

Securities Index Numbers

	Fixed interest Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.*	Cotton spinning and pressing companies.*	Electric undertakings.*	All Industrial Securities.	General average (100 Securities).		Fixed interest Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.*	Cotton spinning and pressing companies.*	Electric undertakings.*	All Industrial Securities.	General average (100 Securities).
1914 July..	100	100	100	100	100	100	1924 Feb.	73	192	122	127	148	143
1915	96	97	94	90	101	100	.. Mar.	74	169	122	128	146	141
1916	87	114	102	122	130	127	.. Apr.	74	188	119	130	145	140
1917	73	138	118	128	158	151	.. May	74	179	120	137	143	138
1918	74	212	131	139	194	184	.. June	74	180	121	137	143	138
1919	77	216	126	237	216	206	.. July	74	176	121	133	140	135
1920	65	438	168	246	313	296	.. Aug.	74	192	124	130	148	143
1921	65	450	158	212	311	295	.. Sep.	72	203	124	131	153	147
1922	63	4.6	163	175	267	253	.. Oct.	72	197	127	127	148	143
1923 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
1924 Jan.	71	196	122	126	151	146	.. Oct.	74	158	121	136	129	125

* Also included in "Industrial Securities."

LABOUR GAZETTE

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[No. 4

The Month in Brief

EMPLOYMENT—THE COTTON INDUSTRY

In the city of Bombay, the general strike in the textile industry virtually ended on December 3, 1925. Returns regarding the supply of labour and absenteeism have not therefore been received. Publication of the usual data will be resumed next month when comparative figures for a complete month will be available.

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 2.7 per cent. as compared with 4.1 per cent. last month and 3.1 per cent. two months ago.

IN SHOLAPUR, the supply of labour was adequate and absenteeism showed a slight increase. The average was 12.6 per cent. as compared with 11.4 per cent. last month and 10.7 per cent. two months ago.

IN BROACH, absenteeism was 10.7 per cent. as compared with 10.6 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 Broach and Sholapur while it decreased in Ahmedabad.

THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average of absenteeism in representative engineering workshops (based on the returns from three large establishments) showed a decrease; the figure being 13.3 per cent. as compared with 15.1 per cent. last month and 14.5 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 three previous months.

There was no absenteeism on the construction of chawls (tenements) at 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 a decrease. The percentage absenteeism was 14.9 as compared with 19.3 in the preceding month and 15.1 two months ago. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply

of labour was equal to the demand and a slight fall in absenteeism was recorded. The average absenteeism decreased from 12.3 per cent. in the last month to 11.6 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 13, as compared with 11 in the preceding month.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING

In December 1925, the Working Class Cost of Living Index number was 155, 2 points higher than in the previous month. The average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the Cost of Living Index for Bombay City (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 155 for all articles and 151 for food articles only. There was a fall of 5 points as compared with this time last year and of 38 points from the high water mark (October 1920) in the cost of living index. The index increased by 2 points, the fall of 9 points in clothing being more than counterbalanced by a rise of 2 points in All-food. Cereals rose by 3 points due to an increase in the price of rice and wheat. Jowari declined in price, while bajri remained steady. Pulses advanced by 5 points, both gram and turdal having risen in price. Other food articles rose by 1 point, the rise of 8 points in sugar (refined) more than counterbalancing a fall of one point in tea. All the other articles in that group remained stationary during the month. Fuel and lighting showed no change from the previous month. The fall in clothing 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 1924 Numbers, has been carried out, and the methods and results of the revision are now being scrutinized.

THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER

In November 1925, the general index of wholesale prices in Bombay was 160, 2 points above the level of the previous month. There was a rise of 6 points in the food-group and a fall of one point in the non-food group. The index number for food grains only was 147 as against 139 during the previous month. This shows an increase of 8 points which was due to an advance of 17 points in Pulses and 6 points in Cereals. Sugar rose by 10 points, while other food declined by 3 points, due to a fall of 8 points in salt. The fall of one point in the non-food group was chiefly due to a fall of 8 points in cotton manufactures.

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				
		July 1925	August 1925	September 1925	October 1925	November 1925
Foods ..	15	46	49	46	49	55
Non-foods ..	27	63	66	64	63	62
All articles ..	42	58	60	57	58	60

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

SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

In November 1925, the general level of quotations of 102 shares and securities was 125, the same as in the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) Securities, Banks and Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies remained stationary. Cement and Manganese Companies rose by 4 points, Electric undertakings by 3 points and Miscellaneous companies by one point. Cotton Mills declined by 2 points and Railway Companies by one point. Industrial Securities registered a fall of one point during the month under review.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were six industrial disputes in progress during November 1925. The number of workpeople involved was 154,864 and the number of working days lost 3,699,628.

COTTON MILL PRODUCTION

Cotton Mill production in October 1925 and in the 7 months ended October 1925, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two

preceding years, is shown in the following two tables. In Ahmedabad and other centres the production of yarn in October was the same and that of woven goods showed an improvement as compared with the production in the corresponding month of the previous year. In Bombay City there was no production of yarn during the month under report on account of the general strike and the production of woven goods showed a decrease as compared with that during the corresponding months of the two previous years.

(1) Month of October

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	October			October		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	28	25	..	25	19	16
Ahmedabad ..	8	8	8	8	7	11
Other centres ..	4	5	5	3	2	4
Total, Presidency..	40	38	13	36	28	31

(2) Seven months ending October

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Seven months ending October			Seven months ending October		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	188	182	163	126	127	128
Ahmedabad ..	37	53	59	38	51	56
Other centres ..	31	31	34	18	18	21
Total, Presidency..	256	266	256	182	196	205

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

	Net rate per lb. in annas		
	November 1924	October 1925	November 1925
Long Cloths	21½	18
T. Cloths	20	17
Chudders	20	16½

THE OUTLOOK

The fluctuations in the price of raw cotton were within narrow limits. The tone of the market was firm in the beginning and became easier towards the close of the month. Japanese firms purchased heavily in the first week but remained less active during the rest of the month. Business with Europe was dull throughout. The local mills were idle in the first two weeks but later on they purchased from hand to mouth only.

Business in English yarn was dull during the month. Expectation of easier prices handicapped the trade but some small sales were however effected at concession rates. The local yarn market was steady at first and became easier later on. Prices showed a tendency to decline.

Business in Manchester piece-goods was not encouraging. Demand was only retail and prices were steady, for buyers were cautious. The tone of the local piece-goods market was improving. Stocks were steadily decreasing and in the last week prices became easier.

The financial situation was by no means easy this month. The cash balances of the Imperial Bank decreased by 17, 31, 81 and 136 lakhs respectively in the four weeks under review. Call money was available at 1½ to 1¾, 2¾ to 3¼, 2½ to 3 and 2¾ to 3 per cent. in the first, second, third and fourth weeks respectively. The Government security market which was active and advancing at first became quiet and stagnant later on. Consequent on the suspension of the Excise Duty there was a small improvement in cotton mill shares.

The Working Class Cost of Living Index in December was 2 points higher than in the previous month. The wholesale prices index rose by 2 points in November. The decline in Industrial Securities was of 1 point.

The bank rate increased to 6 per cent. from 3rd December 1925. The rate of exchanges in Bombay on London on 1st December 1925 was 1s. 6½d., the same as on 2nd November 1925.

THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 20th DECEMBER

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

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

Konkan.—The situation in this division is generally the same as reported last time. The sowing of late crops still continues in places. The harvesting of the early crops is, by now, almost completed in many cases, though in a few cases it is still in progress. The garden crops are reported to be doing quite well almost everywhere.

Gujarat.—Cold weather has now set in in the division and the cold is reported to be growing day by day. This cold weather is beneficial to the cotton crop which is reviving in places. The standing crops of wheat, maize, etc., are being helped with irrigation wherever possible and such irrigated crops are progressing well generally. The picking of cotton has been started in a few places in North Gujarat. The reaping of *bajri*, groundnut, sesame and other early crops is nearly over while the crushing of sugarcane is in progress in parts of the Surat District. With regard to the unirrigated crops, the situation is nearly as unsatisfactory as before and the crops are still withering over large areas for want of moisture though as already noted above they are reviving in places owing to the setting in of the cold weather.

Deccan.—Here the position is fairly satisfactory in the North and West and the transition tract or the central belt of the division but in some areas further east more rain is needed urgently to improve the situation. Thus in the eastern parts of the Nasik, Poona and Satara Districts the crops are withering for want of moisture and require immediate rain for their further development. The harvesting of rice is now completed while that of the other *Kharif* crops such as *bajri*, sesame, groundnut, *Kharif jowar*, etc., is nearing completion. The picking of cotton is now generally in progress. Irrigated crops are reported to be progressing satisfactorily nearly everywhere.

Karnatak.—Some rain was received in this division during the second week of this month (December). This rain, where it received, has been useful to the young *rabi* crops though to the crops lying in the threshing yards it has been rather injurious. The harvesting of the *Kharif* crops is in progress generally and is nearly over in places. The garden crops are reported to be doing quite well almost everywhere in the division.

OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

In the United Kingdom the output of coal and iron showed some improvement in October. Imports of materials showed rather less than the usual increases while exports of manufactured goods increased by more than the normal amount.

There was not much change in the position of the cotton industry. The two further estimates of the American cotton crop assured a plentiful supply of raw material and it is expected that the present lower level of prices will stimulate demand for cotton. As regards yarn, the expected improvement in the demand for it failed to make its appearance and over-production in some counts was recorded. The position is regarded as bad and the Spinners' Federation has called for additional short-time to avert serious losses to the mills. Buyers of piece-goods also continued to show lack of confidence. The volume of business transacted was discouraging and producers experienced considerable difficulty in obtaining profitable prices. Looms engaged in the "dhotie" trade, however, are reported to have full-time employment for some months ahead.

On the whole, during November there were general indications of an improvement in the industrial situation, though the changes were small.

In France, owing to political changes and the violent fluctuations in the exchanges, the textile industries in general and the woollen industry in particular reported a temporary paralysis in the matter of new business. But this is only a temporary phase. The cotton and woollen mills have enough orders on their books to keep them occupied till the beginning of the second, if not the third quarter of the next year. Consequently, despite the little business done on the markets, prices have remained steady.

Owing to the increasing British competition in the German coal market, improvement in the coal trade was very slight. The German iron market showed no signs of revival during the month.

In the United States the tone of the money market was easy in October. Bond prices changed little but stock prices continued to advance and trading on the New York Stock Exchange was extremely active. Business conditions were on the whole satisfactory during October.

In Canada, wholesale prices advanced very slightly between the end of September and the end of October. This advance was due wholly to a stiffening of prices.

Business in Canada showed signs of improvement. The crop reports are satisfactory.

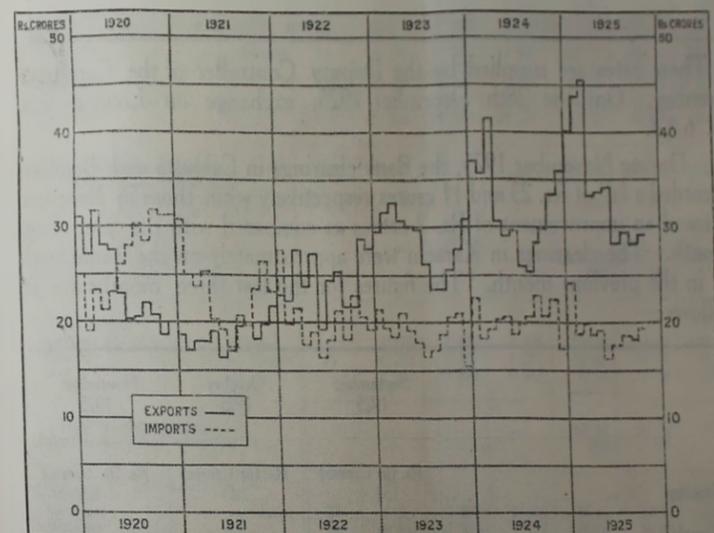
THE BALANCE OF TRADE

During November 1925, the visible balance of trade, including Securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 1,63 lakhs.

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

	India		Bombay		Karachi	
	October 1925	November 1925	October 1925	November 1925	October 1925	November 1925
	(In lakhs of rupees)		(In lakhs of rupees)		(In lakhs of rupees)	
Exports (private merchandise) ..	29.05	30.51	4.28	4.73	1.45	2.02
Imports do. ..	19.56	18.73	6.75	6.35	2.26	2.08
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 9.49	+ 11.78	- 2.47	- 1.62	- 81	- 6
Imports of treasure (private) ..			5.64	4.47	2	5
Exports of treasure (private) ..			15	19	..	1
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	- 5.74	- 4.59	- 5.49	- 4.28	- 2	- 4
Visible balance of trade including securities ..	- 2.32	+ 1.63				

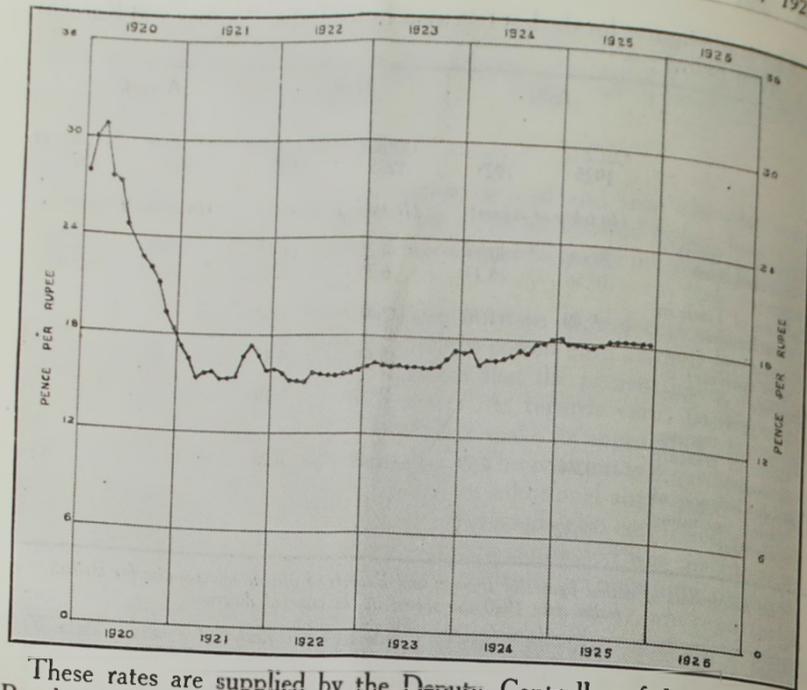
The movements of actual figures of Imports and Exports of private merchandise for British India since 1920 are shown in the annexed diagram



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.

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



These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 28th December 1925, exchange on London was 1s. 6^s/₂d.

During November 1925, the Bank clearings in Calcutta and Bombay recorded a fall of Rs. 23 and 11 crores respectively while those in Rangoon showed an improvement of Rs. 2 crores as compared with the preceding month. The clearings in Karachi were approximately on the same level as in the previous month. The figures for the last three months are as follows :—

	September 1925	October 1925	November 1925
Bombay	Rs. (in Crores) 31	Rs. (in Crores) 43	Rs. (in Crores) 32
Karachi	3	3	3
Calcutta	82	118	95
Rangoon	7	7	9
Total	123	171	139

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of November 1925 was 57.77 as against 58.75 in October and 59.31 in September 1925.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—DECEMBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price x Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Nov. 1925	Dec. 1925	July 1914	Nov. 1925	Dec. 1925
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	Rs. 5.594	7.234	7.391	391.58	506.38	517.57
Wheat	"	21	5.594	7.021	7.484	117.47	147.44	157.16
Jowari	"	11	4.354	5.917	5.750	47.89	65.09	63.25
Bajri	"	6	4.313	5.688	5.688	25.88	34.13	34.13
Total—Cereals						582.82	753.04	771.91
Index Numbers—Cereals						100	129	132
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4.302	5.833	6.083	43.02	58.33	60.83
Turdal	"	3	5.844	7.214	7.370	17.53	21.64	22.11
Total—Pulses						60.55	79.97	82.94
Index Numbers—Pulses						100	132	137
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7.620	12.500	13.094	15.24	25.00	26.19
Raw Sugar (Gul)	"	7	8.557	15.474	15.474	59.90	108.32	108.32
Tea	"	40	40.000	75.214	74.787	1.00	1.88	1.87
Salt	"	5	2.130	3.313	3.313	10.65	16.57	16.57
Beef	Seer	28	0.323	0.510	0.510	9.04	14.28	14.28
Mutton	"	33	0.417	0.823	0.823	13.76	27.16	27.16
Milk	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Ghee	"	14	50.792	100.000	100.000	76.19	150.00	150.00
Potatoes	"	11	4.479	7.141	7.141	49.27	78.55	78.55
Onions	"	3	1.552	4.167	4.167	4.66	12.50	12.50
Cocoanut Oil	"	4	25.396	28.573	28.573	12.70	14.29	14.29
Total—Other food articles						381.18	694.71	655.89
Index Numbers—Other food articles						100	182	183
Total—All food articles						1,024.55	1,527.72	1,550.74
Index Numbers—All food articles						100	149	151
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4.375	7.438	7.438	21.88	37.19	37.19
Firewood	Maund	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal	"	1	0.542	0.839	0.813	0.54	0.84	0.81
Total—Fuel and lighting						60.44	99.52	99.49
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						100	165	165
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0.594	1.078	1.000	16.04	29.11	27.00
Shirtings	"	25	0.641	1.214	1.177	16.03	30.35	29.43
T. Cloth	"	36	0.583	1.078	1.031	20.99	38.81	37.12
Total—Clothing						53.06	98.27	93.55
Index Numbers—Clothing						100	185	176
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	1,919.91	1,938.18
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						100	153	155

The Cost of Living Index for December 1925

A RISE OF 2 POINTS

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

In December 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 2 points higher than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914 the general index number was 153 in November and 155 in December 1925. This is 38 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and 2 points lower than the twelve-monthly average of 1924. The twelve-monthly average of 1925 is the same as the index number for December 1925.

The index number for All food advanced by 2 points. The rise of 3 points in Cereals was due to an increase of 8 points in wheat and 3 points in rice which more than counterbalanced a fall of 4 points in jowari. Bajri remained stationary during the month. The rise of 5 points in gram and 3 points in turdal resulted in an increase of 5 points in Pulses. The index number for other food articles advanced by one point due to an increase of 8 points in refined sugar which more than counterbalanced a fall of one point in tea. Raw sugar, salt, beef, mutton, milk, ghee, potatoes, onions and coconut oil recorded no change from the previous month.

Clothing showed a further fall of 9 points every item in the group declining in price. The fuel and lighting group has remained constant since March 1925, although coal recorded a slight decline in price during the month.

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	55
Yearly average ..	54	75	83	73	64	54	57	55

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

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in November and December 1925 as compared with that for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

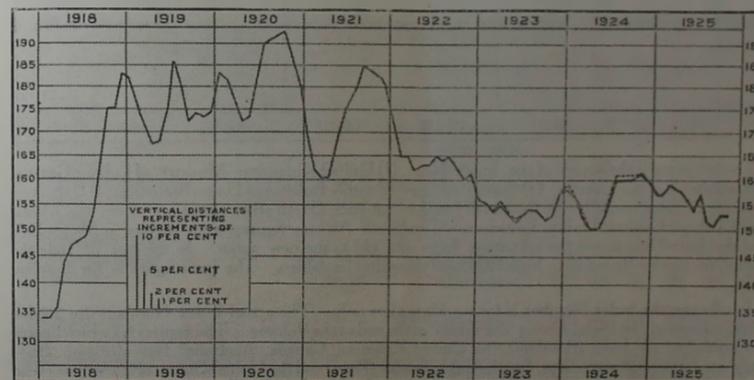
Articles	July 1914	Nov. 1925	Dec. 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Dec. 1925 over or below Nov. 1925	Articles	July 1914	Nov. 1925	Dec. 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Dec. 1925 over or below Nov. 1925
Rice ..	100	129	132	+ 3	Salt ..	100	156	156	....
Wheat ..	100	126	134	+ 8	Beef ..	100	158	158	....
Jowari ..	100	136	132	- 4	Mutton ..	100	197	197	....
Bajri ..	100	132	132	....	Milk ..	100	191	191	....
Gram ..	100	136	141	+ 5	Ghee ..	100	197	197	....
Turdal ..	100	123	126	+ 3	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	....
Sugar (refined) ..	100	164	172	+ 8	Onions ..	100	268	268	....
Raw sugar (gul) ..	100	181	181	....	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	....
Tea ..	100	188	187	- 1	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	149	151	+2

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

Rice 24, Wheat 25, Jowari 24, Bajri 24, Gram 29, Turdal 21, Sugar (refined) 42, Raw Sugar (gul) 45, Tea 47, Salt 36, Beef 37, Mutton 49, Milk 48, Ghee 49, Potatoes 37, Onions 63, Coconut 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 4 pies for all items and 10 annas 7 pies for food articles only.

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



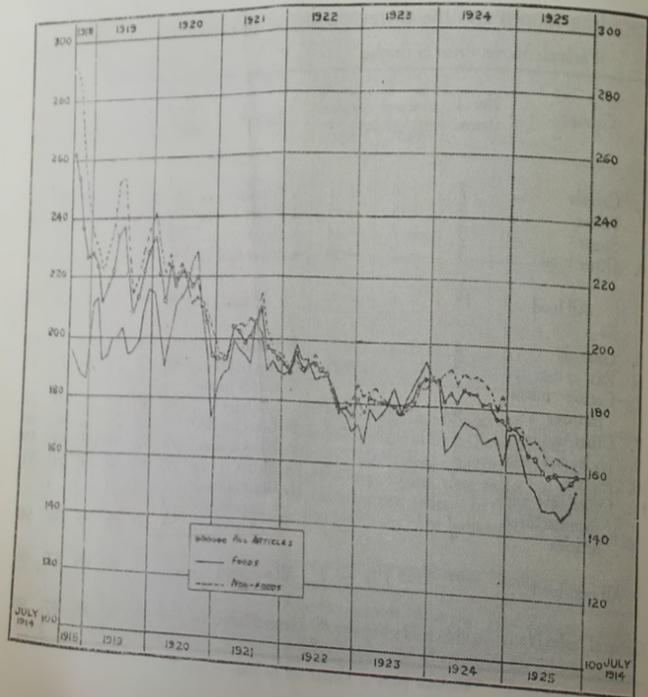
The extra dotted curve shows corrections for rental increases from April 1923 on data collected by special enquiry.

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
Eleven-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

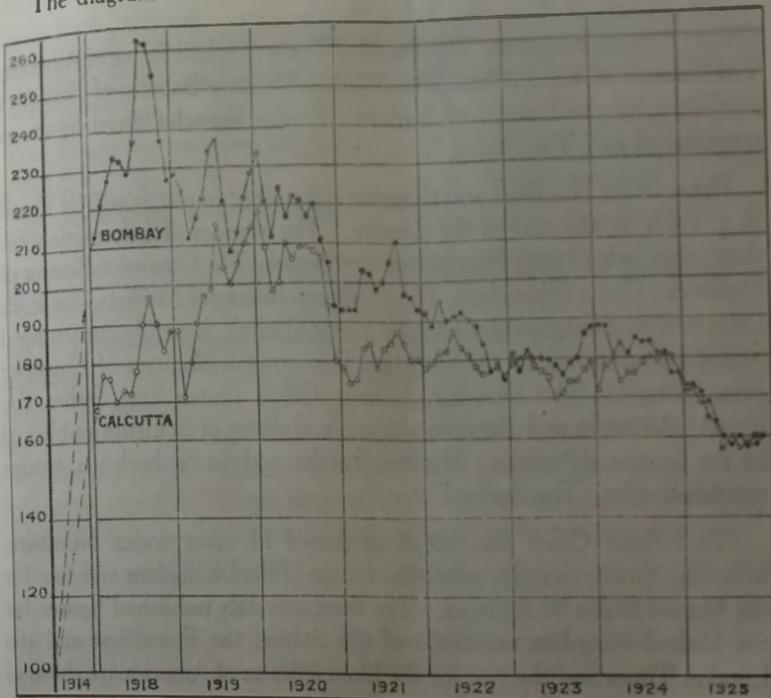


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

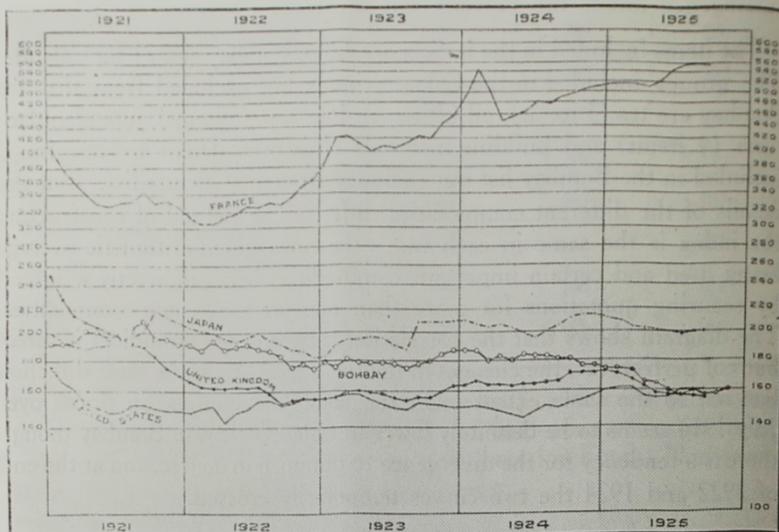
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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	Equivalent in tons	July 1914			Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Nov 1925 over or below		
				July 1914	Oct 1925	Nov 1925	July 1914	Oct 1925	
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	5 10	7 8	7 8	+ 1 10	....
Wheat	Pissi Seoni	..	216	5 10	7 6	7 7	+ 1 9	+ 0 1	
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	..	23	3	5 7	5 11	+ 1 8	+ 0 4	
Bajri	Ghati	..	208	4 7	5 10	5 11	+ 1 4	+ 0 1	
Gram	Delhi	..	200	4 4	5 4	5 10	+ 1 6	+ 0 6	
Turdal	Cawnpore	..	208	5 11	7 0	7 6	+ 1 7	+ 0 6	
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	1 11	1 9	+ 0 8	- 0 2	
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	..	28	1 2	2 2	2 2	+ 1 0	....
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	14 9	14 8	+ 6 10	- 0 1	
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	3 1	2 11	+ 1 2	- 0 2	
Beef	....	Lb.	39	2 6	4 0	4 0	+ 1 6	....
Mutton	....	..	39	3 0	6 0	6 5	+ 3 5	+ 0 5
Milk	Medium	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	....
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior	..	28	7 1	14 0	14 0	+ 6 11	....
Potatoes	Ordinary	..	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+ 0 4	....
Onions	Nasik	..	28	0 3	0 6	0 7	+ 0 4	+ 0 1	
Cocoanut oil	Middle quality	..	28	3 7	4 1	4 0	+ 0 5	- 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 November 1925 as compared with the previous month were slight. Except for rice, which remained steady during the month, there was a rise in the prices of food-grains—in gram and turdal of 6 pies each, in jowari of 4 pies and in wheat and bajri of one pie each per paylee. Mutton advanced by 5 pies per pound and onions by one pie per seer. Sugar declined by 2 pies per seer, salt by 2 pies per paylee, tea by one pie per pound and cocoanut oil by one pie per seer.

As compared with July 1914 mutton and onions have more than 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 has been comparatively much less.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in October and November 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 October and November 1925:—

Bombay prices in Oct. 1925 = 100					Bombay prices in Nov. 1925 = 100						
Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	111	123	116	121	Rice ..	100	111	123	116	123
Wheat ..	100	92	105	107	113	Wheat ..	100	88	106	105	112
Jowari ..	100	83	84	67	93	Jowari ..	100	79	81	63	92
Bajri ..	100	88	110	82	104	Bajri ..	100	87	108	78	102
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	94	106	93	108	Cereals ..	100	91	105	91	107
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	88	107	105	94	Gram ..	100	85	100	96	93
Turdal ..	100	100	119	103	115	Turdal ..	100	96	117	98	107
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	94	113	104	105	Pulses ..	100	91	109	97	100
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	83	87	97	95	Sugar (refined) ..	100	84	91	107	84
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	71	103	86	91	Jagri (Gul) ..	100	69	103	86	85
Tea ..	100	106	106	121	128	Tea ..	100	106	106	122	129
Salt ..	100	57	65	92	85	Salt ..	100	60	69	94	89
Beef ..	100	123	*49	61	74	Beef ..	100	123	*49	61	74
Mutton ..	100	97	81	82	73	Mutton ..	100	91	76	76	68
Milk ..	100	54	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	57	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	80	91	80	84	Ghee ..	100	80	89	80	84
Potatoes ..	100	109	112	80	50	Potatoes ..	100	105	112	80	65
Onions ..	100	119	140	112	74	Onions ..	100	120	120	87	63
Cocoa nut oil ..	100	104	122	115	96	Cocoa nut oil ..	100	102	124	118	98
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	91	92	91	84	Other articles of food ..	100	91	91	90	83
Average—						Average—					
All food articles ..	100	92	98	93	92	All food articles ..	100	91	96	91	91

* Subject to correction.

Actual relative prices at these centres will be found among the Miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. The relative averages fell at all the four mofussil centres—by 2 points each at Ahmedabad and Sholapur and one point each at Karachi and Poona. Referring back to November 1924 the averages for all food articles have risen at all the mofussil centres as compared with that at Bombay, there being a rise of 5 points at Karachi and of 2 points each at the remaining centres. The relative prices of tea and onions have risen at all the different centres over those of the last year. Refined sugar has declined everywhere except at Sholapur. Beef has fallen at Ahmedabad by 74 points and onions have risen by 58 points. Reading from left to right the relative prices of bajri were 100, 82, 88, 81, 89 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

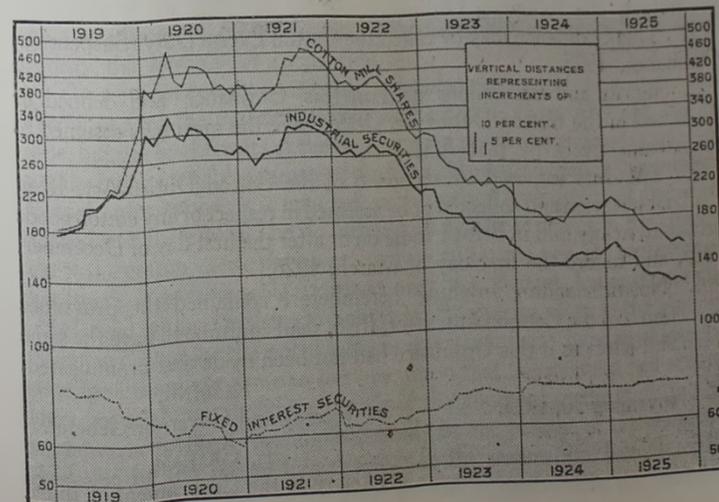
PRICES STATIONARY

In November 1925 the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number was 125, the same as in the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities, Banks and Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies recorded no change. The rise of 4 points in Cement and Manganese Companies, of 3 points in Electric Undertakings and of one point in Miscellaneous Companies was more than offset by the decline of 2 points in Cotton Mills and one point in Railway Companies, which resulted in the fall of one point in Industrial Securities.

The Construction of the Index

No.	—	—	July 1924		November 1925	
			Total numbers	Total numbers	Average	Average
1	Government and Corporation Securities ..	7 Index Nos. ..	700	516	74	
2	Banks ..	6 " " ..	600	798	133	
3	Railway Companies ..	10 " " ..	1,000	1,067	107	
4	Cotton Mills ..	42 " " ..	4,200	6,561	156	
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies ..	8 " " ..	800	965	121	
6	Cement and Manganese Companies ..	5 " " ..	500	524	105	
7	Electric Undertakings ..	2 " " ..	200	277	139	
8	Miscellaneous Companies ..	22 " " ..	2,200	1,997	91	
9	Industrial Securities ..	95 " " ..	9,500	12,189	128	
10	General average ..	102 " " ..	10,200	12,705	125	

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



H 942-2a

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign The Bombay Cotton Mill Industry

END OF THE GENERAL STRIKE

In the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for October and November 1925 two special articles were published dealing with the general strike in the cotton mills of Bombay, involving 150,000 workers, which began on the 15th September 1925 and lasted for nearly three months. In the first 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. In the second article special prominence was given to the work which was being done by The Committee of Assistance to the Textile Workers in organising a Relief Fund and in giving relief of various kinds to those workers who stood most in need of outside assistance. The actual progress of the strike has been dealt with in the usual monthly review of Industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency. In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1925, it was briefly recorded that the Viceroy had suspended the collection of the Cotton Excise Duty for the remainder of the current financial year and that the Bombay Millowners' Association had in consequence decided to restore the cut in wages of 11½ per cent. As a result of these decisions the general strike virtually ended and the managements of all mills put up notices to the effect that work would recommence as soon as sufficient numbers of workpeople presented themselves for employment.

The following is the text of the Ordinance issued by the Government of India in the Legislative Department at Delhi on the 1st December 1925 :—

Whereas an emergency has arisen which makes it necessary to suspend, in respect of cotton goods produced during the months of December, 1925, and January and February, 1926, the levy and collection of the excise duty imposed by the Cotton Duties Act, 1896 ;

Now therefore, in exercise of the power conferred by section 72 of the Government of India Act, the Governor General is pleased to make and promulgate the following Ordinance :—

1. This Ordinance may be called the Cotton Excise Duty (Suspension) Ordinance, 1925.

2. Words and expressions used in this Ordinance and defined or explained in the Cotton Duties Act, 1896, have the meanings assigned to them respectively by that Act.

3. The duty imposed by section 6 of the Cotton Duties Act, 1896, shall not be levied and collected or be assessed in respect of any cotton goods produced in any mill in British India on or after the first day of December, 1925, and before the first day of March, 1926.

4. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained the provisions of section 8 of the Cotton Duties Act, 1896, shall continue to have the same force and effect as if this Ordinance had not been made and promulgated.

READING,

November 30, 1925.

Viceroy and Governor General.

L. GRAHAM,
Secretary to the Government of India.

The statement attached to the above Ordinance is as follows :—

“ The following statement is published for general information :—

A statement by His Excellency the Governor General of the reasons which have moved him in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 72 of the Government of India Act, to make and promulgate an Ordinance to suspend the levy and collection of the Cotton Excise Duty.

A. C. McWATTERS,

Secretary to the Government of India,
Finance Department.’

STATEMENT

“ In August last, when replying to a deputation which waited upon me on behalf of the millowners of Bombay and Ahmedabad to urge the relief of the mill industry from the cotton excise duty, I affirmed that the Government of India stood by the letter and the spirit of the pledge given by my predecessor, Lord Hardinge, that the excise duty would be abolished as soon as financial considerations permitted. At the same time, while fully recognising the special difficulties with which the cotton mill industry in India was faced, it was necessary for me to explain that it was impossible to grant this request in the middle of the financial year, before the year had fully declared itself and before the commitments and the prospects of next year were known.

“ Again, on the 16th September 1925, when a motion for suspension of the collection of the cotton excise duty was debated in the Legislative Assembly, it was made clear on behalf of Government that suspension must inevitably be followed immediately by abolition, and that abolition ought to be considered only in connection with the finances of the year as a whole, that is, at the time of the Budget, when the claims of the cotton mill industry could be balanced against rival claims. It was definitely stated that a vote for suspension would be taken by Government as an expression of the view that the abolition of the cotton excise duty should take precedence of other claims. The Assembly accepted by a large majority the motion for suspension.

“ The time has not yet come when a detailed estimate of the revenue and expenditure for the current year, or of the prospects for 1926-27, can be made, but the final results of the monsoon are now known and it is possible to make a more reliable estimate of the financial position than in September. On such information as is now before them the Government of India are satisfied that there would be no serious risk of a large deficit in the current year if the cotton excise duty were suspended for the rest of the year, and that there is a reasonable prospect that the Budget for next year can be balanced without assistance from the cotton excise duty in the absence of any big change for the worse in the next few months. I and my Government have therefore come to the conclusion that the moment has arrived when financial considerations permit of the abolition of the duty. This can however be finally accomplished only by the passage of the necessary legislation by the Indian Legislature. In the meanwhile, having regard to the emergency caused by the grave difficulties confronting the industry,

to the pledge given and reaffirmed, and to the expressed views of the Legislative Assembly, I have decided that with effect from the 1st December 1925, the duty shall be suspended by Ordinance. It is the intention of my Government, unless the financial position as disclosed in the Budget estimates for next year substantially fails to confirm present anticipations, to place before the Legislature, at the time of the Budget, proposals for the abolition of the duty.

READING,

November 30, 1925.

Viceroy and Governor General."

A FULL ACCOUNT OF THE RELIEF WORK DONE

Bombay Municipal Corporation.—On page 211 of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1925 a short note was published dealing with the resolution passed by the Bombay Municipal Corporation on the 19th November 1925, authorising the Municipal Commissioner to spend a sum not exceeding one lakh of rupees (£7,500 at exchange 1 sh. 6d. to the rupee) from capital funds on opening relief works for the employment of the cotton mill workers who were on strike. In accordance with the terms of the resolution, the Municipal Commissioner opened up relief works at Parbhadevi and Dadar from the 27th November onwards, at which employment was offered on the work of filling up low-lying areas at a wage of 8 annas per day for men, 6 annas for women and 4 annas for children. On the first day the attendance at these works was almost negligible. On the second day 700 people were employed and several had to be turned away. 1,500 were employed on the third day and 2,000 on the fourth day. As soon as the news of the suspension of the Cotton Excise Duty was received, these works were closed. The total amount spent by the Bombay Municipality on relief amounted approximately to about Rs. 5,000.

The Committee of Assistance to the Textile Workers.—The following is a complete list of the donations received by the Committee for relief work :—

The British Trades Union Congress (out of the amount received for the N. W. Railwaymen's strike contribution received by the All-India Trade Union Congress), Rs. 2,000. The Labour Organisation Fund, Bombay, Rs. 2,000. The British Trades Union Congress, London (£150), Rs. 1,972-10-0. The International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam (£100, 1st instalment), Rs. 1,317-5-0. The Cordite Factory Labour Union, Aruvankadu, Rs. 100. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union, Bombay, Rs. 50. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union, Bombay, Rs. 50. Rao Saheb R. V. Vandekar, Bombay, Rs. 25. The Telegraph Workmen's Union, Bombay, Rs. 15. Mr. P. M. Powar, Bombay, Rs. 56. The International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam (£225, 2nd instalment), Rs. 2,969-1-0. The International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam (£160, 3rd instalment), Rs. 2,107-10-0. The International Federation of the Textile Workers' Association, London (£160, 1st instalment), Rs. 2,104. A Friend of Labour (1st instalment), Rs. 1,000. The International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam (£400, 4th instalment), Rs. 5,269-4-8. The International Federation of Textile Workers' Association, London (£300, 2nd instalment), Rs. 3,945. A Friend of Labour (2nd instalment), Rs. 1,000. The Bombay Presidency

Postmen's Union, Bombay, Rs. 25. The Grain Merchants' Association, Bombay, Rs. 200. The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union, Bombay, Rs. 25. The International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam (£450, 5th instalment), Rs. 5,927-15-3. The International Federation of Textile Workers' Association, London (3rd instalment), Rs. 2,367. The Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, Rs. 500. Collections by Volunteers and workers, Rs. 291. The International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam (£250, 6th instalment), Rs. 3,293-5-0. The International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam (£300, 7th instalment), Rs. 3,951-15-6. Small subscriptions Rs. 20. Total Rs. 42,582-3-10.

The sixth and the seventh instalments of £250 and £300 respectively from the International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam, were received after the end of the strike.

In the November issue of the *Labour Gazette* it was reported that fifteen relief centres had been opened by the Committee in different parts of Bombay City. Additional centres were opened at Colaba and Worli on the 19th November and a third at Kamatipura on the 21st November, making eighteen centres in all. Rations were issued at all the relief centres right up to the 6th December 1925. The total number of people to whom rations were supplied during the whole period of the strike amounted to 184,038 and the number of ration days to nearly a quarter of a million. The figure given for the number of workers assisted does not mean that 184,038 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 20,000 people were assisted in one form or another. The number of workers who were sent out of Bombay amounted to about 700, of whom 500 were provided with steamer passages and 200 with railway tickets. The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the Relief Fund :—

Receipts	Rs. a. p.			Expenditure	Rs. a. p.		
	Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
Contributions ..	35,336	15	4	Cost of relief in kind ..	18,793	12	2
Contributions received from the International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam, as 5th and 6th instalments of £250 and £300 respectively ..	7,245	4	6	Railway and steamer fares ..	2,259	12	6
				Printing and Propaganda ..	1,227	8	0
				Cables and postage ..	517	12	6
				Administration charges ..	726	15	0
				Amount kept in suspense for making further payments in connexion with the strike ..	311	3	2

Receipts	Rs. a. p.	Expenditure	Rs. a. p.
		Balance being excess of receipts over expenditure ..	18,745 4 6
Total ..	42,582 3 10	Total ..	42,582 3 10

The amount of Rs. 7,245-4-6 representing the value of the last two remittances from the International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam, has been kept in a separate suspense account pending the decision of the International Federation as to the manner in which it should be spent. The balance remaining, Rs. 11,500, has been disposed of as follows:—

- Rs. 5,000 Reserved for future general strikes in the City of Bombay within the next two years with the option that after two years the amount may be utilised either for strike purposes or for general labour organisation.
- .. 2,500 to be utilised immediately for the organisation of Textile workers in Bombay City.
- .. 2,000 to be returned to the Bombay Labour Organisation Fund.
- .. 2,000 to be refunded to the All India Trade Union Congress for the credit of the fund opened at the time of the N. W. Railway strike.

Rs. 11,500 Total.

The Committee of Assistance to the Textile Workers dissolved itself on the 6th December after constituting a small committee consisting of Messrs. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., R. R. Bakhale, F. J. Ginwalla and Kanji Dwarkadas to act as Treasurers of the various balances of the Relief Fund.

THE END OF THE STRIKE

Despite the virtual termination of the dispute, the Cotton Mill Industry of Bombay still continues (at the moment of writing on the 21st December) to be in a disorganised condition. On the first day after the termination of the strike (Dec. 3rd) only 10,737 operatives out of nearly 150,000 went in to work in the various mills. The figures for the daily attendance at the mills since that date are as follows:—

4th December ..	20,268	13th December ..	Holiday
5th ..	25,109	14th ..	82,388
6th ..	Holiday	15th ..	88,388
7th ..	44,584	16th ..	94,198
8th ..	55,476	17th ..	96,343
9th ..	64,599	18th ..	99,979
10th ..	70,060	19th ..	101,087
11th ..	76,828	20th ..	Holiday.
12th ..	79,295		

According to the daily progress in attendance as shown above it does not appear to be likely that all the mills will be able to work with their full complements much before the beginning of the New Year.

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in November .. 6 Workpeople involved .. 154,864

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

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in November 1925			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Nov. 1925	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Nov. 1925*
	Started before 1st Nov.	Started in Nov.	Total		
Textile ..	2	4	6	154,864	3,699,628
Total November 1925 ..	2	4	6	154,864	3,699,628
Total October 1925 ..	1	4	5	154,473	3,904,182

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

During the month under review the number of disputes was six, five 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 six disputes was 154,864 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers

replaced) was 3,699,628. 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 3,671,802.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results July to November 1925

	July 1925	August 1925	September 1925	October 1925	November 1925
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	4	9	7	5	6
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	....	....	3	1	2
Fresh disputes begun ..	4	9	4	4	4
Disputes ended ..	4	6	6	3	3
Disputes in progress at end ..	....	3	1	2	3
Number of workpeople involved ..	346	1,347	146,425	154,473	154,864
Aggregate duration in working days ..	1,543	4,884	1,551,927	3,904,182	3,699,628
Demands—					
Pay ..	....	7	2	4	3
Bonus ..	....	....	1	....	....
Personal ..	3	2	3	1	2
Leave and hours ..	....	....	....	....	....
Others ..	1	....	1	....	1
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	....	....	1	....	....
Compromised ..	....	1	....	....	....
In favour of employers ..	4	5	5	3	3

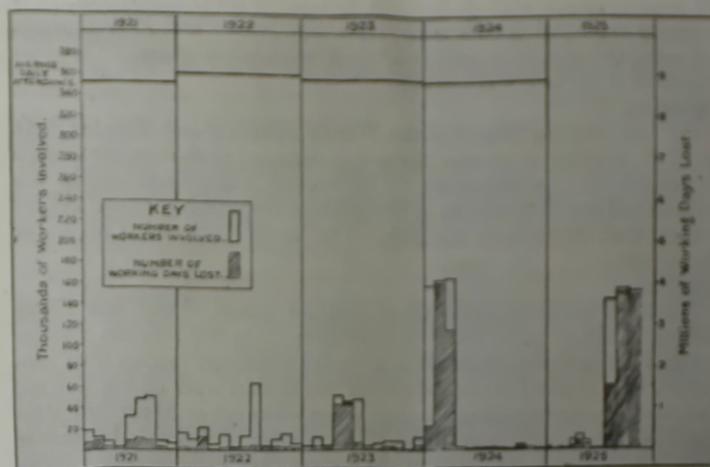
The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

III.—Industrial Disputes

Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs	Aggregate duration in working days	Disputes settled			In progress (Per cent.)
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)	
November 1924 ..	6	4,201	67	..	16	17
December ..	6	941	67	16	17	..
January 1925 ..	5	1,444	40	40	20	..
February ..	4	3,070	50	..	25	25
March ..	7	9,962	72	14	14	..
April ..	11	70,672	46	9	27	18
May ..	16	202,683	44	13	37	6
June ..	2	138,459	100	..	..	..
July ..	4	1,543	100	..	..	..
August ..	9	4,884	56	..	11	33
September ..	7	1,551,927	72	14	..	14
October ..	5	3,904,182	60	..	..	40
November ..	6	3,699,628	50	..	..	50
Totals or Average (cols. 4 to 7) ..	88	9,593,596	63	8	13	16

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

Effect of Industrial Disputes Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

During November 1925, the number of industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency was six as compared with five in the previous month. Of these six disputes three terminated during the month. All these ended in favour of the employers. At the end of the month three disputes were still in progress.

BOMBAY

There was no other dispute in progress in Bombay except the general strike described in the two previous issues of the "Labour Gazette". The strike continued during the month. While it was in progress there was some small attendance of workpeople doing odd jobs at most of the mills.

AHMEDABAD

In Ahmedabad there were three industrial disputes during the month under review. The dispute in the Ahmedabad Commercial Mills Co., Ltd., at Idga Road, arose on the 2nd November over the dismissal of a Mukadam when 15 winders struck work demanding his reinstatement. The dispute ended on 3rd November, 8 strikers having resumed work unconditionally and new men being employed in place of the remainder.

The introduction of coarser production in the New Manekchok Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., resulted in a decrease in the output and consequently in the reduction of the earnings of the weavers. The weavers demanded an increase in the rates of wages to enable them to receive the same average amount as before. The demand was refused and 297

weavers struck work on the 11th. The strikers were paid off on the 12th and the strike ended on the 13th when 272 weavers resumed work unconditionally and 25 new men were employed.

The management of the Aryodaya Spinning and Manufacturing Co., dismissed a Jobber who was not working to their satisfaction. Thereupon 150 weavers struck work on the 30th demanding his reinstatement. The Secretary employed on the same day a new Jobber and 75 workpeople and asked the strikers to take away their outstanding wages. The strike continued at the end of the month.

VIRAMGAM

The new weaving master of the Whittle Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., decided to recover the cost of damaged cloth from the weavers responsible for the bad work. The weavers complained against this decision and the ill-treatment at the hands of the weaving master and 250 of them went on strike on the 28th. The strike continued at the end of the month.

AMALNER

There was no change in the strike situation of the Old and New Pratap Mills at Amalner up to the 10th November. On the 11th the manager put up a notice to the effect that in accordance with the request from some strikers he was going to open the mills and to start work on the 12th and that those who were willing to accept wages with a cut of 20 per cent. in the dearness allowances should attend. The number of strikers who resumed work in response to the notice of the manager gradually increased day by day and the strike ended on the 20th November in favour of the employers.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER 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 November in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi, and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During November there were in all 170 factory accidents in Bombay City of which one was fatal, eight serious and the remaining 161 minor accidents. Of the total, 15 or 9 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 155 or 91 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion in different classes of factories being 92 per cent. in workshops, 4 per cent. in textile mills and 4 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

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

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

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 36 out of which 14 occurred in textile mills, 19 in workshops and 3 in miscellaneous concerns. 14 of these accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. One accident was fatal, six serious and the rest minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

AHMEDABAD

A cotton mill was prosecuted under Section 43 (c) of the Factories Act for non-compliance with Rule 24 respecting the maintenance of sanitary latrines in spite of a previous warning. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 200.

A second mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Act for breach of Section 22 for employing certain persons on Sunday. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 180 in all. (Six cases were taken and a fine of Rs. 30 was imposed in each case.)

A third mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (f) of the Act for breach of Section 18 and Rule 33 (2) for failing to satisfactorily maintain the safety apparatus on scutchers. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 200.

A fourth mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (f) of the Act for a similar breach of Section 18 and Rule 33 (2). The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

A fifth mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (j) of the Act for breach of Rule 64 in not reporting an accident on a calendar caused through a breach of Rule 36. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

Workmen's Compensation

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

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of November 1925. Information has not been received from two Commissioners. Out of 22 cases disposed of during the month, 20 were reported by the Commissioner for Bombay as against 33 during the preceding month. It should be remembered that this is not the number of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 11,492-13-0 was awarded as compensation as against Rs. 19,347 in October and Rs. 11,650-14-3 in September. Out of 22 accidents 8 were fatal, 13 cases were of permanent partial disablement and 1 case of temporary disablement.

The number of compensation cases in cotton mills was 13 during the month under review as against 11 in the preceding month. No disease case has come up since January 1925.

Claimants for compensation were males over 15 in 21 cases and females over 15 in one case.

Out of 22 cases in November, 12 were original claims and 10 registrations of agreement. Compensation was awarded in 10 cases, agreement was effected in 10 cases, one was rejected and one was dismissed.

Immigrant Labour in Ceylon

(Continued from page 254.)

Health and Sanitary Conditions on Estates

The supervision of sanitary conditions on estates is under the direction of the Principal Civil Medical Officer who has an inspecting staff consisting of three Inspecting Medical Officers each with a duly qualified medical assistant. All estate districts are accordingly divided into three divisions. The duties of an Inspecting Medical Officer are—

- (1) to visit the estates within his districts or any other estate which he may be specially directed to visit, and to inspect the sanitary condition thereof;
- (2) to examine the labourers on such estates for the purpose of ascertaining their condition of health;
- (3) to inspect all children under the age of one year, resident upon such estates, and to give directions to the superintendent for their proper care and nourishment;
- (4) to direct the removal to a Government or estate hospital of any sick labourer, whose removal he may consider necessary;
- (5) to draw the attention of the superintendent to any defect in the sanitary condition of his estate and in the condition of health of the labourers;
- (6) if any estate has an estate hospital or dispensary, to inspect such hospital or dispensary; and
- (7) to report to the Principal Civil Medical Officer on all or any of the above matters.

Efficiency on the estate hospitals is maintained not only by a rigid system of inspection but also by the award of a rebate to the estates served by each hospital on the duty paid by each on the export of its produce, in proportion to the marks gained at an inspection. The cost of construction, maintenance, equipment, and salaries of officers and the members of the staff are borne by the estate. Government give free drugs to a value not exceeding 50 cents per annum for every labourer employed on the estate and drugs over that amount are supplied at cost price. As a result of the frequent medical inspections of the estates much progress has been made in the construction of new lines, in the remodelling of the old, and in the care and attention paid to the labourer and his family by the estate management.

The question which is receiving the greatest attention of the Principal Civil Medical Officer and his inspecting staff is the eradication of soil pollution in the neighbourhood of lines and latrines. Soil pollution is the most important factor in the dissemination of hookworm disease. The Rockefeller Institute have for some years been conducting, with the help of Government, an ancylostomiasis campaign in the Island. The principal centres of their operations during the year were Matale and Dimbula where encouraging results were obtained. The Government of Ceylon have now started, with the consent of the Government of Madras, a scheme by which the recruits for Ceylon undergo a preventive treatment against hookworm disease whilst they remain in quarantine at the Mandapam Camp. The treatment at first was given on a voluntary basis only and

those who did not wish to undergo the course were not compelled to do so. Most recruits are however showing a unanimous willingness to take the treatment and the earliest results have been found to be very encouraging.

Maternity and child welfare are also receiving increasing attention and systematic care is now taken of mothers for the period immediately before and after childbirth. The principal obstacle which has to be overcome before making the system general to all estates in the Island is the ignorance or the apathy of the mothers and their reluctance to forego their old customs and adopt more hygienic practices.

There were very few epidemics on the estates during the year under review. Malaria was reported as more prevalent than usual on a few estates in the Matale District and Dumbara in the Kandy District. There was an outbreak of influenza and a few cases of cholera in some estates in the Province of Uva. The infection of cholera is considered to have been due to infection carried by arrivals from India as there was no endemic cholera in the Island. At Welimeda, where the water supply to most of the estates was open to pollution, a few cases of enteric fever occurred but steps were soon taken to remedy the matter.

Desertions, Strikes, Crime and Offences

Whenever estates suffer from a shortage of labour, as was the case during the beginning of the year under report, there exists a marked tendency for gangs of Indian labourers to move from one estate to another. The practice of paying cash as advance bonuses to induce labourers to leave one estate and to take up employment on another has been much in vogue during recent years but estate superintendents now find that those labourers who are ready to move from one estate to another on the inducement of a cash payment are as likely to leave the estate which pays the bonus for another which offers a more tempting bait. This system has been strongly deprecated by the Planters' Association and every endeavour is now being made for its eradication.

No strikes or labour troubles of any serious nature occurred in any of the planting districts during the year which goes to show that the Indian immigrants were fairly contented and had nothing particular to complain about.

From statistics which were collected for the first time for the year 1924 it would appear that the Indian immigrant labourers are an exceedingly law-abiding community. When it is considered that the average population of the Indian labouring classes for the Island amounts to 550,000 the percentages of prosecutions and convictions for criminal offences is almost negligible. The number of cases tried in the Police Courts amounted to 253 with 319 persons prosecuted and 205 convictions. The most common offences were theft. The total number of cases of theft of all kinds amounted to 79, with 101 accused and 77 convictions. The number of cases for voluntarily causing hurt amounted to 46, with 56 accused and 36 convictions. Cases of different kinds for voluntarily causing grievous hurt amounted to 32, with 40 accused and 27 convictions. The more serious cases tried in the District Courts were very few in number. There were only 12 cases in all, with 17 accused and 12 persons convicted on various charges. Six cases were in connexion with the offence of homicide

of which only 1 was found guilty of murder and hanged. One accused was acquitted, one was found insane and sent to the Lunatic Asylum, two were found guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and were sentenced respectively to five and ten years' rigorous imprisonment, and one case was pending at the end of the year. There were 65 cases of prosecutions on charges instituted by employers against labourers. 70 persons were accused and only 20 convicted. The number of proceedings by labourers against employers amounted to 20 with 22 accused and 6 convictions. The charges were mainly under the head of voluntarily causing simple hurt or wrongful confinement. One employer was convicted for mischief by shooting a cow.

Remittances to India from Ceylon

The amount of remittances of money between two countries depends largely on the balance of trade. The balance of trade as between India and Ceylon is greatly in favour of India and as a consequence of this, a large amount of money is sent every year from Ceylon to India. The remittances by telegraphic and postal money orders during the year 1924 amounted to nine lakhs of rupees from India to Ceylon and to eighty-seven lakhs of rupees from Ceylon to India or nearly ten times as much. No reliable figures can be given in connexion with the value of remittances by registered or insured letters. In most cases people are generally inclined to under-insure the full value of the amounts sent under cover of insured letters and it is not possible therefore to arrive at quite accurate estimates of total remittances. But there is no doubt that the Indian immigrant labourers in Ceylon must be remitting a considerable amount of savings to relatives and dependants in India. The Postmaster-General of Ceylon estimates that estate labourers remitted over twenty-six lakhs of rupees or roughly 30 per cent. of the total remittances by money orders made during the year. This estimate would show that the labourers are able to save at least 4·4 per cent. of their earnings. In addition to this, it might be confidently anticipated that there must be a large amount of savings which is not remitted to India but kept in Ceylon by the labourers themselves to be taken away when they leave Ceylon either for good or for a holiday on the "coast". It is understood from remarks made in the Report that both the Government of India and the Government of Ceylon are engaged in collecting Family Budgets showing the income and expenditure of Indian estate labourers in Ceylon. The results of this enquiry would be of great value in arriving at more or less accurate deductions on various questions on which more detailed information is at present required.

Political Status of Indians

The Legislative Council of Ceylon consists of 12 official and 37 unofficial members. The 37 unofficial members consist of three unofficials nominated by the Governor with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, 11 members elected to represent communal electorates and 23 to represent territorial electorates. The Indian Communal Electorate in the Colony is represented by two members. The total number of registered voters in the various electorates is 205,081 of whom 12,901 are Indians. Most of the Indian estate labourers do not possess the requisite property

qualifications to be registered as voters, but there are several estate karigamies and other minor estate employees who are on the electoral rolls. Most of the voters in the Indian electorate are traders in the various towns.

Departure of Indians from Ceylon

With the exception of those cases where estate labourers are repatriated at the expense of the Immigration Fund, the emigration of Indian labourers from Ceylon is not "assisted". The only concession made in the case of estate labourers who wish to return to India for a holiday or for good is that they are carried by the Ceylon Government Railway at half the usual fare, if they produce certificates from their employers stating that they are relinquishing their employment as labourers on registered estates. The journey to Talaimannar therefore only costs them a very few rupees. But beyond this concession all normal labourers have to bear the expenses in connexion with their return journey to India out of their own pockets.

Owing to the reason that estate labourers returning to India have not to undergo a detailed examination in Ceylon for quarantine purposes, it has not been found possible to ascertain the proportion of the men and women of different age groups who leave Ceylon every year. The figures collected for departures from Ceylon only show the gross totals of the passengers who leave from each Port. The office of the Indian Emigration Commissioner at Dhanushkodi, however, keeps a tally of all estate labourers and their families as they land from the daily steamers at that Port. The total number of departures from Talaimannar to Dhanushkodi during 1924 amounted to 105,129 of whom 2,558 were first class passengers, 6,007 second class and 96,564 third class. The tally of the Emigration Commissioner shows that out of the total number of passengers that landed at Dhanushkodi 56,118 were estate labourers. The number of passengers that travelled to India from Colombo to Tuticorin amounted to 34,748 of whom 31,931 travelled by third class. But as these totals almost correspond with the totals of the arrivals into Ceylon by this route for the year 1924, and also as all estate labourers travel over the Dhanushkodi-Talaimannar route when they are first taken over to Ceylon, it is fairly safe to say that very few estate labourers returned to India *via* Tuticorin.

Out of the total number of 56,118 labourers who landed at Dhanushkodi only 18,262 were without the possession of identification slips, etc., which would enable to return to Ceylon as "old employees". This shows that the majority or nearly 70 per cent. of those who returned to India intended to go back to Ceylon. If the figures for arrivals into Ceylon are compared with the departures from Ceylon, it is found that 62,000 old employees immigrated into the country as against a total of 56,000 estate labourers who left. The Emigration Commissioner in India reports that the increasing attractions of employment on Ceylon estates, as compared with conditions in South India, induced many who had been some years "at coast" to return to their former employment in Ceylon.

Repatriation

The question of the repatriation of estate labourers to India is of so great an importance from the point of view of Indian public opinion that nothing could be better than to reproduce the Controller's remarks under this head *in toto*.

" If the Indian Agent shall at any time within one year of the arrival in Ceylon of an Indian immigrant labourer, who has been assisted to come to Ceylon at the cost of the Immigration Fund, be satisfied that the return of such immigrant labourer to his home is desirable either on the ground of the state of his health, or on the ground that the work which he is required to do is unsuitable to his capacity, or that he has been unjustly treated by his employer, or for any other sufficient reason, such immigrant labourer shall be repatriated, free of cost, to the place of recruitment, and the cost of repatriating him shall be payable out of the said Fund.

" In addition to repatriation under section 22 of Ordinance of 1923, the Ceylon Government, at the suggestion of the Government of India, have agreed to repatriate indigent Indian immigrants or those who, by reason of disease or infirmity, are no longer capable of maintaining themselves, even though they have spent over one year in the Island. This scheme came first into operation on March 1, 1924.

" Cases of labourers, actually on estates, who become incapable of earning their living are reported to the Controller by the Superintendents. They are sent for examination by the District Medical Officer, and on the receipt of his medical certificate immediate arrangements are made for their repatriation, together with that of the dependants, if any, who should be allowed to return with them. They are sent either direct from the estate, or from hospital, as the case may be, to the nearest railway station. Here they are taken over by an escort peon who sees them to Dhanushkodi, where they are handed over to the Emigration Commissioner, who arranges for their return to their homes. They are carried over the Ceylon Railway at the cost of Government; the rest of the charges are borne by the Immigration Fund.

" Indigent Indian immigrants, *i.e.*, the vagrants who collect in the large towns are produced before the Magistrate, who certifies them as vagrants. They are then sent down to the House of Detention in Colombo. If they are able-bodied and suitable situations can be found for them they are sent to their new employers. Otherwise they are handed over at Maradana Railway Station to an escort peon of the Controller's Department and repatriated in the same manner as infirm immigrants.

" The total repatriations under the Ordinance and under the scheme are given in the subjoined table:—

" Repatriated under Ordinance No. 1 of 1923.

	Men	Women	Children under 12 years of age	Total
(a) Repatriated within one year of arrival in Ceylon on account of—				
(i) Ill-health	7	3	1	11
(ii) Unsuitability of work	5	7	7	19
(iii) Unjust treatment .. .. .	..	..	..	..
(iv) Other reasons	30	13	16	59*
	42	23	24	89

	Men	Women	Children under 12 years of age	Total
Repatriated under the Scheme of 1924.				
(b) Repatriated on account of—				
(i) Sickness	20	33	23	126
(ii) Unemployment caused by industrial depression .. .. .	..	..	..	..
(iii) Vagrants collected at the House of Detention	168	70	82	320
(c) (i) Repatriated on other grounds	15	7	14	36
(ii) Assisted to return to India as rejected immigrants .. .. .	..	..	..	..
	253	110	119	482

* Fifty-seven of these were a collection of bolters from estates who made their way to Colombo and were there found stranded; one was a girl repatriated as the mother died on the estate, and the other a boy falsely recruited as a relation by a langany whose license was cancelled as a result of his improper action.

" The total number of persons repatriated during 1924 was 571."

Expenditure on Immigration

Including the amount collected during the year as acreage fees, the total revenue to the credit of the Immigration Fund amounted to Rs. 37,56,901.48 for the financial year 1923-24. The total expenditure for recruiting and assisting immigrant labour into Ceylon amounted to Rs. 32,17,988.91. Excess revenue over expenditure as at 31st January 1925 amounted to Rs. 5,38,912.57. The number of persons provided with passages from 1st October 1923 to 30th September 1924 totalled 156,220. The total cost per head of immigrant labour therefore amounted to Rs. 20.59.

The Postal and R. M. S. Conference

The Sixth Sessions of the All-India (including Burma) Postal and R. M. S. Conference was held at Patna on the 8th, 9th and 10th of November 1925. Mr. S. A. Khan was the President of the Reception Committee while Mr. Devakiprasad Sinha presided over the deliberations of the Conference. In a short speech which he delivered, the Chairman of the Reception Committee gave a brief account of the activities of the Postal and R. M. S. Union and emphasized the need of organisation and efficiency among the members. He pointed out that their salvation lay in these and these alone.

The President in his address pointed out first of all that the Postal and R. M. S. Union was not merely a group of men put together for the purpose of ventilating the grievances of the postal staff or for petitioning to the employers for the redress of those grievances. It was a living embodiment of a new life that inspires workers in every civilized country to unite

together in defence against organised exploitation on the part of employers. The Postal Union unlike the other unions in this country was, he said, a highly developed organisation which could compare favourably with the trade union organisation of the advanced countries of Europe. Referring to the grievances of the Postal workers the President said that in spite of the numerous petitions made by them since 1920 their grievances had not been as yet redressed. A resolution was moved in the Legislative Assembly recommending that Government should look into the matter urgently but Government replied that all that was necessary was a meeting between the representatives of the union and the representatives of Government. The results of this meeting were not yet out but the Postal staff believe that "the situation is now clear and very hopeful and much good may be expected provided there was not much relaxation on the part of the employees". The President further pointed out that the main difficulty in the way of redressing their grievances was financial. The demands made by the Postal workers could not be met not because of the unsympathetic attitude of the heads of that department but because the administrative system was defective. It was said that in order to meet the demands of the postal workers three crores of rupees would have to be spent every year and this was an impossibility in view of the fact that the total loss on the working of the Postal and Telegraph Departments during the last year amounted to Rs. 60,000. This loss, the President urged, was not loss due to the working of the Postal Department but was due to the fact that there was the same budget for the Postal and the Telegraph Departments. In fact the working of the Postal Department itself gave a net profit of Rs. 29,28,100 while the loss on the working of the Telegraph and Telephone Departments amounted to Rs. 26,15,413 and Rs. 3,72,670 respectively. By mixing up the budgets of these two departments Government were robbing Peter to pay Paul. The Telegraph Department was used essentially by the rich while the Postal Department was used by all and sundry. And the course followed by the Government amounted to taxing the poor in order to subsidise the rich.

Apart however from the consideration of finance, the President urged it was the duty of the state to consider questions not from the point of view of the consumer alone but also from the point of view of the producer. This was particularly necessary in the case of state industries where what was required was not commercialisation but humanisation.

Dealing with the question of retrenchment in the Postal Department the President pointed out that in spite of the fact that the Retrenchment Committee recommended that the pay of the subordinate services in India should be re-examined with a view to reduction in the rate sanctioned in 1920 and also that reduction should be made in the number of superior officers in the Post and Telegraph Departments, the Government had given effect to the former recommendation while altogether ignoring the latter.

In his concluding observations the President pointed out that the Post Office was a nationalised industry and the workers must therefore have a hand in its control. They could not gain this control by appealing to members of the Legislative Assembly who were mostly capitalistic in their sympathies. The workers themselves were the moulders of their

own destiny and must not rely on outsiders to solve their problems. They must organise themselves into trade unions and create an atmosphere wherein the ideals of trade unionism would thrive. They must not be satisfied only with organisation but must try to enlist the sympathy of British public opinion. The policy of the Government of India, he pointed out, was dictated from Whitehall and it was therefore the education of the English worker in Indian problems that was essential for the redress of the grievances of Indian workmen. Besides this, it was necessary, the President urged, for the Postal workers to press their claim for special representation in the Indian Legislative Assembly. These things, he believed, would help them in the solution of the problems but he warned the workers not to forget that while they were in the midst of the fight they should never disobey the laws and instructions laid down by their superiors. Only if the struggle were well-conducted and well-disciplined could fruitful results be obtained.

Mofussil Labour and Wages

MATERIAL IMPROVEMENT IN CONDITIONS

Effect of the Fall in Grain Prices

The following article prepared by the Labour Office will appear in the General Administration Report of the Bombay Presidency for 1924-25 :—

Taking the purchasing power of the rupee as 16 annas in the pre-war year its purchasing power fell from ten annas and five pies for the year 1923-1924 to ten annas and two pies for the year 1924-1925. This was due to the fact that during 1924 the cost of living rose steadily by eleven points between April and August and remained at the same constant level from August to the end of the year. Expressed in terms of percentages the cost of living was 57 per cent. higher than that of July 1914 during the year under review as compared with 54 per cent. in the previous year. The effect of the fall in the purchasing power of the rupee appears to have had its corresponding effect on wages throughout the Presidency because wages of all classes of labour rose by about five per cent. during 1924-1925. The position of labour in the districts to-day is much better than at any time since the beginning of the century. Prices reached their peak in 1920 and, with the exception of a short upward tendency, as shown above, have fallen by over twenty points during the last five years. Wages, however, have shown a constant upward tendency during this period which suggests that the material condition of labourers in this Presidency, as expressed in terms of real wages, has considerably improved.

This view is in harmony with the opinions expressed by many Collectors of Districts. Reports from the Northern Division state that, taken altogether, the labouring classes are in a happy condition. Several Collectors from the Central Division are of opinion that the general position of the average labourer is good and that there is an improvement in his condition. Reports from the Southern Division also show that the economic condition of labour was satisfactory throughout the year whilst those from Sind state that the rates of wages are very high in comparison with pre-war rates and that they do not appear to be much affected

by a rise or fall in prices. A most gratifying observation frequently made is to the effect that labour has improved its standard of living in many parts of the Presidency during recent years. On the other hand, there is no corresponding increase in efficiency. In the Kolaba District, the Tata Electric Company had to import many labourers from outside owing to the fact that local labour was not sufficiently efficient. In this district high wages have neither conduced to increased efficiency nor to the adoption of better conditions of living; and greater independence has only resulted in slowness and indifference to work. The tendency to squander surplus income is becoming more marked and absenteeism is on the increase, for the reason that the average agricultural labourer is generally not inclined for continual work. If he is able to sell his labour at a good price he knocks off from work for two or three days in a week. This is one of the principal reasons given why the supply of labour in several tracts is not sufficient to cope with the demand.

With the exception of the general migration of labour to the cities of Bombay, Ahmedabad and Sholapur, and, in the cotton season, to the two Khandesh Districts, there was not much inter-district migration during the year in the Presidency proper. Contrary to the usual custom, very few Cutchi, Thari and Marwari labourers migrated to Sind, the reason being that these people were able to eke out a satisfactory existence in their own territories. But there was considerable inter-district migration in Sind itself on account of the ready employment available on the various works in connexion with the Lloyd Barrage.

Agricultural Labour.—In the Northern Division agricultural labour continued to be scarce and costly. In the Ahmedabad District there is a crying need for a more settled agricultural population on account of an increase in the areas for cultivation although vast tracts of waste still remain to be converted into arable land. In Broach, with the exception of the Bahra Tract of the Vagra Taluka where the season was not entirely favourable, there was the same usual scarcity for field labourers. In the harvesting season cultivators had to pay as much as a rupee a day with food per head for the labour which they required. However, much of the agricultural work in this district is done by permanent servants who are paid in cash along with food and clothing. Their status is in many cases no better than that of bondsmen but their position is fairly secure. In the Thana District cultivators are endeavouring to maintain a hold on their employees by making advances of money for marriages but in many cases the labourers leave their masters as soon as they are married because they know that no action can be taken against them under the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act or any other law except through the long and tedious procedure of the Civil Courts.

In the rural areas of the Central Division the average wages of agricultural labourers rose from six annas and three pies per head per day to seven annas and six pies or by twenty per cent. This was due to the generally favourable character of the season in all districts with the exception of West Khandesh where no unusual demand for agricultural labour was in evidence. The agricultural labour outlook is however causing great anxiety to the richer cultivators in this district. Hitherto they were

accustomed to a local supply of comparatively docile, if not efficient, Bhil Saldars. Nowadays, every Bhil hopes to set up as a free cultivator and is becoming possessed of ideas of independence. The same occurs with the poor man of other castes who have hitherto worked as Saldars and servants.

In the Southern Division the supply of labour was more than sufficient to meet the local demand on the coast; but above ghats, it is becoming more and more difficult to obtain the labour required for agricultural operations; and cultivators and the owners of the spice gardens have to depend almost entirely on labour imported from the neighbouring Districts of Dharwar and Bijapur and from Goa. The work of cutting and destroying prickly pear and of repairing the tanks provided sufficient work in the Dharwar District for a considerable number of people during the off season. In the Kanara District there was much agricultural unrest on account of the revolt against the special tenures on which labourers hold land, to the insecurity of tenure of the tenants and to a general revolt against and a breaking away from old and established customs. Bijapur was favoured with a good season and as a result the wages of field labour rose by nearly 20 per cent. in this district during the year under review.

In Sind the wages of agricultural labourers in urban areas rose by nearly twenty per cent. over the levels of the previous year and in rural areas by seven per cent. In the Hala Division of the Hyderabad District labour was very scarce at the time of harvesting on account of a general outbreak of malaria. A considerable number of agricultural labourers took up employment at the works of the Lloyd Barrage but, speaking generally, there was a sufficient supply of labour available for agricultural operations in the whole Division. The following table gives the average daily wages of field labourers in the neighbourhood of district headquarter towns (urban areas) and in more rural areas by Divisions and Economic Circles and for the Presidency with and without Sind for the years 1913, 1923 and 1924:—

Divisions	Daily Average Wages in					
	1913		1923		1924	
	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas
Political Divisions—	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Northern Division ..	0 4 9	0 3 9	0 11 0	0 8 3	0 9 9	0 8 0
Central Division ..	0 5 0	0 4 3	0 9 0	0 6 3	0 9 0	0 7 6
Southern Division ..	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 8 6	0 6 3	0 8 9	0 6 0
Economic Circles—						
Gujarat Circle ..	0 4 6	0 3 9	0 10 9	0 8 3	0 9 3	0 8 0
Deccan Circle ..	0 4 6	0 4 0	0 8 3	0 6 0	0 8 6	0 6 6
Konkan Circle ..	0 5 3	0 4 6	0 11 3	0 9 0	0 11 3	0 9 3
Presidency Proper ..	0 4 9	0 4 0	0 9 6	0 7 0	0 9 3	0 7 3
Sind ..	0 7 9	0 8 0	0 12 6	0 14 9	0 14 3	0 15 9
Whole Presidency ..	0 4 9	0 4 3	0 9 6	0 7 3	0 9 3	0 7 6

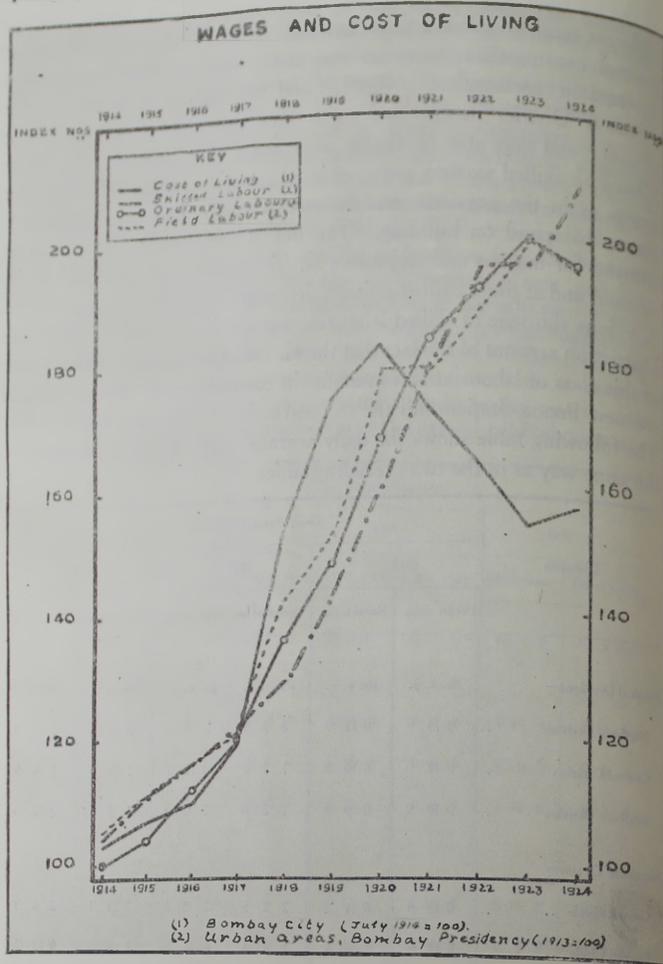
Unskilled Labour.—Owing to extensive constructional work in almost all Districts in the Northern, Central and Southern Divisions the supply of casual labour in the Presidency proper was insufficient to meet the demand. The constructional work in connexion with the Security Printing Press and the Central Jail at Nasik was responsible for the partial diverting of the usual labour supply available in this district for employment in the railway workshops at Manmad, Nandgaon and Igatpuri; and in the Poona District the construction of the Bhatgar Dam gave employment to a considerable number of unskilled labourers at good rates of wages. Bombay City and the Bombay Suburban District attracted thousands of labourers from the Konkan and the Thana District and all immigrants found ready employment on the various schemes in connexion with the electrification of the G. I. P. and the B. B. & C. I. Railways, the duplication of the Tansa mains and the reclamation and development projects of the Bombay Municipality, the Improvement Trust and the Development Department. The City and the Port of Karachi were able to absorb all available manual labour and at times the supply was augmented by immigration from Cutch and other parts of Sind. The following table shows the daily average wages of unskilled labourers in district headquarter towns (urban areas) and in certain taluka towns, one in each district (rural areas) in the same manner as in the case of field labourers:—

Divisions	Daily Average Wages in					
	1913		1923		1924	
	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Political Divisions—						
Northern Division ..	0 5 3	0 4 3	0 14 0	0 11 3	0 14 3	0 11 0
Central Division ..	0 5 9	0 4 6	0 10 3	0 6 6	0 9 9	0 8 0
Southern Division ..	0 5 9	0 4 9	0 10 3	0 7 9	0 10 6	0 7 6
Economic Circles—						
Gujarat Circle ..	0 5 3	0 4 0	0 13 3	0 11 0	0 13 9	0 11 0
Deccan Circle ..	0 5 9	0 4 6	0 10 0	0 6 3	0 9 9	0 7 6
Konkan Circle ..	0 6 3	0 5 3	0 13 0	0 10 6	0 13 0	0 9 9
Presidency Proper ..	0 5 9	0 4 6	0 11 3	0 8 0	0 11 3	0 8 9
Sind ..	0 8 0	0 7 3	0 15 9	0 11 9	0 15 6	0 12 0
Whole Presidency ..	0 6 3	0 5 3	0 12 6	0 9 0	0 12 3	0 9 6

Skilled Labour.—The wages of skilled labourers increased from 5 to 20 per cent. in several districts in the Presidency over the levels of the previous year. This increase was mainly due to a big demand for different types of skilled artisans for employment in building work and for general constructional work in connexion with various development schemes in reclamation, irrigation and the making of dams. In the Dharwar District masons and carpenters were masters of the labour situation and were able to dictate what terms they pleased. In West Khandesh skilled workers were not in as great demand outside the larger towns as in the previous year because the patils and gujars had little money to spend on building. The fire at Nandurbar caused a great demand for masons and carpenters but the supply was not equal to the demand and at times skilled artisans, in many places, were unprocurable. A serious shortage of skilled labourers was also in evidence in the Poona District on account of the fact that the G. I. P. Railway employed as much of this class of labour as was available in connexion with the building of the new Poona Station and the reconstruction of the sidings and yards. The following table shows the daily average wages of skilled labourers in the same way as in the two preceding tables:—

Divisions	Daily Average Wages in					
	1913		1923		1924	
	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Political Divisions—						
Northern Division ..	0 13 9	0 11 9	2 3 6	2 0 3	2 2 6	2 0 3
Central Division ..	0 13 0	0 10 6	1 7 0	0 15 3	1 9 6	1 0 9
Southern Division ..	0 10 9	0 9 9	1 2 0	1 0 0	1 3 6	0 15 6
Economic Circles—						
Gujarat Circle ..	0 13 6	0 11 9	2 2 3	2 0 3	2 1 3	2 0 3
Deccan Circle ..	0 11 9	0 10 0	1 4 9	0 14 9	1 6 6	0 15 3
Konkan Circle ..	0 13 9	0 11 3	1 12 0	1 9 9	1 14 6	1 9 6
Presidency Proper ..	0 12 6	0 10 9	1 9 3	1 5 0	1 10 6	1 5 3
Sind ..	1 4 6	1 2 0	2 3 9	1 11 0	2 8 6	1 13 9
Whole Presidency ..	0 13 9	0 11 9	1 11 0	1 6 0	1 12 9	1 6 6

The following chart illustrates the tendency referred to in the first paragraph of this article:—



Cotton Industry in Japan

STATISTICS OF PRODUCTION

The Labour Office has received, through the courtesy of the Consul for Japan, a most interesting statistical pamphlet published by the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association, dealing with the rapid and remarkable growth of the cotton mill industry in Japan during the last twenty-two years.

The paid-up capital of the mills affiliated to the Association rose from 34 million yen in 1903 to 350 million yen in 1924, and the Reserve Funds from 5 million yen to 213 million yen during the same period. In 1916 the Reserve Funds stood at 49 million yen. 21 million yen were added in 1917, 22 millions in 1918, 47 millions in 1919, 26 millions in 1920, 17 millions in 1921 and 21 millions in 1922. In 1923 the amount transferred to Reserve Funds fell to 9 millions and in 1924 to a little over a million and a half which shows that the Japanese cotton mill industry has also suffered from the world-wide depression in trade during the last two years. An interesting feature of growth of the industry is that whereas 42 companies owned 118 mills in 1907, the number of companies which owned 232 mills in 1924 amounted only to 56. The reserve liability of the shareholders in the year 1924, i.e., the difference between authorised and paid up capital, amounted to nearly 163 million yen.

Increase in Looms and Spindles

Despite a drop of 319,646 in the number of spindles in the year 1923 in comparison with the number reported in 1922, the total number of spindles increased from 1,381,000 in 1903 to 4,870,000 in 1924 of which 4,845,000 were ring spindles, the number of mule spindles having fallen from 86,000 to 25,000. The number of doubling spindles increased from 127,000 to 677,000. The increase in the number of looms is still more remarkable for whereas the number of spindles increased by 253 per cent. only, the number of looms increased by more than 1,170 per cent. The following table shows the figures for the last ten years in comparison with the year 1903.

Year	Number of Mills	Spindles (excluding doubling Spindles)	Looms
1903	.. .. . (not given)	1,381,306	5,043
1915	.. .. . 161	2,807,514	30,068
1916	.. .. . 161	2,875,904	31,295
1917	.. .. . 170	3,060,478	36,181
1918	.. .. . 177	3,227,678	40,391
1919	.. .. . 190	3,488,262	44,401
1920	.. .. . 198	3,813,580	50,588
1921	.. .. . 217	4,161,126	54,994
1922	.. .. . 235	4,517,612	60,765
1923	.. .. . 228	4,197,966	61,421
1924	.. .. . 232	4,870,232	64,225

Cotton Consumption

The total quantity of raw cotton consumed in the manufacture of yarn and cloth, by the mills affiliated to the Association, amounted to 969 million

pounds during the year 1924. Of this total 58 per cent. was imported from India and 29 per cent. from America. Japan also imports raw cotton from Egypt, China, Annam and Saigon, and Korea. The largest quantity of American cotton used in any one year was in 1922 when 390 million pounds was consumed as against an average annual consumption of about 299 million pounds during the previous five years. During the year 1919 the consumption of Indian cotton fell from an annual average for the years 1914 to 1918 of about 550 million pounds to 377 million pounds owing to the 1918 famine restricting the amount available for export. Since 1920 the average annual consumption of Indian cotton has amounted to 567 million pounds. Taking the amount of cotton imported from different countries during the 22 years from 1903 to 1924 it is found that 59 per cent. of the total consumption in the mills belonging to the Association was imported from India and 28 per cent. from America. The actual figures are as follows:—

Total cotton consumption	..	..	15,284,011,292 lbs.
Indian cotton consumed	..	..	9,031,591,277 ..
American cotton consumed	..	..	4,334,282,154 ..

In the last column of Table VI of the pamphlet under review the total number of bales shown are the actual numbers of bales of different sizes and weights imported from different countries. For instance, the Indian bale contains about 400 lbs. of cotton, whereas the American bale contains 500 lbs., the Egyptian about 733 lbs. and the Chinese about 532 lbs. For purposes of accurate comparison the total number of all bales imported from various countries should be converted into bales of uniform size and weight. The following table gives the number of bales of American, Indian and Egyptian cotton consumed and the total consumption of cotton imported from all countries, in bales of 400 lbs. each, for the years 1903 and 1915 to 1924.

Years	Indian	American	Egyptian	Total of all countries
	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales
1903	550,145	167,103	20,772	975,608
1915	1,398,301	522,589	33,591	2,019,553
1916	1,484,945	589,040	41,054	2,238,967
1917	1,476,303	605,362	36,793	2,264,859
1918	1,132,681	700,937	36,923	2,133,069
1919	941,621	888,973	38,972	2,243,884
1920	1,207,203	775,926	28,896	2,130,791
1921	1,304,996	761,909	36,501	2,151,367
1922	1,538,105	974,398	49,132	2,619,699
1923	1,631,996	741,059	55,351	2,549,256
1924	1,409,923	705,493	90,440	2,422,534

Production of Yarn

The highest level in the production of yarn was reached in the year 1922 when the associated mills manufactured 2,228,000 bales. During the year 1923 production fell by 57,000 bales and in 1924 there was a further drop of over 98,000 bales. Of the total production of yarn during the year 1924, 63·8 per cent. was of the coarser varieties, 24·1 per cent. medium, 8·9 per

cent. doubling and 2·5 per cent. gauze. The proportion of fine yarn manufactured amounted to only 6 per cent. The tables in the report do not differentiate the quantities of yarn produced in all grades of counts and the production figures are grouped only into bales of "16's", "20's" and "others". If these are taken into consideration the figures for 1924 show that 6·6 per cent. of the total production was in counts of 16's, 30·4 per cent. in counts of 20's and 63 per cent. in counts above 20's. The production in counts of 16's has fallen from an output of 330,667 bales in 1903 to 135,844 bales in 1924 whereas that in counts of 20's has increased from 175,843 bales to 631,476 bales, and in counts above 20's from 295,228 bales to 1,305,479 bales during the same period. The production of yarns of finer counts appears to have received its greatest impetus from the year 1916 onwards because it was in that year that the manufacture of yarn in counts above 20's suddenly increased by 15 per cent. The following table gives the figures of yarn production in bales of 400 lbs. each for the years 1903 and 1915 to 1924:—

Years	Cotton Yarn Production			Total
	16s	20s	Others	
	Bales	Bales	Bales	
1903	330,667	175,843	295,228	801,738
1915	393,027	443,040	864,197	1,720,264
1916	409,053	497,291	1,019,235	1,925,579
1917	359,623	526,603	1,035,615	1,925,841
1918	228,818	511,538	1,063,510	1,803,866
1919	204,486	539,748	1,176,548	1,920,782
1920	196,928	491,142	1,128,906	1,816,976
1921	215,683	436,629	1,159,038	1,811,350
1922	205,489	746,731	1,276,026	2,228,246
1923	170,357	680,708	1,320,088	2,171,153
1924	135,844	631,476	1,305,497	2,072,817

In comparison with their own production the affiliated mills import very little yarn for consumption in their home factories. The biggest amount of foreign yarn used in any one year was in 1906 when 20,117 bales were consumed. During the years 1914 to 1918 the average annual consumption of foreign yarn amounted only to about 750 bales whereas during the same period over half a million bales of Japanese yarns were exported annually. During the last five years exports of yarn have fallen off considerably and the annual average since 1920 has been forty per cent. less than during the war. On the other hand the domestic use of yarn has increased proportionately in about the same ratio and the figures show that the affiliated mills are using about 35 per cent. more yarn annually during the last five years than the annual average consumption of 1914 to 1918.

Production of Piece-Goods

The annual average number of working looms in the mills affiliated to the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association increased from 4,963 in 1903 to

56,351 in 1924 or in other words the increase was eleven-fold. Production of piecegoods, however, was augmented nearly fourteenfold over the same period. The disproportionate increase in production is probably due to improvements in machinery but it would be interesting to know whether any part of the correspondingly greater output was due to increased efficiency on the part of the workers. The Report gives the production figures of piecegoods in quantities of yards whereas the export figures are given according to value in yen. It is not possible therefore to arrive at the proportion of the actual quantities exported to total quantities produced. The production figures show that whereas nearly 77 million yards of piecegoods were manufactured in 1903 the output in 1924 amounted to 1,031 million yards.

The figures in connexion with the exportation of cotton piecegoods are of considerable interest; but, for the reason pointed out in the preceding paragraph, are not very valuable from the view point of accurate statistical comparison in the absence of information regarding fluctuations in price and variations in exchange. Taking the figures as they stand, the value of the total exports of cotton piecegoods increased from about 7 million yen in 1903 to nearly 327 million yen in 1924. Comparing the ratios of the value of exports to different countries in each year, the tables show that the exports to British India amounted to less than 1 per cent. in the year 1903 whereas in 1924 they amounted to nearly 15 per cent.

The following table gives in yards the total quantity of piecegoods produced, the value of exports to China and India, and the value of total exports in the same way as in the previous tables of this article:

Years	Cotton piecegoods			
	Total production	Exports to		All countries
		British India	China	
	Yards	Yen	Yen	Yen
1903	76,702,213	56,528	2,983,591	6,874,947
1915	502,076,621	3,703,475	27,331,680	48,494,382
1916	560,181,108	10,560,119	34,783,962	73,173,460
1917	594,649,419	15,121,454	84,804,372	148,108,352
1918	656,935,420	55,435,718	88,047,516	268,640,465
1919	739,390,012	29,507,929	143,283,813	351,195,333
1920	762,037,360	67,289,100	130,515,786	352,173,295
1921	700,697,985	30,465,794	100,987,683	203,673,379
1922	869,327,652	33,567,336	108,757,681	222,052,119
1923	1,000,708,890	36,546,103	100,292,315	234,227,485
1924	1,030,905,658	46,916,136	137,920,952	326,587,484

Number of Operatives and Wages

During the year 1924 the average daily number of operatives in the Spinning and Weaving Departments of the mills affiliated to the Association amounted to 204,557 of whom 160,363 or 78 per cent. were women and 44,194 or 22 per cent. were men. Out of the total number of women employees 117,307 worked in the Spinning Departments and 43,056 in the

Weaving Departments. The average daily numbers employed in the year 1903 were 63,589 women and 14,952 men. A remarkable feature of the Japanese Cotton Mill industry is the preponderance of women operatives. In the cotton mills in the Bombay Presidency the proportion of women to men is 1 to 4 and women are not generally employed in the Weaving Departments.

Converting the yen into rupees at 1 yen = Rs. 1-9, we find that the average daily wages of women in the Spinning Departments of Japanese Mills were a little over 5 annas in the year 1903, 8 annas in 1914 and Rs. 1-14-3 in the year 1924. As compared with 1903 wages have therefore increased by 500 per cent. In comparison with the pre-war year the nominal wage index number is 377. In 1923 the wages of women spinners were Rs. 1-13-6 per day and of women weavers Rs. 1-13-3. In August 1923 side women and women piecers in the Ring Spinning Departments of the cotton Mills in Bombay and Ahmedabad earned about 15 annas a day. The average wages of men in the Spinning Departments of the Japanese Mills amounted to about Rs. 2-5-0 per day whereas, both in Bombay and Ahmedabad, side men and men piecers in the Ring Spinning Departments earned about a rupee per day. Men spinners in the Mule Spinning Departments earned Rs. 1-13-11 on time rates and Rs. 2-1 on piece rates in Bombay and Rs. 1-2-10 on time rates in Ahmedabad. With regard to wages in the Weaving Departments in the Japanese mills, the wages of both men and women operatives are almost similar to the wages earned by the men and women in the Spinning Departments. The weighted daily average wages of 48,818 two-loom weavers in the mills of the Bombay Presidency amounted to Rs. 1-10 per day in August 1923 as against Rs. 2-5 per day for men and Rs. 1-13-3 for women in Japan.

The following table gives the average daily wages earned by men and women in the Weaving and Spinning Departments of the Associated Mills for the years 1903 and 1914 to 1924 (conversion 1 yen = Rs. 1-9):—

Year	Average daily wages			
	Spinning Departments		Weaving Departments	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1903	0 8 3	0 5 3	0 9 3	0 6 0
1914	0 12 3	0 8 0	0 14 0	0 9 6
1915	0 12 6	0 8 0	0 13 3	0 9 3
1916	0 12 6	0 8 3	0 13 3	0 10 3
1917	0 13 9	0 9 3	0 14 6	0 11 3
1918	1 1 3	0 12 0	1 2 0	0 13 3
1919	1 12 0	1 5 9	1 12 3	1 6 3
1920	2 7 3	1 14 0	2 7 3	1 13 3
1921	2 4 6	1 12 3	2 5 3	1 12 9
1922	2 6 6	1 15 0	2 7 0	1 14 9
1923	2 5 0	1 13 6	2 5 0	1 13 3
1924	2 6 0	1 14 3	2 6 3	1 13 3

Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

FOURTH QUARTER, 1925—A DECREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Presidency was published in the issue of the Labour Gazette for September 1925. The latest information for the fourth quarter of the present year is summarised on pages 376 to 381 of this issue, and shows in Table I on pages 376 to 379 that when compared with the last quarter, the number of persons recorded as members has decreased from 54,175 to 49,318 or by 8·97 per cent. The number of members in the Unions having their offices in Bombay City fell from 23,518 to 22,598. This decrease was primarily due to the removal, from the membership rolls of all unions affiliated to the Central Labour Board, of the names of members who had not paid their subscription fees for a period of six months or more. The membership of the Ahmedabad Unions fell from 19,986 to 18,067 which is attributed to the alleged obstruction by some Mills of the activities of the local Labour Union. The decrease in the membership of the Unions in the rest of the Presidency from 10,761 to 8,653 is due to a fall in the memberships of the North Western Railway Union at Sukkur from 3,574 to 1,672. No reasons are given for this big decrease of members in the Sukkur Union; but it may be presumed to be due largely to the failure of the N. W. Railway Strike. The number of Unions in the Presidency is the same as in the previous quarter, viz., 38. The Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union, which was established in March 1921 and which reported 300 members in the last quarter, was wound up in September owing to the death of its President, Mr. G. C. Bhadbhade. A new union under the name of the Belgaum R. M. S. Union was formed in the Belgaum District.

Information in connection with Trade Unions is collected through the Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District officers in the Presidency, including Sind. Table I shows that at the present moment there are 10 Trade Unions in Bombay City, 9 Unions in Ahmedabad and 19 Unions in the rest of the Presidency. The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions of the Presidency since June 1922 :—

Summary table showing the membership of the Unions

Quarter ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter	Quarter ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter
June 1922 ..	22	57,914	..	Mar 1924 ..	21	48,502	+ 5·4
Sept 1922 ..	23	52,776	—8·87	June 1924 ..	21	49,729	+ 2·5
Dec 1922 ..	22	51,472	—2·47	Sept 1924 ..	21	47,242	—5·0
Mar 1923 ..	22	48,669	—5·45	Dec 1924 ..	36	52,277	+10·7
June 1923 ..	21	51,276	+5·08	Mar 1925 ..	36	51,625	—1·25
Sept 1923 ..	19	41,646	—18·77	June 1925 ..	38	53,591	+ 3·8
Dec 1923 ..	19	46,037	+16·54	Sept 1925 ..	38	54,175	+ 1·09
				Dec 1925 ..	38	49,318	— 8·97

FEDERATIONS OF LABOUR UNIONS

There are three Federations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—(1) The Central Labour Board in Bombay, (2) The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association with its Head Office in Bombay, and (3) The Labour Union in Ahmedabad. The last is not exactly a Federation in the accepted sense of the term but rather a Central Bureau which controls, under one management, all the various Unions of cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad City. For all practical purposes however it may be considered as a Federation.

The Central Labour Board.—The Central Labour Board with Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad as President, Mr. F. J. Ginwalla as Vice-President and Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla as Honorary General Secretary is a Federation comprising the following Unions and Trade Guilds :—

- (1) G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union.
- (2) B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.
- (3) Port Trust Workshop Union.
- (4) The Presidency Postmen's Union.
- (5) The Bombay Telegraphmen's Union.
- (6) The Victoria Drivers' and Owners' Association.
- (7) Saloon Keepers' and Hamamkhana Keepers' Association.

The Board obtains its revenue by annual subscriptions from the different Unions and Guilds which are affiliated to it, and it spends a part of the income so derived on propaganda work. During the quarter under review the Board helped in the formation of the Committee of Assistance to the Textile workers under the chairmanship of Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., and the Secretaryship of Mr. R. R. Bakhale of the Servants of India Society. Representatives of almost all the Unions affiliated to the Board acted as members of this Committee and they did much useful work in opening up and conducting the several Relief Centres established in different localities for granting relief to those workers who suffered most as a result of the general strike in the Bombay Cotton Mills.

The Board is now engaged in the formation of Unions of Cotton Mill Operatives in Bombay City, the complete absence of which, among 150,000 cotton mill workers, has been a source of weakness to the Trade Union movement. An attempt is now being made to remedy this defect and four Unions of cotton mill operatives under the names of the Kurla Girni Sangha, the Dadar Girni Sangha, the Tardeo Girni Sangha and the Mazagaon Girni Sangha are in the process of formation.

One of the principal activities of the Central Labour Board is a "Purity Campaign". The Secretary of the Board and several members of the various Unions affiliated to it march through the industrial areas of Bombay City once or twice a month with banners and illuminated placards exhorting all workers to refrain from drink, immorality and gambling. Short lectures are given *en route* and pamphlets are sometimes distributed. The organisers believe that these processions are productive of good results.

The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.—This Association is a Federation of 16 District Unions of workers in the Postal and Railway Mail Services and the Government of India have accorded it official recognition. The office bearers of the Association are :—

President :—Professor V. G. Kale (Poona).
 Honorary Secretary :—Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B. (Advocate).
 General Secretary :—Mr. D. S. Joshi (P. O. Clerk).
 Joint Secretary :—Mr. V. H. Karandikar (Town Inspector).
 Assistant Secretary :—Mr. V. G. Kulkarni, B.A. (P. O. Clerk).
 General Treasurer :—Mr. G. K. Rahalkar (P. O. Clerk).

On the 9th December 1925, the total strength of the Association was 4,271 of whom 3,206 belonged to the clerical classes and 1,065 to other classes. "Other Classes" include postmen, runners, Mail peons, van peons, packers and extra departmental agents. The Association obtains its revenue by subscriptions from each of the Divisional Unions affiliated to it, at the rate of Rs. 2 per year for each individual member of the clerical classes, and annas 8 per year for each member of classes subordinate to clerks. Out of the subscriptions received by the Provincial Association, the Association defrays the cost of printing the monthly *General Letter* or magazine published by it and copies of which are regularly supplied free of charge to each and every member of each of the Divisional Unions affiliated to it.

The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association is itself a member of the All-India (including Burma) Postal and Railway Mail Service Union. This Union is the best organised Federation of Unions in the whole of India. The Central Union is a federation of nine Provincial Postal and R. M. S. Associations with a total of nearly 35,000 members. It obtains its revenue from the District Unions through the Provincial Associations by means of a levy of four annas per year for each member of the clerical classes and one anna per year for members of other classes. In addition to the annual subscription payable to the All-India Union on behalf of each of its members, each District Union is under the obligation to subscribe to a Reserve Fund for the All-India Union. This Reserve Fund is maintained by a general levy of two per cent. of the pay of each member of the Union payable only once. These funds are under the management and the control of each District Union but the interest obtained at six per cent. is remitted every year through the Provincial Associations to the All-India Union. The All-India Postal and R. M. S. Union is not, however, a complete federation of all kinds and classes of postal Unions in India. In addition to the All-India Union with its affiliated Provincial and District Unions, there exist (1) separate Postmen's Unions, in some cases affiliated to their own Provincial Union or working independently; (2) All-India (including Burma) Postmasters' Union; (3) Circle Offices' Associations in process of formation and (4) the intended separate Union of R. M. S. employees.

The Labour Union in Ahmedabad.—This Union is a quasi-association of the following five Unions of cotton mill workers :—

- (1) The Weavers' Union;
- (2) The Winders' Union;
- (3) The Throstle Union;
- (4) The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union;
and
- (5) The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.

Miss Ansuya Sarabhai is the President of each individual Union and she is also the President of the whole Labour Union. Mr. Gulzari Lal Nanda is the Secretary and Mr. Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai is Assistant Secretary. The total memberships of the various Unions under the control and management of the Labour Union office amounted to 12,640 during the quarter under review.

The Labour Union office is doing very useful work for the benefit of the members under its control. It maintains 2 Dispensaries and a Hospital at a total expenditure of about Rs. 900 per month. 1,381 persons were reported to have taken the benefit of the dispensaries and 22 persons of the hospital. The Union organises schools for the benefit of its members and their children and during the fourth quarter of the current year 9 day schools and 15 night schools were maintained at a total cost of Rs. 1,900 per month out of which the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association contributed a sum of Rs. 1,250 from the proceeds of the Tilak Swaraj Fund. The total number of students, adults and children reported to be on the rolls of these various institutions amounted to 1,298 with an average daily attendance of 912. Moreover the Union has established two cheap grain shops, one at Saraspur and the other at Gontipur, and intend to start a third at Jamalpur. The gross sales at these shops amounted to an average of about Rs. 2,800 per month. The Union makes no profit as grain is sold strictly at cost price plus an addition sufficient to cover expenses. A credit system has also been instituted by which loans are granted to the members of the various Unions at reasonable rates of interest. When the system was first started the rate of interest charged was four and a half per cent. This rate has now been increased to 6½ per cent. per annum. The total amount outstanding in loans as at the end of November 1925 amounted to Rs. 16,172. The Union office regularly publishes, in addition to pamphlets and leaflets dealing with matters of particular interest, a weekly paper called *Majur Sandesh*. During the quarter under review, 5,500 copies of this paper were distributed free of charge to labourers in general and to members of the various unions in particular. The *Majur Sandesh* contains all the important labour news in Ahmedabad and attempts to educate the local labour world in sanitation and other useful matters. The Union has an excellent system for dealing with complaints. It maintains a series of complaint books in foil and counterfoil and so numerous are the complaints dealt with that a special clerk is engaged almost wholly in recording them. Every conceivable type of complaint appears on the counterfoils, from an allegation against a jobber or Mukadam of having smashed the complainant's head to a complaint that the other workmen hamper the complainant in drawing water from a tap or well. Each complaint receives personal attention; and the Mills afford every facility to the Secretary, who enters the premises, records statements and passes the necessary orders. The Union received 200 complaints regarding mill-work during the last three months. Out of these, 73 were in connexion with bad treatment, taking of bribes, improper rules and obstruction to the work of the Union; 44 were regarding dismissal, victimization; fines and other unjust penalties; 30 were in connexion with method of

payment, wages, etc.; 11 were against bad materials supplied by the Mills, and 26 related to hours of work and holidays,—the remainder dealing with other miscellaneous matters. Including the disposal of pending cases the Union was successful in settling 139 cases satisfactorily.

The Union also did useful work in connexion with the general strike of the Cotton Mill operatives in Bombay City, and it is reported that about 600 workpeople from Bombay were provided with employment in the Ahmedabad mills through the Union representatives. The Union was successful in procuring direct employment for about a hundred more.

PROGRESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL UNIONS

BOMBAY :—

The Indian Seamen's Union.—The name of this Union is misleading, as the Union is purely for the salon staff and its members are Goans, but a proposal made during the year to include as members seamen of all castes and classes is receiving the earnest consideration of the management. If the scheme meets with the approval of a general meeting of all the members of the Union, it is anticipated that the Union will be able to wield a considerable amount of influence.

During the current year, the officers of the Union had to steer a very difficult course on account of alleged obstruction by the Government Shipping Broker against the method of recruitment initiated by the Union for the supply of salon crews to the shipping companies on the requisitions made by them. Last year the Union was successful in arriving at an amicable arrangement with the Shipping Broker as a result of which the Shipping Broker forwarded most of the requisitions made by the Shipping Companies for different classes of servants to the Union. During the current year the Shipping Broker is said to have acted independently and gone over the head of the Union in filling the contracts placed with him. This attitude has led to several "strikes" during the year and both the Broker and the Union have had much difficulty in the matter of recruitment.

The membership of the Union has risen from 11,571 in the previous quarter to 11,597 as on the 1st December. Membership is divided into two branches—The P. and O. Branch and the B. I. Branch—and the accounts for each branch are kept separately. It is reported that several members are hopelessly in arrears with regard to the payment of their subscriptions. The Union continued to employ extra cashiers during the current year in order to recover subscriptions by visiting all ships as they came in but a sum amounting to over Rs. 80,000 is still outstanding in membership dues not paid. On account of the nature of the employment of the members of this Union most of the members are not easily approachable but the management of the Union hopes to recover a substantial portion of the outstandings during the next year. The Union presented its annual audited statements of accounts for the year ending 31st March 1925 to a general meeting of the members which was held in the month of November. The Statement of Income and Expenditure is divided into two parts: (1) The Management Fund Account and (2) the Reserve Fund Account.

The Management Fund Account is as follows :—

Receipts.		Rs. a. p.		Disbursements.		Rs. a. p.			
Fund on 31st March 1924	..	195	7	4	Death Benefits	..	418	0	0
Annual Contributions	..	17,458	0	0	Establishment	..	7,264	8	0
Letters Registration Charges	..	241	0	0	Charges	..	3,060	0	0
Balance of Expenditure over Income	..	531	0	2	Office Rent	..	563	14	6
					Postages, Stationery, etc.	..	1,180	4	0
					Travelling Charges	..	447	5	0
					General Charges	..	2,311	0	0
					Strike, Legal and other expenses	..	2,680	8	0
					Extra Runners' Salaries	..	500	0	0
					Auditors' Fees	..			
Total	..	18,425	7	6	Total	..	18,425	7	6

The balance standing at the credit of the Reserve Fund Account on the 31st March 1924 amounted to Rs. 16,076-4-8. Entrance fees for the admission of new members produced Rs. 1,459-2-0 and Donations Rs. 10. After writing off the deficit of Rs. 531-0-2 as per the Management Fund Account the balance standing at the credit of the Reserve Fund Account on the 31st March 1925 amounted to Rs. 17,014-6-6. In addition to the Reserve Fund Proper the Union has two other funds under the names of "The Asiatic Seamen's Union and Portuguese Seamen's Union Fund" and "The Asiatic Seamen's Union Fund received from I. B. Torcato". The amount standing at the credit of the first is Rs. 2,300-10-0 and that at the credit of the second, Rs. 3,000-0-0. The amount standing to the credit of all Funds therefore amounts to Rs. 22,315-0-6. Among the assets are amounts of Rs. 3,565-12-6 for "Cash on hand" and Rs. 278-0-0 for cash in current account. The amount of Rs. 18,382-8-0 which is shown as representing securities in 6 per cent. War Bonds of 1926 at cost is stated to be "mortgaged with the Central Bank of India, Ltd., and raised a loan thereon". In their written statement appended to the Balance Sheet the Auditors, Messrs. Apaji Amin & Co., state as follows :—

"We beg to draw the attention of the members to our separate report of even date to the members of the Indian Seamen's Union."

The Labour Office was not shown the special statement referred to above and it is not possible to comment on it.

The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union.—This Union has its Head Office in Bombay with members scattered at various stations on the line. There are no branch unions at the various stations and subscriptions are collected and forwarded to the Head Office by voluntary workers. The membership of the Union as at the end of the previous quarter stood as follows :—

Station.	Number of Members.	Station.	Number of Members.
Wadi Bunder (Bombay)	.. 434	Sholapur	.. 430
		Bhopal	.. 222

Station.	Number of Members.	Station.	Number of Members.
Administrative office (Bombay)	542	Dhond	129
Kalyan	500	Ahmednagar	126
Bhusawal	672	Itarsi	150
Lonavla	250	Jhansi	1,000
Poona	207	Jubbulpore	75
Manmad	738		
		Total Members	5,475

The officers of the Union when approached for the latest information regarding the present strength of the Union were not able to give any information regarding the increase or decrease in the numbers of members at the various stations. It was reported that the Railway authorities have recently effected a drastic reorganisation in the various commercial and transportation departments at different stations and that, as a consequence of this, several transfers of Union members have been effected from one station to another. It has not been possible, therefore, to make a fresh tally of the exact number of members at each recording station and subscriptions have also fallen hopelessly into arrears. The active workers at particular stations who knew their fellow associates have been transferred to other stations where it will take some time before they can become acquainted with their new associates. The Union has recently appointed an officer to travel about the line in order to collect subscriptions from existing members and to endeavour to recruit new members. Mr. P. S. Bakhale who edits the official magazine of the Union—*The G. I. P. Railway Union Herald*—has also travelled extensively during the last two months and has been actively engaged in giving lectures at various stations on the advantages of Trade Unionism.

In spite of this active propaganda work the membership of the Union is stated to be dropping considerably owing to the fact that the Railway authorities refuse to give any recognition whatever to it. The officials of the Union also state that none of the grievances which have been pointed out to the authorities in representations made by the Union appear to have been considered and they fear possible victimisation. The officers of the Union, however, hope that a better mutual understanding will be possible when the necessary legislation for the Registration of Trade Unions is placed on the Statute Book.

About three months ago it was suggested that the Union should be wound up but a few zealous workers refused to consider this and are doing all they can to keep the Union alive. The total membership of the Union is as reported by the officials the same as in the previous quarter; but it must be pointed out that it is doubtful, for the reasons given above if it is ever as high as 5,000. The figures given in table II on page 380 for the income and expenditure of this Union have been changed and brought into line with the existing state of affairs. The Union has not published any statement of accounts during the current year.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union.—The finances of this Union appear to be in a sound position and the account books and membership rolls are maintained in a business like way. The membership increased from 1,101 to 1,164 during the last three months.

This Union organises Provincial Conferences of all postmen in the Bombay Presidency once a year. The first Conference was held at Bombay in October 1923, the second at Poona in December 1924 and the third is to be held at Broach on the 19th and the 20th December under the Presidency of Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta, M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-law, M.L.A. The Union has applied to the Post Master General, Bombay Circle, to grant leave to all overseers, readers, postmen, clerks, head postmen, branch post masters, packers, R. M. S. menials, etc., who desire to attend the Conference and it is anticipated that no difficulty will be experienced in procuring the necessary sanction. At the Broach Conference the delegates will, as usual, discuss all matters in connexion with their various grievances, and it is intended to memorialise the Government of India for a general improvement in the conditions of service for postmen.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Unions have, since the Provincial Conferences held in 1923 and 1924, succeeded in establishing seven additional District Unions of postmen, as differentiated from the Postal and R. M. S. Unions, in the Nasik, Poona, Kanara, Surat, Broach and Belgaum Districts and in the Baroda State. When these Unions are properly established, the Bombay Postmen's Union will be an Association of 8 District Postmen's Unions in the same way as the Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association is a federation of 16 District Postal and R. M. S. Unions. It is hoped to include full details in connexion with these additional Unions in the next quarterly review of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency.

Among the most recent activities of the Union is the successful establishment of an evening class which is held at the Head office of the Union at Kandewadi every evening from 7 p.m. to 8-30 p.m. and at which the subjects of English, Arithmetic and Geography are taught to all members who enroll themselves as students at a fee of Re. 1 per month. The Union has engaged the services of a capable teacher to do the work at a nominal salary of Rs. 25 per month. 27 postmen enrolled themselves as students in this class during the first month of its inception. The Union also publishes a monthly magazine under the name of *The Postman*. The editor of this paper is Mr. S. G. Warty, M.A.

The annual general meeting of the Union was held at Hirabag on the 21st November under the chairmanship of Mr. V. G. Dalvi and was attended by Mr. Rogers, the Post Master General of the Bombay Circle. The annual statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1925 which was adopted at the meeting, is as follows :—

Income		Rs. a. p.		Expenditure		Rs. a. p.	
Subscriptions	..	3,190	11	2	Bonus paid on		
Amount Outstanding	..	2,101	10	10	Retirement and		
for Subscriptions	..	2,101	10	10	Deaths	..	765 12 0
Entrance Fees	..	39	0	0	Printing and		
Levy Subscription	..	1,627	8	0	Stationery Charges	962	0 6

Income			Expenditure		
	Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.
Paper Subscription ..	93	9 6	Expenses of Provincial Postmen's Conference ..	376	2 0
Advertisement Charges ..	164	2 0	General Expenses ..	224	1 3
Interest received ..	594	8 1	Travelling Expenses ..	650	6 3
Donations received ..	23	0 0	Postages and Telegrams ..	139	3 0
			Typing Charges ..	68	5 0
			Salaries and Wages ..	661	8 0
			Library Expenses ..	45	14 9
			Auditors' Fees ..	30	0 0
			Office Rent ..	444	0 0
			Depreciation of Furniture and Books ..	51	1 0
			Excess of Income over Expenditure.	3,415	11 10
Total ..	7,834	1 7	Total ..	7,834	1 7

The Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st March 1925 shows that including the amount of the excess of income over expenditure during the year, the Capital Fund Account of the Union had a credit of Rs. 17,878-11-8 as on the 31st March 1925. Outstanding creditors were due to receive Rs. 228-10-0. After allowing for depreciation, furniture was valued at Rs. 488-8-1 and the Library at Rs. 228-5-2. The assets include an amount of Rs. 732-3-0 due from members for loans advanced to them, Rs. 5,625 in Post Office Cash Certificates, Rs. 900-14-4 per Cash on hand with the treasurer, Rs. 2,011-12-3 per Cash in account current with the Eastern Bank, Ltd., and Rs. 5,500 per Cash in account current with the Central Bank of India Ltd. The outstanding of Rs. 2,101-10-10 in overdue subscriptions is also shown in Assets.

From the above statements of accounts the position of this Union would appear to be quite sound. But the Union introduced, shortly after its inception, a system of granting to all members, at death or retirement, bonuses amounting to twice the amount of the total subscriptions paid by each member during the period of his membership; and the Union has, as a result of this, incurred a hidden liability which in time will absorb more funds than the amounts standing to the credit of the Capital Fund Account at present. The union has, however, now become alive to the unstable and exceedingly dangerous position which this rule is likely at any time to create and it has therefore adopted resolutions changing this system of bonuses for future members. The present Capital Fund Account cannot, therefore, be utilised for any other purpose than granting the bonuses promised at the stipulated rates.

The Bombay Postal Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 1,351 in the previous quarter to 1,354 during the quarter under

review. Owing to the recognition of this Union by Government, the Union was able to do a great deal of useful work during the year in the satisfactory settlement of minor grievances. This Union is affiliated to the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association and complete reports of its various activities appear from time to time in the monthly magazine published by the Association under the name of *General Letter*. The annual report of the Union for the year ending 31st March 1925 together with the statements of accounts for the same period were published in the issue of the *General Letter* for May 1925. The account is too lengthy to be reproduced here *in toto*. Including an amount of Rs. 9,696-8-10 brought forward from the previous year the total receipts for the year 1924-25 amounted to Rs. 20,173-13-3 out of which Rs. 9,903-8-0 were realised on account of subscriptions from members. On the "Payments" side the most important items of expenditure during the year were contributions of Rs. 2,273-8-0 to the Presidency Association and Rs. 2,290 to the All-India Conference. The officers of the Union do not draw any salaries but receive small allowances for purely out of pocket expenditure. The total amount of such allowances drawn by the Secretary, Assistant Secretary and the Treasurer amounted to Rs. 400 during the year. The maintenance of the office of the Union cost Rs. 745-6-6 and the amount spent on various meetings was Rs. 304-7-6. An amount of Rs. 275-14-0 was spent on the Library and Rs. 67 for the purchase of furniture. The cost of the total death benefits granted amounted to Rs. 450. The financial year closed with a credit balance of Rs. 12,088-9-3 out of which the sum of Rs. 7,501-4-0 was invested in Post Office Cash Certificates and an amount of Rs. 4,185 was held in various Post Office Saving Banks. The financial position of the Union is exceptionally strong and is likely to improve considerably during the next few years. The Bombay Postal Union is the only Union in the Presidency which is known to draw up Budget estimates in advance for a full year. The Budget estimates for the year 1925-26 provide for a total revenue of Rs. 8,131 and for balancing expenditure of an equivalent amount after making ample provision for contributions to the Presidency Association and the All-India Conference and also for Emergency Expenditure and transfers to Reserve Funds.

The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments).—The membership of this Union declined from 1,000 to 979 during the quarter under review. The present figure represents the actual number of members who have met their liabilities in regard to subscriptions during the year. This Union also publishes, under the editorship of Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla in Marathi, a monthly paper entitled the *Railway Kamgar*. Among the activities of the Union are an Anti-Liquor campaign and a Purity Mission. The Secretary of the Union, Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla, and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. V. P. Rele, go round every Sunday to the localities in which the majority of Railway workshop employees reside and explain to them the advantages of trade unionism and the benefits to be derived by becoming members of labour unions. At the same time lectures are given on the evil effects of drink and the advantages of leading a pure life.

During the current year, the Union remodelled its rules in connexion with the grant of Death and Retirement benefits. Under the revised

rules if a member who has been a regular paying member of the Union for a period of two years or more dies, death benefits are given to the members of his family to the extent of an amount which is double the total amount of subscriptions paid by him. In cases where members retire from the service of the Railway Company retirement benefits are given to the extent of the total amount of subscriptions paid less Re. 1 for each year of membership. In cases where members fall sick and require assistance, sick benefits are granted for the purpose of medical aid and relief. In the last case, the benefits may be in the form of outright gifts or loans to be returned at stated periods as decided by the Committee of the Union. The Union has also established a Co-operative Credit Society for the benefit of its members. The fee is one rupee per month for each member. Loans are given to the members of the Union from the funds of the Society at 9 per cent. interest and the members of the Society receive interest at the rate of 6 to 7 per cent. per annum on the total amounts paid by them in membership fees.

The Union held its annual general meeting at the Damodar Hall at Parel on the 26th July 1925. The audited Statements of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 1925 which were presented to the meeting were unanimously adopted. The statement of Income and Expenditure is as follows :—

Income			Expenditure		
	Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.
Subscriptions and			Office Rent ..	164	0 0
Entrance Fees ..	3,308	12 0	Salaries ..	434	11 0
Bank Interest ..	805	5 0	Stationery and		
Donations ..	138	4 0	Printing ..	184	5 0
Amount realised from			General charges ..	14	8 6
the sale of the cloth-			Death Benefits ..	88	6 0
ing of the Volunteer			Subscription to the		
Corps ..	43	11 9	Central Labour	900	0 0
			Board ..		
			Subscription to the		
			Trade Union		
			Congress ..	20	0 0
			Postages ..	12	7 6
			Library ..	23	3 0
			Retirement Benefits	1,137	0 0
			Tram fares ..	14	3 9
			Cost of Printing		
			Railway Kamgar	148	13 6
			Purchases of		
			Furniture ..	29	8 8
			Excess of Income		
			over Expenditure		
			transferred to Bank		
			Deposit ..	1,124	13 10
Total ..	4,296	0 9	Total ..	4,296	0 9

The Balance Sheet of the Union shows a very strong position. Furniture, after allowing for depreciation, is valued at Rs. 351-3-10. Among the assets are an amount of a loan of Rs. 5,158-4-0 given to the Co-operative Foundry, shares to the value of Rs. 402 in the Co-operative Foundry, an amount of Rs. 14,000 placed on fixed Deposit with the Central Bank of India, Post Office Cash Certificates of the face value of Rs. 1,000 purchased for Rs. 750, cash on hand amounting to Rs. 16-3-6 and cash in account current with the Central Bank of India amounting to Rs. 1,146. Excluding furniture the value of all Securities, loans, deposits and cash standing at the credit of the Capital Fund account amounted to Rs. 21,472-8-3 as on the 31st March 1925.

The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union—The Membership of this Union decreased from 1,000 in the previous quarter to 934 during the quarter under review. The fall in the membership is due to the elimination of the names of all members who have not paid their fees for a year or more. The activities of this Union are almost similar to those of the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union with the exception of the fact that the B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union does not publish any periodical as some of the other Unions do. A free Reading Room and Library was opened during the year for the benefit of its members and a large number of books were donated to the Union Library by several members of the Committee. The Union took an active part in holding the Trade Union Congress in Bombay and in the formation of the All-India Railwaymen's Union's federation. During the recent general strike of the Cotton Mill operatives in Bombay City the members of the Committee of this Union took a considerable part in giving personal assistance at the various Relief Centres which were opened in Bombay and the Union also gave a donation of Rs. 50 to the Relief Fund. The following is the statement of Income and Expenditure of this Union for the year ending 31st March 1925 which was submitted to and adopted by the annual general meeting of its members held at the Workmen's Institute at Parel on the 18th August 1925 :—

Income		Expenditure	
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Subscriptions ..	3,015 2 0	Propaganda work	
Interest ..	613 6 8	including contri-	
		butions to Trade	
		Union Congress,	
		Conferences,	
		Meetings, etc. ..	772 8 0
		Salaries and Wages	519 11 0
		Stationery and	
		Printing ..	340 8 0
		Retirement Benefits.	265 12 0
		Office Rent ..	164 0 0
		Commission to	
		Branch Secre-	
		taries ..	149 5 0

Income	Rs. a. p.	Expenditure	Rs. a. p.
		Postage and Telegrams ..	19 13 0
		General Expenses ..	1 5 0
		Death Benefits ..	128 0 0
		Auditors' Fees ..	51 0 0
		Depreciation on fixtures ..	40 15 1
		Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Capital Fund Account ..	1,175 11 7
Total ..	3,628 8 8	Total ..	3,628 8 8

The Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st March 1925 shows, among assets, furniture valued at Rs. 368-8-2 after allowing for depreciation, Stationery on hand valued at Rs. 50-0-0, a loan of Rs. 800 granted to the Kamagar Sahakari Foundry, a Fixed Deposit of Rs. 9,000 with the Central Bank of India, a Fixed Deposit of Rs. 3,000 with the Imperial Bank of India and a total amount of Rs. 355-8-5 for cash on hand and cash in account current with the Central Bank of India. The total amount standing at the credit of the Capital Fund Account is Rs. 13,523-0-7.

The Port Trust Workshop Union.—The membership of this Union fell from 1,000 as reported in the previous quarter to 450 during the fourth quarter of the current year. The membership of this Union does not appear to have been correctly reported during the past year because in the Administration Report of the Union for the year ending 31st March 1925 which was published on the 25th September 1925 it is stated that "the total number of membership stood at 600 last year of whom 3 died, 52 resigned and 155 members were added to the number during the year under report so that the total strength of membership stands at 700". If the membership of the Union is taken at the figure of 700 as at the 31st March 1925, the membership at the end of the third quarter of the current year could not possibly have amounted to 1,000. The present fall in the membership to 450 is attributed to resignations consequent on a big reduction of employees in the Port Trust workshops. The staff of the Union is actively engaged at present in recruiting new members from those employees who have not already joined the Union. The office of the Union has been removed from Shete Building at Parel to Yusub Building, Nawab Tank Road, Mazagon, with a view to being as close as possible to the workshops where the members of the Union are employed. Various printed bulletins entitled *The Kamgar Udaya* and printed hand bills are distributed among the workmen from time to time exhorting them to join the Union.

The annual general meeting of the Union was held at Hira Bagh on the 11th October and the following statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1925 was presented to and adopted by the members present at the meeting:—

Income	Rs. a. p.	Expenditure	Rs. a. p.
Subscriptions from Members ..	1,896 8 0	Salaries and Wages ..	245 9 0
Entrance Fees ..	159 0 0	Office Rent ..	130 0 0
Interest on current and fixed Deposit Accounts ..	257 4 3	Printing and Stationery ..	66 10 0
		Conference and Congress Expenses ..	35 0 0
		Death and Retirement Benefits ..	183 0 0
		Branch Secretary's Remuneration ..	101 1 0
		Postage and Telegrams ..	6 4 0
		Contribution towards Mill Strike Relief Expenses ..	50 0 0
		Expenses for Kamgar Udaya Paper ..	150 0 0
		General Expenses ..	84 10 9
		Depreciation at 10 per cent. on furniture and fixtures ..	18 6 0
		Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Capital Fund Account ..	1,242 3 6
Total ..	2,312 12 3	Total ..	2,312 12 3

The Balance Sheet of the Union for the year ending 31st March 1925 shows, among assets, furniture valued at Rs. 270-4-0, Foundry Shares Account—Credit Rs. 860-0-0, Post Office Cash Certificates of the face value of Rs. 5,500 valued at Rs. 4,125 and Cash on Hand and in account current with the Central Bank of India amounting to Rs. 1,343-11-9. The total value of securities, loans and cash standing at the credit of the Capital Fund Account on the 31st March 1925 was Rs. 6,328-11-9.

The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union.—The number of persons recorded as members of this Union decreased during the quarter under review from 300 to 275. In view of the fact that this Union is affiliated to the Central Labour Board, the various activities of this Union are almost similar to those of the other Unions under the control of Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla. The Union is endeavouring to put up a strong case to Government for a reconsideration of the question in connexion with the revision of the pay of telegraph peons on a full time rate basis. Under the conditions obtaining at present, a telegraph peon gets a small salary of about Rs. 10 or Rs. 12

per month and he gets "piece rate" remuneration in addition, according to the number of telegrams which he delivers during a working day. This system of payment is stated to be detrimental to procuring adequate pensions on retirement and the Union is therefore endeavouring to convert this method of payment into consolidated time rate pay. During the quarter under review the Union successfully launched a scheme for the formation of a Loan and Thrift Society. The subscription fee is Re. 1 per month and those members who join derive the same advantages and benefits which are enjoyed by members of Co-operative Societies. On the 1st December 75 members of the Union became members of the Thrift Society.

The Union held its annual general meeting at Hira Bag on the 6th September at which the statements of accounts for the year ending 31st March 1925 were discussed and adopted. The Income and Expenditure Statement for the year 1924-1925 is as follows:—

Income		Expenditure	
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Subscription collected from—		Salaries ..	182 0 0
The Central office.	303 8 0	Office Rent ..	60 0 0
The Umarkhadi Office ..	162 0 0	Typing Charges ..	19 3 0
The Masjid Office..	57 0 0	Printing and Stationery ..	13 12 6
The Kalbadevi Office.	113 12 0	Trade Union Con- gress Applica- tion fee ..	14 0 0
Bank Interest ..	14 15 0	Miscellaneous ..	10 3 0
		Tram and Train fares ..	3 7 6
		Postages ..	1 5 0
		Death Benefits ..	5 8 0
		Excess of Income over Expenditure.	341 12 0
Total ..	651 3 0	Total ..	651 3 0

The Balance Sheet of the Union is a very simple statement. It shows gross assets at Rs. 838-3-9 of which Rs. 500 were at Fixed Deposit with the Central Bank of India, Rs. 333-3-9 in account current with the same Bank and Rs. 5 as cash on hand.

Other Unions in Bombay.—The activities of the Clerks' Union and the Bombay Currency Association do not call for any special remarks. The membership of the Clerks' Union has declined to 150 during the quarter under review and the personnel of the Committee has been changed with a view to carry on more intensive propaganda work.

AHMEDABAD

The activities of the five unions of cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad which are under the control of the local Labour Union have been fully dealt with under the heading of *Federations of Trade Unions*. The Labour

Office has not yet received any annual statements of accounts showing the financial position of the individual Unions. The details in connexion with the average monthly income and the average monthly expenditure during the fourth quarter of the current year are given in Table II on page 380. The Winders' Union which reported 100 members in the previous quarter reports its number of members during the quarter under review as nil, but it is not stated whether it is intended to continue the Union or not. The membership of the Weavers' Union fell from 4,275 to 3,600, that of the Throstle Union from 6,860 to 5,890 and of the Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union from 2,850 to 2,650.

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

No further details except those given in the Tables at the end of this are available in connexion with the other unions in Ahmedabad.

REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

The details in connexion with the numbers of members, average monthly income and average monthly expenditure of the Unions in the rest of the Presidency are given in Tables I and II of this issue. Fuller particulars regarding the individual activities and the annual statements of accounts of these Unions have not hitherto been reported to the Labour Office and it is not possible therefore to deal with the work of these Unions in the same way as the work of the Unions in Bombay and Ahmedabad has been dealt with in this article. The Labour Office, however, has under contemplation a scheme for procuring fuller information and it is hoped to give a better account of these Unions in the next quarterly review which will be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for March 1926.

QUASI UNIONS

The following Associations are excluded from the list of Trade Unions as these are regarded as Associations and Trade and Craft Guilds rather than Trade Unions:—

- (1) The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma.
- (2) The Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha.
- (3) The Girni Kamgar Sabha.
- (4) The Victoria Owners and Drivers' Union.
- (5) The Saloon, Hamamkhana Owners and Barbers' Association.

Full details and particulars in connexion with these Associations will be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for February 1926.

Reviews of Books and Reports

Annual Factory Report of the Presidency of Bombay, 1924

The report shows that the number of factories increased by 142 during the year. But this increase was chiefly due to the registration of small concerns employing between twenty and fifty persons. The number of factories actually working was 1,211 only. The number of operatives employed in all industries was 354,853 as against 356,480 during the previous year. The diminution in employment was due to the general trade depression. There was an increase of over 3,000 in the number of women employed. A considerable fall in the number of children was noticeable, due to the more vigorous enforcement of the Factory Act, especially in Ahmedabad.

Both by the Factories Department as well as by the managers of mills, efforts are being made to improve the sanitation and the ventilation in the factories. Increased interest is being taken by managers in internal atmospheric conditions and the use of the Kata thermometer is being recognised and extended. The greatest advance in respect of ventilation has, however, been made by the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Company, who have at very considerable expense to themselves installed in the mills a modern ventilating and humidifying plant.

There were during the year under report 2,606 accidents, 82 of which were fatal, 170 serious and 2,354 minor. It is not possible to say whether the number of accidents has increased or decreased because the system of classification has been changed.

Two hundred and three prosecutions were instituted by the full-time inspectors. In two cases appeals succeeded while the third was withdrawn. In addition, 30 prosecutions were taken up by the *ex-officio* Inspectors.

The most interesting part of the report is that dealing with the housing of factory hands and the extent of welfare work in the various mill centres. It is pointed out that though housing developments have suffered in the general depression, activities in this direction have not been totally curtailed. Six Ahmedabad mills have erected 204 rooms while considerable progress has also been made by the Colaba and David Mills in Bombay and the Narsinggirji Mill, Sholapur. The amount of welfare work in the various mills was less during the year under report than in the previous year. This was due to the general trade depression. In the Sholapur mills, however, in spite of the depression, there was no diminution in welfare activities.

The number of factory children receiving education in Ahmedabad was 1,184. In Sholapur most children attend factory schools and one mill is equipping a technical school for further instruction. In the Bombay mills factory schools have almost ceased to exist but no mill employs a large number of children.

In conclusion, it is pointed out that the impression prevails among some textile managers that labour is not as efficient today as twenty years ago. It is thought that industry of the future must pay higher wages and secure improved efficiency by the employment of a considerably smaller number of

persons. The report suggests that there is a great deal of scope for improvement within the mills. For instance, up to now safety devices are almost conspicuous by their absence and if the efficiency of the worker is to be increased the internal atmospheric conditions must be improved. Finally it is pointed out that a great deal more attention will have to be paid to the training of the child, who is to be the workman of the future.

Current Periodicals

Summary of Contents and Titles of Special Articles.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXV, No. 10. (THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, CANADA.)

- Special Articles:*—(1) *Proposed Ratification by Canada of Certain Conventions of the International Labour Conference affecting Seamen.*—Text of Canadian legislation. pp. 966-970.
 (2) *Salaries and Holidays with Pay for Dominion Public Works Employees.* pp. 970-971.
 (3) *Association of Governmental Labour Officials of the United States and Canada.* p. 971.
 (4) *Canadian Government Annuities.*—Effect of recent amendments to Annuities Act. pp. 972-974.
 (5) *Workmen's Compensation in Manitoba in 1924.* pp. 975-976.
 (6) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Ontario in 1925.*—Order governing restaurants and refreshment rooms. pp. 976-977.
 (7) *Early Closing of Retail Stores in Certain Provinces of Canada.*—Quebec; Prince Edward Island; New Brunswick; Ontario; Manitoba. pp. 978-979.
 (8) *Canadian Council on Child Welfare.*—Five year programme, 1925-1930—on Health, on Child labour, on Mental Hygiene, on Education and Recreation, on Legislation. pp. 980-982.
 (9) *The Child in Industry.* By Helen Gregory MacGill, M.A. and Mus.Bac., Judge of the Juvenile Court, Vancouver.—Gaps in child labour laws; age of working children; hours of work; absence of uniform standards; defects of school system; unemployment and child labour; injurious effects on children; interprovincial conference; proposed remedy; recent gains; child labour standards; white house minimum standards; minimum standards for child labour in Canada. pp. 983-991.
 (10) *International Congress of Child Welfare.*—Social welfare; propaganda work. p. 992.
 (11) *British Trades Union Congress.*—Powers of general council; unemployment; proposed one big union; international union; land policy. pp. 1006-1007.
 (12) *League of Nations International Labour Organisation.*—Recent ratification of draft conventions; governing body of the International Labour Office; international economic conference; hours of labour in industry: United States. p. 1008.
 (13) *International Codification of the Rules relating to Seamen's Articles of Agreement.* pp. 1009-1010.
 (14) *Methods of Statistics on Unemployment.* pp. 1010-1011.
 (15) *International Association of Public Employment Services.* pp. 1011-1013.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VII, No. 82. (INDUSTRIAL WELFARE SOCIETY, LONDON.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Personnel Management.* pp. 336-338.
 (2) *Dentistry and Industry.* By J. Clark Yeoman, L.D.S. (Eng.).—Part I—Dentistry a factor in industrial life. pp. 338-341.
 (3) *Health and Production.* By E. L. Collis, M.A., M.D. (Mansel Talbot Professor of Preventive Medicine in the University of Wales, Member of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, etc.).—The alcohol habit. pp. 341-343.
 (4) *Pension and Superannuation Funds—III.* By Bernard Robertson. pp. 343-345.
 (5) *An Experiment in Repetitive Work.*—Summary of piece rate investigation. pp. 345-347.
 (6) *A Catering Firm's Welfare Scheme.* pp. 350-352.
 (7) *The Work of an Industrial Council.* pp. 353-354.
 (8) *Miners' Welfare.*—Safety in Mines Research Board; safety in mines. pp. 354-356.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. X, No. 10. (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, BRISBANE.)

- Special Articles:*—(1) *Report of the Director of Labour and Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops for the year ended 30th June 1925.*—Summary; the labour exchange act of 1915; the factories and shops acts, 1900-1922; the industrial arbitration acts, 1916-1924; the workers' accommodation act, 1915-1921; the trade union act of 1915; general. pp. 826-828.
 (2) *Second Annual Report on Operations under the Unemployed Workers' Insurance Act of 1922.*—Unemployment council; financial operations; sale of stamps; payment of sustenance; casual and intermittent work; statistics; organisation and staff; statements. pp. 831-834.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VII, NO. 11 (THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, BALTIMORE, U. S. A.)

Special Articles.—(1) *Rural and Urban Health: II A Comparison of Past Diseases in University Students from Rural and Urban Districts.* By W. P. Shepard, M.A., M.D. (Berkeley, Calif.) and H. S. Diehl, M.A., M.D. (Minneapolis, Minn.).—Methods; results; summary pp. 481—490.

(2) *Factory and Shop Legislation in Australia.* By D. G. Robertson (Director, Division of Industrial Hygiene, Commonwealth of Australia, Melbourne, Australia).—Historical and statistical data; survey of factory and shop legislation—Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania, Commonwealth of Australia; the present need for improvement in the legislation; legislation enacted since the first industrial hygiene conference; summary; pp. 491—504.

(3) *Calcium and Tuberculosis—A Thesis in Hygiene Comprehending the Influence of an Inspired Dust on a Specific Infection of the Lungs.* By Miriam Stewart Iszard, M. A. (Instructor in Bacteriology, School of Hygiene and Public Health, University of Pennsylvania).—Introduction; literature—clinical and industrial reports and comparative statistical data, animal experimentation, summary of the literature; original experiments—the problem, method, dust employed, experimental animals, dust chamber, tuberculosis culture, procedure in dust experiments, examination of animals, staining of sections, results, weights, summary of weight curves, pathology of lungs, significance of the macroscopic and microscopic examinations; chemical analyses of the lungs and blood of rabbits; conclusions. pp. 505—528.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XII, No. 5. (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA.)

Special Articles.—(1) *The Co-operative Movement and Co-operative Law.* By A. Egger (Professor of Zurich University).—The principal types of co-operative legislation; the necessity for specific legislation; advantages of specific and comprehensive legislation; definition of a co-operative society; formation of a co-operative society; conditions of membership; the obligations and rights of members; other provisions; federations of co-operative societies. pp. 609—633.

(2) *A Systematic Scheme for an Employment Policy.* By Dr. Berger (Ministerial Counsellor in the German Federal Ministry of Labour).—Historical background; international studies; the basis of the scheme; ordinary measures—employment exchanges, vocational guidance and education, extraordinary measures—compulsory regulation of supply and demand, redistribution of work, creation of work, migration, unemployment relief and insurance; summary of the scheme; statistics. pp. 634—649.

(3) *The Commandite: Co-operative Work in the French Printing Industry.* By Charles Maraux (Member of the Committee of the Paris Typographical Union (Federation of French Printing Workers)—Origin; different types of commandite; the commandite at the national printing works; conclusion. pp. 650—667.

(4) *Labour Conditions in China.*—Industrial development; hours of labour; weekly rest and holidays; wages; employment of women and children; general health conditions; development of trade unionism. pp. 668—676.

(5) *Statistics of Land Reform in Estonia.*—Distribution of land before the reform; the land after the reform—number and size of holdings, population, nature of land, crops, live stock, implements and machinery, buildings. pp. 676—684.

(6) *Claimants to Unemployment Benefit in Great Britain.*—Degree of employability; physique and health; number of dependants; general effects of the system. pp. 685—689.

(7) *Factory Inspection in Great Britain in 1924.*—Statistics; hours of work; accidents and safety questions; occupational diseases; medical examination; general hygiene. pp. 689—699.

(8) *Industrial Inspection in Belgium in 1923.* pp. 699—701.

(9) *Inspection of Mines in India in 1923.* pp. 702—703.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. IV, No. 7. (OFFICIAL MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR MOVEMENT, LONDON.)

Special Articles.—(1) *Arthur Pugh: A Statesman of Industry.* By Herbert Tracey. pp. 291—292.

(2) *Russia:—Some Impressions and Some Guesses.* By Susan Lawrence. pp. 293—295.

(3) *The Liverpool Conference.* By Robert Williams (Chairman of the National Executive of the Labour Party).—Need for militants; Mr. Macdonald's return; miners' great gesture. pp. 296—298.

(4) *The Rural Report of the Liberal Land Committee—A Criticism.* By Sir Edgar Harper, F.S.I., (Late Chief Valuer to H.M. Commissioners of Inland Revenue). pp. 299—301.

(5) *The Settlement and Development of the British Commonwealth.* By Margaret G. Bondfield. pp. 302—305.

(6) *Liberalism: A Search for Lost Clues.* By Harold J. Laski. pp. 306—308.

(7) *Memories and Reflections.* By 'Propagandist'. pp. 309—311.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

At the request of the Executive of the International Federation of Trade Unions, a meeting is to be held in London on December 1st between that body and the General Council of the British T. U. C., to discuss ways and means of bringing the Russian trade unions into the I. F. T. U. (From "Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.," Amsterdam, November 5, 1925.)

* * * * *

UNITED KINGDOM

British unemployment decreased 38,800 between October 5 and October 12, 1925. Unemployment is, however, 48,600 greater than on October 13, 1924. There has been decline of approximately 78,000 in unemployed during past fortnight. (From "Industrial News Survey," October 26, 1925.)

* * * * *

An important conclusion of the recent Report of the joint committee of employers and workers in the ship-building industry was to the effect that the Government should be pressed to take steps to bring about a reduction in the hours of labour in foreign competitive establishments. The same point has now been put to the Minister of Labour by a deputation representing the engineering industry. The result of the adoption, in 1919 or 1920, of the shorter working week in this country, from the point of view of employers, is illustrated by figures recently published as to the rise in rates of wages since 1914. These figures show that, while the increase in full-time weekly rates of wages has been 75 per cent. that in hourly rates has been about 100 per cent. owing to the fact that the weekly wages remained unaltered when the hours were reduced. In the ship-building industry, in which the rise in weekly rates ranges from 35 per cent. for certain skilled workers to 68 per cent. for labourers, the increase in hourly rates ranges from 55 to 90 per cent. In the case of engineering, the figures in regard to weekly rates are 45 to 76 per cent. and those for hourly rates 65 to 100 per cent. The rise in hourly rates, of course, more nearly represents the increased labour cost to the employer than that in weekly wages, but the difference between the two sets of figures by no means represents the total cost of the reduction in hours. In order to maintain the output of years prior to 1919 there are involved increases in the number of employees, in accommodation, and in overhead charges generally. There may be a slight compensation in an increase in the hourly output, but on this point authentic opinion is by no means unanimous. There can be little doubt that appreciable advantages lie with foreign firms, who have continued to work hours in excess of the 47 per week prevailing in the engineering and ship-building industries in this country, or who have reverted to a longer week in order to maintain their position as successful competitors. (From the "Economist," London, November 14, 1925.)

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during October 1925 was 207, as compared with 198 in the previous month and with 205 in October 1924. Fatal accidents to seamen numbered 44, as compared with 46 in the previous month; comparable figures for October 1924 are not available. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, November 1925.)

The number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 26th October 1925 was 1,294,603. Of this number, 1,031,602 were men, 37,940 boys, 195,707 women and 29,354 girls. Compared with 28th September, there was a decrease of 106,404 which was distributed as follows: men 74,305; women 25,272; juveniles 6,827.

During the four weeks ended 26th October, the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 99,175 of which 54,346 were for men, 25,544 for women and 19,285 for juveniles.

Week ended	Applications from employers		Vacancies filled	Number of workpeople registered as unemployed
	During week	Outstanding at end of week		
28th September 1925 ..	27,817	21,397	24,119	1,401,007
5th October 1925 ..	29,849	21,331	25,218	1,361,147
12th October 1925 ..	29,613	21,319	25,547	1,321,351
19th October 1925 ..	28,587	21,351	24,563	1,300,362
26th October 1925 ..	27,709	20,958	23,847	1,294,603
Total (4 weeks) ..	115,758	....	99,175	....

(From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, November 1925.)

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

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in October was 49. In addition, 31 disputes which began before October were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in October (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 43,000; the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during October was about 440,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of

approximately 44,000 workpeople involved and 413,000 days lost in the previous month.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first ten months of 1925 was about 6,519,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 405,000. The figures for the corresponding period of 1924 were 8,045,000 days and 587,000 workpeople respectively. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, November 1925.)

Employment showed an improvement during October. Among the 11,892,000 workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 26th October 1925 was 11.4, as compared with 12.0 at 21st September 1925, and with 11.0 at 27th October 1924. Among the members of those trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 11.3 at the end of October 1925 compared with 11.4 at the end of September 1925, and with 8.7 at the end of October 1924. The total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 26th October 1925 was approximately 1,295,000 of whom 1,032,000 were men and 196,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 28th September 1925 it was 1,401,000 of whom 1,106,000 were men and 221,000 were women; and at 27th October 1924, it was 1,247,000 of whom men numbered 943,000 and women 235,000. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, November 1925.)

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The Committee of German Unions for the Protection of Young Persons (*Ausschuss der Deutscher Jugendverbände*) recently adopted unanimously the following resolution concerning the regulation of the hours of work of young persons:

The Committee of German Unions for the Protection of Young Persons, which includes 70 unions and represents 3,500,000 members, unanimously declares that the present situation as regards hours of work, which involves for young wage-earners and salaried employees more than ten hours of work a day (not counting breaks and the time taken in going to and returning from work) is unjustifiable, having regard to the physical and intellectual development of such young persons and to the vital needs of youth.

The Committee is of opinion that it is urgently necessary to pass an Act on hours of work, which shall take account of the requirements of apprentices and of young workers. The Committee regards it as indispensable that the following conditions should be accepted:—

- (1) Legislation for apprentices and for young workers should protect such persons up to the age of 18 years, instead of 14;
- (2) Hours of work per week should be 48, including any time which may be required for occupational education or for the putting away of tools, etc., after the day's work;
- (3) The week-end rest should begin on Saturday at mid-day;
- (4) There should be adequate breaks during the day's work;

(5) Night work should be forbidden. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 26, 1925.)

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In August 1925, there were numerous trade disputes in Germany involving stoppages of work, the most important being those in the building and textile industries. The intervention of official conciliators prevented more extensive stoppages which threatened to paralyse whole industries.

So far as labour disputes resulted in advances of wages, the new rates were fixed for longer periods than had been customary before; as a rule, up to the end of the year. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 26, 1925.)

* * * * *

The eleventh Congress of the Spanish Federation of Metal Workers (*Federación Nacional de Metalúrgicos*) was held at Bilbao on September last.

Several resolutions were adopted, from which we extract the following:

The Congress considered it impossible to secure the "united front" for all workers, in view of the fact that the extremists would not give the guarantee required for amalgamation, and that by their methods they had weakened the workers' movement and endangered the gains already achieved.

It was decided to re-organise the Federation in order to make it more efficient.

It was decided to publish a monthly review.

The Government was called upon to establish industrial schools for the workers.

The Congress proposed:

- (1) the establishment of a system of unemployment insurance;
- (2) the participation of the workers in the administration of undertakings;
- (3) the initiation of public works for the improvement of industrial and agricultural production and the transport of goods;
- (4) strict observance of the provisions of the law relating to hours of work; and
- (5) measures for the reduction of the prices of foodstuffs. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 26, 1925.)

* * * * *

The "free" trade unions of Leipzig have set up a Working Women's Committee to represent the working women in all the local unions affiliated to the German General Confederation of Trade Unions.

The main objects of the Committee will be to supervise the enforcement of laws for the protection of women workers, to second the efforts of the trade unions for the improvement of women workers' wages, to undertake propaganda in favour of the trade union organisation of women workers, to train women officials and to give information and advice on all questions relating to women's work. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 26, 1925.)

UNITED STATES

Hearing for employers and employees before Massachusetts Minimum Wage Commission on minimum wage rates for women and girls employed in stationery goods and envelope factories, will be held on October 27, 1925. Board requests minimum rate of \$ 13.75 for women 18 years of age and over with one year's experience, and special rates ranging from \$ 9 to \$ 12 for minors and inexperienced workers. Commission further requests that these scales become effective January 1, 1926. (From "Industrial News Survey," October 26, 1925.)

* * * * *

Pennsylvania Workmen's Compensation Board has ruled that in case of workman, who has taken into his home another man's child and has stood in *loco parentis* to it, child was entitled to compensation upon death of worker. Board has also ruled that in case where an employee's finger had been bruised in an industrial accident, became infected and was ultimately removed, leaving wound which would not heal sufficiently to permit employee to return to work for some months, employee was not restricted to compensation for loss of finger but was entitled to compensation for total disability during period in which he was incapacitated. (From "Industrial News Survey," October 26, 1925.)

* * * * *

About 300 employees in four departments of Laconia division of Pepperell Manufacturing Company, Biddeford, Me., cotton manufacturers, walked out on October 7, 1925. Action of operatives was taken in protest against amount of work required under recently adopted schedule whereby two persons are now employed to do work formerly accomplished by three. (From "Industrial News Survey," October 12, 1925.)

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OTHER COUNTRIES

At a conference of delegates from the Trades and Labour Councils of Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia, and Western Australia, held at Adelaide on 8 to 12 June 1925, a resolution was adopted with reference to unemployment which declared, *inter alia*, that all Governments should immediately legislate for the proper organisation and control of immigration for the purpose of safeguarding both the workers in Australia and the prospective immigrants from all other countries. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 2, 1925.)

* * * * *

Strike of 10,000 Chinese cotton mill workers for one day was called on October 12, 1925, in Shanghai, China, as protest against judicial inquiry being conducted by foreign nations into cause of Shanghai riots several months ago. Three of mills affected are owned by British, and one by Chinese. (From "Industrial News Survey," New York, October 19, 1925.)

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation	Number of members	Name and address of	
			President or Chairman	Secretary
1. Bombay City.	1. The Indian Seamen's Union*—April 1921.	11,597	J. J. Athaide, 149, Carnac Bridge, Frere Road, Bombay.	S. A. Rebello, 149, Carnac Bridge, Frere Road, Bombay.
			Director—Dr. Theodore Fernandes.	
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union—July 1920.	934	Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer.	S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.
			Vice-President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	C. Bhukandas, Charge-man, B. B. & C. I. Ry. Workshop, Parel.
				Assistant Secretary—Jamshed Jhaiwalla, Millwright shop B. B. & C. I. Ry. Workshops, Parel.
3. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments)—May 1919.		979	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.
				Assistant Secretary—V. P. Relshete Building, Elphinston Road.
4. The Port Trust Workshop Union—March 1920.		450	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road, Mazagaon.
				Assistant Secretary—Sad anand Waman Gadkar, 2nd Carpenter Street, Mazagaon.
5. The Clerks' Union—April 1918.		150	President—A. R. V. Ranjit, Peerbhoy Mansion, Sandhurst Road.	Joint Secretaries—1. Anant Padmanabh, c/o Messrs Ramsay and Arnold, 11 Tamarind Lane Fort, Bombay or Ravte Building, Banam Hall Lane, Girgaum.
			Vice-President—Samuel Judah, c/o Messrs. Graham & Co., Parsee Bazaar Gate Street, Fort.	2. S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

* The name of this Union is misleading, as the Union is purely for the saloon staff and its members are of Goan nationality.

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation	Number of members	Name and address of		
			President or Chairman	Secretary	
1. Bombay City—contd.	6. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers) Union—April 1918.	1,164	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	
				Assistant Secretary—Dhondu K. Tendulkar, 1, Kandewadi, Bombay.	
	7. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union—May 1921.	5,475	Motilal J. Mehta, Ag. Assistant Auditor, Audit Office, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay.	1. M. N. Veerkar, 2. S. C. Joshi, Advocate.	
	8. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union—July 1922.	275	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	
				Assistant Secretary—W. S. Shitushete Building, Elphinston Road.	
	9. Bombay Postal Union (a)—1907.	1,354	None	D. S. Joshi, Soman Buildings, Girgaum Road, Bombay.	
	10. The Bombay Currency Association—March 1923.	220	R. M. Dongre	1. S. C. Joshi, 2. B. B. Acharya, 3. M. D. Batliwala.	
	Total Members, Bombay City	22,598			
	2. Ahmedabad	1. The Weavers' Union—February 1920.	3,600	Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.
					Assistant Secretary—Khan d u b h a i Kasanbhai Desai, Mandvini Pole, Ahmedabad.
2. The Winders' Union—June 1920.		..	Do.	Do.	
3. The Throstle Union—February 1920.		5,890	Do.	Do.	
4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920.		2,650	Do.	Do.	
5. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union—September 1920.	300	Do.	Do.		

(a) The name of the union has been changed since April 1925.

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—*contd.*

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation	Number of members	Name and address of	
			President or Chairman	Secretary
2. Ahmedabad— <i>contd.</i>	6. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association—February 1919.	200	V. J. Patel, Khamsa, Ahmedabad.	M. V. Kothari, Raipur, Ahmedabad.
	7. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees Association—February 1920.	5,000*	Do.	Do.
8. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	9. The Motor Driver Union—March 1925.	227	N. M. Desai	Assistant Secretary—B. N. Sandil, Dolatkhana, Sarangpur, Ahmedabad.
				D. S. Patel, Post Office, Ahmedabad.
				1. Sorabji Haraji Bharucha, Salapori Road, Ahmedabad.
3. Sukkur	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District)—September 1920.	1,672	Mr. Thakurdad, Head Clerk, District Loco Office, Sukkur.	2. Hakim Abdul Raheman Hasanhai, Jamalpur, Sodagar Pole, Ahmedabad.
				Labour Organising Secretary—Pandit Kanwal Nabh, Sukkur.
4. Karachi	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District)—1920.	3,500	Partabrai B. Advani	District Secretary—S. Umardin, N. W. Railway Union Office, Sukkur.
				Alim T. Gidvani.
5. Poona	1. The Press Workers' Union—February 1921.	110	John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	1. G. T. Sakpal, Yeravda Prison Press, Poona.
	2. Poona Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919.			2. N. B. Purohit, Gourishankar Press, Poona City.
				3. Krishnaji Shri-dhar Bande, Aryabhushan Press, Poona City.
				4. D. S. Raihagkar, Govardhan Press, Poona City.
				N. V. Bhonde, Poona.
		349	N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor, "Kesari".	
Total Members, Ahmedabad ..		18,067		

* Approximate.

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—*contd.*

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation	Number of members	Name and address of	
			President or Chairman	Secretary
6. Broach	1. The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union—October 1923.	360	None	Dinkarrao Narbherani, Pleader, Broach.
	2. The Saraswati Mill Labour Union—October 1923.	360	Do.	Do.
7. Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	280	Do.	Chobukswari, Ahmednagar.
8. Belgaum	1. Belgaum Postal Union—1920.	80	Do.	G. V. Limaye, Belgaum.
	2. Belgaum R. M. S. Union—1925.			
9. Dharwar	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	170	V. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar.	R. M. Belgiri, Dharwar.
10. East Khandesh	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	124	H. V. Kolhatkar	H. V. Mudak, Jalgaon.
11. Nasik	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	346	Raoasheb Cogate.	R. T. Lele, Nasik.
12. Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri Postal Union—1922.	183	None	A. K. Murtuza, Ratnagiri.
13. Satara	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919.	260	R. V. Deshpande.	T. K. Datye, Satara.
14. Surat	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union—1921.	218	None	B. N. Mistry, Surat.
15. Baroda	1. Baroda Postal Union—1920.	184	C. M. Doctor	R. J. Shah, Baroda.
	2. Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924.	253	Kalekar	None.
16. Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	75	None	T. J. Parekh, Bhavnagar.
17. Rajkot	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	129	Do.	H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
	Total, rest of Presidency ..				8,653
Total Members, Presidency ..		49,318		

† Information not received.

TABLE II—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation	Average income per month for fourth quarter, 1925.	Sum paid per member per month	Average expenditure per month for fourth quarter, 1925.
1 Bombay City	1. The Indian Seamen's Union.	Rs. 1,025	Rs. 3 (per year) (1)	Rs. 1,157
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.	251	As. 2 for those earning Rs. 25 and under per month; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 per month; As. 8 for those earning over Rs. 50.	95
	3. The G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union.	426	Do.	129
	4. The Port Trust Workshop Union.	95	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	80
	5. The Clerks' Union ..	38	As. 4	25
	6. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers) Union.	521	As. 4	375
	7. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	125	Annually As. 4 per twenty-five rupees or portion thereof.	125
	8. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union.	64	As. 4	52
	9. Bombay Postal Union (a).	508	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior employee.	427
	10. The Bombay Currency Association.	40	Rs. 3 for clerks and as. 8 for menials per year.	35
2. Ahmedabad	1. The Weavers' Union ..	900	As. 4	175
	2. The Winders' Union ..	..	As. 2	..
	3. The Throstle Union.	1,263	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker.	500
	4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	663	As. 4	226
	5. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.	125	As. 6 per oilman; As. 8 per driver or fire-man.	14
	6. *The Post and Railway Mail Service Association.	†	....	†
	7. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees Association.	Exact amount not available.	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	300

(1) Subscription rate has been changed since October 1925.

* The members are not paying fees at present. † Not reported.

(a) The name has been changed since April 1925.

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

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation	Average Income per month for fourth quarter, 1925.	Sum paid per member per month	Average Expenditure per month for fourth quarter, 1925.
2. Ahmedabad— contd.	8. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.	172	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk.	31
	9. The Motor Driver Union.	Nil.	Entrance fee Rs. 5 and Re. 1 per month per public motor driver and entrance fee Rs. 2 and As. 8 per month per private motor driver.	40
3. Sukkur	The N.W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	540	Subscription at the rate of ½ per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	160
4. Karachi	The N.W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	700	Do.	300
5. Poona	1. The Press Workers' Union.	4	As. 2 to As. 3	About 2
	2. Poona Postal and R. M. S. Union.	148	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk.	153
6. Broach	1. The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union.	90	As. 4 per member	Nil*
	2. The Saraswati Mill Labour Union.	90	Do.	Nil*
7. Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	46	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk.	102
8. Belgaum	1. Belgaum Postal Union.	13	Do.	22
	2. Belgaum R. M. S. Union.	..	Do.	..
9. Dharwar	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	66	Do.	29
10. East Khandesh.	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	61	Do.	59
11. Nasik	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	75	Do.	45
12. Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri Postal Union ..	58	Do.	27
13. Satara	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	61	Do.	104
14. Surat	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	52	Do.	56
	1. Baroda Postal Union ..	38	Do.	32
15. Baroda	2. Baroda R. M. S. Union.	†	Do.	†
	1. Baroda Postal Union ..	38	Do.	32
16. Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	†	Do.	†
17. Rajkot	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	13	Do.	21

* Except some casual printing charges. † Not reported.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN NOVEMBER 1925

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

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN NOVEMBER 1925—contd.

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
4. The new Manekji Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad.						
	297	...	11 Nov.	13 Nov.	Redund of the demand to enhance the rates of wages.	Work resumed by the majority and new men engaged in place of the remainder.
5. The Whistle Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Viramgam.						
	250	...	28 Nov.	...	The decision of the Master to recover the cost of damaged cloth from weavers responsible for it.	No settlement reported.
6. The Aryodaya Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.						
	150	...	30 Nov.	...	Dismissal of a Jobber.	No settlement reported.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING NOVEMBER 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 Oct 1925	Nov 1925
	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Woolen Mills .. Others ..	389 5 2	4	251 3 1	1	11 .. ..	.. .. ..	33 1 ..	1	596 7 3	4 2 ..	640 8 3	......
Total ..	396	4	255	3	11	..	34	1	606	6	651	..
II Workshops— Engineering .. Railway .. Misc .. Others ..	22 28 3 8	1 6 .. 1	185 1,099 3 10	8 138 .. 3	.. 3 .. 1	.. .. .. ..	5 5 1 2	2 2	202 1,119 5 15	6 142 .. 2	207 1,127 .. 18	9 146
Total ..	61	8	1,297	149	4	1	13	6	1,341	150	1,358	152
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works .. Flour Mills .. Printing Presses .. Others ..	.. 3 4 15	.. .. .. 1	1 3 2 19	2 1	1 1 .. 1	.. .. .. ..	.. 1 .. 5	.. .. 1 ..	.. 4 4 28	2 .. 2 1	1 6 5 34	2 3
Total ..	22	3	24	3	3	..	7	1	36	5	46	6
Total, All Factories ..	479	15	1,576	155	18	1	54	8	1,983	161	2,055	170

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 Oct 1925	Nov 1925
	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton ..	143	19	79	6	3	2	55	8	164	15	222	25
Total ..	143	19	79	6	3	2	55	8	164	15	222	25
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory .. Flour Mills .. Oil Mills .. Engineering ..	13 .. 1 1	.. .. .. ..	3 .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. 2 ..	.. .. .. ..	4 .. 1 1	.. .. .. ..	12 2	.. .. .. 2	.. .. 3 3	........
Total ..	15	..	6	..	2	..	6	..	14	..	22	..
Total, All Factories ..	158	19	85	6	5	2	61	8	178	15	244	25

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

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING NOVEMBER 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 Oct 1925	Nov 1925
	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925		
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust Engineering ..	6 1	.. ..	17 10	1 ..	.. 1	.. ..	5 1	.. ..	18 9	1 ..	19 9	1 ..
Total ..	7	..	27	1	1	..	6	..	27	1	34	1
II Miscellaneous ..	7	2	(a) 2	..	..	..	3	1	7	1	10	2
Total ..	7	2	2	..	..	..	3	1	7	1	10	2
Total, All Factories ..	14	2	29	1	1	..	9	1	34	2	44	3

(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 Oct 1925	Nov 1925
	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925	Jan to Oct 1925	Nov 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Others ..	76 5	11 ..	37 1	3 ..	2 ..	..	16 ..	4 ..	95 6	10 ..	113 6	14 ..
Total ..	81	11	38	3	2	..	16	4	101	10	119	14
II Workshops— Railway .. Arms and Ammunition Works .. Others ..	12 4 12	1	106 5 20	16 .. 2	.. .. 1	.. .. ..	4 1 4	2	114 8 27	15 .. 2	118 9 32	17 .. 2
Total ..	28	1	131	18	1	..	9	2	149	17	159	19
I Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pressing Factories .. Paint Works .. Others ..	13 11	2 ..	13 14	1 ..	8 2	1 ..	2 ..	.. ..	16 .. 21	2 ..	26 .. 25	3 ..
Total ..	24	2	27	1	10	1	4	..	37	2	51	3
Total, All Factories ..	133	14	196	22	13	1	29	6	287	..	329	36

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	Pounds	Month of October			7 months ended October		
		1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Nos. 1 to 10	6,723	5,780	926	42,916	37,828	(000) 39,039
Nos. 11 to 20	17,955	17,450	6,359	119,968	123,693	120,461
Nos. 21 to 30	13,279	12,434	4,711	83,838	92,558	85,785
Nos. 31 to 40	1,506	1,120	601	7,325	8,838	7,575
Above 40	241	501	209	1,441	2,929	2,768
Waste, etc.	12	10	8	83	77	288
Total	39,716	37,295	12,814	255,571	265,923	255,916

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of October			7 months ended October		
		1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Nos. 1 to 10	6,068	4,927	71	39,085	33,348	(000) 34,047
Nos. 11 to 20	12,222	11,586	63	86,772	84,589	73,484
Nos. 21 to 30	8,400	7,319	66	56,310	57,175	50,729
Nos. 31 to 40	902	682	3	4,299	4,882	3,643
Above 40	105	317	2	731	1,672	1,499
Waste, etc.	3	2	..	17	20	227
Total	27,700	24,833	205	187,214	181,686	163,629

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of October			7 months ended October		
		1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Nos. 1 to 10	194	233	241	810	1,395	(000) 1,566
Nos. 11 to 20	3,570	3,004	3,401	15,894	21,388	26,304
Nos. 21 to 30	3,269	3,581	3,554	17,713	26,416	27,079
Nos. 31 to 40	449	346	467	2,169	2,932	2,781
Above 40	103	127	139	477	946	855
Waste, etc.	1	..	..
Total	7,585	7,291	7,802	37,064	53,077	58,585

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

Description	Month of October			7 months ended October		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	1,846	1,165	..	8,592	8,470
Chudders	2,431	2,148	2,046	10,015	9,235
Dhotis	6,165	5,158	7,093	35,955	40,190
Drills and jeans	852	746	396	5,615	6,674
Cambrics and lawns	56	25	32	186	437
Printers	477	359	262	2,292	2,178
Shirtings and long cloth	9,958	7,046	8,868	51,586	55,595
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,231	1,021	1,211	7,050	7,058
Tent cloth	80	141	172	485	1,201
Other sorts	2,898	443	346	13,618	3,496
Total	24,148	18,933	21,591	126,802	134,656
Coloured piece-goods	11,299	9,435	8,165	53,032	59,356
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	214	163	103	1,176	1,119
Hosiery	22	19	16	104	94
Miscellaneous	128	209	197	670	1,002
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	5	3	28	89	44
Grand Total	35,816	28,762	30,100	181,873	196,271

BOMBAY CITY

Description	Month of October			7 months ended October		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	1,178	591	..	5,956	6,474
Chudders	1,652	1,550	1,281	6,422	5,820
Dhotis	2,135	1,421	1,292	12,570	12,372
Drills and jeans	803	549	242	5,291	5,980
Cambrics and lawns	42	18	1	129	371
Printers	4	..	..	58	24
Shirtings and long cloth	7,729	5,058	5,926	39,374	39,899
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,012	851	742	5,980	5,737
Tent cloth	47	27	30	335	493
Other sorts	1,976	204	95	9,720	1,554
Total	15,400	10,956	10,200	79,879	78,206
Coloured piece-goods	9,428	7,483	5,198	44,101	46,812
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	210	154	99	1,112	1,078
Hosiery	12	9	5	56	45
Miscellaneous	124	106	168	647	823
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	4	3	14	83	30
Grand Total	25,178	18,711	15,684	125,878	126,994

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

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of October			7 months ended October		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	..	503	199	..	1,926	..
Chudders	..	637	449	..	2,684	577
Dhotis	..	3,281	2,896	..	17,384	21,711
Drills and jeans	..	23	11	..	158	25,189
Cambrics and lawns	..	5	6	..	27	58
Printers	..	279	225	..	1,312	1,434
Shirtings and long cloth	..	1,541	1,544	..	8,703	12,712
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	..	211	148	..	988	1,197
Tent cloth	..	16	102	..	86	650
Other sorts	..	640	161	..	2,211	1,276
Total	6,633	6,045	9,297	33,779	43,819	46,024
Coloured piece-goods	855	983	1,693	4,182	6,885	9,788
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	1	1	3	5	6
Hosiery	9	9	10	48	48	89
Miscellaneous	3	72	25	22	149	166
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	1	1	7	3	3	27
Grand Total	7,502	7,111	11,033	38,037	50,909	56,100

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

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

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	Housing	Cost of living
1922									
December	131	160	133	196	157	167	222	165	161
1923									
January	124	158	127	190	151	166	225	165	156
February	125	153	128	187	150	166	223	165	155
March	127	150	129	182	149	164	223	165	154
April	130	147	132	182	150	164	216	172	156
May	126	136	127	184	148	164	208	172	153
June	124	116	124	184	146	164	205	172	152
July	125	116	124	189	148	165	205	172	153
August	123	116	122	194	149	165	205	172	154
September	124	116	123	194	149	161	206	172	154
October	123	116	122	188	147	161	211	172	152
November	124	116	124	187	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Nov 1924	Oct 1925	Nov 1925	July 1914	Nov 1924	Oct 1925	Nov 1925
Cereals—			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 14 6	6 6 10	6 8 9	100	147	137	139
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 4 0	8 10 0	9 5 0	100	147	154	166
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	80 0 0	75 0 0	100	156	178	167
Do.	Jubbulpore	"	40 0 0	53 0 0	55 8 0	63 8 0	100	133	139	159
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	3 12 11	4 2 0	4 3 9	100	121	131	134
Barley	"	"	3 4 6	3 12 11	4 7 1	4 13 11	100	116	135	148
Bajri	Ghatj	"	3 4 6	4 13 11	5 1 3	5 1 3	100	149	155	155
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 0 4	4 10 6	5 4 8	100	138	147	153
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	5 10 5	5 4 8	6 5 7	7 6 6	100	95	110	125
Index No.—Cereals							100	94	112	131
Index No.—Pulses							100	95	111	128
Index No.—Food grains							100	129	139	147
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	18 7 0			100	201	137	162
Do.	Java, white	Maund	10 3 0	19 1 0	14 0 0	16 8 0	100	187	164	162
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	"	7 14 3	13 9 8	12 14 10	12 8 3	100	172	164	159
Index No.—Sugar							100	187	151	161
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	28 4 9	10 12 0		100	507	188	188
Ghee	Deshi	"	45 11 5	85 11 5	85 11 5	10 12 0	100	188	188	188
Salt	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	2 4 0	2 4 0	2 2 0	100	153	153	145
Index No.—Other food							100	153	153	145
Index No.—All Food							100	283	178	175
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	14 2 0	12 0 0	12 4 0	100	159	135	138
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	"	8 0 0	12 4 0	10 14 0	11 6 0	100	153	136	142
Poppy seed	"	"	10 14 0	14 10 0	13 8 0	13 9 0	100	134	134	134
Ginkelly	White	"	11 4 0	16 2 0	14 0 0	14 2 0	100	143	154	156
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	143	154	156

Textile—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	505 0 0	462 0 0	462 0 0	100	227	184	184
Oomra	Do.	"	222 0 0	505 0 0			100	227	184	184
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0				100	227	184	184
Khandesh	Machine-sinned	"	205 0 0				100	227	184	184
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0	475 0 0			100	240	184	184
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	254	184	184
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 13 0	1 8 0	1 6 0	100	227	188	173
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Pince	5 15 0	12 10 0	11 6 0	11 0 0	100	213	192	185
White mulls	6,600	"	4 3 0	8 12 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	100	209	233	233
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	25 4 0	22 10 0	22 10 0	100	245	218	218
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 5 3	1 3 0	1 2 0	100	224	200	189
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	1 4 0	1 2 0	1 0 6	100	210	189	174
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	251	203	195
Index No.—Textile—Cotton							100	224	201	194
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	7 8 5	7 8 5	7 6 3	100	146	146	143
Do.	Mathow Lari	"	2 15 1	5 1 9	4 11 3	4 11 3	100	174	160	160
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	160	155	152
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 13 1	1 15 6	1 14 7	100	157	170	165
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	1 5 1	0 14 1	0 15 8	100	122	62	61
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 6 3	2 7 11	2 9 8	100	191	200	208
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	157	151	155
Metals—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	64 8 0	62 8 0	61 8 0	100	107	105	100
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	100	175	175	175
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	11 12 0	11 0 0	11 0 0	100	152	142	142
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	15 8 0	14 6 0	14 0 0	100	172	160	156
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	20 0 0	16 8 0	16 8 0	100	228	189	189
Index No.—Metals							100	167	154	153
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	23 10 0	22 14 0	22 2 0	100	160	155	150
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	23 9 0	24 15 8	26 0 9	100	119	127	132
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 10 6	7 7 0	7 7 0	100	175	170	170
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	100	185	185	185
Index No.—Other raw and manuf. articles							100	160	155	150
Index No.—Food							100	171	149	155
Index No.—Non-food							100	179	163	162
General Index No.							100	176	158	160

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices				Index Numbers				
			July 1914	Nov 1924	Oct 1925	Nov 1925	July 1914	Nov 1924	Oct 1925	Nov 1925	
Cereals—											
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy.	39 0 0	61 12 0	60 4 0	60 12 0	100	156	154	156	
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	"	34 8 0	47 4 0	45 0 0	51 0 0	100	134	141	143	
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 4 0	46 4 0	44 0 0	50 0 0	100	148	141	141	
" white	2% barley, 11% dirt	"	32 0 0	48 10 0	46 0 0	52 0 0	100	150	145	145	
" red	2% barley, 11% dirt	"	32 4 0	47 10 0	45 0 0	51 0 0	100	148	145	145	
Jowari	Export quality	"	30 0 0	34 0 0	35 0 0	40 0 0	100	133	133	133	
Barley	3% dirt	"	30 0 0	55 12 0	52 0 0	54 0 0	100	155	152	152	
Index No.—Cereals							100	146	140	135	
Pulses—											
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 6 0	29 0 0	32 6 0	38 6 0	100	90	122	131	
Sugar—											
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	18 12 0	15 1 0	15 4 0	100	205	145	167	
"	" brown	"	8 1 6		12 0 0	13 14 0	100		140	171	
Index No.—Sugar							100	205	140	169	
Other food—											
Salt		Bengal Meund.	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	100	79	79	79	
Oilseeds—											
Cotton seed		Meund.	2 11 3	4 0 0	3 8 0	4 2 0	100	140	129	133	
Rapeseed	3% admixture	Candy.	51 0 0	73 0 0	70 4 0	72 4 0	100	141	130	134	
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	89 0 0	83 0 0	85 0 0	100	142	134	134	
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	141	134	134	
Textiles—											
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	68 8 0	73 0 0	71 8 0	100	120	100	100	

Textiles—Cotton											
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Meund	20 4 0	44 4 0	42 12 0	42 12 0	100	219	211	211	
(b) Cotton manufactures											
Drills	Pepperill	Fine.	30 3 0	34 8 0	32 8 0	32 8 0	100	240	212	212	
Shirtings	Lippmann's	"	30 0 0	32 0 0	30 0 0	30 0 0	100	212	212	212	
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	100				
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	254	212	209	
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton							100	240	211	210	
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Meund.	28 0 0	47 0 0	40 0 0	44 0 0	100	160	175	157	
Hides—											
Hides, dry	Sind	Meund.	12 4 0	21 0 0	18 8 0	19 12 0	100	80	84	85	
"	Punjab	"	12 4 0	21 0 0	18 8 0	19 12 0	100	80	84	85	
Index No.—Hides							100	80	84	85	
Metals—											
Copper Brakes		Cwt.	45 8 0	67 0 0	62 8 0	63 0 0	100	111	102	102	
Steel Bars		"	1 2 8 0	1 8 0 0	1 8 0 0	1 8 0 0	100	114	102	102	
" Plates		"	1 2 8 0	1 8 0 0	1 8 0 0	1 8 0 0	100	114	102	102	
Index No.—Metals							100	111	102	102	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	1st class (Bang)	Ton	10 0 0	20 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	100	110	104	104	
Kerosene	Common Brand	Gallon	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	100	100	100	100	
"	Daystar	"	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	100	100	100	100	
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	110	104	104	
Index No.—Food							100	140	134	134	
Index No.—Miscellaneous							100	167	133	133	
General Index No.							100	157	140	134	

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														
November ..	137	111	213	260	176	133	173	224	192	146	185	182	180	179
1923														
November ..	125	90	228	365	189	138	303	235	187	161	174	158	185	186
December ..	125	91	243	375	194	141	286	229	187	146	167	162	185	188
1924														
January ..	127	92	244	340	188	138	273	236	182	157	166	160	189	188
February ..	125	88	236	348	187	136	248	234	173	158	174	160	188	188
March ..	123	84	220	263	165	129	244	238	235	140	171	164	190	181
April ..	122	84	217	279	167	127	258	237	229	146	169	166	187	185
May ..	125	88	212	293	171	131	258	236	191	149	168	166	192	184
June ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	158	190	181
July ..	143	98	211	260	174	150	265	232	187	150	166	166	189	184
August ..	146	97	198	262	173	146	260	235	203	150	170	161	190	184
September ..	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	181
November ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	145	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	163	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	184	203	153	151	154	159	163	158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	184	195	152	155	153	159	162	160

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, etc.	Food, fuel, light, rent, household utensils and furnishing	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and household utensils	Food, clothing, fuel, light, tax, etc.	Food, heating and lighting	Food, fuel, light and rent	(f)	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	(f) 100	100	100	(g) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(h) 108	99	..	(d) 117	(e) 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	(i) 159	429	366	(d) 249	158	(f) 135	..	..
1923	153	169	146	..	..	(h) 487	429	..	166	130	..	..
1924	154	178	148	..	..	521	510	249	168	134	365	170
March ..	150	123	145	..	..	522	498	..	166	134	..	..
April ..	150	121	143	..	..	518	485	..	166	134	..	..
May ..	150	121	143	..	..	518	492	251	168	133	366	169
June ..	153	169	143	149	..	512	493	..	169	132	..	..
July ..	157	170	144	..	..	511	498	..	166	132	..	..
August ..	161	171	145	..	160	..	..	..	167	132	367	171
September ..	161	173	146	148	..	516	503	260	167	132	..	..
October ..	161	176	146	..	..	546	513	..	169	133	..	..
November ..	161	180	147	..	..	562	520	269	170	134	..	..
December ..	160	181	147	148	..	573	521	..	170	133	377	173
1925	157	180	149	..	..	580	521	..	170	133	..	..
January ..	157	179	150	..	161	592	517	..	170	133	..	..
February ..	159	179	148	150	..	602	511	271	170	133	386	..
March ..	158	175	147	..	..	600	506	..	168	134	..	..
April ..	156	173	146	..	..	591	502	..	167	134	..	..
May ..	154	172	146	153	..	596	505	261	169	134	390	174
June ..	154	172	146	..	..	598	509	..	169	133	..	..
July ..	157	173	146	..	..	610	517	..	169	132	..	..
August ..	152	173	149	..	..	624	525	248	167	132	401	..
September ..	151	174	149	..	163	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
October ..	153	176	149	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
November ..	153	176	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
December ..	155	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(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	95	..	..	106	100	..	102	105	(a) 100	106	100	98
1915 ..	117	117	..	..	147	102	..	140	145	(c) 159	116	103	101
1916 ..	148	148	..	..	138	124	..	188	222	233	145	131	127
1917 ..	236	196	..	..	153	169	..	262	286	341	185	179	177
1918 ..	222	239	..	..	178	207	..	339	392	345	244	199	194
1919 ..	216	260	150	203	189	226	..	356	297	322	330	209	206
1920 ..	193	210	149	196	228	299	307	510	281	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 December ..	175	183	149	196	168	147	156	326	165	269	172	151	140
1922 ..	186	210	157	197	181	134	161	362	155	220	155	153	156
1923 November ..	188	211	158	207	182	137	164	446	153	242	151	153	152
1923 December ..	188	211	158	207	182	137	164	458	154	244	150	154	151
1924 January ..	188	211	157	205	182	133	165	494	156	250	152	157	151
1924 February ..	188	208	160	205	180	135	167	544	158	260	153	157	152
1924 March ..	181	206	158	204	175	136	165	499	155	266	154	154	150
1924 April ..	184	207	154	205	174	134	165	450	154	257	156	151	148
1924 May ..	181	205	152	..	171	135	164	459	153	263	151	151	147
1924 June ..	185	200	152	..	171	131	163	465	151	264	149	151	145
1924 July ..	184	195	152	..	171	132	163	481	151	271	148	152	147
1924 August ..	184	200	149	..	169	143	165	477	158	275	153	154	150
1924 September ..	181	207	149	..	170	148	167	486	158	276	152	157	149
1924 October ..	181	213	153	..	171	156	170	497	161	276	153	154	149
1924 November ..	176	214	155	..	171	158	170	503	161	277	162	157	152
1924 December ..	176	214	157	..	173	156	170	508	160	278	162	158	153
1925 January ..	173	214	160	..	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	161	157
1925 February ..	173	210	159	..	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	160
1925 March ..	171	204	160	..	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
1925 April ..	165	202	159	..	166	154	163	512	151	267	160	157	156
1925 May ..	164	199	158	..	166	151	159	520	153	260	158	159	155
1925 June ..	160	200	157	..	170	150	158	543	155	258	159	159	157
1925 July ..	158	199	163	..	170	151	157	557	155	254	160	158	160
1925 August ..	160	200	160	..	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
1925 September ..	157	200	160	..	170	151	157	557	155	231	151	160	160
1925 October ..	158	..	159	..	170	..	..	555	155	221	148	157	158
1925 November ..	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 1913 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labour.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	20	Amsterdam	30	44	100	2
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	100(e)	100	100	100	100
1915 ..	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	95	..	..	114	..	124	128	119
1916 ..	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	111	..	..	117	160	142	146	141
1917 ..	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	146	214	181	166	179
1918 ..	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	175	279	268	187	222
1919 ..	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	196	289	310	212	250
1920 ..	188	258	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	142	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	140	218	160	185	164
1924 March ..	147	176	143	122	152	149	141	392	523	130	1,037	141	241	162	..	167
1924 April ..	143	167	137	123	150	150	138	380	254	122	1,000	140	240	159	..	165
1924 May ..	143	163	133	122	151	150	138	378	519	114	1,000	139	241	159	..	165
1924 June ..	147	160	133	120	149	150	139	370	518	120	1,004	136	240	158	..	168
1924 July ..	151	162	134	117	149	146	141	366	507	125	1,089	146	257	163	..	166
1924 August ..	156	164	137	117	147	145	144	374	514	127	1,089	155	261	165	..	166
1924 September ..	156	166	139	117	146	145	144	374	514	127	1,089	155	261	165	..	169
1924 October ..	156	172	139	120	147	146	146	383	543	135	1,120	150	264	172	..	170
1924 November ..	157	179	141	122	147	148	147	396	567	140	1,127	150	269	172	..	169
1924 December ..	156	180	142	121	148	150	149	404	579	140	1,129	150	274	172	..	169
1925 January ..	152	178	145	120	148	146	148	410	610	139	1,119	151	284	171	..	168
1925 February ..	152	176	147	120	149	149	148	415	624	136	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
1925 March ..	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
1925 April ..	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
1925 May ..	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	150	265	169	..	165
1925 June ..	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	..	167
1925 July ..	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	..	167
1925 August ..	147	168	146	119	156	152	159	423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
1925 September ..	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	..	241	168	..	165
1925 October ..	148	172	147	..	157	155	..	433	..	..	..	..	228	166	..	..
1925 November ..	149	172	..	..	..	156	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1925 December ..	151	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 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	Shahjehan	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Shahjehan	Poona
		Oct. 1925	Oct. 1925	Oct. 1925	Oct. 1925	Oct. 1925	Nov. 1925				
<i>Cereals—</i>		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Rice	Maund ..	7 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>	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 15 10 <i>154</i>
Wheat	" ..	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 15 6 <i>146</i>	7 0 4 <i>120</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	7 2 1 <i>158</i>	7 6 4 <i>145</i>	7 15 6 <i>146</i>
Jowari	" ..	5 9 4 <i>128</i>	4 10 2 <i>128</i>	4 11 4 <i>124</i>	3 11 6 <i>130</i>	5 3 6 <i>152</i>	5 14 8 <i>136</i>	4 11 0 <i>125</i>	4 12 5 <i>125</i>	3 11 8 <i>130</i>	5 7 1 <i>159</i>
Bejri	" ..	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 15 1 <i>142</i>	5 11 0 <i>132</i>	4 15 5 <i>118</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 6 7 <i>125</i>	5 15 1 <i>142</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		<i>128</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>150</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund ..	5 5 4 <i>124</i>	4 10 9 <i>123</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 0 6 <i>130</i>	5 0 4 <i>103</i>	5 15 4 <i>136</i>	4 15 5 <i>130</i>	5 15 1 <i>145</i>	5 0 6 <i>130</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>
Turdal	" ..	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>	7 3 5 <i>125</i>	6 15 4 <i>104</i>	8 6 9 <i>137</i>	7 0 9 <i>121</i>	7 11 8 <i>117</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		<i>120</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>105</i>

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined)	Maund ..	15 11 1 <i>180</i>	11 6 10 <i>157</i>	11 15 8 <i>152</i>	15 5 4 <i>193</i>	12 15 5 <i>158</i>	15 6 0 <i>164</i>	10 3 30 <i>144</i>	11 6 10 <i>127</i>	15 5 4 <i>193</i>	16 8 5 <i>198</i>
Jaggi (gul)	" ..	15 7 7 <i>181</i>	11 0 7 <i>139</i>	16 0 0 <i>180</i>	15 5 4 <i>172</i>	14 0 7 <i>200</i>	15 7 7 <i>181</i>	10 10 0 <i>159</i>	16 0 0 <i>180</i>	15 5 4 <i>193</i>	15 5 7 <i>180</i>
Tea	Lb. ..	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>	0 14 8 <i>180</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>
Salt	Maund ..	3 8 1 <i>165</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 3 4 <i>144</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 1 8 <i>140</i>	2 15 5 <i>158</i>
Beef	Seer ..	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	1 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 4 0 ^a <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 ^a <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 13 2 <i>197</i>	0 12 0 <i>200</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	9 8 10 <i>215</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>
Ghee	" ..	100 0 0 <i>197</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	91 4 10 <i>206</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 5 4 <i>163</i>	100 0 0 <i>197</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	80 14 2 <i>200</i>	80 0 0 <i>187</i>	84 5 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes	" ..	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	7 12 11 <i>144</i>	8 0 0 <i>209</i>	5 11 5 <i>145</i>	5 9 4 <i>206</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	7 0 6 <i>159</i>	8 0 0 <i>216</i>	5 11 5 <i>145</i>	4 0 0 <i>157</i>
Onions	" ..	3 9 2 <i>230</i>	4 3 10 <i>235</i>	5 0 0 <i>230</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	2 10 1 <i>133</i>	4 2 8 <i>200</i>	5 0 0 <i>275</i>	5 0 0 <i>280</i>	5 10 7 <i>145</i>	2 10 1 <i>133</i>
Cocanutoil	" ..	29 2 8 <i>115</i>	30 7 7 <i>124</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	35 10 11 <i>126</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	28 4 2 <i>115</i>	29 1 5 <i>118</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	35 10 11 <i>126</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		<i>177</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>198</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>185</i>	<i>175</i>	<i>187</i>	<i>140</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i>		<i>150</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>146</i>

^a Subject to correction.