference of political and industrial organisations in all countries bordering on the Pacific. The conference is to be held at Sydney on May 1st, 1926; its object will be "to harmonise the relationships of the workers around the Pacific"; it will deal particularly with the dangers of war in the Pacific. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," Amsterdam, October 15, 1925.)

* * * * *

The following tables give the occupations in each class of employment and the numbers of dependents on each census day in the Commonwealth of Australia. The periods are ten years apart.

(Occupations in Australia)

	Census 1901	Census 1911	Census 1921
Professional	111,134	144,611	201,319
Domestic	201,036	201,366	209,971
Commercial	222,658	286,687	355,889
Transport and Communication	122,159	157,391	207,232
Industrial	426,166	562,337	723,559
Primary Producers	533,107	586,148	598,695
Independent	22,306	23,055	20,426
Total breadwinners	1,638,656	1,961,595	2,316,216
Dependents	2,121,521	2,449,986	3,094,523
Unspecified	13,624	43,424	24,495
Total	3,773,801	4,455,005	5,435,234
Centesimal Comparison on Bread-winners.			
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Professional	6.78	7.37	8.69
Domestic	12.27	10.27	9.06
Commercial	13.59	14.61	15.32
Transport and Communication	7.45	8.03	8.97
Industrial	26.01	28.67	31.24
Primary Producers	32.53	29.88	25.84
Independent	1.37	1.17	.88
Centesimal Comparison on Population.			
Breadwinners	43.69	44.71	42.75
Dependents	56.31	55.29	57.25

(From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, October 1, 1925.)

NOV., 1925

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN OCTOBER 1925

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades.			1925	1925		
1. General Strike Bombay—						
(a) 15 Cotton Mills.	33,249	...	15 Sept.			
(b) 10 Cotton Mills.	18,367	...	16 Sept.			
(c) 6 Cotton Mills.	14,084	...	18 Sept.			
(d) 17 Cotton Mills.	33,360	...	19 Sept.			
(e) 3 Cotton Mills.	6,146	..	20 Sept.			
(f) 11 Cotton Mills.	19,319	...	21 Sept.			
(g) The Sassoon Alliance Silk Mills.	1,140	...	21 Sept.			
(h) The Chhoi Silk Mills.	400	...	22 Sept.			
(i) 5 Cotton Mills.	8,095	...	22 Sept.			
(j) 3 Cotton Mills.	3,437	...	23 Sept.		As a protest against Notice of 11½ per cent. cut in wages.	No settlement reported.
(k) The Man-eckji Petit Mill, Tardeo.	4,621	...	24 Sept.			
(l) 3 Cotton Mills.	2,510	...	25 Sept.			
(m) The Bombay Dyeing Mill, Dadar.	600	...	30 Sept.			
(n) The Framji Petit Mill, Mazgaon.	2,051	...	1 Oct.			
(o) 2 Cotton Mills at Coorla.	4,607	...	6 Oct.			
2. The Gordhan Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	25	...	7 Oct.	8 Oct.	The dismissal of a Jobber.	Strikers dismissed.
3. The Pratap Mills, Nos. 1 and 2, Amalner.	2,166	...	13 Oct.		The reduction of 20 per cent. in the dearness allowance.	No settlement reported.

NOV., 1925

287

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN OCTOBER 1925—contd.

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
			1925	1925		
4. The Hattersley Mill, Ghatkopar.	46	...	15 Oct.	26 Oct.	Demand for increased wages.	Strikers resumed work.
5. The Ahmedabad New Textile Mills Co., Raipur, Ahmedabad.	250	...	26 Oct.	29 Oct.	The practice of giving damaged cloth to weavers instead of cash for their wages.	Most of the strikers resumed work and new men were engaged in place of the remainder.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING OCTOBER 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 Sept 1925	Oct 1925
	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills ..	388	1	247	4	11	..	32	1	592	4	635	5
Woolen Mills ..	2	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	7	..	8	..
Others ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..
Total ..	395	1	251	4	11	..	33	1	602	4	646	5
II Workshops— Engineering ..	21	1	172	13	..	..	3	2	190	12	193	14
Railway ..	28	..	991	108	3	..	1	4	1,015	104	1,019	108
Mint ..	3	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	5	..	6	..
Others ..	7	1	9	1	..	..	2	..	13	2	16	2
Total ..	59	2	1,175	122	4	..	7	6	1,223	118	1,341	124
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Flour Mills ..	3	..	3	..	1	..	1	..	4	..	6	..
Printing Presses ..	3	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	4	..
Others ..	12	3	16	3	1	..	2	3	25	3	28	1
Total ..	18	4	21	3	3	..	3	4	33	3	39	7
Total, All Factories ..	472	7	1,447	129	18	..	43	11	1,858	125	1,919	136

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 Sept 1925	Oct 1925
	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton ..	135	8	77	2	3	..	55	..	154	10	212	10
Total ..	135	8	77	2	3	..	55	..	154	10	212	10
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory ..	12	1	2	1	..	..	3	1	11	1	14	2
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Oil Mills ..	..	1	(a) 1	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	2	..
Engineering ..	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	3	..
Total ..	13	2	5	1	2	..	4	2	13	1	19	3
Total, All Factories ..	148	10	82	3	5	..	59	2	167	11	231	13

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 OCTOBER 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 Sept 1925	Oct 1925
	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925		
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust ..	6	..	13	4	..	..	5	..	14	4	19	4
Engineering ..	1	..	10	..	1	..	1	..	9	..	11	..
Total ..	7	..	23	4	1	..	6	..	23	4	30	4
II Miscellaneous ..	6	1	(a) 2	..	..	..	3	..	6	1	9	1
Total ..	6	1	2	..	..	..	3	..	6	1	9	1
Total, All Factories ..	13	1	25	4	1	..	9	..	29	5	39	5

(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 Sept 1925	Oct 1925
	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills ..	66	10	32	5	2	..	13	3	83	12	98	15
Others ..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	6	..
Total ..	71	10	33	5	2	..	13	3	89	12	104	15
II Workshops— Railway ..	11	1	50	16	..	..	4	..	97	17	101	17
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	3	1	3	2	..	..	1	..	6	2	6	3
Others ..	11	1	18	2	1	..	4	..	24	3	29	3
Total ..	25	3	111	20	1	..	8	1	127	22	136	23
I Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pressing Factories ..	12	1	10	3	7	1	2	..	13	3	22	4
Paint Works ..	10	1	14	..	2	..	2	..	20	1	24	1
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	22	2	24	3	9	1	4	..	33	4	46	5
Total, All Factories ..	118	15	168	28	12	1	25	4	249	38	286	43

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING OCTOBER 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 Sept 1925	Oct 1925
	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Woolen Mills .. Others ..	388 3 2	1	247 .. 1	4	11 .. ..	.. .. ..	32	1	592 7 3	4	635 8 3	5
Total ..	395	1	251	4	11	..	33	1	602	4	646	5
II Workshops— Engineering .. Railway .. Mill .. Others ..	21 28 3 7	1 1	172 991 3 9	13 108 .. 1	.. 3 .. 1	.. .. .. ..	3 1 1 2	2 4	190 1,015 5 13	12 104 .. 2	193 1,019 6 16	14 108 .. 2
Total ..	59	2	1,175	122	4	..	7	6	1,223	118	1,341	124
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works .. Flour Mills .. Printing Presses .. Others ..	.. 3 3 12	.. .. .. 3	1 3 1 16	.. .. .. 3	1 1	.. .. .. ..	.. 1 .. 2	.. .. .. 3	.. 4 4 25	.. .. .. 3	1 6 4 28	.. .. 1 6
Total ..	18	4	21	3	3	..	3	4	33	3	39	7
Total, All Factories ..	472	7	1,447	129	18	..	43	11	1,858	125	1,919	136

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 Sept 1925	Oct 1925
	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton ..	135	8	77	2	3	..	55	..	154	10	212	10
Total ..	135	8	77	2	3	..	55	..	154	10	212	10
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory .. Flour Mills .. Oil Mills .. Engineering ..	12 1	1	2 2	1 .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	3 1	1	11 2	1 2	14 3	2 1
Total ..	13	2	5	1	2	..	4	2	13	1	19	3
Total, All Factories ..	148	10	82	3	5	..	59	2	167	11	231	13

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 OCTOBER 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 Sept 1925	Oct 1925
	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925		
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust Engineering ..	6 1	.. ..	13 10	4 ..	.. 1	.. ..	5 1	.. ..	14 9	4 ..	19 11	4 ..
Total ..	7	..	23	4	1	..	6	..	23	4	30	4
II Miscellaneous—	6	1	(a) 2	..	..	..	3	..	6	1	9	1
Total ..	6	1	2	..	..	..	3	..	6	1	9	1
Total, All Factories ..	13	1	25	4	1	..	9	..	29	5	39	5

(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 Sept 1925	Oct 1925
	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925	Jan to Sept 1925	Oct 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Others ..	66 5	10 ..	32 1	5 ..	2 ..	.. ..	13 ..	3 ..	83 6	12 ..	98 6	15 ..
Total ..	71	10	33	5	2	..	13	3	89	12	104	15
II Workshops— Railway .. Arms and Ammu- nition Works .. Others ..	11 3 11	1	50 3 18	16 2 2	.. .. 1	.. .. ..	4 .. 4	.. 1 ..	97 6 24	17 2 3	101 6 29	17 3 3
Total ..	25	3	111	20	1	..	8	1	127	22	136	23
I Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pres- sing Factories .. Paint Works .. Others ..	12 10	1 1	10 14	3 ..	7 2	1 ..	2 ..	.. ..	13 20	3 1	22 24	4 1
Total ..	22	2	24	3	9	1	4	..	33	4	46	5
Total, All Factories ..	118	15	168	28	12	1	25	4	249	38	286	43

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.

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

Count or Number	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	..	6,273	5,602	4,341	36,193	32,048
Nos. 11 to 20	..	16,495	17,700	14,393	102,013	106,243
Nos. 21 to 30	..	12,893	12,365	9,895	70,559	80,124
Nos. 31 to 40	..	1,432	1,056	1,079	5,819	7,718
Above 40	..	284	473	360	1,200	2,428
Waste, etc.	..	9	9	53	71	67
Total	..	37,386	37,205	30,121	215,855	228,628

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	..	5,509	4,924	3,604	33,017	28,421
Nos. 11 to 20	..	10,953	12,211	7,606	74,550	73,003
Nos. 21 to 30	..	7,849	7,609	4,534	47,910	49,856
Nos. 31 to 40	..	739	610	394	3,397	4,200
Above 40	..	118	307	162	626	1,355
Waste, etc.	..	1	3	44	14	18
Total	..	25,169	25,664	16,344	159,514	156,853

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	..	221	204	237	616	1,162
Nos. 11 to 20	..	3,244	3,290	3,842	12,324	18,384
Nos. 21 to 30	..	3,596	3,555	4,160	14,444	22,835
Nos. 31 to 40	..	574	306	552	1,720	2,586
Above 40	..	133	120	130	374	819
Waste, etc.	1	..
Total	..	7,768	7,475	8,921	29,479	45,786

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

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	..	6,273	5,602	4,341	36,193	32,048
Khadi (a)	..	16,495	17,700	14,393	102,013	106,243
Chudders	..	12,893	12,365	9,895	70,559	80,124
Dhotis	..	1,432	1,056	1,079	5,819	7,718
Drills and jeans	..	284	473	360	1,200	2,428
Cambrics and lawns	..	9	9	53	71	67
Printers
Shirtings and long cloth
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings
Tent cloth
Other sorts
Total	..	22,197	19,549	22,711	102,654	115,723
Coloured piece-goods	..	8,002	10,141	11,299	41,733	49,921
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	..	174	146	224	962	956
Hosiery	..	14	14	24	82	75
Miscellaneous	..	129	115	195	542	793
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	..	11	16	36	84	41
Grand Total	..	30,527	29,981	34,469	146,057	167,509

BOMBAY CITY

Description	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	..	5,509	4,924	3,604	33,017	28,421
Khadi (a)	..	10,953	12,211	7,606	74,550	73,003
Chudders	..	7,849	7,609	4,534	47,910	49,856
Dhotis	..	739	610	394	3,397	4,200
Drills and jeans	..	118	307	162	626	1,355
Cambrics and lawns	..	1	3	44	14	18
Printers
Shirtings and long cloth
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings
Tent cloth
Other sorts
Total	..	12,365	11,627	13,137	64,479	67,250
Coloured piece-goods	..	6,738	8,409	8,800	34,673	39,329
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	..	167	141	220	902	924
Hosiery	..	8	7	11	44	36
Miscellaneous	..	126	113	182	523	717
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	..	10	9	30	79	27
Grand Total	..	19,414	20,306	22,380	100,700	108,283

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

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Index numbers				
			July 1914	Oct 1924	Sept 1925	Oct 1925	July 1914	Oct 1924	Sept 1925	Oct 1925	
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.					
Cereals—											
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 14 6	6 6 10	6 6 10	100	147	135	137	
Wheat	Delli No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 4 0	8 5 3	8 10 0	100	147	145	154	
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	71 0 0	80 0 0	100	156	156	178	
Do.	Jubbulpore	Maund	40 0 0	52 8 0	55 8 0	55 8 0	100	131	139	139	
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	3 12 11	4 1 0	4 1 0	100	121	131	131	
Barley	Do.	Maund	3 4 6	4 12 2	4 7 1	4 7 1	100	145	135	135	
Bairi	Ghati	Maund	3 4 6	4 8 10	4 15 7	4 15 7	100	139	152	155	
	Index No.—Cereals						100	141	141	141	
Pulses—											
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 0 4	4 7 1	4 10 0	100	95	105	110	
Turdal	Cawnpore	Maund	5 10 5	5 4 6	5 15 1	6 5 7	100	94	105	112	
	Index No.—Pulses						100	95	104	111	
Sugar—											
	Index No.—Food grains						100	131	134	130	
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	18 15 0			100	206			
Do.	Java, white	Maund	10 3 0	19 10 0	14 15 0	14 0 0	100	195	145	157	
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	14 15 5	12 14 10	12 14 10	100	190	164	164	
	Index No.—Sugar						100	196	159	151	
Other Food—											
Turneric	Rainpuri	Maund	5 9 3	25 4 11	10 1 1	10 12 0	100	454	185	195	
Ghee	Deshi	Maund	45 11 5	82 15 9	68 9 2	85 11 5	100	181	194	188	
Salt	Bombay (black)	Maund	1 7 6	2 4 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	100	153	153	153	
	Index No.—Other food						100	263	176	176	
	Index No.—All Food						100	170	146	149	
Oilseeds—											
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	14 5 0	12 15 0	12 0 0	100	161	145	155	
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	Cwt.	8 0 0	15 0 0	11 8 0	10 14 0	100	163	144	156	
Poppy seed	Do.	Cwt.	10 14 0	14 12 0	13 10 0	13 8 0	100	176	176	176	
Gingelly	White	Cwt.	11 4 0	17 6 0	14 11 0	14 0 0	100	154	137	154	
	Index No.—Oilseeds						100	154	136	139	

LABOUR GAZETTE

NOV. 1925

Textile Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Besrah	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	551 0 0	462 0 0	462 0 0	100	246	184	184
Do.	Do.		222 0 0	511 0 0			100	246		
Do.	Saw-ginned		230 0 0	546 0 0			100	246		
Do.	Machine-ginned		205 0 0	528 0 0			100	246		
Do.	Do.		198 0 0				100	246	184	184
	Index No.—Cotton, raw						100	246	184	184
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 13 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	100	217	188	188
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	12 14 0	11 8 0	11 6 0	100	217	194	191
White shirtings	6,600	Piece	4 5 0	8 10 0	10 12 0	9 17 0	100	206	202	201
Shirtings	Lipmann's 1,500	Piece	10 6 0	25 0 0	22 17 0	22 10 0	100	241	219	218
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 6 0	1 2 3	1 1 0	100	211	192	200
Chadders	34" x 6 yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 4 6	1 1 3	1 2 0	100	214	181	189
	Index No.—Cotton manufactures						100	223	205	201
	Index No.—Textile-Cotton						100	235	201	201
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	8 3 11	7 10 7	7 8 5	100	172	149	146
Do.	Mathow Lari	Lb.	2 15 1	5 6 0	4 11 3	4 11 3	100	163	160	160
	Index No.—Other Textiles						100	178	155	151
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 13 8	1 11 4	1 15 6	100	160	148	170
Do. Buffalo	Do.	Lb.	1 1 3	1 1 10	0 17 11	0 14 1	100	103	79	80
Skins, Goat	Do.	Lb.	1 4 0	2 9 1	2 7 11	2 7 11	100	205	200	200
	Index No.—Hides and Skins						100	154	141	151
Metals—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	64 0 0	67 8 0	65 0 0	100	106	101	103
Iron bars		Cwt.	4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	100	175	143	147
Steel hoops		Cwt.	7 12 0	11 12 0	11 0 0	11 0 0	100	152	156	160
Galvanized sheets		Cwt.	9 0 0	15 10 0	14 0 0	14 0 0	100	174	156	160
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	20 0 0	16 8 0	16 0 0	100	229	189	189
	Index No.—Metals						100	167	153	154
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Baria	Ton	14 12 0	23 10 0	22 14 0	22 14 0	100	160	155	155
Do.	Imported	Ton	15 11 8	24 5 1	23 14 0	23 14 0	100	155	154	155
Do.	Elephant Brand	2 Tons	4 6 0	7 10 8	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	165	165	165
Do.	Chatter Brand	Case	5 1 0	8 5 0	8 5 0	8 5 0	100	161	156	156
	Index No.—Other raw and manuf. articles						100	150	146	146
	Index No.—Food						100	186	164	164
	Index No.—Non-food						100	161	157	154
	General Index No.						100	161	157	154

LABOUR GAZETTE

NOV. 1925

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Oct 1924	Sept 1925	Oct 1925	July 1914	Oct 1924	Sept 1925	Oct 1925
<i>Cereals—</i>			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy.	39 0 0	61 4 0	60 12 0	60 4 0	100	157	156	154
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	"	31 8 0	47 0 0	43 8 0	45 0 0	100	149	138	143
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 4 0	46 0 0	42 8 0	44 0 0	100	147	136	141
" white	2% barley, 14% dirt	"	32 8 0	48 6 0	44 12 0	46 6 0	100	149	158	143
" red	2% barley, 13% dirt	"	32 4 0	47 6 0	43 12 0	45 6 0	100	147	136	141
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	37 0 0	40 0 0	35 0 0	100	145	157	137
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	41 4 0	33 0 0	32 8 0	100	156	125	125
Index No.—Cereals	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	150	141	140
<i>Pulses—</i>										
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	32 0 0	34 0 0	37 8 0	100	108	115	127
<i>Sugar—</i>										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	19 3 0	14 5 0	13 1 0	100	210	157	143
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	....	....	12 0 0	100	..	..	148
Index No.—Sugar	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	210	157	146
<i>Other food—</i>										
Salt	....	Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 11 0	1 11 0	100	78	79	79
<i>Oilseeds—</i>										
Cotton seed	....	Maund.	2 11 3	4 7 0	3 6 0	3 8 0	100	164	125	129
Rapeseed	3% admixture	Candy.	51 0 0	80 8 0	72 0 0	70 4 0	100	158	141	138
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	....	85 0 0	83 0 0	100	..	137	134
Index No.—Oilseeds	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	161	134	134
<i>Textiles—</i>										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags.	38 4 0	75 4 0	69 8 0	73 0 0	100	197	182	181

26

LABOUR GAZETTE

NOV. 1925

<i>Textiles—Cotton</i>										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund.	20 4 0	43 4 0	42 12 0	42 12 0	100	214	211	211
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill	Piece.	10 3 6	25 6 0	21 0 0	20 8 0	100	248	205	201
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	28 0 0	22 0 0	22 8 0	100	277	217	222
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	lb.	0 12 2	....	....	....	100	..	..	..
Index No.—Cotton manufactures	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	263	211	212
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	246	211	211
<i>Other Textiles—Wool</i>										
Wool	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	44 0 0	47 0 0	49 0 0	100	157	168	175
<i>Hides—</i>										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	20 0 0	13 8 0	13 8 0	100	94	64	64
"	Punjab	"	21 4 0	20 0 0	13 8 0	13 8 0	100	94	64	64
Index No.—Hides	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	94	64	64
<i>Metals—</i>										
Copper Braziers	....	Cwt.	60 8 0	69 0 0	68 8 0	62 8 0	100	114	113	103
Steel Bars	....	"	3 14 0	6 12 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	174	168	168
Plates	....	"	4 6 0	7 14 0	7 2 0	7 2 0	100	180	163	163
Index No.—Metals	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	156	148	145
<i>Other raw and manufactured articles—</i>										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	25 0 0	23 0 0	23 0 0	100	156	144	144
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	183	183	183
"	Elephant	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 8 6	7 5 0	7 5 0	100	170	165	165
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	170	164	164
Index No.—Food	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	145	134	134
Index No.—Non-food	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	172	153	153
General Index No.	....	....	....	....	....	....	100	161	146	146

NOV. 1925

LABOUR GAZETTE

27

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1922														
October	145	119	210	249	178	138	165	226	192	112	183	180	176	177
1923														
October	122	85	214	368	185	133	211	217	192	153	178	169	179	181
November	125	90	228	365	189	138	303	217	187	161	174	158	185	186
December	125	91	243	375	194	141	286	229	187	146	167	162	185	188
1924														
January	127	92	244	340	188	138	273	236	182	157	166	160	189	188
February	125	88	236	348	187	136	248	234	173	158	166	160	189	188
March	123	84	217	263	165	129	244	238	229	146	171	160	190	184
April	122	84	220	263	165	129	244	238	229	146	171	160	190	184
May	125	88	212	279	167	127	258	236	201	149	168	166	187	185
June	131	92	293	293	171	137	259	232	203	145	169	161	189	184
July	143	98	213	293	175	137	258	236	191	149	170	158	187	185
August	146	97	211	260	174	150	265	236	201	149	168	166	187	185
September	142	95	198	262	173	146	260	235	187	150	166	166	190	185
October	141	95	179	250	168	148	260	232	145	150	170	161	189	184
November	138	95	196	263	170	154	260	232	181	150	170	161	189	184
December	139	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	161	188	181
1925														
January	153	102	174	267	173	143	209	219	168	118	165	159	172	173
February	165	106	174	231	172	142	210	216	166	118	163	159	174	173
March	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	213	166	148	162	159	174	173
April	149	104	177	193	157	137	209	212	160	145	163	159	174	173
May	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	211	158	146	160	159	174	171
June	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	145	153	163	155	169	165
July	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	142	157	157	167	160
August	143	104	159	183	149	140	184	205	155	161	153	155	167	160
September	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	161	153	159	164	157
October	147	111	151	178	149	130	184	203	153	151	154	159	163	158

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, 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, rent, tax, etc.	Food, heating and lighting	Food, fuel, light and rent	(f)	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100	100	(g) 100
1915 "	104	125	97	119	(d) 108	99	..	(d) 117	119	103	..	105
1916 "	108	148	102	115	117	116	..	146	140	106	..	118
1917 "	118	180	130	116	128	146	..	190	180	114	..	142
1918 "	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	253	229	118	..	174
1919 "	186	208	155	132	157	205	..	275	261	126	238	177
1920 "	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	..	217
1921 "	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	..	..
1922 "	165	184	147	140	(f) 159	429	366	(d) 249	158	(f) 135	..	..
1923	153	169	146	..	..	(h) 487	429	..	166	130	..	..
1924	156	179	150	..	162	..	495	..	168	134	..	170
February	154	178	148	150	..	521	510	249	168	134	365	..
March	150	173	145	..	..	522	498	..	166	134	..	..
April	150	171	143	..	..	518	485	..	166	134	..	..
May	153	169	143	149	..	518	485	251	168	133	366	169
June	157	170	144	..	..	512	493	..	169	132	..	..
July	161	171	145	..	160	511	498	..	166	132	..	..
August	161	173	146	148	..	516	503	260	167	132	367	171
September	161	176	146	..	..	546	513	..	169	133	..	..
October	161	180	147	..	..	562	520	..	170	134	..	..
November	161	180	147	148	..	573	521	269	170	133	377	173
December	160	181	147	148	..	580	521	..	170	133	..	..
1925	157	180	149	..	..	592	517	..	170	133	..	..
January	157	179	150	..	161	600	511	271	170	133	386	..
February	159	179	148	150	..	602	511	..	168	134	..	..
March	158	175	147	..	..	591	502	..	167	134	..	..
April	156	173	146	..	..	596	505	261	169	134	360	174
May	154	172	146	153	..	598	509	..	169	133	..	..
June	157	173	146	..	..	610	517	..	169	132	..	..
July	151	174	149	..	163	..	525	248	167	..	..	..
August	151	174	149	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
September	151	174	149	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
October	153	176	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
November	153	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(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) (b)	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	95	97	..	..	106	102	102	102	105	(a) 100	100	100	100
1915	105	117	..	..	138	124	140	145	158	(c) 159	145	151	151
1916	114	148	..	..	153	169	188	222	231	185	185	199	199
1917	142	206	..	..	178	207	262	286	341	244	244	244	244
1918	187	239	..	..	207	207	339	392	345	339	339	339	339
1919	187	209	..	..	189	226	356	297	297	322	322	322	322
1920	188	210	..	203	189	228	307	310	281	(c) 372	372	372	372
1921	173	210	..	149	155	170	168	170	165	269	269	269	269
1922	173	183	..	149	168	147	156	362	155	220	155	153	153
1923 October	181	212	156	194	179	129	158	420	148	237	153	153	153
November	186	210	157	197	181	134	161	440	153	242	151	153	153
December	188	211	158	207	182	137	164	458	154	244	150	153	152
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	499	155	266	154	154	150
April	184	207	154	205	174	134	165	450	154	267	151	151	150
May	181	205	154	..	173	135	164	459	153	263	151	148	148
June	183	200	152	..	171	131	163	465	151	264	149	151	147
July	184	195	152	..	171	132	165	481	151	271	148	151	145
August	184	200	149	..	169	143	165	477	151	274	148	153	147
September	181	207	149	..	170	148	167	466	158	275	153	153	150
October	181	213	153	..	171	156	170	497	161	276	152	154	149
November	176	214	155	..	173	158	170	503	161	277	152	157	152
December	176	214	157	..	171	156	170	508	160	278	152	158	153
1925 January	173	214	159	..	170	161	170	514	160	279	153	158	154
February	173	210	160	..	171	157	171	514	160	278	153	161	157
March	171	204	160	..	170	161	169	515	158	281	154	163	160
April	165	202	159	..	167	151	166	514	155	276	150	162	156
May	164	199	158	..	166	154	163	512	151	267	150	162	161
June	160	200	157	..	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
July	158	199	163	..	170	150	158	543	153	258	156	159	155
August	160	200	160	..	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	159	157
September	157	200	..	..	..	..	157	557	155	245	158	160	160
October	158	..	..	..	..	..	156	555	155	..	154	160	160

* 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 913 = 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	100(e)	100	100	100	100
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	95	..	..	114	114	124	128	119
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	111	..	..	117	116	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	205	..	..	175	279	268	187	222
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	196	289	310	212	250
1920	188	238	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	..	982	210	319	297	253
1921	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180(e)	295	232	236	207
1922	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	157
1923	148	162	137	116	164	156	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	140	218	160	185
1924 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	162	..	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	..	168
June	147	160	133	120	149	149	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	200	168
July	151	162	134	117	147	146	141	366	507	125	1,088	146	257	163	..	166
August	156	164	137	117	147	146	141	374	514	127	1,089	155	261	165	..	166
September	156	166	139	117	146	145	144	374	514	127	1,089	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	..	169
December	156	180	142	121	148	150	149	404	579	140	1,129	150	274	172	..	168
1925 January	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	590	141	1,100	150	277	170	215	168
February	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	1,089	155	283	170	..	168
March	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	415	624	136	1,119	151	284	171	..	166
April	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	165
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	152	260	169	210	167
July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	..	1,107	152	260	169	..	165
August	147	168	146	119	..	..	153	..	431	..	..	..	254	170	..	168
September	146	170	146	..	..	..	155	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
October	148	172	..	..	..	..	155	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
November	149	..	..	..	..	..	156	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(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 SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 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
		Sept. 1925	Sept. 1925	Sept. 1925	Sept. 1925	Sept. 1925	Oct. 1925	Oct. 1925	Oct. 1925	Oct. 1925	Oct. 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 ..	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>	7 3 9 <i>129</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 11 6 <i>151</i>
Wheat	" ..	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>	6 15 1 <i>124</i>	6 6 5 <i>152</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	7 13 6 <i>146</i>
Jowari	" ..	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>	5 9 4 <i>128</i>	4 10 2 <i>128</i>	4 11 4 <i>124</i>	3 11 8 <i>130</i>	5 3 6 <i>152</i>
Bajri	" ..	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>	5 9 9 <i>130</i>	4 14 9 <i>117</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 9 4 <i>130</i>	5 13 1 <i>142</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		<i>126</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>148</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund ..	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>	5 5 4 <i>124</i>	4 10 9 <i>123</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>	7 11 8 <i>117</i>	6 11 8 <i>115</i>	6 11 9 <i>101</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>116</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>110</i>

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund ..	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>	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	11 6 10 <i>157</i>	11 15 8 <i>132</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	12 15 3 <i>138</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>	13 11 9 <i>196</i>	15 7 7 <i>181</i>	11 0 7 <i>159</i>	16 0 0 <i>180</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	14 0 7 <i>200</i>
Tea	Lb. ..	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>	0 14 9 <i>189</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>
Salt	Maund ..	3 6 7 <i>160</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 3 4 <i>144</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>	3 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>
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 2 <i>158</i>	0 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 4 0 <i>67</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
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>	9 8 10 <i>215</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	" ..	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>	100 0 0 <i>197</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	91 6 10 <i>206</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes	" ..	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>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	7 12 11 <i>144</i>	8 0 0 <i>210</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	3 9 4 <i>106</i>
Onions	" ..	4 2 8 <i>268</i>	4 8 7 <i>250</i>	5 0 0 <i>250</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	2 7 1 <i>122</i>	3 9 2 <i>230</i>	4 3 10 <i>233</i>	5 0 0 <i>250</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	2 10 1 <i>131</i>
Cocoanut 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>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	29 2 8 <i>115</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>180</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>177</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>150</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i>		<i>160</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>145</i>